

The King's

Business



Grace Lutheran

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January 2023

We at Grace Lutheran Church are called to reach, teach and be the people of God, as stewards of the Word and gifts of God.

GOD HAS A SENSE OF HUMOR

Dear Saints of Grace,

I have often, with tongue in cheek, said that God has a sense of humor. After seven and one-half years of retirement and finding myself preparing to be installed as your Pastor, I am now convinced.

Having served Trinity Lutheran Church in Okmulgee, Oklahoma for 25 years I preached my last pre-retirement sermon on Trinity Sunday, May 31st, 2015. On June 1st of that same year, we loaded our moving van, a few cars, and three pickups for the four and one-half hour drive to Holiday Island, Arkansas. On June 2nd we caravanned our way to 12 Appaloosa Dr., Holiday Island, where we have enjoyed living the past seven and a half years. I had great plans for retirement, but then, God has a sense of humor.

We soon joined Grace Lutheran with plans to be in Divine Service weekly. God has a sense of hu-



mor. I planned to spend my leisure time fishing, with a bit of time working in my woodworking shop. God has a sense of humor. It wasn't long before the phone began to ring with request to do "Pulpit Supply." God has a sense of humor. Soon I found myself preparing for, and serving, many congregations as a Pulpit Supply Pastor in Oklahoma, Arkansas, and Missouri. This then evolved into serving extended periods as Vacancy Pastor in such places as Peace Lutheran Church Prairie Grove, Arkansas, and Peace Lutheran Church Shell Knob, Missouri. Notice God's sense of humor? Both congregations were named "Peace".

Now, as 2022 draws to a close, seven and one-half years after "retirement", I find myself writing this little introduction for the January Newsletter of Grace as I prepare to be installed as her Pastor. God has taught us that His "Grace" abounds! And I am convinced that His humor does also!

Yes, Sharon and I have been members at Grace during these years of "retirement" we have grown to love Grace and her members. Though we have often been unable to worship with you we have

grown to love you all. Many members have gone during this time, yet many new members are calling Grace their home. We Both look forward to being with you every Lord's Day and the days between for years to come.

Now, here's more proof that God has a sense of humor, and so you might know me and Sharon better, I offer the following Bio:

I was born on March 26, 1949, in Manning, Iowa to Ray and Erna Schultz. My parents, along with my two siblings, moved to Rathdrum, Idaho when I was 3 months old. I was raised in Rathdrum, Idaho and graduated from Lakeland High in 1967. Sharon Turk said, "I do", when the pastor asked her "Do you..." on November 27, of 1968 in Coeur d' Alene, Idaho. Shortly after, having already signed up for naval service, I entered Boot Camp at San Diego Naval Training Station. Following Boot Camp I was assured to have Shore Duty. God has a sense of humor. After serving 4 years in the Navy, with 3 tours of duty off the coast of Vietnam I was honorably discharged from the U.S. Navy in December of 1972. During my time in the Navy Sharon and I were blessed with two sons, Darren and Kevin.

Returning to Idaho, and after working in both retail and wholesale branches of the building and lumber industry, and a few years for Kaiser Aluminum Hot Rolling Mill in Spokane Valley, Spokane, Washington, I started M. R. Schultz company, my home remodeling company. During these years Sharon and I were blessed with our daughter, Amy.

After deciding to make application to attend Concordia Theological Seminary in the early 1980's I returned to college to complete Under-Graduate studies. After graduating from North Idaho College in 1985, Sharon and I and our three children moved to Ft. Wayne, Indiana where I began studies at Concordia Theological Seminary in the fall of that same year. From September 1988 through August 1989, I served as Vicar at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Battle Creek, Michigan. Following Vicarage we returned, one child short (as our oldest son had entered the Army) to Concordia Theological Seminary for my last year of academic work.

After graduating from the seminary in May of 1990 with a Master's of Divinity degree I was ordained into the Office of the Holy Ministry on June 17, 1990, at Christ the King Lutheran Church in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, I was then installed as Pastor at Trinity Lutheran Church, Okmulgee, Oklahoma, (Another sign of God's sense of humor) on July 8 of the same year. I served Trinity Okmulgee until retirement on May 31st, 2015. During our years at Trinity our children blessed us with 7 grandchildren.

During my years in full time ministry in the Oklahoma District I served the Oklahoma District as:

A member of the Oklahoma District Evangelism Committee

Oklahoma District Lutheran Women's Missionary League Assistant Pastoral Advisor

Circuit Counselor, for the Tulsa Circuit

Vicarage Supervisor, Hope Lutheran Church, Muskogee, Oklahoma

Member, Oklahoma District Board of Directors

Oklahoma District Third Vice President

Oklahoma District First Vice President

I also served the community of Okmulgee, Oklahoma and the State of Oklahoma as:

Committee Member, Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth.

Chairman, Okmulgee County American Cancer Society

Treasurer, Okmulgee Ministerial Alliance

Secretary, Okmulgee Ministerial Alliance

Chairman, Manna Day Program serving the County Public Schools

Volunteer, City of Okmulgee Law Enforcement Chaplain

Member, Steering Committee for Community Crime Coalition

Member, Steering Committee for Okmulgee County Youth Court

Member, Law Enforcement Grant Advisory Board

Volunteer, Okmulgee Memorial Hospital Chaplain

Secretary, Friends of the Deep Fork National Wildlife Refuge, Okmulgee

Chairman, Friends of the Deep Fork National Wildlife Refuge, Okmulgee

Women's Guild

For full report, see the December newsletter
Next Meeting. **January 17th 10:00am**
Fellowship & 11:00 am Meeting

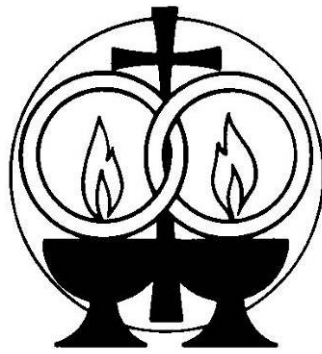
Installation

The Rev. Myles Schultz will be formally installed as Pastor at Grace in a special Service at 3:00pm on January 8th.



January Birthdays

Paula Sell	11
Dianna Mancuso	29
Randall Garrett	30
Tony Willmuth	31



January Anniversaries

Lyle and Charlotte Bonner	9
Sheldon & Lee Knuth	11
Robert & Barbara Herring	25



Bruce & Jane Bleser
 Dean & Lisa Bennett
 Ken & Bernie Haydon
 LaVerne & Terri Herman
 Bob & Barb Herring - 2
 Myles & Sharon Schultz
 Joe & Sherry Steichen
 Tony & Janice Willmuth - 2

Thank You!

Barbara and I thank all of you for your thoughts, prayers, and gifts during our time of service in the Lord's kingdom here in Holiday Island. We especially thank you for the gifts and remembrances you shared with us this Christmas season. Your love and generosity knows no bounds when it comes to us. May our Heavenly Father continue to keep you safe in the new year.

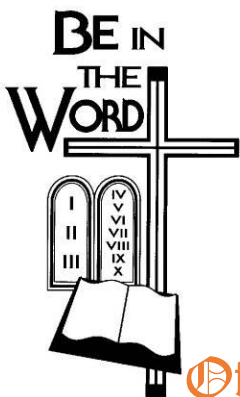
Pastor Herring

Thank You!

We wish thank everyone for the Christmas cards greetings you have extended to us in this season. We give a special thanks to the congregation for the generous gift you gave us. We treasure most of all the loving thoughts and prayers with which you have made this season special. We are so grateful, and we give God many thanks for the Christian Family we have here at Grace.

Ken and Bernie Haydon

Thoughts



From The Board Of Elders

As we move into a new year, it is good to look both back and forward. Both looks, however, should look to the blessing which God has given us. Naturally, when we look at the world, it is the easiest thing to look at the bad which is given us frequently by all the news services. Nevertheless, our Lord, Jesus Christ, has promised to be with us through all time and all circumstances. The devil may frequently challenge that, but we have the promise of the One who died and rose so that we might be called The Children of God. And we are! We remember our Baptism and we come to the Lord's Table thus to be assured of our forgiveness and the blessings of God. We look back to see blessing and move forward, assured that more blessings are to follow. Praise God!

Kenneth Haydon, Elder



Our third Advent Service – note the new, slimmer Christmas trees. We had another nice view out the back, although we have had better in the past, God frequently blesses us with His beauty. We had the best attendance for some time. The Elders wish to express their thanks for our members making the effort to come.



Chairman Bruce Bleser reading the commendation for a retiring pastor to Pastor Robert Herring following his last service at Grace. We wish Bob and Barb God's richest blessings in this retirement and look forward to sharing God's work with them here in Holiday Island. Thank you Bob and Barb!