

GIFT of GRACE

LUTHERAN CHURCH

GRACE NOTES

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 30, 2020

A WORD FROM PT

Following from last week in which I mentioned that the burden of proof surely lies with those who permit medically induced, elective abortions that this procedure is not a taking of an innocent human being. For Judaism and Christianity, we understand this to fall under the Fifth Commandment, "You shall not murder." And Luther's explanation is spot on! "We are to fear and love God so that we do not harm our neighbor in any way, but help him in all his physical needs."

Is the unborn child my neighbor?

Twenty-one times in the Bible a pregnant woman is described as "with child."

Mary, mother of our Lord, is described that way in Mt. 1:18 and Lk 2:5. And concerning Mary, Luke 1 provides the fascinating account, soon after the conception of the Holy Child, of her visiting her cousin, Elizabeth who is said to "have conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her." There is interplay between the two children at various stages of gestation in their mother's wombs, with Elizabeth's son leaping for joy in her womb! If this doesn't give pause for the Christian, I don't know what will!

The question of personhood is the discussion we should be having. And especially at this time of focus on racial justice, it should not escape

our attention that at one time in our nation's history, blacks were understood to be humans, but they were not accorded full dignity as "persons". In some States five blacks counted as three persons. This was not full personhood!

In essence, the decision, made by a few States, and then ratified by the Supreme Court, to permit elective abortions, fails to accord full personhood on nascent human life in the womb. That these lives were not intended, wanted, or are a burden, tells us nothing as to personhood. And the consistent moral teaching of the Church from the start is that they are persons!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Tuesday, 9/29
1:00pm Prayer Gathering

Friday, 10/2
6:30am Men's Breakfast Bible Study

Sunday, 10/4 18th Sunday a Pentecost
9:00am Divine Service
10:30am Confirmation Class

Tuesday, 10/6
1:00pm Prayer Gathering

KEY ATTRIBUTES OF LCMC & NALC

- Christ-Centered
- Mission-Driven
- Traditionally-Grounded
- Congregationally-Focused

LCMC (Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ)

NALC (North American Lutheran Church) (www.thenalc.org)

SINCE YOU ASKED...

What is meant by the term "liturgy"? (from the Greek, "work of the people" or "public service"): more than a set form of service or one particular service, the liturgy is the whole body of texts and music used for the worship of God. The Lutheran Book of Worship is

the liturgy of many Lutheran churches in North America. (*from "Manual on the Liturgy" companion to the LBW, from Augsburg Pub.*)

Our Lutheran liturgy involves the participation of all who are gathered: clergy, worship assistants, and laity. Worship is not a spec-

tator sport. We have been gathered by God to receive from Him. And so in reverence, we give thanks by offering praise and thanksgiving to our Triune God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Liturgical worship helps us all share in this.

THIS AND THAT...

This coming Sunday on October 4, we will celebrate a **Divine Service with Holy Communion at 9am.**

Please register with Pastor Tim by email no later than 4pm the Friday before as we are limited in the number to safely gather.

In addition to those who can gather for the Divine Service, others can participate to the **Livestreaming of the Service.** You can catch the livestream on our Face Book Page.

The **Men's Breakfast Bible Study** will begin meeting again at 6:30am on Friday, October 2.

Our **Designated Benevolence** for the month of September will be directed to the Rainbow Network.

Remember to be generous with your non perishable **food donations** as the Onalaska/Holmen Food Pantry is seeing an increase on the demand.

Karri Bjornstad and Connie Meunier are signed up to clean the week of October 18. Heidi Traver and Lisa Cash have the week of November 15.

Use your Face Book Accounts, emails, and other electronics to share the faith with others. Or even better send a card or letter...

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

Sept 30..... Cheryl Ruud
Oct 1..... Wendell Halderson
Oct 15 Tom Kruse
Oct 26 Naomi Rislow

Anniversaries

Oct 6..... B & P Benrud
Oct 7..... D & K Bjornstad

Actual Bulletin Announcements

For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.

Next Thursday there will be tryouts for the choir. They need all the help they can get.

Barbara remains in the hospital and needs blood donors for more transfusions. She is also having trouble sleeping and requests tapes of Pastor Jack's sermons.

The Rector will preach his farewell message after which the choir will sing: "Break Forth Into Joy."

Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married on October 24 in the church. So ends a friendship that began in their school days.

A bean supper will be held on Tuesday evening in the church hall. Music will follow.

At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be "What Is Hell?" Come early and listen

to our choir practice.

Eight new choir robes are currently needed due to the addition of several new members and to the deterioration of some older ones.

Scouts are saving aluminum cans, bottles and other items to be recycled. Proceeds will be used to cripple children.

Please place your donation in the envelope along with the deceased person you want remembered...

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

tbd (to be determined, positions filled late in the week)

10/4 18th Sunday after Pentecost

Asst Minister: xxxx

Reader: Jessica Schoonover

Crucifer: not needed at this time

Acolyte: not needed at this time

Ushers: not needed at this time

Counters: Cheryl R/Jarrold R

Comm Asst: Jarrod Roll

Accompanist: Leslie Duesenberg

Fellowship: not needed at this time

Acolyte: not needed at this time

Ushers: not needed at this time

Counters: xxxx

Comm Asst: xxxx

Accompanist: Leslie Duesenberg

Fellowship: not needed at this time

10/18 20th Sunday after Pentecost

Asst Minister: xxxx

Reader: xxxx

Crucifer: not needed at this time

Acolyte: not needed at this time

Ushers: not needed at this time

Counters: xxxx

Comm Asst: xxxx

Accompanist: Leslie Duesenberg

Fellowship: not needed at this time

10/25 Reformation Sunday

Asst Minister: tba

Reader: tba

Crucifer: not needed at this time

Acolyte: not needed at this time

Ushers: not needed at this time

Counters: tba

Comm Asst: tba

Accompanist: Leslie Duesenberg

Fellowship: not needed at this time

Gift of Grace Lutheran Church
Pastor Timothy A. Duesenberg, STS
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(608) 797-7837

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

10/11 19th Sunday after Pentecost

Asst Minister: tbd

Reader: Jarrod Roll

Crucifer: not needed at this time