

# Grace Lutheran Church & School



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Fridley, MN 55432

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Home Page: [www.FridleyLutheran.org](http://www.FridleyLutheran.org)

Member: CHURCH OF THE LUTHERAN CONFESSION



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

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

**Church Year:** Pentecost 9

**Phone:** 763-784-8784

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

**Date:** August 2, 2020

## ✠ WORSHIP INFORMATION ✠

### Hymns:

TLH 234: Holy Ghost, with Light Divine

TLH 457: What a Friend We Have in Jesus

TLH 226, st. 1-7: Come, Oh, Come

Communion Distribution: Meditative Music

TLH 24: Lord of My Life, Whose Tender Care

Listening assistance is available. Please ask an usher.

### Worship Prep:

Psalms 18, TLH p. 125 f.

### Liturgy:

WS, p. 12 (Communion)

Offering: Plate at organ

### Scripture Readings:

Joel 3:12-16

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

### Sermon: Romans 8:26-27

<sup>26</sup> Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. <sup>27</sup> Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit *is*, because He makes intercession for the saints according to *the will of God*. (NKJV<sup>TM</sup>)

## God's Spirit Helps Us Pray with Complete Understanding



## ✝ ***THE ANNOUNCEMENTS*** ✝

- ➔ **Caution:** If anyone is high risk, vulnerable, recently exposed to a COVID-19 patient, or has symptoms of illness (especially high temperature and cough), the individual along with any others in that person's household are strongly urged to stay home for one's own well-being and the well-being of others. If any member remains uncomfortable about returning to worship, online worship is still available at [FridleyLutheran.org](https://www.fridleylutheran.org).
- ➔ **Masks:** Due to the Governor's executive order, face coverings or masks are now required during worship at Grace. Children under the age of 2 are exempt. Ages 2-5 "are encouraged to wear a face covering when in public if they can do so reliably ..." Also, pastor does not need to wear one while leading the worship service.
- ➔ **Physical Distancing:** The pews are set up to be alternating, post-its on the pews that are to be used. Our ushers are asked to be proactive when ushering people in so that distancing between household units can be better accomplished. Also, please remember to do your visiting outside away from the building before and after worship, ensuring that the doorway isn't blocked by a group. Thank you for being mindful of your fellow Christians.
- ➔ **Voters Meeting:** On July 19 there was an insufficient quorum for a Voters meeting. The meeting has been rescheduled for today. If there is an adequate quorum, we will meet after worship. If we are unable to have a quorum, we will meet at 7 pm via Zoom to present reports. Here are the details if this is the case:  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83601937121?pwd=NkkrSnZlZXZQamNnbU42YmRHaERjUT09>  
Meeting ID: 836 0193 7121 / Passcode: 081444
- ➔ **Church Picnic:** The Elders cancelled the church picnic for this year.
- ➔ **Mission Festival:** Pastor Mark Bernthal will be our guest speaker on Sun. Oct. 11. This year there will be no potluck meal.
- ➔ **Fire Update:** This week the parsonage HVAC ducts were cleaned.
- ➔ **ManUp Retreat:** The ManUp! Men's Retreat will be held Sept. 24-27, 2020, at Wyalusing State Park near Prairie du Chien, WI. This is for men 18 and older. The cost is \$75, including lodging and meals. Register: [www.tinyurl.com/manup-2020](http://www.tinyurl.com/manup-2020). Website: [www.manup.clclutheran.org](http://www.manup.clclutheran.org).
- ➔ **Invitation:** Prince of Peace Lutheran of Hecla, SD, will have its Harvest Festival 4 pm, Sun., Aug. 9. For more information, contact [pastor\\_daub@hotmail.com](mailto:pastor_daub@hotmail.com) or (605) 994-2145.

- ➔ **Trip to Israel:** A group trip to Israel is still scheduled for January 13-22, 2021 with a possible three day extension to Jordan for those who are interested. 17 members of CLC congregations have registered for the trip, and over a dozen more have expressed an interest. The tour company is expecting that our trip will be possible, but they do have options available for us if it has to be cancelled due to the situation at that time. The trip will include visits to Caesarea, Mt. Carmel, Nazareth, Cana, Capernaum, Jerusalem, the Dead Sea, En Gedi and more. It will include visits to the traditional sites of many of the events in the ministry of Jesus as well as those of the prophets and apostles. For more information, contact Pastor Nathanael Mayhew (404-729-4602 or [nnmayhew@sleepyeyelutheran.com](mailto:nnmayhew@sleepyeyelutheran.com)).
- ➔ **Book Available:** Deborah Ude's third book, "Sunshine in Shadows," is now available. Amazon link: [tinyurl.com/SunshineinShadows](https://tinyurl.com/SunshineinShadows). The digital version is \$2.99 and the printed paperback is \$11.99. All three of Debi's books are also available in printed form at the CLC Bookstore or directly from Prof. John Ude, [john.ude@ilc.edu](mailto:john.ude@ilc.edu).
- ➔ **CLC News:** Pastor Stefan Sonnenfeld of Faith Lutheran in Manchester, SO (St. Louis area) has returned the call to Redeemer Lutheran in Bowdle, SD, and Zion Lutheran in Ipswich, SD. † Holy Trinity Lutheran in West Columbia, SD, has called Leah Fossum and Deana Pfeiffer to teach full time for one year; Bob Long to teach part time math for one year; and Pastor David Pfeiffer as school principal for one year. All have accepted these calls. † Pastor Del Maas of Gift of God Lutheran in Mapleton, ND (Fargo area) has been called to be the non-resident pastor at St. Paul Lutheran in Ponsford, MN. † Marie Muehlenhaupt has been called to be co-principal/upper grade teacher at Faith Lutheran in Markesan, WI, for one year. In addition, Teacher Ann Sprengeler has been called to serve as its co-principal for one year. † Pastor Doug Libby has requested and received a peaceful release from his call to Living Savior Lutheran in Eden Prairie, MN. Since Pastor Libby was also serving as Visitor of the Minnesota conference, Pastor Jim Albrecht has been appointed to complete his term. † Mr. Stephen Kuehne has asked to be relieved of his duties on the CLC Worship Committee. Mr. Randy Wittorp, a member of Mt. Zion, Detroit, MI, has been appointed to replace him. Other committee members are: Pastor David Schaller, Prof. Joel Gullerud, and Mr. Barry Hay. † Colloquies with two former WELS pastors are scheduled for Sept. 21-22 on the campus of Immanuel. The two men are: Luke Willitz, a member of Grace, Sleepy Eye, and Johnathan Schnose, a member of Mt. Zion, Detroit, MI. Comments may be directed to Bd. of Doctrine chairman, Dave Schierenbeck.

## **Lord's Supper Plan for Today at Grace**

Pastor has no longer been contagious for a couple of weeks now. In fact, now that he has recovered from the virus, he should have immunity, at least for the time being. There will be some adjustments to how the Lord's Supper is served, which are as follows:

- ➡ Pastor will be the only one serving the Lord's Supper and will be using sanitizer after each table.
- ➡ The ushers will invite smaller groups of communicants to come forward.
- ➡ The communicants are to physically distance by household groups, both in line and at the altar.
- ➡ After waiting in line, the communicants should remove their masks as they begin to walk up to the altar.
- ➡ The ushers will offer sanitizer as each group comes forward.
- ➡ The communicants are to line up at the altar rail instead of at the floor level.
- ➡ If anyone needs Pastor to come to the floor level, please remain there and he will come to you.
- ➡ Pastor will drop the wafers into people's hands on the first pass. Please be sure to extend both hands together so that he is able to do this easily.
- ➡ Only individual cups will be served, which will be placed on the altar rail as needed. Please take a cup from the altar rail when invited by Pastor to drink, touching only the cup and not the rail.
- ➡ Pastor will come with an individual cup to those who cannot come to the altar rail.
- ➡ The cups are to be disposed in the container located in the front pews, as normal.
- ➡ The communicants should put their masks back on as they return to their pews.
- ➡ Some have expressed a desire to have the Lord's Supper after the worship service for various reasons. Perhaps those who cannot come to the altar rail may wish to do this instead. Pastor will be accommodating this for those who wish to do so. He asks that those who wish to do this will contact him ahead of time.
- ➡ If anyone desires private communion during the week, please contact Pastor and he will certainly do this upon request.

# **CLC President's Letter – August 1, 2020**

In Christ Jesus, whose word is eternal truth in a world of uncertainty, dear fellow messengers of hope:

No one has to be reminded that we live in volatile, dangerous times. COVID has emerged as an enemy common to people worldwide, and all the more so because no one knows exactly what we're dealing with or how to conquer it. Political infighting and civil unrest have turned neighborhoods into war zones.

But they are not the greatest enemies we face. Paul writes, "For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. Therefore put on the full armor of God" (Eph. 6:12). Satan and his demonic forces are less visible but far more deadly than the symptoms of a virus or the economic impact of business closures.

Without doubt the devil has used these months to further his own agenda. Being isolated at home for weeks on end may have been necessary for various reasons, but it has taken a toll on the physical and spiritual wellbeing of many. The Lord created us to be connected with one another and with Him.

Sin spoiled that perfect relationship, but Jesus came to restore it. He joined Himself to us, so that He might reconcile the world to God by suffering the punishment we rightfully deserved. Loved by God in Christ, how can we not show that same love to others. Jesus told the disciples, "Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another" (Jn. 13:34-35).

As brothers and sisters in Christ, we are not to think more highly of ourselves than we ought. "Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others. Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus" (Phil. 2:3-5). We all have the desire to reflect that love to one another.

However, after being apart from one another and focusing on our own personal situations, Satan is going to work overtime to use pride, anger, and fear in his efforts to tear us away from Jesus and one another. Many of us and our congregations are wrestling with practical matters associated with conducting in-person services and meetings. There is the issue of masks and other precautions which need to be discussed. Decisions have to be made regarding social distancing in services and whether to hold fellowship activities such as potlucks, picnics, and youth outings. What will the new

normal look like for our Christian day schools? There are going to be differences of opinion as to what course should be followed going forward. For all of us, selfishness and pride can be a dangerous temptation. Sinful pride assumes the attitude, "I know I am right. Everyone else should see the situation as I do, and if they don't, they are wrong." Wounded pride can quickly morph into anger and grudges.

Certainly, where God's Word speaks, there is no question. But in all other matters, no one has all the answers. Christian love and humility listens and strives for harmony as we work together to carry out the Lord's commission. There are differences of opinion among congregation members. Different congregations come to different conclusions as to their practices. That does not mean one approach is better than another or that one is right and one wrong. Rather than pass judgment on the actions of others, let us instead pray for one another asking that the Spirit will give each of us and each of our sister congregations the wisdom for their particular circumstances.

But what happens if...? Fear is another weapon Satan has learned to use very effectively. We make mistakes. We can't see past the present moment. But our confidence has never been in ourselves. "But I trust in you, O LORD; I say, 'You are my God.' My times are in your hands" (Ps. 31:15). "Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea" (Ps. 46:2).

These past months have been difficult in many ways. More challenges lie ahead. Yet we are incredibly blessed! Nothing that has happened anywhere in the world has undermined our salvation. The new normal will have no effect on what Jesus has already accomplished for us. "He was delivered over to death for our sins and was raised to life for our justification" (Rom. 4:25). "Neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Rom. 8:39).

We live in dangerous times, but we are not defenseless. Paul urges, "Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes" (Eph. 6:10-11). Rather than let Satan lure us away from the Lord and drive a wedge of distrust between us, may we humbly go to the Lord, acknowledge our pride, anger, and fear, and then rejoice in His reassuring forgiveness and peace. May we immerse ourselves in His Word and celebrate the Lord's Supper with real hunger and thirst for that spiritual food which nourishes and sustains the soul. May we pray for one another, be patient, and encourage one another out of love for Him who first loved us.

In His name, Michael Eichstadt, CLC President

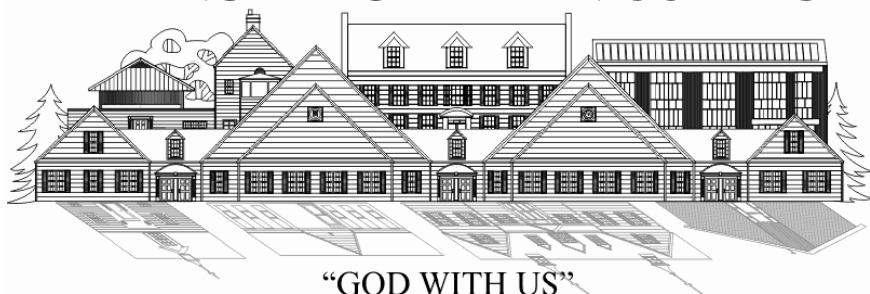
## ILC Building Fund Paid Off--and Then Some:

A substantial gift was recently given to the CLC, designated for the ILC Building Fund. This special gift completely paid off the entire Academic Center Fund balance, and provided approximately one million dollars for a future building project. CLC President Mike Eichstadt has appointed a Planning Committee to move this forward. Since every building project has to be approved by a convention, the Committee's mandate is to present a plan and cost estimate to the 2021 convention. The Committee is using the 2006 ILC Long-Range Planning Committee's 134 page report as its starting point. The committee members are Tom Beekman, Tim Noeldner, David Albrecht, Jeff Schierenbeck, and Mike Roehl with advisors as Steve Ludvigson, Dan Schierenbeck, and Ross Roehl.

In recent years some have wondered what the next ILC building project will be. An updated and expanded gym? A dedicated Chapel? The 2006 Planning Committee did some work in that area. Since the current gym's footprint could not accommodate the space requirements of the new gym, the 2006 Planning Committee recommendation was to build a new gym to the south of the Commons (in the area between the Commons, slab, and amphitheater) and to completely renovate the existing fieldhouse to house functions like morning chapel, mass choir and band practices, plays, musicals, CLC GPC and conventions, storage, etc. Look for more details to be announced in the future.

Whatever the current Planning Committee may recommend to the 2021 Convention, we recognize this as just one more example of how, "A man's heart plans his way, But the LORD directs his steps." (**Proverbs 16:9**). Thank the LORD for His bounty, and for the fruits of faith in our CLC members!

## IMMANUEL LUTHERAN COLLEGE



## ✠ TODAY AT GRACE ✠

Organist: **Janelle Hein**

Elder: **Eli Wales**

Ushers: **Gary Gunther; Bob Maki; Bill Rust; Jeff Stifter; Bob Vandever**

Counting Team 3: **Brian Eichstadt; Duane Enns; David Hein; Dan Degnan; Benno Sydow**

Church Cleaners: **Anderson**

## ✠ NEXT WEEK AT GRACE ✠

Ushers: **Larry Brandt; Jeremiah Boe; Nick Duehlmeier; Dale Enns; Duane Enns**

Counting Team 4: **James Bomber; Roger Ochsner; Al Rosendahl; Dave Rust**

Church Cleaners: **Anderson**

## ✠ OUR SCHEDULE ✠

**Sun., Aug. 2:** 9:00 am – Worship Service w/Lord's Supper  
10:00 am – Voters Meeting  
7:00 pm – Voters Meeting via if not a quorum

**Sat., Aug. 8:** 9:00 am – Grace School Work Day

**Sun., Aug. 9:** 9:00 am – Worship Service

**Sun., Aug. 23:** 3:00 pm – Opening Service at ILC

**Mon., Aug. 31:** 8:00 am – Opening Service at Grace Lutheran School

**Sun., Sept. 13:** 8:30 am – Choir Practice Begins  
9:00 am – Bible Class & Sunday School Begin  
10:00 am – Worship Service (Regular Schedule Resumes)

**October 6-7:** Minnesota Pastoral Conference @ Sleepy Eye, MN

**Last Week's Stats:** July 26, 2020 Sun.: 50

Sun. Offering:	Grace:	\$3,921	CLC:	\$1,400
Weekly Need:	Grace:	4,000	CLC:	950
-Under / +Over:	Grace:	-79	CLC:	+450
Year-to-Date Offering:	Grace:	\$116,680	CLC:	\$27,692
Year-to-Date Need:	Grace:	120,000	CLC:	28,500
Year-to-Date (+/-)	Grace:	-3,320	CLC:	-808
GLC Other: 25	Living Faith: 0	Tuition Aid: 0		
SAF Endowment: 0	MDF: 0	Kinship: 100		
ILC Student Aid: 0	ILC Bldg. 100	IIF: 0	CEF: 0	
Current Balances:		Tuition Aid: \$2,016		



**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**