

GIFT of GRACE

LUTHERAN CHURCH

GRACE NOTES

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 19, 2022

A WORD FROM PT

I recently heard a podcast that dealt with *burnout*, especially related to people's vocations during the lengthy pandemic. Such burnout was also addressed among Pastors, church workers, and all the participating members of congregations.

As your Pastor I can relate to the stress, the uncertainties, the frustrations, and the disappointments. At the same time, by the grace of God, I am convinced I know some sure ways to develop immunity against burnout. I hazard to share a few with you.

A rich devotional life consisting of Bible reading, meditation and prayer is a source of Divine energy. It is so important it is worth setting an alarm and getting

up earlier for uninterrupted time to connect with God.

Knowing who you are and what you are here for is an incredible and irreducible source of stability and strength. While our culture advocates the search for one's authentic identity, our Christian Faith has already bequeathed our identity and vocation with our Baptismal Faith.

When our elites talk about "essential workers" many of them don't have a clue. How's this, "Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain" (1 Cor 15:58). And we all are to serve the Lord and our neighbor, even in

the jobs and careers we do. And this is essential.

Avoid isolation. Don't try 'going it alone'. Ask for help. Whenever possible know that virtual forms of community are sterile and are a poor, if sometimes a temporarily necessary, substitution.

Get physical. Exercise. Get outdoors and into the woods. Go places. See people. Take reasonable risks. Life for the child of God is not meant for mere survival in this temporal age. Living is not the same as merely existing. Leave it to unbelievers to live like there is no tomorrow. Being promised a bright tomorrow by the one who died and rose again, we can dare to live passionately now.

SINCE YOU ASKED...

What is an Alb? And why does our Pastor wear one?

Alb (from the Latin "white"): a white ankle-length vestment with sleeves, often gathered at the waist with a cinch, worn by all ranks of minis-

ters, ordained and unordained. The classical tunic became a specific church vestment about the fifth century. One of the functions of an ordained minister in our tradition is for that person to represent Christ to the people. Christ is pictured in the Book of

Revelation with a white robe. The white robe is also a symbol of his righteousness. For this reason, the alb is a proper covering for the presiding minister with the function of representing Christ to the people. (from "Manual on the Liturgy" companion to the LBW, from Augsburg Pub.)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Tuesday, 1/18**
11:00am Prayer Gathering
- Wednesday, 1/19**
6:30pm Adult Education
- Thursday, 1/20**
10am LCMC Ministerium at Olivet
- Friday, 1/21**
7am Men's Breakfast
- Sunday, 1/23** 3rd Sunday a Epiphany
8:00am Choir Practice
9:00am Divine Service of the Word
10:15am Coffee Fellowship
10:45am Confirmation Class
- Tuesday, 1/25**
11:00am Prayer Gathering
- Wednesday, 1/19**
6:30pm Adult Education

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...

Starting **Wednesday, January 19**, we will be offering a weekly Adult Study opportunity. This will be at 6:30pm on Wednesdays, for one hour. We will start out asking basic questions about the nature of Scripture, and how to read Holy Writ.

Save the date. Our congregation's **Annual Meeting** is scheduled for February 6 immediately on the heels of the Divine Service.

The next **New Member**

Sunday will be Sunday, January 23. It will be our good fortune to welcome Dan and Cyndi Molstad, along with Susan Wilhelm into membership at Gift of Grace Lutheran Church. The reception will take place during the Divine Service.

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 non-perishable

Food Donations for the Food Basket!

Our **Designated Benevolence** for the month of January is for Tornado Relief in the Midwest.

With the gathering on Wednesday evening dealing with basic Bible knowledge and questions, it might be a good time to **invite someone** you know that might have questions to come along 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

Jan 13..... Carol Peterson
Jan 21..... Elyse Schoonover
Jan 26..... Marge Wangen
Jan 27..... Ann Fisher

Anniversaries

Puns for Educated Minds

- A vulture carrying two dead raccoons boards an airplane. The stewardess looks at him and says, "I'm sorry, sir, only one carrion allowed per passenger."

- Two fish swim into a concrete wall. One turns to the other and says, "Dam!"

- Two Eskimos sitting in a kayak were chilly, so they lit a fire in the craft. Unsurprisingly it sank, proving once again that you can't have your kayak and heat it too.

- Two hydrogen atoms met. One says, "I've lost my electron." The other says, "Are you sure?" The first replies, "Yes, I'm positive."

- Did you hear about the Bud-

dhist who refused Novocain during a root-canal? His goal: transcendental medication.

- There was the person who sent ten puns to friends, with the hope that at least one of the puns would make them laugh. No pun in ten did.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

tbd (to be determined)

1/23 3rd Sunday after the Epiphany

Asst Minister: Tom Rislow

Reader: Ruth Scholze

Crucifer: Hanson Family

Acolyte: Hanson Family

Ushers: Dan Molstad

Counters: Dan M/tbd

Comm Asst: Nikki Hanson

Accompanist: Leslie Duesenberg

Fellowship: Lisa Cash

Livestreamer: tbd

1/30 4th Sunday after the Epiphany

Asst Minister: Leslie Duesenberg

Reader: Naomi Rislow

Crucifer: tbd

Acolyte: tbd

Ushers: tbd

Counters: tbd

Comm Asst: tbd

Accompanist: Tom Rislow

Fellowship: Connie Meunier

Livestreamer: tbd

2/6 5th Sunday after the Epiphany

Asst Minister: tbd

Reader: tbd

Crucifer: tbd

Acolyte: tbd

Ushers: tbd

Counters: tbd

Comm Asst: tbd

Accompanist: Leslie Duesenberg

Fellowship: Potluck Brunch

Livestreamer: tbd

2/13 6th Sunday after the Epiphany

Asst Minister: tbd

Reader: tbd

Crucifer: tbd

Acolyte: tbd

Ushers: tbd

Counters: tbd

Comm Asst: tbd

Accompanist: Tom Rislow

Fellowship: tbd

Livestreamer: tbd

Gift of Grace Lutheran Church
Pastor Timothy A. Duesenberg, STS
642 Western Avenue
Holmen, WI 54636
www.giftofgracelc.org
giftofgracelc@gmail.com
(608) 797-7837

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