

GIFT of GRACE

LUTHERAN CHURCH

GRACE NOTES

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

JULY 20, 2022

A WORD FROM PT

At Gift of Grace Lutheran Church we promote daily Bible reading and taking time to pray. Of course, this is good. But have you noticed something as you read Scripture? Very few of the writings are addressed to one individual. Instead, they are addressed to communities, and in the New Testament many of the Books are letters written to various churches. They were meant to be read out loud and heard when people gather.

Even when we are reading privately, it is good to keep this corporate sense in mind. That is why the reading of lessons and preaching on them at the Divine Service is so important. And it

is why it is good to be involved in Bible Study groups, to read with family, when possible, in the home, and to confer with others who are reading the same texts.

There are many good reading plans to help you systematically work through the whole of the Bible, say in a year, or perhaps in two or three years. But there is great value in sharing a similar reading plan with others. It affords the opportunity to talk with others about the readings. Not only can this increase understanding, but it helps us to practice “faith talk” which in turn helps us as evangelists.

Don’t forget your Pastor as you have questions. He may

not always have the answer, but he will usually have helpful insight. I have never heard a Pastor complain about being pestered to death with Biblical questions from parishioners. I for one like nothing better than to discuss and study Scripture with you! It is front and center in my understanding of the Pastoral calling.

I hope you consider the two-year daily lectionary from the Lutheran Book of Worship as a gift. We publish these readings monthly, and in the weekly Congregation at Prayer Guide. And when I am able, I like to publish devotions on one of the three lessons. Bon Appetit!

SINCE YOU ASKED...

What is the Christian’s Hope?

In a word, it is the resurrection of the body to life everlasting in the world to come. This is more accurate and complete than just saying “life after death.” It is also more helpful than say-

ing “going to heaven.” When Jesus returns at the end of the age to judge the living and the dead, baptized believers will be raised bodily! They will share in a resurrection similar to Jesus’ resurrection. And being in his presence on that day and for all eternity is not

just a matter of escaping to heaven, but living in his presence in the new heaven and earth. The Lord intends to renew and restore his creation. So our central hope is the resurrection of the dead, with believers inheriting the Kingdom.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Friday, 7/22

7am No-Men’s Breakfast

Sunday, 7/24 7th Sunday a Pentecost
9am Divine Service with Communion
10:15am Fellowship

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...

Check out the following link: <https://thenalc.org/daily-readings-archive/> to check out the **daily readings**.

The **Friday Morning Men's Breakfast Bible Study** will not meet this Friday, July 22, but we will be back at it the following Friday, 7am, on July 29.

Looking ahead. There is not a lot of activities planned for the rest of July, but you might want to note the **Coulee**

Region Gospel Choir Concert on July 31, 2:00pm at Holmen Lutheran Church.

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!

Cheryl Ruud is scheduled to clean the church the week of

July 17. The Schoonovers are scheduled for the week of August 21.

Our **Designated Benevolence** for the month of July is for The Hunger Task Force which helps to supply all the local pantries.

I'd bet that most of us find ways to talk to others about the things that matter most in our lives! Right? What might it indicate if we seldom get around to talking about matters of faith?

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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

July 15 Tim Betlach
 July 27 Emerson Christensen
 Aug 12 Dawson Staff
 Aug 13 Jessica Schoonover

Anniversaries

Aug 17 W & C Halderson
 Aug 19 M & C Meunier
 Aug 28 B & A Fisher

A Sunday School Teacher was telling her class the story of the Good Samaritan, in which a man was beaten, robbed and left for dead. She described the situation in vivid detail so her students would catch the drama. Then, she asked the class, "If you saw a person lying on the roadside, all wounded and bleeding, what would you do? A thoughtful little girl broke the hushed

silence, "I think I'd throw up."

The Sunday School Teacher was describing how Lot's wife looked back and turned into a pillar of salt, when little Johnny interrupted. "My mommy looked back once, while she was driving," he announced triumphantly, "and she turned into a telephone pole."

A Sunday School Teacher asked, "Billy, do you think Noah did a lot of fishing when he was on the Ark?"

"No," replied Billy. "How could he, with just two worms?"

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

tbd (to be determined)

7/24 7th Sunday after Pentecost

Asst Minister: Mike Meunier

Reader: Mike Meunier

Crucifer: Jed Roll

Acolyte: Stella Roll

Ushers: Cole Warner

Counters: Jarrod R/Tim B

Comm Asst: Tim Betlach

Accompanist: Tom Rislow

Fellowship: Heidi Traver

Livestreamer: Hannah Scholze

7/31 8th Sunday after Pentecost

Asst Minister: Jeremy Schoonover

Reader: Dan Molstad

Crucifer: Asher Roll

Acolyte: Elyse Schoonover

Ushers: Cheryl Ruud

Counters: Dan M/Naomi R

Comm Asst: Jessica Schoonover

Accompanist: Leslie Duesenberg

Fellowship: the Betlachs

Livestreamer: Jeremy Schoonover

8/7 9th Sunday after Pentecost

Asst Minister: Naomi Rislow

Reader: Cole Warner

Crucifer: Asher Roll

Acolyte: Ben Roll

Ushers: Tim Betlach

Counters: Jeremy S/Connie M

Comm Asst: Jarrod Roll

Accompanist: Tom Rislow

Fellowship: tbd

Livestreamer: Jarrod Roll

8/14 10th Sunday after Pentecost

Asst Minister: Karri Bjornstad

Reader: Nikki Hanson

Crucifer: Drew Staff

Acolyte: Dawson Staff

Ushers: David Bjornstad

Counters: Hannah S/David B

Comm Asst: Karri Bjornstad

Accompanist: Leslie Duesenberg

Fellowship: tbd

Livestreamer: Mike Meunier

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