

✠ TODAY AT GRACE ✠

Organist: Janelle Hein Elder: Benno Sydow
Ushers: Al Rosendahl; Scott Baker; Chad Hestekin; David Stifter; Lyle Trulin
Counting Team 3: Brian Eichstadt; Phil Flesner; Chad Hestekin; Benno Sydow
Hospitality Team 1: Phil & Jackie Radichel; Lynn & Janice Sandhoefner
Church Cleaners: Sandhoefner School: Oman

✠ NEXT WEEK AT GRACE ✠

Ushers: Al Rosendahl; Scott Baker; Chad Hestekin; David Stifter; Lyle Trulin
Counting Team 4: James Bomber; Roger Ochsner; Al Rosendahl; Dave Rust
Hospitality Team 2: Brian & Maureen Eichstadt; Janelle Hein; Jenny Kleifgen; Chris Lentz
Church Cleaners: ?? School: Oman

✠ OUR SCHEDULE ✠

Sun., Jan. 22: 9:00 am – Sunday School and Bible Class
 10:00 am – Worship Service (Epiphany 3)
 11:15 am – Hospitality
Wed., Jan. 25: 4:30 pm – Catechism for Public School Students
Sun., Jan. 29: 8:30 am – Choir Practice
 9:00 am – Sunday School and Bible Class
 10:00 am – Worship Service (Epiphany 4)
 11:15 am – Hospitality
Wed., Mar. 1: Ash Wednesday – Midweek Lenten Worship Begins
March 10-12: Grade School Basketball Tournament for CLC Youth
Sun., Mar. 19: 7:00 pm – Immanuel Tour Choir Concert

Last Week's Stats: Jan. 15, 2017 Sun.: 112 S.S.: 13 B.Cl.: 43

Sun. Offering:	Grace:	\$3,320.50	CLC:	\$810.00	
Weekly Need:	Grace:	3,300.00	CLC:	950.00*	
-Under / +Over:	Grace:	+20.50	CLC:	-140.00	
Year-to-Date Offering:.	Grace:	\$9,359.50	CLC:	\$2,145.00	
Year-to-Date Need:	Grace:	9,900.00	CLC:	2,850.00	
Year-to-Date (+/-)	Grace:	-540.50	CLC:	-705.00	
GLC Other:	194.75	Living Faith:	0.00	Tuition Aid:	175.00
SAF Endowment:	0.00	MDF:	150.00	Kinship:	50.00
ILC Student Aid:	20.00	ILC Bldg.	120.00	IIF: 0.00	CEF: 0.00
Current Balances:	Parking Lot:	19,916.25	Tuition Aid:	2,302.12	

Grace Lutheran Church & School



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 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)
School Phone: 763-784-6340
Church Year: Epiphany 3

Phone: 763-784-8784
Grades: Kindergarten-8th
Date: January 22, 2017

✠ WORSHIP INFORMATION ✠

Hymns:

TLH 134: Songs of Thankfulness and Praise
 CDS – TLH 346: Jesus! And Shall it Ever Be
 TLH 66: Hark the Glad Sound! The Savior Comes
 TLH 361: O Jesus, King Most Wonderful
 Installation of Officers
 TLH 15: From All that Dwell below the Skies

Worship Prep:

Psalm 19, TLH p. 126
Liturgy:
 TLH, p. 5 (Projected)
 Gloria: TLH 249
Scripture Reading:
 Isaiah 61:1-6
 1 Corinthians 12:12-21

Sermon: Luke 4:14-21

¹⁴ Then Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit to Galilee, and news of Him went out through all the surrounding region. ¹⁵ And He taught in their synagogues, being glorified by all. ¹⁶ So He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up. And as His custom was, He went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and stood up to read. ¹⁷ And He was handed the book of the prophet Isaiah. And when He had opened the book, He found the place where it was written: ¹⁸ "The Spirit of the LORD is upon Me, Because He has anointed Me To preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted¹, To proclaim liberty to the captives And recovery of sight to the blind, To set at liberty those who are oppressed; ¹⁹ To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD¹." ²⁰ Then He closed the book, and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all who were in the synagogue were fixed on Him. ²¹ And He began to say to them, "Today this Scripture is fulfilled in your hearing." (NKJVTM)

Christ's Inauguration Brings
 Authentic Change

✠ THE ANNOUNCEMENTS ✠

- ◆ **Thanks** for all who were here to help out with the work day yesterday.
- ◆ **Tournament:** The Grade School Basketball Tournament for CLC Youth will be held at ILC in Eau Claire, WI, March 10-12 (Fri.-Sun.). Those who are in 5th-8th grade may speak with Pastor if interested in participating. Registration for teams ends on Feb. 1.
- ◆ **Tour Choir:** Grace will be hosting the Immanuel Lutheran Tour Choir for an evening concert at 7 pm on March 19, the last concert of the tour. Committee #2 will be hosting a meal for the choir beforehand.
- ◆ **Women's Retreat:** Save the date for the 2017 Women's Retreat on April 21-23! This will be held in Winona, MN. This year's theme is "Thy Will Be Done" and is based upon Proverbs 3:5-6: "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths." Registration is now open at: LadiesRetreat.CLClutheran.net. If you do not have Internet access and would like assistance registering, contact Heidi Nelson for assistance. The deadline for registration is March 21.
- ◆ **Men's Retreat:** Men 18 and older are invited to a retreat for their personal faith, family, and fellowship at church. The theme for the weekend is: "Contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints" (Jude 3). There will be Bible Study, Fellowship, Leadership Training, Team and Relationship Building and Worship, as well as several outdoor activities. The retreat will be held Sept. 22-24, at Wyalusing State Park near Praire Du Chein, WI, an hour south of LaCrosse. More information may be found at www.manup.clclutheran.org. The cost is \$75 which includes lodging, meals, and activities. Registration deadline is August 1. If you have any questions please speak to your pastor or contact Nathanael Mayhew at ndmayhew@juno.com or 404-729-4602.
- ◆ **ILHS Parents' Association/After Banquet Committee:** Parents of Immanuel Lutheran High School are currently working on this year's After Banquet Party to be held May 6, 2017. We do rely on donations from school parents, church members, and local businesses. We are able to buy some prizes, but if you would like to donate a prize, that would be greatly appreciated. Even home baked items or care packages are a great gift idea. Monetary donations may be sent to: ILC After Banquet Committee, c/o Immanuel Lutheran College, 501 Grover Road, Eau Claire, WI 54701. Questions may be directed to joannagamble@hotmail.com. Thank You!
- ◆ **Installation:** On Sun., Jan. 29, Pastor Luke Bernthal will be installed at St. Stephen Lutheran Church in Mountain View, CA, and St. Stephen Lutheran Church in Hayward, CA. This will be a joint service beginning at 10 am at Mountain View. A luncheon will follow.
- ◆ **Sunday School Memory Work:** #12 – Conclusion

Voter Meeting Notes – January 15, 2017

The meeting was called to order with prayer. Roll was taken. The October voter minutes were read and approved. The 4th quarter treasurer's report was read and approved. The annual treasurer's report was read and approved.

Pastor's Report

- Pastor thanked everyone for the monetary Christmas gift to the called workers.
- The ILC students put a thank-you in the bulletin for assisting with their tuition.
- Pastor reported on Liberia.
- Ministrations and statistics were reviewed.
- Pastor is concerned with Sunday School attendance.
- Installation of new officers will be next Sunday.
- Motion passed to accept David Hein as a new voter.

Board of Elders Report

- Motion passed to have the CLC Board of Missions assume responsibility for work in Liberia. They typically will call a part-time missionary to assist.
- Motion passed to submit a CLC CBP of \$50,350 for 2017.

Board of Education Report

- There are currently 20 students at Grace.
- The December 16 Northtown concert went well.
- January 16 is parent-teacher conferences.
- January 25 the kindergarten students will have a pajama party.
- Research is continuing regarding tuition rates for private schools.
- Ann Radichel will be retiring at the end of this school year.
- There was discussion over the possible need for another teacher.

Board of Trustees Report

- The parking lot is scheduled to be salted tomorrow.
- Many items have been taken care of. Thanks to every who helped.

Other Business

- Motion passed to change a statement in Article VI of the church Constitution:
 - Revised = The duty of the Board of Education, in conjunction with the Pastor and/or Principal(s) for Christian Day School, shall be to ...
- Thank you to all the retiring board members.
- Election results are as follows:
Elder: Dale Enns
Education: James Bomber
Trustee: Ryan Oman
Delegates: Phil Radichel; Al Rosendahl Alternates: Rick Nelson; Dave Rust

Adapted from minutes submitted by Roger Ochsner, Secretary

CLC Financial Report - December

CLC Financial Report	Balance	YTD	YTD	Budget	Balance
Operating Funds	7/1/2016	Revenue	Disbursed	6 Months	12/31/2016
General Fund	0	455,058	446,535	\$450,000	8,523
ILC Operations	0	643,360	592,728	\$372,000	50,632
Total	\$0	\$1,098,418	\$1,039,263	\$822,000	\$59,155
Auxiliary Funds					
ILC Improvement Fund (IIF)	15,928	6,799	10,492		12,235
ILC Building Projects (AC/Dorm)	12,682	126,129	78,592		60,219
Mission Development Fund (MDF)	46,243	136,318	125,636		56,925
Kinship	56,626	34,931	53,168		38,389
Church Extension Fund (CEF)	1,291,661	564,963	419,570		1,437,054
Student Aid Fund (SAF)	10,103	81,441	89,862		1,682
Reserve Fund	119,697	0	0	Correction on 9/1/16→	146,111
Total	\$1,552,940	\$950,581	\$777,320		\$1,752,615

ILC Academic Center Mortgage (& North Hall Renovation)	
Beginning Balance January 1, 2010	\$1,751,804
Current Balance December 31, 2016	\$1,246,105
Principal paid to date	\$505,699
North Hall Reno Budget \$300,000. YTD Spent:	\$13,700

Notes:

- * **General Fund** offerings in December totaled \$93,473 (incl \$12,000 special) vs disbursements of \$64,927. Offerings for December erased the -\$20,000 shortfall of the previous 5 months to end with a +\$8,500 balance. The General Fund is supported by congregational offerings to the CLC Budget, which provides the basic monthly subsidy needed for the work of our Boards of Trustees, Missions, ILC, & Education/Publication. The budgeted needs of the General Fund is \$75,000/month.
- * **ILC Building Projects** offerings in December totaled \$13,496 (special gift of \$8,000) vs disbursements of \$7,984, which is the monthly payment on our CEF loan for the Academic Center (AC). The \$60,000 balance in the Building Projects Fund will be drawn down for expenses in the next several months as the \$300,000 renovation project of the **North Hall** boys' dorm resumes. The Trustees are maintaining a 3-month buffer of \$24,000 in the Building Projects Fund for loan payments on the AC. Balances above the buffer will be used for North Hall renovation expenses until we have to borrow from the CEF.
- * **MDF**: offerings in December totaled \$54,067 (special gifts of \$12,000 & \$30,000) vs disbursements of \$6,566, which included \$4,400 for African Exploratory/Outreach.
- * **SAF**: received \$23,828 in offerings (special gift of \$12,000) & student loans repaid in December vs \$7,800 in new student loans & family discounts allocated to student accounts during the month. SAF needs about \$33,000 for student new loans in the 2nd Semester.

James E. Sandeen, CLC Treasurer

Thomas J. Lentz, Chairman, CLC Board of Trustees

LUTHER'S RADICAL VIEWS

A January national news magazine mentioned anniversaries to be observed in 2017. Reference was made to the Reformation which according to the blurb began when Martin Luther posted his "radical views" on the church door in Wittenberg.

Meanings of words frequently mean different things to different people. Among uses of the word, the phrases radical left or the radical right frequently are used to describe views or persons with whom one disagrees. We do not know what the intent of the use of word "radical" was to describe Luther's views. Today one who speaks the truth on a subject may well be described as a radical by those who do not like to hear the truth.

As an adjectival definition of radical, we found, "(especially of change or action) relating to or affecting the fundamental nature of something; far-reaching or thorough." If that is the definition in mind to describe Luther's views, we would not disagree. The nailing of the 95 theses to the door on All Saints Eve most certainly changed the fundamental nature of things in church, in state, and in education. The effects were so far reaching and thorough that the world acknowledges the Reformation, and Lutherans are celebrating it, 500 years after the fact.

At the time, the 95 Theses were passed on to a printer. The reach of the Theses thus extended beyond Wittenberg.⁽¹⁾ Luther's intent in posting the Theses was to spark a debate concerning the granting and sales of indulgences. Some of the Theses reflected the early Luther's respect for the Roman Church. Similarly, in them he expressed thoughts that were inconsistent with his later maturation in the faith and his later theological acumen.

Concerning the 95 Theses one *Catholic* site on line says, "The 95 Theses were a list of 95 Statements that Martin Luther composed and posted perhaps on the Church door and asked for debate and comment. The 95 Theses themselves range from very Catholic – a modern Lutheran or other Protestant would be hard pressed to swallow – to complete insanity or total ignorance of Church teaching. Which, given that Martin Luther was supposedly a professor of Theology is beyond amazement ...

The thing that you must understand about Martin Luther is that he was mentally ill. Anyone who reads his own works will no doubt come away shaking their head in amazement. Martin Luther, once he started down this path got worse and worse."⁽²⁾

One of the most quoted Theses is the first one, “When our Lord and Master Jesus Christ said, ‘Repent’ (Matthew 4:17), He willed the entire life of believers to be one of repentance.” Of this Luther said, “[The Lord] does not, however mean inward repentance only; in fact, such inward repentance is not real repentance at all if it does not outwardly produce various mortifications of the flesh.”⁽³⁾ The sense of Luther’s words is found in the confession before communion. “I now ask you before God, is this your sincere confession, that you repent of your sins, believe on Jesus Christ, and sincerely and earnestly purpose, by the assistance of God the Holy Ghost, henceforth to amend your sinful life?”⁽⁴⁾



The posting of the Theses began the movement that pitted Luther and his theology from Scripture against the Pope and the tradition of the Roman Church.

Luther respected the pope in his early years. He said, “So great was the authority of the pope in my eyes that I thought it a crime worthy of eternal damnation to disagree with him on the most insignificant point.”⁽⁵⁾ Luther’s challenge of the church and the pope was not a personal vendetta. It was in the interest of the truth of the Word. It was in keeping with the Lord’s instruction, “Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets are gone out into the world”^(1 John 4:1).

The Reformation of 1517 has lost its meaning to many who attach their own agenda to the celebration. One young woman who visited the Luther display at the Minneapolis Art Institute said, “I’m grateful my religious upbringing gave me the ability to challenge the church ... What didn’t resonate for me [in viewing the Luther display] was poring over the Bible and finding meaning in words written more than 1,000 years ago. There’s a lot of other things that I’m more interested in.” Her challenge of the church was not of the nature of Luther’s who challenged the Catholic Church through application of the Word of God in the interest of the preservation of the truth.

In a departure from real meaning of the Reformation and what faithful Lutherans are celebrating, “The ELCA will spotlight anniversary themes such as ‘eco-reformation,’ and explore the implications of becoming a ‘sanctuary’ denomination for refugees.” “I think there’s a boldness that Luther can teach us in the 21st century in our engagement in the world,” said the female bishop of the Minneapolis

ELCA synod. Luther’s boldness, however, began with his commitment to the Word of God. Through the Word by which he had come to an understanding of justification by grace through faith alone, he was bold to stand before pope, emperor, and every challenger. If it is not Scripture, it is not Lutheran. Any Reformation celebration that does not have Christ and His gracious Word of Life at the center of it does not reflect Luther or the Reformation.

That the Reformation was foremost about the Word of God is easily recognizable through a study of the Lutheran Confessions (Augsburg Confession and its Apology, the Large and Small Catechisms of Luther, the Smalcald Articles, and the classic Formula of Concord). The Reformation was about the restoration of the Gospel of salvation to the central focus in the life and preaching of the Church. The emphasis of the confessions is on the Word and faith. In contrast to the reformation efforts of Wycliffe and Huss who attacked the life of the pope, Luther attacked the doctrine. He said, “For this matter does not concern life; it concerns doctrine.”⁽⁶⁾

Luther said, “God’s Word alone is the true, abiding rock on which a person can depend with certainty.”⁽⁷⁾ That truth alone makes Luther a radical in our day, and unmasks Reformation celebrations of those who have diminished the authority and power of the Word.

The apostle Paul wrote, “Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness, and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God; praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints — and for me, that utterance may be given to me, that I may open my mouth boldly to make known the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains; that in it I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak”^(Ephesians 4:14-20).

Were Luther’s views radical? In a sense, yes, but most of all to those whose ears and conscience are offended by the truth.

- 1) Nestingen, James A., *Martin Luther—a Life*, Fortress Press, Minneapolis, 203, p.26
- 2) Quora
- 3) *What Luther Says (WLS)* Vol III, p.1213, para. 3867, Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis
- 4) *The Lutheran Hymnal*, p. 48
- 5) *WLS*, Vol. II, p.1061, para. 3379
- 6) *WLS*, Vol. III p. 1188, para. 3788
- 7) *WLS*, Vol. III, p.1467, para. 4740