

GIFT of GRACE

LUTHERAN CHURCH

GRACE NOTES

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 7, 2022

A WORD FROM PT

Considering our new affiliation with the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod many of you are asking “What kind of changes will this involve?” There is always a little something disturbing about change. Most of us tend in the direction of finding comfort and safety in familiar surroundings.

Change can involve adventure, and although that can at times be exciting, at the same time it can take a lot of energy. So, what might we be looking at in the weeks and months ahead?

I will be up front; I have the same questions. This is new to me as well. I remain convinced that some of the worst fears I have heard expressed will not be the

case. In many ways I think we will find things not so different. We are already a congregation that upholds the Lutheran Confessions, enjoys Lutheran liturgical worship, uses Lutheran hymnody, and uses the same three-year cycle of Sunday lessons. None of this changes!

We will soon experience the support and company of neighboring congregations in the same Synod. The word ‘synod’ by the way literally means journeying together. Closest to us is Shepherd of the Hills in Onalaska, Faith in La Crosse, and Prince of Peace in West Salem. One example of this advantage is sharing programs such as Vaca-

tion Bible School. There are also retired Pastors in the area who can do pulpit supply and interim ministries.

There is no hurry, but eventually we will want to use the Missouri Synod hymnal. Two of the five worship settings are identical to the ones we use now in the Lutheran Book of Worship. Many, if not most, of our favorite hymns are in Missouri Synod hymnal as well.

One interesting difference for all of us will be having something called a board of elders. With our size that might be just two or three men. Their leadership will be spiritual and pastoral. I see real advantages with this leadership, but it will be a new experience for us.

SINCE YOU ASKED...

Why do we celebrate Holy Communion nearly every Sunday?

The celebration of the meal we call Holy Communion has consistently been the chief act of Christian worship since the age of the Apostles. The Lutheran

Reformation did not break with this tradition of 1,500 years. In fact the Augsburg Confession (our principal statement of faith) declares Holy Communion to be the chief act of worship for Lutherans on Sundays and festivals (Art. 26). *(from “Manual on the Liturgy” companion to the LBW,*

from Augsburg Pub.)

You might think of Holy Communion as spiritual bread and drink for our journey (pilgrimage), for our Lord’s Body and Blood is true nutrition indeed!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Tuesday, 9/6
6pm Council Meeting

Thursday, 9/8
9:30am Prayer Gathering

Friday, 9/9
7am Men’s Breakfast Bible Study

Sunday, 9/11 14th 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...

The **Friday Morning Men's Breakfast Bible Study** will start back up on Friday, September 9. We meet at 7am for an hour over breakfast and a Bible Study.

The **Church Council** will next meet on Tuesday, September 6.

The **Prayer Gathering** will try meeting at a new time this fall, on Thursdays at 9:30am, beginning on September 8. Each member of the congregation will be prayed for. We

will also gladly take your prayer requests. Call Mary Bartos (608.385.5660).

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!

The Betlachs are scheduled to clean the church the week of

September 18. And the Duesenbergs will clean the week of October 16.

The September **Designated Benevolence** is for Lutherans for Life.

People who are regular in reading and meditating on the Bible and who have an active prayer life will find it far easier and more natural to be involved in faith conversations with others...

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

Sept 2..... Paula Betlach
 Sept 2..... Karri Bjornstad
 Sept 9..... Anne Warner
 Sept 10..... Carol Halderson
 Sept 10..... Hannah Scholze
 Sept 15..... Butch Fisher
 Sept 21..... Debera Uy
 Sept 30..... Cheryl Ruud

Anniversaries

Sept 8..... J & D Uy
 Sept 18..... J & H Roll

Flight Humor

Never let it be said that ground crews lack a sense of humor. Check these maintenance complaint forms filled out by pilots and signed by the maintenance crew...

P: Left inside main tire almost needs replacement.
 M: Almost replaced left tire.

P: Test flight OK, except auto-land very rough.

M: Auto-land not installed on this aircraft.

P: Something loose in cockpit.
 M: Something tightened in cockpit.

P: Dead bugs on windshield.
 M: Live bugs on back-order.

P: Autopilot in altitude-hold mode produces a 200 feet per minute descent.

M: Cannot reproduce problem on the ground.

P: Evidence of leak on right main landing gear.
 M: Evidence removed.

P: DME volume unbelievably load.
 M: DME volume set to more believable volume.

P: Friction locks cause throttle levers to stick.
 M: That's what they're for.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

tbd (to be determined)

9/11 14th Sunday after Pentecost

Asst Minister: Naomi Rislow

Reader: Connie Meunier

Crucifer: Dawson Staff

Acolyte: Drew Staff

Ushers: Jarrod Roll

Counters: Mary B/Jarrod R

Comm Asst: Nikki Hanson

Accompanist: Leslie Duesenberg

Fellowship: tbd

Livestreamer: Jarrod Roll

9/18 15th Sunday after Pentecost

Asst Minister: Leslie Duesenberg

Reader: Naomi Rislow

Crucifer: Jed Roll

Acolyte: Stella Roll

Ushers: Jeremy Schoonover

Counters: Dan M/Naomi R

Comm Asst: Connie Meunier

Accompanist: Tom Rislow

Fellowship: tbd

Livestreamer: Cole Warner

9/25 16th Sunday after Pentecost

Asst Minister: Jeremy Schoonover

Reader: Jeremy Schoonover

Crucifer: Drew Staff

Acolyte: Elyse Schoonover

Ushers: Dan Molstad

Counters: Jeremy S/Connie M

Comm Asst: Jessica Schoonover

Accompanist: Leslie Duesenberg

Fellowship: tbd

Livestreamer: Mike Meunier

10/2 17th Sunday after Pentecost

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