

# GIFT of GRACE

## LUTHERAN CHURCH

### GRACE NOTES

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 20, 2021

#### A WORD FROM PT

A favorite Scripture verse for those who rightly want to emphasize *discipleship* in their church is Matthew 28:19-20. It reads, “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.”

Almost everyone emphasizes that the mandate involves *going* and that the recipients to be made disciples include *all nations*. Well and good!

The rest of the admonition involves a two-fold process, if you will. The first is the *baptizing* in the name of the Triune God. And the second is the *teaching* of what Christ has commanded us. Those who are reluctant to

affirm the importance of baptism often accordingly don’t say much of how the action is involved. And although most churches are involved in Christian education there is often a reluctance to stress the importance of such catechesis in the *making of disciples*.

There can be a tendency to see the whole work accomplished at the so-called *moment of conversion*.

The beauty of being able to affirm the Scripture’s teaching on baptism is to recognize that our Lord initiates and then proceeds to accomplish our being fashioned into his followers (disciples). Accordingly, we learn our sins need to be washed away. The atonement of Christ’s death on the cross must come to us

and be bestowed on us. This happens through the preaching of the Gospel accompanied by the rite of Christian Baptism. The Bible also teaches that the new birth from above takes place by the Holy Spirit’s work in baptism. As Israel’s journey from bondage to promise took place through a watery deliverance in the Red Sea, so our spiritual journey has a watery beginning.

And the attentiveness to being catechized (instructed) in the doctrines of Christ makes us lifelong students of God’s Word. The Scriptures are formative. They shape us, not only as we learn in an academic manner, but perhaps even more importantly as they guide our practice and manner of life.

#### SINCE YOU ASKED...

##### What is the purpose and meaning of our **Votive Prayer Candles**?

To “light a candle for someone” means that you will say a prayer for them. The candle symbolizes your prayers. When we light a candle it is a sign of attentiveness

and that we are being purposeful in offering intercessory prayer. It is an important act in which we are involved! To be in prayer is to be spiritually awake and vigilant. And as the candle continues to burn it symbolizes our ongoing prayers. It is a sign to others that pray-

ers are being offered. In such an atmosphere, indeed the darkness gives way to light.

#### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

##### Tuesday, 10/19

11:00am Prayer Gathering

##### Wednesday, 10/20

6:30pm Showing of The Chosen at Holmen Area Community Center

##### Friday, 10/22

6:30am Men’s Breakfast

##### Sunday, 10/24 22<sup>nd</sup> Su a Pentecost

8:00am Choir Practice  
9:00am Divine Service with Holy Communion  
10:15am Coffee Fellowship  
10:45am Confirmation Class

##### Tuesday, 10/26

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](http://www.thenalc.org))

## THIS AND THAT...

We will be starting a public showing of **The Chosen** Season One, on Wednesday, October 20 at the Holmen Area Community Center. There are eight episodes that we be shown in consecutive Wednesdays with the exception of November 24, the week of Thanksgiving. The viewing and discussion will start at 6:30pm and end at 8:30.

We look forward to the Rite of Confirmation on the occasion of Reformation Sunday, October 31. Jed Roll and

Drew Staff will be giving Affirmation of their Baptism.

The continued **livestreaming** is for those who cannot otherwise attend in person! It is a good outreach tool and a way for shut-ins to connect.

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

Our **Designated Benevolence** for the month of October is Voice of the Martyrs.

Hannah Scholze and Cheryl Ruud are scheduled to clean the church the week of October 17. Heidi Traver is signed up for the week of November 21.

The showing of **The Chosen** affords you an excellent opportunity to witness to your neighbor. Ask if they would be interested, and invite them to attend with 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

Oct 15 ..... Tom Kruse  
Oct 26 ..... Naomi Rislow

#### Anniversaries

### You Might Be From Wisconsin If...

...you only know three spices: salt, pepper, and ketchup.

...you design your Halloween costume to fit over a snow-suit.

...the mosquitoes have landing lights.

...you have more miles on your snowblower than your

car.

...you have 10 favorite recipes for venison.

...Goodyear Tire on any Saturday is busier than the toy stores at Christmas.

...driving is better in the winter because the potholes are filled with snow.

...you think sexy lingerie is tube-socks and a flannel

nightie with only 8 buttons.

...you owe more money on your snowmobile than your car.

...the local paper covers national and international headlines on one page, but requires 6 pages for sports.

...more to follow next week.

## WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

tbd (to be determined)

**10/24** 22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

**Asst Minister:** Leslie Duesenberg

**Reader:** Karri Bjornstad

**Crucifer:** Roll Family

**Acolyte:** Roll Family

**Ushers:** David Bjornstad

**Counters:** Dan M/Jarrold R

**Comm Asst:** Karri Bjornstad

**Accompanist:** Tom Rislow

**Fellowship:** Ruth & Hannah Scholze

**Livestreamer:** Jarrod Roll

**10/31** Reformation Sunday

**Asst Minister:** Tom Rislow

**Reader:** Hannah Scholze

**Crucifer:** Hanson Family

**Acolyte:** Hanson Family

**Ushers:** David Bjornstad

**Counters:** Hannah S/Cheryl R

**Comm Asst:** Karri Bjornstad

**Accompanist:** Leslie Duesenberg

**Fellowship:** Connie Meunier

**Livestreamer:** tbd

**11/7** All Saints' Sunday

**Asst Minister:** tbd

**Reader:** tbd

**Crucifer:** tbd

**Acolyte:** tbd

**Ushers:** tbd

**Counters:** tbd

**Comm Asst:** tbd

**Accompanist:** Tom Rislow

**Fellowship:** tbd

**Livestreamer:** tbd

**11/14** 25<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

**Asst Minister:** tbd

**Reader:** tbd

**Crucifer:** tbd

**Acolyte:** tbd

**Ushers:** tbd

**Counters:** tbd

**Comm Asst:** tbd

**Accompanist:** Leslie Duesenberg

**Fellowship:** tbd

**Livestreamer:** tbd

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