



Good News of Grace

"Then they shall know that I am the Lord their God, because I sent them into exile among the nations and then assembled them into their own land." Eze 39:28

2020
OCTOBER



Pastors

Michael Buchhorn
Erik Christensen

Family Worship Times

Sunday: 8:00am &
10:30am
Sunday School
9:15am

904 Logan
Wayne, NE
402-375-1905



For quite a while now those attending the Wednesday morning Bible Class and I have been reading/studying our way through the Old Testament book of Ezekiel. We will be finishing that study this month. This challenging book of the Bible has been an interesting portion of Scripture to read through this time of worldwide upheaval due to the pandemic.

The book is written to people whose lives had been disrupted by the Babylonian captivity. God revealed through Ezekiel why the calamity had come upon them and used Ezekiel to call the people to repentance. In the course of the book, events such as the siege against Jerusalem, its ultimate fall and the destruction of Solomon's temple were all reported.

The book was a good reminder that even through sometimes perplexing circumstances in life, God is still at work. When His people rebel against him, He is at work to bring them to repentance. When the ungodly seem to thrive and get the upper hand, He is still at work. When His people are restored, He is at work. No less than 33 times in the book it was announced that after a prediction of

God's action came to pass, "then they shall know." God wants to be known. He makes Himself known through His Word and through His actions in the world.

The actions of God in the world are often difficult for us to properly figure out. That is why the blessing of the Word is so important. The Word helps us to know the will of God. More than that it helps us know the heart of God toward us. Through the Word we can know that even if the circumstances of life prove difficult, God's love for us does not waver. We can trust that God is working all things together for the good of those who love him.

The right knowing of God leads to the right worship of God. Ezekiel ends with a very detailed description of a new temple where God would be worshipped in truth and purity. A similar picture is given at the end of the Bible in the book of Revelation. As we know God, we are moved to worship Him. God would have us delight in Him.

Now for a season we still struggle along. We at times can be perplexed as we wonder "What is the world coming to?" But in such times God calls us to lift our eyes heavenward and to turn our thoughts to Him. As St. Paul said, "We know in part and we prophesy in part." (1Co. 13:9). Until that day when we will know fully even as we are fully known, we continue to ask that God would help us to better know and love Him.

Today we can thank God if we already know that He is the Lord our God. May we see His hand at work and like Ezekiel share the truth of His Word so that others may also know He is the Lord God.

In Christ,

Pastor Buchhorn

Wayne State College and Younger Adults

We have been excited to welcome new and returning students back to campus this past month, and we got to reopen the Cup of Grace building for ministry to those students. Our numbers have been growing and we have 10 students who are active with our group. We look forward to continuing to do even more outreach, and one way you can help us accomplish that is by cooking a meal for our Sunday Night Dinners! These dinners take place every Sunday at 7:30PM at Cup of Grace, and they are free to all college students in town! Even if you don't go to WSC but are still in town we would love for you to come join us for some delicious food! If you would like to prepare a meal for our students there is a calendar in the kitchen at church for you to sign up on, or you can contact Pastor Erik. Thank you again for all your support and prayers for our college ministry!

Midweek Classes

We are continuing our Midweek Bible Studies on Wednesday evenings at 6:30PM. This is a reminder that these classes are for all 3rd through 8th grade youth. We look forward to seeing you here at church from 6:30 to 7:30 every Wednesday. You can still join in the fun even if you missed the start of these classes. I hope you can join us as we dive into God's word together!

High School

We want to invite all of our High School Youth and Parents to the High School Sunday School class that Jeff and Colleen Simpson are leading! We meet in the conference room close to the fellowship hall. Pastor Erik will also be leading another adult class in the fellowship hall as well. Come join us as we want you to be strong in your faith, and Biblical knowledge since God promises to speak to us through His Word. Let's continue to build strong relationships together in fellowship as well!

Pastor Erik's Young Adult Bible Study

This is a new Bible study that is open to all adults, again we don't check id's at the door, but we are especially hoping young adults and parents can join us in the fellowship hall at 9:15 every Sunday morning. We will be looking at the same lesson as the youth who participate in other Sunday School classes. This will hopefully give you a way to study the Bible together as a family. We want you to be in God's word not only here at church, but also at home. So come join Pastor Erik and learn ways to grow your faith and help nurture the faith of your children.

Sunday School



As we once again start a new educational year, the Sunday School would like Jeremiah 29:11-12 “For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope. Then you will call upon Me and come and pray to Me, and I will hear you.” (ESV) On Rally Sunday, the 7th and 8th grade class discussed our theme verses for this year. God has a plan for each one of us. We are precious to Him. We are so loved by

God that He sent His Son Jesus to be born, live a perfect life, and die for our sins, so that we do now have a hope and a future...eternal life in heaven with Him! God has a plan for our lives, a plan for us to follow Him. Following the Eternal God does not guarantee us a trouble-free life in this sinful world, but faith in Jesus does guarantee us a place in heaven. And while we live our earthly lives, God/Jesus promises to never forsake us. We can turn our back on God, but He will never turn His back on those who trust in Him. Through Jesus, we have an eternal Hope for our future.

The students in the upper division class have a Sunday School lesson book entitled “Defend Journal”. Each lesson gives an overview of the Bible narrative and discusses how Jesus fits into the lesson. The Bible is not just some out-of-date, ancient book that we use in church. It is the true Word of God and tells the narrative of God’s work of salvation. From Genesis to Revelation, it is a book that tells us who we are and where we came from, tells what God has revealed to us about who He is, and tells the story of what God has done for us. As the students learn more about HIStory as recorded in the Bible, it is our prayer that they will become more confident in defending their faith when it is at odds against the teachings of the secular culture.

This year looks a little different than past years. In the 7th and 8th grade class, the students are spread out as much as possible. With no opening, I plan to play video clips to fill in the time between 1st service and the Sunday School start time. We have been watching an Answer’s in Genesis video on Race (there is only one race, the human race). Other video possibilities are the Gospel of John and videos which promote the Bible and creation science.

As the year continues, it is my prayer that good attendance continues. Regular attendance in Sunday School is a blessing to everyone

concerned. Bible knowledge increases and faith grows. Students would rather be one of many rather than one of two attending class; good attendance encourages and builds up classmates.

It is my privilege to teach these young people. Please keep our Sunday School program in your prayers throughout the year. May God bless each of you. Carlene Bodlak

For now, Sunday School classes, which begin at 9:15 a.m, will start in the individual classrooms, as opposed to beginning with opening and/or music. As such, we will be asking that parents immediately drop off their children to their new classroom, and if any plans were to change, we will alert parents to any updates.

The Sunday School is encouraging the use of masks for both students and teachers during Sunday School class time. We hope that you will come to see that this recommendation is done in an effort to protect the safety of everyone as we seek to, once again, gather together to teach about the Word of God.

Our next Sunday School meeting will take place on October 8th, 2020, at 6:30 p.m. During the meeting for October, the teachers will be primarily focusing on discussing relevant Sunday School business matters.

For the month of October, in reference to our service project, the Sunday School will be asking for donations of packages of new socks for either boys and/or girls (ages 2-7 and/or 8-12). If you are interested in assisting with this activity, the Sunday School will be collecting any donations in the marked bin by the Sunday School office, in the basement. Thank you, in advance, for your generosity!

For more information, and updates concerning any future plans for Sunday School activities, please make sure to join and routinely check our Facebook page. Join by searching Grace Lutheran Sunday School, Wayne, NE for updates and weather-related announcements.

To close, we sincerely appreciate the patience of all of our Sunday School parents and students as we continue to navigate these continuing, and yet developing, health conscious times. In the coming weeks, if you have any questions or concerns, or if you have an interest in teaching, subbing, or assisting in a non-teaching fashion, please contact Derek Jareske at 402-369-1555 or dejare01@gmail.com. Thank you!

Respectfully,

The Sunday School Program (sundayschool@gracewayne.com)

Grace Lutheran Ladies' Aid

September 9, 2020

Grace Lutheran Ladies Aid met September 9, 2020 with 8 members, Pastor Christensen, and Derek Jareske present. Pres. Rhonda Sebade began the meeting by leading the group in reciting the LWML Pledge. Ellen Heine-mann presented the devotion which emphasized "Working Together In His Strength" based on 1 Corinthians 12:4-11. Using bees making honey as an example reminds us the Holy Spirit gives each of us gifts to use to carry out the work He gives us to do.

Pres. Rhonda led the devotion centered on the mission grant proposal of \$50,000 for "Hope and Healing Hub of Downtown Lincoln, NE." The University Lutheran Chapel is advantageously located at the very edge of the University of Nebraska campus. The students currently involved in worship, Bible study, and discipleship at the chapel are a great connecting point for others to enter the chapel community. This grant will help with the much needed renovation, making the chapel a more accessible place for counseling and other student services.

The secretary's report was given and approved. The treasurer's report was filed for audit. The sewing committee reported that 6 more quilts had been tied. The quilts taken to Lutheran High Northeast for auction brought a total of \$140.00. Betty Wittig and Ruth Victor will remain on the visiting committee, they send many greeting cards each month. Fauneil Bennett will prepare a small remembrance gift for the seven confirmands this month.

In the past we have recognized members with special year anniversaries, length of membership, and other special occasions. As the make-up of our group changes Betty Wittig moved and Ruth Victor seconded that this project be discontinued.

It was agreed to recognize LWML Sunday, Oct 4 by placing a blurb in the church bulletin explaining the purpose of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League. Pastors will be asked to emphasize LWML during the church service and the large mite boxes will be placed by the doors encouraging Congregational giving of donations for LWML mission grant proposals.

The Winside St. Paul ladies will host the fall rally Oct. 20, 2020. We are asking members of our congregation to donate items making up hygiene and school kits for Orphan Grain Train. Ladies Aid will again sponsor "The Giving Tree" at Christmas time. Caps, gloves, mittens, etc. will decorate the tree and then be donated to Orphan Grain Train.

Derek Jareske was in attendance to talk about his progress for getting his Director of Christian Education (DCE) degree. He chose to go through the program at Concordia California because most of the classes are on-line.

Pastor Christensen presented the lesson entitled “The Chosen” based on John 4:5-10. This is the familiar story of the woman at the well whom Jesus ask for a drink of water. Pastor gave some Bible history as to why this “well situation” was so unique. God reveals himself to this women and teaches her that His mission is to rescue and redeem the lost.

The birthday song was sung for Bev Hansen and Ellen Heinemann. Next meeting will be Oct, 14, 2020. The meeting was closed with The Lord’s Prayer.

LWML Basics and the Mite Box

WHAT IS THE LUTHERAN WOMEN’S MISSIONARY LEAGUE?

- The Lutheran Women’s Missionary League (LWML) is the official women’s auxiliary of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS).
- It has at its “mission heart” thousands of volunteers who are daily dedicating their lives to making a difference in this world.
- It is also “Lutheran Women in Mission,” a phrase that reflects the object of the LWML, adopted by the Board of Directors in January 1998.
- It is women who are finding avenues to use their God-given talents as they meet the challenge to share the Gospel message.
- It is composed of individual women and women’s groups within congregations of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, on campuses, in residence homes, or in other settings.
- It provides individual membership to women in LCMS congregations with or without a group affiliated with the LWML. Women may have an interest in the mission and ministry of the LWML – and wish to be part of the organization – but cannot, for a variety of reasons, be part of a local group. Individual membership is designed for these women.
- It seeks to develop and maintain a greater mission consciousness among the women of the Synod through education, inspiration, and service.
- It places a major emphasis on the support of mission and ministry throughout the world by means of Mite Box offerings. These Mite Box offerings have funded over 100 million dollars in mission grants since the organization’s inception in 1942.



RE:VITALITY

LUTHERAN REVITALIZATION

Prior to the disruptions that have come into the life of our community and congregation as a result of the COVID 19 virus, the Board of Elders and Pastors made a plan to

take part in a program offered by our Synod entitled re:Vitality. While the name looks like a typo it is actually an intentional shortened version of the expression “regarding vitality.” It is an opportunity for a congregation to do a self-assessment to identify areas where the congregation is functioning well and also to identify potential growth areas. It is our prayerful hope that with God's blessing we as a congregation and as individuals will be revitalized for the work that lays ahead of us.

The first step in the *re:Vitality* process is to submit honest feedback about our congregation from everyone involved. I want to encourage every adult (18 years and older) to fill out this simple online questionnaire. This survey will be **available from October 11 - November 1**. (A paper version of the survey and instructions for submitting it will be available at the church beginning Oct 11.) To complete the survey online simply click this link in the electronic version of the newsletter when you are ready to begin: <http://lcms.cadds.sgizmo.com/s3/?cong=C957297>

We need to hear from everyone, individually. That means husbands and wives should both fill out a questionnaire separately. We want to hear from you whether you've been a member here your whole life, or you're brand new to Christianity; whether you're a member, frequent attendee, or occasional visitor, we want to hear from you.

Your responses are completely anonymous. No one will know your name, and we will not see individual responses. It is important to be honest in your feedback so that we can have an accurate assessment about where we are as a congregation.

We realize that given the recent challenges the pandemic has caused may make it difficult to complete parts of the survey, but it was felt that taking part in the program at this time allows us to establish ministry priorities as we look to rebuild our programming and educational efforts for the post-COVID world.

Help us find the answer to, “Where are we...*really?*” Thank you for submitting your responses by **November 1**.

Mission Council Minutes

September 14, 2020

The Mission Council at Grace Lutheran Church met at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, September 14, 2020. The following members were present. Jerry Echtenkamp, Deb Jensen, Justin Anderson, Dwight Mock, Chuck Potosnyak, Neal Greenwald, Pastor Buchhorn, Pastor Christensen, Heather Reinhardt, Angie Beiermann, Scott Heineman, Chad Janke and Brian Frevert.

The meeting was called to order by Jerry Echtenkamp. Pastor opened the meeting with a devotion.

Minutes approval: Minutes from August 2020 Mission Council meeting were reviewed. It was moved by Scott and seconded by Justin to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

Financial Report: Deb Jensen

The financial statement for August 2020 was reviewed. It was moved by Justin and seconded by Angie to approve the financial report. Motion carried.

Elders report – Chuck Potosnyak

The Board of Elders met on August 31, 2020. Pastor Buchhorn opened the meeting with prayer. A study of Lesson Five of Building Up The Body of Christ followed. Membership losses were transfer requests by Phyllis McKelvey to Holy Cross Lutheran in Wichita, Kansas, Russ Thede to Mt. Calvary in Fullerton, Nebraska, and Herb Biermann to Zion Lutheran Church in Bethalto, Illinois. The Board approved their releases. William “Skip” Kinslow passed away on August 9, 2020, and a memorial service was held at Grace on August 14, 2020. Three weddings were officiated. Caitlyn Janke and Josh Schick on August 8, Jared Anderson and Brenna Vovos on August 15, and Jesse Heithold and Carissa Navrkal on August 29. Junior Confirmation and Midweek classes resumed on August 19 and the Campus Student Ministry resumed with Sunday meals on August 16. A Circuit Pastors’ meeting will be held on September 1 at Immanuel, Laurel. A new loan forgiveness form was required by the Paycheck Protection Program and it was completed. Wednesday Family Communion time was adjusted to 5:30 p.m. due to Midweek classes beginning. Sunday Adult Bible Class resumed on August 2 and Sunday School restarted on August 16. Acolytes have

been scheduled to return for services. Livestreaming of our worship services continues. The 2021 Health Plan Election has been completed online with similar deductibles as 2020. Pastor Buchhorn will be on vacation September 7-13 and Pastor Erik will be on vacation September 21-28. The meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Mission Council Committee Member Reports:

Trustee: Justin Anderson

When the City of Wayne came to replace the outside meter, they noticed some corroded wires. Jason Beiermann has been contacted to replace/fix the wires.

Campus Ministry: Jerry Echtenkamp

Dinners for college students at Cup of Grace have been going well, with a slight increase in attendance each week.

Endowment and memorial Fund: Deb Jensen

Kimberly Hansen reported to Deb that 2 deposits have been made to the endowment and memorial fund. One payment was for \$540.00 and has been designated and paid out. The payment was \$622.00, and the family has been sent ideas for designating this donation.

Preschool: Angie Beiermann

The Preschool Committee hired Teresa Tiedtke as the part-time Teacher's Aide for the MWF preschool class.

There were no other committee reports.

Old Business:

Thank you to Justin Anderson and other members for installing new toilets in the education wing.

It was noticed that a couple control units were leaking on the sprinkler system at the preschool. The cost for the repair is estimated at \$200. It was moved by Scott and seconded by Chuck to repair the sprinkler system at the preschool.

District and Circuit items

A circuit forum is scheduled for October 11. One item of business at that forum will be the election of circuit visitor to serve during the next triennium. Each congregation is allowed up to two nominations for this position. It was moved by Justin and seconded by Chad to nominate Rev. Jeff Warner of Laurel as the Circuit Visitor.

Congregation's PPP loan forgiveness paperwork has been completed and submitted to the bank June 17 and due to pending legislation has not been processed yet.

Ray Jensen has been in contact with the contractors concerning replacing the East church doors. The project is still in-progress.

We are continuing to livestream services.

Dwight Mock will be contacting a company out of Yankton to look at our Main Street sign for a possible bid. This bid will be compared with Love Signs out of Norfolk, NE. The present sign is 19 years old and there are some appearance and software issues.

New Business:

Following input from our new church insurance carrier, we will be reviewing the congregation's policy for screening volunteers or staff working directly with children. Pastor Erik will contact the boards directly affected by this change to assist in developing a policy.

The congregation has been under contract with Appeara from Norfolk for changing out rugs, mop heads and supplying other consumable items like bathroom soap. The current contract will end December 21, 2020. After discussion it was agreed that the service did not provide good value for our present need and that the contract should not be renewed. It was moved by Angie and seconded by Neal to end the contract with Appeara in December.

Chad Janke is contacting members of the church to be placed on the ballot to fill the six open positions on Mission Council. Mission Council meets the 2nd Monday of the month at 7:30 p.m.

The Mission Council agreed to set the date for the Annual Voters' Meeting for November 15, 2020. The congregation will receive a letter approximately a month prior with the agenda items and details for the meeting. More planning will be discussed at the October Mission Council meeting.

The custodian contract which ends in September was reviewed. It was agreed that the present custodians were doing a good job and that the contract should be renewed for another year if they are in agreement. Some extra duties were added to the contract It was moved by Justin

and seconded by Scott to approve the renewal of the custodial contract in an annual amount up to \$15,600 for the 2020-21 contract.

Our copier supplier proposed the congregation consider leasing a new copier with similar capacity to our present machine. Because of improvements in efficiency the new machine's cost per copy is reduced so the total cost per month would be less than the present machine when the lease price and maintenance agreement are considered. The new machine would include an upgrade to add a staple/folding unit. The new lease agreement would be for five years from the time the new machine is put into service. It was moved by Chuck and seconded by Justin to initiate a new copier lease with One Source.

The Wayne State College Technology & Applied Science department has asked the church to utilize our kitchen for the spring semester for a foods class since their current building is under renovation. The Council thought this was a great opportunity to build relationships with college students and provide some outreach. The college is aware that they may have to work around scheduled activities at the church. It was moved by Angie and seconded by Deb to allow the college use of the kitchen in principle with more specific details to be discussed in the future.

Pastor Buchhorn mentioned in his closing remarks that the different groups/committees need to discuss their budget requests for the proposed 2021 budget that will be considered at the November 15, 2020 meeting. Groups needing more information for their consideration are encouraged to speak with congregation Treasurer Deb Jensen. Budget requests need to be in by the first week of October.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Next meeting is October 12, 2020

Respectfully submitted

Heather Reinhardt, Secretary

October Birthdays ~ God Bless You Today!

- 1 Amber Roeber & Jennifer Utecht
- 2 Jacob Daum, Tre'cyn Ocampo & Lanee Rethwisch
- 3 Mandy Heithold & Bodey Woehler
- 4 Glenda Beiermann, Payton Junck, Logan Trautman & Onar Spahr
- 5 Abigail Olson
- 6 Dennis Dannelly, Ginny Otte & Brandon Sebade
- 9 Charles Maier, Carol Robbert & Arlyss Temme
- 10 Teresa Klug & Josie Thompson
- 11 Kaleb Anderson, Flint Broders, Henry Greve, Bryce Heithold, Ryker Heithold, Chloe Kai & Jennifer Kesting
- 12 Ray Junck & Glen Nichols
- 13 Casey Brentlinger
- 14 Matthew Roeber
- 15 Angie Beiermann & Kathleen Frevert
- 16 LaVon Biermann & Abigail Mitchell
- 17 Kristin Echtenkamp, Cindy Evans, Paula Haisch & Derek Jareske
- 18 Caroline Endicott, Conner Hansen & Lisa Nelson
- 19 Yvonne Greenwald
- 20 Todd Beiermann, Mary Daum, Lora Heithold & Carol Wilke
- 21 Irvin Haisch, LaVerle Johnson & Valerie Knight
- 22 Brady Henderson, Judy Kruger, Connor Fox & Kalie Sprouls
- 23 Kris Stewart & Levi Trautman
- 25 Michelle Meyer & Janet Claussen
- 26 Katelyn Vanhorn & FayeMarie Wheeler
- 27 Tanya Brogren, Carter Junck, Grayson Wheeler & Brandon Kai
- 29 Emily Matthes
- 31 Tim Hansen & Kyle Miller

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