

Click here to open service webpage for: 2014/09/21/

✠ **TODAY AT GRACE** ✠

Organist: Maureen Ochsner *Elder:* Brandt Wendland

Ushers: David Stifter, Scott Baker, Chad Hestekin, Al Rosendahl, Dylan Stifter, Lyle Trulin, Michael Ude

Counting Team 1: Dan Degnan; Larry Nelson; Phil Radichel; Pat Paplow

Hospitality Team 4: Mark & Trudy Wales; Karen Auel; Bob & Suki Vandever

Church Cleaners: Oman *School:* K. Baker

✠ **NEXT WEEK AT GRACE** ✠

Ushers: David Stifter, Scott Baker, Chad Hestekin, Al Rosendahl, Dylan Stifter, Lyle Trulin, Michael Ude

Counting Team 2: Gary Gunther; Bill Rust; Bob Vandever; Clint Welker; Mark Wales

Hospitality Team 5: Pat & Dawn Paplow; Mike & Pat Dick; Frank & Ann Radichel

Church Cleaners: B. Sydow *School:* Bruce

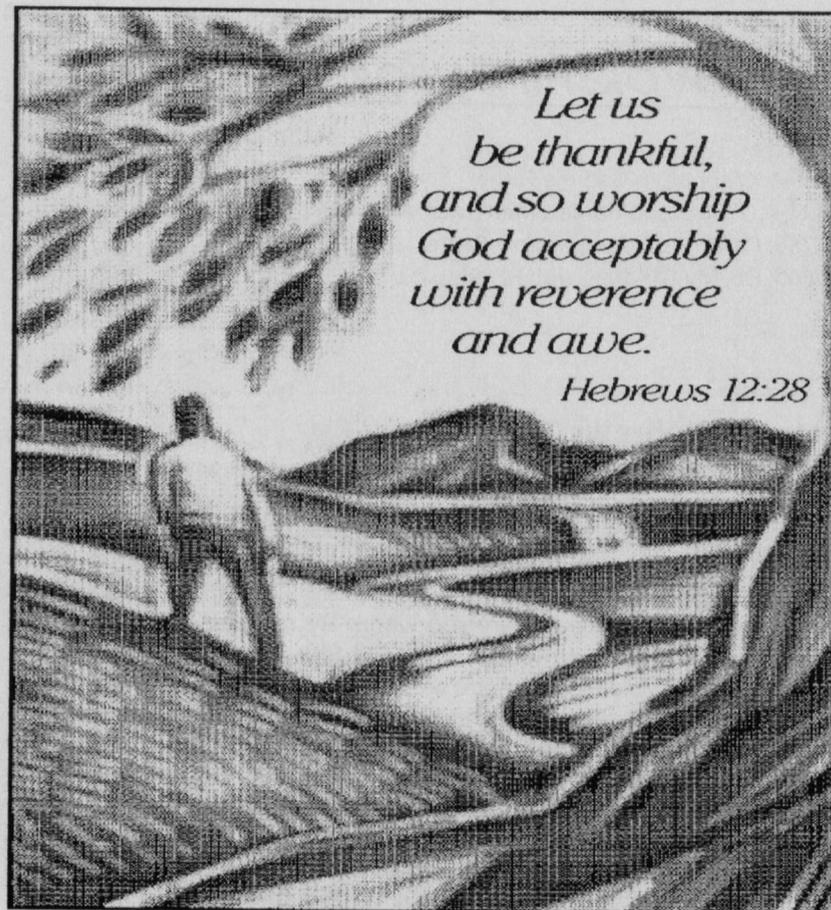
✠ **OUR SCHEDULE** ✠

- Sun., Sept. 21:** 9:00 am – Bible Class & Sunday School
10:00 am – Worship Service
11:15 am – Grace Church Picnic
4:00 pm – Pastor Maas Installation (Mapleton, ND)
- Wed., Sept. 24:** CLC Coordinating Council
4:30 pm – Catechism for Public School Students
7:00 pm – Midweek Bible Class
- Sun., Sept. 28:** 8:30 am – Choir Practice
9:00 am – Bible Class & Sunday School
10:00 am – Worship Service
11:15 am – Hospitality
4:00 pm – Pastor J. Fleischer Installation (Sioux Falls, SD)
- Oct. 7-8:** MN Pastoral Conference (Morris, MN)
- Sun., Oct. 12:** Mission Festival Service & Potluck
- Sun., Oct. 19:** 8:30 am – Dr. Menton Seminar
- Sun., Oct. 26:** 4:00 pm – MN Joint Reformation Festival (Mankato, MN)

Last Week's Stats: Sept. 14, 2014 Sun.: 120 S.S.: 18 B. Cl.: 52 Wed.: 23

Sun. Offering:	Grace:	\$1,562.75	CLC:	\$785.00	
Weekly Need:	Grace:	3,200.00	CLC:	1,040.00	
-Under / +Over:	Grace:	-2,163.30	CLC:	-255.00	
Year-to-Date Offering::	Grace:	\$116,236.70	CLC:	\$36,221.65	
Year-to-Date Need:	Grace:	118,400.00	CLC:	38,480.00	
Year-to-Date (+/-)	Grace:	-526.05	CLC:	-2,258.35	
GLC Other:	267.75	Living Faith:	0.00	Tuition Aid:	275.00
SAF Endowment:	30.00	MDF:	50.00	Kinship:	90.00
ILC Student Aid:	50.00	ILC Bldg.	80.00	IIF: 0.00	CEF: 0.00
Current Balances:	Projection:	-439.67	Tuition Aid:	+7,575.12	

*Grace Lutheran
Church & School*



Grace Lutheran Church & School



460 75th Ave. NE
Fridley, MN 55432



Email: jphein@clclutheran.com

Home Page: www.CLCGraceLutheranChurch.org

Member: CHURCH OF THE LUTHERAN CONFESSION

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

Phone: 763-784-8784

School Phone: 763-784-6340

Grades: Kindergarten-8th

Church Year: Pentecost 15

Date: September 21, 2014

✠ WORSHIP INFORMATION ✠

Hymns:

TLH 244: Glory Be to God the Father

TLH 624: Oh, Blessed Home Where Man and Wife

WS 785: Children of the Heavenly Father

WS 800: Go, My Children, with My Blessing

Worship Prep:

Psalm 121, TLH p. 152

Liturgy:

TLH, p. 5 (Projected)

Gloria: TLH 237:1

Scripture Reading:

Jeremiah 15:15-21

Matthew 16:21-26

Sermon: Hebrews 12:3-11

³ For consider Him who endured such hostility from sinners against Himself, lest you become weary and discouraged in your souls. ⁴ You have not yet resisted to bloodshed, striving against sin. ⁵ And you have forgotten the exhortation which speaks to you as to sons: "My son, do not despise the chastening of the Lord, Nor be discouraged when you are rebuked by Him; ⁶ For whom the Lord loves He chastens, And scourges every son whom He receives." ⁷ If you endure chastening, God deals with you as with sons; for what son is there whom a father does not chasten? ⁸ But if you are without chastening, of which all have become partakers, then you are illegitimate and not sons. ⁹ Furthermore, we have had human fathers who corrected us, and we paid them respect. Shall we not much more readily be in subjection to the Father of spirits and live? ¹⁰ For they indeed for a few days chastened us as seemed best to them, but He for our profit, that we may be partakers of His holiness. ¹¹ Now no chastening seems to be joyful for the present, but painful; nevertheless, afterward it yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it. (NKJV™)

"Whom the Lord Loves He Chastens"

1. Demonstrated by our earthly parents
2. Exercised by our heavenly Father

✠ THE ANNOUNCEMENTS ✠

- ◆ **Among Us:** Brian Bergstrom's grandmother passed away this past Tuesday at the age of 96. Please keep Brian and his family in your prayers.
- ◆ **Mapleton Invitation:** Rev. Delwyn Maas will be installed as pastor of Gift of God Lutheran Church in Mapleton, ND, today at 4 pm. A pot luck dinner will follow. The officiant is Pastor John Hein and the preacher is Pastor Joel Fleischer. Anyone is welcome!
- ◆ **Sioux Falls Invitation:** Pastor Joel Fleischer will be installed as pastor of Berea Lutheran Church in Sioux Falls, SD, Sept. 28 at 4 pm. A celebratory pot luck dinner will follow. The officiant is Pastor Daniel Fleischer and the preacher is Pastor John Hein. All are welcome!
- ◆ **Rapid City Invitation:** Pastor Aaron Ude will be installed as pastor of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Rapid City, SD, Sept. 28 at 5 pm. A pot luck will follow. Pastor John Klatt will be conducting the service with neighboring CLC pastors giving a blessing. All are welcome!
- ◆ **Mission Festival:** Vicar Rob Sauers will be our guest speaker for Mission Festival on October 12. Vicar Sauers and his wife Kate were on the Mission Helper Trip to Nepal this summer. They will have a presentation for Bible Class at 9 am and Vicar Sauers will be our preacher during our 10 am worship service. Following our worship service there will be a potluck in which members are invited to bring a dish to serve.
- ◆ **Blood Drive:** During our Mission Festival potluck, on October 12 from 11-3, there will be a blood drive here at the church. Anyone can sign up at www.redcrossblood.org to secure a time, or simply show up with a valid ID.
- ◆ **Creation Seminar:** We are privileged to have Dr. David Menton present a creation seminar here at Grace on Sunday, October 19, 8:30 am. Please be aware that this will start earlier than our normal Bible Class time but will in place of it. The theme will be, "Three Ways to Make an Ape Man."
- ◆ **Minnesota Reformation Festival:** A joint Reformation festival will be held at Immanuel in Mankato on October 26, 4:00 pm.
- ◆ **Bridal Shower:** A bridal shower will be held for Abbie Hein at the church on Nov. 1. Details can be found on the bulletin board. Please RSVP to Heidi Nelson.
- ◆ **Collection:** A purse is being collected for Vicar Sauers. If you wish to contribute, mark "Vicar" on your offering envelope.
- ◆ **CLC News:** Pastor Nathan Pfeiffer of Trinity in Spokane, WA, has received the call to Zion in Lawrenceville, GA (Atlanta area). ✠ Pastor Douglas Libby, instructor at Immanuel High School in Mankato, MN, has received the call to Calvary in Marquette, MI.
- ◆ **Sunday School Memory Work:** #3 – First Commandment

CLC FINANCIAL REPORT

August 2014

Financial Report	Balance	Year to Date	Year to Date	FY 2015 Budget	Balance
Operating Funds	7/1/14	Revenue	Disbursed	2 Months	8/31/14
General Fund	0	126,450	144,515	\$150,667	-18,065
ILC Operations	0	306,344	180,264	\$226,000	126,080
Total	\$0	\$432,794	\$324,779	\$376,667	\$108,015
Auxiliary Funds					
IIF - ILC Improvement	67,647	2,144	55,681		14,110
ILC Building	14,168	11,446	15,968		9,646
MDF - Mission Development	190,077	18,095	116,925		91,247
Kinship	59,320	11,369	13,184		57,505
CEF - Church Extension	1,624,476	90,801	101,022		1,614,255
SAF - Student Aid Fund	19,672	48,209	31,593		36,288
Reserve Fund	89,769	0	0		89,769

CEF Loan (ILC Academic Center)

Beginning Balance	January 1, 2010	\$1,751,804
Current Balance	August 31, 2014	\$1,444,073
	Change in Principal	-\$307,731

Comment:

- Fall 2014 semester at Immanuel opened on August 25, 2014.
- IIF project disbursement of \$55,681 for asphalt surface maintenance and repair.
- SAF revenue includes \$38,024 in investment earnings from the SAF Endowment.
- Public Ministry Grants of \$1,100 to 19 student (seminary, pre-theology, education) totaled \$20,900.
- MDF disbursements for seminary buildings in HCLC - Nepal (\$50,000) and BELC - India (\$23,000).

Dr. James A. Sydow, CLC Treasurer

Philip E. Radichel, Chairman, CLC Board of Trustees

THE LAST TIMES

Only the Lord knows when He will bring the curtain down on this world in which we live, and time will pass away. Standing on Scripture we reject the notion that we can know the exact day and hour of the end for Scripture says, "... the day of the Lord shall come as a thief in the night" (1 Thessalonians 5:1). Never mind those who claim to know and predict the when of the end. In their arrogance they claim to know more than Jesus himself for we read, "But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father" (Mark 13:32).

Of course the fact that the world still stands has also spawned the opposite of those who claim to know more than the Son and who more than once have had to come down from the mountain where they had gone in anticipation of the end. Those on the opposite of that spectrum (Peter calls them scoffers) say, "Where is the promise of His coming? For since the fathers fell asleep all things continue as they were from the beginning of creation" (2 Peter 3:4). They are wrong on two counts. Things have not gone on as they were since the beginning of creation. At the completion of creation the Creator pronounced all things "very good" (Genesis 1:31). Things have continued on (and deteriorated) as they have since the fall into sin. Sin corrupted all things! They are wrong also when they suggest that since the corrupt world still stands there will be no end! Some have forgotten and many have never accepted that "the Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance" (1 Peter 3:9).

We do not know the hour of the end. We do know it will end! The reason it has not ended is because in His mercy and grace the Lord is still gathering His elect. The Lord is not forgetful, nor is He incapable: He is patient in His love!

In hurricane country there are indicators of what is happening. In addition to verbal warnings, red flags are put up in coastal areas warning of the impending arrival of the storm. They live dangerously who think, "We have been warned so many times and nothing has happened" and fail to prepare. While we do not know the time of the end because that knowledge resides in the mind of God, we are foolish if we neglect the warnings or red flags which the Lord has unfurled in His Word. Paul wrote to Timothy, "But know this that in the last days perilous times will come" (2 Timothy 3:1). *We urge you to read the rest of that chapter.*

We thought of this again as we read the news on line. In one day we read the following headlines:

- a) Doc warns of airborne Ebola
- b) Ebola outpaces Global Response

God keeps man humble. When we think we have licked one disease another arises. And as much as man tries to eradicate death, people still die whether by disease or not. Disease and death are a consequence of sin; before sin there was neither disease nor death. Death reminds us that this life is transitory. Death is the end of the world for the dead.

On the same day we read of things that give substance to Paul's reference to "perilous times" as well as give reason to ask, "How long, O Lord, How long?"

c) Penn State yanks Bibles after Atheists complain

d) Satanists Sell Out Black Mass Event

e) Different Species of Human by 2050; Robot Capable of Handling Unfamiliar Objects unveiled—Loads dishwasher

f) Another Beheading—Next Week?

Many other things we read and hear daily in the news delineate the moral and theological decline that is taking place in the world. Unless one chooses to promote the idea that moral, cultural and theological decline is accelerating; the fact is that nothing has changed since the fall into sin. The whole point of addressing this subject here is not to frighten or cry wolf, or to suggest that the world is any more evil than it was at the time of Noah when the Lord demonstrated that He is faithful to His threats as well as His promises, and capable of bringing to pass what He says. The point is to warn one another that there is reason to heed Scripture in view of what is happening in the world. In view of what we read a number of immediate things come to mind:

1. "Watch, therefore, for you do not know when the master of the house is coming...lest, coming suddenly, he find you sleeping...Watch!" (Mark 13:35-36).

2. "Therefore. Since all these things ('the earth and the works that are in it') will be dissolved, what manner of persons ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God..." (2 Peter 3:11, 12).

3. "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand" (Matthew 4:17). Repentance is confessing and sorrowing over one's sin, and believing that in and through Jesus one's sins are forgiven.

4. "Let the Word of God dwell in you richly..." (Colossians 3:16) To that end gladly hear and learn the Word of God so that you may grow in faith in Christ, and in confidence of your salvation in heaven, and that you may be strengthened and be victorious in the face of temptations generated by your own flesh, the devil, and the godless world around you.

5, Pray that God's Word will have free course and be preached in faithfulness to many so that they may be brought to faith in Christ and grow with you in sanctification and in confidence of salvation before the end comes—whether the end is by death, or upon the Lord's return.

The news strikes fear into our natural flesh. In many ways the world in which we live is dangerous to our physical well being as well as to our spiritual welfare. As we live in a post-Christian world, confessing the Lord Jesus Christ reaps from the world ridicule, hatred, persecution, and even threat of bodily harm. But so it has ever been in history. The apostles suffered for Christ, and the early fathers within the church suffered, many to the point of death. But even as they knew that they lived in the last times, they saw life as consisting of more than what is here visible, for they saw the heavenly as we read of Stephen who looked steadfastly into heaven as he died (Acts 7:59,60). The power behind their faith was the Spirit of God, and the anchor of their faith was the Word and promise of the Father Who through the merit and blood of Jesus reconciled them to himself and in Christ promised life beyond measure to all who believe in Him. With John our spirit yearns for this life in glory. Through the apostle we are reminded, "He who testifies to these things, says, 'Surely I am coming quickly.'" Thereupon John spoke for us all who understand that we are living in the last time, and who in faith yearn for deliverance, "Amen. Even so come, Lord Jesus" (Revelation 22: 20, 21).

Inasmuch as we are in the flesh we, have concerns and fears. Such are aggravated by false prophets who claim to know more than the Lord. But according to the new regenerate man who looks to Jesus as the Author and Finisher of our faith, and who looks beyond this dying world, we are confident. We are persuaded that when the Lord comes again with all His holy angels to judge the world, He will receive His children home. He has told us so!

We recognize the world for what it is—our temporary dwelling. We acknowledge the curse of sin, which is manifest every day. We thank the Lord for His grace of forgiveness and for the faith He has generated within our heart. We wait—perhaps a bit impatiently—for the day known only to Him, the day when by His grace we shall hear, "Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world" (Matthew 25:34).

"Wait on the Lord; be of good courage, and He shall strengthen your heart; wait, I say on the Lord" (Psalm 27:14) and He will give you the peace and rest your heart desires! It will happen according to His timetable. So be alert! The flags are flying.

Written by Rev. Daniel Fleischer, 9/2014