

## ✠ TODAY AT GRACE ✠

Organist: Sue Nelson

Elder: Dale Enns

Ushers: Benno Sydow; Gary Gunther; Larry Nelson; Bill Rust; Jeff Stifter

Counting Team 1: Dan Degnan; Dale Enns; Larry Nelson; Ryan Oman; Pat Paplow; Phil Radichel

Church Cleaners: B. Rust

## ✠ NEXT WEEK AT GRACE ✠

Ushers: Benno Sydow; Gary Gunther; Larry Nelson; Bill Rust; Jeff Stifter

Counting Team 2: Gary Gunther; Rick Nelson; Bill Rust; Bob Vandever; Clint Welker

Church Cleaners: Any Volunteers?

## ✠ OUR SCHEDULE ✠

**Sun., June 25:** 9:00 am – Worship Service  
 10:00 am – Hospitality  
 11:00 am – Lloyd Kalfs Presentation @ Eden Prairie

**Sun., July 2:** 9:00 am – Worship Service

**Sun., July 9:** Council Meeting

**Sun., July 16:** Voters and Dorcas Guild Meetings

**July 24-28:** 9:00-11:30 am – Vacation Bible School

**Mon., Aug. 14:** 7:00 pm – School Opening Meeting w/Ice Cream Social

**Sun., Aug. 20:** Opening at Immanuel Lutheran (Eau Claire, WI)

**Mon., Aug. 28:** Opening at Grace Lutheran School

**Last Week's Stats:** June 18, 2017 Sun.: 105

|                         |               |             |              |             |
|-------------------------|---------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|
| Sun. Offering:          | Grace:        | \$4,024.20  | CLC:         | \$1,208.00  |
| Weekly Need:            | Grace:        | 3,300.00    | CLC:         | 950.00      |
| -Under / +Over:         | Grace:        | +724.20     | CLC:         | +258.00     |
| Year-to-Date Offering:. | Grace:        | \$79,066.75 | CLC:         | \$22,981.00 |
| Year-to-Date Need:      | Grace:        | 82,500.00   | CLC:         | 23,750.00   |
| Year-to-Date (+/-)      | Grace:        | -3,433.25   | CLC:         | -769.00     |
| GLC Other: 360.00       | Living Faith: | 0.00        | Tuition Aid: | 75.00       |
| SAF Endowment: 0.00     | MDF:          | 50.00       | Kinship:     | 50.00       |
| ILC Student Aid: 120.00 | ILC Bldg.     | 120.00      | IIF: 20.00   | CEF: 0.00   |
| Current Balances:       | Parking Lot:  | 25,961.25   | Tuition Aid: | 2,754.62    |

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; *it is* the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast. - Ephesians 2:8-9

# GRACE

## Grace Lutheran Church & School



460 75<sup>th</sup> Ave. NE  
 Fridley, MN 55432

Email: john.p.hein@gmail.com

Home Page: www.FridleyLutheran.org

Member: CHURCH OF THE LUTHERAN CONFESSION



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

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

**Church Year:** Pentecost 3

**Phone:** 763-784-8784

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

**Date:** June 25, 2017

## ✠ WORSHIP INFORMATION ✠

### Hymns:

TLH 369: All Mankind Fell in Adam's Fall  
 TLH 322: And Wilt Thou Pardon, Lord  
 TLH 324, st. 1-2,5,7-8: Jesus Sinners Doth Receive  
 TLH 27 st. 1-3: Oh, Bless the Lord, My Soul

Listening assistance is available. Please ask an usher.

### Worship Prep:

Psalm 119 III, TLH p. 149

### Liturgy:

TLH, p. 5 (Projected)  
 Gloria: TLH 249

### Scripture Reading:

Hosea 5:15-6:6  
 Romans 4:18-25

### Sermon: Matthew 9:9-13

<sup>9</sup> As Jesus passed on from there, He saw a man named Matthew sitting at the tax office. And He said to him, "Follow Me." So he arose and followed Him. <sup>10</sup> Now it happened, as Jesus sat at the table in the house, *that* behold, many tax collectors and sinners came and sat down with Him and His disciples. <sup>11</sup> And when the Pharisees saw *it*, they said to His disciples, "Why does your Teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" <sup>12</sup> When Jesus heard *that*, He said to them, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. <sup>13</sup> "But go and learn what *this* means: 'I desire mercy and not sacrifice.' For I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners, to repentance." (NKJV<sup>TM</sup>)

"Our Great Physician Comes with His  
 Effective Health Care Plan"

1. Directed to those diagnosed with spiritual illness
2. Prescribed out of His mercy to provide healing
3. Offered for free to those who will follow Him

## ✠ THE ANNOUNCEMENTS ✠

- ◆ **Hospitality:** Today there will be hospitality following worship.
- ◆ **Work Day:** Thanks to all those who helped at work day yesterday.
- ◆ **Presentation:** Today at 11 am Living Savior Lutheran in Eden Prairie is hosting a speaker from our sister congregation in Okabena named Lloyd Kalfs. He will be sharing his story of how the Lord has guided him before and after an accident that left him paralyzed. Location: Huber Funeral Chapel - 16394 Glory Lane; Eden Prairie, MN 55344.
- ◆ **Vacation Bible School:** On July 24-28, 9:00-11:30 am, we will be having our VBS. This includes children age 4 years, to children going into 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Please register your children on the sheet by the guest book. Already there are 37 children registered with a number of non-members. We thank the Lord for leading a number of volunteers to help staff this.
- ◆ **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!
- ◆ **Island Youth Retreat 2017:** This will be held August 2-6, 20 miles NE of Mankato. It's for youth entering 9<sup>th</sup> grade through just graduated HS. There will be opportunities to dive into the Word with counselors as well as lake activities! For questions, contact islandyouthretreat@gmail.com. Pastor Hein has more information.
- ◆ **Thank You:** Some time ago the Elders dispersed some Living Faith funds to our former teacher, Lindsey Lueck who now lives in Spokane, WA. If members wish to donate to her double lung transplant directly, they may do so at: [www.gofundme.com/lindseylueck](http://www.gofundme.com/lindseylueck). She has sent the following: "Dear Members of Grace Lutheran, I was incredibly touched to receive the card and money gift for my lung transplant costs. The Lord has blessed my family and me so very much during this challenging time through the love and support of many hands. Thank you for showing me your love and support! You are all family to me. I am greatly encouraged to know your prayers are with me. Thank you!! With Christian love, Lindsey Lueck."
- ◆ **CLC News:** Pastor John Hein of Grace Lutheran in Fridley, MN, has accepted the call from the CLC Board of Missions to be the Part-Time Visiting Missionary to Liberia. ✠ Teacher Amy Osborne of Holy Trinity Lutheran in West Columbia, SC, has received the call to teach K-8 at Holy Cross Lutheran in Phoenix, AZ. ✠ Teacher Nathan Wales of Holy Trinity in West Columbia, SC, has the call to teach grades 3-5 and be principal at Faith Lutheran in Markesan, WI. ✠ Pastor Elect Stefan Sonnenfeld will be ordained and installed as pastor of Faith Lutheran Church of West St. Louis County during the regular worship service at 10 am on Sun., July 2. ✠ Pastor Elect Samuel Rodebaugh will be ordained and installed as pastor of Immanuel Lutheran Church in Winter Haven, FL, on Sun., July 2. ✠ Pastor Elect Thomas Naumann will be ordained and installed as pastor of Mt Zion Ev. Lutheran Church of Madison Hts., MI, at 4 pm on Sun., July 9.



## Council Meeting Notes – June 11, 2017

The meeting began with prayer. Roll was taken. The May Council meeting minutes were read & approved. The May treasurer's report was read & approved.

### Pastor's Report

- May 21 was the confirmation of Kathleen Baker. Motion passed to recommend to the voters to ratify her communicant membership.
- The plans for a 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary Reformation seminar have changed to a pulpit rotation including 5 Sundays with 5 regional churches in Oct.
- A joint Reformation service in Mankato is being planned for Oct. 29 or 31.
- Pastor is still considering his call to be part time missionary to Liberia.

### Board of Elders Report

- Consideration is being given to dropping the Ascension service due to very low attendance.
- Consideration is being given to changing Mission Festival from Oct. to Nov.

### Board of Education Report

- The Spring Lake Park parade was well attended on June 8. Thanks to everyone who helped.
- The program on May 24 went well.
- The handbook is being updated.
- A projector is being researched for Janelle's room. Motion passed to recommend to the voters to use some of the video funds for this project.
- There are 2 potential kindergarten children this fall.

### Board of Trustees Report

- The estimate for repairing the roof is currently \$81,500. Carpet replacement and ceiling repair are being considered for the school.

### Other Business

- A safe to secure important documents is being pursued.

Adapted from minutes submitted by Secretary Roger Ochsner.

**"MAN UP" WEEKEND** – Last year an annual men's retreat was organized by CLC congregations to provide encouragement and strength for men from God's Word, and to equip and encourage them to fill their God-given roles as husband, fathers and leaders in church and society. This is needed today as the world trivializes the importance of their roles in the home, church and society, God clearly speaks of the importance of the role of men in each of these areas.

- *"And you, fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord" (Ephesians 6:4).*
- *"And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also" (2 Timothy 2:2).*

Our churches and homes need dedicated and faithful men today, more than ever before, as we contend for the faith. The challenges we face are great, but the Lord has promised to be with us with His Word and His forgiveness. Men, please join us in September for this valuable conference!

You can find out more information, see pictures of the park, read other comments regarding the retreat last year, and register for the retreat online at [www.manup.clclutheran.org](http://www.manup.clclutheran.org). The cost is only \$75 for the weekend and includes lodging, meals, and activities. Registration deadline is August 1, 2017.

## Roof Updates:

Over the past few months there have various leaks observed in our facility. Symptoms of hail damage have been found on our roof, including the church, fellowship hall, and the parsonage. Pastor had car damage from a hailstorm on June 29, 2015. This key information persuaded the church insurance company to pursue roof repairs.

At the end of June or beginning of July, the roof on the newer part of the facility will be replaced, taking about a week to complete. The entire old roof will be removed. This section will be double insulated and a new duro-last membrane, similar to the old one in style and color, will be installed. The metal wrap facade along the roof edge will be replaced with a double-wrap (the new style) metal façade. Since the wrap on the church bell tower was apparently not part of our claim, the Trustees made the decision for the church to pay for the metal wrap around the bell tower so that everything will match.

The parsonage roof will also be replaced near the beginning of August. There was hail damage to the roof ridge vents and the skylight windows were dimpled. The insurance company is now replacing the entire roof of this older section of the facility since the old shingles are no longer available. The new roof will have 50-year shingles and the skylights will also be replaced. This part of the project is planned to be completed in two days.

There will be other projects, including updating the ceiling in the main classroom and replacing ceiling tiles in the fellowship hall. The classroom will also be repainted due to stains from the leaks. Since the carpeting hasn't been replaced in this room, the Trustees decided to pay for new carpeting while the room is empty for the other work being done.

With all this, the intent is for there to be no disturbance to VBS and that everything will be complete prior to the new school year. While costs are not finalized, it is estimated that everything will be well over \$100,000 in updates which will be covered by our insurance with Church Mutual. The only items the church is paying for is the carpeting in the classroom and the metal wrap around the bell tower, projects that will be completed from the already-approved Trustee's annual budget.

We truly need to be thankful for how the Lord is taking care of our property. He has provided us with faithful members who are putting in a lot of effort to ensure that things are done right. We will be getting a number of updates that, Lord-willing, will last for many, many years.

*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 speak with you!*

After-Word

## **“BY FAITH”**

**Read Habakkuk 1:1-3 and 2:1-4:**

<sup>1</sup> The burden which the prophet Habakkuk saw. <sup>2</sup> O LORD, how long shall I cry, And You will not hear? Even cry out to You, “Violence!” And You will not save. <sup>3</sup> Why do You show me iniquity, And cause *me* to see trouble? For plundering and violence *are* before me; There is strife, and contention arises.

<sup>1</sup> I will stand my watch And set myself on the rampart, And watch to see what He will say to me, And what I will answer when I am corrected. <sup>2</sup> Then the LORD answered me and said: “Write the vision And make *it* plain on tablets, That he may run who reads it. <sup>3</sup> For the vision *is* yet for an appointed time; But at the end it will speak, and it will not lie. Though it tarries, wait for it; Because it will surely come, It will not tarry. <sup>4</sup> “Behold the proud, His soul is not upright in him; But the just shall live by his faith.”

Amid all the turmoil of Habakkuk's world, nation, life, and calling, he brought his questions to God. God answered, and His answer was “by faith.”

Little is known of Habakkuk's life. He was a prophet of God; and perhaps a priest or Levite in the temple at Jerusalem. The third and final chapter of his brief book was meant to be set to music and used in public worship. **“For the director of music,”** he wrote in 3:19. **“On my stringed instruments.”**

More is known about when and why Habakkuk prophesied. Like his contemporaries, the prophets Jeremiah and Zephaniah, Habakkuk was sent to the southern Kingdom of Judah to warn its inhabitants of impending judgment. Conditions in Israel at that time were deplorable. Habakkuk described them this way: **“Destruction and violence are before me; there is strife, and conflict abounds. Therefore the law is paralyzed, and justice never prevails. The wicked hem in the righteous, so that justice is perverted,”** 1:3b-4.

One of the most endearing aspects of the Book of Habakkuk is the personal dialogue between the perplexed prophet and his loving God. To paraphrase their conversation: Habakkuk asks, ‘Why are so many bad things happening, God? Why aren't You acting?’ God answers, ‘I am acting, but in a way you did not expect.’ And in the middle of this conversation lies one of the grandest, most important verses in the Bible, spoken by God Himself: **“The righteous will live by his faith,”** 2:4.

Ultimately, everything about the Christian life—from conversion to conclusion, forgiveness to salvation, daily bread to eternal life, obstacles to accomplishments, marriage to ministry—is a matter of faith, of trusting God. And at its simplest, faith is taking God at His word. As was said of Abraham: **“He did not waver through unbelief regarding the promise of God, but was strengthened in his faith and gave glory to God, being fully persuaded that God had the power to do what He had promised,”** Romans 4:20-21.

Amid the turmoil and complexities of his world, nation, life, and calling, Habakkuk brought his questions to God. And God answered them. And the essence of God’s answer was “Trust Me, Habakkuk.” God is saying the same to us today. “Trust Me. Have faith in Me. You know who I am; what I am like; and what I have done to redeem you.”

### **Saved by Faith**

People ask important questions every day: “What time is it? When will you be home? Is your seatbelt fastened? Is dinner ready? Do you love me?” Yet, the most important question we can ever ask is “How am I saved?” And if this seems like a trivial question, try asking it on your deathbed. Try answering it apart from the Word of God. Try finding the certainty of salvation in your own merit or good deeds—money in the bank, awards on the shelf. It cannot be done.

Some days we feel wonderful, skipping along with joy in our hearts and “Amazing Grace” on our lips.

But on other days we feel like the tax collector who said, **“God have mercy on me, the sinner,”** Luke 18:13; or like the apostle Paul who said, **“Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the worst,”** 1 Timothy 1:15. If you have never experienced the crushing weight of sin or guilt—you will. And when you do, what would you like to hear from God? “Sorry, I am all out of forgiveness. Come back tomorrow.” Or, “Go keep the Ten Commandments perfectly, and then we’ll talk.”

If God’s plan for our salvation were human works, the only certainty we could have would be the certainty of being eternally lost and eternally punished. The Psalmist wrote: **“If You, O LORD, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand? But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared,”** Psalm 130:3-4.

The Bible repeatedly teaches that salvation is not ‘by doing’ but ‘by believing;’ that is, by faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. **“Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,”** Romans 5:1. Or, **“For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast,”** Ephesians 2:8-9.

There may be Sundays when we go to church, open the bulletin, read the sermon title, and think, “I wish I could hear something other than the same old Gospel Truths: sin, salvation, grace, faith in Christ. I know all this stuff.” Instead of expressing frustration, however, we should express thanks to God on our knees that His Great Gospel Truths never change—that whether life or death, ups or downs, riches or poverty, health or sickness, youth or age, when we have Christ Jesus by faith, we have all that we need for time and eternity.

### **Living by Faith**

However, the great truth of “by faith” does not only apply to eternal life but equally to daily life. This is the plain and simple meaning of the verse **“the righteous will live by his faith.”** When suffering illness, we live by faith that God will take care of us. When struggling with finances, we live by faith that God will provide for us. When endeavoring to repair a troubled marriage or find the strength to forgive another person, we live by faith that God will empower us.

Habakkuk wrote his book more than 2,600 years ago; yet, his opening words have a very modern ring: **“Destruction and violence are before me, there is strife, and conflict abounds,”** 1:3. While the prophet was talking about the Kingdom of Judah, he could have just as easily been talking about the United States of America. **“Why do You tolerate wrong?”** Habakkuk asked God in 1:3. We ask the same question, don’t we? Who is in charge of the world, our national affairs? Anyone?

Yet, Someone is in charge. And His name is Jesus Christ. And He has all power in heaven and on earth. And what is happening in the world today is by His allowance or His design. We don’t see this with our eyes. But we see it clearly by faith.

Written by Pastor Mark Weis

GraceLutheran.net