

GIFT of GRACE

LUTHERAN CHURCH

GRACE NOTES

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

JULY 30, 2025

A WORD FROM PT

Our Evangelical friends in Christ often use the language of having a “personal relationship with Jesus.” Although not typical Lutheran lingo, we tend to use Biblical wording, the expression can be defended with a few important caveats.

‘Relationship’ is a helpful word when it comes to ‘saving faith’ in Christ. That is because such faith is more than head knowledge. It is more than simply assenting to Biblical doctrines. To the point, it is a relationship of trust in Christ and what He accomplished for us on the Cross.

The word ‘personal’ is not a word you will find in Scripture. And the word can

both mean ‘individual’ and ‘private’. For sure, each individual must exercise their own gift of faith. But as we are called to give a confession of our belief, we need to be careful as to what may be indicated by being private.

It is also helpful to carefully consider what kind of relationship we have been brought into with God the Father through the Lord Jesus Christ in Holy Baptism. Should we, for instance, imagine that Jesus is my buddy, my best pal? After all, in John 15 Jesus called His disciples His friends. The thing to watch out for here is that most often friends are on equal footing. Importantly we learn from Scripture other

ways believers are in relationship with Christ.

Among the relationships described in Scripture, they include the following: We are children of the heavenly Father. We are sheep of the Lord’s flock. Collectively we are pictured as the bride of Christ. We are citizens of the heavenly kingdom. We are servants of the Master. We are students and followers of the Teacher. We are ambassadors and messengers of the King. Note that all these relationships imply the need for reverence and humility on our part.

Keep this in mind. Relationships are reciprocal. They are dynamic, not static. They involve time spent together and much conversation.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Friday, 8/1

7am Men’s Breakfast at McDonald’s
10am Worship at Care Center

Sunday, 8/3 8th Sunday after Pentecost
9am Divine Service with Communion
10:15am Coffee Fellowship

Thursday, 8/7

10am Prayer Team Gathering

Friday, 8/8

7am Men’s Breakfast at McDonald’s

SINCE YOU ASKED...

Why is the Triune Name of God repeated so frequently in our worship services?

The mystery of the Trinity is one of the most distinctive elements of our Christian Tradition. Christianity is not alone in claiming to

be monotheistic (*belief in one Supreme Being, one god*). But Christianity holds that this One, True God has revealed himself to us as God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. Scripture teaches that God the Father has revealed himself through God the Son

and in God the Spirit. Only the Son can be seen, and only through the Spirit are we enabled to believe in the Father and the Son. And so we often invoke the name of the Triune God in the mystery of our faith.



**Making
Disciples
for Life**

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

THIS AND THAT...

We are planning a **Congregation Barbeque and Campfire** at the Rislow's (weather permitting) Sunday afternoon, August 24 at 4pm. More details to follow.

The next **Prayer Team Gathering** is Thursday, August 7, at 10am.

The next **Church Council Meeting** is Thursday, August 14 at 6pm.

The next **Elders Meeting** is 6pm on Tuesday, August 19 at the church.

The Friday Morning **Men's Breakfast Bible Study** is meeting at the McDonald's Restaurant off of County OT at 7am.

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

The Bjornstads will clean the church the week of August

17. The Molstads are signed up for the week of September 21.

The August **Designated Benevolence** is for our La-Crosse **Campus Ministry**.

In Christ Jesus we are all sons of God through faith as in Baptism we have been clothed with Christ (Ga 3:26-27). We have a Father who wants to spend time with us, teach us, and prepare us for a rich inheritance with Him in His Kingdom. Look to Him!

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 10..... Carrie Cunningham
Aug 12..... Dawson Staff
Aug 13..... Jessica Schoonover
Aug 25..... Pam Benrud
Aug 29..... Jeremy Schoonover

Anniversaries

Aug 12..... R & B Kuehn
Aug 17..... L & H Fehr
Aug 19..... M & C Meunier
Aug 24..... D & C Schoonover
Aug 28..... B & A Fisher

Ole & Lena

Ole and Lena's bull took sick and died, so they needed to go to the auction to buy a new one. Ole had to get the crops in, so Lena took the train by herself to go to the city. If successful she was to take the train back to the farm, then she and Ole would go to the town with the truck

to pick up the newly purchased bull.

The bidding was furious and Lena found herself bidding on the last remaining bull. It took everything she had but ten cents, but she was the successful bidder.

Unfortunately, the train ride home was fifty cents. The conductor would not make an exception for Lena, but did

suggest she send a telegram to tell Ole her problem.

At the telegraph office she found out that each word telegraphed cost ten cents. So Lena contemplated her dilemma, then finally said to the officer, "OK, here's da message: "Comfortable."

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

tbd (to be determined)

8/3 8th Sunday after Pentecost

Asst Minister: Mike Meunier

Reader: Heather Roll

Crucifer: Asher Roll

Acolyte: Benjamin Roll

Ushers: Mary Bartos

Counters: Jeremy S/Tom R

Comm Asst: Jeremy Schoonover

Accompanist: Leslie Duesenberg

Fellowship: Connie Meunier

Livestreamer: Jarrod Roll

8/10 9th Sunday after Pentecost

Asst Minister: Karri Bjornstad

Reader: Craig Bartos

Crucifer: Benjamin Roll

Acolyte: Dawson Staff

Ushers: Tim Betlach

Counters: Dan M/Jackie R

Comm Asst: Mike Meunier

Accompanist: Leslie Duesenberg

Fellowship: tbd

Livestreamer: Tim Betlach

8/17 10th Sunday after Pentecost

Asst Minister: Jeremy Schoonover

Reader: Cole Warner

Crucifer: Dawson Staff

Acolyte: Elliott Cunningham

Ushers: Cole Warner

Counters: Connie M/David B

Comm Asst: Tom Rislow

Accompanist: Leslie Duesenberg

Fellowship: tbd

Livestreamer: Cole Warner

8/24 11th Sunday after Pentecost

Asst Minister: Leslie Duesenberg

Reader: Jeremy Schoonover

Crucifer: Elliott Cunningham

Acolyte: Regan Cunningham

Ushers: David Bjornstad

Counters: Jarrod R/Naomi R

Comm Asst: Jarrod Roll

Accompanist: Tom Rislow

Fellowship: tbd

Livestreamer: Jeremy Schoonover

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