



Grace Newsletter

July 2017

Volunteer Job Opening: 1st-2nd Grade Sunday School Teacher

Time Commitment: September 2017-May 2018 (Substitutes available when you need them)

One of the wonderful things about Sunday School teachers is that we always need *more!* One of the frustrating and challenging things about Sunday School teachers is that we always need *more!* It's wonderful because there is room for *you* – please don't sit back and think that Grace is such a great congregation that, surely, we already have enough Sunday School teachers. Make the decision to join us this year.

Five reasons *you* should teach:

1. **The students are delightful:** They will enrich your spirit, expand your horizons and grow your faith – you need them in your life! Watch God's shaping hand in a child's life! Enjoy a great sense of accomplishment and pride in being part of something life changing!
2. **The lessons are compelling:** They will challenge your thinking, give you new ways of sharing your faith, and deepen your own relationship with Jesus Christ. The lesson plans and materials are selected and provided for you.
3. **The time commitment is finite:** You commit to a school year.
4. **The teamwork is uplifting:** The community of Sunday School leaders will delight and encourage you and help you feel the creative energy of the Spirit.
5. **You promised:** Every time a child is baptized we, the members of Grace, promise to guide and nurture these children by word and deed, with love and prayer, encouraging them to know and follow Christ and to become faithful members of his church. Volunteering to lead Sunday School is a terrific way to make good on this vital promise.



Because of the Brave

by Ron Tranmer

**America, the beautiful,
home of the brave and free.
A land that God, our Father,
has given you and me.**

**He knows that in our world,
freedom always has it's price,
and can easily be lost,
without fight and sacrifice.**

**So with a love of country
our bravest give their all,
Many even life itself...
We're grateful to them all.**

**Our Army, Navy, National Guard,
Air Force and Marines.
Present and past...all have made
our bell of freedom ring.**

**We thank them for their sacrifice
and pray to God above,
that they may know the greatness
of our gratitude and love**

**Because of them, our nations flag
will ever proudly waive.
And we are still home of the free
because of them... The brave.**

In This Issue

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How Do You ‘Self-Identify’?

“But now thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: ‘Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name; you are mine.’ ” (Isaiah 43:1)

Brothers and sisters in Christ,

Over the past couple of years or so we’ve heard a lot about people who “self-identify” as something other than what they appear to be. A person who is biologically a male indicates they do not see themselves as such but, rather “self-identify” as a female or vice versa and demand to be treated as the gender they prefer rather than the gender they were born as. This has certainly caused more than a little conversation and consternation both in our culture and church.

My article this month is NOT about that issue. Rather, my question for each of you is how do you self-identify as a child of God? When you think of your identity in Christ, what image comes to mind?

The article below came from our LCMS Stewardship Board and has some interesting thoughts on the importance of self-identity. I hope you find it helpful and thought provoking. It’s based on the bible verse printed above so if you haven’t read that yet please do.



Identity is an important issue for all of us. The movie *Nanny Diaries* is the story of the journey of Annie Braddock, a young woman from a working-class neighborhood in New Jersey, struggling to understand her place in the world. She goes to a job interview and is asked simply to “Tell me in your own words, who is Annie Braddock?” She thinks for a while and finally says, “I have absolutely no idea!” She knew her birth date, her home town and her socio-economic make up, but who she was, where she fit in, and where she was going was a mystery she feared she might never solve.

Who are you? How would you describe yourself? Would you, like Annie, have difficulty answering that question? It appears that many churchgoers do! Read on.

George Barna writes in the book *Revolution*: “Our research indicates that churchgoers are more likely to see themselves as Americans, consumers, professionals, parents and unique individuals rather than disciples of Jesus Christ. Until that self-image is reoriented, churches will not have the capacity to change their world.”

If churchgoers aren’t likely to see themselves as disciples (or even Christians for that matter), they certainly won’t see themselves as stewards. When it comes to Christian stewardship, identity is an important issue for all of us.

Our stewardship does not begin with our behavior, but with the identity God has given us...in our baptism.

Our stewardship does not begin with our behavior, but with the identity God has given us when He adopted us into His family in Holy Baptism. We are Christians. We are disciples. We are stewards. We are His children.

Pastor Robert Kolb writes: “The Christian faith rests upon the person of our God, who has revealed himself as Jesus of Nazareth. Our faith rests upon who he is and upon what he has said to us. We have his revelation of who he is and his message for us in the Holy Scriptures. He gives our lives meaning and a sense of security. He has established our identities anew by planting his mark, the cross, on our heads and on our hearts. He gives this new existence reality as he sustains us with his Word of promise. He is the only source of our ultimate identity, security, and meaning.”

Sadly, the lack of sound teaching on stewardship has blurred the image of the steward found in Scripture. A steward is understood by most people as a person who shares their own resources with others. But the Bible defines a steward as one who faithfully cares for the resources of someone else. As a steward of the gifts God has given you, you are not simply a good investor, philanthropist or business owner. These fail to acknowledge the fact that God owns all things and gives us the privilege of using His resources to accomplish His goals.

A steward is a person who faithfully cares for the resources of someone else.

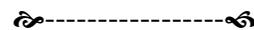
It is very difficult to practice stewardship if one doesn’t know he or she is a steward. The challenge is helping people understand the freedom and joy of being a manager of God’s gifts rather than the owner.

Read carefully this definition as it speaks to the identity of the Christian steward:

“A Christian steward is a child of God who realizes his or her role in life as a partner, a trustee, a manager, a caretaker or temporary custodian of gifts that belong to God. The Christian steward receives God’s precious gifts gratefully, manages God’s precious gifts carefully and responsibly, shares God’s precious gifts with others generously, and returns God’s precious gifts joyfully with increase.

In 1956 T.A. Kantonen wrote in his book, *A Theology for Christian Stewardship*: “Unless Christ has priority in the life of a church member, he or she may be persuaded to support the church, but will not be a true steward. Thus the main problem in the financial support of the church is not getting into the people’s pocketbooks, but getting Christ into people’s hearts.”

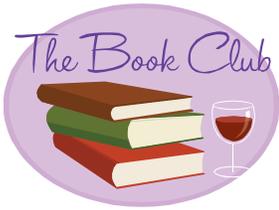
This is still true today.



God has called you by name, you are His. I pray you find your comfort and joy in that identity.

God’s blessings to you as we live out our faith together in this broken world and I’ll see you in church.

Pastor Brooks



The next gathering of the Grace Book Club will be on Sunday, July 25 at 6:30 pm. Meeting place will be at Janet Brooks' residence. We will be reading and discussing: *Hillbilly Elegy: A Memoir of a Family and Culture in Crisis* by JD Vance

Summary: *Hillbilly Elegy* is a passionate and personal analysis of a culture in crisis—that of white working-class Americans. The decline of this group, a demographic of our country that has been slowly disintegrating over forty years, has been reported on with growing frequency and alarm, but has never before been written about as searingly from the inside. J. D. Vance tells the true story of what a social, regional, and class decline feels like when you were born with it hung around your neck. The Vance family story begins hopefully in postwar America. J. D.'s grandparents were "dirt poor and in love," and moved north from Kentucky's Appalachia region to Ohio in the hopes of escaping the dreadful poverty around them. They raised a middle-class family, and eventually their grandchild (the author) would graduate from Yale Law School, a conventional marker of their success in achieving generational upward mobility. But as the family saga of *Hillbilly Elegy* plays out, we learn that this is only the short, superficial version. Vance's grandparents, aunt, uncle, sister, and, most of all, his mother, struggled profoundly with the demands of their new middle-class life, and were never able to fully escape the legacy of abuse, alcoholism, poverty, and trauma so characteristic of their part of America. Vance piercingly shows how he himself still carries around the demons of their chaotic family history.

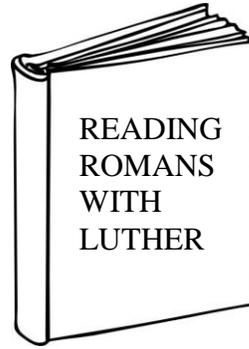
Any and all women are invited to join us for a heartfelt talk and a glass of wine! If you have any questions, please call Janet at 801-518-7319.

Celebration for Lila "Lee" Trask—

Members of Grace and anyone who knows Lila (Becky Cafferty's Mother) is invited to celebrate Lila's 90 years. Lila's children are hosting the celebration which is being held Saturday, July 29th from 1 to 3 PM at Sage Valley Middle School. The address is 18070 Santa Ana Ave., Nampa. No presents please; your presence is present enough.



Summer Adult Bible Study—



We are reading/discussing the book "Reading Romans with Luther" By RJ Grunewald. It is never too late to join this study. If you do not have a book and wish to purchase one we have a few left for \$13.00.

Complete Care Presentation—

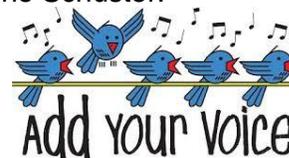
On Tuesday, July 11 at 2 PM Jessie Marbry will present benefits that are available through Medicare. This event can benefit all seniors. Join us in the fellowship hall to learn more. Light refreshments will be served.

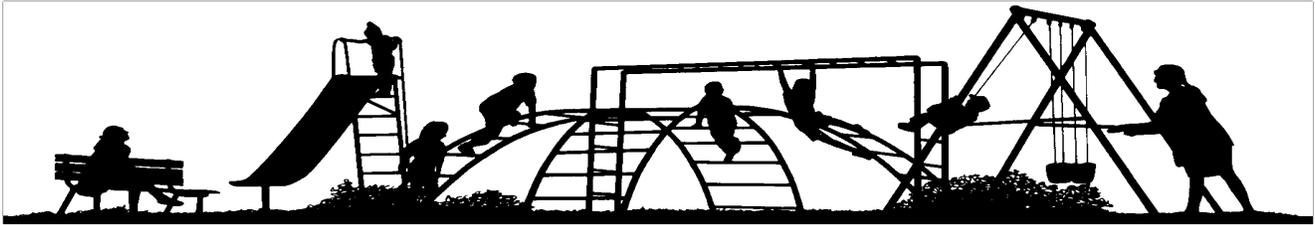
The Utah-Idaho LWML Retreat—

The Utah-Idaho LWML is hosting a weekend retreat at Camp Perkins July 14-16. All women of the congregation are invited to join them for the weekend. The theme for the weekend is "REFRESH, RENEW, REJOICE, REPEAT". The presenter will be Linda Gage who is a National LWML staff member. Come and make new friends or reconnect with old friends. Relax in the beautiful setting of Camp Perkins. Mediate on God's word, sing, laugh, enjoy campfire, and enjoy time on the lake! For a registration form or more information contact Barbara James (208)465-5084 or utahidaholwml.org.

Choir participants for the Joint Reformation Service—

The Treasure Valley Circuit will be holding the joint Reformation Service in October at NNU with Zion serving as the host congregation. Zion is inviting those who enjoy singing to participate in a mass choir. Individual singers are welcome to join Zion Lutheran's rehearsal beginning 5 weeks prior to the celebration. Rehearsals will take place each Thursday evening at 7 PM from September 28-October 26 at Zion Lutheran church. Please contact Pastor Ross Shaver if you are interested. If the choir at Grace is interested in participating please contact Lorene Schuster.





Grace Lutheran Preschool

REGISTRATION FOR THE 2017-2018 SCHOOL YEAR IS OPEN!

Check out our website gracelutherancaldwell.org for school information.

Openings are available in both classes!

Three/Four Year Old Class

Tuesdays & Thursdays

Registration Fee: \$85

(Secures spot & not refundable after August 1, 2017)

Monthly Tuition: \$85

September - May

Four/Five Year Old Class

Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday

Registration Fee: \$125

(Secures spot & not refundable after August 1, 2017)

Monthly Tuition: \$125

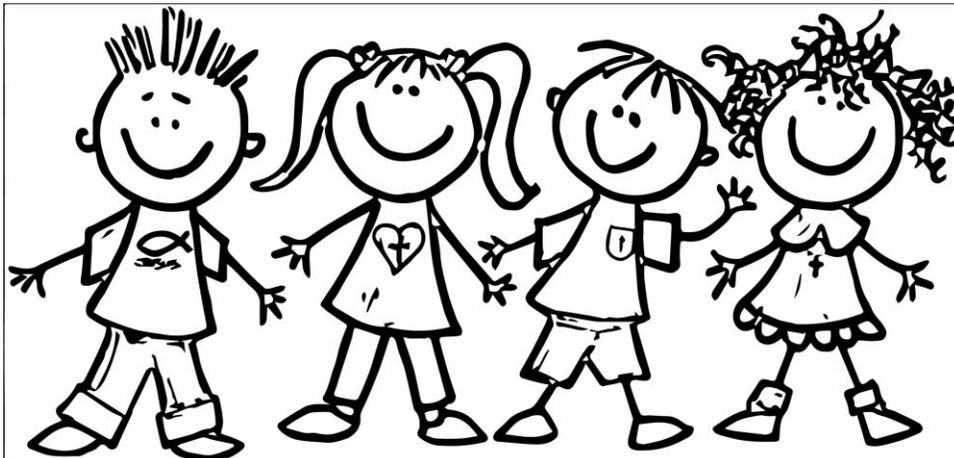
September - May

To register, you may do so by:

- stopping by the church office to pick up a registration form,
- contacting the church office(459-4191) for a registration form to be mailed or
- go online to <https://gracelutherancaldwell.org/tuition-and-registration/> and click on the link to fill out a registration form

To pay the registration fee and/or monthly tuition, you may do so with:

- cash or check made out to “Grace Lutheran Church”
- a monthly payment using Electronic Funds Transfer from your checking or savings account. Follow the link online to download and print a form or stop by the church office and our secretary will assist you in setting that up (******there is a discount off of the monthly tuition if this option is used, call the office to find out more******).
- a debit or credit card. Click the “**Make a Payment**” button on our online preschool page. You will need to create an online user profile and password the first time you use this option.



Teaching Excellence Prize: One of our members of our church wanted to share information about a prize that is available for teachers through Harbor Freight Tools. The information follows:

Harbor Freight invites you to participate and spread the word about the new Harbor Freight Tools for Schools Prize for Teaching Excellence. The Prize is part of Harbor Freight Tools for Schools LLC's charitable effort to shine a light on excellence in skilled trades education (electrical, carpentry, welding, plumbing, automotive, etc.) in American public high schools.

We have a deep respect for the dignity of this work and for the intelligence and creativity of people who work with their hands. We know for sure that quality skilled trades education in high schools offers pathways to graduation, opportunity, good jobs and a workforce our country needs. We want to help grow understanding, support and investment by school districts and others.

The Harbor Freight Tools for Schools Prize for Teaching Excellence will be awarded annually and will include over \$500,000 awarded to 10 outstanding skilled trades teachers in public high schools and the skilled trades programs in their schools!

*~ 3 first place winners will receive a Prize of \$100,000 (\$30,000 directly to the teacher and \$70,000 to their high school's skilled trades program)
 ~ 7 second place winners will receive a Prize of \$30,000 (\$10,000 directly to the teacher and \$20,000 to their high school's skilled trades program)*

The Prize will help support amazing skilled trades teachers, students and programs across America. It will honor outstanding teachers - folks who are heroes to us - and who just don't get enough recognition.

Are you a public high school skilled trades teacher - offering classes in electrical, carpentry, welding, plumbing, automotive, etc.? If so, check out the Prize! If not, please communicate this opportunity to a friend who is.

Please visit: HarborFreightTeachingPrize.com to register and apply.

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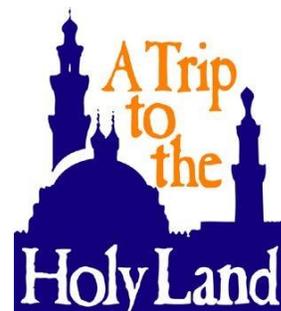
**Learning Websites:** Here are some fun websites for kids to keep learning through the summer!

# 10 FREE LEARNING WEBSITES {FOR KIDS}

Here's a list of some fun, educational, and safe websites for your child to visit and explore on those hot summer days!

|                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                   |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Switcheroo Zoo</b><br><a href="http://www.switcheroozoo.com">www.switcheroozoo.com</a><br>Watch, listen and play games to learn all about amazing animals!        | <b>Fun Brain</b><br><a href="http://www.funbrain.com">www.funbrain.com</a><br>Play games while practicing math and reading skills                                 |
| <b>Nat Geo for Kids</b><br><a href="http://www.kids.nationalgeographic.com">www.kids.nationalgeographic.com</a><br>Learn all about geography and fascinating animals | <b>PBS Kids</b><br><a href="http://www.pbskids.org">www.pbskids.org</a><br>Hang out with your favorite characters all while learning!                             |
| <b>Into the Book</b><br><a href="http://www.reading.ecb.org">www.reading.ecb.org</a><br>Go "into the book" to play games that practice reading strategies            | <b>Star Fall</b><br><a href="http://www.starfall.com">www.starfall.com</a><br>Practice your phonics skills with these read-along stories                          |
| <b>Seussville</b><br><a href="http://www.seussville.com">www.seussville.com</a><br>Read, play games, and hang out with Dr. Seuss and his friends                     | <b>Storyline Online</b><br><a href="http://www.storylineonline.net">www.storylineonline.net</a><br>Have some of your favorite stories read to you by movie stars! |
| <b>ABC YA</b><br><a href="http://www.abcya.com">www.abcya.com</a><br>Practice math and reading skills all while playing fun games!                                   | <b>Highlights Kids</b><br><a href="http://www.highlightskids.com">www.highlightskids.com</a><br>Read, play games, and conduct cool science experiments!           |

**HOLY LAND TOUR (November 14 – 25, 2017)** A Biblical tour of Israel & Jordan where Scripture is read and explained at each Biblical site – The trip of a life time! lifetime! Contact Rev Darold Reiner, retired LCMS pastor & former International LWML Counselor, for a brochure: [406-890-1149](tel:4068901149) or [imhis38@gmail.com](mailto:imhis38@gmail.com)





## July Youth Servant Event:

July 6: YWAM Refugee Center

10:00-12:30 Service

Afternoon fun in Boise

July 27: Boise Rescue Mission

10:00-12:00 Service

Afternoon fun in Boise

## We ECHO the love of Jesus

All youth going into 6th-12th grade are invited to serve.

Parents - consider serving with us. We need you.

We will meet at church 45 minutes before event starts.

Please bring a lunch & snack.

**HOT**  
SUMMER  
NIGHTS

## Late Night Swim

to kickoff VBS

at the Caldwell Pool

Friday, July 7

9:15-11:15 PM

\$2 per person

Must have a ticket to get in



Please keep our  
students & chaperones in your  
prayers July 17-25  
Maddie Mar, Jake Daniel, Hawk Wyatt,  
Emily Walling, Greg Farrell, Dylan  
Shields, Sunshine Bryden, Melissa Rau,  
Hailey Christiansen, Carla Shields, Tara  
Daniel, Patti Lawson & Steve Nisula



## Camp Grace Summer Sunday School

**Adult Facilitators needed**

**July 2, 9 & 30**

**Sign up to serve for just one  
Sunday of the summer!**

**Thank you for serving:  
Liz Osmus, Margie Pate,  
Sara Upson, Patti Lawson  
& Ellie Elli**

**MAKER  
FUN FACTORY**

## Vacation Bible School

**July 10-14**

**YOUTH CREW LEADERS NEEDED**

**Adult assistants needed**

**Sign up TODAY!**

**AND INVITE ALL THE KIDS YOU KNOW!**

# July 2017

| <i>Sunday</i>                                                                                                                                                       | <i>Monday</i> | <i>Tuesday</i>                                                                                                                | <i>Wednesday</i>                      | <i>Thursday</i>                                                                                                              | <i>Friday</i>                                                | <i>Saturday</i>                                                          |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>30</b><br>9:15 am Christian Education<br>10:30 am Family Worship<br><br>6:30 pm Grace Book Club<br><br>Greeters: Ron & Faith Teach                               | <b>31</b>     | <b>12 Months of Prayer:</b><br>For this month we pray for all our children at camp and the staff who are taking care of them. |                                       |                                                                                                                              |                                                              | <b>1</b><br><u>8:00 am</u> Group Bible Fellowship - Denny's at Flying J  |
| <b>2</b><br>9:15 am Christian Education<br>10:30 am Family Worship<br>w/ Holy Communion<br><br>Greeters: Ryan & Carla Shields                                       | <b>3</b>      | <b>4</b><br><br>5:45 pm Exercise             | <b>5</b><br><b>Bulletin Deadline</b>  | <b>6</b><br>10:00 Youth Servant Event – YWAM Refugee Center in Boise see p. 6<br><br>1:00 pm Quilters<br>5:45 pm Exercise    | <b>7</b><br>9:15 pm Late Night Swim at Caldwell pool see p.6 | <b>8</b><br><u>8:00 am</u> Group Bible Fellowship - Denny's at Flying J  |
| <b>9</b><br>9:15 am Christian Education<br>10:30 am Family Worship<br><i>Board of Trustees</i><br><i>Board of Education</i><br><br>Greeters: Chuck & Connie Stadick | <b>10</b>     | <b>MAKER FUN FACTORY – VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 9AM – 12PM</b>                                                                   |                                       |                                                                                                                              |                                                              | <b>15</b><br><u>8:00 am</u> Group Bible Fellowship - Denny's at Flying J |
|                                                                                                                                                                     |               | <b>11</b><br>2:00 pm Complete Care Presentation                                                                               |                                       | <b>12</b><br><b>Bulletin Deadline</b>                                                                                        | <b>13</b><br>1:00 pm Quilters                                |                                                                          |
| <b>16</b><br>9:15 am Christian Education<br>10:30 am Family Worship<br>w/ Holy Communion<br><br>Greeters: Julius & Donna Steiger                                    | <b>17</b>     | <b>18</b><br><b>Newsletter Deadline</b>                                                                                       | <b>19</b><br><b>Bulletin Deadline</b> | <b>20</b><br>1:00 pm Quilters                                                                                                | <b>21</b>                                                    | <b>22</b><br><u>8:00 am</u> Group Bible Fellowship - Denny's at Flying J |
|                                                                                                                                                                     |               |                                                                                                                               |                                       | <b>The ONE 2017 District H.S. Youth Gathering @ Concordia University – Portland, OR    17<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup></b> |                                                              |                                                                          |
|                                                                                                                                                                     |               | <b>18</b><br>5:45 pm Exercise                                                                                                 |                                       | <b>20</b><br>5:45 pm Exercise<br>7:30 pm <i>Council</i>                                                                      |                                                              |                                                                          |
| <b>23</b><br>9:15 am Christian Education<br>10:30 am Family Worship<br><br>Greeters: Chaney & Holly Stotts                                                          | <b>24</b>     | <b>25</b><br>5:45 pm Exercise                                                                                                 | <b>26</b><br><b>Bulletin Deadline</b> | <b>27</b><br>10:00 am Youth Servant Event – Boise Rescue Mission see p. 6<br><br>5:45 pm Exercise                            | <b>28</b>                                                    | <b>29</b><br><u>8:00 am</u> Group Bible Fellowship - Denny's at Flying J |