

## ✠ TODAY AT GRACE ✠

Organist: Jan Davis

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

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

Church Cleaners: Anderson School: Pearson

## ✠ 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

Hospitality Team 3: Larry Nelson; Barb Sydow; Nick & Miranda Duehlmeier; Dan & Cindy Degnan

Church Cleaners: Anderson School: Rinne

## ✠ OUR SCHEDULE ✠

**Sun., Feb. 4:** 9:00 am – Bible Class & Sunday School  
10:00 am – Worship Service w/Lord's Supper (Epiphany 5)  
11:00 am – Hospitality

**Mon., Feb. 5:** 10:00 am – MN Pastoral Study Club @ Grace

**Wed., Feb. 7:** 4:30 pm – Catechism for Public School Students  
7:00 pm – Midweek Bible Class

**Sun., Feb. 11:** 8:30 am – Choir Practice  
9:00 am – Bible Class & Sunday School  
10:00 am – Worship Service  
11:00 am – Hospitality; 12:00 pm – Council Meeting

**Wed., Feb. 14:** Ash Wednesday – Midweek Lenten Worship Begins  
6:00 pm – Lenten Soup Supper  
7:00 pm – Midweek Lenten Worship Service w/Lord's Supper

**March 9-11:** CLC Grade School Basketball Tournament @ ILC

**Last Week's Stats:** Jan. 28, 2018 Sun.: 105 S.S.: 16 B.Cl.: 41 Wed.: 17

Sun. Offering:	Grace:	\$2,186.00	CLC:	\$930.00	
Weekly Need:	Grace:	3,700.00	CLC:	1,000.00	
-Under / +Over:	Grace:	-1,514.00	CLC:	-70.00	
Year-to-Date Offering::	Grace:	\$11,861.00	CLC:	\$3,539.00	
Year-to-Date Need:	Grace:	14,800.00	CLC:	4,000.00	
Year-to-Date (+/-)	Grace:	-2,939.00	CLC:	-461.00	
GLC Other:	147.00	Living Faith:	0.00	Tuition Aid:	245.00
SAF Endowment:	0.00	MDF:	100.00	Kinship:	20.00
ILC Student Aid:	0.00	ILC Bldg.	100.00	IIF: 0.00	CEF: 0.00

Current Balances: Parking Lot: \$39,970\* Tuition Aid: \$4,775

\* The Voters transferred in \$5,000 from the Marvin Wagner Memorial

## 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:** Epiphany 5

**Phone:** 763-784-8784

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

**Date:** February 4, 2018

## ✠ WORSHIP INFORMATION ✠

### Hymns:

TLH 257: Jesus, Brightness of the Father  
TLH 256: Around the Throne of God a Band  
TLH 254: Lord God, We All to Thee Give Praise

Communion: TLH 315

Installation of Officers

WS 702, st. 1,6: As Angels Joyed with One Accord



### Worship Prep:

Psalm 91, TLH p. 143

### Liturgy:

TLH, p. 15 (Communion)  
Gloria: TLH 249

### Scripture Reading:

Daniel 12:1-3  
Luke 10:17-20

### Sermon: Revelation 12:7-12

<sup>7</sup> And war broke out in heaven: Michael and his angels fought with the dragon; and the dragon and his angels fought, <sup>8</sup> but they did not prevail, nor was a place found for them in heaven any longer. <sup>9</sup> So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him. <sup>10</sup> Then I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, "Now salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren, who accused them before our God day and night, has been cast down. <sup>11</sup> "And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death. <sup>12</sup> "Therefore rejoice, O heavens, and you who dwell in them! Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and the sea! For the devil has come down to you, having great wrath, because he knows that he has a short time." (NKJV<sup>TM</sup>)

## In Christ, God's Angels are Victorious over the Dragon

## ✠ THE ANNOUNCEMENTS ✠

- ◆ **Offering Statements:** The Offering Statements for 2017 are in your mailboxes. If you have any questions, please contact Benno Sydow.
- ◆ **Midweek Lenten Services:** Our midweek services will begin on Wednesday, Ash Wednesday, February 14, 7 pm. The theme of our series is "Lord, Abide with Me," meditations based on the favorite evening hymn, TLH 552, "Abide with Me." These midweek services can deepen our appreciation of the redemptive work our Savior, Jesus Christ, accomplished in our behalf.
- ◆ **Lenten Soup Suppers:** These fellowship gatherings start on Wednesday, February 14, 6 pm, as a way for people to eat between work and our Midweek Lenten worship services. There is a sign-up sheet posted in the Fellowship Hall for those who are willing to provide soup and do setup and cleanup.
- ◆ **Altar Guild:** The Altar Guild is looking for one or two new members to assist in caring for our Lord's altar. Some of the duties include cleaning the communion ware, changing the altar cloths, setting up the Advent wreath, purchasing and caring for altar flowers/plants. Please see Jackie Radichel or Mikey Oman if interested.
- ◆ **Care Packages:** The Dorcas Guild is making care packages for the ILC dorm students, with larger packages for our member students, as well as one for our away-from-home active military service member, Karie Davis. If you would like to contribute items or money toward this effort, contact Norma Rust. The bags will be assembled on Feb 11.
- ◆ **Necklaces:** Missionary Ohlmann has suggested a project to reach out to our fellow Christians in Africa: beaded cross necklaces that he will then take with him on the Mission Helper Trip in July. The Dorcas Guild has decided to help with this effort and will provide supplies to make them. We will be meeting at 9 am on Sat., Feb 24, to assemble them. All (including children) are invited to come for fellowship and fun in this mission effort!
- ◆ **On Wings of Eagles:** Pastor Mark Weis of St. Luke's Lutheran in Lemmon, SD, has published a second book via Amazon titled "On Wings of Eagles." This is a collection of brief devotions with corresponding poetry, all based on Scripture passages and flavored with his experiences. You can find the book on Amazon by searching the title along with his name; or by using the following link. [www.amazon.com/s/ref=nb\\_sb\\_noss?url=search-alias%3Daps&field-keywords=on+wings+of+eagles+mark+weis](http://www.amazon.com/s/ref=nb_sb_noss?url=search-alias%3Daps&field-keywords=on+wings+of+eagles+mark+weis). His other devotion book "One Thing Needful" is also still on sale at Amazon. Both books cost \$9 each.



- ◆ **Organ Concert:** Former Grace member, Ryan Mueller, will be presenting a pipe organ concert on Sun., March 18, 2 pm, at School Sisters Of Notre Dame Good Counsel Hill in Mankato, MN. He will be presenting on the 1877 Johnson & Son pipe organ, the program featuring works of prominent composers of the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. Refreshments and treats will follow the program.
- ◆ **Midwest Christian Women's Retreat:** Sponsored by Immanuel Lutheran Church in Mankato, MN, this will be held April 20-22, 2018, at the Riverport Inn & Suites, Winona, MN. This year's theme is: "That Your Joy may be Full!" Registration is open 2/1/18 - 3/23/18. The retreat fee is \$75. All the hotel costs and reservation information, as well as retreat registration information can be found at [www.ladiesretreat.clclutheran.net](http://www.ladiesretreat.clclutheran.net).
- ◆ **Black Hills Family Bible Camp:** Camping in the beauty of the Black Hills, studies in the beauty of God's Word. All ages are welcome, children accompanied by a chaperon or family. There will also be many outdoor activities such as hiking, swimming, caving, fishing, kayaking, bonfires, s'mores etc. The dates are Fri. evening July 13 through Tue. morning July 17. To sign up or for more information, contact Pastor Aaron Ude (605-393-1311/ [aaronude@gmail.com](mailto:aaronude@gmail.com)).
- ◆ **Mission News:** Missionary Ohlmann left for India this week where he will meet Missionary Peter Evensen and leaders from our affiliate church bodies in India, Nepal and Myanmar for the Joint Asia Pastoral Conference. Pastor Tim Daub from our sister congregation in Hecla, South Dakota will also be joining them. Following the conference, Missionary Ohlmann will visit some of the districts in the BELC, visit the CLCI, and then journey to Myanmar where he will meet up with Missionary Koenig for a visit our brethren in the CLC-Myanmar, and the National Lutheran Church of Myanmar. Before returning home he will stop in Nepal to visit our brethren there and participate in the graduation of the first class of students from the Himalayan Bible Institute of Nepal. Please keep Missionaries Ohlmann, Evensen and Koenig in your prayers over these coming weeks, as well as our brethren overseas. You can read more about Missionary Ohlmann's travels and work at his blog here: [missionaryohlmann.blogspot.nl](http://missionaryohlmann.blogspot.nl).
- ◆ **CLC News:** Pastor Caleb Schaller, associate pastor of Messiah Lutheran in Eau Claire, WI, has received the call to Luther Memorial in Fond du Lac, WI.
- ◆ **Sunday School Memory Work:** #15 – First Article, Part 2.

*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!*

## **Voter Meeting Notes – January 21, 2018**

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

### **Pastor's Report**

- Ministrations were presented.
- The Liberia visit went very well.
- Lenten services are February 14 to March 21.
- The CDS has many non-members. Things are going well in the school.
- The staff expresses their thanks for the Christmas gift.

### **Elder Report**

- Motion passed to accept a CBP of \$52,000.
- Motion passed to transfer \$5000 from the Marvin Wagner memorial to the parking lot fund.
- Details for the background checks are being worked out.
- The Schuetzler memorial being considered by the Bd of Ed. for Sun. School
- A WiFi enhancement has been installed for the cost of about \$300.

### **Education Report**

- Things are going well for our student teacher, Michaela Winters.
- The field trip went well.
- A letter regarding tuition rate increases for non-members has been sent out.
- Parent/teacher conferences are tomorrow.
- The Schuetzler memorial of \$500 is being discussed.
- The Bd of Ed is in the process of working things out to call a second full time teacher. A special meeting will be called soon.

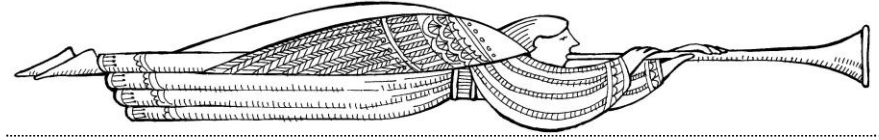
### **Trustee Report**

- Thanks to everyone who helped with the various projects this past year.
- A list of upcoming projects for this year is being developed.
- We will stay with Church Mutual for our property insurance due to their great coverage this past year and because of decent pricing.
- A work day is planned for next Saturday.
- The parking lot is being discussed.

### **Other Business**

- Election results are as follows:
  - Elder – Frank Radichel
  - Treasurer – Brian Bergstrom
  - Education – Rick Nelson
  - Trustee – Brad Kitzman
  - Delegates – Rick Nelson and Bill Rust elected delegates
  - Ryan Oman and Benno Sydow elected alternates

Adapted from minutes by Secretary Roger Ochsner



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*We Christians should have the sure knowledge that the princes of heaven are with us, not only one or two, but a large number of them, as Luke records that a multitude of the heavenly host was with the shepherds. And if we were without this custody, and God did not in this way check the fury of Satan, we could not live for one moment. For what the ability, the power, and the greatest desire of Satan are, we may learn from the story of Job. He stirs up storms, sends lightening, or, as Scripture says (Job 1:13 ff.), casts fire from heaven, arouses enemies, also attacks the body itself and covers it with ulcers. Therefore the good angels are busy with the task of keeping this cruel enemy from harming us. - Martin Luther*

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## **CLC E-Devotion – September 9, 2017**

2 Corinthians 4:7 But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us.

### **YOUR PASTOR IS A FRAGILE JAR OF CLAY**

The Lutheran pastor is not a super-star that attracts people to the gospel. Your pastor adds nothing to the power of the gospel. If anyone in the ministry glories, let him glory in the Lord.

Your pastor has many weaknesses. He is, in fact, a sinful human being. But his weaknesses constantly focus the attention of the people away from himself to Jesus and the power of His cross. It is a blessed comfort to realize that whatever good is accomplished in your pastor's ministry is accomplished by the power of the gospel of Jesus Christ. This needs to be realized by every pastor and then communicated to those who hear the message they proclaim. The message of the gospel is more important than the messenger.

The paradox of the Gospel is that God has placed this glorious treasure of forgiveness and life in jars of clay -- in weak and sinful messengers. That is why the Apostle said: "We have such trust through Christ toward God. Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think of anything as being from ourselves, but our sufficiency is from God" (2 Corinthians 3:4-5).

This means that our hope for heaven is founded not in sinful human beings, but on the solid truth of Jesus Christ and Him crucified. To God alone the glory!

-- From "The Lutheran Spokesman"



## Countries Where It's Most Dangerous to Follow Jesus

*We have sister churches in the countries  
that appear in large bold print.*

Open Doors released its 2018 World Watch List (WWL), an annual ranking of the 50 countries where it is most dangerous to follow Jesus. Approximately 215 million Christians now experience high, very high, or extreme levels of persecution. This means 1 in 12 Christians live where Christianity is “illegal, forbidden, or punished,” according to Open Doors researchers.

North Korea hasn't moved from the No. 1 spot on the list for 16 years in a row. “With more than 50,000 in prison or labor camps, such a ranking is little surprise for the totalitarian regime that controls every aspect of life in the country and forces worship of the Kim family,” Open Doors reported.

But rivaling it this year is Afghanistan, which ranked No. 2 by less than a point. North Korea's total score, pushed above Afghanistan's by a 0.6 difference in their violence rating. In the other five categories measured—private life, family life, community life, national life, and church life—both countries received the worst scores possible.

Afghanistan's neighbor Pakistan recorded the most violence against Christians last year. The country also scored the highest in church attacks, abductions, and forced marriages, according to Open Doors.

**Nigeria** (No. 14), where Boko Haram operates, and the Central African Republic (No. 35) ranked second and third for violence. The US Commission on International Religious Freedom has recommended that the State Department add Pakistan, Nigeria, and the Central African Republic to its list of “countries of particular concern.” (So far, they have not been added.)

Rounding out the top 10, following North Korea and Afghanistan, are (in order): Somalia, Sudan, Pakistan, Eritrea, Libya, Iraq, Yemen, and Iran.

It's not a coincidence that all of these countries—except North Korea and Eritrea—are predominately Muslim. In fact, “Islamic extremism remains the

global, dominant driver of persecution, responsible for initiating oppression and conflict in 35 of the 50 countries on the list,” Open Doors stated.

Five of the six countries where persecution increased the most were majority-Muslim, with the notable exception of **India**, which moved from No. 15 in 2017 to No. 11 in 2018.

“Radical Hinduism and Indian nationalism are driving factors in the increasing levels of unrest and instability Christians face,” Open Doors reported.” India's Hindu nationalism has been growing since the election of nationalist Narendra Modi to prime minister in 2014. . . under Modi, religious freedom violations against Christians—such as social exclusion, abuse, and imprisonment—have spread unchecked. In 2017, Open Doors counted more than 600 persecution incidents, though “most cases actually remain unreported, so the true number is much higher,” the organization said. At the same time, Compassion International's 589 Indian centers serving 145,000 children were shut down without explanation.

India's religious nationalism has swelled over its borders, spilling into neighboring **Nepal** and catapulting that country onto the list—and halfway up it, at No. 25. In October, Hindu-majority Nepal took aim at evangelism by criminalizing religious conversion.

Buddhist nationalism in countries such as Sri Lanka (No. 44), Bhutan (No. 33), and **Myanmar** (No. 24) is less obvious but still there.

Nearby Vietnam (No. 18) and China (No. 43) can also be hard places for Christians—not because of religious nationalism, but because Communism sees religion as an “opium for the masses” that should be eliminated.

“**Tanzania** is the most eye-catching example of a country where the situation for Christians considerably improved,” Open Doors said.

Tanzania was the best case of improvement. Though scores in Ethiopia (No. 29) and **Kenya** (No. 32) both dropped due to Muslims and Christians finding common ground in politics, both nations also saw more violence.

Excerpted from a larger story. ChristianityToday.com / January 10, 2017

***“Brothers, pray for us.”***

1 Thessalonians 5:25