



Grace Newsletter

October 2017

Current Bible Studies being offered:

Sunday Morning Adult Bible Studies:

That the World May Know - Travel to Israel and radically change your understanding of the Scriptures. Wet your feet in the Jordan River and impact the culture with life-giving water. Show your trust in the Lord's provision by offering up first fruits at Jericho. And cleanse the land by confronting evil and using the tools of society to redeem your world for God. In this first volume of the *That the World May Know* series, historian and teacher Ray Vander Laan will show you how God guided his people to a specific place - the Promised Land - to impact the world both in ancient times and today. Experience the Bible in historical context! Study led by Pastor Brooks

Grace is Greater: God's Plan to Overcome Your Past, Redeem Your Pain, and Rewrite Your Story - The writer of the letter to the Hebrews said, "See to it that no one misses the grace of God." Over the centuries much ink has been spilled on the subject of grace. Yet perhaps nothing is as hard to *explain* as God's grace. *It doesn't make sense. It's not fair. It can't possibly cover over what I've done.* The best way--perhaps the only real way--to understand it is to *experience* it. But too often in our churches we're not getting grace across and grace is not experienced. Study led by Amy Hubach

Tuesday Morning Women's Bible Study at Grace Lutheran Church at 10 AM:

Peter: From Fisherman to Fisher of Men - We can learn much from the life and ministry of the Apostle Peter. His passion for the Gospel was sometimes overshadowed by the shortcomings of his nature. Peter demonstrates that zeal without discipline is reckless, a prideful heart stunts growth, God uses people who make mistakes, and the Holy Spirit enables us to humbly welcome Jesus in our lives. Study led by Peggy Schroeder

Tuesday Night Bible Study at Sarah Kroll's Home at 7 PM:

Malachi: A Love that Never Let's Go - This is a Bible study on God's mercy, taken from the book of Malachi. No matter how many times we mess up, God loves (and never leaves) us. Malachi 3:6 states, "I the LORD do not change." Study led by Sarah Kroll

Theology on Tap Men's Bible Study on the 1st & 3rd Thursdays (meeting place to be announced). Study led by Mark Elli

Saturday Morning Bible Study at Denny's (at the Flying J) at 8 AM. Small group discusses and studies the Old Testament, Epistle and Gospel readings for the upcoming Sunday morning service.

History of Oktoberfest—

The Oktoberfest tradition started in 1810 to celebrate the October 12th marriage of Bavarian Crown Prince Ludwig to the Saxon-Hildburghausen Princess Therese. The citizens of Munich were invited to join in the festivities which were held over five days on the fields in front of the city gates. The main event of the original Oktoberfest was a horse race.

Anniversary celebrations were held annually thereafter that eventually became larger and more elaborate. An agricultural show was added during the second year. In 1818, a carousel and two swings were set up for the revelers. Such amusements were few in the first decades of the festival, but party-goers were amply entertained by the tree climbing competitions, wheel barrow and sack races, mush eating contests, barrel rolling races, and goose chases. By 1870s, mechanical rides were an expanding feature of the festival and in 1908, the festival boasted Germany's first roller coaster. When the city began allowing beer on the fairgrounds, makeshift beer stands began cropping up, and their number increased steadily until they were eventually replaced by beer halls in 1896. The beer halls, like the beer tents of today, were sponsored by the local breweries.

The festival was eventually prolonged and moved ahead to September to allow for better weather conditions. Today, the last day of the festival is the first Sunday in October. In 2006, the Oktoberfest extended two extra days because the first Tuesday, October 3, was a national holiday. Over the past 200 years, Oktoberfest was canceled 24 times due to cholera epidemics and war.

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“The Great Physician”

“When they could not get near him because of the crowd, they removed the roof above him, and when they had made an opening, they let down the bed on which the paralytic lay. And when Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, ‘Son, your sins are forgiven.’ ” (Mark 2:4-5)

One of my favorite Bible stories is when four men lowered their paralyzed friend through the roof of a house so they could lay their friend at the feet of Jesus.

Among other things, this event shows how open and available Jesus was to people in need. He was busy teaching those who had crowded into that house when these men intruded. But He didn't resent their interruption. Instead, He stopped what He was doing so their ailing friend could encounter the work of the Great Physician.

How Jesus responded to that paralyzed man showed what He believed was most important. You have to believe that everyone was waiting with baited breath for Him to perform a miracle and heal this poor man. But instead, *“When Jesus saw [the faith of those men], he said to the paralytic, ‘Son, your sins are forgiven.’ ”*

How interesting. Here's a man who couldn't walk, a man who needed his friends to carry him from place to place. And Jesus tells him, *“Son, your sins are forgiven.”*? I often wonder what must have been going through the mind of that man.

But, you see, Jesus knew the man's real need, a need much deeper than his paralysis. The physical healing of the sick man followed, but it was a distant second to that which was more important.

This month marks the 500th Anniversary of the Lutheran Reformation. On October 31, 1517 a Roman Catholic monk named Martin Luther posted 95 statements for debate on the chapel door of Wittenberg University. Those statements focused on errors he believed needed to be addressed and corrected in that church body.

Throughout his life, Luther struggled with believing God could actually forgive him. It wasn't that Luther was such a terrible man. It was the fact that the solution the Roman Catholic Church offered for peace of mind simply didn't work for him.

Luther correctly understood that God's expectation of him was nothing less than perfection. But the more he attempted to achieve this through the acts the Roman church told him to perform, the more convinced he became that he was a lost and condemned sinner.

But then, in his studies of the book of Romans, as Luther read the words, *“The righteous shall live by faith”* Luther understood that faith was not something that he had to do but that it was a gift from God which gives sinners the perfection He demanded.

This completely changed Luther's life. Where before he thought God hated him, now he now saw that God loved him so much that He sent His one and only Son to live, die and rise again so that his sins might be forgiven.

This is what Jesus wanted that paralytic man to know. Much more important than bodily health is the assurance that God forgives us because we trust Him to do so. There is nothing we can do to gain God's forgiveness. We can only receive it as a gift from God based on what Jesus has done for us.

A survey of 2500 people released last month by the Pew Research Center reveals that this continues to be a truth we need to learn. One of the questions asked in that survey was, “How do you get to heaven?”

Luther argued that the Bible teaches “faith alone” was the key to salvation. This was in contrast to the Catholic belief that both faith and good deeds were required. Less than half of Protestants surveyed agreed with Luther (only 46 percent).

Jesus wants us to know that our greatest need is God's forgiveness as well! The Bible judges all of us: *“All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.”* We know it's true. How good, then, to be able to go to Jesus with our sins and know that it is His highest priority to forgive us. And, in His name, we can bring to other troubled sinners the same assurance Jesus gave: *“Your sins are forgiven.”*

A few who were present that day were upset with Jesus. They were upset that Jesus had the audacity to speak as He did. They maintained that He had blasphemed God, for they said, “Who can forgive sins but God only?” That's when Jesus showed the crowd that He is God and that He wields God's power and authority. He said, *“Which is easier: to say ‘Your sins are forgiven’ or to say ‘Take up your bed and go home’?”* It takes God's power to do either of these. Then, to the amazement of all, when Jesus spoke His words of healing to the paralytic, that's exactly what the healed man did!

Because Jesus is our Great Physician we rejoice that He has given us the inner healing we need most. And, like the paralytic's friends, we can, with our prayers and our witness, also bring our families and friends to Jesus for the healing that only He can provide.

May God bless us as we live out our faith together in this broken world and I'll see you in church.

Pastor Brooks



Grace Lutheran Church

2700 S. Kimball Ave, Caldwell

First Annual Oktoberfest & Fall Carnival

Saturday, October 14, 2017

4 – 8 pm (dinner served at 5:30)

Celebrate the 500th Anniversary of the Lutheran Reformation

Celebrate the 75th Anniversary of our congregation in Caldwell

Invite your friends and family!



Join us for a fun evening enjoying our German Heritage!

Dinner: *Bratwurst, Bierocks, or Frankfurter Rotkohl* (German red cabbage)
Heisser Kartoffelsalat (Hot potato salad)
Sauerkraut
Chips
Apfelkuchen (Apple Cake)

Drinks: Locally brewed beer
Homemade Rootbeer
Lemonade



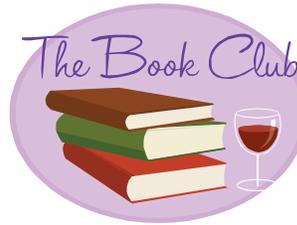
THRIVENT FINANCIAL®

Carnival Games for the kids; Snack and prize booths; Cake Walk
(Fund-raiser for Grace Preschool)

Even meet *Martin and Katie Luther*, great photo opportunity!!

Live Local Music "Taste of Country" for listening and dancing

Donations appreciated to help offset costs



The next gathering of the Grace Book Club will be on Sunday, October 22 at 7:00 pm. Meeting place will be at Donna Steiger's residence. We will be reading and discussing: Unveiling Grace by Lynn Wilder

Summary: "Unveiling Grace", by Lynn Wilder, is a powerful testament to the beautiful love of God working in the midst of everyday life. From page one Lynn wraps and weaves a story that is easy to read while not being too simplistic. She tells the gripping story of how her family, which had been *deeply* involved in Mormonism (for 30 years), found their way out of the Mormon church and as she states, "to Jesus Christ alone".

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.



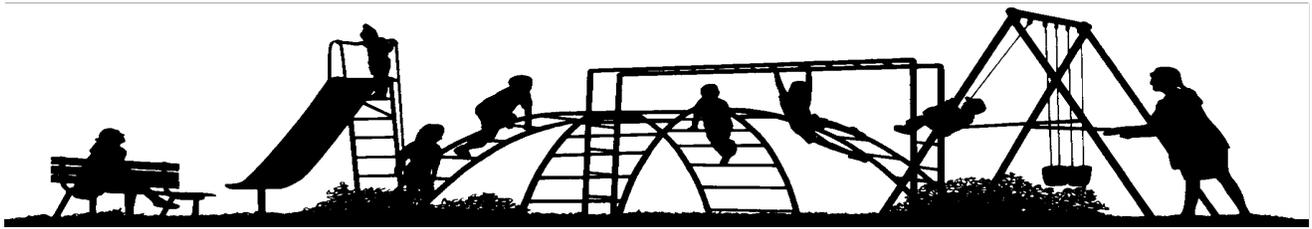
Concordia Circle/LWML—

The next monthly meeting for Concordia Circle will be on October 2nd at 7:00 p.m. All the ladies of the congregation are invited to join us. The meeting will be hosted by Carol McIntyre.

Upcoming event for LWML will be the Fall Western Zone event on October 7th at Immanuel Lutheran Church, New Plymouth. "Up, Up, and Away". Registration is between 9:00 & 9:30a.m. There is a suggested donation of \$3 and lunch is provided. Terri Bentley will be leading the bible study "Above All." There is an ingathering to benefit the Next Chapter Food Pantry located in Ontario, OR. Please bring canned goods and cereal products. The special guest speaker is Nichelle Dykema who is going on a mission to Peru. Nichelle will also be at Grace Lutheran on October 22 to answer any questions about her trip.



If you would like more information about LWML, Lutheran Women In Mission, contact a member of Concordia Circle or Barbara James.



Grace Lutheran Preschool

Our Mission Statement:

“To facilitate the love of God, promote emotional, social and intellectual growth and the physical well-being of each child.”

4 Year Old Class

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We have nineteen students between our two classes. Bible devotions were based on Creation, Adam and Eve, the first sin, Noah’s ark, and God’s promise to Abraham. We focused on correct ways to hold a pencil and crayons. They liked the aim and scribble worksheets with fireflies, stars and fireworks; and were surprised we encouraged scribbling the first few days. Our letters were L, F, E, H, and T. We did games and sensory techniques to teach left from right, and worked on positional words by playing a game called In and Out Toss and Shout.

At craft time they made an Earth using blue and green play dough, Popsicle stick puppets, baked apple muffins, a frog sack puppets, handprint elephants, and rainbows. They also painted a lion and thought it was really neat to use a fork to paint the mane. Our science experiments tie in with the Bible stories; this gives them one more way to learn and absorb everything. They discovered what sinks or floats, and that Skittles magically create a rainbow with just a bit of water. They’ve all made new friends, and have great imaginations.

The first week we did assessments to get a basic snapshot of their abilities. This shows how they learn, develop and progress throughout the year. Our goal is that every student thrives. We adjust their individual teacher/student time to accommodate their needs, whether it’s mastering how to hold a pencil, scissor skills, learning letters, math skills etc. We want each child to build on what they already know. What a great start to the school year.

In His grace,  
Mrs. Julie Christiansen & Ms. Patti

***All Preschool Families – Please Join Us!***



**OCTOBER 14<sup>TH</sup>**

**4PM – 8PM**



**OCTOBER 31<sup>ST</sup>**

**11:30AM**

### 3 Year Old Class

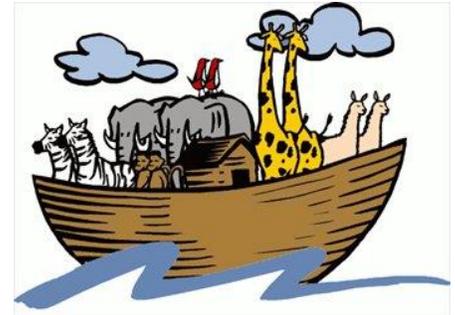
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The Lord has blessed us with 19 children this year. We have two a.m. classes. A Monday/Wednesday and a Tuesday/Thursday class. Ten in one and nine in the other.

We learned all about God's Creation; explored the five senses; covered classroom safety, and worked on fine motor skills. We are still learning each other's names and trying to find out who "hey" is. The children keep calling out to "Hey" but he/she is nowhere to be found. We keep telling the children that there is no one in the room by that name. ☺. The children are doing well and getting into a routine. Each is eager to hear if their name is called to hold the flag for the "Pledge of Allegiance." We reassure them that they will all get a turn. Please ask them to tell you all about their 5 senses and the days of creation. You can review their "Creation" book and "The Five Senses" book with them that was sent home in their backpacks. They worked hard on their books all last month.

October will be filled with more of the above and learning more colors, numbers, and shapes, the Garden of Eden, Noah's Ark, and Joseph with his coat of many colors. Our bible verse for the month is "God gives good gifts," Matthew 7:11. Your children are His gift to us and we so enjoy teaching and learning with them.

We will be hosting a Costume Parade and a "Trunk or Treat" in our parking lot on the 31<sup>st</sup>. The children can bring their costumes to change into and go "trunk or treating" after the parade.



The parade will take place just before the end of our school day. More information will be sent home as the date nears and of course, the children from all classes are invited to participate in the parade and all students and siblings are invited to participate in the Trunk or Treat. And parents if you like you are welcome to decorate your own car trunk for the "Trunk or Treat." There are lots of parking spaces available.

We have five birthdays this month. Happy Birthday wishes go out to Emry & Jack; (the 4<sup>th</sup>), Evie, (the 22<sup>nd</sup>), Maddox, (the 24<sup>th</sup>) and Luke (the 31<sup>st</sup>). We also wished Dru belated Birthday wishes as she joined us on Sept. 6<sup>th</sup> and her birthday was on the 5<sup>th</sup>.



Mrs. Farrell & Mrs. Gigray



The Preschool staff would like to thank the **women of Concordia Circle and LWML** for providing each of our children now and throughout the year with "Birthday Bags" filled with a cake mix, frosting, candles, a book and a card. What a wonderful idea! This was so very thoughtful of you all; is much appreciated and the preschoolers love the gifts.

**1 John 4:19**

**We love because He first loved us.**





## FAMILY PUMPKIN CARVING CONTEST

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21 6 PM

DINNER WILL BE SERVED

BRING YOUR OWN PUMPKINS

& CARVING SUPPLIES

God doesn't  
love us  
because of  
our worth,  
we are of  
worth  
because God  
loves us.

-Martin Luther



Celebrating the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation with an

## Oktoberfest

Saturday, October 14 4-8 PM

\*Carnival for the kids

\*Great German food

\*Get your picture taken with Marty

\*and much more!

Questions? Contact the church office



October 16 @ 6:30 PM  
Games, Snacks & Bible Study

Middle School Ministry



Sunday School begins at 9:15 AM every Sunday

Preschool: Patty Eckman

1st-2nd Grade: Amber Rau 3rd-4th: Patti Lawson

5th-6th: Carolyn Bryden

7th-8th: Carla Shields High School: Mark Elli

Special Class: Sharon Hensen

Pastor Brooks: That the World May Know

Amy Hubach: Grace is Greater

A Life in Christ



Grace Lutheran  
Youth  
Confirmation

Every  
Sunday  
12 PM to  
2 PM  
Questions?  
Contact Pastor



Sunday Nights at 6:30 PM

October 1, 8, 15 & 22  
No Bible Study on the 29th

# October 2017

| <i>Sunday</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | <i>Monday</i>                                                                     | <i>Tuesday</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                         | <i>Wednesday</i>                                                                                                                     | <i>Thursday</i>                                                                                                                                      | <i>Friday</i> | <i>Saturday</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>1</b><br>9:15 am Christian Education<br>10:30 am Family Worship<br>w/ Holy Communion<br>12:00 pm Confirmation Class<br><br>6:30 pm High School Bible Study<br>Greeters: Chuck & Patty Eckman                                            | <b>2</b><br><i>Preschool: 3's</i><br><br><br>7:00 pm<br>LWML/<br>Concordia Circle | <b>3</b><br><i>Preschool: 3's &amp; 4's</i><br>9:30/12:30 Pre-K Chapel<br>10:00 am Women's Bible<br>Study at Grace<br>5:45 pm Exercise<br>7:00 p.m. Women's Bible<br>Study at Sarah Kroll's                            | <b>4</b><br><i>Preschool: 3's &amp; 4's</i><br>9:30 am 3's Preschool<br>Chapel<br><br><b>Bulletin Deadline</b>                       | <b>5</b><br><i>Preschool: 3's &amp; 4's</i><br><br><br>1:00 pm Quilters<br>5:45 pm Exercise                                                          | <b>6</b>      | <b>7</b><br><u>8:00 am</u> Group Bible<br>Fellowship - Denny's at<br>Flying J<br><br>9:00 am LWML Fall<br>Western Zone Event -<br>New Plymouth                                                                         |
| <b>8</b><br>9:15 am Christian Education<br>10:30 am Family Worship<br>12:00 pm Confirmation Class<br><i>Board of Trustees</i><br><i>Board of Education</i><br>6:30 pm High School Bible Study<br>Greeters: Aaron & Julie Christiansen      | <b>9 Columbus Day</b><br><i>Preschool: 3's</i>                                    | <b>10</b><br><i>Preschool: 3's &amp; 4's</i><br>10:00 am Women's Bible<br>Study at Grace<br>5:45 pm Exercise<br>7:00 p.m. Women's Bible<br>Study at Sarah Kroll's                                                      | <b>11</b><br><i>Preschool: 3's &amp; 4's</i><br><br><b>Bulletin Deadline</b>                                                         | <b>12</b><br><i>Preschool: 3's &amp; 4's</i><br><br><br>1:00 pm Quilters<br>5:45 pm Exercise                                                         | <b>13</b>     | <b>14 OKTOBERFEST</b><br><u>8:00 am</u> Group Bible<br>Fellowship - Denny's at<br>Flying J<br>4 PM – 8 PM Carnival,<br>Dinner, Music and<br>more.....                                                                  |
| <b>15</b><br>9:15 am Christian Education<br>10:30 am Family Worship<br>w/ Holy Communion<br>12:00 pm Confirmation Class<br><br>6:30 pm High School Bible Study<br><br>Greeters: Glenda Nash                                                | <b>16</b><br><i>Preschool: 3's</i><br><br><br>6:30 pm MSM                         | <b>17</b><br><i>Preschool: 3's &amp; 4's</i><br>9:30/12:30 Pre-K Chapel<br>10:00 am Women's Bible<br>Study at Grace<br>5:45 pm Exercise<br>6:00 pm <i>Elder's</i><br>7:00 p.m. Women's Bible<br>Study at Sarah Kroll's | <b>18</b><br><i>Preschool: 3's &amp; 4's</i><br><br><b>Bulletin Deadline</b>                                                         | <b>19</b><br><i>Preschool: 3's &amp; 4's</i><br><b>Newsletter Deadline</b><br><br><br>1:00 pm Quilters<br>5:45 pm Exercise<br>7:30 pm <i>Council</i> | <b>20</b>     | <b>21</b><br><u>8:00 am</u> Group Bible<br>Fellowship - Denny's at<br>Flying J<br>6:00 pm Family Pumpkin<br>Carving Contest<br><br> |
| <b>22</b><br>9:15 am Christian Education<br>10:30 am Family Worship<br>12:00 pm Confirmation Class<br><br>6:30 pm High School Bible Study<br>7:00 pm Grace Book Club<br>Greeters: Mike & Louise Ehlers                                     | <b>23</b><br><i>Preschool: 3's</i>                                                | <b>24</b><br><i>Preschool: 3's &amp; 4's</i><br><br><br>5:45 pm Exercise<br>7:00 p.m. Women's Bible<br>Study at Sarah Kroll's                                                                                          | <b>25</b><br><i>Preschool: 3's &amp; 4's</i><br><br><b>Bulletin Deadline</b>                                                         | <b>26</b><br><i>Preschool: 3's &amp; 4's</i><br><br><br>1:00 pm Quilters<br>5:45 pm Exercise                                                         | <b>27</b>     | <b>28</b><br><u>8:00 am</u> Group Bible<br>Fellowship - Denny's at<br>Flying J                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>29</b><br>9:15 am Christian Education<br>10:30 am Family Worship<br><b>75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Event</b><br>Pastor Phil Bohlken & Kathy<br>Potluck after Services<br>4pm Reformation Service at NNU<br>Greeters: Ron & Donna Ehlers | <b>30</b><br><i>Preschool: 3's</i>                                                | <b>31 Halloween</b><br><i>Preschool: 3's &amp; 4's</i><br>10:00 am Women's Bible<br>Study at Grace<br>11:15 Costume Parade<br>5:45 pm Exercise<br>7:00 p.m. Women's Bible<br>Study at Sarah Kroll's                    | <br>Reformation Day<br>October 31 <sup>st</sup> |                                                                 |               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |