

GIFT of GRACE

LUTHERAN CHURCH

GRACE NOTES

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

JULY 21, 2021

A WORD FROM PT

Words matter. It is always good to pay attention to them. We often use words like *grace*, *faith*, *belief*, and *discipleship*, so freely we barely notice them. Likewise, it is helpful to use substitute terms to rouse our attention and gain nuance.

An example of the aforementioned is the term *disciple*. We know the Great Commission of Matthew 28 is the making of disciples. And there is an emphasis in the NALC, indeed in many denominations, on discipleship. Well and good. But do we really let the word and concept sink in and do business with us?

Can you see the similar root in the English word *disci-*

pline with *disciple*? Does discipline play a role in our faith? You would not necessarily know the Greek New Testament word translated into the English, but let me help you here. The Greek word is *mathetes*. And translating it as “disciple” is not the only English word that could be used. Others include *pupil* or *student*. The words *follower* or *devotee* also fit the bill. I think the concept of being an *apprentice* can also get at the concept.

And we should not stop with the idea of discipleship as the only way to talk about baptized believers joined to Christ and growing in their faith. The idea of being a servant of Christ is the way the New Testa-

ment disciples saw themselves. The Apostle Paul also described himself as being a good soldier of Jesus Christ.

There’s a point in all this. Let me illustrate it with two substitute terms for *disciple*. First, consider the word *apprentice*. An apprentice is involved in learning, but the academic aspect of this learning does not go without training and practice. It is hands on learning under the tutelage of the Master!

And second, consider the word soldier! The first thing a soldier under command does each morning is to report for duty and take orders. Sounds like Scripture and prayer to me!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Tuesday, 7/20

11:00am Prayer Gathering
6:00pm Outreach Team Meeting

Friday, 7/23

6:30am Men’s Breakfast Bible Study

Sunday, 7/25 9th Sunday a Pentecost

9:00am Divine Service with Holy Communion
10:15am Coffee Fellowship

KEY ATTRIBUTES OF LCMC & NALC

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

SINCE YOU ASKED...

Do Lutherans Promote Private Confession?

“Confession has not been abolished by the preachers on our side. ... The people are carefully instructed concerning the consolation of the Word of absolution (forgiveness) so that they

may esteem it as a great and precious thing. It is not the voice of the man who speaks it, but it is the Word of God, who forgives sin, for it is spoken in God’s stead and by God’s command. ...it is necessary for terrified consciences” (*Augsburg Confession, XXV*).

Private confession has two parts: First that we confess our sins, and second, that we receive absolution, that is, forgiveness, from the Pastor as from God himself.

LCMC (Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ)

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

THIS AND THAT...

During the summer months we will be using Setting V found in the **With One Voice Hymnal** (Blue hymnal).

The Men's Breakfast Bible Study continues to meet on Friday Mornings, 6:30am, at the Church. Pastor Tim serves a hot breakfast to accompany the Study.

 We plan to **livestream** our services indefinitely, but not as a convenient option for those who can otherwise at-

tend in person, but for shut ins and for people looking for a church so they can have a chance to view our service and learn about our congregation.

 When you **travel over the weekend**, be sure to find a place to **worship**. Whether Lutheran or not, let me know what you learned from the experience.

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

Basket!

 Our **Designated Benevolence** for the month of July is for Didi and Serafina Panzo, missionaries with the World Mission Prayer League.

 The Duesenbergs are scheduled to clean the church the week of July 18. Karri Bjornstad and Connie Meunier are signed up for the week of August 15

 Share with others the reason for the hope within you!

GIFT of GRACE

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

July 27..... Emeron Christensen
 Aug 12..... Dawson Staff
 Aug 13..... Jessica Schoonover

Anniversaries

Aug 17..... W&C Halderson
 Aug 19..... M&C Meunier

Food for Thought

- If you throw a cat out the car window, does it become kitty litter?
- What hair color do they put on the driver's licenses of bald men? (Pastor Tim's still says brown)
- What was the best things before sliced bread?
- Why do banks charge you a "non-sufficient funds" fee on money they already know you don't have?
- Why do they put Braille on the drive through bank machines?
- Why do they sterilize the needles for lethal injections?
- If Barbie is so popular, why do you have to buy her friends?
- What happened to the first 6 "ups"?
- If you get cheated by the Better Business Bureau, who do you complain to?
- What happens if you get scared half to death twice?

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

tbd (to be determined)

7/25 9th Sunday after Pentecost

Asst Minister: Karri Bjornstad
Reader: Dan Molstad
Crucifer: Dawson Staff
Acolyte: tbd
Ushers: tbd
Counters: David B/Connie M
Comm Asst: Nikki Hanson
Accompanist: Leslie Duesenberg
Fellowship: Cyndi Molstad
Livestreamer: Jeremy Schoonover

8/1 10th Sunday after Pentecost

Asst Minister: tbd
Reader: Craig Bartos
Crucifer: tbd

Acolyte: tbd
Ushers: Mary Bartos
Counters: Mary B/tbd
Comm Asst: Jessica Schoonover
Accompanist: Tom Rislow
Fellowship: tbd
Livestreamer: tbd

8/8 11th Sunday after Pentecost

Asst Minister: Karri Bjornstad
Reader: tbd
Crucifer: tbd
Acolyte: tbd
Ushers: David Bjornstad
Counters: David B/tbd
Comm Asst: not needed at this service

Accompanist: Leslie Duesenberg
Fellowship: tbd
Livestreamer: tbd

7/15 12th Sunday after Pentecost

Asst Minister: tbd
Reader: Jarrod Roll
Crucifer: the Rolls
Acolyte: the Rolls
Ushers: Hannah Scholze
Counters: Jarrod R/tbd
Comm Asst: Jarrod Roll
Accompanist: Tom Rislow
Fellowship: tbd
Livestreamer: tbd

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