

GIFT of GRACE

LUTHERAN CHURCH

GRACE NOTES

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 26, 2025

A WORD FROM PT

If anybody had reason to nurse a grudge and then exact revenge it was Joseph. You can read his saga in chapters 37-50 in the Book of Genesis. His story is one of the most compelling accounts in history.

The eleventh of twelve sons, he was the favored one of his father Jacob. Because of this, and because of his freely sharing grandiose dreams of his ruling over his family, the brothers despise and hate him. When the opportunity presented itself, they were about to leave him for dead in the wilderness, but then instead sold him into slavery to distant Egypt.

In Egypt Joseph was falsely accused of making sexual

advances to the wife of the master in whose house he was a servant. That led him to languish in an Egyptian prison a long way from home. So much for his divinely revealed dreams of grandeur!

If you are familiar with the account, you will remember the surprising turn of events that led to Joseph's elevation to the right hand of the King of Egypt known as Pharaoh. This made him one of the most powerful rulers in the world of the day, second in command to Pharaoh only! For 22 years Joseph had experienced trials in a foreign land. And all this time he is not pictured as nursing a grudge, giving into despair, or los-

ing hope. Instead, there were indications that the Lord was with him. Joseph remained hopeful that God's plans would continue to unfold for him.

When at the end of the narrative Joseph is reunited with his family in Egypt, they indeed bow down to him. With a forgiving heart he provided for his family during a severe famine. Although his brothers intended evil against him, Joseph believed God meant it for good. His story foreshadows that of Christ. The world meant evil by crucifying Him. But God meant it for good, that our sins might be washed away and that we be provided for in His Kingdom.

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, 2/28

7am Men's Breakfast at McDonalds

Sunday, 3/2 Transfiguration of Our Lord

8am Choir Practice
9am Divine Service with Communion
10:15am Coffee Fellowship
10:45am Meeting with Dr. Meador

Wednesday, 3/5 Ash Wednesday

7pm Ash Wednesday Service



**Making
Disciples
for Life**

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

THIS AND THAT...

Our **Ash Wednesday Service** with Holy Communion and the Imposition of Ashes will be at 7pm on March 5.

The Wednesday Evening **Lenten Midweek Services** starting March 12, will begin with a Soup Supper at 6pm, and then followed with a 20-30 minute Worship Service at 7pm.

The Theme for our Midweek Services will be **'Gifts of God: Creation, Redemp-**

tion, and Sanctification': reflections on the Apostles' Creed

The **Men's Breakfast Bible Study** meets on Friday mornings, 7am, at the McDonald's Restaurant.

Don't forget non-perishable **Food Donations** for the Food Pantry!

The Molstads will clean the church the week of March 16. We need someone to sign up

for the week of April 20.

The March **Designated Benevolence** is for **Voice of the Martyrs**.

Living life full of regrets is a dismal way to negotiate life, and it also demonstrates a lack of faith. Do we believe that God can take things meant as evil and somehow use them to do good and benefit others? People can hurt us in many ways, but they cannot separate us from God. God promises to be with us!

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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

Feb 22 Regan Cunningham
 Feb 24 Jed Roll
 Feb 28 Cindy Schoonover
 March 16 Jackie Repaal
 March 16 Jon Uy
 March 17 Mike Meunier
 March 18 Nikki Hanson
 March 26 Asher Roll
 March 26 Benjamin Roll

Anniversaries

RECALL NOTICE

The Maker of all human beings is recalling all units manufactured, regardless of make or year, due to a defect of the heart.

The defect stems from a malfunction of the prototype named Adam and Eve. The defect has been passed on to subsequent units.

The defect can be labeled "Sequential Internal Non-

Morality", also better known as S.I.N.

The symptoms include:

1. Loss of direction
2. Foul vocal emissions
3. Amnesia of origin
4. Lack of peace and joy
5. Selfish or violent behavior
6. Depression or confusion
7. Fearfulness

8. Idolatry
9. Rebellion

The Manufacture, who is neither liable nor at fault for the defect, is providing factory authorized repair and service free of charge to correct this defect.

(tune in next week to read of the plan for repair)

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

tbd (to be determined)

3/2 Transfiguration Sunday
Asst Minister: Leslie Duesenberg
Reader: Dan Molstad
Crucifer: Chase Repaal
Acolyte: Stella Roll
Ushers: Dan Molstad
Counters: Jarrod R/Dan M
Comm Asst: Jarrod Roll
Accompanist: Tom Rislow
Fellowship: Connie M/Jessica S
Livestreamer: Jarrod Roll

3/5 Ash Wednesday
Asst Minister: Mike Meunier
Reader: Craig Bartos
Crucifer: Dawson Staff

Acolyte: Elliott Cunningham
Ushers: Mary Bartos
Counters: not needed
Comm Asst: Jeremy Schoonover
Accompanist: Tom Rislow
Fellowship: not needed
Livestreamer: Jeremy Schoonover

3/9 First Sunday in Lent
Asst Minister: Naomi Rislow
Reader: Cole Warner
Crucifer: Stella Roll
Acolyte: Asher Roll
Ushers: Dan Molstad
Counters: Cole W/Naomi R
Comm Asst: Tom Rislow

Accompanist: Leslie Duesenberg
Fellowship: Cole & Anne Warner
Livestreamer: Cole Waner

3/16 Second Sunday in Lent
Asst Minister: Mike Meunier
Reader: Jeremy Schoonover
Crucifer: Asher Roll
Acolyte: Benjamin Roll
Ushers: David Bjornstad
Counters: Jeremy S/Naomi R
Comm Asst: Jeremy Schoonover
Accompanist: Tom Rislow
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