

GIFT of GRACE

LUTHERAN CHURCH

GRACE NOTES

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 22, 2020

A WORD FROM PT

In recent weeks I have been discussing with you the change in how Holy Communion has been administered in many of our churches. Whereas until the late nineteenth century Communion Wine was extended in the Common Cup, a new practice has caught on of using individual cups. And this happened, as has been discussed, for practical or perceived hygienic considerations.

We then discussed how the hygienic concern was likely more of perception than of actual medical, scientific, or demonstration of the spread of infection or illnesses. And last week, we discussed how individual cups may be more suspect in the trans-

mission of germs and viruses.

The point of this conversation is for us to consider whether we might move in the direction of recapturing the symbolic benefit of using a Common Cup for those who so desire to sup from the Chalice.

This consideration is not a matter of "that's the way it used to be done." It is rather a matter of contemplating whether the "old way" was more faithful and indicative of what we actually believe is occurring in the Lord's Supper.

A loaf of bread and a common cup bespeak of a united source from which we are each individually nour-

ished. The loaf must be distributed by breaking it into pieces. The wine must be distributed by being sipped from the common source, that is, the Common Cup.

Our Lord Jesus knew what He was doing when he took His cup, and said of it, "*this cup* is the New Covenant in My blood." And it was this cup that He gave for all to drink! The counterpart to the bread that He gave is the CUP that He gave.

Please know that, if there is a green light to moving in that direction at Gift of Grace, we would not force this on anyone! We would simply afford this opportunity for those who so desire it.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Tuesday, 1/21

11:15am Ladies' Lunch Out
1:00pm Prayer Gathering

Wednesday, 1/22

6:30pm Adult Ed/Confirmation

Friday, 1/24

6:30am Men's Breakfast at church
10:30am Worship at Bethany St Jo

Sunday, 1/26 3rd Sunday a Epiphany

8:00am Choir Practice
9:00am Divine Service of the Word
10:45am Adult Class

Tuesday, 1/28

1:00pm Prayer Gathering

KEY ATTRIBUTES OF LCMC & NALC

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

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.

LCMC (Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ)

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

THIS AND THAT...

The **Ladies' Night Out** is at IL Luigi at 5:30pm on Monday, January 20.

The **Ladies' Lunch Out** is at Features Restaurant in Holmen at 11:15am on Tuesday, January 21.

As spelled out in our Constitution, the preferred date for the **Annual Meeting** is the second Sunday in February. In keeping with this, our Annual Meeting will fall on the heels of the Divine Service on Sun-

day, February 9. Business includes elections and the adoption of a Mission Spending Plan, otherwise known as a Budget.

The **Annual Report** will be made available on Sunday, February 2.

Our **Designated Benevolence** for the month of January will be directed to the **Didi Panzo** family, who are serving as missionaries in the Democratic Republic of the

Congo.

Don't forget to bring non-perishable food items for the **Holmen/Onalaska Food Pantry**.

Karri Bjornstad and Connie Meunier are signed up to clean the church the week of January 19. The Duesenbergs are listed for week of Feb 16.

Attractive bookmarks are being designed and printed as an outreach tool for our congregation.!

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

Jan 21 Elyse Schoonover
 Jan 26 Marge Wangen
 Jan 27 Ann Fisher
 Feb 24 Jed Roll

Anniversaries

Top 10 Conversations between Golfer and Caddy

10 Golfer: "Think I'm going to drown myself in the lake."

Caddy: "Think you can keep your head down that long?"

#9 G: "I'd move heaven and earth to break 100 on this

course."

C: "Try heaven, you've already moved most of the earth."

#8 G: "Do you think my game is improving?"

C: "Yes sir, you miss the ball much closer now."

#7 G: "Do you think I can get there with a 5 iron?"

C: "Eventually."

#6 G: "You've got to be the worst caddy in the world."

C: "I don't think so sir. That would be too much of a coincidence."

- next week the final 5...

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

1/26 Third Sunday after Epiphany

Asst Minister: Karri Bjornstad

Reader: Hannah Scholze

Crucifer: Calvin Swaney

Acolyte: Kylee Kernan

Ushers: David Bjornstad

Counters: Jane K/Niki H

Comm Asst: tba

Accompanist: Tom Rislow

Fellowship: Hannah S/Heidi T

Acolyte: Benjamin Roll

Ushers: Jarrod Roll

Counters: Heather R/Connie M

Comm Asst: Karri Bjornstad

Accompanist: Leslie Duesenberg

Fellowship: Jessica S/tba

2/9 Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

Asst Minister: Leslie Duesenberg

Reader: Calvin Swaney

Crucifer: Elyse Schoonover

Acolyte: Sam Schoonover

Ushers: Wendell Halderson

Counters: David B/Jeremy S

Comm Asst: Connie Meunier

Accompanist: Tom Rislow

Fellowship: Potluck after Annual Meeting

2/16 Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

Asst Minister: Tom Rislow

Reader: Craig Bartos

Crucifer: Drew Staff

Acolyte: Dawson Staff

Ushers: Mary Bartos

Counters: Cheryl Ruud/Mary Bartos

Comm Asst: Heidi Traver

Accompanist: Leslie Duesenberg

Fellowship: tba

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

2/2 Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

Asst Minister: Cole Warner

Reader: Jarrod Roll

Crucifer: Stella Roll