

GIFT of GRACE

LUTHERAN CHURCH

GRACE NOTES

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 10, 2025

A WORD FROM PT

As baptized believers we are pilgrims in this age. Our deliverance from the kingdom of darkness in the waters of Holy Baptism is behind us. And yet the resurrection of the dead and our arrival in the fulness of the Kingdom of Light in the new heavens and earth lies ahead. We are situated as travelers and sojourners in the interim.

We can learn from ancient Israel's deliverance in the Exodus. Being set free from enslavement in Egypt was just the beginning. There was a path to follow before Moses and crew would reach the land of Canaan, spoken of as the Promised Land. The Hebrew people discovered an in-between time. This was between

their watery deliverance at the Red Sea and their crossing the Jordan River into the Promised Land.

The in-between time was filled with trials, temptation, and tribulation. God intended to use these difficulties along with the scarcity that accompanies a barren wilderness (here a desert) to form the Hebrews into the People of God with a special calling to the rest of the world. And as they were slow learners they ended up wandering for forty years. Many who started the journey failed to complete it because they resisted God's leading and provision.

You may remember that it was during this time that Moses received the Law on Mount Sinai. He also re-

ceived instructions on how God was to be worshiped and served. With the scarcity of food and drink in the desert, God provided bread that fell from heaven (manna) and water from the rock. Through all this Israel was being apprenticed to be people of faith.

As we traverse this present age as pilgrims, we learn the world is not known for being kind to Christians. We also learn that Christ who began a good work in us promises to bring it to completion (cf. Ph 1:6). But we are to be careful not to resist His guiding, provision, and fortification. There is always the danger of wandering away and not making the destination.

SINCE YOU ASKED...

Are announcements necessary? And should they be included as a part of the liturgy?

Not all announcements are necessary! Nor should they be allowed to disrupt the rhythmic flow of the service. It is likewise im-

portant that announcements be kept to a minimum. But certain announcements are important. Information that will enhance participation in the worship, information pertaining to further Christian service, and information for regarding further opportunities for spiritual

edification are such announcements of importance, and they are worthwhile to promote publicly to the assembly. We have chosen the beginning of the worship service as the most helpful and least disruptive placement for announcements.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Tuesday, 9/9

9am Winkel at St. John's Quincy

Wednesday 9/10

6:30pm Christian Teaching Study

Thursday, 9/11

6pm Church Council Meeting

Friday, 9/12

7am Men's Breakfast Bible Study
5pm Dr. Lessing at UWL

Saturday, 9/13

9am Dr. Lessing at Faith Lutheran Ch

Sunday, 9/14 14th Sunday a Pentecost

7am Choir Practice
9am Divine Service with Communion
10:15am Coffee Fellowship
10:45am Bible Study



**Making
Disciples
for Life**

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

THIS AND THAT...

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 September **Church Council Meeting** will be on Thursday, September 11 at 6pm.

A gifted Bible Teacher, **Dr. Reed Lessing** will be teach-

ing, open to the public, 5pm Friday at the UWL Student Center, and 9am Saturday at Faith Lutheran 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 Molstads will clean the church the week of September 21. The Rolls are signed up for the week of October 19.

The September **Designated Benevolence** is for the **Al-
liance Women's Clinic**.

The big danger we have as pilgrim people is remembering that this world is not our home, and that we not become distracted away from God's purpose for our lives in this age..

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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

Sept 2 Paula Betlach
Sept 2 Karri Bjornstad
Sept 6 Bev Kuehn
Sept 6 Anne Warner
Sept 9 Lee Fehr
Sept 15 Butch Fisher
Sept 24 Noel Peterson

Anniversaries

Sept 8 J & D Uy
Sept 18 J & H Roll

Ole & Lena Jokes..

Lars was staggering home after a night in the tavern. A Lutheran minister saw him and offered to help him get home safely. As they approached the house, Lars asked the minister to step inside for a moment. He explained, "I vant Lena to see who I have been out vit."

One fine day, Ole decided to take Lena for a drive in his new car. As they were driving through town, a policeman pulled them over and told Ole that he was doing 50 miles an hour in a 30 zone. "Oh, no", Ole protested, "I vas only doing thirty, Officer." "No, you were doing fifty", replied the cop. "Really, Officer, I was only doing thirty", Ole replied

stubbornly. "Well", sniffed the cop, "I clocked you doing fifty!" At that point, Lena, sitting in the back seat and trying to be helpful, spoke up. "Officer ... you really shouldn't argue vit Ole ven he's been drinking."

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

tbd (to be determined)

9/14 14th Sunday after Pentecost

Asst Minister: Cole Warner

Reader: Connie Meunier

Crucifer: Stella Roll

Acolyte: Asher Roll

Ushers: Paula Betlach

Counters: Dan M/Jackie R

Comm Asst: Jeremy Schoonover

Accompanist: Leslie Duesenberg

Fellowship: Paula Betlach

Livestreamer: Jeremy Schoonover

9/21 15th Sunday after Pentecost

Asst Minister: Mike Meunier

Reader: Naomi Rislow

Crucifer: Asher Roll

Acolyte: Benjamin Roll

Ushers: Mary Bartos

Counters: Connie M/Tom R

Comm Asst: Jarrod Roll

Accompanist: Tom Rislow

Fellowship: Leslie Duesenberg

Livestreamer: Cole Waner

9/28 16th Sunday after Pentecost

Asst Minister: Karri Bjornstad

Reader: Karri Bjornstad

Crucifer: Benjamin Roll

Acolyte: Dawson Staff

Ushers: Dan Molstad

Counters: Jarrod R/David B

Comm Asst: Tim Betlach

Accompanist: Leslie Duesenberg

Fellowship: Cyndi Molstad

Livestreamer: Tim Betlach

10/5 17th Sunday after Pentecost

Asst Minister: tbd

Reader: tbd

Crucifer: tbd

Acolyte: tbd

Ushers: tbd

Counters: tbd

Comm Asst: tbd

Accompanist: tbd

Fellowship: tbd

Livestreamer: tbd

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