

† TODAY AT GRACE †

Organist: Sue Nelson

Elder: Al Rosendahl

Ushers: Roger Ochsner; Bob Maki; Jack Maki; John Maki;
Joel Stifter

Counting Team 4: James Bomber; Brad Kitzman; Paul
Lentz; Roger Ochsner; Al Rosendahl; Dave Rust

Hospitality Team 1: Phil & Jackie Radichel; Lynn & Janice
Sandhoefer

Church Cleaners: Kitzman School: LaDue

† NEXT WEEK AT GRACE †

Ushers: Paul Lentz; Brad Kitzman; Rick Nelson; Keith
Radichel; Bob Vandeveer

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

Hospitality Team 2: Brian & Maureen Eichstadt; Janelle
Hein; Jenny Kleifgen; Chris Lentz

Church Cleaners: Kitzman School: Middleton

† OUR SCHEDULE †

Sun., Dec. 3: 9:00 am – Bible Class & Sunday School
10:00 am –Worship Service w/Lord's Supper (Advent 1)
11:00 am – Luncheon

Wed., Dec. 6: 12:00-2:00 pm – Children's Christmas Eve Rehearsal
4:30 pm – Catechism for Public School Students

Sun., Dec. 10: 7:00 pm – Midweek Advent Worship Service

Sun., Dec. 13: 8:30 am – Choir Practice
9:00 am – Bible Class & Sunday School
10:00 am –Worship Service (Advent 2)
11:00 am – Luncheon

Wed., Dec. 13: 12:00-2:00 pm – Children's Christmas Eve Rehearsal
3:00 pm – ILC Piano & Organ Recital

Thu., Dec. 14: 4:30 pm – Catechism for Public School Students
7:00 pm – Midweek Advent Worship Service

Fri., Dec. 15: 2:00 pm – Day School Concert @ Northtown Mall
7:30 pm – ILC Christmas Concert @ Messiah

Sun., Dec. 17: 9:00 am – Bible Class & Sunday School
10:00 am –Worship Service (Advent 3)
11:00 am – Luncheon

Wed., Dec. 20: 12:00-2:00 pm – Children's Christmas Eve Rehearsal
3:00 pm – Christmas Caroling

Sun., Dec. 24: 4:30 pm – Catechism for Public School Students
6:00 pm – Congregational Christmas Meal
7:00 pm – Candlelight Service

Mon., Dec. 25: 8:45 am – Children's Christmas Eve Rehearsal
10:00 am – Worship Service (Advent 4); 11:00 am – Hospitality
6:00 pm – Christmas Eve Service
10:00 am – Christmas Day Service

Grace Lutheran Church & School



460 75th 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)

Phone: 763-784-8784

School Phone: 763-784-6340

Grades: Kindergarten-8th

Church Year: Advent 1

Date: December 3, 2017

† WORSHIP INFORMATION †

Hymns:

WS 703: Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers

Baptism: Dessa Coraline Wales

WS 749: Come to Living Word and Water

WS 702: As Angels Joyed with One Accord

Communion: Meditative Music

WS 713: Your Little Ones, Dear Lord, Are We

Worship Prep:

Psalm 45, TLH p. 133

Liturgy:

TLH, p. 15 (Communion)

Gloria: TLH 58 & 62

Scripture Reading:

Isaiah 62:10-12

Luke 19:29-40

Sermon: Ephesians 5:6-14

⁶ Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. ⁷ Therefore do not be partakers with them. ⁸ For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light ⁹ (for the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness, righteousness, and truth), ¹⁰ finding out what is acceptable to the Lord. ¹¹ And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather expose them. ¹² For it is shameful even to speak of those things which are done by them in secret. ¹³ But all things that are exposed are made manifest by the light, for whatever makes manifest is light. ¹⁴ Therefore He says: "Awake, you who sleep, Arise from the dead, And Christ will give you light." (NKJV™)

You're Exposed in Christ's Light

1. Your shame
2. Your forgiveness
3. Your walk

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Christmas Season Worship Schedule

Midweek Advent Services:

Wed., Dec. 6 – 7:00 pm
Wed., Dec. 13 – 7:00 pm
Special meditations on “Mothers of Advent,” considering reactions of faith from mothers of the Bible to the coming of the Christ Child.

Candlelight Service:

Wed., Dec. 20 – 7:00 pm
A service of readings & hymns along with the lighting of candles to celebrate the light of Christ’s rule in our hearts.
Preceded by Congregational Christmas Meal @ 6:00 pm

Christmas Eve Service:

Sun., Dec. 24 – 6:00 pm
A service in which the children present the timeless and treasured Christmas message with the theme, “*Savior of the Nations!*”

Christmas Day Service:

Mon., Dec. 25 – 10:00 am
A service in which we ponder the fulfillment of Christ being born as True Man and True God in order to bring us salvation.

**SAVIOR OF THE
NATIONS!**



Striving for Perfection?

Nothing makes Christians so conscious of their daily deficiencies as the earnest striving for perfection. And when they acknowledge and confess their daily shortcomings before God, they flee for refuge to divine grace, knowing that the grace of God takes no account of the Law and human works, of our daily success or failure in sanctification and good works ... The whole life of the Christian thus becomes a daily repentance. The more sincerely Christians daily endeavor to rid themselves of all they have and to serve God alone in all their works, the better they learn to know the abysmal sinful depravity which clings to them, and the more earnestly they will daily implore the free grace of God in Christ. And since they are no more under the Law, but under grace (Rom. 6:14), they daily begin anew their struggle to attain perfect sanctification, deplored their many failures (“O wretched man that I am! Who shall deliver me from the body of this death?”), but, at the same time, being assured of their ultimate victory (“I thank God through Jesus Christ, our Lord,” Rom. 7:24-25). Striving after perfect sanctification, the Christian thus leads a life of daily repentance. Francis Pieper, Christian Dogmatics, V. 3, p. 34.

CHRISTMAS TIME IS MISSION TIME

Suppose that Christ had not been born
That far away Judean morn.

Suppose that God, Whose mighty hand
Created worlds, had never planned
A way for man to be redeemed.

Suppose the wise men only dreamed
That guiding star whose light still glows
down through the centuries. Suppose
Christ never walked here in man’s sight
Our blessed Way, the Truth, and Light.

Suppose He counted all the cost,
And never cared that we were lost,
And never died for you and me.
Nor shed his blood on Calvary
upon a shameful cross. Suppose
that having died, He never rose,
And there was none with power to save
Our souls from death beyond the grave!

As far as piteous heathen know
These things that I supposed are so!



This Christmas may the Spirit inspire us all with the joy of the Babe who was born to redeem us. May He move us to share this vital message with all others, especially the lost, just as the common shepherds did the night of Jesus’ birth.

CLC Financial Report - October

CLC Financial Report Operating Funds	Balance 7/1/2017	YTD Revenue	YTD Disbursed	Budget 4 Months	Balance 10/31/2017
General Fund	0	272,858	314,710	310,000	- 41,852
ILC Operations	0	513,804	382,783	176,000	131,021
Total	\$0	\$786,662	\$697,493	\$486,000	89,169
Auxiliary Funds					
ILC Improvement Fund (IIF)	27,274	3,820	6,444		24,650
ILC Building Projects (AC/Dorm)	- 49,213	75,217	169,117		- 143,113
Mission Development Fund (MDF)	61,237	48,544	39,425		70,356
Kinship	43,040	33,449	29,485		47,044
Church Extension Fund (CEF)	1,030,843	402,353	261,042		1,172,154
Student Aid Fund (SAF)	68,917	50,809	55,449		64,277
Reserve Fund	225,190	0	0		225,190
Total	\$1,407,288	\$614,192	\$560,962		\$1,460,518

<u>ILC Academic Center Mortgage</u> (& North Hall Renovation)	
Beginning Balance January 1, 2010	\$1,751,804
Current Balance October 31, 2017	\$1,207,217
(* North Hall not yet in AC Bal) Principal paid to date	\$544,587
North Hall Reno Budget \$300,000. Final Spent:	* \$253,714

Notes:

- * General Fund offerings in October totaled \$76,299 vs disbursements of \$72,519, a positive cash flow which reduced the General Fund deficit by \$3,800 in October. General Fund offerings needed per month are \$77,500.
- * ILC Building Projects offerings in October totaled \$5,565 vs disbursements of \$75,218, of which \$8,000 was for the monthly loan payment on the Academic Center and the balance for final renovation expenses for North Hall boys' dorm. The dorm renovation is complete at a total cost of \$253,714, \$47,000 under budget. The November financial report will reflect reimbursements to the Projects Fund from the Convention-approved CEF loan, which will restore the Building Fund to its pre-renovation balance of around \$24,000. The new loan principal for the consolidated AC loan balance & the North Hall renovation is \$1,460,931. Monthly payments of \$8,000 begin in November @4% APR for 283 payments. Offerings that are substantially above the \$24,000 Building Fund reserve are paid directly on the loan principal, saving interest & decreasing the loan term.
- * CEF: revenues in October totaled \$139,362, which included a \$100,000 balloon payment from Zion Ev of Atlanta (Loganville), GA on their CEF loan with proceeds from the sale of their old parsonage. Three congregations have paid off their mortgages so far this calendar year.
- * MDF: offerings in October totaled \$12,432 vs disbursements of \$3,301.
- * SAF: received \$14,546 in October from offerings (\$4,480) and student loan re-payments (\$10,066) vs disbursements of \$12,078, mainly for the monthly allocation for student awards & loans. The annual SAF budget is \$160,000 and provides student loans, grants, & scholarships. It is funded by congregational offerings, student loan repayments, and some Endowment earnings.

James E. Sandeen, CLC Treasurer

Thomas J. Lentz, Chairman, CLC Board of Trustees

THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

♦ **Baptism:** We rejoice in that Dessa Coraline Wales, daughter of Eli and Laura, is being baptized today in order to become God's child through His covenant of grace. Kari Wales is standing in for Nathan and Vanessa Wales who are the sponsors.



♦ **Midweek Advent Services:** This coming Wednesday, 7 pm, begins our Midweek Advent worship service. These will be held for the next three Wednesdays with our last one on Dec. 20 being our annual candlelight service preceded by the congregational Christmas meal at 6 pm. Our theme this year is "Mothers of Advent," considering the reactions of different mothers in the Bible to the coming Child. Join us during this precious time of year to ponder our Savior's coming.

♦ **Christmas Meal:** Please join us for a fellowship meal at 6 pm prior to the Candlelight service on December 20. Those attending may bring sandwiches, salads, or a dish to share. Dorcas Guild #1 is hosting.



♦ **Christmas Eve Rehearsals:**

- Sun., Dec. 3: 12-2 pm (luncheon at church and may start a bit early)
- Sun., Dec. 10: 12-2 pm (luncheon at church and may start a bit early)
- Sun., Dec. 17: 12-2 pm (luncheon at church and may start a bit early)
- Sun., Dec. 24: 8:45-9:45 am (please be here at 8:45 am so that we can start promptly in order to get through everything)

December is a busy month, but please remember the importance of these rehearsals for a successful Christmas Eve service. It is quite helpful for the children to know their individual parts by the first rehearsal, grade level parts by second rehearsal, and entire children parts by the third rehearsal. The three "Luke 2" parts are all together as a group. Parents are encouraged not to have your children formally memorize Luke 2, but to simply say it with the children once or twice a day. By the time Christmas Eve comes around, they will know these well. Each child should attend at least 3 sessions, but attending all is obviously the most preferable. The last rehearsal on December 24 is the most critical as it is the dress rehearsal. The children have a wonderful opportunity to express the Good News of our salvation through Jesus Christ. The parents' help is greatly appreciated to make everything go well, as is evident by how well things have gone the past few years.

♦ **Christmas Worship:** Our Christmas Eve service will be held at 6:00 pm with our children presenting the Christmas Gospel. The theme this year is: *Savior of the Nations!* The kids are asked to be here 1/2 hour prior to the service so that we can take a group picture and run through things. Christmas Day worship will be held at 10:00 am.

♦ **Northtown Concert:** The Grace School children will be singing at the Northtown Mall next Thu., Dec. 14, 2 pm. They will be located at the inside-of-the-mall entrance to Best Buy. Everyone is encouraged to come attend as it is always an experience greatly appreciated. If you haven't ever come to this, you may be pleasantly surprised at how well received it is. Come support the school!

♦ **Christmas Caroling:** A caroling outing is scheduled for Sunday, December 17, 3 pm. Please speak with Pastor Hein should you have interest in singing with us. It is always exciting to be able to make people smile by singing praises about our Savior in this special way.



♦ **Poinsettias:** A signup sheet for Christmas Poinsettias is by the guest book. Please signup if you are interested in purchasing a plant for our Advent/Christmas services. For questions, consult Jackie Radichel.

♦ **Sunday School Teachers:** Perhaps something to consider this Christmas is extending our Sunday School teachers an expression of gratitude for what they do for our children each week.

♦ **Student Teacher:** Grace Lutheran has been assigned a student teacher from Immanuel Lutheran College in Eau Claire, WI. The student teaching program is similar to the vicar program for the seminary. The program is to give practical teaching experience for those senior students preparing for the teaching ministry. Our student teacher will be Michaela Winters, married to Kenny Winters and daughter of Steve and Eve Naumann. Michaela will be here from January 2nd until mid-March. We pray that her experience here will be rewarding for her and for our students. If anyone would be willing to provide housing, please speak with Janelle Hein. It is believed that our last student teacher was Bethany Tiefel (now Gurgel), back in the mid-1990's. So we are grateful for this opportunity to serve our church body in our united goal to prepare pastors and teachers for the ministry.



♦ **Catechism Break:** We will be having a break for midweek Catechism students on Dec. 27. Class will resume on Jan. 3.

♦ **2017 Cleaning:** The 2017 cleaning sign-up list is now posted on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall. Please consider signing up.

♦ **Parking Reminder:** For those members who are able, please park further away to permit those with physical impairments to be able to park closer to the church.

♦ **Large Print Hymnals:** As a reminder, there are three copies of The Lutheran Hymnal in large print. These are by the guest book. Feel free to use these and return at the end of the worship service.



♦ **ILC Christmas Concert:** Immanuel's Christmas concert this year will be held on Fri., Dec. 15, 7:30 pm, at Eau Claire. There is a signup list by the guestbook should you like to ride the bus to the concert. The bus will only be used if there is enough interest.

♦ **Immanuel Christmas Events:** As Christmas approaches, there are a few upcoming Immanuel (ILC) events. On Sun., Dec. 10, 3 pm, there will be the piano/organ recital at the campus fieldhouse. The highlight of the music department will be the Christmas concert at Messiah Lutheran Church in Eau Claire on Fri., Dec. 15, 7:30 pm. This will include the flute choir, band, mass choir, and tour choir. The choir portion of the event is considered a sacred worship service as the students sing the Christmas Gospel message. This is always a spiritually edifying concert to help one focus, even in the midst of the busy holiday season, on the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ. This concert ends the busy Finals Week for the students as they conclude their first semester of the academic year with their various tests and projects. We pray the students will safely arrive at their homes in order to enjoy Christmas break with their families. The students resume classes on Jan. 8.

♦ **Nominations for ILC President:** The Board of Regents invites nominations for the office of President of Immanuel Lutheran College. The current term of Professor Steven Sippert concludes on June 30, 2018. All pastors, professors, male teachers, and voting members of the CLC are entitled to nominate a man from the faculty of Immanuel Lutheran High School, College, and Seminary to serve a two-year term beginning July 1, 2018. Nominations are to be received by email or letter no later than midnight December 15, 2017 (letters postmarked December 1, 2017) to: Dr. Daniel Schierenbeck; 23 SE 240 Rd.; Warrensburg, MO 64093; email: danschierenbeck@gmail.com.

♦ **From the Elders:** All loose offerings collected during December will be distributed equally among the congregation's called workers.

♦ **Parking Lot:** To make a contribution toward replacing this, write in "Parking Lot" on one of the Project lines of your offering envelope.

♦ **Sunday School Memory Work:** Christmas Eve Recitations

Last Week's Stats: Nov. 26, 2017 Sun.: 109 S.S.: 17 B.Cl.: 58

Sun. Offering:	Grace: \$2,858.00	CLC: \$1,080.00
Weekly Need:	Grace: 3,300.00	CLC: 950.00
-Under / +Over:	Grace: -442.00	CLC: +130.00
Year-to-Date Offering:	Grace: \$153,891.19	CLC: \$43,455.00
Year-to-Date Need:	Grace: 158,400.00	CLC: 45,600.00
Year-to-Date (+/-)	Grace: -4,508.81	CLC: -2,145.00
GLC Other:	331.00	Living Faith: 0.00
SAF Endowment:	0.00	MDF: 410.00
ILC Student Aid:	0.00	ILC Bldg. 100.00
<i>Current Balances:</i>	<i>Parking Lot:</i> 31,183.75	<i>Tuition Aid:</i> 2,955.12