



Grace Newsletter

March 2019

- Lent 2019 -

Lent 2019 begins on March 6th with Ash Wednesday services. That night and on the Sunday's in Lent our theme will be "Let My People Go!" If those words sound familiar it's because Moses spoke them seven times to Pharaoh before he finally did it. This event is so amazing that the Old Testament refers to it 125 times. As we focus on this event from the book of Exodus we will see a beautiful picture of Jesus who releases us from our slavery to sin, death, and the devil through His Life, death and resurrection.

On the Wednesday's in Lent we will consider various themes of the Christian life that God calls us to "Remember". Please make it a priority to come together with your brothers and sisters in Christ as we walk together with our Lord to the cross of Good Friday and the empty tomb of Easter.

Ash Wednesday, March 6	"Big Things with Small Stuff" - Exodus 2:1-10
Sunday, March 10	"How God Changes Us" - Exodus 3:1-14
Wednesday, March 13	"Remember Dust" - Psalm 103:13-14
Sunday, March 17	"Stop Trying and Start Trusting" - Exodus 14:1-29
Wednesday, March 20	"Remember Jesus' Words" - Luke 22:61-62
Sunday, March 24	"Strike the Rock!" - Exodus 17:1-7
Wednesday, March 27	"Remember the Covenant" - Psalm 105:8
Sunday, March 31	"Mine!" - Exodus 20:1-17
Wednesday, April 3	"Remember Sins No More" - Jeremiah 31:34
Sunday, April 7	"Digging Ourselves into a Hole" - Exodus 32:1-14
Wednesday, April 10	"Remember Steadfast Love" - Psalm 98:3
Palm Sunday, April 14	"A New Beginning!" - Exodus 34:1-8
Maundy Thursday, April 18	"Access!" - Exodus 24:1-11
Good Friday, April 19	"Agnus Dei" - Exodus 12:1-13
Easter Sunday, April 21	"Planning...for Life!" - Isaiah 65:17-25
Easter Sunday, April 21	"Against All Odds!" - Exodus 15:1-18

Teacher Position Available

Grace Preschool is seeking a preschool teacher for the 2019-2020 school year for the 3-4 year old class. Mrs. Lillian Pierce is going to teach this class for the remainder of this school year. The job opening is a co-teacher position with a contract beginning in August. The class meets on Tuesday and Thursday mornings. Education and/or experience with early childhood education is preferred but not required.

For information, contact Mike or Lillian Pierce (467-1437) or Grace Lutheran Church (459-4191).

In This Issue

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

OUR MISSIONARY WORK AT HOME!

“And you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.” Acts 1:8

Last month we began to consider Acts 1:8 quoted above. That verse reminds us that the witnessing / missionary work of the early disciples was to begin right where they were (in their case, Jerusalem) and then, like ripples in a pond, their witness of Jesus’ mercy, forgiveness, and love would ultimately spread to the ends of the earth.

Like I said last month, if Jesus were to speak those words to us today, He would probably say, **“And you will be my witnesses in Caldwell and in all Idaho and the United States, and to the end of the earth.”**

Last month we looked at how we at Grace share Jesus’ love around the world by supporting the efforts of our Northwest District and other National or International missions we choose to support at the beginning of each year. Over the past two years we’ve sent over \$23,000 to these two areas of mission.

This month I want to talk a bit about how we share Jesus’ love locally.

Just as we do with our National and International missions, at the beginning of the year Grace chooses four local missions that we will support with mission funds from our budget. In addition, we support mission activities that might arise during the year through special offerings or fundraisers.

While the following list is not complete, over the past two years we’ve sent over \$17,000 to groups such as Meals on Wheels, Love INC., Advocates Against Violence, Love Your City - Caldwell (service event), Camp Perkins, Women’s Shelter, Lifeline Pregnancy Care Center, Hopes Door (shelter for abused women), Boise Rescue Mission’s outreach to Veterans, and InSide OUT (outreach to those caught up in human trafficking in the Treasure Valley). In addition we have received funds to assist various individual families in need through our Benevolence Fund. While you may not have personally gone to these groups, you’ve served as a missionary to our local community by financially supporting their efforts.

But there’s another very important and personal

way you serve as a missionary locally. Jesus says in that verse above, *“And you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem....”* Translated into our situation, Jesus says to you and me, **“And you will be my witnesses in Caldwell....”**

Jesus doesn’t say that each of us must leave our home and be a foreign missionary. In fact, most of us will never do anything like that! But He does say that you have a mission right here by sharing His love with the people around you. Simply put, being a Christian witness begins with being a Christian mother, father, employer, employee, and friend.

God reminds us that it isn’t our responsibility to go out and convert the world. That’s His job. Our job, He says, is to *“be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect.”* 1 Peter 3:15 NIV We are to live our lives in such a way that people see that Jesus is important to us. And when they ask us why, we can give them an answer. This begins with those closest to us, our family.

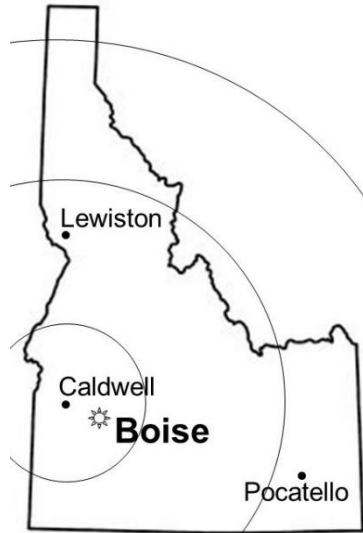
The most important ministry any of us have is to those we love. Study after study after study confirms that parents are the most important and influential people to their children. This is why we have adopted Family Ministry as the focus of what we do here at Grace. We know that as we support families and give resources to parents for their children the more effective we will be in spreading Jesus’ love to the next generation.

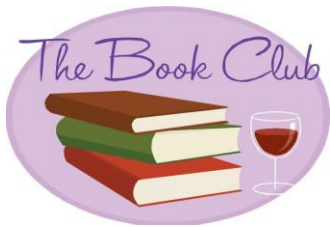
And the next group you can influence are your friends. You serve as a missionary to your friends simply by being a Christian friend. When you listen to those who are hurting, scared, or lonely you are showing them that Jesus is listening, too. By visiting them in the hospital, taking them a meal, sharing a devotion that is meaningful for you....in so many ways, mostly small ways, you show your friends that Jesus cares about them, too.

There are so many ways you, as a member here at Grace, witness to the love of Christ *“in Caldwell and in all Idaho and the United States, and to the end of the earth.”* and I hope that you now see what a blessing you are and continue to be.

I pray God’s blessings for you as you continue to grow in your faith, share your faith, and grow in your love for Jesus and for others. And I look forward to seeing you soon in church.

Pastor Brooks





The next gathering of the Grace Book Club will be Sunday, **March 24** at 6:30 PM. We will be discussing "At the Water's Edge" by Sara Gruen. Our meeting place is TBD.

A short summary: After disgracing themselves at a high society New Year's Eve party in Philadelphia in 1944, Madeline Hyde and her husband, Ellis, are cut off financially by his father, a former army colonel who is already ashamed of his son's inability to serve in the war. When Ellis and his best friend, Hank, decide that the only way to regain the Colonel's favor is to succeed where the Colonel very publicly failed—by hunting down the famous Loch Ness monster—Maddie reluctantly follows them across the Atlantic, leaving her sheltered world behind. The trio find themselves in a remote village in the Scottish Highlands, where the locals have nothing but contempt for the privileged interlopers. Maddie is left on her own at the isolated inn, where food is rationed, fuel is scarce, and a knock from the postman can bring tragic news. Yet she finds herself falling in love with the stark beauty and subtle magic of the Scottish countryside. Gradually she comes to know the villagers, and the friendships she forms with two young women open her up to a larger world than she knew existed. Maddie begins to see that nothing is as it first appears: the values she holds dear prove unsustainable, and monsters lurk where they are least expected.

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 Hope at 208-405-6080.

MOBILE BOUND —



NOW is the time to make your plans to attend the 38th Biennial LWML Convention in Mobile, Alabama, June 20–23, 2019. Join

your LWML sisters "In Praise to the LORD," the convention theme based on 1 Chronicles 16:23–24a. Attendees will rejoice in the convention goal, "Led by God's power, as we praise and proclaim the Lord among all nations." For more details go to the LWML's website at lwml.org/2019-convention



Concordia Circle/LWML—

Meets the first Monday of every month. The next meeting is Monday, March 4 at 7:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall. Connie Stadick is hosting and devotions will be given by Jacquie Rowen. All ladies of the congregation are invited to attend. Please contact Peggy Schroeder with any questions.

Western Zone LWML Spring Event— Caring For All

*LWML Prayer Service "God Cares For You"
Led by Reverend Matt Henry*

The Spring event will be on Saturday, March 30 at Christ Lutheran Church in Meridian (1406 W. Cherry LN.). Registration will start at 9:00 a.m. and there is a \$3.00 suggested donation. Lunch will be provided. There will be a special guest speaker from INsideOUT Cares. There will be an ingathering to benefit the young women who are coming out of trafficking. Ingathering items are gift cards from Walmart, Target, Fred Meyers, and/or Uber.



These will be used to get clothing, food, or transportation as needed. Please contact Barbara James at 208 465-5084 with any questions.

Outreach Meeting—

The outreach board is meeting on Wednesday, March 6th at 5:30 p.m.

Education Meeting—

The education board is meeting on Tuesday, March 10th after church services.

Trustee Meeting—

The trustee board is meeting on Tuesday, March 10th after church services.

Elder Meeting—

The Elder's meeting for this month is on Tuesday, March 19 at 6:00 p.m.

Council Meeting—

The council meeting for this month is on Thursday March 21 at 7:30 PM.

Suicide Education Planned—

Below is a list of dates outlining what has been planned this year providing opportunities for education and training on.

March 16, 2019

Mental Health Overview Town Hall Meeting with a time for Q & A: Geared for adults 24 and older. Discussion will be led by the State Department of Health.

September 2019:

Mental Health First Aid Training: Mental Health First Aid is an 8-hour course that teaches you how to identify, understand and respond to signs of mental illnesses and substance use disorders. The training gives you the skills you need to reach out and provide initial help and support to someone who may be developing a mental health or substance use problem or experiencing a crisis.

October 2019:

Suicide Gatekeeping Skills: This is designed to teach lay and professional & “gatekeepers” the warning signs of a suicide crisis and how to respond.

November 2019:

Sources of Strength: A best practice youth suicide prevention project designed to harness the power of peer social networks to change unhealthy norms and culture, ultimately preventing suicide, bullying, and substance abuse. The mission of Sources of Strength is to prevent suicide by increasing help seeking behaviors and promoting connections between peers and caring adults. Sources of Strength moves beyond a singular focus on risk factors by utilizing an upstream approach for youth suicide prevention. This upstream model strengthens multiple sources of support (protective factors) around young individuals so that when times get hard they have strengths to rely on. These strengths include: medical access, mental health, family support, positive friends, mentors, healthy activities, generosity and spirituality.



Church Family Prayers—

During each church service we pray for three of our church families. Families are selected alphabetically, prayed for by name and are listed in the bulletin. We are now listing the families for the whole month in each newsletter. The postcard reminder is still sent out in the mail reminding you of the date that you will be specifically prayed for and if there is anything specific you would like Pastor to pray for during service.

This month we will be praying for the following families:

- Loretta Brown
- Matt, Carolyn, Sunshine & Naomi Bryden
- Bruce & Pam Burns
- Jack & Helen Carter
- Jason, Janette, Audrey & Isabelle Charlesworth
- Aaron, Julie, Hailey, James, Alex & Timothy Christiansen
- Katherine & Connor Clark
- Michael & Travis Dahnke
- Tara, Jake, Emma, Eli, & Avery Daniel
- Jerry & Sharon Deal
- Bob & Diana Downen
- James, Julie, Maddie & Robbie Downen
- Chuck, Patty, & Nick Eckman
- Margaret Edmiston
- Ron & Donna Ehlers

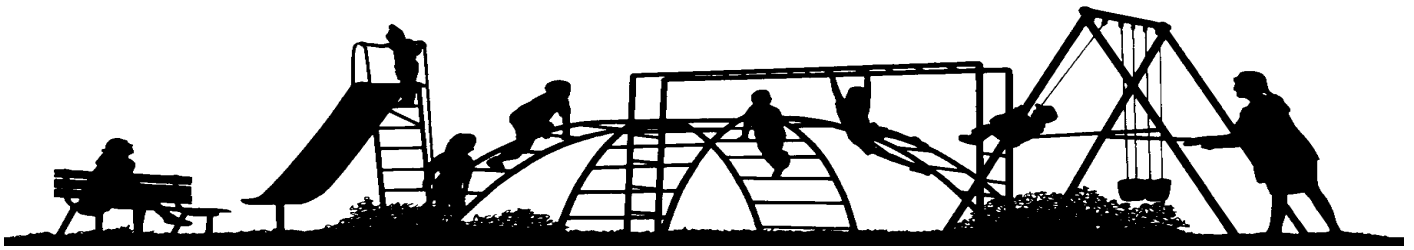


Community Marketplace and Yard Sale—

Saturday, April 27
10:00 am – 3:00 pm

For more information call the church 208 459-4191





Grace Lutheran Preschool

Remaining Dates for 2019

March 1	Registration Open for 2019-2020
March 25 – 29	Spring Break
April 23 – 25	Parent Teacher Conference's
May 16	Last Day of Preschool & Evening Celebration

Pre-Kindergarten - 4 Year Old Class

Class Motto: Be Kind Like Jesus!

February was the month of LOVE! We celebrated Valentine's Day and Dental Health Awareness. We made love bug bees and watercolor hearts for Valentines, Abraham Lincoln masks for Presidents Day, learned about how to keep our teeth healthy and made "toothpaste slime." We did a volcano experiment for the letter V and made a vase, made a watermelon for the letter W, a xylophone for the letter x and ended the month with a zebra for the letter z. Our letter focus was on V, W, X & Y. Our number focus was on 9 & 10. We learned about opposites, above and below. Bible story focus was on the 12 disciples, the Lord's prayer, Jesus calming the storm and walking on water. Crafts included angels for the Lord's prayer and blue jello for Jesus walking on water.

Bible Verses were:

I will make you fishers of men. - Matthew 4:19

Our father who art in Heaven, Hallowed by they name. - The Lord's Prayer

You of little faith, why are you afraid? - Matthew 8:26

Take courage it is I. - Matthew 14:27

Spring is Coming!!

Spring Break is March 25 th - 29 th (No School)

Ms. Amanda & Ms. Patti

3 Year Old Class

Wow February was filled with so much love, pink and tasty sweet treats that we almost lost track of our days! To kick off the month we taught the kids about Ground Hogs day and made a fun craft with the ground hog coming out of his hole. Then we dove right in on our Valentine prep and crafts. The kids made love birds to hang in the window and decorated their valentine boxes for our Valentine's Day Party. For our party the kids each had their own mini heart shaped cakes to frost themselves then Mrs. Lillian helped them shave ice and make homemade banana and berry smoothies in the classroom. Thank you parents for sending your kids with a valentine for each child. We had a great time!

We taught the bible stories of the Ten Lepers, Jesus walks on water, Jesus the Healer, and The Good Shepherd. Each story we made a craft to create an image of the story so the kids would have a sort of visual to see and we dressed them up in character so they could act out each story. Mrs. Lillian is wonderful at role play. We also wanted to do something new and have incorporated kid's nursery rhymes into our learning to keep the kids attention and keep things fun for them. So far we have learned Humpty Dumpty, Duke of York, Slippery Fish, and My Valentine to name a few. One of the subjects we also went over was Dental Hygiene. Mrs. Lillian brought in her learning teeth and taught the kids all about practicing good dental hygiene and all about our teeth inside and out. For snacks during that time we did fruits and vegetables as we also learned eating healthy is good for not just our bodies but our teeth as well. We are focusing more on cutting and name recognition and being able to make their names when given the letters in their names.

The bible verse for March is "I am the way, the truth, and the life." John 14:6. We will talk about all of the events that led up to Jesus being crucified such as the Last Supper, Judas's Betrayal, Jesus being arrested and his trial. March 17th is lucky St Patrick's Day so we will be making crafts and having fun with leprechauns and pots of gold at the end of the rainbow. We will focus on letter formation and sounds, the color purple, the shape triangle, the letters M, N, V, W, and the numbers 17 and 18.

Love, Mrs. Katie and Mrs. Lillian



Basket Auction & Dinner Sunday, March 17 after church

Corned Beef & Cabbage will be served
Basket Auction, Youth Service
& *much more* will be up for bid

All proceeds benefit the National Youth Gathering

So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand. Isaiah 41:10



Lenten Soup
Suppers begin
March 13
at 5:30 PM

Family Worship begins at
6:30 PM

Ash
Wednesday
Wednesday, March 6
6:30 PM



**Early Registration Rates
for Camp Perkins end
March 21**

3rd-6th grade: June 30-July 5
5th-8th grade: July 7-12 & 14-19
3rd/4th & High School: July 21-26
5th-8th grade: July 28-August 2
3rd-6th grade: August 4-9
Ridges:
5th-8th grade Intro: June 23-28
High School: July 7-12
7th-9th grade: July 14-19
6th-8th grade: August 4-9

Don't forget to apply
for a scholarship from
church!

First time campers receive
a full scholarship
(minus the
\$50 registration fee)

MSM

Sunday, March 10


6:30 PM

Middle School Ministry



March 3, 10 & 31 No Bible Study March 17 & 24

March 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 9:15 am Christian Education 10:30 am Family Worship 6:30 H.S. Bible Study Greeters: Dick & Peggy Ledington	 Genesis 1:14 And God said, "Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate the day from the night. And let them be for signs and for seasons, and for days and years,"				1	2 8:00 am Group Bible Fellowship - Denny's at Flying J
3 9:15 am Christian Education 10:30 am Family Worship with Holy Communion 6:30 H.S. Bible Study Greeters: Chris & Natalie Kelpin	4 7:00 pm LWML / Concordia Circle	5 <i>Preschool 3's & 4's</i> 9:30/12:30 Chapel 5:45 pm Exercise 7:00 pm Women's Bible Study	6 Ash Wednesday <i>Preschool 4's</i> Bulletin Deadline 10:30 a.m. Midweek Bible Class 5:30 pm Board of Outreach 6:30 Ash Wednesday Service 7:30 pm Choir Practice	7 <i>Preschool 3's & 4's</i> 1:00 pm Quilters 5:45 pm Exercise	8	9 Daylight Saving Time 8:00 am Group Bible Fellowship - Denny's at Flying J <i>Turn Clocks Forward One Hour</i>
10 9:15 am Christian Education 10:30 am Family Worship <i>Board of Education</i> <i>Board of Trustees</i> 6:30 pm MSM 6:30 H.S. Bible Study Greeters: Jon & Margaret Kilzer	11	12 <i>Preschool 3's & 4's</i> 5:45 pm Exercise 7:00 pm Women's Bible Study	13 <i>Preschool 4's</i> Bulletin Deadline 10:30 a.m. Midweek Bible Class 5:30 pm Soup Supper 6:30 pm Lenten Service 7:30 pm Choir Practice	14 <i>Preschool 3's & 4's</i> 1:00 pm Quilters 5:45 pm Exercise 6:30 pm Theology on Tap	15	16 8:00 am Group Bible Fellowship - Denny's at Flying J Mental Health Overview Town Hall meeting. See p. 6
17 St. Patrick's Day 9:15 am Christian Education 10:30 am Family Worship with Holy Communion <i>Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner</i> <i>NYG Fundraiser – Basket Auction</i> No H.S. Bible Study Greeters: Alex & Sarah Kroll	18	19 <i>Preschool 3's & 4's</i> Newsletter Deadline 9:30/12:30 Chapel 5:45 pm Exercise 6:00 pm Elder's 7:00 pm Women's Bible Study	20 First Day of Spring <i>Preschool 4's</i> Bulletin Deadline 10:30 a.m. Midweek Bible Class 5:30 pm Soup Supper 6:30 pm Lenten Service 7:30 pm Choir Practice	21 <i>Preschool 3's & 4's</i> 1:00 pm Quilters 5:45 pm Exercise 7:30 p.m. Council	22	23 8:00 am Group Bible Fellowship - Denny's at Flying J
24 9:15 am Christian Education 10:30 am Family Worship No H.S. Bible Study 6:30 pm Grace Book Club Greeters: Mark & Mary Kroll	25	26	27	28	29	30 8:00 am Group Bible Fellowship - Denny's at Flying J 9:00 am Western Zone LWML Spring Event in Meridian.
SPRING BREAK – NO PRESCHOOL						
		5:45 pm Exercise 7:00 pm Women's Bible Study	Bulletin Deadline 10:30 a.m. Midweek Bible Class 5:30 pm Soup Supper 6:30 pm Lenten Service 7:30 pm Choir Practice	1:00 pm Quilters 5:45 pm Exercise 6:30 pm Theology on Tap		