

Click here to open service web page for: 2014/06/22/

## ✠ TODAY AT GRACE ✠

Organist: Janelle Hein      Elder: Brandt Wendland  
Ushers: Paul Lentz, Brad Kitzman, Rick Nelson, Keith Radichel,  
 Bob Vandever, Bobby Vandever, Matt Vandever  
Counting Team 4: Ed Lentz; Roger Ochsner; Al Rosendahl;  
 Dave Rust; Lynn Sandhoefner  
Church Cleaners: Sydow

## ✠ NEXT WEEK AT GRACE ✠

Ushers: Paul Lentz, Brad Kitzman, Rick Nelson, Keith Radichel,  
 Bob Vandever, Bobby Vandever, Matt Vandever  
Counting Team 1: Dan Degnan; Larry Nelson; Phil Radichel;  
 Pat Paplow  
Church Cleaners: Sydow

## ✠ OUR SCHEDULE ✠

**Sun., June 22:** 9:00 am –Worship Service  
**Sat., June 28:** 9:00 am – Work Day  
**Sun., June 29:** 9:00 am – Worship Service  
**August 4-8:** Vacation Bible School

**Last Week's Stats:** June 15, 2014 Sun.: 144

Sun. Offering:	Grace:	\$2,777.62	CLC:	\$1,545.00	
Weekly Need:	Grace:	3,200.00	CLC:	1,040.00	
-Under / +Over:	Grace:	-422.38	CLC:	+505.00	
Year-to-Date Offering::	Grace:	\$78,473.29	CLC:	\$23,910.75	
Year-to-Date Need:	Grace:	76,800.00	CLC:	24,960.00	
Year-to-Date (+/-)	Grace:	+1,673.29	CLC:	-1,049.25	
GLC Other:	65.00	Living Faith:	10.00	Tuition Aid:	210.00
SAF Endowment:	100.00	MDF:	100.00	Kinship:	75.00
ILC Student Aid:	0.00	ILC Bldg.	310.00	IIF: 50.00	CEF: 0.00
Current Balances:		Projection:	+160.32	Tuition Aid:	+4,559.42

## ✠ THE ANNOUNCEMENTS ✠

- ◆ **Among Us:** Ann Radichel took a bad step off a ladder this week, breaking two bones in her leg. She had surgery on Thursday and is slated to be released from Unity today. This may take some time to heal! Pray to our heavenly Father that He will tend to His child.
- ◆ **ImmanuelPromotion.org:** Those young people who may be in 7<sup>th</sup> grade through a Senior in high school as of Fall of 2014 are asked to go to this website to take a brief survey by July 1, 2014.
- ◆ **CLC News:** Mrs. Peggy Kesterson has accepted the call to teach Kindergarten at St. Stephen in Mountain View, CA (San Francisco). ✠ Pastor Paul Naumann of Ascension in Tacoma, WA, has returned the call to St. Paul in Lakewood, CO. ✠ Pastor Matthew Gurath of Gift of God in Mapleton, ND (near Fargo), has resigned from the pastoral ministry for personal reasons.

## *Grace Lutheran Church & School*



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Member: CHURCH OF THE LUTHERAN CONFESSION

**Pastor:** John Hein (Cell 612-408-1635)

**Phone:** 763-784-8784

**School Phone:** 763-784-6340

**Grades:** Kindergarten-8<sup>th</sup>

**Church Year:** Pentecost 2

**Date:** June 22, 2014

## ✠ WORSHIP INFORMATION ✠

### Hymns:

TLH 231: We Now Implore God, the Holy Ghost  
 TLH 378: All that I Was, My Sin, My Guilt  
 WS 738: Alleluia! Sing to Jesus  
 WS 769: Lift High the Cross

### Worship Prep:

Psalm 85, TLH p. 140

### Liturgy:

WS, p. 12  
 Psalm 118: WS, p. 29

### Scripture Readings:

Hosea 6:1-3  
 Romans 3:21-26

### Sermon: 1 Timothy 2:3-7

<sup>3</sup>For this *is* good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior,  
<sup>4</sup>who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge  
 of the truth. <sup>5</sup>For *there is* one God and one Mediator between  
 God and men, *the* Man Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup>who gave Himself a ransom  
 for all, to be testified in due time, <sup>7</sup>for which I was appointed a  
 preacher and an apostle—I am speaking the truth in Christ *and*  
 not lying—a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth. (NKJV™)

## God Desires All Men to be Saved!

### Jesus is the One Mediator of That Truth

1. The Impasse
2. The Solution
3. The Satisfaction

Adapted from a CLC Convention Essay by Pastor Paul Krause

**FOR TIME AND ETERNITY:** Without getting into the source or the substance of their particular religion, much less promoting it, what some presidents of by-gone ages said is worthy of our attention. They were speaking with respect to the welfare of a nation. This is a legitimate subject in that Scripture itself says, “Righteousness exalts a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people” (Proverbs 14:34). Surely as our culture and nation inexorably slide into the dark shadows of depravity (not unlike that before the flood, or Sodom and Gomorrah) we agree with the general principles expressed by ...

George Washington: “Reason and experience, both forbid us to expect that national morality can prevail in exclusion of religious principle. And it is substantially true, that virtue or morality is a necessary spring of popular government.” (Quoted in a speech by President Ronald Reagan)

Theodore Roosevelt: “People educated in the intellect but not in morals and religion will become a menace to society.”

Woodrow Wilson: “Our civilization cannot survive materially unless it be redeemed spiritually. It can be saved only by becoming permeated with the spirit of Christ and being made free and happy by the practice which springs out of that spirit.”

Warren G. Harding: “I believe in religious instruction for American children. The future of our nation cannot be trusted to them unless their education includes spiritual development.”

Calvin Coolidge: “All our learning and science, our culture and our art, will be of little value unless supported by high character. A trained intelligence can do much, but there is no substitute for morality, character, and religious conviction. Unless these abide, American citizenship will be found unequal to the task.” (Quotes from: Koehler--*A Christian Pedagogy*, CPH, 1930)

From whatever religious background they come, we choose to consider their comments from the perspective of our appreciation of and our witness to the Word of our God by which our faith is born, and by which our conscience is bound!

As Christians, our real and preferred home is with the Lord. Our citizenship is in heaven from where we look for our Lord Jesus Christ to come and take us by His grace to the perfect rest in His presence in heaven. Our confident hope, however, does not excuse us from caring about and praying for the temporary home in which we now live.

As we survey what is happening around us, the words of the aforementioned presidents sound almost prophetic. More importantly, we are compelled to recognize that what the apostle said in 2 Timothy 3 is unfolding before our eyes. Therefore our prayers ascend to the Father in heaven for those in authority in our land. We pray for just and moral leaders. We pray that in this world we may have peace and freedom, and that we might be protected from evil. We pray that love and justice among people and nations prevail. We pray that while we are here the privilege will be preserved to us to share our faith. We pray that the Word of God will enjoy free course, and that we may live peaceable lives in all godliness and fear.

If we care about our nation, we do not need marches, protests, and recrimination. Our concern for the nation begins with daily personal repentance! We need to pray more earnestly for the strength and courage to stand fast in the Word and will of God as well as in the faithful confession of it. We—Christ-believers—should not diminish the love of God or the “pull” we have with Him as His dear children. For the measly number of 10 faithful the Lord would have spared Sodom and Gomorrah (Genesis 18:32). God in His love spares a nation for the sake of His children. The quiet fervent prayers of God’s people as well as their faithfulness to Him and His Word contribute more to the welfare of a nation than all the loud and strident politicians or mighty armies!

Our Lord has never deceived us. We came into this world under the sentence of death because of sin. He has told us that no one, but no one, will live on this earth permanently. Judgment will fall! The end will come! Therefore out of a gracious heart of love He prepared a place in heaven to be occupied by all who believe and trust in His promised Son, Who in the fullness of time came into the world, bore the sins of the world, suffered, died, was buried, and rose again from the dead. The victorious, ascended Lord Jesus Christ is our Life!

To His children laboring in this world, and witnessing the deterioration of culture and life in this nation, He says now as He said, “In the world you shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world” (John 16:33) And again, concerning His disciples, believers of all ages, “I do not pray that You should take them out of the world, but that You should keep them from the evil one” (John 17:15). The Father’s promises in Christ for time and eternity are sure and certain. That we might reap divine blessing for time and eternity, we need to pray for strength of faith to believe what the faithful God has promised!

Because they had a concern for the welfare of this nation, the presidents championed education, appreciating also the benefit and necessity of a religious education for the well-being of the nation. In 1864, Abraham Lincoln was given a Bible. Lincoln replied: “In regard to this great book, I have but to say, it is the best gift God has given to man. All the good the Savior gave to the world was communicated through this book ... All things most desirable for man’s welfare, here and hereafter, are to be found portrayed in it.”

Until there is respect for the Bible—the inspired Word of God—there can be no true repentance, for repentance implies knowledge of sin. Knowledge of sin is by the divine Law, which further declares that the wages of sin is death (Romans 6:23). But of what shall the Bible-denier repent since he does not accept the reality of sin or its consequence? Further, there is no power unto sanctification but by the power of God unto salvation (The Gospel—Romans 1:16) through which the Spirit of God works in the heart. As President Lincoln said, “all things most desirable for man’s welfare, *here and hereafter*” are found in Scripture! But without truth and the acknowledgement of it evil runs rampant. A nation will die!

Children of God are of the Truth, for the Spirit of God works only through the Truth, the Gospel of our Lord. No one of any age or generation is beyond being educated and re-educated in the Truth. That is why we gather in the House of God to hear His Word. We are confronted with the truth about ourselves and the truth of God’s love for us. For the same reason we want to educate our children at *home* and in *school* in the Truth of God which is the beginning of wisdom through which comes the “knowledge of the Holy One” (Proverbs 9:10). *In this regard where we send our children for their education is important! The foundation and content of education as well as with whom we choose to identify in this world is not inconsequential!* Interesting to our thoughts are the words of Proverbs 10:25 and 28: ***“When the whirlwind passes by, the wicked is no more, but the righteous has an everlasting foundation...The hope of the righteous will be gladness, but the expectation of the wicked will perish.”***

As we have a concern for our nation, a burden and responsibility lies heavily on the child of God—(may I remind you again of Sodom and Gomorrah?). While we do not know how many faithful souls the Lord has determined He must find before the curtain falls, we pray for strength and grace to be among the eight who were saved from the flood (2 Peter 2:5). As we stand fast in faith in our Lord Jesus we are confident that when the curtain does come down we shall find the eternal city of refuge prepared for us in heaven. There we shall by the love of Christ find the perfect land of rest promised and laid up for those “who have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb”(Revelation 7:14).

As citizens of this nation and world, but whose cherished citizenship is in heaven, continue “... praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit. Being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints—”(Ephesians 6:18).