

The King's

Business



Grace Lutheran

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November 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.

From The Pastor's DESK

Dear Grace Family,

On Sunday, November 5th, we will celebrate All Saints Day. All Saints, and All Souls Day, are annually celebrated on November 1st, and November 2nd, respectively.



All Saints' Day is a Christian solemnity celebrated in honor of all the saints of the Church, whether they are known or unknown.

The purpose of All Saints' Day is to commemorate the lives of all saints and to remember them, and honor them before God in thanksgiving for their witness of faith. All Saints' Day begins with its first vespers on the evening of October 31st, All Hallows' Eve (All Saints' Eve), and ends at the compline of November 1st. It is thus the day before All Souls' Day, which commemorates the faithful departed.

In the Apocrypha we find this in the Wisdom of Solomon 3:1-9
3:1 But the souls of the righteous are in the hand of God, and no

torment will ever touch them. 3:2 In the eyes of the foolish they seemed to have died, and their departure was thought to be an affliction, 3:3 And their going from us to be their destruction; but they are at peace.

During the Divine Service we will have a short Service of Remembrance during which we will be remembering those of our immediate families that have been received into the loving arms of our God over the past year (from November 1, 2022 to the present).

If you would like your loved one(s) remembered by name please fill in the information below and place this in the offering plate, or hand it to me.

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REMEMBER!, immediate family only: Grandparents, parents, siblings, or children.

NAME: _____

Date of birth: _____

Date of death: _____



AND FOR EVERYTHING ELSE... THANKS.

That's the theme for our Thanksgiving Eve Service on November 23rd, at 5:00 p.m.. *"And for everything else ... thanks!"*

I know...it's an odd title ... a different sort of a thought. Perhaps not what you might expect as you come for Thanksgiving Service Theme.

"And for everything else" Hmmm.

It sounds as though this is a second service ... an appendix ... a sequel to another. Or like you walked into the second hour of a lecture. The third reel of a movie. The last act of a play?

"And for everything else ..." Everything else besides what? Where did our thanksgiving START? What are we already thankful for that we're building on now?

What to find out? Join us for our annual Thanksgiving Eve Service.

Looking forward to seeing you then,
In His Service and Yours
Pastor Schultz

Why is Luther's Small Catechism so Popular?



"Mercy! Good God! what manifold misery I beheld! The common people, especially in the villages, have no knowledge whatever of Christian doctrine, and, alas! many pastors are altogether incapable and incompetent to teach ... Yet they [do not understand and] cannot [even] recite either the Lord's Prayer, or the Creed, or the Ten Commandments"

— Martin Luther, "Preface" in The Small Catechism 0.1

Luther was shocked and dismayed. His prince had sent him

and his friends on a mission to go throughout Saxony and see what needed to be done to reform the church. There was no bishop who came over to the Reformation to provide care for the people, so the prince had to act. Luther knew the everyday people were badly educated — but he didn't know how bad it was. He had instructed his friends to write catechisms to help fathers and priests teach the people. He was not at all satisfied with their work and it clearly was not working. So he produced two Catechisms — the Large Catechism for pastors and fathers learn how to teach children and the Small Catechism for the children to memorize.

Luther produced two classics. *The Small Catechism* revolutionized Christian education of children — even beyond Lutheranism, resulting in basic catechisms for

children appearing in all denominations. Wherever the Lutheran Church and its missions went in the world, the Small Catechism soon followed. As soon as the Bible appeared in a new language, the Catechism and the liturgy were sure to soon follow. It is among the most translated works in Western civilization. When the first Missouri Synod Lutherans emigrated to America, among the essential books packed in the trunks were the Bible, the Catechism, a prayer book, a hymnal and a book of sermons. Wherever the Missouri Synod organized congregations, they would immediately set up schools — sometimes multiple schools — where at first the pastors would teach, you guessed it — the Catechism, the Bible and then other subjects. As soon as a congregation could afford it, they would also call a school teacher.

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The Small Catechism was so popular because it was so basic. It taught the bedrock doctrines needed to live a Christian life — the Ten Commandments and with it God’s law in its three uses; the Creed and with it the Gospel which saves us and gives us the power to live the Christian life and the

Lord’s Prayer, and with it the building of a life centered around Jesus. He also translated these treasures into the child’s native language, so they could comprehend them. He then explained them carefully, sweetly in easily memoizable words. He did all this without using combative language.

The result is that even non-Lutherans cherish the *Small Catechism*.

Rev. Robert E. Smith
Concordia Theological Seminary
Fort Wayne, Indiana

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Reports from the Mission Field

Dear Grace Family,

As a means to help us be better connect to the work that goes on in the Mission Field, and the work of our LCMS Missionaries, I’ve asked the Rev. Christian Tiews permission to reprint some of his reports in our monthly newsletter. This month, I submit the following.

Pastor Schultz

In last week’s baptismal preparation class, a young Iranian said, “Pastor, I recently watched an exorcism movie. Do demons really exist?” “Actually, they do,” I replied. “In extremely rare cases, they can haunt buildings and even possess people.” The room fell silent. “I’ll tell you what...for next week, please read the Gospel of Mark.” The other day we met again, and I asked them, “Well, did you notice anything?” “Yes,” the same young man replied, “Many times, Jesus casts evil spirits out of people.” “That’s right,” I explained. “That is His most common miracle in Mark. Today pastors and priests still use



the words of Jesus to drive out demons. We call these rites exorcisms.” Their eyes widened. We looked at Isaiah 14:12-15, where a chief angel and many other angels who followed him want to be like God. For this reason, God expels them from heaven. Today we know them as Satan and demons. Next, we studied Genesis 3:1-14: Satan’s revenge—tempting Adam and Eve into doubting God. This led to rebellion, fear, shame, and ultimately death—not only in the two of them but in all mankind. Then we read Genesis 3:15. I asked: “Who is this *he* who would bruise Satan’s head and whose heel Satan would bruise?” “Jesus Christ. That’s the first prophesy of the crucifixion,” a long-time church member replied. “Exactly... Millennia later, God

would provide a solution: He would personally come down to earth as a human to defeat Satan and his demons—on the cross and in the empty tomb...If you believe in Jesus and are baptized, He forgives you all your sins and grants you eternal life... Exorcism movies are not beneficial for us Christians. We should focus on the lovely and beautiful (Philippians 4:8), also in this Halloween season. If you celebrate Halloween, it’s not a good idea to use images or wear costumes that celebrate Satan and his demons. They are losers. Jesus defeated them. But they are still very real.” (Image courtesy of Iranian parishioner Poorya, a Mercedes-Benz fan 😊).

Rev. Christian C. Tiews
Hamburg, Germany



Jesus’ Little Lambs! Grace once again has a Sunday School started!

Our three youngest, Ariella, Ella and Willow are our current students who meet after the time of fellowship i.e. during the time of the Adult Bible Study. Please pray for God’s blessing on this work and for His guidance for kids and staff.

Grace Lutheran Women's Guild
October 17, 2023

DEVOTION by: Sharon Schultz, from book "Words of Peace and Protection – Psalm 91 (multi authors)

REPORTS. Secretary & Treasurer reports Read and Approved.

Mission Projects were voted on. We will be donating to the following:

- Heifer International - \$550.00
- Orphan Grain Train - \$500.00
- Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty – \$500.00
- Flint Street Food Pantry – \$500.00
- For all 4 donations motions were made and seconded and all approved.
- Total \$2,050.00
- * We also plan to support the Trafficking survivors from Into the Light for Christmas. Everyone seemed interested. This will be discussed once we have the information from Into the Light.

Non-Monetary Mission – Hope Notes – Dakota Boys & Girls Ranch is asking that Messages of Hope and/or Encouragement be sent to the Boys and Girls at Dakota Ranch – HOPE NOTES. This can be done on-line at: DakotaRanch.org or by US mail and sending them to:

Dakota Boys & Girls Ranch Hope Notes 6301 19th Avenue NW P O Box 5007 Minot, ND. 58702 is would be a source of inspiration and encouragement for those who have none. Friends from all over the country can write Hope Notes to the children. Little messages of encouragement to let them know someone cares for and about them and wants them to succeed.

Altar Guild – A thank you to each of the ladies that have volunteered to participate in the Altar Guild. Official members are: Jane Bleser, Sherry Fenske, Terri Herman, Dianna Mancuso, Karen Quinly, Linda Riggan, Jane Smith and Janice Willmuth. They are working in pairs. If you see them, thank them for their service.

New Business

December Luncheon - The Women's Guild will celebrate their Christmas Lunch on December 5th at 11:30 here at church. It will be a Potluck of either salads or light snack/appetizer items to be brought and shared. This can be discussed further at the November meeting. We will also have a gift exchange as part of a game. Gift purchases are to be no more than \$20.00; wrapped, but no tag. Watch for more information.

Elections – of **Women's Guild Officers** will be held in November per our Bylaws. Installation by Pastor in January along with the

Church Council. The new officers will take their positions after installation in January. The Officer volunteers are:

President: Stephanie Garrett;
Vice President: Jane Bleser;
Treasurer: Vicki Garrett;
Secretary: Terri Herman.

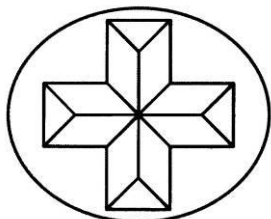
Announcements:

- Next Meeting: November 14, 2023 11:00 AM Meeting & 10:00 AM Fellowship.
- Devotion: Jane Smith
- Fellowship: Barbara Herring
- Sharon Schultz announced that Simeon Cronwell has accepted a Call to St Clair Shores, Michigan 25 miles outside of Detroit. Simeon was one of the seminary students that the Women's Guild supported a few years back. He is also Pastor Schultz and Sharon's Godchild.

Meeting Adjourned at 12:26 with the Lord's Prayer.

All women of the church are members of the Women's Guild. We would *love* to have join us for a meeting and or fellowship whenever you are available. The meetings are generally held the third Tuesday of the Month. See information listed above regarding time.

Respectfully submitted:
Barbara Herring, Secretary



Women's Bible Study, "**Promised Rest**"
November 6th & 20th at 10:30am
Sharon's house, 12 Appaloosa Dr.
Holiday Island

**Anniversaries
& Birthdays**

See the back of the Calendar page!