May 26, 2017

Receiving Christ Continually as God's People through Word and Sacrament

Grace Lutheran Church

The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod
Heart of the Tri-Cities

GENEROSITY THOUGHTS

1 Peter 4:10 "As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace." God's grace is His undeserved mercy toward us. And what do we have that is not a gift flowing from God's grace? He means for us to use all these gifts in service toward our neighbor. And chief among the ways we serve one another is to support the Church's work of bringing more of God's grace to more of God's people. And that's what it means to be a steward!

DO YOU MISS MATINS AT GRACE?

Pastor and Nathan invite you to sing Matins with them every Wednesday at 8:30 am starting this Wednesday. The service will include a hymn, readings, and a short message that pastor will read from Luther or the Church Fathers. This will be a time to reflect on the mercy of God and then go out into the world to share God's mercy with all. Let us make a joyful noise to the Lord!

ENCOURAGING ONE ANOTHER

In our thoughts and prayers this week is Ilene Taglauer. If you wish to send her a card or note, her address is Bay Shores Senior Care, 3254 E. Midland Rd, Bay City.

THANK YOU

Thank you for all of the cards, prayers and words of encouragement during my recovery. They have been much appreciated. *Marvin Wegener*

RUMMAGE SALE THANK YOU

Thank you for your donations of craft items, tools, kitchenware, beds, books, electronics and various other items. The MOST team is grateful for all of the treasures that filled the gym to help us raise $1737 for the MOST trip that is fast approaching. Please keep the team and those they minister to in your prayers.

QUESTIONING AND CONFIRMATION

Brett and Dakota Lazarowicz and Carolyn Lewicki will be confirmed in the Faith on Pentecost Sunday (June 4). There will be a short time of fellowship following the service to celebrate their being welcomed to eat and drink the Body and Blood at the Lord's Table. On Wednesday, May 31, at 5pm, the confirmands will be examined by Pastor. All are welcome to attend. This won't be a regurgitation of the Small Catechism but rather a time for the confirmands to apply the Word and the Small Catechism to real life examples. Please pray for our confirmands.

AMAZING GIFTS

Amidst all the requests for donations to support the many service projects Grace is doing, the members of this congregation continue to give generously as we again see with this year's donations of baby items to Beacon of Hope through the Mother's Day Diaper shower. Over 1,000 diapers were collected along with beautiful handmade quilts, receiving blankets and burpers, new baby clothing, baby wipes, diaper bags, and monetary gifts. Your generous gifts are greatly appreciated as they encourage and support moms in difficult situations choosing life for their unborn child. Thank you as you have again put your faith into action through this outreach ministry to our community.

GRACE YOUR CLOSET

We had about 48 people who chose 344 items from our closet on May 17. Our next date to be open is Saturday, June 17. Our closet is very full, so we don't need any more clothes at this time.

SILENT AUCTION FOR QUILT

Dear Grace people, beginning Sunday, May 21, we will be having a silent auction for a nice quilt that our group has made. We will keep this out until the end of the month. This is to raise some money to reimburse the Ladies of Grace for the batting that they buy for us. If you feel that you can help out by bidding on this quilt, please do so at the table provided. Your support would be very much appreciated.

MOM 2 MOM SALE

On Saturday, June 3rd from 9am-3pm , there will be a "Mom 2 Mom" sale at St. John Amelith Lutheran School, 1664 Amelith Road, Bay City with a bake sale, concessions and school tours. A "Safety Fair" will be held at the pavilion as well as CRP/AED certification training & babysitter training. This will be a big & exciting event for the school & church! Hopefully you will be able to join us. Vendors are needed! For questions or to register, call Mary Smith (450-0818) or Jon Bernau (225-5974) or amelithmom2momsale@gmail.com.

CHURCH RUMMAGE SALE

Our Savior Lutheran Church, 1501 N Saginaw, Midland is having an indoor Rummage Sale. It is Friday, June 9 from 9 am to 3 pm and Saturday, June 10 from 9 am to 2 pm.

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Lessons for this coming Sunday
Seventh Sunday of Easter
Ezekiel 36:22-28
1 Peter 4:7-14
John 15:26-16:4

NOTICES

- The Clothes Closet is in need of hangars. Please drop them in the donation box in the hallway.
- The next Young Adult Bible Study is June 22 at 6:30 p.m.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Gladys Sobke, Melissa Netkowski, Marv Wegener

Worship Services

This Sunday 9:00 a.m.
Divine Worship
(Sunday School 10:30 a.m.)

Mid-Week Service 7:00 p.m.
This Wednesday

BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES

Birthdays
Ethan Krey, 29th; Jean Peters, 27th; Mary Dengel, 28th; Jennifer Taglauer, 1st; Harry Wegener, 1st; Reid Suzanne Tomashewsky, 11th; Emie Weiss, 12th; Don Handley, 15th; Deb Schmidt, 15th; Sharon Pickelman, 16th; Ray Garcia, 20th; Scott Rauschenberger, 23rd, Shirley Gray, 24th; Henry Kolm, 26th; Annette Frank, 28th; Janice Klimaszewski, 28th Lazarowicz, 2nd; Ben McNally, 3rd; Dan Haven, 4th; Dick Frank, 5th; Todd Gray, 6th; Betty Herbolsheimer, 9th; Gary Peters, 9th; Matthew Feinauer, 11th;

Anniversaries
27 Bob and Brenda Kyzmuck 28th
28 Nathan & Crissy Beebe 12th
30 Ernie & Karla Weiss 25th
3 Henry and Beverly Kolm 5th
7 Aaron & Ruth Schaus 9th
13 Bruce & Judy Lance, 53rd
17 Herb & Judy Pfundt 56th
17 Andrew & Suzanne Tomashewsky 17th
19 Brett & Jennifer Pierce 2nd
20 Gordon & Marjorie Manser 58th
20 Tom & Ruth Wegener 53rd
21 Nick & Cari Tomczak 20th
21 Gary & Sue Roth 42nd
24 Don and Karen Rauschenberger 39th
30 John & Connie Gengler 38th

LARGE PRINT REQUEST

We are in need of more clean, plastic grocery bags and cardboard rolls from paper towels. Please put both in the basket under the credenza at the back of the church. Thank you!

LUTHER ROSE CROSS AUTO EMBLEM

There are about 20 Luther Rose Cross Car Emblems still for sale. If you would like one, you may purchase one from the church office for $5.00.

DETROIT TIGER BASEBALL TRIP

We have eight tickets with seats plus another 7 bus seats left. If you would like to go, please call Herb Pfundt 662-6229 or catch him in church. The date of the game is June16 at 7:00 pm against Tampa Bay.

SOAP!

For Lutheran World relief! In June, we will be collecting soap for our Lutheran World Relief kits as well as that to be sent in bulk. The bars must be bath size, and in original wrapping. The wrappers must be complete. If you begin to see good bargains on soap, and want to contribute, we would appreciate your contributions. We especially need the milder soaps, i.e. Ivory for the baby care kits. Thank you!

GRACE FESTIVAL WEEKEND

Save the dates:
July 28 - 30, 2017
are the dates to be here. Friday the 28th is 50's Night with classic cars, games, trivia and 50's music. Saturday the 29th will have "Touch a Truck"; a bounce house, an outdoor bowling lane, Corn Hole Tournament and 60's music. Sunday the 30th we will have an outdoor worship service (10 AM) with a chicken BBQ to follow. **Corn hole tournament sign-up:** On Saturday, July 29, Grace will be hosting a double elimination corn hole tournament. Space is limited to 24 teams and the registration fee is $10 per team. This event is being offered to the Auburn Community as part of our expanded block party and will be published in the Auburn summer newsletter, so...if you want in don't delay, contact Annie Harrison (voice or text) 989-915-7749.

ISSUES, ETC.

Premier Conference for Lutheran Laity...You're invited to attend the Issues, Etc. "Making the Case" Conference June 9 and 10 at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Collinsville, IL (15 miles east of St. Louis). Topics include: The Reformation's Relevance, Depression, Natural Law, News Discernment, Lutheran Piety and Modern Day Prophets & Apostles. Speakers include: Matt Harrison, Peter Bender, Todd Peperkorn, Aaron Wolf, Terry Mattingly and Chris Rosebrough. Attendance is limited to 400. For more information: visit www.issuesetc.org or call (618) 223-8385.

THRIVENT ACTION TEAM NEWS

This past weekend eleven Grace members worked at House of Mercy/Open Door, a home for homeless women and children in Midland. A playset was repaired and a baby swing was added. A parking area was constructed, flowers planted and yard work done. A gas grill on which we prepared a picnic lunch for the residents and workers was donated. What a blessing for us to share God's love with these homeless people. Thank you Thrivent for the "seed money."

David and Joyce Erber
Chuna, West Africa
May 5, 2017

Grace Lutheran Church
303 Roth St.
Auburn, MI 48611-9463

Dear Pastor Schian and people of God at Grace Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your donation of:

$500

Dated in St. Louis: March 20, 2017

Last night, about an hour before bedtime, a brief rain shower came through. The power company often shuts off the electricity when it rains. Most countries in Africa have very poorly constructed electrical systems. Frequently, a good rain with some wind can cause transformers to "blow" and then the entire neighborhoods loose their electricity until repairs are made. We understand the wisdom in shutting off the power to avoid extensive damage. However, it's always rather discouraging when the power is shut off for a 10 minute rain but then not turned back on for hours!

Last night, after the power was turned off for a brief shower, it didn't come on again until exactly at midnight. But then, within 5 minutes, the power flickered and was gone! The power went off and didn't come back on. This morning we learned that Ghana, as a country, lost 70% of its electricity!

We have really gotten spoiled with good electricity in Ghana. Throughout most of our years in Nigeria, we had little or no electricity. Even now, we are grateful for our deep cycle batteries so we can run small fans at night and computers during the day when the power is off. We are also grateful for an old standby generator so we can even run the refrigerator from time to time.

What's really important is that the church here in Ghana has been talking about starting a new seminary program for 10 men who already have jobs and incomes but also want to serve as pastors. It will be interesting to see what the church has in mind for such a program. All the courses will need to be taught on the weekends. God always finds ways to expand the mission of the church! Hopefully this will result in more Lutheran churches being started in the cities and towns where these men live!

By the way, your donations are precious to us! We are always comforted when our monthly donations met our monthly needs. Thanks to you, our monthly needs have been met once again!

Indeed, God is the One who takes care of all our daily needs, as well as our monthly needs, for both you and for us!

Your grateful missionaries,

P.S. The lights are back on!

David and Joyce

david.erber@LCMSINTL.org and joyce.erber@LCMSINTL.org

The Lutheran Hour
Radio: Sunday morning on WSAM-AM 1400
from 8:30 - 9:00 A.M.
Internet: lutheranhour.org

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Church Office Hours M W F 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
(989) 662-6161
http://www.graceauburn.org
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Join Our Mailing List!

"God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work." 2 Corinthians 9:8