

GIFT of GRACE

LUTHERAN CHURCH

GRACE NOTES

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

APRIL 14, 2021

A WORD FROM PT

This week I wish to begin a conversation with you on evangelism. For starters, it may be a good idea to provide a definition and explain what evangelism is all about. Webster defines evangelism as: the winning or revival of personal commitments to Christ.

I like better how the Webster Dictionary defines the word *evangelize*. The definition here is: to preach the gospel. Why I like this better is because the English word is based on the Greek *euangelion* which translated means “good news” or “gospel”. And whereas it is assigned for pastors to *preach* the Gospel, it is expected of all of us to share, give witness, and testify to

the Good News of the salvation Jesus Christ won for the human race.

You might say we all need to be *gospelled*. Even baptized believers need to continue to be *gospelled*. And we in turn need to *gospel* others.

It is this Good News itself, sometimes called the Word of Christ, sometimes the Word of God, that brings salvation to us, and enables us to receive the gift by faith. The Apostle Paul writes, “Faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the Word of Christ” (Ro 10:17).

Evangelizing is at heart of what the Church does. It is the continuation of our Lord Jesus’ mission to res-

cue and reclaim a world lost to sin. It is His work! And this work after Jesus’ Ascension and outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost, is now continued through Christ’s body, the members of which are baptized believers.

The reason I did not like Webster’s first definition is that it makes the work ours – that we are to do the winning or reviving of commitments to Christ. Frankly, it is Christ’s work! But that does not absolve us from being involved, nor of lots of dedication and work. But our job is to share and care, testify, point to, and support pastors to preach. Of this I will have more to say...

SINCE YOU ASKED...

Are announcements necessary? And should they be included as a part of the liturgy?

Not all announcements are necessary! Nor should they be allowed to disrupt the rhythmic flow of the service. It is likewise im-

portant that announcements be kept to a minimum. But certain announcements are important. Information that will enhance participation in the worship, information pertaining to further Christian service, and information for regarding further opportunities for spiritual

edification are such announcements of importance, and they are worthwhile to promote publicly to the assembly. We have chosen the beginning of the worship service as the most helpful and least disruptive placement for announcements.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Tuesday, 4/13

6:00pm Council Meeting

Thursday, 4/15

10:00am LCMC Ministerium

Friday, 4/16

6:30am Men’s Breakfast Bible Study
10:00am Worship at Care Center

Sunday, 4/18 3rd Sunday of Sunday

9:00am Divine Service (also
livestreamed)
10:30am Confirmation Class

Tuesday, 4/20

11:00am Prayer Gathering

KEY ATTRIBUTES OF LCMC & NALC

- *Christ-Centered*
- *Mission-Driven*
- *Traditionally-Grounded*
- *Congregationally-Focused*

LCMC (Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ)

NALC (North American Lutheran Church) (www.thenalc.org)

THIS AND THAT...

Save the Date! We are planning to celebrate our **Ten Year plus One Anniversary** on Sunday, June 6, with Worship at 1pm that day, with an outdoor reception to follow.

We will be celebrating the principle festival of the Church Year, **Easter**, for a week of weeks. There **seven Sundays of Easter**. And no matter what liturgical season, even during Lent, every Sunday is a celebration of the Resurrection of our Lord

Jesus Christ.

Tune in FM 87.9 from the parking lot for the service.

There is no longer any need to notify Pastor Tim if you intent to attend the Divine Services. The **expectation for wearing a mask** will need to continue for some while. And livestreaming will also be continued indefinitely.

Don't forget **Food Donations** for the Onalaska Food

Basket!

Our **Designated Benevolence** for the upcoming month of April is Youth Camperships.

The Hanson family is scheduled to clean the church the week of April 18. And Heidi Traver is scheduled for the week of May 16.

Especially during this pandemic, utilize your computer to share the faith and promote our congregation's ministries.

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LUTHERAN CHURCH

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing, it is the gift of God. - Eph 2:8

HUMOR DEPARTMENT

Celebrations

Birthdays

Apr 9..... Leslie Duesenberg
Apr 23 Craig Bartos
Apr 23 Tim Duesenberg
Apr 23 Heidi Traver
Apr 25 David Bjornstad
Apr 29 Calvin Swaney

Anniversaries

May 3 J & J Schoonover
May 6 T & L Duesenberg
May 7 T & N Rislow
May 23..... C & M Bartos

Report from the Pastoral Search Committee...

Unable to find a suitable candidate, we have only one promising prospect. The following is our confidential report on the present candidates.

Adam: Good man but problems with his wife. Also one reference told of how his wife and he enjoy nude walking in

the woods.

Noah: Former pastorate of 120 years with no converts. Prone to unrealistic building projects.

Abraham: Though references reported wife-swapping, the facts seem to show he never slept with another man's wife, but he did offer to share his own wife with another man.

Joseph: A big thinker, but a braggart, believes in dream-interpreting and has a prison record.

Moses: A modest and meek man, put poor communicator, even stuttering at times. Sometimes blows his stack and acts rashly. Some say he left an early church over a murder charge.

- more profiles next week...

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

tbd (to be determined, positions filled late in the week)

4/18 Third Sunday of Easter
Asst Minister: Jeremy Schoonover
Reader: Jessica Schoonover
Crucifer: not needed at this time
Acolyte: not needed at this time
Ushers: not needed at this time
Counters: David B/Tom R
Comm Asst: Karri Bjornstad
Accompanist: Leslie Duesenberg
Fellowship: not needed at this time

Acolyte: not needed at this time
Ushers: not needed at this time
Counters: Cheryl R/Hannah S
Comm Asst: Connie Meunier
Accompanist: Tom Rislow
Fellowship: not needed at this time

Accompanist: Leslie Duesenberg
Fellowship: not needed at this time

4/25 Fourth Sunday of Easter
Asst Minister: Cole Warner
Reader: Mike Meunier
Crucifer: not needed at this time

5/2 Fifth Sunday of Easter
Asst Minister: tbd
Reader: tbd
Crucifer: not needed at this time
Acolyte: not needed at this time
Ushers: tbd
Counters: tbd
Comm Asst: tbd

5/9 Sixth Sunday of Easter
Asst Minister: tbd
Reader: tbd
Crucifer: not needed at this time
Acolyte: not needed at this time
Ushers: tbd
Counters: tbd
Comm Asst: tbd
Accompanist: Tom Rislow
Fellowship: not needed at this time

Gift of Grace Lutheran Church
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Services held at 9am at:
642 Western Avenue
A block north and then
a block west of King Furniture