

✠ TODAY AT GRACE ✠

Organist: Sue Nelson

Elder: Dale Enns

Ushers: Brian Eichstadt; Kevin Baker; Dan Degnan;
Brandon Paplow; Pat Paplow

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

Hospitality Team 4: James & April Bomber; Rachelle
Kanneh; Heidi Nelson; Bob & Suki Vandever

Church Cleaners: No Volunteers School: Wales

✠ NEXT WEEK AT GRACE ✠

Ushers: Brian Eichstadt; Kevin Baker; Dan Degnan;
Brandon Paplow; Pat Paplow

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

Hospitality Team 5: Andrea Dahl; Pat & Dawn Paplow

Church Cleaners: Volunteers?

✠ OUR SCHEDULE ✠

Sun., May 20: 9:00 am – Confirmation Examination
10:00 am – Worship Service (Confirmation/Pentecost)
11:00 am – Hospitality (Reception for Confirmands)

Wed., May 23: 4:30-6:15 pm – Catechism for Public School Students

Thu., May 24: 7:00 pm – Grace School Spring Program

Fri., May 25: 12:00 pm – Grace School Dismissal for Summer

Sun., May 27: **Summer Worship Schedule Begins**
9:00 am – Worship Service (Graduation/Trinity)
10:00 am – Hospitality (Last One of Season)

Wed., May 30: 4:30-6:15 pm – Catechism for Public School Students

Thu., June 7: Spring Lake Park Tower Days Parade

Sat., June 9: 10:00 am-6:00 pm – MN Delegate Conf. @ Grace Lutheran

June 21-24: CLC Convention (Eau Claire, WI)

July 23-27: Vacation Bible School

Mon., Aug. 27: Opening Day at Grace Lutheran School

Last Week's Stats: May 13, 2018 Sun.: 110 S.S.: 17 B.Cl.: 45

Sun. Offering:	Grace:	\$4,500.00	CLC:	\$720.00
Weekly Need:	Grace:	3,700.00	CLC:	1,000.00
-Under / +Over:	Grace:	+800.00	CLC:	-280.00
Year-to-Date Offering::	Grace:	\$63,502.00	CLC:	\$18,259.00
Year-to-Date Need:	Grace:	70,300.00	CLC:	19,000.00
Year-to-Date (+/-)	Grace:	-6,798.00	CLC:	-741.00
GLC Other: 4,350.00	Living Faith:	10.00	Tuition Aid:	210.00
SAF Endowment: 0.00	MDF:	60.00	Kinship:	50.00
ILC Student Aid: 10.00	ILC Bldg.	100.00	IIF: 0.00	CEF: 0.00
Current Balances:	Parking Lot:	\$52,909	Tuition Aid:	\$2,551
	Cost:	\$52,300		

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: Pentecost/Confirmation

Date: May 20, 2018

✠ WORSHIP INFORMATION ✠

Hymns:

TLH 224: Come, Holy Ghost, God and Lord!

WS 751: God's Own Child, I Gladly Say It

(Hymns for Sermonettes)

Choir: Dearest Savior, Hear My Promise

S.S. Children: LSB 711: Savior, Like a Shepherd

Christ Is Our Corner-Stone

Worship Prep:

Psalm 51b, TLH p. 135

Liturgy:

WS, p. 1 (Projected)

WS, p. 42, Psalm 121

Scripture Readings:

Acts 2:1-21

John 14:25-27

Sermonettes:

Elaina Carolyn Yang:

2 Timothy 3:15 ... and that from childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

TLH 341, st. 1,4-5: Crown Him with Many Crowns

Alieu Varney Kanneh:

Romans 8:31 What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

TLH 418, st. 1, 6-8: My God, My Father, While I Stray

Daniel Paul Hein:

Psalms 103:12-13 As far as the east is from the west, So far has He removed our transgressions from us. As a father pities his children, So the LORD pities those who fear Him.

WS 800, st. 1,4: Go, My Children, with My Blessing

✠ THE ANNOUNCEMENTS ✠

◆ **Confirmation:** We congratulate Daniel Hein, Alieu Kanneh, and Elaina Yang for completing their catechetical instruction so that they understand all the foundational doctrines revealed in Scripture about our Triune God. We also welcome them as communicant members at Grace. May the Lord continue to faithfully guide and direct them during their time of grace as they have promised to make faithful use of the Means of Grace. After worship there will be cake in the fellowship hall to which everyone is invited.



◆ **School Program:** This Thurs., May 24, 7 pm, the children of our school will be putting on three short skits and singing music. All members and friends of Grace are invited to show support of the children's efforts and of our school. Refreshments will follow the program.

◆ **Summer Worship Schedule:** Next Sun., May 27, the summer schedule will begin with worship service held at 9 am. Bible Class and Sunday School will be suspended for the summer. Hospitality hour will also be suspended after honoring the graduates. If anyone wishes to host any of the Sundays in summer, they may sign up on the list located on the fellowship hall's bulletin board.



◆ **Graduates:** Please list any member of Grace that is graduating this year (Jan-Dec 2018) on the sheet on the tract rack table. Include the school's name and the degree. Our Graduation is next Sunday, May 27. Daniel Hein, Nicole Holmberg, and Alieu Kanneh will also graduate from Grace School that day.



◆ **Flower Watering:** If you're willing to help on a rotation for watering the flowers on the church property this summer, please speak to Heidi Nelson. It's a great way to serve, and many hands make the load lighter!

◆ **Lutheran Spokesman & Branches:** If you no longer wish to receive, please cross out your name. If you don't receive and would like to, please signup. The congregation covers the cost.

◆ **Spring Lake Park Parade:** On Thurs., June 7, our school will be walking in the Spring Lake Park Tower Days Parade. All members are invited to participate to help let the community know about the treasure of our Christian school! We are hoping that all our students and parents will be able to participate in this. We will meet at 6 pm on Thurs. at Woodcrest Elementary School (Osborne & Able). The parade begins at 6:30 pm. Please speak with Rick Nelson for questions.

◆ **Vacation Bible School:** On July 23-27, 9:00-11:30 am, we will be having our VBS. This includes children age 4 years, to children going into eighth grade. Please register your children on the sheet by the guest book. In preparing for VBS, we will need to put together a staff, including teachers and coordinators for crafts and music. Please consider this labor of love and let Pastor know of your willingness.



◆ **Parking Lot Fund:** The goal for the Parking Lot Fund was met last weekend. As of now, it will more than cover the expenses of the project. So unless something comes up unexpectedly, offerings to the Parking Lot Fund are no longer necessary. We thank the Lord for meeting our needs, leading grateful hearts to contribute to His work!

◆ **Invitation:** A Farewell/Retirement Program for Pastor Dave Schierenbeck will be held at Berea Lutheran, Inver Grove Hts., MN, Sun., June 10. Program at 4 pm followed by a meal. RSVP by 5-26 to Mikki Aymond (mikkiaym@yahoo.com/651-280-7105).

◆ **CLC News:** Pastor Caleb Schaller of Messiah Lutheran in Eau Claire, WI, has received the call to Berea Lutheran in Inver Grove Heights, MN. ✠ Pastor Mark Tiefel of Redemption Lutheran in Lynnwood, WA (Seattle area), has received the call to Luther Memorial in Fond du Lac, WI.

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!

ILC HELPERS NEEDED THIS SUMMER!

Dear friends of Immanuel, It is almost time to begin our cleaning assistance on the campus of Immanuel in Eau Claire. Paul Heinze would like to know how many people are coming and what you would like to do about 2 weeks ahead of time, if it is possible. He is also offering to get lunch for all of the workers (as added incentive). Below is a list of the ladies who are the contact people for this summer. Contact them and let them know if you are willing to come for a day at some time during their week.

Dates and Contact Persons:

Week 1, May 21-26 - Debra Mayhew - 507-794-7793 -
debra@debramayhew.com

Week 2, May 27- June 2 - Carol Naumann - 253-230-3237 - pgnaum@aol.com

Week 3, June 5-9 - Laila Fleischer - 651-309-7403 - lefleischer2@gmail.com

Week 4, June 10-16 - Carol Sandeen - 715-864-2842 - carolsandeen@gmail.com

Week 5, June 17-24 - (Convention time)

Week 6, June 25-30 - Lynette Roehl - 715-831-8306 - lynette.roehl@ilc.edu

Week 7, July 1-7 - (contact person needed)

Week 8, July 8-14 - Kathy Oster 715-214-7806 kathleen.oster@charter.net

Week 9, July 15-21 - (contact person needed)

Week 10, July 22-28 - (contact person needed)

Week 11, July 29-Aug. 4 - (contact person needed)

Week 12 Aug. 5-11 - Sharon Schierenbeck - 863-521-7526 -
johnschierenbeck@gmail.com

Week 13 Aug. 12 - school opening - final dusting of the dorms to get ready for students.

Please consider filling in the open spaces listed above and being a contact person. If you are able, please contact Laila Fleischer at lefleischer2@gmail.com, or 651-309-7403. Thank you for your consideration and your willingness to serve.



THE BOOK OF BOOKS

Written by Rev. Daniel Fleischer, 5/2018

GQ (formerly *Gentlemen's Quarterly*), an international men's magazine addresses a wide range of subjects including fashion, style, and culture for men, articles on food, movies, fitness, sex, music, travel, sports. Apparently, it also sees itself as an authority on the Bible. According to *USA Today* (4/23/18) *GQ* recently declared the Bible to be one of the most overrated books of all time. The magazine ranks the Bible number 12 on a list of 21 books, "You don't have to read." The article states, "Those who have read it know there are some good parts, but overall it is certainly not the finest thing that man has ever produced. It is repetitive, self-contradictory, sententious [sanctimonious, contentious], foolish, and even at times ill-intentioned."

Such mockery is as old as unbelief. Paul wrote, "For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing ..." (1 Corinthians 1:18).

We do not have to, and we do not intend to, prove to the deniers of the Holy God, or His Word, that the Bible is the most important Book in the history of the world, much less will we resort to scientific means, or other human endeavors to make the point. The Bible stands on its own authority, and through the power of the Word itself converts hearts, bears witness to its authorship, its truth, its authenticity, its authority, its power, and its blessings.



We will not respond by appealing to reason, or even to the fact that the Bible is the most widely sold and read (we are told) book in history. To those who want proof, we simply say, "Lay aside your bias and study Scripture."

The premise that the Bible is not the "finest thing that man has ever produced" is true, *not* in the sense Bible deniers mean it, but from a Christian perspective. *The Bible is not a human production*. No such claim is made. Man is not the author of the Bible or of any part thereof. *God is the Author*. "... No prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation, for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit" (1 Peter 1:21). "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God [is God-breathed] ..." (2 Timothy 3:16). The erudite apostle Paul could have passed himself off as a writer *par excellence*. He did not but gave the Holy Spirit credit. "These things we also speak, not in word's which man's wisdom teaches, but which the Holy Spirit teaches ..." (1 Corinthians 2:13).

Can we prove it? Not to the skeptic or denier of God. We simply say, "Lay aside your bias and study Scripture."

The Bible is offensive to many, but only to those who do not like what it says about the human condition and that they have been affected with the sin of Adam from their conception. No person caters to being told that he is a sinner, that he is not as good as he thinks he is, or that he is corrupt, and nothing more than what Luther called himself, a “maggot sack.” Furthermore, that day by day he sins in thought, word and deed, because “the imagination of man’s heart is evil from his youth” (Genesis 8:21). “All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God” (Romans 3:23). The Bible offends those who deny sin in their life, and even more that “He that commits sin is of the devil ... (1 John 3:3), and further that “He who does not believe will be condemned” (Mark 10:16).

So what is their reaction? To their own destruction mockers deny that the Bible is truth. They accuse it of being sanctimonious, judgmental, foolish, self-contradictory, and without value. Deniers of God and Scripture are gods unto themselves who do what is right in their own eyes, and then wonder why they can’t fix what they have messed up, if in fact they recognize what is wrong. They call evil good, and good evil, and castigate those who dare to tell them the truth.

They reject the Bible but have nothing to put in its place. They have no concept of prophecy which God repeated many times and in many ways and whose every action prepared the Old Testament people for the coming of the incarnate Son of God Who would take away the sins of the world, even those sins which they will not admit. They are without hope in the world and have no concept of the horrendous judgment that awaits them at the Lord’s return. Seeing no value in the Bible, they have no concept of the Gospel which Paul called, “the power of God unto salvation.” The birth of the incarnate Son of God, the promise of a Savior from sin (which they will not acknowledge), the judgment of the world when the Lord will condemn the ungodly and bring to glory those who believe in Christ Jesus are idle tales, repetitious, self-contradictory, foolish. They mock and ridicule the word which speaks God’s mercy and longsuffering because He desires not the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from wickedness to repentance and faith.

They will not acknowledge the reality of God and His control of the world. They cannot and will not acknowledge the love of God whose very existence is foolishness to them. Since they reject the depth of the love of God seen at the cross, declared at the cross, and confirmed by the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, there is nothing else in the world that will change their dead heart.

Post-conversion evidence can confirm the love of God to believers who know the love of God in Christ—for example, His providential care of men and nations—but nothing except the revelation of God’s love in Christ can convert the heart. What then can we do? We who, “in Christ Jesus” have

been born again (1 Corinthians 4:15), “not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the Word of God which lives and abides forever” (1 Peter 1: 23), can faithfully fulfill the divine commission to preach the Gospel. We can invite doubters to “Come and hear,” for “Faith comes by hearing ...” (Romans 10:17.)

The Bible has no value? So how is the world’s Bible-less, Christ-less approach working in a world spinning out of control, and in which morality is a bad word, and self-aggrandizement and pride have seized the heart? That Christ-believers having the same natural flesh as the ungodly fight daily against sin does not change the fact--the power unto sanctified living to the glory of God is born of the Gospel recorded in the Book the mockers reject.

The Bible has no value? It is God’s inspired Word which is “profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness” (2 Timothy 3:16). There is nothing else in the world equal to the Scriptures. There is no understanding of the Bible without the work of Holy Spirit Who through the Law convicts the sinner and through the Gospel works saving faith and the sanctified life. Ultimately it is the Word of God itself which converts hearts, bears witness to its authorship, its truth, its authenticity, its authority, its power, and its blessings.

God help us to live in the joy of forgiveness, reflecting His truth and love by our confession of faith in word and deed before the mocker and doubter as we invite them to “Come and see. Read it. Study Scripture.”

Suffice it to say in response to GQ and others of that ilk: There is one consistent theme of the Bible, from Genesis to Revelation. It is God’s great work in the creation and redemption of all things, through Jesus Christ,

“The foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men” (1 Corinthians 1:25). Unlike deniers whose life is a bad novel-- repetitive, self-contradictory, sententious [sanctimonious, contentious], foolish, and even at times ill-intentioned,” we have hope—in Christ, through the Word. “... This is the testimony: that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life. These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life, and that you may *continue to* believe in the name of the Son of God” (1 John 5:11-13).

“God’s Word is our great heritage and shall be ours forever;
To spread its light from age to age shall be our chief endeavor.
Through life it guides our way, in death it is our stay.
Lord, grant, while worlds endure, we keep its teachings pure
Throughout all generations. Amen” (TLH 283).