

Good News of Grace



**2021
MARCH**

Pastors

Michael Buchhorn
Erik Christensen

Family Worship Times

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



**904 Logan
Wayne, NE
402-375-1905**



Handing Jesus Over

As I was rereading the account of our Lord's suffering before his crucifixion, I noticed one phrase seemed to keep getting repeated. It talked about people handing Jesus over. Four times in one day our Lord was handed over or betrayed. In each case Jesus was handed over because people valued something more than Jesus.

Judas handed Jesus over for money. It was as though he put on one side of a balance 30 silver coins and on the other side Jesus. Judas weighed them both and settled for the money. The Bible tells us the Sanhedrin handed Jesus over because of envy. When faced with the choice of giving up some of their power or giving up Jesus, the choice was easy for them. Pilate handed Jesus over to the wishes of the crowd because he valued his job and civil order more than Jesus. The crowd valued Barabbas and the opinions of the chief priests and teachers of the law more than Jesus. So they joined their voices together and had Pilate hand Jesus over to the soldiers for crucifixion.

When given the opportunity to make a choice Pilate, Judas and the crowd betrayed Jesus and selected something more valuable to them than Jesus. One chose money, others power, a job, or peers. In the end, Jesus was handed over so many times that finally there was no one left to hand him off to. At the end He stood alone, forsaken, despised and rejected by all. There it

seemed to him that God the Father had handed him over to darkness as well. And in the darkness of Calvary, Jesus handed his spirit over to God the Father and died.

That Jesus should be considered of so little value by the world is amazing. After all He could have stopped the whole agonizing process at any time. He could have called down legions of angels to defend him. He could have struck Pilate dead or come down from the cross.

The remarkable thing is that He did not stop it. He allowed himself to be handed over. But the even more remarkable thing is that He allowed that to happen because He valued us so much. He loved us, even though we at times value so many other things more than him. He loved us so much that He was willing to be handed over himself, rather than see us handed over to eternal destruction. He offered himself as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.

As we continue our Lenten journey and hear again the story of Jesus' suffering. I think that we are called to ask ourselves, "Have we handed him over too?" Jesus has not been given into our hands in the same way he was in the hands of Judas or Pilate, but his Word and Sacraments have been given over to us. Jesus has not been given into our hands, but our brothers and sisters have been handed over to us with the promise, "As you did it to one of the least of these my brethren you did it to me."

We can't go and make a deal with the Sanhedrin in the middle of the night to hand Jesus over but each day we are faced with choices about what we will do with Jesus and the gifts He gives. It is my prayer that instead of handing Jesus over, we hand ourselves over to him as willing instruments to do His will. May the message of his great love cause us to realize that Jesus truly is our priceless treasure so that we value nothing in this world more than Him.

In Christ,

Pastor Buchhorn

Wayne State College and Younger Adults

Our Spring Dinner Schedule is completely full and we owe a huge thank you to all who helped us this semester! Even though we are not in need of food anymore, we still are in need of your support! If you could pray for the college students on Campus and the ministry that we are doing with them we would greatly appreciate that. If you could speak to and welcome our students into the life of the church when you see them that would be amazing! And if you want to come join us for a Bible Study or even one of our Sunday Night dinners to get to know our group even better that would be fantastic! We greatly appreciate all of your love and support and just want to find ways to connect our students with our congregation even more. May God richly bless you this month!

To all of our WSC students, any college student in the area, and any of our young adults who would like to join us in our Bible studies and events this year we invite you to come! Come meet us at Cup of Grace for some fantastic fellowship and growth in your faith! What opportunities are there you ask? Well that is a great question! Not only do we eat dinner together every Sunday Night, we also have a Bible study every Thursday evening that starts at 5:30pm. This study seeks to answer the question, "Is the Bible Reliable?" The answer is yes but come find out how we can back this up with some pretty awe-inspiring evidence from around the world! We also have another Bible study on Sunday evenings. Starting at 7:30pm we will dive into a study that covers Biblical themes found in the last two Harry Potter films. Invite your friends to come join us as well, and we look forward to having you with us!

Youth Midweek Bible Studies Midweek Classes for all ages are going to continue through April 28th this year. Confirmation for our 7th and 8th Grade students will still end on March 24th with our Confirmation Service being held at the 10:30am service on March 28th! The meetings in April will not be confirmation these will be Bible Study nights intended to keep our youth in God's word and growing together in faith and fellowship with each other. With the continuation of our midweek Lent Services on Wednesdays (services held at 6:15PM) our MidWeek classes will continue to meet from 7pm to 8pm through the end of March. In April we will go back to meeting from 6:30pm to 7:30pm, with all 7th and 8th Grade students meeting with Pastor Erik down in the church basement. We look forward to seeing all of our 3rd through 8th grade students here at church as much as we can, and there is still time to join in with these classes as we learn more about God's love for all of His creation!

Jr. High and High School Game Night

Come join us March 20th at 4:00pm for a youth movie night. We will be watching **C.S. Lewis' *The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe!*** Bring your favorite candy again for dessert. Dinner will be provided! We will watch the movie from 4:30PM to 7:00PM with a Bible Study to follow from 7:00pm to 7:30pm! Hope to see you all here!

High School Sunday School Class 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 will continue to meet in the fellowship hall right by the sanctuary. 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!

Fishers of Kids Preschool

The students have been keeping busy at preschool! This month, they learned about Groundhog Day, and looked for their shadows! The valentine parties were fun! We played games, decorated cookies, watched a movie, and exchanged cards with friends. The students have also been working on patterns, counting, measuring, and identifying letters, by using a sweet treat- candy hearts! They enjoyed these activities and were able to take their candy heart treats home.

This month, we are also learning about presidents, dental health, and healthy foods. The older students will have a visit from the elementary principal, as they prepare for kindergarten roundup next month. We look forward to his visit and getting to know him better! In March, we will be having parent/teacher conferences. Topics we will be learning in March include: the story of Easter, weather, seasons/ spring, and eggs. We will also be having some fun with Dr. Seuss activities!

Sunday School

Our kindergarten Sunday school students have been



having a blast this year as we learn about God's Word and grow in our faith. We have been on a journey through the Old Testament. The children have learned about God's love and His promises to his people by studying biblical figures such as Abraham, Joseph, and Samson. Most recently, we have been focusing on

David, and the students have learned about his days as a shepherd boy, his defeating Goliath, and his friendship with Jonathan.

On a typical Sunday morning, the kindergarten class can be found participating in a variety of activities. Obviously, the lesson is one of the most important parts of our time together. The kindergartners have come far in their knowledge of the Bible and their awareness of Jesus' love for them. This particular group also seems to be full of budding artists. They love coloring and doing art projects. Additionally, they are enthusiastic musicians. For this year, we have been doing music inside the classroom. Their favorite songs include: "My God is so Big," "If I Were a Butterfly," and "He's got the Whole World in His Hands." We also focus on learning about the importance of prayer. The students enjoy making prayer requests and then praying for their friends, families, and classmates.

Because we believe faith should be shared, the students have also done some faith in action activities. For example, we recently made Valentine's cards to share with shut-ins. On another recent Sunday, the kindergartners wrote thank you notes to voice their appreciation for people in the community.

The kindergarten class is already forming their own little faith community, and the teachers are so thankful for their attendance. We have enjoyed watching their faith blossom this year!

As Sunday School classes continue to begin in the individual classrooms, parents should continue to drop off their children to their grade level classroom.

Following the city mandate, masks continue to be required in classrooms unless a minimum of 6 feet of physical distancing can be maintained at all times. Additional masks continue to be provided, and we appreciate your continued help with this endeavor.

On March 7th, the second half of the Sunday School hour will take place in the Sanctuary, and as such, parents should plan to pick up children from this area on that date. With this in mind, though, children should still be dropped off to their regular classroom to begin Sunday School on this date, as normal.

Our next Sunday School meeting will take place on March 11th, 2020, at 6:30 p.m. During this meeting, the teachers will largely focus on upcoming administrative issues.

Looking forward to Easter, the Sunday School program is looking toward offering an Easter Egg Hunt, in some capacity, on April 3rd, the Saturday before Easter. Finals plans have not yet been established in regards to this activity, so please continue to be on the lookout for more information in the near future. In the meantime, due to the pandemic and continued need for additional considerations, if anyone would like to offer any help by providing for this activity, the Sunday School is requesting monetary donations to help to cover the cost of any candy needed for this activity. Any donations for this cause should be labeled and taken to the church office, which will be used to buy candy at a later time. Any help would be greatly appreciated!

For the past several months, the Sunday School children have been assisting the Ladies' Aid by collecting spare change in mite boxes, which will be going to support the Comfort Dogs organization. To thank and provide more information to everyone who has helped with this endeavor, the Comfort Dogs organization will be sending several representatives, along with their comfort dog, to meet and teach the students during the Sunday School hour on April 11th. If anyone would be interested in attending this presentation, please mark your calendars, so you can be available on this date!

Sunday School will take place on Easter Sunday, April 4th, during the regular Sunday School time.

For the month of March, in reference to our service project, the Sunday School will be requesting jump ropes, non-liquid lip balm, and hair clips/bows for girls ages 8-12. As always, if you are interested in helping with this activity, the Sunday School will be collecting any donations for this project in the marked bin by the Sunday School office, in the basement. Thank you for your continued 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 offer a Christ centered educational experience during these health conscious times. 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 dejar-e01@gmail.com. Thank you!

Respectfully, The Kindergarten Class and The Sunday School Program
(sundayschool@gracewayne.com)

Children's Messages to resume: We are pleased to announce that beginning Sunday March 7, children's messages will resume during our worship time. Due to the inability to properly distance, children over three years of age who come forward for the children's messages are asked to wear masks.

Thrivent members reminder: Designate your choice dollars by March 31st. Don't let them expire.

Birthday Wishes: Pastor Herb will be 90 on Friday, March 5.

He is doing well in his new home. If Illinois continues to improve COVID numbers, he says his family may finally be able to see him next month sometime. If you would like to send him birthday greetings his address is.

Address:

401 S. Moreland Rd
Apt.#238
Bethalto, IL 62010

Camp Luther: The summer is quickly coming! Can you believe that sentence, it might seem hard to think about with all the winter weather we are having and the storms that have reached as far as Texas! Yet, it is coming and will be here before we know it, and that means it is time to enroll your children in one of the many programs offered at Camp Luther! From living in a tree-house for a week, to diving head first into a week of STEM experiments (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics), to a river trip down the Niobrara River there is something for everyone at Camp Luther and this is just the tip of the iceberg! For more Information and a flyer on these great opportunities contact Pastor Erik or you can find Camp Luther's website at [www. campluther.org](http://www.campluther.org)! Don't miss out on a summer full of growth in God's love for you!

VBS: You have heard of Gilligan's Island, you have even heard of Treasure Island, but have you heard of the greatest island trip ever? My guess is that you haven't because we haven't announced it yet!!! But come June 13th through 17th you will see our sanctuary and church turned into a Island resort as we dig into the Mystery of God's love for us in our Mystery Island Vacation Bible School! VBS will again take place from 5:15pm to 8pm every evening that week, tentatively with a dinner provided. More information will be coming soon so you can sign your child up to participate with us, and if you would like to help as a volunteer please Contact either Angie Beiermann, Jill Roeber, or Pastor Erik. Come explore the Bible with us in depth to find God's treasure for you!

Intentionally blank for calendar.

Intentionally blank for calendar.

Grace Lutheran Ladies Aid

February 10, 2021

Grace Ladies Aid met February 10, 2021 with 10 members answering roll call. Pastor Buchhorn began the afternoon with a Bible study entitled "Making Lent an Opportunity". Learning from various Bible verses we should prepare our hearts for service to others and carry this through the entire year rather than just the Lenten season. The Christian Growth devotion was based on Ephesians chapter 5. Bible verses throughout the New Testament show God's compassion to us so likewise we should show compassion to others.

President Rhonda began the business meeting by leading the group in reciting the LWML Pledge. Minutes were read and approved. The treasurer's report was given and filed for audit.

Committee reports: sewing will take place Feb. 25; Visiting committee continues to send greeting cards to members of the congregation including Valentine greetings to shut-ins; Rhonda will acknowledge confirmands for the month of March; Grace has collected 890 Best Choice UPC labels toward the next goal of a 1000. Correspondence including a thank you from Walter Rauss along with a monetary donation to be used for the Ladies Aid greeting card ministry.

The mite offering emphasis this month is on "Making Jesus Known". Across the country, in both rural and urban areas, there are passionately devoted first-generation immigrants serving in full-time ministry positions, sharing the Gospel among their immigrant/ethnic communities. The Center for Hispanic Studies reaches out to Hispanic population across North America. The Ethnic Immigrant Institute of Theology reaches out to immigrants who came from Africa, Southeast Asia, and the Middle East.

Because Derek Jareske has completed classroom work and is preparing for an internship, we will no longer give him a monthly stipend. Rhonda and MaryLou continue to prepare the constitution. Rhonda encourages anyone planning to attend the National Convention in Lexington, Kentucky to check the LWML website for details. April 11 has been the date reserved for the Comfort Dog visit to the Sunday School children in appreciation for their contributions to the program through the Children's mite box program.

The birthday song was sung for Pastor Buchhorn, Lorraine Johnson. Grace Kanitz and Ruth Victor. The next meeting will be March 10, 2021. The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Mission Council Minutes

February 9, 2021 7:30 p.m.

The Mission Council at Grace Lutheran Church met at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, February 9, 2021. The following members were present: Jerry Echtenkamp, Deb Jensen, Megan Dubbs, Justin Anderson, Pastor Buchhorn, Angie Beiermann, Chad Janke, Brian Frevert, Dwight Mock, Lonnie Matthes and Heather Reinhardt.

The meeting was called to order by Jerry Echtenkamp.

The minutes from the January 11, 2021 Mission Council Meeting were reviewed. It was moved by Justin and seconded by Dwight to approve the minutes. The motion was approved.

Deb Jensen presented the Financial Reports for January 2021. It was moved by Chad and seconded by Megan to approve the financial reports. The motion was approved.

The Board of Elders have not met since our last Mission Council Meeting. Lonnie Matthew reported on behalf of the Board of Elders due to the extension of the City mask mandate, we will not hold meals prior to the Lenten services. The Easter service schedules will be discussed at their next meeting.

Committee Member Reports

Trustee Report, Justin Anderson- The Sprinkler repairs for preschool had not been completed. Justin brought the new contract proposal from Artificial Rain who has previously provided yearly maintenance on our sprinkler system. A second bid will be sought prior to approval. Justin also presented the bid for Kratke Lawn Care for our yearly lawn care. It was discussed to increase our coverage from a 2 step to a 4 step care plan at the Cup of Grace for better weed control. A motion was made by Chad and seconded by Brian to continue the 4 step care plan for the church, the 2 step care plan for the preschool and increase from the 2 step to the 4 step care plan for the for Cup of Grace. The total cost for all three locations will be approximately \$750. Motion carried. We would also like to thank Neal Greenwald for installing the reverse osmosis system in the kitchen. There was a brief discussion of a water softener recommendation. Jerry and Justin will do some research on this and report back at our next meeting.

Campus Ministry, Jerry Echtenkamp spoke with Pastor Erik for the report. - Bible studies are being offered to college students on Thursday evenings and one before and after dinner on Sunday evenings at Cup of Grace. The Bible study offers in-person or streaming options. Pastor Erik is always looking for volunteers to provide the Sunday supper and you can sign up on a sheet at the back of the church. On average there are usually no more than 10 attendees.

Endowment Administrative Committee Report – Jerry Echtenkamp reported that the Administrative Committee met on February 8 prior to the mission council meeting. The primary item for business was a request to consider funding the Main Street sign refurbishing and upgrade from the Endowment Fund. The Committee was supportive of the idea and so the Mission Council was encouraged to continue gathering bids for the project.

Memorial Fund, KimBerly Hansen reported to Deb the current Memorial fund balance of \$3080.19. 10.

Education, Heather Reinhardt received a report from Derek Jareske on behalf of the Sunday school. In the month of January, as the new year begins, the Sunday School teachers spent some time reviewing past and current initiatives as they also prepared to look ahead. One such continuing initiative is the Orphan Grain Train project where the Sunday School, monthly, requests the donation of a new item that will help build toward assembling multiple gift boxes this upcoming Fall. Each requested item is regularly included in both the monthly newsletter and the bulletin for the convenience of the congregation. Also, currently, masks continue to be an area of concern for many of the students and teachers, but it is the hope of the Sunday School that through good direction and modeling, we can communicate the current health need associated with this inconvenience. The Sunday School also reflected on the Children's Christmas Eve Program for this year, which, despite having to be offered virtually, appeared to go pretty smoothly. Besides a few issues that presented as a result of the one program practice, congregational comments have been mostly positive. Finally, looking forward, the Sunday School program is hoping to offer an Easter Egg Hunt, in some capacity, and as the teachers look toward next year, a need for additional volunteers was communicated, in both key leadership and teaching positions.

Preschool, Angie Biermann reported on behalf of the Preschool Board. Preschool graduation will take place on May 7. A teacher assistant was hired this

year due to the number of children and the additional COVID precautions that would need to be made. It was discussed at the Preschool Board meeting the need for a teacher assistant next year. Decisions will be made at a later date as enrollment numbers are assessed for next year. During the meeting they also discussed changing the start time of preschool to 8:00 a.m. instead of 8:30, so it is easier for parents who need to go to work. Maintenance issues were also discussed including, swing repair, snow removal around the facility and checking the gas stove.

There were no other committee reports.

Old Business:

Ongoing Facility Projects-

The Main Street sign was further discussed. Dwight Mock presented a bid from Sign Tech out of Yankton, SD for the replacement/upgrade of the Main Street sign. Pastor Buchhorn is going to contact Love Signs for an updated bid to compare the two at our next meeting and determine which provider to move forward with the project.

Planning has continued to move forward with the replacement of the east church doors.

Pastor Buchhorn stated that the carpets could use a deep cleaning in the educational wing/addition of the church once we get through the sand/salt winter season. Justin is going to contact a few carpet cleaning companies for bids to be discussed at our next meeting.

District & Circuit items- The congregation's vote to delay the national convention due to complications from the pandemic was submitted to the LCMS. The results of this vote will be presented at the end of February. A circuit Bible institute is scheduled for February 14 either remotely or at Hope Lutheran Church, South Sioux City.

Worship Live Streaming –Midwest Music of Norfolk installed on January 7 the upgrade to our audio/video capabilities for livestreaming. The system seems to be meeting all our needs and is working well.

The church is continuing to monitor COVID precautions to keep our congregation safe and healthy.

On April 18th in-between services during Bible Study, mission worker Daniel Conrad will be presenting virtually about his mission work in Mexico. The congregation is providing financial support for his mission work this year.

New Business:

A congregation spring clean-up day is planned for Saturday, April 10th at 1:00 p.m. Congregation members are encouraged to bring their skills and talents to help with general maintenance of the church.

The meeting closed with the Lord's prayer.

The Next Meeting is scheduled for March 10, 2021

Holy Week Schedule

God willing, Holy Week 2021 will be observed with the following Worship services and special events. Check the church website www.gracewayne.com for livestream information.

Palm Sunday—March 28

8:00 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion

10:30 Worship with the rite of Confirmation (no communion)

Maundy Thursday—April 1

6:15 Worship with Holy Communion

Good Friday—April 2

9:00 a.m. Good Friday Worship

6:15 Service of Darkness

Easter Sunday—April 4

7:00 a.m. Sunrise Service with Communion

8:00 a.m. Easter Breakfast

9:15 a.m. Sunday School

9:15 a.m. Easter Hymn Sing in the Sanctuary

10:30 Festival Worship with Communion



HOLY WEEK

GRACE FAMILY BIRTHDAYS

- 4 Jerri Gregg, Hilbert Johs & Jeanette Swanson
- 5 Rachel Buchhorn
- 6 Lynsey Hass & Cloey Young
- 7 Kiley Koch & Lucas Ruwe
- 8 Julie Rivas
- 10 Adam Endicott, Pastor Lilienkamp, Sara Martin, Everett Schultz & Cherry Sebade
- 11 Tyler Echtenkamp
- 12 Jan Chinn
- 13 Todd Hoeman & Amara Hurlbert
- 14 Cayse Hefti, Travis Hefti & Dana Johnson
- 15 Symphony Jareske
- 16 Lori Bebee & Dreu Jensen
- 17 Heather Reinhardt
- 18 Eric Ekberg & Alan Nissen
- 19 Lonnie Samuelson
- 20 Grace Foote, Zoey Foote, Brian Hass & Meghan Kurpgeweit
- 22 Doug Echtenkamp & Kaden Latham
- 24 Ted Baack, Amber Jensen & Nick Vanhorn
- 25 Kathryn Buchhorn & Kerry Langemeier
- 26 Ryan Lubberstedt & Irene Mock
- 27 Remi Forsyth & Regan Hefti
- 29 Fritz Temme
- 30 Lorie Bebee, Tim Ellis & Twyla Lindsay
- 31 Denise Fredrickson

Grace Lutheran Church
904 Logan
Wayne, Nebraska 68787

PRSR T STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
WAYNE NE
PERMIT NO 18

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED