

Click here to open service web page for: 2014/10/05/

✠ TODAY AT GRACE ✠

Organist: Sue Nelson *Elder:* Brandt Wendland

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

Counting Team 3: Don Auel; Brian Eichstadt; Jack Kirkham; Benno Sydow; Brandt Wendland

Hospitality Team 6: Richard & Shauna Rhinesmith; Brian & Maureen Eichstadt; Brandt & Teresa Wendland

Church Cleaners: B Rust/A Baker *School:* Bruce

✠ NEXT WEEK AT GRACE ✠

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

Counting Team 4: Ed Lentz; Roger Ochsner; Al Rosendahl; Dave Rust; Lynn Sandhoefner

Hospitality Team 1: Bye (Mission Festival)

Church Cleaners: B Rust/A Baker *School:* DeBoer

✠ OUR SCHEDULE ✠

Sun., Oct. 5: 9:00 am – Sunday School & Bible Class
 10:00 am – Worship Service w/Lord's Supper
 11:15 am – Hospitality
 12:00 pm – Council Meeting

Oct. 7-8: MN Pastoral Conference (Morris, MN)

Wed., Oct. 8: 4:30 pm – Catechism for Public School Students
 7:00 pm – Midweek Bible Class

Sun., Oct. 12: 8:30 am – Choir Practice
 9:00 am – Sunday School & Bible Class
 10:00 am – Mission Festival (Seminarian Rob Sauers)
 11:15 am – Mission Festival Potluck

Oct. 15-17: CLC Teachers Conference (Fond du Lac, WI)

Sun., Oct. 19: 8:30 am – Dr. Menton Seminar
 11:30 am – Voters & Dorcas Guild Meetings

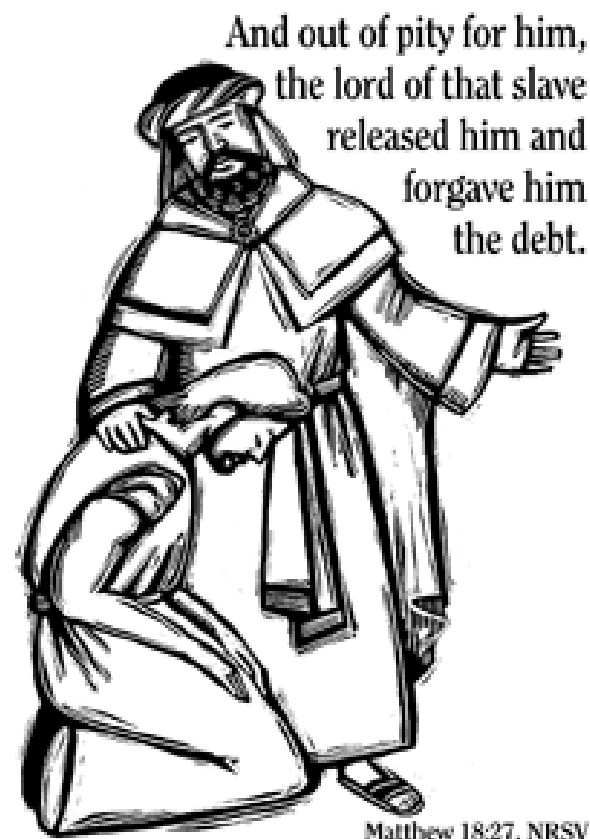
Sat. Oct. 25: 9:00 am – Work Day

Sun., Oct. 26: 4:00 pm – MN Joint Reformation Festival (Mankato, MN)

Last Week's Stats: Sept. 28, 2014 Sun.: 114 S.S.: 17 B.Cl.: 55 Wed.: 23

Sun. Offering:	Grace:	\$2,559.80	CLC:	\$850.00	
Weekly Need:	Grace:	3,200.00	CLC:	1,040.00	
-Under / +Over:	Grace:	-640.20	CLC:	-190.00	
Year-to-Date Offering::	Grace:	\$124,347.67	CLC:	\$38,291.66	
Year-to-Date Need:	Grace:	124,800.00	CLC:	40,560.00	
Year-to-Date (+/-)	Grace:	-452.33	CLC:	-2,268.35	
GLC Other:	420.00	Living Faith:	0.00	Tuition Aid:	200.00
SAF Endowment:	0.00	MDF:	20.00	Kinship:	100.00
ILC Student Aid:	0.00	ILC Bldg.	100.00	IIF:	40.00
				CEF:	20.00
Current Balances:	Projection:	-283.67	Tuition Aid:	+1,528.12	

Grace Lutheran Church & School



Matthew 18:27, NRSV

Grace Lutheran Church & School



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Email: jphein@clclutheran.com

Home Page: www.CLGraceLutheranChurch.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 17

Date: October 5, 2014

✠ WORSHIP INFORMATION ✠

Hymns:

TLH 537: Every Morning Mercies New
WS 779: Redeemed, Restored, Forgiven
LSB 843: Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive
TLH 309: O Jesus, Blessed Lord, to Thee

Worship Prep:

Psalms 103, TLH p. 145 f.

Liturgy:

TLH, p. 15 (Communion)
Gloria: TLH 244:1,4

Scripture Readings:

Genesis 50:15-21
Romans 14:5-9

Sermon: Matthew 18:21-35

(21) Then Peter came to Him and said, "Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? Up to seven times?" (22) Jesus said to him, "I do not say to you, up to seven times, but up to seventy times seven. (23) "Therefore the kingdom of heaven is like a certain king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. (24) "And when he had begun to settle accounts, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. (25) "But as he was not able to pay, his master commanded that he be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and that payment be made. (26) "The servant therefore fell down before him, saying, 'Master, have patience with me, and I will pay you all.' (27) "Then the master of that servant was moved with compassion, released him, and forgave him the debt. (28) "But that servant went out and found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii; and he laid hands on him and took him by the throat, saying, 'Pay me what you owe!' (29) "So his fellow servant fell down at his feet and begged him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you all.' (30) "And he would not, but went and threw him into prison till he should pay the debt. (31) "So when his fellow servants saw what had been done, they were very grieved, and came and told their master all that had been done. (32) "Then his master, after he had called him, said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you begged me. (33) 'Should you not also have had compassion on your fellow servant, just as I had pity on you?' (34) "And his master was angry, and delivered him to the torturers until he should pay all that was due to him. (35) "So My heavenly Father also will do to you if each of you, from his heart, does not forgive his brother his trespasses." (NKJVTM)

Live Under Unlimited Forgiveness

1. Received from God toward Us
2. Expected of Us toward Others

Hymn: Forgive Our Sins (Tune of TLH 360)

1. "Forgive our sins as we forgive," You taught us, Lord, to pray,
But You alone can grant us grace To live the words we say.
2. How can Your pardon reach and bless The unforgiving heart
That broods on wrongs and will not let Old bitterness depart?
3. In blazing light Your cross reveals The truth we dimly knew:
What trivial debts are owed to us; How great our debt to You!
4. Lord, cleanse the depths within our souls And bid resentment cease;
Then, bound to all in bonds of love Our lives will spread Your peace.

✠ THE ANNOUNCEMENTS ✠

- ◆ **Mission Festival:** Seminarian Rob Sauers, our former vicar, will be our guest speaker for Mission Festival next Sunday, Oct. 12. He was on the Mission Helper Trip to Nepal this summer. He will have a presentation for Bible Class at 9 am and 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. Committee 1 will be hosting.
- ◆ **Blood Drive:** During our Mission Festival potluck, on Oct. 12 from 11-3, there will be a blood drive here at the church. Sign up at 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.
- ◆ **CLC News:** Pastor Nathan Pfeiffer of Trinity in Spokane, WA, has returned the call to Zion in Lawrenceville, GA (Atlanta area). The congregation has now called Rev. Ernest Bernet, member of Faith in Manchester, MO (St. Louis area). He was formerly a member of the Missouri Synod, and was recently approved for the CLC clergy roster by the CLC Board of Doctrine. ✠ Teacher Dan Barthels of Saginaw took a spill on his bicycle last Sunday. He suffered a few different broken bones, but he has returned home. We're praying for a speedy recovery. - Pastor Michael Wilke.
- ◆ **Sunday School Memory Work:** #6 – Fourth Commandment

“IN THE BEST INTEREST OF ...” the dog?

In a pet custody case, the Supreme Court in Vermont ruled recently that the husband in a divorce should get the dog “because it is in the best interest of the dog.” There is nothing under the law that addresses this since, unlike children custody cases, a dog is considered property. So the judgment was rendered according to the judge’s subjective opinion. The judge said that the husband treats the dog like a dog, while the wife treats the dog like a child.

We can’t make this stuff up. There are many things that could be said by way of explanation of this judgment. But at the risk of offending animal lovers, we were pleased that the judge at least spoke of the dog as a dog, and did not equate the dog with a child. Nevertheless, the *terminology* of the judgment confuses the distinction between a four-footed animal, and a child with a soul precious to the Lord and for whom the Lord Jesus died.

As the crown of God’s creation, humans are to appreciate all of God’s creation. Such appreciation begins with recognizing that God *created* mankind both in manner and in purpose to be different from the animals. Humans were created in the image of God. Animals were not. Animals were created as “God said” (Genesis 1:19-25). Man was “formed of the dust of the ground” and God “breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being” (Genesis 1:7-8). Everything God created, including animals as well as mankind, was created with a purpose. Animals were created for the service of man, not the other way around.

Man first abused animals and all creation with introduction of sin into the world. Since that moment all creation was delivered into the bondage of corruption, and became subject unto death.

Appreciate the companionship of your pet. Treat it as a creation of God, all of whose creation is to be appreciated. But it says something about our society that we need to defend the proposition that there is a distinction between children who are offspring of their human parents, and animals who are offspring of other animals. To confuse man with animals is of course a staple of evolutionary philosophy which is prevalent in public education. It is also telling that in our society one can be prosecuted for destroying turtle eggs on the beach or maiming or killing a dog, but is not prosecuted for destroying children in the womb!

This brings us to the subject of what is in the best interest of our children. “In the best interest of the children” means different things to different people. For some it means no more than that the children be provided with the material necessities of life, and even such things as are nice to have but not necessary. It means providing them with a safe environment, good education, with opportunity to grow to be “all that they can be.” Fine and good! There is nothing un-Christian in such desire. But for the Christian “in the best interest of

the children” is *much more*, and unless parents understand this, their children blessed with all the above and more are in fact a cheated generation for which parents are held responsible.

The best interest of our children begins by addressing their spiritual and eternal welfare! This means that parents appreciate that they are a gift of God and not an object to be aborted! From the moment of conception children are conceived and born in sin (Psalm 51:5) and are under the wrath of God (Romans 6:23a). Of the flesh, they are in the image of their parents (Genesis 5:3), not of God. So parents blessed with the birth of a child will bring their child(ren) to baptism that God by that means of grace may give them a new birth, and through this new birth write their name in the Book of Life and make them members of His Kingdom. Parents who understand their responsibility will faithfully bring up their child(ren) in the nurture and admonition of the Lord (Ephesians 6:4) because the Lord Who loves the child(ren) desires that they be nourished unto eternal life. That means that in this life parents will exercise proper and loving discipline (Proverbs 13:24). Children need to understand the law of God which uncovers sin and pronounces wrath upon the sinner. Loving discipline does not neglect, but gives the child(ren) daily Gospel nourishment whereby they know that they are loved of the Father, and are forgiven and redeemed by the blood of Jesus Christ. The Gospel assures them that whatever the circumstances in this life may be, in sickness and in health, they have a future and a blessed and better home in heaven with the Lord to which in God’s time they will be taken. The Gospel puts their mind at ease as they learn that they are saved by grace through faith alone in Christ, whom as a consequence they desire to serve in righteousness and true holiness.

Looking after the best interest of the children means that parents will set their child(ren) an example of a godly life in the home, and in conduct. Such an example begins with faithful use of the Word in the home, as well as though faithful attendance around the Word and Sacrament with fellow believers in God’s house. Parents will let their children know that the best education of all is found in God’s Word, and that the best educational environment is where God’s Word is the foundation of true wisdom.

Children should learn from their parents that he or she who lives and dies with the most toys still dies. He who lives and dies in faith in the Lord Jesus is blessed here in the waiting, after which he or she shall live forever in the blessed peace of heaven with the Lord.

The best interest of children is being served when parents focus on the spiritual and the eternal for their children. Such children are not deprived for God’s word remains true: “Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness and all these things (necessities of life) shall be added to you” (Matthew 6:33).

Written by Rev. Daniel Fleischer, 10/2014