

JULY 2023



Good News of Grace

Family Worship Times

Sunday 8:00am & 10:30am

Sunday School 9:15am

Pastor

Michael Buchhorn

904 Logan Wayne, NE 402-375-1905

Free Indeed

As I sit to write this, the Juneteenth holiday has just passed and most are looking ahead to the celebration of Independence Day. Both holidays are celebrations of freedom. Juneteenth commemorates an event which happened June 19, 1865. On that day enslaved people in Texas were told that slavery had been abolished. The end of the blight of slavery on our nation is a reason for all to celebrate.

But there are some historical oddities concerning the date. The Emancipation Proclamation which freed the slaves in Confederate States had been signed January 1, 1863. For more than two years the enslaved persons in the Confederate States were declared free by United States law but there was a question of whether that law applied to those in the Confederacy. Even after the Civil War ended May 9, 1865, the slaves of Texas were not immediately free. They still needed to hear the news. Even after they learned of their freedom there would be decades before the full promises of freedom would be realized.

The situation of those enslaved persons has many parallels with a life of faith. Jesus said, "everyone who practices sin is a slave to sin" John 8:34. The Bible declares that all humanity was in that condition. But thankfully God in His mercy made a plan to set us free. His emancipation proclamation was declared through the Old Testament prophets and ultimately by Jesus himself who said, "So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed" John 8:36.

Like the words of Lincoln, for the proclamation to be enacted it required victory in the war. Jesus came to win the battle over the powers that enslaved us through His life, death and resurrection. But even with the victory won, those set free still needed to hear the news. Christians get

to serve like Union Army general Gordon Granger who brought the news to Galveston, Texas June 19. Christians are to make known God's announcement of "liberty to the captives ...to set at liberty those who are oppressed" Lk 4:18.

Following the announcement of their emancipation those set free had to learn to live as free men and women. As Christians we also are day by day learning what life as a person set free by Christ means for our outlook on life and the decisions we make. Even though we have been declared free in Christ, too often we can toil away under the old task-masters of sin, guilt and shame. The Bible puts it this way: "Live as people who are free, not using your freedom as a cover-up for evil, but living as servants of God" 1Pet. 2:16. Elsewhere the Bible says, "You are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness. But thanks be to God, that you who were once slaves of sin have become obedient from the heart to the standard of teaching to which you were committed" Rom. 6:17. In the church we are to encourage each other to live in a way that preserves our freedom. One way that we do that is by gathering each week to celebrate Christ's liberating victory for us. We retell the story of our liberation much like the story of Juneteenth retells the history of the end of another type of slavery. Use your freedom well.

May we daily rejoice in the news of the freedom Christ won for us, make good use of our freedom, and help spread the news to others.

In Christ,

Pastor Buchhorn



OUR SEMINARIAN RILEY HLAVAC has safely arrived in Ft.

Wayne and has begun his summer Greek class at Concordia Theological Seminary. Please continue to keep him in your prayers during this time of preparation for service in the pastoral ministry. His address if

you would like to send him a message of encouragement is Riley

____ Hlavac Box 234 6600 N. Clinton Street Fort Wayne, IN, 46825 ____

VACANCY UPDATE: The call committee charged with identifying candidates to fill our staffing vacancy has been formed and had its first meeting on Monday June 5. The members of the committee are our Elders: Chuck Potosnyak, Mike Heithold, Josh Ruwe, Jared Heithold, Doug Heithold and Payton Janke, along with Mission Council representatives Craig Evans and Pam Janke. Teresa Tiedtke and Colleen Simpson are also serving on the committee. Craig Evans will serve as the committee chairman. If you would like to suggest the name of a worker to be considered for this Parish Assistant position, please contact Pastor Buchhorn, Craig Evans or Chuck Potosnyak. Recommended individuals should be active rostered commissioned ministers of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod. The committee also met on June 12 at 6 p.m. At that meeting a job description for our Parish Assistant was discussed and approved. The Commissioned Minister Information Forms for four candidates were reviewed and it was decided that three seemed to be possible good fits for our position and it was agreed to contact them to see if they were able to consider a call at this time and were if they were open to being interviewed. The committee is scheduled to meet again June 28 and more candidate profiles will be reviewed at that time. Please continue to pray that God guides and directs our committee in its work and that potential candidates would be open to considering the ministry opportunities here in Wayne that the Lord has set before us. At the point a qualified candidate(s) is/are identified, a voters' meeting will be called for the congregation to approve or decide between candidates.



The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod will hold its national convention July 29- August 3, 2023 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. This year's theme is "We Preach Christ Crucified." National conventions

are held every three years to elect officers and consider resolutions affecting our church body. The first officer to be elected for the new triennium is the synodical president who rather than being elected at the convention is elected beforehand with each congregation of the synod given one pastoral and one lay vote. Rev. Matthew Harrison our present synodical president was reelected to a fifth term of office through that voting process. May God bless his continued leadership of our synod. Details about the national convention and items of business under consideration are available online at www.lcms.org



Wow what a fantastic week we had learning about being Keepers of the Kingdom and the armor that God gives us to be able to stand even in evil days. Each day around 60 children were reminded of God's equipping and taught the unchanging truth of Jesus' victory over sin and reign as the true King of kings. Thank you to our teachers, helpers, cooks, decorators and those who prayed day by day. It was terrific to see so many people working together for this week of fun and learning. A special word of thanks to Kaleena Heithold and Angie Beiermann for being our VBS coordinators this year.



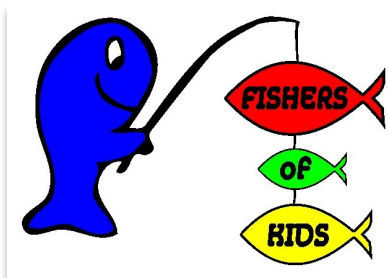
Keepers of the Kingdom 2023

CHILDREN'S *Sunday School*

There will be no children's Sunday School Classes during the month of July. Please plan on joining us for our exciting kick off activities in the month of August. If you would like to be a part of our Christian Education team this fall please contact Pastor Buchhorn. Thank you to Sarah Tompkins, Amanda Broberg and Chuck Potosnyak for teaching in June. Our organizational meeting for the new year of Christian Education opportunities is scheduled for Monday, July 17 at 6 p.m.

Playground Improvement Project: Thanks to a generous gift from the estate of Bonnie Sandahl and the labor of a many volunteers the playground improvement project was completed in time for this summer's Vacation Bible School. The improvements include a new playscape, swing set and Buddy Bench along with appropriate fall zones.





Fishers of Kids Preschool:

After concluding a wonderful year at Fishers of Kids we are looking ahead to a full house in 2023-24. Both the MWF and TTH classes are at or very near capacity. Our wonderful teacher Keila Olson will be back for the coming school year. We greatly appreciate Rhonda Sebade for her willingness to be our next

preschool director. If you have questions about the program or would like to volunteer to help our preschool thrive, please contact her at 402-369-2170. Volunteers for one or more of the morning sessions each week would be most welcome with our full classrooms. In other preschool news, the windows in the facility should be replaced within the next month and a few other improvements are planned. Thank you for your continued generous support of these efforts to allow us to provide quality Christian preschool education in a safe and welcoming environment.



Did you know that each Sunday at 9:30 a.m. on KCAU channel 9 television out of Sioux City a televised worship service produced in conjunction with Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod Churches and pastors is broadcast? The services feature a rotation of area pastors. The services can also be viewed via the internet at

www.MainStreetLiving.com If you know a shut-in who does not use a computer please let them know about this broadcast. Pastor Buchhorn is scheduled to appear on the broadcast August 27th.

Summer Bible Studies: As the crops around us grow to maturity, it is a good reminder of our need to continually grow in our understanding of God's Holy Word. **Sunday morning Bible Class** continues each week at 9:15 through the month of July. This month we will be going through a four week study on Nurturing your Faith focusing on Life Together. Our **Wednesday Morning Bible Study** will continue a study on the book of Job. This class meets at 9:00 a.m. If you have a topic you would like to more deeply explore in Bible Class please give the suggestion to Pastor Buchhorn.

Grace Lutheran Ladies Aid

June 14, 2023

Grace Lutheran Ladies Aid met on June 14, 2023, with 14 members and Pastor Buchhorn present. Pastor Buchhorn led the Bible study taken from the LWML Quarterly entitled, "Proclaiming Christ Simply and with Urgency." In areas and communities where people arrive daily and move around often, we need to focus on teaching the basics of the Christian faith and show the love of God in concrete actions of service. We plant a seed and ask the Holy Spirit to deposit faith in every heart of the people we serve.

President, Ellen Heinemann, opened with the group reciting the LWML Pledge. The roll call was taken, and minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. The Treasurer's report was given and filed for audit.

Christian Growth Chairman, Mary Lou Erxleben, shared a reading from a LWML Quiet Times Mustard Seed devotion – "Why Do We Pass Judgment." We should see others through Jesus's eyes.

Correspondence from Orphan Grain Train was shared. A thank you note from Pastor Erik Christensen was read.

Committee Reports:

Betty Wittig reported on the greeting card ministry. A birthday card for member, Mary Janke, was passed around to be signed and will be mailed by Betty.

Ruth Victor reported that 6 quilts were done by 6/7 ladies on May 25th. The next quilt day will be June 22nd.

Grace Kanitz reported she has sent in 1,000 UPC labels to Best Buy. Verna Mae Baier reported that there is a good selection of cards available.

Old Business:

There was no old business.

New Business: Rhonda Sebade will be attending the LWML Convention in Milwaukee June 22

through June 25th. We will be sending checks for all four convention offerings. We can also personally send donations for these offerings. The convention can be watched on-line through the LWML website. Rhonda will be doing the Mission Walk at convention and will take any donations for that.

President Heinemann reminded us to check the list on the entrance doors for donations of food for VBS and also told us of a mission story – donate used blankets to animal shelters.

There was conversation in regard to ideas for service projects.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Mission Council Minutes

Grace Lutheran Church

June 12, 2023

Mission Council for Grace Lutheran Church met at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, June 12, 2023.

The following members were present: Craig Evans, Pastor Buchhorn, Dwight Mock, Chuck Potosnyak, Diana Langemeier, Louise Green, Pam Janke, Ron Sebade, Mike Temme, Megan Dubbs, Lowell Johnson, and Michelle Ekberg

Pastor Buchhorn led with an opening prayer and small devotion.

The meeting was called to order by Craig Evans.

The minutes from May 8, 2023 were reviewed; motion to approve made by Louise; seconded by Diana. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

Louise Green presented the financial reports for May 2023. A motion of approval of the treasurer's report was made by Chuck; seconded by Pam. Motion was carried.

A bequest was received from the estate of Lucille Cunningham. After a brief discussion of possible designations, a motion was made to deposit these funds into the building fund by Louise; seconded by Michelle. Motion carried.

Elder's report - Chuck Potosnyak reported The Board of Elders met at 7:30 p.m. on June 5, 2023. Pastor Buchhorn led the Elders in our continuing study of the Large Catechism. The Elders approved the transfer of Pastor Erik Christensen to Beautiful Savior Church of Anchorage, Alaska. Pastor Buchhorn conducted a funeral service for Karen "Cookie" Ulrich (non-member) at Grace on May 24, 2023, with burial following at Greenwood Cemetery in Wayne. Staffing is nearly completed for Junior Confirmation/Midweek for the fall. Classes are planned to resume August 23, 2023. During the month of June, the Sunday School will go down to two classes, one for the lower division and one for the upper division. There will be no Sunday School classes during the month of July. Vacation Bible School will be held June 19-23, 2023. Rally Day is planned for August 20, 2023 in the church sanctuary. Voting for the synodical president will take place in June. Pastor Buchhorn will be on vacation August 10-14, 2023. Pastor Rosenthal from Norfolk has agreed to cover the Sunday services in Pastor Buchhorn's absence. The Call Committee met June 5, 2023 and also June 12 to work on seeking a commissioned church worker candidate for the congregation's consideration.

Committee Reports:

Trustee Report – Lowell reported the roof leak from the bell tower into the sanctuary and replacement of wood on the bell mount will further be discussed and is scheduled to be patched. Repairs in the lower level bathroom ceiling as well as repairs and touch ups to the walls in the Preschool Sunday School room will be made. The Fishers of Kids Preschool sprinkler system is still awaiting the necessary approval from the NDOR for replacement the section of the driveway curb in front of the building. After the curb is replaced the system will be installed. Storm windows were removed; Window World will be contacted to complete installation of new windows the end of June/beginning of July. Heating issues in the conference room and restrooms in the education wing will be completed once the electrical portion is completed.

Campus Ministry- Craig reported that Wayne State is on summer break. The large screen television was purchased and will be installed soon. A 'thank you' to Symphony for cleaning out the refrigerator prior to summer break. Gene Casey has been hired to mow and spray for additional weeds in the lawn during June while Symphony was out of town.

Auxiliary (Altar Guild/LWML): Pam contacted; LWML reports Rhonda Sebade will be going to convention as their representative.

Endowment- the Endowment Committee hopes to meet in the next month to begin consideration of Mission Grants for 2023.

Memorial Fund- Email message from KimBerly Hansen: Balance forward, was \$2,398.00. A deposit of \$50 was made. The current balance is \$2,440.00.

Education (Sunday School, Midweek, VBS, Children Programming) – Vacation Bible School is set for June 19-23 lead by Kaleena Heithold and Angie Beiermann. There is still a need for the donation of food items for VBS, see the sign-up sheet at the door if you can help. There will be no children's Sunday School classes during the month of July.

Preschool- Megan reports the PlayScape has been installed and fall zone work is scheduled to be completed this week. Thank You to all who helped with these projects. The Preschool Teacher Contract has been signed for the 2023-24 school year. The new director position has a potential candidate and will be confirmed soon. Discussion regarding purchasing sod for the yard will be discussed once the curb/sprinkler project has been completed. Ron will seek a bid for shelving in the preschool. A permanent or movable unit has not been decided upon; once the decision has been made discussion of this will resume. The Tuesday/Thursday class has one spot remaining for the upcoming year and the M/W/F class has been filled. Ron brought brochures to discuss which product and color of stain to be used on the east and north decks of the preschool.

Stewardship/Finance: N/A

Administrative Handbook: Louise reported the scheduled items were completed for the month.

Evangelism/Publicity/Community Engagement: Vacation School fliers have been posted in various locations around Wayne. Newspaper and Facebook ads for VBS were also placed. The church/Fishers of Kids has been registered for the Chicken Days Parade the second week in July.

Fellowship/Kitchen: The new oven has been ordered and is at the vendor awaiting installation. The cabinet for the new oven is to be delivered this week and electrical work is scheduled. Target installation for it will be after Vacation Bible School. Lighting in the room below the bell tower room was discussed, and was suggested to use battery operated lighting.

Old Business:

District & Circuit Items- Pastor Buchhorn and Deb Jensen are registered Synodical President voters; election will take place in June.

‘Thank You’ to those who assisted with Pastor Erik’s farewell brunch. It was well attended.

Call Committee Report- The call committee has reviewed credentials for several candidates and three will be contacted to see if they are open to learning more about our position.

Direct Mission Expense- Siouxland Hispanic ministry is also in a search process for a new worker with the departure of Pastor Flo. Our direct mission support for this group will continue after their staffing is filled.

New Business:

After church Sunday, June 17; tables will need to be switched out for Vacation Bible School. All available hands are asked to assist.

There was a brief discussion of concerns over Thrivent Financial’s seeming change away from neutrality concerning support of organizations and causes which are odds with the doctrinal position of our church particularly concerning LGBTQ issues. An inquiry has been sent to Thrivent concerning this. If it is confirmed, our congregation will no longer be promoting Thrivent programs. Individuals who have concerns about this are encouraged to contact Thrivent. The meeting closed with the Lord’s prayer.

The next meeting is scheduled for July 10, 2023 at 7 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Michelle Ekberg

Elder on duty

July 02	8:00 am.	Payton Janke
	10:30 am.	Doug Heithold
July 09	8:00 am.	Chuck Potosnyak
	10:30 am.	Josh Ruwe
July 16	8:00 am.	Mike Heithold
	10:30 am.	Jared Heithold
July 23	8:00 am.	Doug Heithold
	10:30 am.	Payton Janke
July 30	8:00 am.	Josh Ruwe
	10:30 am.	Chuck Potosnyak

SPECIAL ASSIGNMENTS

Acolytes

July 02	8:00 am.	Ashlynn Trautman & Lauren Ekberg
	10:30 am.	Alivia Kesting & Dreu Jensen
July 09	8:00 am.	Myles Tiedtke & Lucille Ocampo
	10:30 am.	Chloe Kai & Kennedy Junck
July 16	8:00 am.	Sadi Fredrickson & Reagan Heithold
	10:30 am.	Veronica Daum & Evan Bose
July 23	8:00 am.	Chase Rethwisch & Colston Starzl
	10:30 am.	Brayden Stegemann & Alivia Trautman
July 30	8:00 am.	Tre'cyn Ocampo & Courtney Roeber
	10:30 am.	Lauren Ekberg & Ashlyn Trautman

Lay Readers

July 02	8:00 am.	Diane Zach
	10:30 am.	Galen Wiser
July 09	8:00 am.	Jeanette Swanson
	10:30 am.	Andy Bose
July 16	8:00 am.	Irene Mock
	10:30 am.	Louise Green
July 23	8:00 am.	Lowell Schardt
	10:30 am.	Jennifer Kesting
July 30	8:00 am.	Kathy Johnson
	10:30 am.	Louise Green

Greeters

July 02	8:00 am.	Jesse & Cassie Heithold
	10:30 am.	Galen & Kathy Wiser
July 09	8:00 am.	Tiedtke Family
	10:30 am.	Jerry & Loree Echtenkamp
July 16	8:00 am.	Gene & Janet Casey
	10:30 am.	Chad & Pam Janke
July 23	8:00 am.	LeRoy & Carol Robbert
	10:30 am.	Doug & Mary Temme
July 30	8:00 am.	Lowell & Kathy Johnson
	10:30 am.	Don & Lisa Nelson

GRACE FAMILY BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Gene Claussen
- 2 Levi Heithold
- 3 Sheri Kemp & Carter Lubke
- 5 Cheryl Lessmann, Sally Lubberstedt, Ferris Meyer, Scot Saul & Judy Sorensen
- 6 Cassie Heithold
- 7 KimBerly Hansen
- 8 Nick Diediker
- 9 Jessie Heithold, Tyler Reinhardt, Ethan Sebade & Freya Young
- 10 Baylen Beiermann, Melodie Longe & Mike Wurdeman
- 11 Lainey Ekberg & Samara Evans
- 13 Nancy Endicott
- 14 Kortney Rees, Jon Rethwisch & Joy Smith
- 15 Craig Fredrickson, Grayson Hoffman, Deb Jensen, & Rhonda Sebade
- 16 Donovan Doescher & Sarah Surber
- 19 Shelley Frevert & Dan Tiedtke
- 21 Kathleen Johs & Garrett Schafer
- 22 Jessi Jensen
- 23 Tyler Bodlak, Virgil Loewe & Chance Schultz
- 24 Fauneil Bennett, Betty Mitchell, Bryce Sebade & Colleen Simpson
- 25 Louise Green
- 26 Pam Ekberg & Trudy Schultz
- 27 Josh Widner
- 28 Candice Rastede
- 29 Mardelle Hallstrom & Carl Rump

KIDS IN THE DIVINE SERVICE



What is the date today?

Usually when someone asks this question, you might look to a calendar for the answer. The date might help determine what to wear, where to go, and what you might do. For example, if the date were January 15, you might decide to wear warm winter clothes. If it were July 12, your family might have a picnic. Calendars help keep things in order.



What does this have to do with the Divine Service?

The Church's calendar determines much of what happens in worship each Sunday (like the colors in the Sanctuary, or the readings for the day). The Church has its own calendar and its own seasons. The Church's seasons are based on the different events in the life of Christ and His Church. Instead of Summer, Fall, Winter and Spring, the Church's calendar has Advent, Christmas, Lent and many more. This calendar helps put order to the seasons and festivals of the Church.



Parents: Before or after the service, direct your children to the front of the hymnal to find the liturgical calendar. Go through the calendar and discuss the different seasons. Remind them that many of the special dates we have on our everyday calendars come from the liturgical calendar, i.e. Christmas, Easter, etc.




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Wayne, Nebraska 68787

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

July 2023 Grace Lutheran Church — Activity Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Grace Lutheran Church 402-375-1905 www.gracewayne.com					1	1 4p Family Communion
2 8a Worship 9:15a Bible Class 10:30a Worship	3	4 	5 9a Bible Study	6	7	8 9:30a Chick Show Parade 4p Family Communion
9 8a Worship/Comm 9:15a Bible Class 10:30a Worship/Comm	10 3:30p Kinship Comm. 7p Mission Council	11	12 9a Bible Study 2p Ladies Aid	13	14	15 4p Family Communion
16 8a Worship 9:15a Bible Class 10:30a Worship	17 6p Sunday School Teachers	18	19 9a Bible Study	20 7p Altar Guild	21	22 4p Family Communion
23 8a Worship/Comm 9:15a Bible Class 10:30a Worship/Comm	24	25	26 9a Bible Study	27	28	29 4p Family Communion
30 8a Worship 9:15a Bible Class 10:30a Worship	31					