

# GIFT of GRACE

## LUTHERAN CHURCH

### GRACE NOTES

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 27, 2025

#### A WORD FROM PT

If you have never participated in a Bible Study, and likewise have read very little of the Scriptures, you are not alone! This is true for many folks, even among those who have attended church services all their lives.

Not being well acquainted with the Bible is why many are reluctant to join a Bible Study. After all, who wants to be exposed for what they don't know. Similarly, it is not unusual to be clueless in how to begin and go about reading the Bible. Without a guide, it is not an easy book to read!

Of course, there is a remedy for all this. And a good place to start is with your Pastor. That is what I am

here for! I can help you. Talk with me. I can reassure you that you are not alone, or that your situation is unique. I can learn from you how to best guide you.

If you have never been to a Bible Study, or worse, if you tried once and had a bad experience, we can discuss this. I would like to relieve you of the notion that one must be scholarly to attend and contribute. I could learn from you any reservations you might have so that we can avoid putting you on the spot in a way that makes you uncomfortable. I can share examples of past participants that mostly just observed when they started.

In the Bible Studies at Gift

of Grace we employ lots of humor and share lots of laughs. We make room for small talk. And then when we read and discuss a portion of the Bible you would witness lots of questions, suggestions, and insights. We build a sense of trust and community, and appreciation for each other. Fresh eyes on a text, even if for the first time, often brings a fresh perspective.

I deeply desire that all of you would participate in a Bible Study and adopt a plan for daily spending time in Scripture. There is no time like the present to get started in what might be the most important spiritual investment of your life! Talk to me about it.

#### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**Tuesday, 8/26**  
6pm Rescheduled Elders Meeting

**Friday, 8/30**  
7am Men's Breakfast at McDonald's

**Sunday, 8/31** 12<sup>th</sup> Sunday a Pentecost  
9am Divine Service with Communion  
10:15am Coffee Fellowship

**Friday, 9/5**  
7am Men's Breakfast Bible Study

#### SINCE YOU ASKED...

##### **What is the purpose and meaning of our Votive Prayer Candles?**

To "light a candle for someone" means that you will say a prayer for them. The candle symbolizes your prayers. When we light a candle it is a sign of attentiveness

and that we are being purposeful in offering intercessory prayer. It is an important act in which we are involved! To be in prayer is to be spiritually awake and vigilant. And as the candle continues to burn it symbolizes our ongoing prayers. It is a sign to others that pray-

ers are being offered. In such an atmosphere, indeed the darkness gives way to light.



**Making  
Disciples  
for Life**

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

## THIS AND THAT...

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

Look for the startup of **Choir Practice** and the **Adult Bible Study** to start up on Sunday, September 7.

Plans are underway for a **Bible Study** on Wednesdays, starting September 10 at 6:30. important teachings (doctrines) of the Christian Faith that all of us should know will be the focus.

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 Molstads will clean the church the week of September 21. The Rolls are signed up for the week of October 19.

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

Let Pastor Tim know if you would like to participate in either the Sunday morning Study on 1 & 2 Corinthians, or the Wednesdays one on Important Christian Doctrines. By letting him know ahead of time he can send you material to help prepare for the upcoming lesson. Of course, you can also just simply show up. Fresh material is handed out each

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*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  
Sept 8 ..... J & D Uy

**One Liners...**

"I used to have an open mind but my brains kept falling out."

"Energizer Bunny arrested, charged with battery."

"I couldn't repair your brakes, so I made your horn louder."

"Shin: a device for finding furniture in the dark."

"Laughing stock: cattle with a sense of humor."

"Why do psychics have to ask your name?"

"Wear short sleeves! Support your right to bare arms!"

"OK, so what's the speed of dark?"

"Corduroy pillows: They're making headlines!"

"Black holes are where God divided by zero."

"All those who believe in psychokinesis raise my hand."

"I tried sniffing coke once, but the ice cubes got stuck in my nose."

"If everything seems to be going well, you have obviously overlooked something."

## WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

tbd (to be determined)

**8/31** 12<sup>th</sup> 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:** Bev Kuehn**Livestreamer:** Jarrod Roll**9/7** 13<sup>th</sup> 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** 14<sup>th</sup> 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**9/21** 15<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**Asst Minister:** Mike Meunier**Reader:** Naomi Rislow**Crucifer:** Asher Roll**Acolyte:** Benjamin Roll**Ushers:** Paula Betlach**Counters:** Jarrod R/David B**Comm Asst:** Tim Betlach**Accompanist:** Leslie Duesenberg**Fellowship:** tbd**Livestreamer:** Tim Betlach

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