

# GIFT of GRACE

## LUTHERAN CHURCH

### GRACE NOTES

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

JUNE 3, 2020

#### A WORD FROM PT

"Reopening" is the term most often used as the shut down and stay at home orders are rescinding. But I hesitate to use that term for our mission post as a church. We did not close down! We did, however, follow the guidelines and orders of our elected officials and the medical advice of our county. So there was a break in our normal routine.

It may just be semantics, but rather than reopening, what we are attempting to do is move in the direction of "resuming" the full practice and expression of our congregation life and worship.

Another term being used is "returning to normal", or if

that is not possible, we are speaking of the "new normal". Unfortunately, it is quite uncertain as to when we can actually go about our lives without any threat of the COVID-19 virus. At the present that goal seems elusive, and at best, is months away. Accordingly, we need the patient endurance to move slowly, cautiously, and as safely as possible in the direction of a full and unhindered gathered community of faith.

As our Council has learned, we are all over the map on deciding just how to go about the path to resumption. There are strong sentiments on just what to allow or not permit. For example, will facemasks be mandatory or not? We reluctantly

agreed to "highly recommend the wearing of facemasks without mandating their use."

Christ's love in us shows up in how we respect and treasure one another. In his letter to the Romans, the Apostle Paul writes in the 14<sup>th</sup> chapter that we should avoid passing judgment on one another, even in practices that we might judge our brother to have a "weak in the faith" position. The context is forbidden foods to eat, and days of religious observance. But the principle is applicable to other differences of opinion. We are to pursue for what makes for peace and mutual upbuilding. I urge you to read the chapter. The reminder will be helpful...

#### SINCE YOU ASKED...

##### **Why do we stand during the reading of the Gospel Lesson?**

By standing we are giving expression of special respect and adoration. In the Gospel Accounts we meet our Lord Jesus Christ in a special way. In these writings

we are presented with Jesus' Judean and Galilean ministry. We also have a record of the very words of our Lord (his teachings, parables, dialog, etc.). We hear the accounts of Jesus' death and resurrection, the work of our salvation.

Although the entire Bible is the Word of God, it is in the Gospels that our Lord is most directly presented to us. So you might say that Christ himself is being presented before us in the Gospel Lesson. It is therefore most appropriate that we stand at attention.

#### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**Tuesday, 6/2**  
1:00pm Prayer Gathering

**Friday, 6/5**  
6:30am Men's Breakfast

**Sunday, 6/7 Holy Trinity Sunday**  
9:00am Divine Service

**Tuesday, 6/9**  
1:00pm Prayer Gathering  
6:00pm Council Meeting

#### 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](http://www.thenalc.org))

## THIS AND THAT...

We are resuming gathering for the **Divine Service** starting Sunday, **June 7**. This will be a slow and cautious move in the direction of a full resumption.

We are asking that you email your **intention to attend** an upcoming service by Friday, two days before the service. To begin with, we will limit the number that can attend. If you miss out one Sunday, you will be given priority for the next time you wish to attend.

Not all will be able or desiring to attend yet. We understand. That's why **we will live-stream the services**. Pastor Tim is also willing to meet with small groups during the week for a brief service of Word and Sacrament. Contact him if you are interested in this.

Our **Designated Benevolence** for the month of June will be directed to The Food Basket serving Holmen and Onalaska.

Don't forget to bring non-perishable food items for **The Food Basket** serving Holmen and Onalaska.

Tom and Jane Kruse are listed to clean the church for the week of May 17. The Roll family is signed up for the week of June 21.

Having compassion and showing mercy to our neighbors is always the finest witness that we can do.

## GIFT of GRACE

*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**

June 3..... Vincent Lu  
June 13 ..... Paul Hanson  
June 14 ..... Jane Kruse  
June 15 ..... Sam Stutzman  
June 25 ..... Mary Bartos  
June 26 ..... Tom Rislow

#### **Anniversaries**

May 23..... C & M Bartos  
June 13 ..... M & M Wangen  
June 22 ..... P & N Hanson

### Sunday School Kids

A Sunday School teacher was telling her class the story of the Good Samaritan, in which a man was beaten, robbed and left for dead. She described the situation in vivid detail so her students would catch the drama. Then, she asked the class, "If you saw a person lying on the roadside, all wounded and bleeding, what

would you do?" A thoughtful little girl broke the hushed silence, "I think I'd throw up."

The teacher was describing how Lot's wife looked back and turned into a pillar of salt, when little Johnny interrupted, "My Mummy looked back

once, while she was driving," he announced triumphantly, "and she turned into a telephone pole!"

"Billy, do you think Noah did a lot of fishing when he was on the ark?" the teacher asked him.

"No," Billy replied. "How could he, with just two worms!"

## WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

### **6/7** The Holy Trinity Sunday

**Asst Minister:** Mike Meunier

**Reader:** Naomi Rislow

**Crucifer:** Elyse Schoonover

**Acolyte:** Sam Schoonover

**Ushers:** Mary Bartos

**Counters:** Heather R/Connie M

**Comm Asst:** Jeremy Schoonover

**Accompanist:** Tom Rislow

**Fellowship:** tba

**Acolyte:** Kylee Kernan

**Ushers:** Wendell Halderson

**Counters:** Chery Ruud/Mary Bartos

**Comm Asst:** Jarrod Roll

**Accompanist:** Leslie Duesenberg

**Fellowship:** tba

**Accompanist:** Tom Rislow

**Fellowship:** tba

### **6/14** 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

**Asst Minister:** Cole Waner

**Reader:** Brad Benrud

**Crucifer:** Calvin Swaney

### **6/21** 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

**Asst Minister:** Karri Bjornstad

**Reader:** Jon Uy

**Crucifer:** Benjamin Roll

**Acolyte:** Alex Uy

**Ushers:** Tom Kruse

**Counters:** Tom R/Jarrod R

**Comm Asst:** Leslie Duesenberg

### **6/28** 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

**Asst Minister:** Jeremy Schoonover

**Reader:** Heather Roll

**Crucifer:** Dawson Staff

**Acolyte:** Drew Staff

**Ushers:** Calvin Swaney

**Counters:** Dave B/Jeremy S

**Comm Asst:** Jessica Schoonover

**Accompanist:** Leslie Duesenberg

**Fellowship:** tba

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