

## ✠ TODAY AT GRACE ✠

Organist: Janelle Hein      Elder: Al Rosendahl  
Ushers: Roger Ochsner; Jeremiah Boe; Bob Maki; Jack Maki; John Maki; Joel Stifter  
Counting Team 4: James Bomber; Roger Ochsner; Al Rosendahl; Dave Rust  
Hospitality Team 7: Jan Davis; Chad & Amanda Hestekin; Ryan & Mikey Oman; Eli & Laura Wales (Team 1 sub)  
Church Cleaners: Vandever      School: Baker

## ✠ NEXT WEEK AT GRACE ✠

Ushers: Roger Ochsner; Jeremiah Boe; Bob Maki; Jack Maki; John Maki; Joel Stifter  
Counting Team 1: Dan Degnan; Larry Nelson; Pat Paplow; Phil Radichel  
Hospitality Team 1: Bye (Church Picnic)  
Church Cleaners: F. Radichel      School: Bluhm

## ✠ OUR SCHEDULE ✠

**Sun. Sept. 11:** 9:00 am – Bible Class & Sunday School  
 10:00 am – Worship Service  
 11:00 am – Hospitality; 12:00 pm – Council Meeting  
**Mon. Sept. 12:** 10:00 am – MN Pastoral Study Club (Mankato, MN)  
 7:00 pm – School Open House  
**Wed., Sept. 14:** 4:30 pm – Catechism for Public School Students  
 7:00 pm – Midweek Bible Class Resumes  
**Thu., Sept. 15:** 8:30 am – Lilac Trimming  
**Sun., Sept. 18:** 8:30 am – Choir Practice  
 9:00 am – Bible Class & Sunday School  
 10:00 am – Worship Service  
 11:00 am – Church Picnic  
**Wed., Sept. 21:** CLC Coordinating Council (Eau Claire, WI)  
**Tue., Sept. 27:** Grace School Field Trip (Aamodt's Apple Orchard)  
**Oct. 4-5:** Minnesota Pastoral Conference (Okabena, MN)  
**Sun., Oct. 9:** Mission Festival (w/ Pastor Paul Tiefel/Potluck/Blood Drive)  
**Oct. 12-14:** CLC Teachers Conference (Valentine, NE)  
**Sun., Oct. 30:** 4:00 pm – MN Reformation Service (Inver Grove Hts.)

**Last Week's Stats:** Sept. 4, 2016 Sun.: 97

Sun. Offering:	Grace:	\$3,752.22	CLC:	\$757.20	
Weekly Need:	Grace:	3,300.00	CLC:	1,000.00	
-Under / +Over:	Grace:	+452.22	CLC:	-242.80	
Year-to-Date Offering:	Grace:	\$101,948.37	CLC:	\$31,076.35	
Year-to-Date Need:	Grace:	118,800.00	CLC:	36,000.00	
Year-to-Date (+/-)	Grace:	-16,851.63	CLC:	-4,923.66	
GLC Other:	215.00	Living Faith:	0.00	Tuition Aid:	125.00
SAF Endowment:	0.00	MDF:	0.00	Kinship:	0.00
ILC Student Aid:	25.00	ILC Bldg.	120.00	IIF: 0.00	CEF: 0.00
Current Balances:	Parking Lot:	17,705.25	Tuition Aid:	4,093.12	

## Grace Lutheran Church & School



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 Fridley, MN 55432

Email: [jphein@clclutheran.com](mailto:jphein@clclutheran.com)

Home Page: [www.JustifiedByGrace.org](http://www.JustifiedByGrace.org)

Member: CHURCH OF THE LUTHERAN CONFESSION



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

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

**Church Year:** Pentecost 17

**Phone:** 763-784-8784

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

**Date:** September 11, 2016

## ✠ WORSHIP INFORMATION ✠

### Hymns:

TLH 234: Holy Ghost, with Light Divine  
 TLH 629: Let Children Hear the Mighty Deeds  
 TLH 628: Shepherd of Tender Youth  
 S.S. Teacher Installation  
 WS 785: Children of the Heavenly Father  
 Listening assistance is available. Please ask an usher.

### Worship Prep:

Psalm 119 I, TLH p. 149

### Liturgy:

TLH, p. 5 (Projected)  
 Gloria: TLH 244:1,4

### Scripture Reading:

1 Timothy 1:12-17  
 Luke 15:1-10

### Sermon: Psalm 78:1-8

<sup>1</sup> Give ear, O my people, to my law; Incline your ears to the words of my mouth. <sup>2</sup> I will open my mouth in a parable; I will utter dark sayings of old, <sup>3</sup> Which we have heard and known, And our fathers have told us. <sup>4</sup> We will not hide *them* from their children, Telling to the generation to come the praises of the LORD, And His strength and His wonderful works that He has done. <sup>5</sup> For He established a testimony in Jacob, And appointed a law in Israel, Which He commanded our fathers, That they should make them known to their children; <sup>6</sup> That the generation to come might know *them*, The children *who* would be born, *That* they may arise and declare *them* to their children, <sup>7</sup> That they may set their hope in God, And not forget the works of God, But keep His commandments; <sup>8</sup> And may not be like their fathers, A stubborn and rebellious generation, A generation *that* did not set its heart aright, And whose spirit was not faithful to God. (NKJV<sup>TM</sup>)

Our Divine Responsibility:  
 Telling Coming Generations  
 God's Wonderful Works

1. As the Church    2. As Teachers    3. As Parents    4. As Children

## How Skipping Church Affects Our Children

The question is often asked about why churches today are losing their young people. Typical answers to this question range from things like the temptations of this world or the irrelevance of the church—your typical answers. But Carl Trueman makes a keen and convicting connection between our parenting and apostasy: “The church is losing its young people because the parents never taught their children that it was important. I think that applies across the board. It applies to family worship, and it also applies to whether you are in church every Sunday and what priority you demonstrate to your children church has on a Sunday. If the sun shines out and their friends are going to the beach, do you decide to skip church and go to the beach? In which case, you send signals to your children that it is not important.”

Now we know that artificially taking your kids to church neither bestows salvation nor guarantees it. God is obviously not honored by external religious acts without heart worship. This type of legalism is not the subject of this discussion. This is about parenting and the weight of the responsibility behind how they prioritize their time and lifestyle choices for their families. Parents make choices all the time for their families. As they decide on what takes priority in family, every choice is carefully observed and taken into the heart of their children. Yes, they are watching you, and they are learning from you.

Maybe the reason why it seems that our children have no love for Christ is due to the fact that we as parents do not show any love or passion for Christ, evidenced by how we prioritize our time both on Sundays and during the week. When television, sports, school, hobbies even family itself are elevated to a place of idolatry and replace the vital Christian responsibilities, then we tell our children that Christ is secondary to all these things. We tell our children that it is not necessary to take up your cross and die to yourself daily in order to follow Christ. We tell them that you only have to live for Christ when it's convenient for you. We tell them it is okay to sacrifice time with all-satisfying Savior if something “more fun” or “more important” comes along.

Let's evaluate where our hearts are by observing our choices. Do you prioritize church? Do you prioritize the worship of Christ in your home and on Sundays? Do you prioritize serving Him and worshiping Him in the contexts of school and work? This doesn't mean that you can't ever miss a Sunday or that you can't have any extracurricular activities. Instead, it is a sobering reminder that we shouldn't put the things of God at the bottom of the priority list, because it tells our children that Christ is at the bottom of our priority list. And the God of this universe does not belong there. With all that He has done in bringing us salvation through Jesus Christ, He deserves our full honor and reverence.

Adapted

## Let Your Pastor Pastor You!

**Q: “When it comes to difficult circumstances in life, my pastor isn't the first person I think of to go to for prayer and pastoral care. How can I let my pastor pastor me?”** **A: Repent! Talk to your Pastor. That's the answer.**

This isn't about who can proclaim the Gospel to you. All Christians should be able to give a defense for their hope (1 Peter 3:15). This is about whom God has given to proclaim the Gospel to you.

What if the situation were framed like this: “As a husband, when it comes to difficult circumstances in life, my wife isn't the first person I think of when I ...” Immediately, you sense something's wrong. When we have questions, the Internet might have an answer, but God gives us a local pastor that we may receive specific comfort when facing life's difficulties. God sends pastors to hear confession without judging, pronounce forgiveness as from God Himself and never to divulge what is confessed. Your pastor has that responsibility.

Let's say you're a young person. Maybe you talk to your mom about life's difficulties; maybe you confess sin to her. She can declare to you the grace of God in Christ, that our heavenly Father has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. Any Christian can do that. But it may be in the back of your mind that you didn't really confess everything, or that you didn't mean it, or that she's only saying that because she's your mom and that sounds like what moms say.

Your pastor has the God-given responsibility to hear your confession and pronounce forgiveness in order to fulfill God's will. He might ask you a question, not to pry or judge but to assist with self-examination, because if what you confess isn't sin, he needs to tell you that, too. He has promised never to divulge what is confessed. He can never use your sins as an example in a story or a joke. Ever. You are freely justified for Christ's sake, through faith. When you believe that, you are received into favor, and your sins are forgiven for Christ's sake. By His death, Jesus made satisfaction for your sins. God counts this faith for righteousness in His sight.

AND ... So that you may obtain this faith, the ministry of teaching the Gospel and administering the Sacraments was instituted. Any Christian can declare to you the grace of God in Christ. They should. But to remove all doubt, for your added joy and comfort, so that you can be sure that “you” means you, your congregation called a pastor – God sent you a pastor – that you would obtain this faith and be reckoned righteous in God's sight. Jesus says to the first pastors of the Church, “As the Father has sent Me, even so I am sending you. ... If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them” (John 20:21, 23).

When it comes to difficult circumstances in life, repent! Talk to your pastor. In the stead and by the command of Christ, he's there, not for your burden, but for your joy.

Benjamin Tyler Holt, Lutheran Witness 2016

Shared by David Rust who, as a former Elder, believed it useful for us all

## CLC E-Devotion – Monday, August 30, 2016

Psalm 39:4 Lord, make me to know my end, And what is the measure of my days, That I may know how frail I am.

### **MAKE ME TO KNOW MY END**

The psalmist speaks to the LORD, prays to the LORD, “Make me to know my end!” Literally, “Declare to me my end!” The psalmist wants the LORD to remind him that his life in this world is short, his body is frail. He wants God to remind him of what is going to happen when he dies. What will his end be? Not so much, “How will I die?” But more, “Remind me that I’m going to die! Remind me that my life in this world will come to an end.” And that it will end relatively soon. He declares that, “Indeed, You have made my days as handbreadths...” So the psalmist prays in another Psalm, saying, “... teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom” (Psalm 90:12).

With His Word, God the Holy Spirit gives us a heart of wisdom. In the Scriptures the LORD teaches us that, for Him, “One day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day” (2 Peter 3:8). Regardless of what the world says, we know from Scripture that we are only 6,000-10,000 years removed from Creation. In the context of eternity, the world was not created very long ago. Elsewhere, the LORD calls Himself, “The Beginning and the End” (Revelation 1:8). To Someone who sees the last 1,000 years as though it were yesterday, it is as the psalmist says: “... my age is as nothing before You...” How long have you been alive? Thirteen years? Thirty years? Forty or fifty? Seventy or eighty years? Ninety? That is very little compared to the thousands of years the world has stood, and it is absolutely nothing compared with the eternal God.

And none of the wisdom we can gain from this world in one hundred years, or a thousand, compares to the kind of wisdom the psalmist is talking about. God takes a dead, foolish heart, and breaths in the Word that makes us wise unto salvation in Christ Jesus (2 Timothy 3:15). It is with this heart of wisdom that God makes us to know that our end is not dying in sin, but with sins forgiven in Christ Jesus, living eternally, in heaven.

## ✠ *THE ANNOUNCEMENTS* ✠

- ◆ **School Open House:** Tomorrow (Monday) at 7 pm there will be an open house for the school parents and friends.
- ◆ **Midweek Bible Class:** This Wednesday at 7 pm the midweek Bible class will resume. Come and learn from God’s Word!
- ◆ **Church Picnic:** Next Sunday, September 18 there will be a church picnic here on the church grounds following our regular church service. Plans are to have some organized games for the children. Grilled meat will be provided. Members are asked to bring a dish to share, including things like salads, chips, and/or desserts. Folks may help out as needed with serving and cleanup.
- ◆ **Sunday School Teachers:** This year’s S.S. teachers are: Age 4-K: Emily Hein; 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup>: Mikey Oman; 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>: Jan Davis; 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>: Michael Ude. May the teachers and students be richly blessed around the Word: “So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; It shall not return to Me void, But it shall accomplish what I please, And it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it.” Isaiah 55:11
- ◆ **Sunday School:** We are looking for one teacher plus substitutes. If you are interested, please let Superintendent Michael Ude know.
- ◆ **Lilacs:** Some may have noticed the improvements with the lilacs. There’s more work to be done. There will be a group coming on Thurs., Sept. 15, starting about 8:30 am to prune some more. Come if you’re able! The grass can be wet so dress appropriately. Bring gloves.
- ◆ **Altar:** In the past several months Ryan Mueller has graciously donated his time and resources to gild the altar in gold leaf. This subtly highlights various parts of the altar. With Ryan’s professional background in this area, it is a blessing to have had him do this.
- ◆ **Coat Rack Items:** Several coats and other items have been left hanging on the coat rack. If they are yours, please take them with you. Anything left this week will be discarded or donated.
- ◆ **Collection:** A purse is being collected for Vicar Rodebaugh. If you wish to contribute, please mark “Vicar” on your offering envelope.
- ◆ **Reformation:** The Minnesota Area CLC Reformation Festival will be held at 4:00 pm on October 30 at Berea Lutheran Church in Inver Grove Heights, MN. The theme will be “The Lutheran Confessions: A Great Reformation Blessing.” A fellowship luncheon will be served following the service. Everyone from the area is invited to join us.
- ◆ **Grade School Cross Country:** Next Sat. (Sept. 17) there will be a grade school cross-country meet at Immanuel. Any member children are welcome – they don’t have to be part of a CLC grade school. Contact Steve Sydow at [stephen.sydow@dot.wi.gov](mailto:stephen.sydow@dot.wi.gov) if interested.

- ◆ **Online Religion Class @ ILC:** Are you interested in taking an Immanuel Lutheran College class online? A new entry in the online classes available with be Survey of New Testament (Religion 203 /204) taught by Prof. John Reim. Religion 203 / 204: Studies in the Gospel accounts of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John, with focus on various topics pertaining to the work of Jesus Christ and the nature of His kingdom. Introduction to Acts and the Epistles with the focus on the study in the growth of the Word of the Lord as detailed in the book of Acts and also a survey of the doctrines presented in the New Testament epistles. For more information go to: [www.ilc.edu](http://www.ilc.edu) and under announcements go to: College courses offered online. For a registration form go to: [www.ilc.edu/resources/](http://www.ilc.edu/resources/). Please note that there is a form specifically for online courses.
- ◆ **ILC-Stout Transfer Agreement:** Psalm 118:23-24: "This was the LORD'S doing; It is marvelous in our eyes. This is the day the LORD has made; We will rejoice and be glad in it." The Univ. of Wisconsin-Stout has agreed to a formal transfer of credits agreement with us, Immanuel Lutheran College (ILC), in line with the agreement we have with Univ. of Wisconsin-Eau Claire. They will transfer up to 72 credits, which apply toward the program a student is pursuing. This can clearly benefit our students. We also pray the LORD would use it and us to further the teaching of His saving Word. Psalm 118:25: "Save now, I pray, O LORD; O LORD, I pray, send now prosperity."
- ◆ **From the Family of Prof. Paul Naumann:** Winston Churchill famously said, of the Battle of Britain, "Never was so much owed by so many to so few." Our family's case is the opposite. I wonder whether, in the history of our fellowship, so many dedicated believers have ever before put such an astonishing amount of effort into a project that benefitted just one family - the family of ILC's incoming professor. The renovation of the Claymore Lane house stands as a monument to Christian love. Just a few weeks before we arrived in Eau Claire, the structure was gutted -- sans windows, sans flooring, sans siding -- sans just about everything! Neighbors tell us that they thought the house was to be torn down. Instead, skilled and dedicated Christians from CLC congregations near and far sacrificed hours of their own time to create a beautiful home for our incoming family. The work was finished right on time, and we moved into a beautiful house with new flooring, siding, windows, cabinets and a host of other improvements and upgrades. Words are weak instruments to express our pleasure upon moving into so beautiful and comfortable a home. At first we were flattered that so many people would invest such a great amount of effort just for us; then we realized that the effort wasn't only -- or even primarily -- for us. Rather, it was done out of deep love for the Lord Jesus, and that's even more gratifying. "*Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity.*" -- Psalm 133:1. Thank you, thank you, our dear Christian brethren!

- ◆ **Immanuel Vicar Program:** As part of their pastoral training, those enrolled in our Immanuel Lutheran Seminary participate in the vicar program. In order to get practical experience in being a pastor, these men are assigned to a CLC congregation under the mentoring of a pastor. They will observe and participate in the normal activities of the ministry, e.g., preaching, Catechism, Bible Class, visits, devotions, instruction classes, etc. This program is vital to our church body as it imparts valuable experience to those who will, Lord willing, be serving our various congregations in the future. Please pray for our seminary program, for the young men who are willing to undertake this priceless vocation, and that the Lord would send forth willing and prepared workers into His harvest. This year our seminarians are serving as vicars in the following congregations:
  - † Tom Naumann: Calvary Lutheran - Marquette, MI (Senior)
  - † Sam Rodebaugh: Grace Lutheran - Fridley, MN (Senior)
  - † Stefan Sonnenfeld: Messiah Lutheran - Eau Claire, WI (Senior)
- ◆ **Gethsemane Lutheran School Re-opened** this week in Spokane Valley, WA. There are 6 students in 1st-5th (two 2nd graders, one in each of the other grades). Two kindergartners are spending part time in Mr. Karnitz's classroom and the balance of the day will be instructed by parents in another room. A group of parents is leading a preschool co-op in an available classroom two days a week. The number of preschoolers is fluid, but up to six. We rejoice in the Lord's gift and are excited to see how He will bless His school and those who serve in it and are served by it. --Pastor Wayne Eichstadt
- ◆ **CLC/ELS/WELS Meetings:** The inter-synod committee met at Bethany Lutheran College on Friday, August 26. Responses to the Joint Statement from all three synods were discussed. A majority of the day was spent on a statement regarding membership in organizations. The next meeting is planned for August 2017. -- CLC President Michael Eichstadt
- ◆ **CLC News:** Pastor Michael Roehl of St. Paul Lutheran in Bismarck, ND, has received the call to Zion Lutheran in Lawrenceville, GA (Atlanta area). † Pastor Paul Tiefel of Messiah Lutheran in Eau Claire, WI, has received the call to Rock of Ages Lutheran in Grand Rapids, MI. † Pastor Steven Karp of St. Stephen in Hayward, CA (Oakland area), has announced his retirement. He will continue serving St. Stephen for a time. † The installation of Pastor Terrel Kesterson at Ascension Lutheran Church in Batavia, IL, is scheduled for October 2, 4 pm, with a meal to follow.

*Welcome to our guests and visitors. We appreciate the opportunity to share God's Word with you today. Please come again! Those interested in learning more about the Scriptures and our doctrinal position, please speak with Pastor Hein. He would be delighted to visit with you!*