

Click here to open service web page for: 2007/10/21/

† **TODAY AT GRACE** †

Organist: Janelle Hein Elder: Dave Rust
Ushers: Mike Dick; Larry Brandt; Roger Brandt; Scott Dauer;
 Dale Enns; Scott Dauer; Larry Nelson; Lynn Sandhoefner
Counting Team 3: Don Auel; Brian Eichstadt; Jack Kirkham;
 Benno Sydow; Ole Olmanson
Hospitality Team: None – Mission Festival
Church Cleaners: Kitzman School Cleaners: Ferris

† **NEXT WEEK AT GRACE** †

Ushers: Mike Dick; Larry Brandt; Roger Brandt; Scott Dauer;
 Dale Enns; Scott Dauer; Larry Nelson; Lynn Sandhoefner
Counting Team 4: Paul Lentz; Al Rosendahl; Dave Rust; Lynn
 Sandhoefner; Jeff Radichel
Hospitality Team 7: Richard & Shauna Rhinesmith; Brian &
 Maureen Eichstadt; Brandt Wendland
Church Cleaners: Kitzman School Cleaners: Ferris

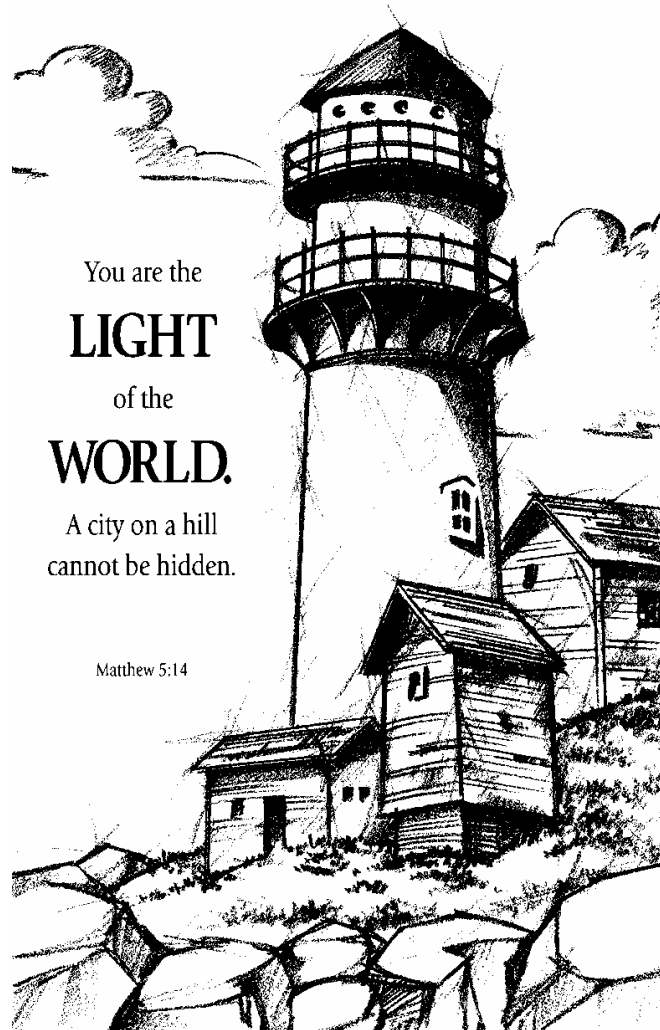
† **OUR SCHEDULE** †

Today: 9:00 am – Sunday School and Bible Class
 10:00 am – Worship Service (Mission Festival)
 11:15 am – Mission Festival Potluck Meal
Oct. 22-26: No School – CLC Teachers' Conference
Mon., Oct. 22: 7:00 pm – CEA Meeting
Wed., Oct. 24: 4:00 pm – Catechism for Public School Students
 7:00 pm – Midweek Bible Class
Sat., Oct. 27: 9:00 am – Work Day
Sun., Oct. 28: 8:30 am – Choir Practice
 9:00 am – Sunday School and Bible Class
 10:00 am – Worship Service (Reformation)
 11:00 am – Hospitality

Last Week's Stats: Oct. 14, 2007 Sun.: 112 S.S.: 22 B.Cl.: 48 Wed.: 26

Sun. Offering:	Grace:	2,362.82	CLC:	737.00	
Weekly Need:	Grace:	3,030.00	CLC:	960.00	
-Under / +Over:	Grace:	-667.18	CLC:	-223.00	
Year-to-Date Offering::	Grace:	120,428.53	CLC:	36,680.24	
Year-to-Date Need:	Grace:	124,230.00	CLC:	39,360.00	
Year-to-Date (+/-)	Grace:	-3,801.47	CLC:	-2,679.76	
Other Offerings:	Living Faith:	0.00	Tuition:	57.00	
GLC Other:	50.00	MDF:	112.00	Kinship:	101.00
ILC Student Aid:	77.00	ILC Bldg.	76.00	IIF: 0.00	CEF: 25.00

*Grace Lutheran
 Church & School*

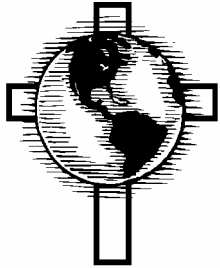


You are the
LIGHT
 of the
WORLD.

A city on a hill
 cannot be hidden.

Matthew 5:14

Mission Festival 2007



GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
MISSION FESTIVAL
OCTOBER 21, 2007

Pastor: John P. Hein
Principal: Ryan Libby
Web: www.CLCGraceLutheranChurch.org
Email: jphein@clclutheran.com
Phone: 763-784-8784

As this world sits in the darkness of sin and unbelief, we can thank our gracious God for sending Jesus as the Light of the world. He is the One who sheds light by granting us salvation through His perfect life and His innocent sufferings and death. Having seen Him by faith as the Light of the world, we have great opportunity to further dispel the darkness by preaching the Good News about Him. May the Holy Spirit richly bless our endeavors to do so as we share God's grace in Christ Jesus!



† **THE ORDER OF WORSHIP** †

Worship Preparation:..... *Psalm 66, TLH p. 136*

Opening Prayer:

P: Dear Savior, Lord of the Church, move our hearts to praise You for the forgiveness of sins and peace that you bring to us. By Your promises in Your Holy Word, work in our hearts an ever-growing desire to take the wonderful news of Your crucifixion and resurrection to others who are not yet in Your family. May this be the focus of our worship this morning, in Christ's name. Amen.

Hymn:..... *TLH 495: From Greenland's Jcy Mountains*

Invocation:..... *Duet (Written by Rev. David Reim)*

1. *In the name of the Father, In the name of the Son,
In the name of the Spirit, We are gathered here as one.*
2. *We have come here to worship, And our sins to confess.
Come, O Lord, and be with us, Our souls and lives to bless.*
3. *Grant us grace and forgiveness, Fill our hearts with Your love.
Give us power to serve You, Set our minds on things above.*
4. *In the name of the Father, In the name of the Son,
In the name of the Spirit, We are gathered here as one.*

What are you seeking?

This is what you will find among us:

- ★ *The Bible preached as it is – the living Word of the living God; not the preaching of social, political, theological, or ethical opinions of men.*
- ★ *Man acknowledge as he is – born in sin, prone to error and doomed to hell unless rescued by God Himself; not man morally capable of redeeming himself.*
- ★ *Jesus Christ worshipped as the Son of God made flesh to redeem lost and condemned mankind; not a Christ molded to accommodate the modern mind.*
- ★ *God confessed as He has revealed Himself: Father, Son, and Holy Ghost – three divine Persons, one divine Essence; not some god fashioned either by the hand or the mind of man.*
- ★ *Salvation proclaimed by grace through faith in the redemption that is in Christ Jesus; not by the works or efforts or striving of man.*
- ★ *The Gospel preached and the Sacraments administered as the means of grace whereby the Holy Spirit creates and preserves faith; not self-induced religious experience or any so-called faith apart from that which is created by the Spirit through the Gospel.*
- ★ *The Church accepted in faith as the congregation of believers – the creation of the Spirit of God; not a human organization subject to the manipulations of men.*
- ★ *The business of the Church considered to be the preaching of forgiveness for the regeneration of individuals into eternal life; not the redemption of the world to conform to some social pattern of men.*
- ★ *Ecumenism as Spirit-created unity in the Gospel; not as 'agreement to disagree' for the sake of power, organization, or the demands of expediency.*
- ★ *Christian liberty in all that is neither forbidden nor commanded by our Lord; bondage to no word of man.*
- ★ *All the Bible teaches – nothing more, nothing less.*



*Grace Lutheran
Church & School*

Individual mission work occurs when a Christ believer shares the gospel at work and play, and wherever the opportunity presents itself. The church as a body of believers in Christ engages in mission work through the mutual efforts of the constituent congregations that make up the fellowship. The confessional Lutheran Church has always been interested in mission work. Hence constituent congregations of a fellowship have pooled resources and efforts to proclaim the gospel “among all nations.” In this corporate mission effort the church can easily lose its way if it becomes goal oriented and measures its work in terms of statistics.

We dare never lose sight of the fact that a truly mission minded church is one that remains a confessional church. A confessional church is one that believes doctrine is important, and that the apostolic doctrine, including the doctrine of fellowship, dare never be sacrificed for any reason. It dare not deviate from the Scriptures, the divinely inspired Word of God. It dare never forget that “Teaching them to **observe all things** whatsoever I have commanded you ...” is part of the commission our Lord gave to the church. In the practical aspect of mission work we will indeed start with milk, not meat (1 Corinthians 3:2). Nevertheless, we are to dispense the pure milk of the Word, not milk watered down to make it palatable.

We believe that formerly confessional Lutheran churches have lost their confessional integrity, in part, through mission efforts that lost sight - however unintentionally - of the fact that mission work is preaching Christ to the salvation of souls rather than reaching out to “grow the church.” If and when goal and statistics become an obsession the temptation is to veil the doctrine, or to dress it up to make certain teachings of Scripture less offensive to the hearers. Even methods and approaches themselves may contribute to the breakdown of confessional integrity if the need is felt to adopt the methods and approaches of church and para-church organizations to whom the means of grace - the staple of true mission work - is of little if any consequence. Confessional integrity, in other words faithfulness to Scripture in teaching and practice, is essential to mission work. Church growth programs, as well as musical and liturgical dumbing down are not!

We of the Church of the Lutheran Confession have said, “If people are to know and believe in the Savior, they must learn of Him from the one place where Jesus Christ is revealed. Hence our emphasis is on the teaching of the Word of God, the Bible” (CLC Directory, page 2). We believe that what a person is taught is as important as that he is taught.

If in the interest of mission work a church plays loosely with confessional integrity, it ultimately will neither serve those it seeks, nor those sheep for whom it is responsible. To avoid that death trap it is essential that the church - that we - remember what the divine commission is all about, namely, declaring the grace of God in Christ to people sitting in spiritual darkness that they may be counted by the Lord among “those who believe to the saving of the soul” (Hebrews 10:39). Effective and God-pleasing, mission work goes hand in hand with confessional integrity.

Written by Rev. Daniel Fleischer (7/22/2007)



Confession & Absolution: *Tune of “Hark! The Voice of Jesus Calling”*

P: God is light and in Him is no darkness at all.

C: If we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.

SING(♫): Rise, Thou, Light of Gentile nations,
Jesus, bright and Morning Star;
Let Thy Word, the gladsome tidings,
Ring out loudly near and far,
Bringing freedom to the captives,
Peace and comfort to the slave,
That the heathen, free from bondage,
May proclaim Thy pow’r to save. (TLH 498:1)

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C: If we confess our sin, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

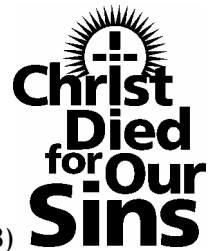
SING(♫): Knowing Thee and Thy salvation,
Grateful love dare never cease
To proclaim Thy tender mercies,
Gracious Lord, Thy heav’nly peace.
Sound we forth the Gospel tidings
To the earth’s remotest bound
That the sinner has been pardoned
And forgiveness can be found. (TLH 498:4)

P: Let us pray.

C: Almighty God, merciful Father, we are sinful by nature, and have sinned against You in our thoughts, words, and actions. But we are sorry for our transgressions and pray You, of Your bountiful mercy, to be gracious and merciful unto us. Forgive us for Jesus’ sake, renew us by Your Spirit, and lead us in the way everlasting. Amen.

P: Jesus Christ is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world. We are forgiven. With boldness and confidence we may approach the throne to find grace to help in time of need. In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord:

SING(♫): If Thou, merciful Redeemer,
Hadst not saved us from this plight
In like darkness we should languish
Hopeless, helpless, in sin’s night.
Lovingly Thou, Lord, didst seek us
In the beauty of Thy grace;
Now with joy we freely serve Thee,
We, Thy blessed, chosen race. (TLH 498:3)



Choir: *This is My Word*

Scripture Reading:..... *Isaiah 42:1-7*

Responsive Gradual:

- P: I will praise You, O Lord, among the nations;
- C: I will sing of You among the peoples.
- P: For great is Your love, higher than the heavens;
- C: Your faithfulness reaches to the skies.
- P: Alleluia. Alleluia. Give thanks to the Lord, call on His name;
- C: Make known among the nations what He has done! Alleluia.

Scripture Reading:..... *Matthew 28:18-20*

Children & Choir:..... *Go Into the World*

Confession of Faith:.. *Luther's Explanation to the Third Article*

I believe that I cannot by my own reasoning or effort believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, nor come to Him. But the Holy Spirit has called me by the gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified, and kept me in true faith. In the same way He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian Church on earth and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith. In this Christian Church He daily and richly forgives all sins to me and all believers. On the last day He will raise me and all the dead and give to me and all believers in Christ eternal life. This is most certainly true.

Hymn:..... *TLH 512: O Christ, Our True and Only Light*

Sermon:..... *Isaiah 49:6*

“Indeed He says, ‘It is too small a thing that You should be My Servant To raise up the tribes of Jacob, And to restore the preserved ones of Israel; I will also give You as a light to the Gentiles, That You should be My salvation to the ends of the earth.’”

**As a Servant of Christ,
He Sends You as a Light to the Gentiles**

- I. The Gentiles sit in darkness
- II. Christ, the light of the world, enlightens the Gentiles

Response:..... *Tune of “Hark! The Voice of Jesus Calling”*

SING(♩): Savior, shine in all Thy glory
On the nations near and far;
From the highways and the byways
Call them, O Thou Morning Star.
Guide them whom Thy grace hath chosen
Out of Satan's dreadful thrall
To the mansions of Thy Father--
There is room for sinners all. (TLH 498:6)



MISSION WORK and CONFSSIONAL INTEGRITY:

What is mission work? We shall first of all be so bold as to state what it is not. Mission work is not “growing the church” as is the popular expression and goal today. It is not about growing, but about planting the seed of the Word! Mission work in its purest form has nothing to do with statistics! A false notion of what constitutes mission work has led to all manner of ill in the church. A faulty understanding of mission work tends to diminish confessional integrity. Further, it tends to pride on one hand or depression on the other where failure is perceived.

Mission work is the proclamation (the planting) of the Word of God, in specific terms the Gospel. The great commission is, “Go ye therefore, and teach (make disciples of) all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you ...” (Matthew 28:19-20). That command of our Lord is consistent with what He said in Mark 13:10, “The gospel must first be published among all nations.” In Matthew 24:14 our Lord said, “The gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations ...” The Son of Man Who did not come into the world to condemn the world but to save it said, “... repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name among all nations ...” (Luke 24:47).

Mission work is teaching all things that God has given us in His word. It includes preaching the Law to uncover sin and make the sinner guilty before God. Yet it is the Gospel - the message of Christ's love manifest at the cross and sealed by the resurrection through which the Spirit creates believers. It is the Gospel which makes wise unto salvation (2 Timothy 3:15) and which is the power of God unto salvation (Romans 1:16). The Gospel imparts certain hope and consolation to the troubled heart. Martin Luther said, “Throughout the Gospel, Christ does no more than draw us out of ourselves and into Himself; He spreads His wings and invites us to take shelter under Him” (WLS, Vol. II, para. 1703, page 561). Let this suffice to define the Gospel, and our understanding of doing mission work: It is preaching the love of Christ!

To what end? The purpose is not to fill up church pews, though obviously we pray that those who are won by the Gospel will be led to identify with our church, join us in worshiping the Lord and in our witness to the world. God's kingdom - His gracious rule to save - enfolds all in whose heart He dwells by faith. God's kingdom is spiritual and bears no denominational name. It is God's command that we preach the Gospel - not that people will fill our church pew - but that people whom we may never meet on earth again may know the confident joy of salvation now and on the great day of our Lord's return. We do not measure mission work by statistics - we can't read the heart. “The Lord knows them that are His” (2 Timothy 2:19), and if it is important, how many of those have been won by our mission work. While unfortunately we must endure statistical reports, our responsibility is to preach the Word faithfully whereupon the Spirit gives the increase (Acts 2:47). The correct mission attitude is that of Paul who said, “Christ is preached, and I therein do rejoice, yea, and will rejoice” (Philippians 1:18).

VOTERS NOTES - OCTOBER 14, 2007

Meeting opened at 11:40 AM with prayer. Roll was taken. The July voters meeting minutes were approved as presented. The Treasurer's 3rd quarter report was approved as presented. Pastor will check into the status of the southwest metro fund.

Pastor's Report

- The letter of transfer for Laura Hulke was received from Messiah.
- Pastor will send a report to ILC regarding our vicar, Scott Schiermeister.
- There are many health issues in our congregation. Keep them in your prayers.
- Pastor will be preaching for Mission Festival in Marquette on Nov 25. Pastor Wayne Eichstadt will be preaching at Grace.
- The men's retreat and MN delegate conference went well.
- The pictorial directory will be coming out soon.

Board of Elder's Report

- The worship supplements have arrived, and faulty ones are being returned.
- Noise in the sanctuary is being addressed.

Board of Education Report

- There are 12 students this year. 11 members. 1 non-member.
- The first grading period is complete.
- CEA is coming up soon.
- Handbook items, including Tuition Aid disbursements, are being addressed.

Board of Trustees Report

- Many projects are being addressed, one furnace is loud.

Other Business

- 2008 calendar changes were approved:
 - o Added 2 more work days.
 - o Changes to the Easter morning schedule.
 - o May and October meeting changes due to conflicts.
 - o Thanksgiving service on Wednesday evening.
- Mid-week Bible class was changed from 7:30 to 7:00 PM.
- The Constitutional by-law change regarding nomination of officers was approved
- Provide feedback to Benno regarding the church handbook.
- Grace's budget for 2008 was approved:

	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>	
o Elders	59,000	64,000	4% compensation increase
o Education	58,440	59,000	4% compensation increase
o Trustees	<u>40,000</u>	<u>44,700</u>	
o	157,440	167,700	
- The CLC budget for 2008 will be addressed in January.
- The closing of the floor project fund was approved.
- Grace Service List:
 - o Would like 2 or 3 names per item.
 - o Feedback to Benno for posting by the end of the year.
 - o Fill in your name wherever you can help.
- When closing an official project, summarize the results in the bulletin.



Meeting adjourned at 12:35 PM with the Lord's Prayer.

Hymn: TLH 503: *Rise, Crowned with Light*

Offering of Thanks: *Meditative Music*

Note: Please stand to sing as offering is brought forward

Offering Response: *Tune of "Hark! The Voice of Jesus Calling"*

SING(♩): May our zeal to help the heathen
 Be increased from day to day
 As we plead in true compassion
 And for their conversion pray.
 For the many faithful heralds,
 For the Gospel they proclaim,
 Let us all be cheerful givers
 To the glory of Thy name. (TLH 498:5)



Prayers:

- P: Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name.*
- C:** Father, grant that the Gospel of Jesus Christ may be proclaimed among us and throughout the world in all its truth and purity, and that we and all believers may live holy and consecrated lives to the glory of Your Holy Name.
- P: Thy Kingdom come.*
- C:** Grant that the proclamation of the Gospel may bear much fruit, that large numbers of men, women, and children from every nation, tribe, and language may be brought into Your Kingdom of Grace and to the eternal glory of heaven.
- P: Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.*
- C:** Grant that we may never forget that it is Your Will that ALL people be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth. Grant that we may always remember that WE are to be witnesses for Christ to the farthest regions of the earth. Help us, dear Lord, to remember that it is also Your Will that we live a holy life, so that people may see their Savior, not only in our words, but in everything we do.
- P: Give us this day our daily bread.*
- C:** Grant that we may always remember that everything we have is from You. Teach us to trust You completely for our daily needs. Lead us to share our blessings with others and return to You a large measure of the gifts You have entrusted to us. In the countries of our foreign mission fields where the earthly blessings are far less than here, use us as tools to help provide for the daily bread of the orphans and others.
- P: And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.*
- C:** Forgive us for all the times we have given offense and thus kept others from coming to You. Forgive us for times that we have not

been good witnesses for Christ in our own community and throughout the world. Forgive us for every sin we commit, also those of which we are unaware. Give us grateful hearts that we may forgive those who trespass against us, that we may love our enemies, bless those who curse us, do good to those who hate us, and pray for those who mistreat us so that we might by all means lead some to Christ.

P: And lead us not into temptation.

C: Grant that Satan, the world, and our own flesh may not tempt us to neglect the supreme task of the Church. Grant that we may not be tempted to squander our time while the world rushes toward eternal flames. Grant that we may never be tempted to use our God-given talents to our own glory and selfish interests, but that we may always use these talents to proclaim the praises of Him who called us out of darkness into His marvelous light.

P: But deliver us from evil.

C: Protect us from all harm and danger, and grant that we may boldly confess our faith in Jesus Christ no matter what the circumstances, no matter what may be the result. Grant that we may be willing and happy to deny ourselves and take up the cross of self-sacrifice that others might live. Watch over our missionaries and their families, especially as they go into foreign lands and dangers. We commend them to Your care.

ALL: For Thine is the Kingdom and the Power and the Glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Benediction:..... *Tune of "Hark! The Voice of Jesus Calling"*

*Pastor: May our gracious Lord be with you,
May He keep you in His grace,
May He look with favor on you
Granting you His lasting peace.*

SING(♩): God – the Father, Son, and Spirit,
Triune God, fills every space,
Praise to Him through Jesus merit,
Spread His name in every place. Amen.



Hymn:..... *WS 769: Lift High the Cross*

Silent Prayer:

*O Jesus, King of Glory, Both David's Lord and Son!
Thy realm endures forever, In heaven is fixed Thy throne.
Help that in earth's dominions, Throughout from pole to pole,
Thy reign may spread salvation To each benighted soul. (TLH 130:1)*



† THE ANNOUNCEMENTS †

♦ **TODAY:** We thank Pastor David Baker from Ascension Lutheran Church in Batavia, IL (Chicago area) for proclaiming the Gospel message to compel us to spread its glorious light to others. Pastor Baker was one of the participants in this year's Mission Helper program, making a trip to India. Following our worship service we will have a potluck meal in the fellowship hall. Everyone is invited to stay and share in some Christian companionship.

♦ **Among Us:** Lyle LaCroix has been released from the hospital and is now at Birchwood Care Center in Forest Lake.

♦ **Service List:** Last Sunday the Voters discussed a service list that has been compiled by the Council. This is a detailed list of "to do" tasks around the church. Since our property is requiring more maintenance as it ages, there are a number of items to address regularly, so many that our Trustees and a small group of helpful members are getting overwhelmed. Please remember that as a member at Grace Lutheran, this is "your church," not someone else's. Our Lord Himself calls us to service, and one way of fulfilling this is to help keep His house and property in good order. This service list is being shared in each of our member's mailboxes. Please take ownership in your church by signing up for about 3 of the items listed. The Council hopes that 2 or 3 names will be listed with each item. Whoever is listed will be the responsible party or individual that we look to in order to make sure things get accomplished. Please speak with one of the Elders (Benno Sydow, Mike Dick, Dave Rust) as to the items of your interest. Thank you for taking interest and responsibility in your church!

♦ **Bylaw Change:** Benno Sydow made copies of last week's bylaw change by the Voters. It is formatted to match the printing in the Constitution. Copies are available by the guestbook for members to scotch tape in their constitutions at home.

♦ **CLC News:** Pastor Matthew Ude of Trinity in Millston, WI, has accepted the call to serve as the CLC's second foreign missionary to India. God-willing, he will arrive there in January. His installation service will be in Eau Claire; the date and time will be announced.

♦ **Sunday School Memory Work:** #8 – Sixth Commandment.

Welcome to our guests and visitors. We appreciate the opportunity to share God's Word with you today. Please come again! Those interested in learning more about the Scriptures and our doctrinal position, please speak with Pastor Hein. He would be delighted to visit with you!