

Grace Lutheran Church & School



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Fridley, MN 55432

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Home Page: www.FridleyLutheran.org

Member: *CHURCH OF THE LUTHERAN CONFESSION*



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

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School Phone: 763-784-6340

Grades: Kindergarten-8th

Church Year: Pentecost 16

Date: September 12, 2021

✠ **WORSHIP INFORMATION** ✠

Hymns:

TLH 16: Blessed Jesus, at Thy Word

CDS - TLH 416: Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways

TLH 284: Father of Mercies, in Thy Word

WS 775: Thy Strong Word

Installation of Sunday School Staff

TLH 283: God's Word is Our Great Heritage

Worship Prep:

Psalms 1, TLH p. 123

Liturgy:

WS p. 1 (Projected)

Scripture Readings:

Proverbs 9:1-6

Ephesians 5:15-21

Sermon: John 6:60-69

⁶⁰ Therefore many of His disciples, when they heard *this*, said, "This is a hard saying; who can understand it?" ⁶¹ When Jesus knew in Himself that His disciples complained about this, He said to them, "Does this offend you?" ⁶² "*What* then if you should see the Son of Man ascend where He was before?" ⁶³ "It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing. The words that I speak to you are spirit, and *they* are life." ⁶⁴ "But there are some of you who do not believe." For Jesus knew from the beginning who they were who did not believe, and who would betray Him. ⁶⁵ And He said, "Therefore I have said to you that no one can come to Me unless it has been granted to him by My Father." ⁶⁶ From that *time* many of His disciples went back and walked with Him no more. ⁶⁷ Then Jesus said to the twelve, "Do you also want to go away?" ⁶⁸ But Simon Peter answered Him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. ⁶⁹ "Also we have come to believe and know that You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." (NKJVTM)

THE CLEVER CARICATURE OF CONVENIENT CHRISTIANITY

1. Don't allow it to distort Christ and His Word
2. Look to Christ and His Word for spiritual life

✝ ***THE ANNOUNCEMENTS*** ✝

COVID-19 Pre-Cautions: If anyone is high risk, vulnerable, recently exposed to a COVID-19 patient, or has symptoms of illness (esp. high temp. and cough), the individual along with any others in that person's household are urged to stay home for one's own well-being and the well-being of others. Online worship is still available at FridleyLutheran.org. Face coverings are optional. Thank you for being mindful of your fellow Christians, understanding that there are differing sensitivities about the pandemic.

➔ **Among Us:** Fred Dauer was hospitalized earlier this week for pneumonia. He is now recovering at home with the use of oxygen. Barb Crandall is now receiving therapy at the Anoka Rehab Center after being hospitalized following her recent fall. She has applied for long-term care. Pastor is recovering from his ear surgery. May the LORD mercifully tend to the needs of His people.

➔ **Special Voters Meeting:** Today a special Voters meeting will be held after worship to consider the organ committee's proposal. The organ committee is now recommending to the Voters that Grace purchase the new version of the Phoenix organ that was trialed during July. Pending Voter approval, the goal for the organ fund would be \$55,000, a little more than the cost of the organ given some likely expenses to accommodate the organ in our sanctuary. To order the organ, 60% of the cost needs to be collected upfront which equates to \$33,000. Currently there is about \$20,000 in the organ fund. Should there be any remaining funds after the organ project is completed, the committee would recommend that they be used toward the next project at Grace, perhaps even for our sanctuary improvement since there is a committee now for that. Should anyone wish to donate to the organ project (even before the Voters meet), you may designate Organ Fund on your offering envelope.



➔ **Church Picnic:** Next Sunday, Sept. 19, is the church picnic here on the church grounds following our regular service. Grilled hot dogs and buns will be provided. Members are asked to bring a dish to share, including things like salads, chips, and/or desserts. Committee #3 will serve and cleanup, though additional help would be appreciated.



➔ **Hospitality:** In an effort to return to normalcy, the Elders are resuming the hospitality program. This is an opportunity for members to fellowship following the worship service on the 1st and 3rd weekends of the month during the regular schedule. With the

picnic being on the 3rd Sunday this month, the first hospitality will be on Sunday, October 3. Volunteer teams usually serve refreshments, either out of their own generosity or by serving what's on hand. The effort is done to help our congregation support one another and the Elders would like to retain that as its focus. The Elders do not wish to restrain or force team members in doing anything more or less than what they in their hearts wish to do when they are serving. Team members may also welcome folks as they come to Bible study and/or worship that morning. There are currently four existing teams. But given the long suspension of this, there may be new volunteers who wish to serve on teams or perhaps changes are being sought to the teams. If so, please speak with Elder Eli Wales about this. Galatians 6:10: Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all, especially to those who are of the household of faith.

- ➔ **CLC Convention Proceedings:** The 2021 CLC Convention Proceedings are now available. You may read the Proceedings online or print a copy from there at: tinyurl.com/2021-clc-proc.
- ➔ **Southeastern Women's Retreat:** A women's retreat is planned in Myrtle Beach, SC, from November 5-7. The theme is "Walking with Jesus." The registration fee is \$40, plus the cost of transportation and hotel. Details on hotel reservations and presentations can be found on the counter in the narthex. Contact Amy Osborne at 651-329-3662 or newyorker13@hotmail.com with any questions.
- ➔ **CLC News:** Rev. Michael Sprengeler has returned the call to Redeemer Lutheran in Bowdle, SD, and Zion Lutheran in Ipswich, SD.
 - † Pastor Caleb Schaller of Messiah Lutheran in Eau Claire, WI, has returned the call to Faith Lutheran in Manchester, MO (St. Louis area).
 - † Becky McKenney has returned the teacher call to Grace Lutheran in Valentine, NE.
- ➔ **Sunday School Memory Work: #1 – Books of the Bible**

Last Week's Stats: Sept. 5, 2021 Sun.: 67

Sun. Offering:	Grace:	\$9,842*	CLC:	\$280
Weekly Need:	Grace:	4,125	CLC:	1,000
-Under / +Over:	Grace:	+5,717	CLC:	-720
Year-to-Date Offering:	Grace:	\$152,405	CLC:	\$35,704
Year-to-Date Need:	Grace:	148,500	CLC:	36,000
Year-to-Date (+/-)	Grace:	+3,905	CLC:	-296
GLC Other: 875	Living Faith:	0	Tuition Aid:	0
SAF Endowment: 0	MDF:	150	Kinship:	100
ILC Student Aid: 0	ILC Bldg.	0	IIF: 0	CEF: 0
Current Balances:	Tuition Aid:	\$2,532	Organ:	\$20,515

* Includes \$7,500 of school tuition payments by non-member families

CLC E-Devotion – September 7, 2021

Joel 3:12-13 Let the nations be awakened, and come up to the Valley of Jehoshaphat; for there I will sit to judge all the surrounding nations. Put in the sickle, for the harvest is ripe. Come, go down; for the winepress is full, the vats overflow-for their wickedness is great.

The Valley of Jehoshaphat

In the divinely inspired books of God's prophets, the subject of a coming judgment was hardly reserved for a few Sundays at the close of the church year. Rather, a recurring theme was judgment for the impenitent and unbelieving, and salvation and deliverance for Christ-believers.

This year marks the twentieth anniversary of the day - 9/11 - when nearly 3,000 people died when four different terrorist-hijacked planes were crashed on purpose. Two flew into the Twin Towers of the World Trade Center in New York City, one into the Pentagon in Virginia, and a fourth crashed in rural Pennsylvania. The horrible events at those sites are etched in the minds of anyone old enough to remember the day [something somewhat similar is happening these very days in Kabul, Afghanistan]. Our text speaks to events etched in the minds of the Old Testament children of God-but for a far more positive reason. The people were reminded that during the reign of God-fearing king Jehoshaphat (873-848 B.C.), the LORD God gave them victory over their perennial pagan enemies on the east side the Jordan River: the Moabites, Ammonites, and Edomites.

The name "Jehoshaphat" means "the LORD judges." The "Valley of Jehoshaphat" is not a geographical site, but refers prophetically to the fact that the Lord will come "to judge all the surrounding nations." On Judgment day a battle will take place between the Lord and the unbelieving hordes of nations - a battle the nations cannot win, for "the Lord will be a shelter for His people, and the strength of the children of Israel" (v. 16).

What a comforting truth and reminder in our own evil days - when evidence testifies to the fact that "the harvest is ripe" and "the vats overflow" with great wickedness. Yet the embattled Church of Christ-believers on earth, with the Lord as its shelter and strength, is assured of total victory in the Church Triumphant in heaven!

Christ, at God's right hand victorious,
You will judge the world You made;
Lord, in mercy help Your servants
For whose freedom You have paid;
Raise us up from dust to glory;
Guard us from all sin today.
King enthroned above all praises,
Save Your people, God, we pray.

(Worship Supplement 2000, 798:4)

CLC Financial Report - August

CLC Financial Report Operating Funds	Balance 7/1/2021	YTD Revenue	YTD Disbursed	Budget 2 Month	Balance 8/31/2021
General Fund	0	149,491	202,413	209,904	- 52,922
ILC Operations (incl. CLC subsidy)	0	310,116	247,778	241,352	62,338
Auxiliary Funds					
ILC Improvement Fund (IIF)	124,590	38,941	292		163,239
ILC Building Projects	1,096,716	14,164	0		1,110,880
Mission Development Fund (MDF)	132,313	12,987	15,149		130,151
Kinship	182,119	35,769	24,355		193,533
Church Extension Fund (CEF)	3,527,885	89,354	114,325		3,502,914
Student Aid Fund (SAF)	133,585	15,915	20,417		129,083
CLC Reserve Fund	300,222	0	0		300,222
Total	\$5,497,430	\$207,130	\$174,538		\$5,530,022

General Fund – August offerings were \$67,076 (including a special \$20,000 offering) **VS** disbursements of \$88,497, resulting in a negative monthly cash flow of --\$21,420. YTD offerings are \$60,413 short of budget needs, while YTD disbursements are \$7,491 under budget needs, resulting in a YTD negative cash flow of --\$52,922 after the 2nd month of our fiscal year. It bears repeating that the General Fund provides major subsidy for the operation of our Boards of Missions, Trustees, Regents, and Education & Publication. The General Fund budget is \$1,259,430 for the fiscal year, or \$104,952/month. It needs the regular support of all our members. Only the GF has a deficit!!

ILC Operations – August revenue was \$234,031 (incl \$61,667 subsidy) **VS** disbursements of \$110,817, resulting in a positive YTD balance of +\$62,338. As noted last month, the Regents deficit of -\$60,875 recovered due largely to student revenue when school resumed August 23.

ILC Building Projects – August revenue: \$190 in offerings **VS** \$0 disbursements. August earnings (Dividends/Interest) were \$3,380, while unrealized market (capital) gains were \$2,294. The 2021 CLC Convention allocated \$20,000 from this account for the ILC Planning Committee to study and present a cost estimate to the 2022 Convention, not only for building a new gymnasium but also for repurposing the existing fieldhouse into a chapel/theater arts/musical arts facility.

CEF – August revenue: \$41,622 (\$25,983 loan repayments, \$15,600 market (capital) gains, \$40 offerings) **VS** disbursements: \$110,664 (\$100,000 Cong loan installment #1; \$2,396 Note interest paid; \$8,268 admin expenses. Over this month & the next the Trustees will fund congregational CEF construction loans of nearly \$900,000.

MDF – August revenue: \$4,211 in offerings **VS** disbursements of \$9,824, including \$4,850 Africa outreach; \$2,500 church building aid, & \$1,073 admin expenses.

SAF – August receipts: \$10,456 (\$5,673 SAF loan repayments & \$4,783 gifts) **VS** 19,536 disbursed (\$18,615 student grants, loans, & scholarships; \$920 admin expenses.

Kinship – August offerings: \$15,434 (\$12,104 offerings, \$3,330 sponsors) **VS** disbursed: \$8,005 (\$4,100 medical aid; \$3,010 orphanages, \$180 Sem students, \$690 widows).

"Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the LORD Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it. (Malachi 3:10)

James E. Sandeen, CLC Treasurer / Thomas J. Lentz, Chairman, CLC Board of Trustees

✝ **TODAY AT GRACE** ✝

Organist: **Janelle Hein**

Elder: **Dale Enns**

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

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

Church Cleaners: **R. & H. Nelson** School: **Bomber/Vandever**

✝ **NEXT WEEK AT GRACE** ✝

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

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

Church Cleaners: **R. & H. Nelson** School: **Craven/Nelson**

✝ **OUR SCHEDULE** ✝

Sun., Sept. 12: 9:00 am – Bible Class and Sunday School

10:00 am – Worship Service (Pentecost 16)

11:15 am – Special Voters Meeting

12:00 pm – Council Meeting

Tue., Sept. 14: 4:30-6:15 pm – Catechism for Public School Students

Wed., Sept. 15: 7:00 pm – Midweek Bible Class

Sun., Sept. 19: 8:30 am – Choir Practice Begins

9:00 am – Bible Class and Sunday School

10:00 am – Worship Service (Pentecost 17)

11:00 am – Annual Church Picnic

Mon., Sept. 20: 7:00 pm – Grace School Parent Night

Wed., Sept. 22: CLC Coordinating Council Meeting

4:30-6:15 pm – Catechism for Public School Students

Sun., Sept. 26: 9:00 am – Bible Class and Sunday School

10:00 am – Worship Service (Pentecost 18)

11:00 am – Open Forum for Sanctuary Improvements

Sun., Oct. 3: 9:00 am – Bible Class and Sunday School

10:00 am – Worship Service w/Lord's Supper (Pentecost 19)

11:00 am – Hospitality

12:00 pm – Council Meeting

Oct. 5-6: Minnesota Pastoral Conference (Austin, MN)

Fri., Oct. 8: Grace School Field Trip @ Wargo Nature Center

Sun., Oct. 10: Mission Festival w/Pastor Terrel Kesterson

9:00 am – Bible Class and Sunday School

10:00 am – Mission Festival Worship Service

11:00 am – Mission Festival Potluck Meal

Oct. 20-22: CLC Teachers' Conference (Hales Corners, WI)