

GIFT of GRACE

LUTHERAN CHURCH

GRACE NOTES

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

APRIL 28, 2021

A WORD FROM PT

I mentioned last week that we first need to be evangelized ourselves before we can effectively be employed to evangelize others. This is true, but it is also the case that gospeling others needs to begin before we are fully gospelled ourselves; for the simple reason that since being evangelized is a life-long process, we would never get around to it at all if we needed to be fully evangelized first.

This is a case of being able to walk and chew gum at the same time. But in the sharing and formation of the Gospel, as evangelists we need to keep receiving that Gospel formation ourselves. The more we are filled, the more we have to pour out.

It is probably also true, that if we never venture out and share, that which we are filled with will become stagnant. God's love and mercy is poured out in us, so that in turn it can be poured out to others. And as God's love is infinite we need never fear that he is unable to refill us as we empty ourselves with the Gospel to others.

So there is a balance here. We need to have something to share, so we need to make being filled a priority. And yet, if we do not quickly pour out what we have received we also don't receive all that we can. Think of it as emptying to make room for ever fresh and new blessings and mercy.

It is also true, if we just dabble and are sporadic and haphazard in our own formation by God's Word, we not only will not be well equipped to share Christ's Word, but we will also lack confidence, excitement, and familiarity with what we try to share.

It helps immensely to come alive in sharing devotionally with other believers. If we are not practiced in talking faith with other believers, it won't be easier to have such conversations with the uninitiated and outsiders...

SINCE YOU ASKED...

What is the meaning of the Incarnation?

The word *incarnation* is taken from Latin term *incarnatio*. It literally means "taking flesh" and in the Christian Faith it refers to God becoming human. In John 1:14 we learn of God the Son becoming flesh with the

birth of Jesus of Nazareth. Indeed the child born to Mary was a man, but it is the insistence of the Christian Faith that Jesus was also fully God. He is sometimes called the *God-Man*. Without ceasing to be fully divine, inseparable and equal to God the Father and God the Holy Spirit; God the

Son also fully assumed our humanity in the womb of the Virgin Mary. In this way Jesus mediates God to man and then also represents man to God. The mystery of the Incarnation becomes a necessary means by which Jesus' death and resurrection accomplishes our salvation.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Tuesday, 4/27

11:00am No Prayer Gathering

Wednesday, 4/28

6:00pm Outreach Team

Friday, 4/30

6:30am Men's Breakfast Bible Study

Sunday, 5/2 5th Sunday of Sunday

9:00am Divine Service (also livestreamed)

10:30am Confirmation Class

Tuesday, 5/4

11:00am No 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...

Save the Date! We are planning to celebrate our **Ten Year plus One Anniversary** on Sunday, June 6, with Worship at 1pm that day, with an outdoor reception to follow at 2:30pm.

There is no longer any need to notify Pastor Tim if you intend to attend the Divine Services. The **expectation for wearing a mask** will need to continue for some while. And livestreaming will also be continued indefinitely.

Tune in FM 87.9 from the parking lot for the service.

The **Outreach Team** will meet Wednesday, 6pm, at the church. The chief item of business is the upcoming Ten Year Plus One Anniversary coming up in June.

Don't forget **Food Donations** for the Onalaska Food Basket!

Our **Designated Benevolence** for the upcoming

month of May is an even split between the Emmanuel Orphan Home in India and New Horizons.

Heidi Traver is scheduled to clean the church the week of May 16. And we will need to have a doodle signup for the rest of the months of 2021.

Especially during this pandemic, utilize your computer to share the faith and promote our congregation's ministries.

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**

Apr 23 Craig Bartos
Apr 23 Tim Duesenberg
Apr 23 Heidi Traver
Apr 25 David Bjornstad
Apr 29 Calvin Swaney
May 2 Connie Meunier
May 7 Lisa Cash
May 12 Karissa Bjornstad
May 14 Stella Roll

Anniversaries

May 3 J & J Schoonover
May 6 T & L Duesenberg
May 7 T & N Rislow

Report from the Pastoral Search Committee...

Unable to find a suitable candidate, we have only one promising prospect. The following is our confidential report on the present candidates.

- continued from last week...

Jeremiah: Emotionally unstable, alarmist, negative,

always lamenting things, and reported to have taken a long trip to bury his underwear on the bank of a foreign river.

Isaiah: On the fringe? Claims to have seen angels in church. Has trouble with his language.

Jonah: Refused God's call into ministry until he was forced to obey by getting swallowed up by a great fish.

He told us the fish later spit him out on the shore near here.

Amos: Too backward and unpolished. With some seminary training he might have promise, but has a hang-up against wealthy people - might fit in better with a poor congregation.

- more profiles next week...

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

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

5/2 Fifth Sunday of Easter

Asst Minister: Karri Bjornstad

Reader: Jarrod Roll

Crucifer: one of the Roll children

Acolyte: not needed at this time

Ushers: David Bjornstad

Counters: Hannah S/Connie M

Comm Asst: Jarrod Roll

Accompanist: Leslie Duesenberg

Fellowship: not needed at this time

Acolyte: not needed at this time

Ushers: Hannah Scholze

Counters: Jarrod R/David B

Comm Asst: Karri Bjornstad

Accompanist: Tom Rislow

Fellowship: not needed at this time

Accompanist: Leslie Duesenberg

Fellowship: not needed at this time

5/23 Pentecost Sund

Asst Minister: tbd

Reader: Nikki Hanson

Crucifer: Dawson Staff

Acolyte: not needed at this time

Ushers: tbd

Counters: Connie M/tba

Comm Asst: Hannah Scholze

Accompanist: Tom Rislow

Fellowship: not needed at this time

5/9 Sixth Sunday of Easter

Asst Minister: Leslie Duesenberg

Reader: Jessica Schoonover

Crucifer: one of the Roll children

5/16 Seventh Sunday of Easter

Asst Minister: Mike Meunier

Reader: Jarrod Boll

Crucifer: one of the Roll children

Acolyte: not needed at this time

Ushers: tbd

Counters: Jarrod R/tbd

Comm Asst: Jarrod Roll

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