



Grace Newsletter

June 2018

Human Sex Trafficking—

Over the past several months we have been sharing articles about what human trafficking is. In January, we screened the movie, "I Am Jane Doe" which chronicled girls who had been sold on Backpage, a website which has facilitated child sex trafficking. In April, Backpage was shut down. While this is great news, the reality is kids are still being sold into sex slavery. So, what can we do?

The U.S. Department of State offers 15 ways you can help - here is a sampling:

~ **Learn** the indicators of human trafficking so you can help identify a potential trafficking victim. Human trafficking awareness training is available for individuals, businesses, first responders, law enforcement, educators, and federal employees, among others.

~ **Meet** with and/or write to your local, state, and federal government representatives to let them know you care about combating human trafficking, and ask what they are doing to address it.

~ **Encourage** your local schools to partner with students and include modern slavery in their curricula. As a parent, educator, or school administrator, be aware of how traffickers target school-aged children.

~ **Work** with a local religious community or congregation to help stop trafficking by supporting a victim service provider or spreading awareness of human trafficking.

On Tuesday, June 12 at 6:30 PM (part of Love Your City), InsideOut will be giving a presentation about human trafficking in the Treasure Valley and offering a question/answer discussion for us. Please plan on attending and learning about how you can get involved.

Source: (15 Ways You Can Help Fight Human Trafficking. Retrieved from: <https://www.state.gov/j/tip/id/help/>)



Tuesday – Friday
10:00 AM – 4:00 PM



The next gathering of the Grace Book Club will be in **July**. We are taking June off to give us some time to read all 771 pages of "The Goldfinch" by Donna Tartt. Our meeting place is to be determined. Any and all women are invited to join us for a heartfelt talk and a glass of wine! If you have any questions, you can call Janet at 801-518-7319.

Position Opening —



We are seeking a PRESCHOOL TEACHER for the 3-4 year old class for the 2018-2019 school year. This is one of two teacher positions for the class. The class meets on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 9:00 – 11:30 am and depending on enrollment may meet in the afternoons from 12:00 – 2:30 pm. Education and/or experience with early childhood education is preferred but not required. For additional information please contact Mike or Lillian Pierce (208 467-1437) or Grace Lutheran Church (208 459-4191).

In This Issue

From the Pastor	page 2
Upcoming Events	page 3
Preschool	page 4-5
Youth Activities	page 6
Calendar of Events	page 7

God's Workmanship!

"For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them." Ephesians 2:10

Myra Brooks Welch wrote the poem *The Touch of the Master's Hand*. That poem tells the story of a battered old violin that was offered for sale at an auction. The auctioneer couldn't get the bidding to go above three dollars. He was about to declare it "Sold" when an old man picked up the bow, wiped the dust from the violin, tightened its loose strings, and began to play. Under his skillful hands the violin produced a melody so pure that it sounded like an angel's voice. When he stopped, the bidding resumed – and the old violin was finally sold for three thousand dollars. What had appeared to be worthless was now viewed with great value.

The difference? The touch of the Master's Hand.

If we are to become what God would have us be it is essential that we too experience the touch of the hand of the Master. St. Paul writes to the Ephesians: *"We are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works."* His words follow immediately after his classic statement of what it means to be created in Christ Jesus: *"By grace you have been saved, through faith. It is the gift of God, not of works, lest any should boast."* In the hand of our gracious God we sinners are forgiven and may be led to works of love that please God and bless our fellowmen.

"We are God's workmanship" leaves no room for boasting! Instead, it encourages us to find our purpose in His purpose for us! As Luther reminds us, "God doesn't need my good works but my neighbor does." In other words, my good works don't help God or help me in regard to my salvation. But my neighbor needs me to be Christ to them, to be there in their time of need.

A second story about a violin says it well. A man found a piece of wood in a crag on the exposed side of a mountain. Twisted and weathered, it seemed useless, but the man's eyes lit up as he took it home to his workshop. Slowly, in his skillful hands, a violin took shape. Finally, with great satisfaction, the master violin-maker placed it into the hands of the concert-master of a famous orchestra. The "useless" wood found its purpose and displayed its worth as it lent itself to producing wonderful music.

We are that piece of wood. Twisted and stained by sin, we are of no real spiritual worth. But the Holy Spirit draws us to the Master Carpenter, Jesus Christ, who cleanses us of our sin and reshapes us through His forgiveness. We are His workmanship.

But He's not done with us just yet. A violin isn't crafted to simply be kept safe in its case. Its purpose

is found as it plays beautiful music. The same Spirit who made us alive when we were dead in sin, draws us into service to one another. We aren't made God's workmanship simply to go to heaven someday, but to produce the beautiful music of good works here and now in the hands of the Holy Spirit. St. Paul wrote, *"The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control."* That's the kind of "music" we can produce when we are "hand-crafted" by Jesus and given over to the "artistry" of the Holy Spirit.

I pray God's blessings for you as you make beautiful music to God's glory and your neighbors benefit and I'll see you in church.

Pastor Brooks

Summer Travel Plans?

Summer is a time for travel and vacation. We pray that as you travel God will bless you with a safe journey, rest and recreation wherever you go.

We encourage you to also make the Lord part of your summer plans, as well. If you know where you will be on a given Sunday, contact the church office and we will provide you with the location of the nearest LCMS congregation.

A PSALM OF SUMMER

Recreation is my shepherd, I shall not stay home;

It maketh me to lie down in a sleeping bag.

It leadeth me down the Interstate each weekend;
it restoreth my suntan.

It leadeth me to State Parks for my comfort's sake.

Even though I stray on the Lord's Day I will fear no
reprimand for I am relaxed;

my rod and my reel, they comfort me.

I anointest my skin with oil, my gas tank runneth dry.

Surely my trailer will follow me all the weekends of
the summer,

and I shall return to the House of the Lord in the
Fall.

But by then it will be hunting season –
and that's another psalm!

LOVE your CITY^{OM}

is coming soon —June 11 – 15th

Thank you to everyone who has signed up to help as that has helped us with the planning of our service projects. We have about 40 people that have expressed interest in participating and showing LOVE back to our community.

We will be meeting each day at 8:45 AM for a morning devotion and then go out to work from 9-12 PM. Lunch will be served at the church then we will work again from 1-4 PM. The tentative work schedule and organizations at this point are:

Monday – Love INC, cleaning and sorting at their store and YWAM, cleaning and painting the new counseling office

Tuesday – Vallivue High School, cleaning lockers and AAFV Hope's Door, cleaning up the kitchen and painting a fence and sponsoring a paper goods drive for Inside OUT in the evening

Wednesday – Metro Community Services, helping them move to new location and Habitat for Humanity, cutting up a tree for firewood and Oasis Food bank, helping distribute food in the evening

Thursday – Deer Flat Wildlife Refuge, cleaning brush, weeds & litter and Habitat for Humanity, repairing a home

Friday – Possibly working with the Head Start Seasonal Migrant program or Boise Rescue Mission and Grace Lutheran, cleaning out weeds and planting new shrubs and in the evening we hope to then all join back together at the church for a family BBQ meal in celebration of an eventful community building week!

We still have room and opportunity to help out individuals' through-out the week as we will have enough volunteers to divide up the projects. Let Pastor or Janet know if you have someone that needs help.

We also are planning a number of informational presentations from Love INC, Inside OUT and possibly Lifeline Pregnancy Center. Some of these will be at noon and some in the evening from 6:30-8 PM. Please join us for those even if you are unable to help with the service projects! Be watching the bulletin and the announcements for times and updates.

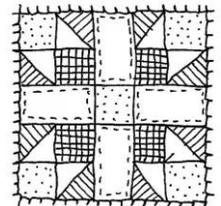


Concordia Circle/LWML—

Concordia Circle/LWML will meet Monday, June 4 at 6:00 p.m. at Lillian Pierce's home for dinner and the meeting. All ladies of the congregation are invited to attend. Please contact Barbara James with any questions.

Report on LWR Quilt & Kit Shipping Fund – May 2018.

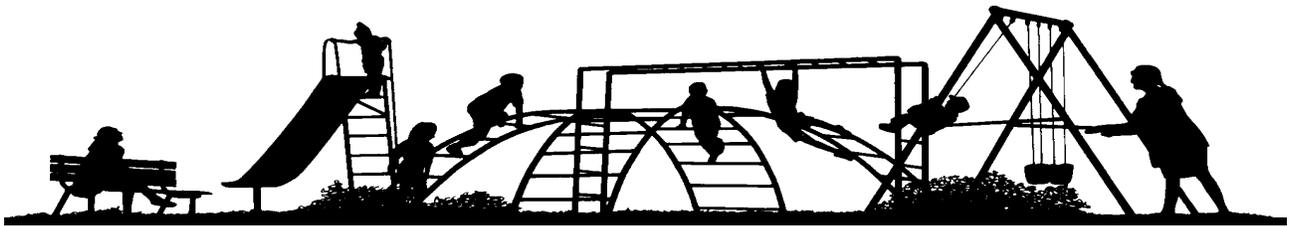
For as long as the LWML has existed, Lutheran women have been making quilts to send to those in need. Some have been works of art and some more serviceable but all made with love. These same women have been putting together kits of health items or school supplies, baby needs or even just fabric. And since 1945 Lutheran World Relief (LWR) has been supplying these quilts & kits to those who need them most. Getting these items to the farthest reaches of the world can be complex and challenging. Great care must be taken to ensure the program runs efficiently and that these materials reach these vulnerable people in remote areas. LWR has established a network of transportation, warehousing and distribution enabling the recipients to live better lives and to know the love of Jesus. LWR ships between \$12 and \$13 million worth of quilts, blankets, baby care kits, personal care kits, school and fabric kits and soap to 20 countries on average each year.



Each year it costs approximately \$1.5 million to run this program. The Quilt & Shipping Fund raises about \$675,000 each year but this is not enough. The LWML grant of \$80,000 will help sustain the fund and support these costs. Many of our women who make these quilts have no idea how treasured they are by those who receive them. They are cherished as a personal gift of love by the hands that made it and by God who brought it to them.

In fiscal year 2015, LWR sent 332,592 quilts along with 375,500 kits to countries from Angola to Yemen; from Burkina Faso to Ukraine and from Ghana to Thailand.

Prayer: Oh, God, our Father, hear our prayer. We know our Lord Jesus Christ humbled Himself to be born into poverty and die in poverty. The Holy Spirit instills in us a desire to care for the hungry, the poor, those without hope. Help us to have compassion and concern for the less fortunate of the world. Lutheran World Relief sends quilts and kits all over the world to these same people. May we be generous in our support of the shipping fund for Lutheran World Relief. Amen.



Grace Lutheran Preschool

4 Year Old Class

~~~~~

### **A big THANK YOU to all the Pre-K sponsors!**

Jerry and Sharon Deal, Leroy & Sherrie Prien, Charlie & Jacquie Rowen, Ron & Donna Ehlers, Colleen Fuller, Shirley Hanson, Don & Lorene Schuster, Gary & Gail Meyer, Don & Karen Southard, Ken & Carol McIntyre, Chuck & Connie Stadick, Larry & MaryEtta Fredrickson, Jim & Anita Lindbloom, Terry & Sharon Hensen, Ty & Rene' Lyon, and Dick & Peggy Ledington.

What a great year! Thank you for praying for your student and their families, coming to chapel, helping them learn about God through your love and special gifts. Some came to know parents very well and even attended activities like T-ball, soccer and recitals. The sponsors did such an amazing job of sharing God's love in the mission field. The kids enjoyed making you monthly crafts, and during that time we'd say a special prayer for you. You were added to their family prayers and had such a positive influence, not only on your student, but their parents too. Below is a questionnaire the students did for their sponsors, the answers were so precious and sincere. I've listened a combination of their answers for your enjoyment.

**My sponsors are important to me because-** they pray for me, teach me about Jesus, listen to me when talk, and like my crafts.

**I like when they come to chapel because-** we give hugs, sit together, they know the answers to Pastor's questions, I sit on her lap, they are excited to see me and I'm excited to see them.

**We like to visit about-** my kitties, how school's going, how God's love is bigger than everything, baseball, my family, and the crafts I make them.

**When I pray for them I say-** please let us still be friends even when I'm a mom, don't let them get sick, can they come over to play, that they come to chapel again, they'll still be my special person when preschool is over, can we go to the zoo together, and they keeping praying for me.

**If I could buy my sponsors a gift it would be-** a pink phone, skateboard, necklace, bow tie, hat, heart full of chocolates, Dodgers tickets, flowers, a tree that grows fruit, a picture of me they can put in their house and people would ask who is he and they'd tell them all about me.

Also, thank you to everyone who helped make the Year End Celebration a major success.

Have a great summer! Mrs. Christiansen & Ms. Patti

### **3 Year Old Class**

~~~~~

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart", Proverbs 3:5. The children learned this verse for May. Here is a list of all the Bible Verses we learned if you would like to refresh your child's memory over the summer:

God created the heavens and the earth.
Genesis 1:1

God gives good gifts. Matthew 7:11

Give thanks to the Lord. Psalm 136:1

Jesus has been born for you! Luke 2:11

Jesus grew in wisdom and the grace of God was upon him. Luke 2:40

Love the Lord with all your heart, soul and mind. Deuteronomy 6:5

Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life". John 14:6

He is not here: He is risen! Matthew 28:6.

The month of May is always very busy. We went over our numbers again; listened to Bible stories about Daniel and the Lions, Jonah and the Whale and Zacchaeus, planted flowers for Mother's Day, made butterflies, flowers, rainbows and rehearsed for the "end of the year celebration" and then rehearsed some more. All that rehearsing paid off at the celebration. The children recited their classroom prayer, said the "Pledge of Allegiance" and beautifully sang three songs during the event. Thank you to all the families, friends and helpers for making our celebration a success!

This year has been a blessing for us. Getting to know each child and seeing them grow socially, intellectually and most importantly growing in God's word has been a beautiful gift. We thank you for sharing and entrusting your children to us. May God continue to bless our preschool each year with wonderful children and families.

Mrs. Farrell & Mrs. Gigray

Genesis 9:13

"I have set my rainbow in the clouds,
it is the sign of my covenant
with you and with all the earth.



1 John 4:19

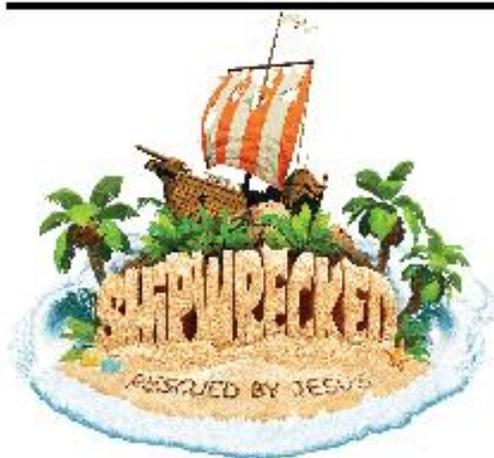
We love because he first loved us.



It's time for all youth to say
goodbye to our seniors -
Cody, Jake, Dustin & Wyatt
Join us Sunday, June 3 at 6 PM at
Amy's House for the Goodbye BBQ!
Please bring a side or dessert to share and wear
something that can get wet!

SERVE YOUR CITY
ALONGSIDE YOUR CHURCH FAMILY
JUNE 11-15
HELP FOR ONE DAY OR
EVERY DAY!
SIGN UP TODAY!

LOVE
your
CITY^{CM}



Vacation Bible School
June 25-29
Volunteers NEEDED!
Youth Small Group Leaders, Station
Leaders, Kitchen Help, Registration,
and everything in between!
Sign up TODAY!

Summer Backpack Trip in the Sawtooth Mountains
July 22-27 trip led by Jerry Deal & Amy Hubach
Sign up TODAY! Cost: \$50



June 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Peter 4:8-10 Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins. Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling. Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms.					1	2
3 9:15 am Christian Education 10:30 am Family Worship with Holy Communion 6:00 pm Good-Bye BBQ See page 6 Greeters: Mike & Lillian Pierce	4 6:00 pm LWML/ Concordia Circle at Lillian's	5 5:45 pm Exercise	6 Bulletin Deadline	7 1:00 pm Quilters 5:45 pm Exercise	8	9
10 9:15 am Christian Education 10:30 am Family Worship Greeters: Bob & Donna Rookstool	11	12	13 Bulletin Deadline	14	15	16
<div style="border: 2px solid #0056b3; border-radius: 15px; padding: 10px; display: inline-block;"> <h2 style="margin: 0;">LOVE YOUR CITY</h2> </div>						
17 Father's Day 9:15 am Christian Education 10:30 am Family Worship with Holy Communion Greeters: Terry & Cathy Reinke	18	19 Newsletter Deadline 5:45 pm Exercise 6:00 pm Elder's	20 Bulletin Deadline	21 1:00 pm Quilters 5:45 pm Exercise 7:30 pm Council	22	23
24 9:15 am Christian Education 10:30 am Family Worship Greeters: Charlie & Jacquie Rowen	25	26	27 Bulletin Deadline	28	29	30
<div style="border: 2px solid #0056b3; border-radius: 15px; padding: 10px; display: inline-block;"> <h2 style="margin: 0;">VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL - SHIPWRECKED</h2> </div>						
		5:45 pm Exercise			5:45 pm Exercise	