



## ✠ *THE ANNOUNCEMENTS* ✠

- ◆ **Flowers:** The flowers today are in memory of Marvin Wagner who was called to his eternal glory this past Tuesday (funeral was yesterday). May the Lord comfort the family with His Word of promise.
- ◆ **Funeral:** Many thanks to all those who helped make Marvin's funeral yesterday an encouraging experience for the family. They are grateful!
- ◆ **Vacation Bible School:** This week, July 25-29, 9:00-11:30 am. There are currently 36 children registered. You may still register any children age 4 years through 8<sup>th</sup> grade. May the Lord richly bless our week as His Word is taught to our youth! Parents, please be aware that the children will be participating in next Sunday's service.
- ◆ **VBS Snacks:** Those who are willing to provide snacks for the children at VBS, please sign up on the sheet by the guest book. Thanks!
- ◆ **VBS Staff:** There will be a meeting following today's worship service.
- ◆ **August Council Meeting:** The chairman, in consultation with pastor and the board chairs, has cancelled the August Council meeting since pastor will be on vacation and there will be limited pressing business.
- ◆ **Vicar:** Today is Vicar Rodebaugh's first service at Grace Lutheran. The vicar program provides practical pastoral training for our church body's seminary students. He will be involved with a lot of day-to-day tasks under the supervision and counsel of pastor, including preaching, teaching, visits, counseling, administrative work, devotions, meetings, etc. He's already begun a rigorous schedule this past week and will be here for another week for VBS, taking a furlough while pastor is on vacation. On August 14 he will be our guest speaker due to pastor's absence in Washington. But he will fully resume service on August 18 through the end of September. Then Vicar Rodebaugh will be starting his third year of studies at Immanuel Lutheran Seminary in Eau Claire, WI, this fall. During the vicarage he is staying with Joey and Nikki Best. We look forward to him being here in our midst and pray that his time among us will be richly blessed. Please be sure to welcome him today!
- ◆ **Welcome from the Vicar:** My name is Sam Rodebaugh. I'm originally from the Milwaukee, WI, area, though I've lived full time in Eau Claire for the last 6 years. The Lord has blessed me with a loving father and mother, two brothers, a sister-in-law and a niece and a nephew. On March 18 of this year, I was married to my lovely wife, Jess (nee Schaller). Jess loves creating crafty things, and she currently attends UW-EC for Biology. Together we enjoy the outdoors, sports, a good movie, traveling, and married life in general. I'm looking forward to meeting all of you, and I feel very blessed to have this opportunity to serve in your midst!



- ◆ **Collection:** A purse is being collected for Vicar Rodebaugh. If you wish to contribute, please mark "Vicar" on your offering envelope.
- ◆ **Service Schedule:** Please keep in mind that the service schedule will be changing on September 11. Sunday School and Bible Class will begin at 9:00 a.m. with regular morning worship at 10:00 a.m.
- ◆ **Sunday School Teachers:** Sunday School begins the Sunday after Labor Day (Sept. 11). We are looking for volunteers to teach. It is a great opportunity to instruct our youth about the truths of Scripture. If you are interested, please let Superintendent Michael Ude know so he can hopefully find a place for you on staff. He is interested in full-time teachers, part-time teachers, and substitutes.
- ◆ **Grace Constitution:** This past year a committee thoroughly studied the constitution for any needed updates. After making revisions and discussing them in detail with the Voters, the updated constitution was passed. The Voters are reminded to place the updated constitution in your notebooks. One of the items was discontinuing the position of Vice Chairman. The duties were delegated to the service list. Ushering organization will now be undertaken by Roger Ochsner and James Bomber. Offering envelopes will be the responsibility of Benno Sydow and Gary Gunther. If you need any help or have any questions about these items, please consult them. We are grateful for the work all members do to make our church a well-functioning team!
- ◆ **2016 Men's Retreat:** The "Man Up" men's retreat will be Aug. 26-28 at Wyalusing State Park near Prairie du Chien, WI (south of LaCrosse). The cost is only \$75 for the weekend: includes lodging, meals, T-shirt, and activities. The registration deadline is Aug. 1. The weekend will include: Bible Study, Fellowship, Leadership Training, Team and Relationship Building and Worship, including choices of outdoor activities. Sign up today at [www.manup.clclutheran.org](http://www.manup.clclutheran.org). If you have any questions or if you would like more information, please contact Pastor Nathanael Mayhew at [ndmayhew@juno.com](mailto:ndmayhew@juno.com).
- ◆ **CLC News:** Pastor Bruce Naumann, associate pastor of Messiah Lutheran in Eau Claire, WI, has returned the call to become the CLC Visiting Foreign Missionary. ✠ Pastor Caleb Schaller, associate pastor of Messiah Lutheran in Eau Claire, WI, has returned the call to Faith Lutheran in Markesan, WI. ✠ Pastor Luke Bernthal of Grace Lutheran in Valentine, NE, of St. Paul's Lutheran in White River, and of Peace Lutheran in Mission, SD, has received the call to Faith Lutheran in Markesan, WI. ✠ Pastor Delwyn Maas of Gift of God Lutheran in Mapleton, ND (Fargo area), has received the call to Mt. Zion Lutheran in Madison Heights, MI (Detroit area). ✠ Teacher Sara Pfeiffer has resigned her call as principal and teacher at St. Stephen Lutheran School in Mountain View, CA (San Francisco area). ✠ Teacher Paul Tiefel III of Messiah Lutheran in Eau Claire, WI, has returned the call to St. Stephen Lutheran. The congregation has called Kirsten Gullerud, a current teacher on its staff, as principal, and Carly Meyer as a third teacher.

**CLC FINANCIAL REPORT  
JUNE 2016**

<i>CLC Financial Report</i>	<i>Balance</i>	<i>Year to Date</i>	<i>Year to Date</i>	<i>FY 2016 Budget</i>	<i>Balance</i>
<u>Operating Funds</u>	<u>7/1/2015</u>	<u>Revenue</u>	<u>Disbursed</u>	<u>12 Months</u>	<u>6/30/2016</u>
General Fund	0	912,487	912,487	\$924,000	0
ILC Operations	0	1,278,966	1,278,966	\$1,336,300	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$2,191,453</b>	<b>\$2,191,453</b>	<b>\$2,260,300</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<u>Auxiliary Funds</u>					
IIF - ILC Improvement	21,975	49,147	55,194		15,928
ILC Building	16,899	136,336	140,552		12,683
MDF - Mission Development	92,551	237,812	284,120		46,243
Kinship	54,418	82,604	80,396		56,626
CEF - Church Extension Fund	1,463,337	969,871	1,141,547		1,291,661
SAF - Student Aid	(6,833)	164,510	147,574		10,103
Reserve Account	127,092	0	7,395		119,697

<b><u>ILC Academic Center Mortgage</u></b>			
Beginning Balance:	February 1, 2010		<b>\$1,751,804</b>
Current Balance:	June 30, 2016		<b><u>\$1,285,710</u></b>
	Principal Paid to Date:		<b>\$466,094</b>

**Comments on the final numbers for the fiscal year:**

- The General Fund offerings were \$905,092, which was \$18,908 short of budget
- General Fund expenditures were \$912,487, which was under budget by \$11,513
- The Reserve Account was used to cover the \$7,395 deficit
- ILC operations expenses were \$57,334 were less than planned, but student revenue was \$50,967 less than budgeted leaving surplus of \$6,367 returned to the General Fund
- MDF expenditures included several large line items: \$112,277 for disaster relief, \$25,092 for Mission Helper Program and \$20,076 India Exploratory/Outreach
- IIF expenditures included \$21,698 for professorage repairs, an \$11,000 internet upgrade, and \$14,118 for purchase of a 15 passenger van

James E. Sandeen, CLC Treasurer  
Thomas J. Lentz , Chairman, CLC Board of Trustees

**CLC E-Devotions – Tuesday, July 12, 2016**

Isaiah 55:9 As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

**DOES GOD DESERVE CRITICISM?**

It's inevitable. The hometown team loses the ballgame, and the next morning the talk radio programs are swamped by callers quick to point out the blunders of everyone from the batboy to the manager. Sadly, it's human nature. We are quick to criticize. We can spot the failures of others from a mile away, but as Jesus says, what we really need to do is first take the plank out of our own eye.



It's bad enough when we criticize the people around us: parents, spouses, bosses, the neighbors, and fellow believers. But do we criticize God as well? In your prayers do you find yourself more or less telling God what He should do in your life? When He doesn't answer a prayer according to your will, are you a little angry? Do we find fault with the way God directs the affairs of the world? Do we blame Him for not stepping in and doing something about the problems we see or not preventing the evil people commit?

In Romans 8 the Lord calls us to repent of that kind of presumptuous pride. "Who are you, O man, to talk back to God? Shall what is formed say to him who formed it, 'Why did you make me like this?'" (Romans 8:20). We need to let God be God. We don't see the big picture. Our judgment is clouded and distorted by sin. So often we think only of our own immediate earthly wellbeing, rather than of what is best for our faith and eternal life.

Instead of criticism, let's come to the Lord today with humility, confessing our sinful pride and rejoicing in the forgiveness Jesus won for all on the cross. When we feel the urge to second-guess God and judge His ways, let's remember that He is God and we are not. "As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts" (Isaiah 55:9). When it seems as though God is withholding blessings, turn to Paul's words for reassurance: "He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all--how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?" (Romans 8:32).

## **Voter Meeting Notes – July 17, 2016**

The meeting was called to order with a prayer. Roll was taken. The April voter meeting minutes were read and approved as amended. The 1st quarter treasurer's report was reviewed for one revision. The 2nd quarter treasurer's report was read and approved.

### **Pastor's Report**

- 3 baptisms this quarter – Raphael Stifter, Sydney Dahl, Claire Yannarely.
- 6 confirmands this quarter – Patrick Baker, Sarah Eichstadt, Victoria Kitzman, Beatrice Lentz, Jessica Maki, Kylee Yang. Moved and passed to ratify the confirmands as communicant members of Grace.
- Reported that Jodi Oelfke was transferred to Living Savior in Eden Prairie.
- Moved and passed to remove Karl Sieg from membership per his request.
- 3 ILC high school students this fall – Patrick Baker, David Hein, Julianna Hein.
- 1 ILC college student this fall – Ned Sandhoefner.
- VBS is July 25-29.
- CLC Convention was June 23-26.
- Motion passed to accept Ryan Mueller & Ned Sandhoefner as voter members.
- Reported that Living Savior is now an independent CLC church. Motion passed to close the SW Metro fund.

### **Board of Elders Report**

- Planning is in progress to utilize the ILC visiting program here at Grace in Nov.
- Mission Festival is October 9.
- Reported that the \$20,000 donation from Marvin Wagner was placed into the undesignated project fund.

### **Board of Education Report**

- Ann Radichel has accepted the call to teach Kindergarten in 2016-2017.
- The Spring Lake Park parade on June 9 went well.
- The white board has been received for Ellen's room.
- The ice cream social is August 8.
- School cleaning is August 13.
- The first day of school at Grace is August 29.
- Motion carried to have Michael Ude serve as Sunday School Superintendent

### **Board of Trustees Report**

- The lilacs have been cleaned out.
- Painting of the parsonage, etc. has been done.
- A sign has been added at the entrance "Church Parking Only."
- Further research is being done regarding security cameras.
- Landscape phase 1 was completed about the end of the school year.
- Fellowship hall floor cleaning instructions have been added to the handbook.
- Church lighting is being worked on.
- New software is being looked at to replace the current counter system.

### **Other Committee Reports**

- Constitution Review Committee report:
- The Constitution Review Committee moved to accept revisions to Grace Lutheran Church's Constitution and By-Laws. Motion was seconded.
- Discussion pursued.

- The Vice Chairman position is eliminated, and his duties will be handled by others. Duties regarding counting of offerings will be assumed by Benno Sydow and Gary Gunther. Duties regarding ushering will be assumed by Roger Ochsner and James Bomber.
- The committee was commended for their laborious and detailed work.
- Motion passed.
- Terms of office for the executive officers are changed. The following 3 positions now have 3-year terms, with the Chairman election falling on the years divisible by 3 (the motions below help us get into the 3-year rotation):
  - Chairman will be elected in 2019, 2022, etc. Motion passed to have the current chairman serve until the end of 2018.
  - Secretary will be elected in 2020, 2023, etc. Motion passed to have the current secretary serve until the end of 2019.
  - Treasurer will be elected in 2018, 2021, etc. Motion passed to have the current treasurer serve until the end of 2017.
- By-law section IV was changed to include pre-communicant members. Moved and passed to add the following:
  - Children who are not yet confirmed and are under the spiritual care of communicant members shall be received into pre-communicant membership at the time of their baptism or, if already baptized, at the time their parents (or guardians) are received as communicant members.

### **New Business**

- Benno reported that he would like to have other individuals pick up some of the items that he maintains. It was suggested that the Elders pursue this: Constitution, Handbook, Service List
- Benno reported on the CLC Convention, and Dave mentioned how enlightening it is to be there.
- Pastor will be on vacation for 2 Sundays in August.

Adapted from minutes by Secretary Roger Ochsner

**MARTIN LUTHER ON MISSIONARY RESPONSIBILITY** – "A Christian does not only have the right and the power to teach the Word of God, but he has an obligation to do so, unless he is willing to forfeit his soul and bring upon himself God's wrath ... And when he is in a place where there are no Christians, he needs no other calling but that he is a Christian and inwardly called and anointed by God Himself. He is obligated to preach and teach the Gospel to the erring heathen or non-Christians out of his duty of brotherly love, even though no man has called him"

**The Bible Is a Missionary Book: Just think!** Every book in the New Testament was written by a missionary. Every epistle in the New Testament that was written to a church was written to a foreign-mission church. Every letter in the New Testament that was written to an individual was written to the convert of a foreign missionary. The one book of prophecy in the New Testament was written to seven foreign-mission churches in Asia. The disciples were called Christians first in a foreign-mission community. The language of the books of the New Testament is the missionary's language. The map of the early Christian world is the tracings of the missionary journeys of the apostles.