

# GIFT of GRACE

## LUTHERAN CHURCH

### GRACE NOTES

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 21, 2024

#### A WORD FROM PT

As Lutherans we faithfully teach that God's Law has three functions. In short-hand the three uses are often taught: As a curb, as a mirror, and as a guide.

Briefly, functioning as a curb what is commanded, accompanied with the threat of punishment, restrains sin. It is not eliminated, but curbed. This usage of the Law is also known as the civil use for its obvious good in restraining the amount of theft, murder, adultery, false speech, etc. that takes place.

The second use is the spiritually most significant one. As a mirror that we look into the Law shows us our sin. It is accusatory. Although not very pleasant, it

is meant to accuse and condemn so that it works contrition in us. That in turn is meant to lead us to the forgiveness of sin that Christ accomplished for us on the Cross. Here the Law *shows us our sins (SOS)* so that the Gospel can *show us our Savior (SOS)*. All this leads to our salvation.

The third function is as a guide. Until the believer's will completely conforms to God's will, we shall need the Law to show and urge us to be about what God created us for and brings Him glory. The believer's will shall only finally be conformed to God's will when we go to be with Christ following our death, and when our resurrected

bodies are translated into the Eternal Kingdom.

So, the Law is an absolutely good thing, to be treasured greatly, right along with the Gospel of promise. The only negative aspect to the Law is if we mistakenly believe and act like we can be justified (put right with God) by our ability to keep it. We can't. We don't. And we don't earn our salvation!

The Law brings us to salvation, and once there it reliably curbs and guides us in God's will all the days of our lives. What a treasure! We must continue to learn what God commands and teaches, even as we rely on faith for our salvation.

#### SINCE YOU ASKED...

##### What do Lutherans believe is given in Holy Communion?

"We believe, teach, and confess that in the Holy Supper the body and blood of Christ are truly and essentially present and are truly distributed and received with the bread and wine. We believe, teach,

and confess that the words of the testament of Christ are to be understood in no other way than in their literal sense, and not as though the bread symbolized the absent body and the wine the absent blood of Christ, but that because of the sacramental union they are truly the body and blood of Christ" (*Formula of Concord, Epitome,*

*Art. VII.*)

The Apostle Paul writes in 1 Corinthians 10 that the bread is "a participation in the Lord's body." If the Lord's body were not truly present, the bread would perhaps be a participation in his spirit. But Paul says it is a participation in his body!

#### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

##### Tuesday, 8/20

5:30pm Ladies' Night Out at Huck Finn's on the Water

##### Thursday, 8/22

9:30am Prayer Gathering  
10am Help at HACC in kitchen  
11am Help as drivers at HACC

##### Friday, 8/23

7am Men's Breakfast at McDonald's

##### Sunday, 8/25 14<sup>th</sup> Sun after Pentecost

9am Divine Service w Communion  
10:15am Coffee Fellowship



**Making  
Disciples  
for Life**

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

## THIS AND THAT...

The **Ladies Night Out** is Tuesday 5:30pm, August 20 at Huck Finns on the Water. Phone Mary Bartos at 608-385-5660 to let her know you are planning to join in.

The **Prayer Gathering** will meet this week on Thursday, August 22, 9:30am at the church.

The church needs cleaners for the week of December 22. Please look at the **Church Cleaning Schedule** in the

kitchen and sign up to cover that date. Thanks!

Don't forget the list in the kitchen for helping out twice a month with the **Holmen Area Community Center's Senior Meal**.

Don't forget non-perishable **Food Donations** for the Food Pantry! All cleaning supplies are in high demand at the moment.

Jackie Repaal is signed up to

clean the church the week of August 18. The Magnusons are signed up for the week of September 22.

The August **Designated Benevolence** is for **Faith Lutheran's Campus Ministry** in La Crosse.

When we speak of God's Law and His Gospel, we don't play them off each other. They each have their own role which is indispensable in the lives of Christ's disciples.

# 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

Aug 25..... Pam Benrud  
 Aug 29..... Jeremy Schoonover  
 Sept 2..... Paula Betlach  
 Sept 2..... Karri Bjornstad  
 Sept 6..... Bev Kuehn  
 Sept 6..... Anne Warner

#### Anniversaries

Aug 19..... M&C Meunier  
 Aug 24..... D&C Schoonover  
 Aug 28..... B&A Fisher

### Christian One Liners

Don't let your worries get the best of you; remember, Moses started out as a basket case.

Some people are kind, polite, and sweet-spirited; until you try to sit in their pews.

Many folks want to serve God; but only as advisors.

It is easier to preach ten sermons than to live one.

The good Lord didn't create anything without a purpose; but mosquitos come close.

When you get to your wit's end; you'll find God lives there.

People are funny; they want the front of the bus, middle of the road, and back of the church.

Opportunity may knock once; but temptation bangs on the front door forever.

Quit gripping about your church; if it were perfect, you couldn't belong there.

If a church wants a better pastor; they can try praying for the one they have.

We're called to be witnesses; not lawyers and judges.

Some minds are like concrete; thoroughly mixed up and permanently set.

## WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

tbd (to be determined)

**8/25** 14<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

**Asst Minister:** Cole Warner

**Reader:** Mike Meunier

**Crucifer:** Carter Repaal

**Acolyte:** Chase Repaal

**Ushers:** Mary Bartos

**Counters:** Cole W/Tom R

**Comm Asst:** Tom Rislow

**Accompanist:** Leslie Duesenberg

**Fellowship:** Connie Meunier

**Livestreamer:** Cole Warner

**9/1** 15<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

**Asst Minister:** Naomi Rislow

**Reader:** Dan Molstad

**Crucifer:** Benjamin Roll

**Acolyte:** Asher Roll

**Ushers:** Dan Molstad

**Counters:** Jarrod R/Naomi R

**Comm Asst:** Jarrod Roll

**Accompanist:** Tom Rislow

**Fellowship:** tbd

**Livestreamer:** Jarrod Roll

**9/8** 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

**Asst Minister:** Tom Rislow

**Reader:** Jeremy Schoonover

**Crucifer:** Elliott Cunningham

**Acolyte:** Regan Cunningham

**Ushers:** Cole Warner

**Counters:** Jeremy S/Ron K

**Comm Asst:** not needed

**Accompanist:** Tom Rislow

**Fellowship:** tbd

**Livestreamer:** Jeremy Schoonover

**9/15** 17<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

**Asst Minister:** Mike Meunier

**Reader:** Jessica Schoonover

**Crucifer:** Dawson Staff

**Acolyte:** Chase Repaal

**Ushers:** Jeremy Schoonover

**Counters:** Dan M/Dave B

**Comm Asst:** Mike Meunier

**Accompanist:** Tom Rislow

**Fellowship:** tbd

**Livestreamer:** Cole Warner

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