

GIFT of GRACE

LUTHERAN CHURCH

GRACE NOTES

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 23, 2020

A WORD FROM PT

This week I intend to take a break from our series on being well formed by the Bible. We will return to it soon.

I'm long overdue in speaking out and teaching in matters related to life. I am especially referring to prenatal human life in a mother's womb. As one of the few nations in the world that essentially allows the severing, dismemberment, and lethal evacuations of the developing fetus throughout the full ninth months of pregnancy, we need to reflect on this practice.

Two important questions need to be asked about this procedure. First, is that which is being aborted a human being? And second, if it is a human being, is that

human being a person with the inalienable dignity and worth to be loved and protected? Until those two questions can be answered, all other questions attendant to the procedure cannot be properly addressed.

Concerning the first question, science can provide a definitive answer. From the moment of conception, the fertilized egg has the full DNA coding that belongs to a human being distinct from the mother and father. It is a human being in the earliest stage of development.

Concerning the second question, science can help us understand the stages of development, but it is not in the purview of its discipline to determine worth and the question of person-

hood. It stands to reason in matters of life and death, the burden of proof clearly lies with those who support medically induced, elective abortions that the developing human being is not a neighbor entitled to protection under law.

Size would not be determinative; otherwise a toddler would not be entitled to the protection of an NBA basketball player. Stage of development is problematic as a consideration for we continue to develop well past puberty. Being in the environment of a womb, hidden from sight, hardly answers the question. A scuba diver under the surface of the sea, or an astronaut in space does not suddenly lose personhood or value... (to be continued)

SINCE YOU ASKED...

Why do we celebrate Holy Communion nearly every Sunday?

The celebration of the meal we call Holy Communion has consistently been the chief act of Christian worship since the age of the Apostles. The Lutheran

Reformation did not break with this tradition of 1,500 years. In fact the Augsburg Confession (our principal statement of faith) declares Holy Communion to be the chief act of worship for Lutherans on Sundays and festivals (Art. 26). *(from "Manual on the Liturgy" companion to the LBW,*

from Augsburg Pub.)

You might think of Holy Communion as spiritual bread and drink for our journey (pilgrimage), for our Lord's Body and Blood is true nutrition indeed!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Tuesday, 9/22
4:00pm Prayer Gathering

Friday, 9/25
6:30am Men's Breakfast Bible Study

Sunday, 9/27 17th Sunday a Pentecost
9:00am Divine Service of the Word

Tuesday, 9/29
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)

THIS AND THAT...

This coming Sunday on September 27, we will celebrate a **Divine Service of the Word at 9am**. You will still need to 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. A full breakfast with plenty of coffee will be served. Please come and go with face coverings.

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

Remember to contribute non perishable food items along

with toiletries for the Onalaska/Holmen Food Basket. The community needs have been increasing in recent weeks.

The Harwoods are signed up to clean the week of September 20. Karri Bjornstad and Connie Meunier have the week of October 18.

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 21..... Debera Uly
 Sept 30..... Cheryl Ruud
 Oct 1..... Wendell Halderson
 Oct 15..... Tom Kruse

Anniversaries

Sept 18..... J & H Roll
 Oct 6..... B & P Benrud
 Oct 7..... D & K Bjornstad

Developing Story

South Dakota's worst air disaster in history occurred today when a Cessna 152, a small two-seater plane, crashed into the Norwegian Lutheran cemetery early this morning.

Ole and Sven, working as a Search and Rescue Team, have recovered 826 bodies so far and expect that number to climb as digging continues...

Actual Bulletin Announcements

The Fasting & Prayer Conference includes meals.

The sermon this morning: "Jesus Walks on the Water." The sermon tonight: "Searching for Jesus."

Our youth basketball team is back in action Wednesday at 8pm in the recreation hall. Come out and watch us kill Christ the King.

Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the

house. Don't forget your husbands.

The peacemaking meeting scheduled for today has been canceled due to a conflict.

Remember the many who are sick of our community. Smile at someone who is hard to love. Say "Hell" to someone who doesn't care much about you.

Don't let worry kill you off, let the Church help.

Miss Charlene Mason sang "I will not pass this way again," giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

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

9/27 17th Sunday after Pentecost

Asst Minister: Jarrod R/ Jeremy S

Reader: Karri Bjornstad

Crucifer: not needed at this time

Acolyte: not needed at this time

Ushers: not needed at this time

Counters: David B/Hannah S

Comm Asst: not needed this Sunday

Accompanist: tbd

Fellowship: not needed at this time

Acolyte: not needed at this time

Ushers: not needed at this time

Counters: Cheryl R/Jarrod R

Comm Asst: Jarrod Roll

Accompanist: Leslie Duesenberg

Fellowship: not needed at this time

10/11 19th Sunday after Pentecost

Asst Minister: tbd

Reader: Jarrod Roll

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

10/18 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

10/4 18th Sunday after Pentecost

Asst Minister: xxxx

Reader: Jessica Schoonover

Crucifer: not needed at this time

Gift of Grace Lutheran Church
 Pastor Timothy A. Duesenberg, STS
 642 Western Avenue
 Holmen, WI 54636
 www.giftofgracelc.org
 giftofgracelc@gmail.com
 (608) 797-7837

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