

✠ TODAY AT GRACE ✠

Organist: **Maureen Ochsner** Elder: **Dave Rust**
Ushers: **James Bomber, Eli Wales, David Hein, Michael Ude, Ryan Oman**
Counting Team 1: **Dan Degnan; Larry Nelson; Phil Radichel; Pat Paplow**
Hospitality Team 3: **Larry Nelson; Barb Sydow; Ryan & Mikey Oman; Nick & Miranda Duehlmeier; Dan & Cindy Degnan**
Church Cleaners: **Fleischer** School: **none**

✠ NEXT WEEK AT GRACE ✠

Ushers: **James Bomber, Eli Wales, David Hein, Michael Ude, Ryan Oman**
Counting Team 2: **Gary Gunther; Rick Nelson; Bill Rust; Bob Vandever, Clint Welker**
Hospitality Team 4: **James & April Bomber; Rachelle Kanneh; Heidi Nelson; Bob & Suki Vandever**
Church Cleaners: **Fleischer** School: **Flesner**

✠ OUR SCHEDULE ✠

Sun., Oct. 18: 9:00 am – Sunday School and Bible Class
 10:00 am – Worship Service
 11:15 am – Hospitality
 11:30 am – Voters and Dorcas Guild Meetings
Wed., Oct. 21: 4:30 pm – Catechism for Public School Students
 7:00 pm – Midweek Bible Class
Sat., Oct. 24: 9:00 am – Grace Work Day
Sun., Oct. 25: 8:30 am – Choir Practice
 9:00 am – Sunday School and Bible Class
 10:00 am – Worship Service
 11:15 am – Hospitality
Nov. 2-14: Pastor Hein in Liberia

Last Week's Stats: Oct. 11, 2015 Sun.: 128 S.S.: 21 B.Cl.: 52 Wed.: 9

Sun. Offering:	Grace:	\$2,943.43	CLC:	\$2,190.00	
Weekly Need:	Grace:	3,340.00	CLC:	1,060.00	
-Under / +Over:	Grace:	-396.57	CLC:	+1,130.00	
Year-to-Date Offering::	Grace:	\$123,874.46	CLC:	\$35,300.20	
Year-to-Date Need:	Grace:	136,940.00	CLC:	43,460.00	
Year-to-Date (+/-)	Grace:	-13,065.54	CLC:	-8,159.80	
GLC Other:	90.95*	Living Faith:	0.00	Tuition Aid:	50.00
SAF Endowment:	100.00	MDF:	20.00	Kinship:	110.00
ILC Student Aid:	65.00	ILC Bldg.	200.00	IIF:	0.00
				CEF:	0.00
Current Balances:		Parking Lot:	8,155.00	Tuition Aid:	424.12

* \$65 Cowan Memorial

Grace Lutheran Church & School

... as for me and
my household,
**we will serve
the LORD.**

Joshua 24:15



Grace Lutheran Church & School



460 75th Ave. NE
Fridley, MN 55432

Email: jphein@clclutheran.com

Home Page: www.JustifiedByGrace.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 21 Date: October 18, 2015

✠ **THE ORDER OF WORSHIP** ✠

Worship Preparation:*Psalm 84, TLH p. 139 f.*

Hymn:.....*TLH 55: Come, Thou Precious Ransom, Come*

Liturgy:*TLH, p. 5 ff. (Also available on laminated sheet in pew)*

Introit (followed by Gloria Patri, The Kyrie):.....*TLH, pp. 6-7*

P: I will extol the Lord at all times, His praise will always be on my lips.

C: My soul will boast in the Lord, let the afflicted hear and rejoice.

P: Glorify the Lord with me;

C: Let us exalt His name together.

P: I sought the Lord, and He answered me;

C: He delivered me from all my fears.

P: The righteous cry out, and the Lord hears them;

C: He delivers them from all their troubles. Glory be to God!

Gloria in Excelsis:..... *TLH 245, st. 1,6*

1. God loved the world so that He gave
 His only Son the lost to save
 That all who would in Him believe
 Should everlasting life receive.

6. Glory to God the Father, Son,
 And Holy Spirit, Three in One!
 To Thee, O blessed Trinity,
 Be praise now and eternally!

First Reading:.....*Ephesians 6:10-20*
 Put on the armor of God to withstand the temptations of the devil.

Gradual:

P: Great is the Lord and most worthy of praise;

C: His greatness no one can fathom.

P: I will meditate on Your wonderful works,

C: And I will proclaim Your great deeds.

P: Alleluia. Alleluia. When Your words came, I ate them;

C: They were my joy and my heart's delight. Alleluia.

Second Reading:..... *John 6:56-69*

Jesus has the words of eternal life.

Confession of Faith: *Apostolic Creed, TLH p. 12*

Hymn:*TLH 625: Oh, Blest the House, Whate'er Befall*

Sermon:.....*Joshua 24: 1-2a, 14-18*

¹ Then Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem and called for the elders of Israel, for their heads, for their judges, and for their officers; and they presented themselves before God. ² And Joshua said to all the people, ¹⁴ "Now therefore, fear the Lord, serve Him in sincerity and in truth, and put away the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the River and in Egypt. Serve the Lord! ¹⁵ And if it seems evil to you to serve the Lord, choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." ¹⁶ So the people answered and said: "Far be it from us that we should forsake the Lord to serve other gods; ¹⁷ for the Lord our God is He who brought us and our fathers up out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage, who did those great signs in our sight, and preserved us in all the way that we went and among all the people through whom we passed. ¹⁸ And the Lord drove out from before us all the people, including the Amorites who dwelt in the land. We also will serve the Lord, for He is our God." (NKJVTM)

We Will Serve the Lord

1. There is No Other Option

2. The Lord is Our Only Help

Offertory: *TLH p. 12 f.*

Hymn: *TLH 380: Thy Works, Not Mine, O Christ*

Offering, Prayers, Benediction: *TLH p. 14*

Hymn: *TLH 36: Now Thank We All Our God*

✠ THE ANNOUNCEMENTS ✠

- ◆ **Guest Speaker:** Today we thank our guest speaker, Mr. Stephan Sonnenfeld, for sharing the Word of God. He is a second-year student at Immanuel Lutheran Seminary in Eau Claire, WI. May the Lord bless his studies and preparations for the ministry.
- ◆ **Invitation:** Karl and Katie Sieg have invited the congregation to a wedding reception at Fourth Baptist Church on Sat., Nov. 7, 2-4 pm. Please send an RSVP email to siegkarl@gmail.com if you are able to come and indicate how many are coming.
- ◆ **Hospitality Request:** The Elders are requesting that parents now assist their children as they go through the serving line.
- ◆ **Hospitality Teams:** We encourage our members to consider participation in this program as over the years hospitality has become a wonderful promotion of fellowship among us. Those willing to serve on one of the teams are asked to speak with one of the Elders (Dave Rust, Benno Sydow, or Frank Radichel).
- ◆ **Immanuel Lutheran College Visitors Day:** This will be held on Fri., Nov. 13. Come learn more about your church's college and a continuing education with Christ. Speak with pastor for information.
- ◆ **The Witness:** The Witness is a bi-weekly newsletter aimed towards college-age Christians that features spiritual content produced by the readers, as a way to promote fellowship and strengthen each other's faith in a world hostile to Christ's Church. Our goal is that, by sharing one another's stories and insights from God's Word, the Holy Spirit will increase our faith and so make us better equipped to be bold witnesses of our saving faith. If you would like to receive our newsletter or contribute to it, you can reach us via email (clcwitness@gmail.com) or through our Facebook page.
- ◆ **Immanuel Dorms/Fall Athletics:** One of the blessings of the Immanuel experience is to live with fellow Christians in the dorms. For the past few years, students attending college off-campus in Eau Claire (UW-EC) and Menomonie (UW-Stout) have been permitted to live in the Immanuel dorms as long as they are taking at least one class for credit at ILC. The online courses have helped make this more convenient. Some of these students have even served as Resident Assistants in the dorms. This can be a blessing to such students and the rest of the on-campus student body. Also, Immanuel's volleyball team has had a very successful season winning two tournaments (the conference one and the one Immanuel hosts) and coming just shy of the Dairyland Conference title, losing in a highly competitive battle against the top team this week. Playoffs begin this coming week (Oct. 22) with the team securing a #1 seed, meaning the potential to host more games in the postseason. The boys cross country team secured the 2015 Dairyland Conference title this week as well. The boys and girls will be competing in Sectionals this coming week (Oct. 24) with the hope to once again send representatives to state (Oct. 31).
- ◆ **Sunday School Memory Work:** #6 – Fourth Commandment

THE REAL ISSUE

We are again in the midst of a political campaign that knows no bounds of incivility and lack of conscience. While it is not the call of the Church to engage in politics, it does behoove Christians to speak the truth concerning the world in which we live.

It is understood that in politics differences on issues need to be addressed. We further recognize that in this imperfect world character and moral flaws of candidates will be pointed out. But can it not be *within the bounds of truth*? It is untoward to try to attain office by slandering and defaming the opponent. As surely as it is a bankrupt religion that promotes itself by physical violence, so it is a morally bankrupt politician who uses the power of words to elevate self by slander and defamation of one's opponent.

The ultimate Judge of all says: "You give your mouth to evil, And your tongue frames deceit. You sit and speak against your brother; You slander your own mother's son. These things you have done, and I kept silent; You thought that I was altogether like you; But I will rebuke you, And set them in order before your eyes. 'Now consider this, you who forget God, Lest I tear you in pieces, And there be none to deliver' ..." (Psalm 50: 16, 19-22).

As children of God *it behooves us to heed* these words also, lest our *kaffeeklatsches* become pits of slander and character assassination.

We are in the world, but not of the world. We look for the better country to which the patriarchs looked forward (Hebrews 11:8-10, 13-16). Nevertheless, as we are in the world while we wait, Christians cannot be silent. Inasmuch as we would wish we could avoid political comment, it is not possible to view political campaigns apart from our responsibility as children of God living in the world.

With respect to the issues themselves without debating the fact or fiction of "climate control," or "global warming" — take your pick — and what or what may not be the truth, we are compelled to speak when politicians say: "Global warming is the biggest threat to the United States." Some, obviously having no respect for the Creator or His providence, claim the planet may become uninhabitable because of global warming.

Politicians use hyperbole to satisfy their agenda, or to tickle the ears of their constituents, or even to enrich themselves. There are many issues that may and do make life miserable on this earth and which need to be addressed.

Whether global warming is fact or fiction, we are to be caretakers of the blessings of our Creator God, blessings manifest in nature. But the nature of man who has no respect for the Lord is to take credit for the good on one hand, and on the other to despise the truth that ultimately it is the Lord God Who determines the fate of the planet, nations, and finally souls.

The problems we face on earth are many but they are *symptoms* of a more serious problem, *and it is real!* By focusing on saving the planet we could lose our soul. And that is the intent of the old evil foe, the devil. The undeniable issues facing this nation and the world begin and end with the

reality of sin, a truth that the majority in the world will not acknowledge. None of the things that politicians propose to fix were in the world before sin! And sin no politician or political party can fix.

As the Lord God is the Judge of all that we as a nation or an individual do and say, immorality, and worse, approval of the same, will bring down a nation before global warming will. The promotion of abortion, and the harvest of fetal tissue (sold or not) through abortion will reap God's judgment. The flaunting and practice of homosexuality and the abuse of marriage will incur God's wrath before global warming will. Scripture says we live in perilous times, when "all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution" (2 Timothy 3). Summed up, unbelief, and rejection of the Lord Christ are the catalyst of destruction of a nation, and ultimately the judgment of the world.

It falls to the Church to address the real cause for the sake of eternal life and our national life. But as Christendom has become infested with false doctrine, the church in the world has lost its moral influence. It has lost its sense of the mission which the Lord gave it. As the church has accommodated itself to the world, it has jettisoned its divinely appointed purpose and assumed one of its own.

Jesus did not come into the world as a social savior or to make the world a better place. He came into the world to destroy sin and the devil, to redeem souls from destruction, to overcome death, and to present to His Father a people washed and cleansed from sin, and clothed in robes of righteousness unto salvation. And this He has done. Jesus told His disciples: "In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world" (John 16:33).

Our Lord's call to the Church is to preach the gospel "teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you ..." (Matthew 28:20). Consequently it is called to preach the Law of God which uncovers sin and condemns sin, and all who live in sin. As the church abandons preaching the Law, it loses the heart of the Gospel, the message of remission of sins through the Lord Jesus Christ. Instead it promotes a social gospel, ostensibly a message of love to all and love for all. However it is a counterfeit love because there is no true love without Truth. As the church distorts the Gospel it loses the sanctifying power of the Word (John 17:17, Ephesians 2:10). As it abandons God's Truth so to offend no one, it can bring no one the peace that is in Christ or to knowledge of eternal salvation through Christ!

As we move on in life, political campaigns or not, Christ-believers will exercise their faith in such a way that brings blessing to a nation. They will not be unconcerned about the issues of national life. However, they will desire to remain steadfast in the Word of God. They will not be flummoxed by diversionary tactics of the devil. They will recognize what in the whole scheme of life are minor things by comparison to laying hold of eternal life. To that end they will confess their sins, and call upon the Lord for salvation. Our Lord has addressed the real issue of life!

Written by Rev. Daniel Fleischer, 10/2015

CLC FINANCIAL REPORT

September 2015

CLC Financial Report	Balance	Year to Date	Year to Date	FY 2016 Budget	Balance
Operating Funds	7/1/2015	Revenue	Disbursed	3 Months	9/30/2015
General Fund	0	197,841	245,557	\$231,000	(47,716)
ILC Operations	0	416,821	279,758	\$334,075	137,063
Total	\$0	\$614,662	\$525,315	\$565,075	\$89,347
Auxiliary Funds					
IIF - ILC Improvement	21,975	1,873	2,756		21,092
ILC Building	16,899	22,524	30,379		9,044
MDF - Mission Development	92,551	68,398	82,317		78,632
Kinship	54,418	24,920	21,655		57,683
CEF - Church Extension Fund	1,463,337	207,748	695,151		975,934
SAF - Student Aid	(8,833)	57,449	41,377		9,239
Reserve Account	127,092	0	0		127,092

ILC Academic Center Mortgage		
Beginning Balance:	January 1, 2010	\$1,751,804
Current Balance:	September 30, 2015	\$1,356,261
Principal Paid to Date:		\$395,543

Comments:

- The General Fund deficit is smaller (\$47,716) at the end of September but there is still considerable ground to make up
- General Fund offerings are \$33,159, less than budget year-to-date
- General Fund spending was \$14,557 over budget year-to-date
- ILC balance is positive \$137,063 because of fall registration payments
- September MDF expenditures totaled \$35,809, major items included \$9,766 Asia pastoral conference, \$1,500 bicycles, \$2,600 Tacoma outreach, \$2,400 Europe exploratory, \$3,000 church buildings and \$9,000 for disaster relief
- IIF spent \$2,381 for work on the professorages in September
- The CEF has had a large amount of promissory note repayments but the cash balance remains at \$975,934 to provide for pending projects and note repayments

Dr. James A. Sydow, CLC Treasurer
Philip E. Radichel, Chairman, CLC Board of Trustees