

GIFT of GRACE

LUTHERAN CHURCH

GRACE NOTES

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 20, 2025

A WORD FROM PT

Among the many reasons for our becoming more familiar with Scripture I will mention two. First, it is largely and most reliably through Holy Writ that we become familiar with Christ our Lord. And secondly, the Bible, which is the holy, inspired, Word of God, equips believers to live joyfully in God's redeeming love and to share with others God's plan of salvation.

Think of the Bible as a Prayer Book. As breathing is to physical life, prayer is to spiritual life. God speaks to us through the Bible. And the responses of the inspired writers to God is also inspired. So, their confessions, laments, petitions, praises, and thanksgivings help us with our own.

At Gift of Grace, we provide you with a daily reading plan for covering most of the Bible in two years. Those suggested readings are sent out each month, and they are also included in the weekly Congregation at Prayer Guide sent to you.

Starting in September I will be leading a couple different Bible Studies. In the one I will finish up with where we left off in the Spring in 1 Corinthians. Then we will move on to 2 Corinthians. This offering will guide our Friday Morning Men's Breakfast Bible Study. It will also guide our Bible Study time after the Coffee Fellowship on Sunday mornings. This is open to all of you.

In the other study I will work with important topics covering the major teachings (doctrines) that all believers should become acquainted with. This will take place on Wednesday evenings for an hour starting at 6:30pm.

In both studies I will be working up optional materials a week ahead of time that you can use to study, explore, and prepare for the upcoming study. The advantage of a Pastor led Group Bible Study is in being able to interact with others studying the text, and to glean from the Pastor's study of the text as he has interacted with other Pastors and Teachers in the Church.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Thursday, 8/21

10am Prayer Team Gathering

Friday, 8/22

7am Men's Breakfast at McDonald's

Sunday, 8/24 11th Sunday a Pentecost

9am Divine Service with Communion

10:15am Coffee Fellowship

4pm BBQ & Campfire at Rislos

Tuesday, 8/26

6pm Rescheduled Elders Meeting

Friday, 8/30

7am Men's Breakfast Bible Study

SINCE YOU ASKED...

Why is incense used in some churches?

The use of incense is not unique to Christianity or Judaism and is used in many of the world's religions to enhance special times and places by sight and smell. In Christian worship incense is

effectively used at the beginning of the Service of the Word and in preparing for receiving Holy Communion. The burning of incense is associated with the prayers of worship rising before God (cf. Ps. 141:2; Rev. 8:4). Good worship should engage all the human senses.

In this connection it should be pointed out that the olfactory sense is perhaps the most sensitive of the five senses; it continues to function even during sleep. (Indebted to Aidan Kavanah in his "Elements of Rite".)



**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 **Elders Meeting** has been rescheduled for Tuesday, August 26 at 6pm.

Plans are underway for a **Bi-**

ble Study on Wednesdays at 6:30 covering important teachings (doctrines) of the Christian Faith.

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 never attended a Bible Study, this September would be a good time to start. Talk to Pastor Tim ahead of time if you have any concerns about participating in a study. The benefits of participating are heavenly and reassuring.

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 13 Jessica Schoonover
 Aug 25 Pam Benrud
 Aug 29 Jeremy Schoonover
 Sept 2 Paula Betlach
 Sept 2 Karri Bjornstad

Anniversaries

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

One Liners...

"Quantum Mechanics: The dreams stuff is made of."

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

"The only substitute for bad manners is fast reflexes."

"Whenever everything's coming your way, you're in the wrong lane."

"Ambition is a poor excuse for not having enough sense to be lazy."

"If I worked as much as others, I would do as little as they."

"Beauty is in the eye of the beer holder."

"24 hours in a day... 24 beers is a case... coincidence?"

"Many people quit looking for work when they find a job."

"When I'm not in my right mind, my left mind gets pretty crowded."

"Everyone has a photographic memory. Some don't have film."

"Boycott shampoo! Demand REAL pool!"

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

tbd (to be determined)

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

9/14 14th Sunday after Pentecost

Asst Minister: Cole Warner

Reader: Connie Meunier

Crucifer: Stella Roll

Acolyte: Asher Roll

Ushers: Dan Molstad

Counters: Dan M/Jackie R

Comm Asst: Mike Meunier

Accompanist: Leslie Duesenberg

Fellowship: tbd

Livestreamer: Jeremy Schoonover

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Services held at 9am at:
 642 Western Avenue
 A block north and then
 a block west of King Furniture