

Fall 2019

*I am the **vine**; you are the **branches**.  
If you remain in me and I in you, you will  
bear much fruit;* *John 15:5*



Regular Worship  
RETURNS

11am Services - September 8<sup>th</sup>



Grace Lutheran Church

THE GRACEVINE

## Topical Resources from Lutheran Hour Ministries

<https://www.lhm.org/projectconnect/booklets.asp>

### **This Month's Sample: My Digital Voice: an Introduction to the Digital Conversation Pledge**



PROJECT CONNECT

#### **(Also available as MP3 audio)**

Every year more and more conversations happen online. Nearly 4.5 billion people around the world access the internet regularly, and 3.5 billion of them regularly converse on social media! Communicating in this digital age can be fun and exciting. Digital conversations provide us with powerful opportunities to connect with and bless other people. But research reveals that these digital interactions bring us unique temptations as well—temptations to communicate differently than we normally would face-to-face. In this booklet we discover what the research reveals about our digital conversations and what God's Word reveals about how we can faithfully and powerfully engage in them. You have a digital voice—a voice that is distinct, is unique, and matters. Are you ready to use your digital voice to make a real difference in the world? We invite

you to join a movement of like-minded Christians who want to shine their digital lights in a dark world. Start by taking the Digital Conversation Pledge inside this booklet.

**Link of the month at [calgarygracelutheran.com](http://calgarygracelutheran.com)**

**- Found under the News Tab and Newsletters**

[https://www.youtube.com/playlist?  
list=PL4rPVxLVaqtMZQ9oLPWruU7I8saDogw3o](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL4rPVxLVaqtMZQ9oLPWruU7I8saDogw3o)

Curious about the beginning of man? Can science and the creation story from the Bible coexist? Many people say no. But *Origins* uses relevant facts and thought-provoking evidence from scientists, researchers, and authors to support Creation. Watch as scientists, researchers and authors share relevant facts and thought-provoking evidence supporting creation. Join us for Cornerstone Network's unique program — **ORIGINS** — and then decide for yourself the truth about your human origins.

# Wisdom

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PASTOR PAGE

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.

**Proverbs 9:10**

There are many places in Proverbs where the importance of wisdom is proclaimed. Here are just a few:

Choose my instruction instead of silver, knowledge rather than choice gold, for wisdom is more precious than rubies, and nothing you desire can compare with her. (Proverbs 8:10-11)

Do not forsake wisdom, and she will protect you; love her, and she will watch over you. Wisdom is supreme; therefore get wisdom. Though it cost all you have, get understanding. (Proverbs 4:6-7)

We would probably all agree that wisdom is important, but I would like to question whether we always consider what wisdom really is. We often equate wisdom with the knowledge we can gain through school or newspapers or books. We may believe that a person who has a PhD behind their name is a person who has wisdom. We have come to think that the more one knows about the world around us, the wiser that person is. Maybe, or maybe not.

I believe that Scripture tells us that no matter how much we know about the world, if we are not willing to touch on the spiritual, ethical, and the theological dimensions of that life, we do not have wisdom. Engineering, chemistry, biology, politics and physical health do not seem so important next to the basic questions concerning life, death, and meaning. These issues reach down to the deepest level of our being.

The kind of wisdom the Scripture encourages us to get and to hold on to is a wisdom that takes all the knowledge of the world around us and places it and keeps it in the context of what God has revealed. Wisdom apart from God's grace, repentance, Christian life and Christian love is really not a wisdom worth hanging on to. Jesus said it this way, "26What good will it be for a man if he gains the whole world, yet forfeits his soul? Or what can a man give in exchange for his soul?" (Matthew 16).

I would like to encourage you during this month that focuses on education to renew your quest and desire for growing in grace, repentance, Christian life and Christian love. I want to encourage you to be regular in worship, to join a Bible study group, to daily meditate upon Scripture, to use the RightNow Media resources available to you, to communicate with the Lord and to proclaim to one another the blessings and grace that God pours out upon you. Feeding the spiritual dimension of life will truly make us wise people as we connect and relate the spiritual to the world.

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.

**Proverbs 9:10**

God's

blessings.





|             |           |         |
|-------------|-----------|---------|
| Bev B       | Marie H   | Rilee P |
| Tom B       | Eva H     | Lyle R  |
| Alexander B | Amanda H  | Aspen R |
| Tony B      | Andrew K  | Viola S |
| Elaine D    | Dawn L    | Zoe S   |
| Margaret E  | Naiya L   | Ev S    |
| Lorne G     | Eugene L  | Bev S   |
| Lydia G     | Oliver L  | Gavin T |
| Caleb H     | Sunday N  | Emily W |
| Kyler H     | Vi O      |         |
| Nyachang H  | Jenifer P |         |



|           |             |           |
|-----------|-------------|-----------|
| Ryder B   | Lillian G   | Troy P    |
| Betty B   | Jacque H    | Frank R   |
| Alexa B   | Jeremy H    | Howard R  |
| Arnold B  | Riek H      | Kayla R   |
| Elliot D  | Clifford K  | David S   |
| Mark D    | Alexandra K | Gabriel S |
| Nyajane D | Luka L      | Martin S  |
| Junior D  | Ann M       | Denise S  |
| Attela E  | Chris M     | Buck S    |
| Ralph E   | Chudier N   | Tim U     |
| Josef F   | Austin N    | Paula U   |
| Adele G   | JoAnne P    | Jacob V   |



Daryl and Tamra B  
 David and Lacey B  
 Robert and Betty B  
 Arnold & Dianne B  
 Shane and Gacynth D  
 Ed and Paula E

Doug and Jacquie H  
 Bill M and Elaine B  
 Monica and John M  
 Aron and Nicole S  
 Carl and Karla S  
 Art and Paula U



Richard and Diane H  
 Alan and Trish H  
 Steven and Robyn K  
 Dennis and Sally N  
 Alain and Sandy P  
 Mel and Donna P

Gary and Rita R  
 Wayne and Janice R  
 George and Cheryl S  
 Scott and Debbie S  
 Dan and Pam W



**Please refrain from wearing perfumes  
and colognes to church.  
We kindly ask you to be considerate  
of those it affects.**

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### ONLINE WORSHIP SERVICE FOR SHUT-INS

Not able to get to a Church Service?

Have internet access?

You can experience a weekly  
Lutheran Worship Service at:  
<https://www.worshipforshutins.org/>





**Have you thought about hosting a New Small-Group Ministry at  
Grace Lutheran Church?**

It's easy to get lost in a crowd – to feel lonely even though you may be surrounded by worshipers at Sunday Worship Service. That's why Grace is starting a small-groups ministry.

Do you want to connect more deeply with others at Grace?

Do you want to be part of a supportive community and be at a safe place to grow in Christ?

If so, the upcoming Grace Small-Group fellowship is for you.

Please leave your name with Shara, in the church office, if you are interested in joining this fellowship. More information on the meeting format is available upon request. You may also talk to Alan and Latifa Ho directly for more details.

We currently have the following Bible Study groups, here at the church and everyone is invited to join, starting the week of September 8th.

Adult Bible Study - Tuesday's at 1pm - Room 6

Sunday School & Jr. Youth - Sunday's at 9:45am - ages 3-14

Sr. Youth - Sunday's at 10am - Room 5

Adult Bible Study - Sunday's at 10am - Room 7

If there is enough interest, we will continue the Monday night study group—**please let Michelle Ruf know by September 15<sup>th</sup>** if you are interested in attending a Monday night study (and what topics or books of the bible you would be interested in looking at). **If there is enough interest, we would begin meeting on September 23 at 7 pm.**

# SENIOR HIGH YOUTH

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**Sunday morning classes for grades 9-12 will resume in room #5 (second floor) on September 8<sup>th</sup>.** Our first class will be a brainstorming session so please come with ideas for service projects, study topics, and other activities that you'd like to do. Friends are always welcome!

## YOUTH HOODIES:



The youth hoodies have arrived! If you ordered a hoodie, they are available in the youth room for pick-up. Thank you to those youth who designed the logo for us during one of our lock-ins last year.

The logo has a cross and a leaf that is divided up like puzzle pieces. The logo represents what Jesus told his disciples in John 17: 20-24:

***“I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so***

***that the world may believe that you have sent me. The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. Father, I desire that those also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory, which you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world.”***

The cross in the logo represents how Jesus saved us through His death on the cross and His resurrection. The puzzle leaf represents that we are all part of the Body of Christ, united as one, but also made of different parts, with different gifts which the Holy Spirit uses to help us grow in our faith and to be a witness of Jesus' love to the world.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding Senior High Youth, please let me know!

Thanks & God's Blessings,

Michelle Ruf

[michruf@telus.net](mailto:michruf@telus.net)

# BC MISSION BOAT TRIP – July 4-11, 2019

**OUR TEAM:** The Mission Team (going to Klemtu, B.C., a remote community in northern BC to share Jesus' love) will consist of the following people: **Michelle Ruf, Nicole Sauder, Keaton Sauder, Nadine Adam, Logan Brewster, JoAnne Peterson, Jamie Peterson and Alexandra Vasilakos.** Please remember our team in your prayers as we spend the coming months preparing for our trip. The trip will take place July 4-11, 2019.

**FUNDRAISING:** We have 8 team members which means **our fundraising goal is \$8000. Currently we have raised over \$5000. Thank you to everyone at Grace for your support in our fundraising efforts!**

**Nadine Adam is our Fundraising Coordinator.** If you have questions regarding any of our fundraising activities or have fundraising ideas you would like to suggest, please speak with Nadine Adam. She can be contacted at: 403-620-0567 or [nadinea@partscanada.com](mailto:nadinea@partscanada.com)

**Currently we are selling Purdy's chocolates for Easter. Order forms are located at the church or can be assessed online.** Just go to the Purdy's Fundraising login page and enter your email address. Our Fundraising campaign is simply called "BC Mission Boat Trip" or you can type this link in: <https://fundraising.purdys.com/359832-63287> **All orders are due on or before March 24th.** If you have any questions, please contact Gacynth Adam ([gadam@shaw.ca](mailto:gadam@shaw.ca)) or the church office. Thank-you, in advance, for your support.

Thank you so much to Shirley Holloway for painting and donating some more beautiful birdhouses for us to raffle off as well. **We will be selling tickets for the Easter raffle draw each Sunday until Palm Sunday, April 14th (winners will be drawn on Easter Sunday). The tickets are \$1 each or 6 tickets for \$5.**

**Bottle Collection:** Thank you to everyone who has been donating your empty cans/bottles--we will continue to collect empty cans/bottles, to help raise money for the mission trip, from now until June, 2019.

**Looking ahead:** Please mark **Saturday, May 4<sup>th</sup>** on your calendars as we are hoping to organize a final fundraising event at the church for that evening. It will involve food, fellowship, and games. Please stay tuned for more details!

If you would like to learn more about the BC Mission Boat Society, please speak with one of the team members or check out the link below:

<http://www.bcmissionboat.org/?view=mobile>

Thank you & God's Blessings,  
Michelle Ruf  
[michruf@telus.net](mailto:michruf@telus.net)



# BC MISSION BOAT TRIP PRESENTATION

The Mission Team that went to Klemtu, B.C. in July will be sharing a power point presentation and a few words during the service on **Sunday, September 29<sup>th</sup>**. We hope you will be able to join us as we share how the Lord blessed us during our time in Klemtu.

God's Blessings,

The Mission Team members: Nadine Adam, Logan Brewster, JoAnne & Jamie Peterson, Nicole & Keaton Sauder, Alexandra Vasilakos, and Michelle Ruf.



# Stewardship Moment

**What is a steward? Most people will say a steward is a manager.**

That is correct, but it is only half right. A steward is indeed a manager, but he is a manager of what does not belong to him. Someone else is the owner, and the steward manages the owner's property on the owner's behalf.

We are God's stewards. Our stewardship is that God has made us managers of what belongs to Him:

“For we brought nothing into this world, and we cannot take anything out of the world” (1 Tim. 6:7)

Everything that we have and everything that we are comes from God's fatherly divine goodness and mercy. God is the owner.

This is not only because He created all things; He is also the redeemer. He has redeemed – that is, purchased – and won all things. Therefore, it all belongs to Him.

We are simply managers of everything in this world. Like Joseph in Egypt, we are put in charge of managing what belongs to God. What a privilege.

Think about that for a minute. The all-knowing, all-powerful, all-wise God has asked us to manage his possessions on His behalf here on earth.

And by doing this, He invites us to take part in the allocation of His good gifts. He wants us to give our input and advise Him in where His gifts are to be used. What a privilege indeed.

But what a responsibility!

“Everyone to whom much was given, of him much will be required” (Luke 12:48b).

We are not the owners. And while He puts us as managers, we are still to do with His property what He wants done with it. That means we need to know what He desires and wills for His property.

How do we know this? How can we know the will and mind of God?

We find the will of God in the Bible. There God tells us what His will is for all of His gifts. He tells us how we are to spend our time and use our talents and treasures. He instructs us in the use of our minds, bodies, and souls.

There is nothing we have that doesn't belong to Him.

“Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body” (1 Cor. 6:19–20).

God informs us of the big picture, the overarching policy, of how we as His stewards – managers and custodians – are to manage His property.

And that is stewardship. It is simply doing what God wants us to do with what He has given us.

As St. Paul said,

“Do not present your members to sin as instruments for unrighteousness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and your members to God as instruments for righteousness” (Rom. 6:13).

So, let's dive into God's Word, and listen to what He desires from His stewards.