

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Let's keep on trying to answer some of the tough questions that we, as Christians, may encounter. This month's question, "Why is Jesus the only way?"

We could just say, "Because Jesus said so and quote John 14:6. 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." But, while true, it could be said to be a bit snarky. Still, it is important for us to affirm that they are right; Jesus is indeed the only way. John 14:6 is an excellent verse to prove that.

Given our (at least supposedly) tolerant society, telling other people they are wrong about such deeply personal things like religion is considered to be highly offensive. That is something we want to keep in mind when talking to others about Jesus and especially when answering questions like, "Why is Jesus the only way?" They may feel that we are, in effect, telling people they are going to hell just because they don't believe in Jesus. Even if that is not precisely true, they might feel that way, so we want to be sure to talk to them with gentleness and respect [1 Peter 3:16] even as we speak the truth in love. [Eph 4:15]

But "Why is Jesus the only?" In short, because all ways to God are by nature mutually exclusive to one degree or another. If one person says, "Jesus is the only way." and another says, "Jesus is not the only way.", only one of them can be correct. Many people consider all religion to be the same or say such things as, "All paths lead to heaven.", but that simply cannot be the case.

If Islam maintains that obedience to Muhammed is essential and Christians maintain that we owe our duty to Jesus alone and Latter-Day Saints maintain that we must conform to all Jospeh Smith commanded, it becomes immediately obvious that to follow one necessarily means rejecting the others. If nothing else, those three worldviews have wildly different understandings of who Jesus is. A follower of Islam says He is prophet, but not God. A Latter-Day saint would say Jesus one God among many. But a Christian will say that Jesus is the one and only God. Some people might say that spiritual things don't have to adhere to truth as we normally understand it. We could just ask them why they believe that and go on from there. But we could also

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show them religions don't just differ on how they understand God, but on how their understanding affects how they live their lives. For example, if we believe, rightly, that God strongly condemns abortion and do what we can to prevent it, many of the same people that think all religions are the same will suddenly have a major issue with our religion.

There are, of course, many other reasons Jesus is the only way, a primary one being that faith in Jesus is the only means by which our sin could be paid, but addressing the points suggested above is a method that doesn't require the people we talk to have knowledge of the Bible so can be a bit easier.

Pastor Joshua



<u>GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH</u>



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GRACE CHRISTIAN CHILDREN'S CENTER

gccc@gracescappoose.org

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BIRTHDAYS

Sept 6	Bekah Boren
Sept 9	Dominic Squires
Sept 19	Janet Johnson
Sept 20	Paxton Squires
Sept 24	Lindsay Brown
Sept 26	Steve Layton

<u>ANNIVERSARIES</u>

Sept 7 Richard & Brenda Squires (21) Sept 18 Doug & Jeanne Hutton (24)



Bible Quiz – The Miracles of Jesus

- 1) What was the first miracle Jesus performed?
- 2) What happened to the disciples' nets and boats the first time Jesus miraculously caused them to catch a large number of fish?
- 3) What miracle did Jesus miraculously for Peter's mother-in-law?
- 4) What miracle did the centurion request of Jesus?
- 5) What miracle did Jesus perform for the widow from Nain?
- 6) What miracle did Jesus perform when the disciples thought they were going to drown?
- 7) What happened to the demons Jesus miraculously cast out of the men living in the tombs?
- 8) What did Jesus say to the paralyzed man that was lowered through the roof just before Jesus miraculously healed him?
- 9) What miracle did Jairius ask of Jesus?
- 10) What part of Jesus' clothes did the woman with the bleeding disease touch?

WRITE YOUR ANSWERS DOWN 1-10 AND TURN INTO THE CHURCH OFFICE BY <u>SEPTEMBER 22ND</u> TO BE ENTERED INTO THE NEXT DRAWING. <u>JULY/AUGUST'S WINNER WAS ALLISON NEUFELD</u> IN GCCC! SHE WILL RECEIVE DISNEY PRINCESS LIP SMACKER SET.

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In July 2023 Grace Lutheran Church experienced Plate Contributions of \$10,114.20 versus Expenses of \$14,760.73 resulting in a \$4,646.53 operating deficit. GCCC raw income came in at \$66,458.00 versus raw expenses at \$58,155.39 resulting in a \$8,302.61 operating surplus. Combined results for GLC and GCCC, then, is a \$3,656.08 operating surplus.

Respectfully Submitted,

Janet (With Phil's Support and Guidance)

Current Topics

- Sign proposal & van purchase—up for vote at 8/30 meetings
- Purchasing new microphone for Pastor
- Open positions



Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God. Hebrews 13:16

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It is time to look towards fall, and the activities that bring us together. On September 10th, we will have our annual Sunday School Round Up and also our Church Picnic. Cherie Layton is heading up the planning for the picnic. The church will provide hamburgers, hot dogs and drinks. There is a sign up sheet in the Fellowship Hall for the food. Also please bring your lawn chair and any outside games you wish to share. We can use a bar-b-que grill or two so please let Cherie know if you can bring one. This year we will also be using the new covered structure at GCCC.

Please note the date of October 29th – Reformation Sunday. We will have a program at 3:00 with music and Luther's message. After the program we will

join together with a traditional German themed potluck at 4:00. The church will provide the brats and sauerkraut. We would like to have mostly German food, but of course all food will be appreciated! We have invited the youth group from Ridgefield and their families to join us. More details will follow in the October newsletter.

Most importantly, let us remember that our time together in worship is vital and important, but just as vital is our time of fellowship. We need these times to be refreshed and joyfully share our friendship with one another. Fellowship strengthens our bonds and unites us in Christ as His beloved children.

If you have any ideas for events or activities, please let me know.

Gail Walker

Fellowship Coordinator

ACTION ITEMS

- **SIGN UP FOR PICNIC POTLUCK**
- BRING A LAWN CHAIR
- **O** INVITE A FRIEND
- **©** BRING A LAWN GAME



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Thank you, Phil!

We could not let Phil Soth step down from his position as the church Treasurer without expressing our gratitude for all he has contributed in time and expertise to Grace Christian Children's Center.

Many of you are unaware of the countless hours Phil spent a few years ago rebuilding our client accounts in QuickBooks. The previous director had not backed up any files for several months, so when her computer failed, we lost everything. The accounts had to be entered manually with information from hard copies of our billing. This was a tedious and very time-consuming process.

A few months after the computer failure, we had the devastating fire at GCCC. Phil handled the insurance claims and all the ensuing issues in the months as we rebuilt and recovered from this tragedy.

Last spring, we changed our billing program to a new more encompassing program. It seemed to be a good program when we looked at the initial information. Unfortunately, the one weakness in this program is its accounting. Very soon we discovered shortcomings and inaccuracies that made keeping accurate records very difficult. It would have been a huge undertaking to return to our old system, so Phil began working to ensure that our financial information was correct. He developed several spreadsheets which he uses to transfer the information from the accounting system into usable data that can then be integrated into the church's accounts. It was a very stressful time with no help from the software company. Phil now has an accurate method of handling the resources from GCCC. The new Treasurer will benefit greatly from all his hard work and knowledge.

More recently, we had the sudden change in leadership at GCCC. At that time, we realized that to continue and retain our staff it was necessary to restructure our payroll. Phil completed a new payroll structure which now has us following the district guidelines for our employees.

It should be obvious that Phil has worked tirelessly (well he is tired!) behind the scenes to help GCCC grow and thrive as our outreach to the community. These are just a few of the contributions he has made. We would not be the success we are today without Phil Soth.

With heartfelt thanks and appreciation,

The GCCC Board

Gail Walker, Pat Hoag, Carole Covlin, Jennifer Mock-Wiley, Boyd Ruby, Tom Morse, Steve Layton, with Pastor Wiley and Karen Kenehan

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Mission Servants will meet on Tuesday, September 7 at 5:30 in the Fellowship Hall. We will be planning for the fall to the new year. If you have ideas you would like to share, please email Carole Covlin or even better, join us and share your ideas.

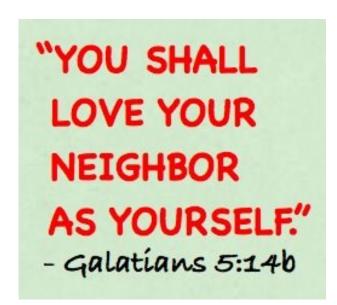
Many thanks for your donation or supplies for the Lutheran World Relief School Kits. Your generosity has made it possible to prepare and send 100 kits. Many thanks to Jennifer Wiley and her dedication to this mission project.

Mark your calendars for Saturday, October 7 and plan on joining us for the West Hills Zone rally. We will be hosting the rally at Grace this Fall. We will be honored to have a presentation from a representative of Child Beyond, International. You won't want to miss this presentation showing ministry to orphans in Guatemala.

In His love,

Carole Covlin, President

West Hills Zone





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REFORMATION PROGRAM

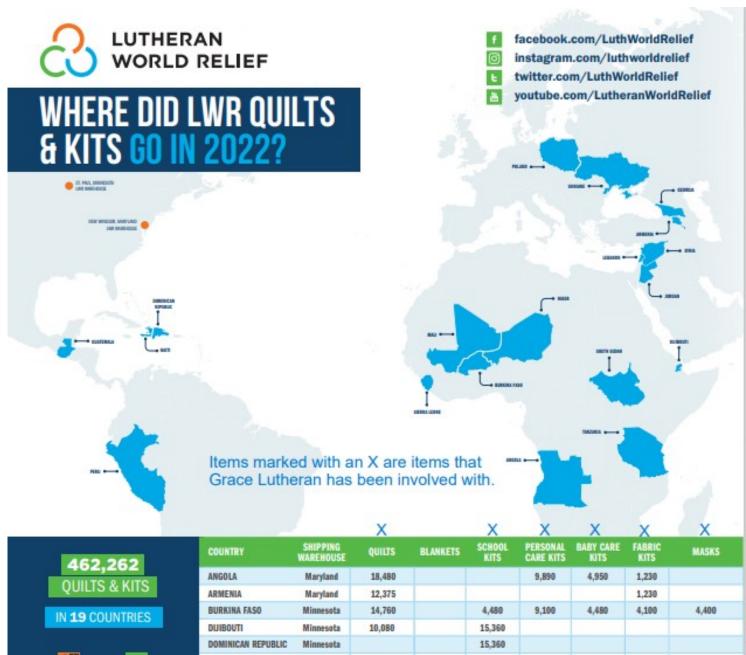


Luther sparked the Reformation in 1517 by posting, at least according to tradition, his "95 Theses" on the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg, Germany - these theses were a list of statements that expressed Luther's concerns about certain Church practices - largely the sale of indulgences, but they were based on Luther's deeper concerns with Church doctrine.

3PM PROGRAM 4PM DINNER

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH & CHILDREN'S CENTER

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				X		X	X	X	X	X
462,2	062	COUNTRY	SHIPPING WAREHOUSE	QUILTS	BLANKETS	SCHOOL KITS	PERSONAL CARE KITS	BABY CARE KITS	FABRIC KITS	MASKS
		ANGOLA	Maryland	18,480			9,890	4,950	1,230	
QUILTS 8	Z KIIS	ARMENIA	Maryland	12,375					1,230	
IN 19 COU	NITRIES	BURKINA FASO	Minnesota	14,760		4,480	9,100	4,480	4,100	4,400
IN 13 COU	NIMES	DIJIBOUTI	Minnesota	10,080		15,360				
		DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	Minnesota			15,360				
		GEORGIA	Maryland	36,960						
220,317	1,650	GUATEMALA	Minnesota	7,200			21,700	7,200		
quits	BLANKETS	HAITI	Minnesota	8,640			2,800			
20		JORDAN	Maryland	7,260		5,500				
		LEBANON	Maryland	15,180		8,000	6,900	4,200	1,230	
94,060	90,860	MALI	Maryland	22,440		5,000	4,830	3,150	205	6,250
PERSONAL CARE KITS	SCHOOL KITS	NIGER	Minnesota	11,160		5,760		3,840		4,400
1		PERU	Minnesota	15,840			7,000			
0	= 1	POLAND	Maryland	11,520		2,500	7,360	3,480		
46,560 BABY CARE NITS	8,815	SIERRA LEONE	Minnesota	10,800			7,000	3,840		4,400
		SOUTH SUDAN	Maryland	3,630	1,650	13,000	3,220	2,100	820	6,250
(⊜	2	SYRIA	Maryland			6,500	5,908			
31,95		TANZANIA	Minnesota	7,920		6,400		6,080		
FACE MASI		UKRAINE	Maryland	6,072		3,000	8,280	3,240		6,250
			TOTAL	220,317	1,650	90,860	94,060	46,560	8,815	31,950

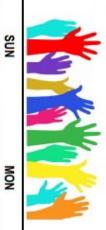
This shipping information is from LWR's 2022 fiscal year (Oct 2021 - Sept 2022).



Servant Schedule

Communion	DALLY & DICNIC	Communion	
September 3		17	24
Elder Rudie Pletz	z Bill Covlin	Steve Layton	Steve Pollard
Jan Surry	Rudie Pletz	Barbara Lacy	Bill Covlin
Steve Surry	y Cindy Squires	Bill Lacy	Steve Pollard
Scripture Reader Carole Pletz	tz Phil Soth	Steve Pollard	Don Wentz
Acolyte* Matthew Boren	ren Matthew Boren	Matthew Boren	Matthew Boren
Greeter Janet Johnson	on Dee Dee Morse	Pat Hoag	Sherry Shaffer
Altar Care Vicki Krenz	Z	Karen Lile	
Altar Flower OPEN	OPEN	Marilyn Stender	OPEN
Music Judi Hayes	s Judi Hayes	Lynnda Fuller	Lynnda Fuller
Bible Studies			
Children's Sunday School			ATTEND
(Youth Bible Study)	RALLY	Persons	SERVICE WITH FAMILY
Teen Bible Study Steve Pollard	ırd Steve Pollard	Steve Pollard	Steve Pollard
Women's Bible Study Dee Dee Morse	rse Dee Morse	Dee Dee Morse	Dee Dee Morse
Men's Bible Study Steve Pollard	ırd Steve Pollard	Steve Pollard	Steve Pollard
Adult Bible Study Steve Layton	on Steve Layton	Steve Layton	Steve Layton
	Layto		Steve Pollard Steve Steve Layton Steve







	48	29			8	88
3 0	6:30A MBS	28	27 10A Cheerful Comforters	26 10ALBS @Grace	*** CONFIRMATION CLASS SUNDAY 8/24 AFTER SERVICE	FAMILY SERVICE 24 9A ABS (DAYCARE ONSITE) 10:15A Worship 11:30A Fellowship Mtg ***
	6:30A MBS	6P GCCC Staff Meeting	10A Cheerful Comforters	10A LBS @Grace Newsletter Deadline	5:00P Church Council Meeting (Zoom)	9A ABS (DAYCARE ONSITE) 10:15A Worship & 66
23	22	21	20	19	81	Communion 17
16	6:30 MBS	9:30A GCCC Board 4:15P Board of Ed	13 10A Cheerful Comforters	12 10A LBS @Grace	4:30P Elders Meeting (Zoom)	9A ABS - NO DAYCARE 10:15A Worship SS RALLY & CHURCH PICNIC
	6:30A MBS		10A Cheerful Comforters	10A LBS @St. Wenceslaus 5:30P Mission Servants	Labor Day	(ABS) - NO DAYCARE 10:15A Worship CAKE
9	8	7	0	Center Closed Center Closed Center Closed	Church & Children's	Communion 3
N	7A Mens Bible Study (MBS)			God-centered worship is important in family life and in the life of the church.		GCCC utilizes the Fellowship Hall when not in church-use. Times may vary.
SAT	FRI	THU	WED	TUE	MON	NUS

tember

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

W Psalm 46:10.

minutes as you pray or Try sitting still for five read the Bible.

Pray that God would lift your burdens and give Matthew 11:28-30.

you rest.

5

Sing "Christ Be My Leader" (LSB 861) Bookmark it.

John 8:12.

5

How does Christ lead us? Sing LSB 861:1.

Matthew 4:23.

Matthew 4:19.

Sing LSB 861:2. What does Christ teach us?

00

Pray, "O Savior, bear my

Write this verse on a card, then send it to someone

Isaiah 40:31.

who is struggling.

Luke 10:41-42.

Read

my distractions"

(TLSB, p. 1736)

Sing LSB 861:3. How has Christ saved us?

9

Titus 3:4-5.

Proverbs 9:10.

grow in godly wisdom Pray for all students to this school year.

Psalm 121:7. Read

Pray for God's protection in nity, your country, and the your family, your commu-

Write a thank-you note to

Philippians 1:3.

Read

or anyone who works a teacher, a custodian

in a school.

Galatians 6:9. Read

Pray for God to give you strength when you are weary today.

Isaiah 9:6. Read

What is your favorite name of Jesus from this verse?

Draw a cross outline,

1 Corinthians 1:18 Read

add glue, and fill it with pom-poms or beads.

the doorway to your home Read this verse aloud in

John 10:9

Psalm 34:8.

Read

Read

with your family and thank God for His sweet Share a sweet treat

grace

27

Pray, "I believe; help my unbelief!"

Mark 9:24.

Read

chism with Explanation.

in Luther's Small Cate-

Read the explanation of the Second Article of the Creed

Christ is Lord" in another Look up how to say "Jesus

language.

Philippians 2:5-8

Philippians 2:9-11.

Read

Read

24

and ask Him for one thing Have each family member

thank God for one thing

Go to a dark room and say,
"I don't need to fear,

Look up the definition

Ask God to help you be

Discuss what you know

Pray that your church would be united in Christ's

What does the word

humility mean?

Philippians 2:3-4.

Read

Philippians 2:1-2.

Read

love and Holy Word.

Matthew 9:9.

Read

about Matthew from

the Bible.

Colossians 3:13.

Read

21

more forgiving today.

of authority.

Matthew 7:28-29.

Read

Joshua 1:9.

Read

God is with me!"

Philippians 4:6.

Read

18

19

sacrifice for you affect your daily life? 1 Corinthians 2:2 How does Jesus'

Memorize these verses. Psalm 121:1-2.

Psalm 91:11-12 Read

Thank God for His strong angels who protect us and tell the Good News

Psalm 91:15-16. Read

Sing "What a Friend We Have in Jesus" (LSB 770)

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I AM NEVER ALONE

In the first article, I described the current identify crisis that is plaguing our culture today, along with the Biblical answer that our identify is in Christ (see Gal 2:20). Now I want to start discussing 12 key truths regarding our identify in Christ, the next in sequence being that I am never alone. This article is a slightly edited version of an article taken from the book "Flip the Script: Disrupting Tradition for the Sake of the Next Generation", by Chuck Peters, Jana Magruder, and Stephanie Salvatore.

God is always with you.

At a time when people, and especially our youth, feel like they are all alone, distant, or in isolation from others, they need to know the identity of the One true God – the One who will never abandon them. Let's read some Scriptures below that speaks to this truth.

PS 139, 7-12 Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence? 8 If I ascend into heaven, You are there; If I make my bed in hell, behold, You are there. 9 If I take the wings of the morning, And dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, 10 Even there Your hand shall lead me, And Your right hand shall hold me. 11 If I say, "Surely the darkness shall fall on me," Even the night shall be light about me; 12 Indeed, the darkness [e]shall not hide from You, But the night shines as the day; The darkness and the light are both alike to You.

Duet 31: 7-8 Then Moses called Joshua and said to him in the sight of all Israel, "Be strong and of good courage, for you must go with this people to the land which the Lord has sworn to their fathers to give them, and you shall cause them to inherit it. 8 And the Lord, He is the One who goes before you. He will be with you, He will not leave you nor forsake you; do not fear nor be dismayed."

IS 41: 8-10 But you, Israel, are My servant, Jacob whom I have chosen, The descendants of Abraham My friend. 9 You whom I have taken from the ends of the earth, And called from its farthest regions, And said to you, 'You are My servant, I have chosen you and have not cast you away: 10 Fear not, for I am with you; Be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, Yes, I will help you, I will uphold you with My righteous right hand.'

PS 23: 1-4 The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. 2 He makes me to lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside the still waters. 3 He restores my soul; He leads me in the paths of righteousness For His name's sake. 4 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; For You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.

God promises to always be with us no matter what happens because that is who He is. He is the God of fierce loyalty. When we face

(Continued on page 14)

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(Continued from page 13)

the unknown, God is there. When try to run, hide, rebel, and fight against Him, God is still there. His steadfast faithfulness never diminishes, no matter what. He is always faithful, and He is ever-present.

We see the identify of this promise reflected in the identify of Jesus. The prophet Isaiah foretold of the coming Messiah who would be called Immanuel (Isaiah 7:14). Immanuel - God with us - came to make a way for us to be with God forever.

God is not distant. He is near. He sees, He hears, and He loves.

You are never alone.

In His Service,

Steve Pollard, Board of Education

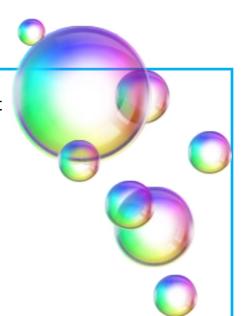
It takes a village to successfully put on a car wash! It was all hands on deck today to support our youth group.

From washing cars to serving hot dogs, please thank those who served today!

- Steve Pollard
- Jennifer Mock-Wiley & Pastor Joshua
- Suzie & Hezekia Wiley
- Tom Morse & Dee Dee Morse
- Lynnda Fuller on signs & balloons!
- Cindy Squires
- Jan & Steve Surry
- Lesle Ruby
- Bill & Barb Lacy
- Sam Hunt
- Fallon Bargas
- Josephine Burum-Tankersley

In His Love,

Robbie







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Scace Christian Children's Center



A MESSAGE FROM MRS. KAREN

This month has been an exciting month at GCCC. It is our last month of our summer program where we have an average of 80-94 kids attending! We kicked start our first week of August with a jungle week theme where students had a chance to learn about Noah's Ark. We then went into space week where students learned about creation, the sky and luminaries! After space week, we had a fun filled week with our Disney theme week where students learned about kings and priest. We are now approaching our final week of summer with Olympics week! We are excited to teach/learn about training our faith during chapel! It's been such a great blessing watching our little ones learn about Jesus and the bible!

-Mrs. Karen

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

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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.

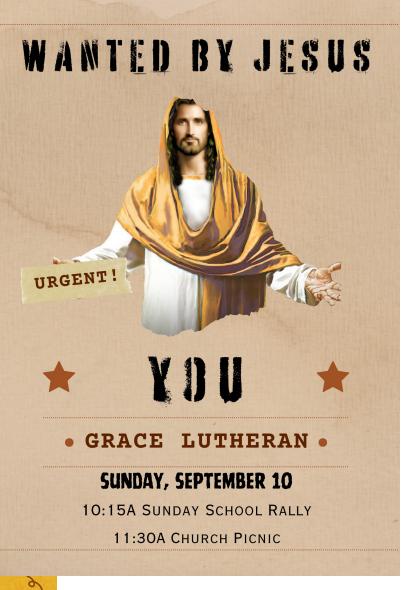
Our program does not discriminate because of race, color, sex, marital status, religion, national origin, age, sexual orientation, life style, or disability in program admittance, activities or employment. We do not tolerate discriminatory behavior.

Our program is welcoming, respectful and accepting of all families. Our program is open to all ageeligible 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"

SIGN UP FOR THE PICNIC POTLUCK! See Cheri Layton for details.





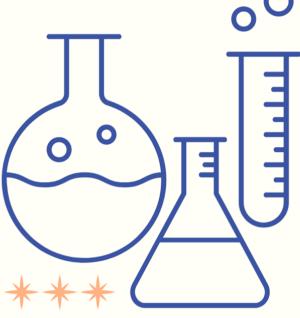
BRING A
LAWN
CHAIR & A
YARD
GAME!

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

WITH PASTOR
JOSHUA

LEARN ABOUT GOD'S
PROMISES, FAITH AND LOVE
WITH FUN AND ENGAGING
STORIES FROM THE BIBLE &
SCIENCE EXPERIMENTS.



SUNDAYS

2ND, 4TH & 5TH SUNDAYS EACH MONTH



GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH & CHILDREN'S CENTER

51737 COLUMBIA RIVER HIGHWAY SCAPPOOSE, OREGON 97056 WWW.GRACESCAPPOOSE.ORG

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

Fall Cleaning

Bring your unwanted (clean &
dry) clothes,
belts, purses,
shoes, towels,
pillowcase &
stuffed animals
to Grace!

