

Growing in Grace

MAY 2023



PASTOR'S MESSAGE

As I watch Susie grow up, I am astounded by just how fast she is growing up. It was not so very long ago that the only words she seemed to know were "Dada," "Mama," and "Why." But now she is stringing short sentences together and is more and more able to let me know what she wants (which is sometimes different than what she needs, but that's a distinction even I have trouble with from time to time.)

Her ever-increasing vocabulary makes me aware I must be very careful of what I say as whatever I say is likely to be oft repeated. It not so much naughty words that I am talking about but things I think are funny but other people might miss the humor on. For example, I used to call her "bad baby" as a joke, but when I heard that phrase being said back to me, "bad dada" I saw I need to be more judicious with my words.

But there are, of course, some blessings that come from Susie hearing certain words repeated. Even at two years old she can pray, "God. Thank You. Amen." (The last part with her hands raised.) And when she says, "Love Dada," my heart swells within me.

The Holy Bible has something to say about our words too, though the Scriptures tend to speak about our tongues more than our words. Specifically, James 3 says a lot a lot about tongues, most of it, but not all of it, condemningly.

Note, especially, James 3:7-8, "For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by mankind, but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison." This is something we have all experienced in our lives as we have all been hurt, and hurt terribly, by the words of others, sometimes intentionally, sometime not.

But we have all also used our words to hurt others, sometimes intentionally, sometime not. Also, we have all said things we wished we could take back. To perfectly control what we say is beyond our capability. Of course, we can ask for and receive forgiveness and God and each other for when what we say causes others pain. Though

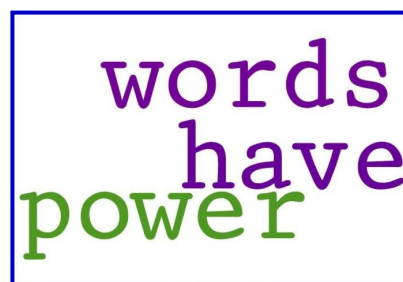
even when we ask forgiveness from each other, sometimes it is hard to restore the relationship as the wounds left by our words may take some time to heal.

But that is not all James has to say about our tongues. James 3:9 says, "With [the tongue] we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse people who are made in the likeness of God." God made us which means He made our tongues too. That necessarily means that we can use our tongues to glorify God. We can sing and pray and teach about Godly things.

But remember that James also said that "no human being can tame the tongue," and that is true, but the Holy Spirit in us can control our tongue. If we want to show more love to the people around us with our words, then we must turn to, trust and walk with God.

Let us all pray that we bless God and everyone else with the words we speak.

Pastor Joshua



GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH



51737 Columbia River Highway
Scappoose, Oregon 97056
503-543-6555
www.gracescappoose.org

pastor@gracescappoose.org
church@gracescappoose.org

GRACE CHRISTIAN CHILDREN'S CENTER
gccc@gracescappoose.org



BIRTHDAYS

May 6	Jeannie Shoemaker
May 7	Gary Liao
May 12	Robbie Burum
May 14	Trinity Mock
May 17	Spencer Nelson
May 18	Josephine Burum-Tankersley
May 26	Tom Morse
May 28	Matthew Boren

ANNIVERSARIES

May 8 Roy & Lynnda (52)



Bible Quiz – Fruit of the Vine

1. What did Paul recommend as a substitute for wine?
2. Who was accused of being a glutton and a drunkard?
3. What kind of person does Proverbs suggest be given wine?
4. What part of the body did Paul recommend wine for?
5. What place could a priest not enter after drinking wine?
6. What group of Israelites were never supposed to drink wine?
7. At the Last Supper, when did Jesus say He drink wine again with His disciples?
8. What was mingled with the wine Jesus was offered on the cross?
9. What judge threshed wine by his winepress to hide it from the Midianites?
10. Did Jesus people prefer old wine or new wine?

The answers are not posted!!!! No, we did not forget. Write your answers down 1-10 and turn into the church office by May 23 to be entered into the next drawing. April's winner was Cheri Layton!! She is the recipient of "Walking with the Savior" book full of bite-size devotions for every day of the year.



In March 2023 Grace Lutheran Church experienced Plate Contributions of **\$9,399.62** versus Expenses of **\$15,301.65** resulting in a **\$5,902.03 operating deficit**. GCCC raw income came in at **\$58,628.42** versus raw expenses at **\$55,391.51** resulting in a **\$4,718.94 operating surplus**. Combined results for GLC and GCCC, then, is a **\$1,183.09 operating deficit**.

In His Service,

Janet Wentz, President
Jan Surry, Vice-President

IMPORTANT

ANNOUNCEMENT



Please have your bagged or boxed papers to Grace by Sunday, April 30th. We are offering this as a service to our GLC members and the families at GCCC as a service to get rid of those confidential papers that need to be shredded. You DO NOT need to remove paperclips, binder clips, hanging file folders, rubber bands and staples...all of the typical filing fasteners. However, NO 3-ring binders, the paper needs to be removed and the binder disposed prior to shredding. And no other type of materials including garbage, xrays, batteries, etc. We are only shredding/recycling paper items.



Servant Schedule

May	COMMUNION	Mother's Day	COMMUNION	Friends & Family Memorial Day	
	7	14	21	28	
	Elder	Bill Covlin	Steve Layton	Steve Pollard	Rudie Pletz
	Ushers **	Janet Wentz	Cindy Squires	Jan Surry	Bill Covlin
		Don Wentz	Steve Pollard	Steve Surry	Steve Layton
Greeter*	Dee Dee Morse	Lesle Ruby	Sherry Shaffer	Carole Pletz	
Scripture Reader	Don Wentz	Steve Pollard	Phil Soth	Carole Pletz	
Acolyte*	Matthew Boren	Matthew Boren	Matthew Boren	Matthew Boren	
Altar Care	Lynnda Fuller		Vicki Krenz		
Music	Lynnda Fuller	Lynnda Fuller	Judi Hayes	Judi Hayes	
Altar Flowers	OPEN	Josephine & Robbie	OPEN	OPEN	
Sunday Bible Studies					
Sunday School	Tom & Robbie	Kristen & Steve Person (Mother's Day craft)	Tom & Robbie	ATTEND CHURCH WITH FAMILIES	
Adult Bible Study	Steve Layton	Steve Layton	Steve Layton	Steve Layton	



Teacher Appreciation Week is May 4-8



Sunday School Teachers

- © Tom Morse
- © Robbie Burum
- © Kristin Person
- © Steve Person



CHAPEL TIME

Pastor Joshua Wiley
Jennifer Matson, GCCC Teacher

Staff at GCCC

Karen Kenehan, Director
Suzy Fouts
Allison Neufeld
Gracie Krauter
Kim Holtz
Kendall Overstreet
Mya Haddon
Olyvia Skelton-cook
Noorah Al-Omran
Jennifer Matson
Miriam Winegar
Julie Henton
Maleia Boedeker
Chelsea Towell
Alissa Baughman
Sierra McCall
Alyssa Holtz
Mackenzie Blossfield





Did you notice the red barrel in the narthex. It's contents had changed. Jan Surry took several coats and jackets to the Women's Resource Center who will distribute them to needy people.

But the barrel remained and in it were canned goods, packaged dinners, paper towels and other articles needed by the Tualatin Schoolhouse Pantry. Those articles were taken to the West Hills Zone Rally at Living Savior Lutheran Church on April 22, 2023. The ladies who attended the rally whose theme was R & R — "Refreshed and Restored" -- were encouraged by the songs and devotion led by Pastor Fenster, chair exercises, sharing their personal ways for spiritual growth and creating a "Soul Collage" led by Deb Weaver. A light breakfast and lunch will be provided. Great fun and encouragement for all. Carpooling leaving at 8:00 from Grace. Talk to Carole Covlin, Carole Pletz, Gail Walker or Jan Surry if you need a ride.

"Season of Hope" mission activity ended with Easter, and your generosity will purchase a "Herd of Hope" that will create positive changes that lasts. It includes 13 animals—2 sheep, a goat, 2 piglets, a hen and 6 chicks. This "herd" will provide years of lasting blessings for families in need. This herd of helpful animals is a great source of nutritious milk and eggs to help keep children and adults healthy and strong. They also provide wool and fertilizer. And as the animals multiply, so will the fruits of your compassion, as families have more and more surplus to sell for much needed income. Also, we were able to provide a mosquito net to help protect the vulnerable from deadly malaria.

Our Ladies Lunch Out — the first in 3 years was held on Sunday, April 16 at Walt's Farm to Table. Many thanks to Gail Walker for finding a place for us to enjoy lunch and fellowship. She also provided favors of lovely butterflies that enhanced the devotion she presented "The Butterfly Effect".

Cindy Squires led us in a couple of games and 2 lucky ladies were gifted with lovely prizes provided by Carole Pletz. Good food, fun, and fellowship—what can be better!!

Mark your calendars for **May 7** and join us to enjoy super **baked potatoes with all the fixings, salads, and dessert** all in our Fellowship Hall following Sunday Church Service. **Along with the great free-will offering meal will be a Silent Auction!!** If you are doing your Spring cleaning and find things you aren't using, gifts or other articles you would like to donate, please give them to Carole Pletz who is collecting for the auction. Lots of fun and excitement to be had by all and a wonderful meal!!

Our next Mission Servants meeting will be **Tuesday, May 2, at 5:30 in the Fellowship Hall.** Hope you can join us!!

In His love,
Carole Covlin, President
West Hills Zone



May 7 Potato Bar* & Silent Auction



DONATIONS FOR AUCTION
NEEDED. PLEASE SEE
GAIL, CAROLE P OR JAN.



*free-will offering



A Crisis of Identify

Did you know that the mental health crisis our culture faces today is considered by many to be a pandemic. In particular, the issue of anxiety has replaced depression as the most common mental health issue.

In the book titled “Flip the Script: Disrupting Tradition for the Sake of the Next Generation”, by Chuck Peters, Jana Magruder, and Stephanie Salvatore,

they authors persuasively argue that the primary driver for anxiety in youth today is rooted in an identify crisis. Today, youngsters are expected to decide and define their identity for themselves. Their identify is no longer defined by their culture (I am an American), their faith (I am a Christian), or even their biological sex (I am a boy), but rather, they are supposed to identify and then defend their identify. As adults, we see the trap because we all know that we are all heavily influenced by our environment, be it family, faith, nationality, or more likely, a combination of multiple factors. Youth struggle now to try to define what makes them unique, where their true value lays, and it creates an extreme amount of anxiety as they wrestle with these issues. The issue is very complex and is well beyond the scope of this series of articles. But fortunately for us, the Bible speaks very clearly about our identity in Christ.

The Apostle Paul in the book of Galatians, chapter 2, writes:

20 I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.

As a Christian, my identify is in Christ. I do not need to be anxious about it, God, the creator of the universe who loves me, gave Himself for me, and then redeemed me with His own blood has called me to be His own. I am ingrafted into the true vine and am an adopted son of the King of Glory, a friend and coheir with Christ. When I become a Christian, my old self (old identify) died, and I rose again unto new life (new identify) in Christ. The old has passed, the new has come to be.

I am going to submit a series of 12 articles on twelve truths relating to identify. I will be drawing and quoting extensively from the “Flip the Script” book I referenced at the beginning of this article. These authors have done a good job in summarizing these Biblical truths. They have broken these 12 truths into three separate groupings with four (4) sub-topics each, identified below:

My position before God

- I am broken
- I am forgiven
- I am secure
- I am set apart

(Continued on page 9)

God's Passion for me

- I am known
- I am uniquely designed
- I am never alone
- I am loved

God's plan for my life

- I am made for community
- I am meant to know God
- I am designed for a purpose
- I am here to share Jesus

Even though the book is aimed at our youth ministry workers with the aim of improving our outreach to our children and youth, the truths emphasized here are relevant for all generations. When every you read the word "student", I would encourage you to substitute your own name for the generic pronoun and personalize it. Steve Pollard is broken, he is forgiven, he is secure, and he is set apart.

As we start this series, I pray that God will use these articles to accomplish His purposes for His Glory in His time.

Sincerely,

Stephen Pollard

Elder and Board of Education Chair
Grace Lutheran Church, Scappoose, OR

Congratulations Lindy & Matt



Baby Shower
for Lindy Resner
Saturday, May 20th

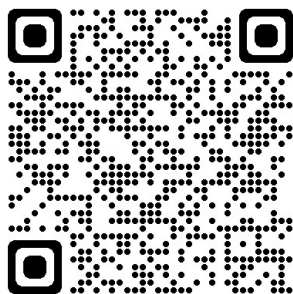


In Person

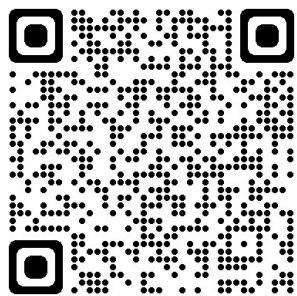
Whether it's cash or check, we appreciate your kindness. Please place your donations in an offering envelope and drop them in the offering plate.

Online (Vanco)

Visit <https://secure.myvanco.com/YQ4V/home> and click the contribute icon to set up a one-time or recurring donation.



Fred Meyer Rewards



Earn money for your community organization when you use your loyalty card.

www.fredmeyer.com/account/communityrewards

Organization Number: EN005

St. Pauly Shed

If you're not familiar with the clothing donation shed, it's designed to give our community a uniquely clean, convenient, and well-cared-



for option to donate their used clothing to be dispensed both here in the U.S. and worldwide, where they're ultimately re-worn by people who need them.

Grace receives funding for donated clothing which helps fund our youth programs.

Accepted items: clothing, shoes, belts, purses, blankets, sheets, curtains, pillow-cases, and stuffed animals.

Red Cross Blood Drives

Saturday, July 29th

Saturday, November 25th

Every day, blood donors help patients of all ages: accident and burn victims, heart surgery and organ transplant patients, and those battling cancer. In fact, every two seconds, someone in the U.S. needs blood.



EASTER 2023





HE IS RISEN.
HE IS RISEN INDEED.

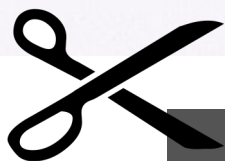
PC: Carole Pletz



Good Friday, the Friday before Easter, is the day on which Christians annually observe the commemoration of the Crucifixion of Jesus Christ.







TACO-BOUT A PARTY!

Cinco de Mayo Fiesta!

May 5, 2023

6pm - 9pm

**MEXICAN POTLUCK
& BOARD GAMES!**



GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH & CHILDREN'S CENTER
51737 S. COLUMBIA RIVER HWY. | SCAPPOOSE
503-543-6555 | WWW.GRACESCAPPOOSE.ORG





Grace Christian Children's Center

A MESSAGE FROM MISS KAREN



This month has been filled with so much fun and excitement as we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus. Our students were able to learn about the true meaning of Easter and what it meant when Jesus died on the cross for our sins. The bible story and the bible verses they learn daily validates the expectations of what it means for us to follow Jesus! Miss Jen and Pastor Joshua has been doing amazing with sharing the gospel to our younger students and connecting known holidays to the words of the bible. Our daycare, preschool, and school-aged program students were all able to participate in an egg hunt leading up to Good Friday as well!

Miss Sierra created edible playdoh for the daycare classroom which the little ones really enjoyed! In addition, we were able to close out the month with Earth Day activities! Miss Gracie and Miss Mya helped students create fairy traps where they were able to explore the outdoors and even catch bugs/insects! Miss Allison threw a party for her preschool classes which was so nice to see as parents join in on the fun as well!

We are so grateful for this incredible team that we have because they are truly the foundation that allows our ministry to spread the word of God!

-Miss Karen



"Where caring people enrich the lives of children and families through Christ-centered Learning"



Grace Christian Children's Center



OUR PHILOSOPHY

As an important ministry of the Grace Lutheran Church congregation, Grace Christian Children's Center believes that children need a solid foundation on which they can build. Childhood is a time like no other. It's a time for exploring, creating, playing and discovering about one's self. It's a time for learning about our identity in Christ, for meeting the world, for learning how to learn and for being accepted just the way they are.

Our curriculum is based on providing your child with experiences that will enrich and enhance each child's spiritual life, their cognitive, language, social, emotional, physical and creative development.

Our experienced teaching staff understands that each child is a unique person with an individual pattern and timing of social, physical, and intellectual development.

We embrace the belief that parents are the first and most important teachers of their children. Parents are welcome visitors in the classroom at all times and we value their input in our program.

Our program does not discriminate because of race, color, sex, marital status, religion, national origin, age, sexual orientation, life style, or disability in program admittance, activities or employment. We do not tolerate discriminatory behavior.

Our program is welcoming, respectful and accepting of all families. Our program is open to all age-eligible children; including children with special needs, if reasonable accommodations can be made. Each child's needs are addressed with parents on a one-to-one basis.

"Where caring people enrich the lives of children and families through Christ-centered Learning"

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

51737 S. Columbia River Highway
Scappoose, Oregon 97056

**COMMITTED TO SHARE AND GROW IN
THE LOVE OF JESUS CHRIST!**

CHECK US OUT ON THE WEB
WWW.GRACESCAPPOOSE.ORG



Jennifer Mock-Wiley,
Trinity Mock, Dominic
Squires, Paxton Squires,
Spencer Squires, Sydney
Liao, Dustin Tankersley &
Josephine Tankersley:
Easter was really **hopping**
this year! Thank you for
making this a **GLORIOUS**
day!

Carole Pletz—thank you for
capturing these precious mo-
ments!

