

GIFT of GRACE

LUTHERAN CHURCH

GRACE NOTES

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 13, 2025

A WORD FROM PT

At the heart of Christianity is a relationship. It is a matter of being rightly related to God by being joined to Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Galatians 3:26-27 reads, "For in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ." Scripture speaks both of our *being in Christ* and of *Christ being in us* (cf. 2Co 5:17; Ga 2:20).

When we meet a new acquaintance the surest way to get to know that person is for them to reveal themselves to you in words. Sure, you would know some physical things immediately because you can see the person. And in the con-

text of meeting the person you might already have an idea that you share a common interest or activity. But to become very well acquainted, that person will have to tell you about their past, their life, their aspirations, and their thoughts.

To know Christ, we will be even more dependent upon what Christ has to say and reveal to us. For we are not ordinarily in this age able to look at Him. We may know what other people have to say about Him, but that is not always reliable. We can imagine what He is like, but that can say more about our imagination than it does actually about Him.

The Bible is the one reliable way to learn about our

Lord. Knowledge and familiarity with Scripture is knowledge and familiarity with Christ. Jesus Himself in John 5:39 says that the Scriptures bear witness about Him.

If we are going to grow in our relationship to Christ the Bible will play an indispensable role. We will need to read, study, meditate, and interact (as in having a conversation) with Scripture. We will need to do this along with the Church, for this is how the Holy Spirit helps us to read it fruitfully. And a group Bible Study helps in this regard.

Next week I will discuss some planned Bible Studies that you can participate in.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Tuesday, 8/12
3pm Winkel Planning at Warrens

Thursday, 8/14
6pm Council Meeting

Friday, 8/15
7am Men's Breakfast at McDonald's

Sunday, 8/17 10th Sunday a Pentecost
9am Divine Service with Communion
10:15am Coffee Fellowship
10:30pm Practice Setting Three

Tuesday, 8/19
6pm Elders Meeting

Thursday, 8/21
10am Prayer Team Gathering

Friday, 8/22
7am Men's Breakfast at McDonald's

SINCE YOU ASKED...

Why do we say in the Creeds that Jesus Christ "is seated at the right hand of the Father"? Does this mean that our Lord is far away from us?

This has little to do with Christ's physical location.

Instead, it has to do with the authority he assumes. For a King to be seated on a throne is a symbolic gesture of his rule and authority. Heaven itself is a reality that transcends time and space. It is the unseen and timeless realm that underlies the visible and temporal world.

We confess Christ to be seated at the right hand of the Father because we believe him to be the rightful King of the universe. Indeed, Jesus is Lord!



**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. Please note the signup sheet in the kitchen for the sharing of dishes. Meat and beverages will be provided.

The **Church Council Meeting** will meet this Thursday, August 14 at 6pm.

We are holding a practice for

learning **Setting Three** on Sunday, August 17 at 10:30am. This is for the choir and anyone else who would care to join us.

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**.

If you have not attempted to read the Bible daily, and if you have never attended a Bible Study, please do so. Let our congregation assist you in doing so.

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

One Liners...

"Depression is merely anger without enthusiasm."

"Drink 'till she's cute, but stop before the wedding."

"Eagles may soar, but weasels don't get sucked into jet engines."

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

"I'm not cheap, but I am on special this week."

"I almost had a psychic girlfriend but she left me before met."

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

"I intend to live forever - so far, so good."

"I love defenseless animals, especially in a good gravy."

"If Barbie is so popular, why do you have to buy her friends?"

"If you ain't making waves, you ain't kickin' hard enough."

"Mental backup in progress - Do Not Disturb!"

"Mind like a Steel Trap - Rusty and illegal in 37 States."

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

tbd (to be determined)

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: Cyndi Molstad

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: Jessica Schoonover

Livestreamer: Jeremy Schoonover

8/31 12th Sunday after Pentecost

Asst Minister: Tom Rislow

Reader: Jessica Schoonover

Crucifer: Regan Cunningham

Acolyte: Chase Repaal

Ushers: Jeremy Schoonover

Counters: Jarrod R/Tom R

Comm Asst: Tim Betlach

Accompanist: Leslie Duesenberg

Fellowship: tbd

Livestreamer: Jarrod Roll

9/7 13th Sunday after Pentecost

Asst Minister: Naomi Rislow

Reader: Nikki Hanson

Crucifer: Chase Repaal

Acolyte: Stella Roll

Ushers: Jarrod Roll

Counters: Jeremy S/Tim B

Comm Asst: Jeremy Schoonover

Accompanist: Tom Rislow

Fellowship: tbd

Livestreamer: Jarrod Roll

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