

# GIFT of GRACE

## LUTHERAN CHURCH

### GRACE NOTES

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

JUNE 19, 2024

#### A WORD FROM PT

Martin Luther's Table of Duties contained in his Small Catechism also includes responsibilities for Parents and Children. Before we touch on that, it might be good to be reminded of the vaunted place of the family in God's ordering of His Creation. To say it is the building block of community is an understatement. With the breakdown of the family society suffers and an assault is made on our desperate need to belong in community!

It is often taught that in Creation God ordered three institutions. Chronologically, they are first the family, then the civic community, and then arguably the most important is the community of God's people. This latter was reflected in the nation of

Israel in the Old Testament, and in the Church with the New Testament.

Some people get hung up on terms like the "nuclear family" or the "natural family." Without mistake, foundational to the family is the marriage bond between a man and a woman, a husband and a wife. Their children represent God's blessing and the fruitfulness of the marriage bond. And for sure, at times the household might involve extended family and helpers connected with the family.

Little wonder that four of the Ten Commandments safeguard this primal institution. They are the Fourth: Honor your father and your mother; the Sixth: You shall not commit adultery; the Ninth: Do

not covet your neighbor's house; and the Tenth: Do not covet your neighbor's wife.

With that in mind, here is the passage connected with parents in the Table:

Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord. (Ephesians 6:4)

And this is the one presented for children:

Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. "Honor your father and mother" (this is the first commandment with a promise), "that it may go well with you and that you may live long in the land." (Ephesians 6:1-3)

Families matter!

#### SINCE YOU ASKED...

**Does the receiving of money offerings play a significant role in the worship service?** Yes, more than you might think! Cash is one of the strongest symbols in modern culture. When we offer our money on the altar it should represent our time and effort –

our very selves. In early Christian worship gifts-in-kind were handled during the weekly assemblage. In our post-industrial societies, we now exchange in paper or metal symbols. The offering of our selves upon the altar is in response to God's love proclaimed in

the Good News and in anticipation of how God offers back that which is entrusted to him. During the moment of offering we also offer bread and wine upon the altar, and in return these gifts are offered back to us as the very body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ.

#### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Friday, 6/21

7am Men's Breakfast at McDonald's

Saturday, 6/22

9am Elders' Meeting

4pm Service at Emmanuel Lutheran

Sunday, 6/18 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

9am Divine Service with Communion

10:15am Coffee Fellowship



**Making  
Disciples  
for Life**

LCMS (Lutheran Church Missouri Synod) (LCMS.org)

## THIS AND THAT...

Our congregation's annual Sunday at the **Halfway Creek Park, West Shelter** in Holmen is coming up on Sunday, July 14. The Divine Service there will be at 10:00am and a Potluck/Picnic lunch will follow.

Please note the Sign Up Sheet for the **HACC (Holmen Area Community Center) Senior Meal Site** on the kitchen bulletin board at church. Karri Bjornstad has arranged for our congregation to help out every other

Thursday. Ordinarily two volunteers are needed from 10am to 1pm in the kitchen. And then there is a need for a driver to deliver meals from 11am to 12:30pm.

Don't forget non-perishable **Food Donations** for the Food Pantry! Peanut Butter and canned beans are especially requested.

The Hansons will be cleaning the church the week of June 16. Heide Traver and Lee

Fehr are scheduled for the week of July 21.

The June **Designated Benevolence** is for **Pastor Matthew Woods**, missionary in Indonesia.

In a broken world caused by sin lots of things don't work as they were intended to work. Families are not always healthy. Moms and dads may be missing in action. Here is a place where church families can help compensate with father and mother figures...

# 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

June 13 ..... Paul Hanson  
June 15 ..... Susan Wilhelm  
June 25 ..... Mary Bartos  
June 26 ..... Tom Rislow  
July 15 ..... Tim Betlach

#### Anniversaries

June 13 ..... M&M Wangen  
June 19 ..... P&C Cunningham  
June 22 ..... P&N Hanson  
July 3 ..... M&J Repaal

### Completed Cliches

"Save the whales. Collect the whole set."

"A day without sunshine is like, night."

"On the other hand, you have different fingers."

"I just got lost in thought. It wasn't familiar territory."

"42.7 percent of all statistics are made up on the spot."

"99 percent of lawyers give the rest a bad name."

"I feel like I'm diagonally parked in a parallel universe."

"Honk if you love peace and quiet."

"Remember, half the people you know are below average."

"He who laughs last, thinks slowest."

"Depression is merely anger

without enthusiasm."

"The early bird may get the worm, but the second mouse gets the cheese."

"I drive way too fast to worry about cholesterol."

"Support bacteria. They're the only culture some people have."

"Monday is an awful way to spend 1/7 of your week."

## WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

tbd (to be determined)

**6/23** 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

**Asst Minister:** Cole Warner

**Reader:** Nikki Hanson

**Crucifer:** Benjamin Roll

**Acolyte:** Dawson Staff

**Ushers:** Jeremy Schoonover

**Counters:** Cole W/Ron K

**Comm Asst:** Tom Rislow

**Accompanist:** Leslie Duesenberg

**Fellowship:** Connie M

**Livestreamer:** Jed Roll

**6/30** 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

**Asst Minister:** Leslie Duesenberg

**Reader:** Karri Bjornstad

**Crucifer:** Elliott Cunningham

**Acolyte:** Regan Cunningham

**Ushers:** Dan Molstad

**Counters:** Dan M/David B

**Comm Asst:** Jeremy Schoonover

**Accompanist:** Tom Rislow

**Fellowship:** Cyndi Molstad

**Livestreamer:** Jeremy Schoonover

**7/7** 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

**Asst Minister:** Cole Warner

**Reader:** Naomi Rislow

**Crucifer:** Dawson Staff

**Acolyte:** Chase Repaal

**Ushers:** Paula Betlach

**Counters:** Cole W/Ron K

**Comm Asst:** Tom Rislow

**Accompanist:** Leslie Duesenberg

**Fellowship:** Cole and Anne Warner

**Livestreamer:** Cole Warner

**7/14** 8<sup>th</sup> Su a Pent - Outdoor Wors

**Asst Minister:** Naomi Rislow

**Reader:** Connie Meunier

**Crucifer:** Elliott Cunningham

**Acolyte:** Regan Cunningham

**Ushers:** Mary Bartos

**Counters:** Connie M/Dave B

**Comm Asst:** Tim Betlach

**Accompanist:** Tom Rislow

**Fellowship:** potluck

**Livestreamer:** N/A

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