



Grace Newsletter

September 2022

Voter's Meeting—

Our next voter's meeting will be Sunday, September 4th. The call committee will have finished their interviews for the Director of Family Ministry position. The Elder's will make a recommendation to the voter's on filling the position. A vote will be taken on their recommendation. Please plan on attending this very important meeting.

Next Council Meeting—

The council will be meeting on September 8 at 6:00 PM

New Preschool Teacher—

We are please to announce that we have hired Mrs. Cheri Nichols to co-teach in our Pre-K classroom. Check out "Our Staff" under the About Us tab on our website for more details about Cheri.



Sunday School Teacher Needed—

Pick the age group you would like to work with. Current teachers are willing to work around whichever grades you select.

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 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.

All Youth Event—



All youth are invited to join us Sunday, September 11. Meet at the church at 4:30 pm. We will be going to three different homes for an appetizer, a main meal, and a dessert. Planning the events for the year will be our main focus while enjoying and getting to know our gracious hosts and new members of our youth. Call or text Carla.

We are in need of 2 more hosts for hosting about 15 people. Please contact Carla if interested (208-286-3010).

High School Bible Study—

High School Bible Study will start Sept 18th, 6:30 PM at the church.

Hiking Trip Labor Day weekend—

Youth & adults are invited. Leave Saturday, September 3. Stay at Boiling Springs campground. Hike a 4.7 mile out and back trail near Cascade. Stay Saturday and possibly Sunday night. Contact Carla if you want to participate.

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“God’s Construction Plan”

“You yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house.” 1 Peter 2:4

As a pastor I’ve conducted hundreds of funerals and I’ve been exposed to many different types of grief situations. Since 2015 I’ve also personally experienced the grief that comes from the deaths of my father, brother and mother as well as the deaths of my brother-in-law and mother-in-law.

All of those experiences, as well as many other circumstances that have affected people I know and people I love, have all reminded me that if there’s one constant in life, it’s the fact that life can be extremely painful and extremely trying. We all go through trials in life. Some are small. Some are large. And some are gigantic!!

I read something recently that I believe captures a truth about the trials we face. The author wrote,

“Trials are deceiving. They can swindle our hope and our trust, duping us into thinking that our God is incapable of and disinterested in delivering us. This is why the devil works overtime on believers who are enduring seasons of immense trial. He knows he can’t “un-redeem” you; that’s beyond him. But he can leave you defeated. And there’s nothing more defeating than looking up in the middle of a trial and thinking that God’s not up to the task. That he’s taken his hand off of you because of what you’ve done. Sometimes the devil commandeers our trials to try and convince of just that. He wants you doubting and distrusting who God is and what God can do. He does this by flaunting your failures in your face, and by convincing you that failure makes trusting God absurd. “How silly! You think God’s gonna defend you now? After what you’ve done?” Trials can be deceiving.”

Every trial we face tests our trust in God’s provision as the devil tries to use it to cause us to doubt God’s loving kindness. And we can easily wonder why God is allowing this pain to come into our lives and to wonder if, in some way, we’ve done something to cause Him to turn away from us.

In last month’s newsletter I said that, of all the promises God gives, this one may be hardest to believe: “*And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.*” Romans 8:28 God will bring good out of ALL things we experience! That seems simply unbelievable!

But as the author of that quote I shared says, “Trials are deceiving.” The trials and difficulties we face this side of heaven aren’t proof that God loves us. They’re proof that God’s not done with us yet.

Here’s how the devotion from *Streams in the Desert* for September 1st puts it.

“I will build you with stones of turquoise.”

(Isaiah 54:11)

The stones in the wall said, “We have come from mountains far away – from the sides of rugged cliffs. Fire and water have worked on us for ages but have only produced crevices. Yet human hands like yours have made us into homes where children of your immortal race are born, suffer, rejoice, find rest and shelter, and learn the lessons that our Maker and yours is teaching.

“But to come to the point of being used for this purpose we have endured much. Dynamite has torn at our very heart, and pickaxes have broken and split us into pieces. Often as we lay disfigured and broken in the quarry, everything seemed to be without design or meaning. But gradually we were cut into blocks, and some of us were chiseled with sharper instruments until we had a fine edge. Now we are complete, are in our proper places, and are of service.

“You, however, are still in the quarry. You are not complete, and because of that, as once was the case with us, there is much you do not understand. But you are destined for a higher building, and someday you will be placed in it by angelic hands, becoming a living stone in a heavenly temple.”

When we experience trials, troubles and tribulations, God will use those to shape us for His purposes. This isn’t easy. And often it is painful. But that doesn’t mean God has left us. In the moment our trials may cloud our vision but they cannot remove God’s presence. The same author that wrote: Trials can be deceiving also wrote the following

Trials are humbling. They often force us on our knees. And I think that’s the point. We oftentimes try to weather and withstand life’s trials on our own, in our own strength...The point is, “trusting God in trial” doesn’t mean we get issued a sword and spear to thwart the devil’s temptations. Rather, “trusting God in trial” means we fight our battles by kneeling and praying to “*the Holy One of Israel,*” who works out our deliverance by himself. “*The zeal of the Lord of hosts shall do this*”. 2 Kings 19:22, 31

And, in truth, “*The zeal of the Lord of hosts*” has already done this. Jesus, who is the zeal of the Lord in the flesh has won the day already. He met sin, death and the devil on the battlefield called Golgotha and was victorious. And, by faith, that victory is ours. God bless you all and I’ll see you in church.

Pastor Brooks



GriefShare is a friendly, caring group of people who will walk alongside you through one of life's most difficult experiences. You don't have to go through the grieving process alone. We will be meeting weekly for 13 weeks. The program is nondenominational and features biblical concepts for healing from your grief. **GriefShare is for people grieving the death of a family member or friend.**

WHEN:

Wednesdays
10AM—12PM
August 17—November 9

WHERE:

Grace Lutheran Church & Preschool
2700 S. Kimball Avenue
Caldwell, ID
Basement—Fellowship Area

CONTACT:

Colleen Fuller (701) 570-1517 or
Church Office (208) 459-4191
to register or you may go online to griefshare.org, search on our location and register there.

GOLFERS—

Here is the information for our next gathering:

DATE:

Sunday, September 11.

TEE-TIME: 3 PM.

LOCATION: Riverbend Golf Course.

DINNER: Pizza at Idaho Pizza on the Caldwell Boulevard.

If you are interested, please contact Connie at 208-890-2957



Mark Your Calendars—



Saturday October 1, 2022

From 3:00pm - 7:00pm

2700 S Kimball Ave

Grace Lutheran Church & Preschool

- | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| Kids Carnival Games | Brats & Hotdogs |
| Family Games | Potluck sides |
| Classic relays | Cotton Candy |
| Yard Games | Popcorn & S'mores |

Plan now to join us for fellowship & fun for all ages!

Invite your family, friends and neighbors

Be watching for sign-ups for how you can help
Hosted by the Board of Outreach

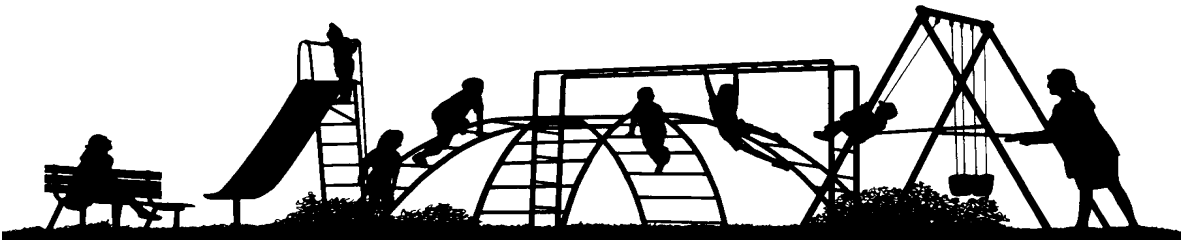


Our next gathering of Grace Book Club will be Sunday, **September 25th** at 6:30 PM. We will be discussing "A Hundred Sweet Promises" by Sepehr Haddah. Our meeting place is TBD.

A summary:

Inspired by a story his grandmother told him shortly before the 1979 Islamic Revolution in Iran, A Hundred Sweet Promises is the true tale of the author's grandfather, Nasrosoltan Minbashian—a famed music composer living in St. Petersburg, Russia, in 1913. On the eve of World War I, Nasrosoltan embarks on a journey from his homeland, Persia, to study at the renowned St. Petersburg Conservatory in pursuit of his musical legacy. During this time, through a series of events beyond his control, he becomes acquainted with the Russian royal family and falls in love with a princess. Nasrosoltan suddenly finds himself in a battle between head and heart while being carried forward on a wave of destiny toward an uncertain future.

All women are welcome to join us for a heartfelt discussion and a glass of wine! If you have any questions call Hope at (208) 405-6080.



Preschool News!

Preschool Starts Tuesday, September 6th.

4-Year-Old Class

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We are so excited to be going back in school after a wonderful summer break. We are welcoming 15 sweet little kiddos in our Pre-K class and we are sure that they are all eager to learn and have fun. We will be working on beginning skills like using scissors and holding our pencil/crayon correctly. We will be working hard on learning classroom rules and how to be a good friend. Our class motto is "Be Kind Like Jesus!" All year we will be working on how to write and say the letters in our names, along with all the letters in the alphabet and the sounds they make. We will be working on number, counting and beginning math skills. As always at the top of our list is working on growing our knowledge and love for Jesus! We look forward to a wonderful year ahead and lots of new adventures!

Ms. Amanda Gigray & Ms. Cheri Nichols

A little teacher info:

We are excited to welcome Ms. Cheri to our Pre-K team. Ms. Cheri has been married to Robert for 5 years and they have 6 children from 33-21. Cheri spent a portion of her life traveling as her father was in the USAF and then on her own adventures. Cheri & Robert came to call Idaho their home in June of 2019 and haven't looked back! Cheri enjoys hiking, camping, apothecary and so much more. She is a photographer with an emphasis on nature. She is looking forward to a fun filled, Christ centered learning environment with Jesus' little learners.

Ms. Amanda is starting her 8<sup>th</sup> year teaching here at Grace. She loves helping our little friends grow in their love of learning. Amanda is a Caldwell native and has been married to Will for 21 years. They have 4 children (3 boys & 1 girl) and they are her pride and joy. She enjoys crafting, camping and of course teaching!!

#### **3-Year-Old Class**

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At last Summer is coming to an end and we are headed into another great school year here at Grace Lutheran Pre-school! Ms. Micky and I have had a great summer! Ms. Micky spent time camping and visiting the Oregon coast and I got to visit Alaska and go to some fun concerts, but we are so eager to get the school year rolling! We have been working hard to get our classrooms ready and are so excited to meet our students and their families this year. We will be having a parent/teacher open house and information night on August 31st at 6:30 and can't wait to see you all there! September will be a month of really getting to know each other and learning the classroom rules and just having the kiddos get comfortable in that setting. Starting preschool is such an exciting and momentous time so I wanted to give you some tips on ways to get our kiddos ready:

1. **READ-** Reading to your child helps with language skills, helps support cognitive development, and improves imagination and creativity. Keep books in various rooms around your house, even your purse and car are great ideas!
2. **TALK-** Talking with your child helps improve oral language skills and that's a crucial part of preschool success. Talking about nature, colors, letters and even feelings are some conversation starters.
3. **PLAY-** Spend time playing on the floor with your child, encourage pretend play and let their imaginations take over!
4. **ENCOURAGE INDEPENDENCE-** children who are able to take care of some of their own personal needs do better when starting school opposed to those who don't. This can be brushing their hair, putting on their clothes by themselves, washing hands. Its important to support self-help.
5. **PRACTICE-** Practice time away from your child. Separating and giving your child time away from you can help with separation anxiety, especially on the first day of preschool.

For more information: ***Is your Child Ready for Preschool: 5 Ways to Prepare at Home (playtolearnpreschool.us)***

See you all soon!

Ms. Hannah and Ms. Micky

Concordia Circle/LWML—

CONCORDIA CIRCLE NEWS



Concordia Circle will be resuming their monthly meetings in September.

The meeting will be September 12th at 7:00 beginning with fellowship and dessert. All ladies of the congregation are invited to come. Contact Barbara James for more information.

LABOR OF LOVE

In some countries, school children share a single piece of paper and a single pencil that is passed from one to another. School kits and supplies are a continuously requested from OGT and are needed year-round. A LABOR OF LOVE will take place on the Sunday of Labor Day weekend. On September 4th following the Voters meeting, Concordia Circle will be assembling 80 school kits for Orphan Grain Train. Members of the congregation are invited to help put the kits together. The kits will then be taken to a trucking business in Kimberly, ID who will transport them to Nebraska for distribution.

LWML Sunday 2022 — Theme



This year's Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) Sunday theme is "For Us and With Us," based on Romans 8:31-39 — *What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things?* (Romans 8:31-32).

LWML Sunday will be celebrated on October 9, 2022. Concordia Circle will host the Coffee Hour following Worship Service. A mite offering will be taken that day.

We glorify God by sharing His love with others. Your generous mite offering donations, enable us to share the Gospel throughout the world. Join us on LWML Sunday to give thanks and praise to God. Thank you for supporting the LWML and Concordia Circle!



Life in this world God created is full and rich, with multiple blessings and opportunities. That is terrific, but it also means that we never seem to complete everything we wish to complete. Sharing our faith with family, others at Church, or in our communities should never end up on the regret list. We would rather give up a trip to the lake or our favorite concert than miss sharing the best news of all: that Jesus conquered sin, destroyed death, and brought life forward with His resurrection and ours.

Myrna and Sid decided to not live in this regret. For a couple of months, they began thinking about their favorite Bible verses, the best moments of faith shared with family and friends, and the hope to which they were focused as they prepared to finish their earthly lives. Then they each spent a week writing some thoughts down. They shared them with each other. They laughed. They wept. They hugged, thanking God for the richness of life. They then shared these statements of faith with their pastor, asking him to share them at their funerals someday. They printed off a copy for each child and grandchild and placed it in a card with a handwritten note to each one, with notes that they should be distributed when the Lord called them home. It took some time, but they really enjoyed this deliberate process. They knew that their lives were now deliberate testimonies of faith in Jesus. It all felt really good. Your LWML Gift Planning Counselor can help you begin your process. Contact, Lois Anderson, loisandersonlwml@gmail.com or (208) 954-3534.

PRAYER PAGE

Church Family Prayers—

Families are selected alphabetically, prayed for by name and are listed here and in the bulletin. A postcard reminder is sent a week or so prior to your prayer date. We welcome any feedback regarding our family prayers. Would you like to see any changes? Also, please note that not all members are on our prayer request emails. If you would like to be notified of prayer requests that come into our office, please ask to be put on the “prayer chain” email distribution list. This list is different from our “general” distribution list. In the meantime, please feel free to contact the office or Pastor Brooks if you have a prayer request. This month we will be praying for the following families:

- James, Anjelika, Amelia & Alisyn P.
- Jefty & Karen P.
- Mike & Lillian P.
- Leroy & Sherrie P.
- Terry & Cathy R.
- Roberta, Tanya, Olivia, & Delilah R.
- Donna R.
- Charles & Paula R.
- Charlie & Jacquie R.
- Mark & Cindy R.
- Cathy S.
- Sarge S.



from Portals of Prayer

For Sunday Schools ~ “Lord Jesus, we come in humility, asking You to bless our Sunday School. Our Sunday School program is designed to deepen the faith Your children have in You and to teach Your will and Word. We ask, dear Lord, for Your patience, love, and kindness as we lead our Sunday School students to dedicate their lives to You and to witness to their classmates and friends who need to know You, the Father, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

For Faithful Teachers ~ “You have made teachers an essential part of the Body of Christ, Father, and we thank You for the grace of those teachers who dispense the knowledge of Your Son, Jesus Christ, and help deepen our faith in You and our discernment of how to act when life meets faith at the crossroad. Increase the courage, consecration, knowledge, and wisdom of our teachers so they can more effectively pour the same into Your people. In Jesus’ name. Amen.”



Keep in our Prayers—

We pray God’s healing, care and comfort for those dealing with:

Cancer – Dave Vorderstrasse, Wayne Snavely, Jerry Bengtson, Jim Nelson, Gary Smith, Abel Saloum, Penny Storms Jeffries, Gary Olufson, Bill Tibbetts, Jerry Shaffer, Denise Shaffer, Doris Powell, Dave Koontz

Heart– Katherine Clark, Pat Torrey, Laura Pennington, Brook Van Leuven,

Liver – Bryant Neal

Muscle Surgery Recovery – Winston (Tug) Smith

Lung – Sherrie Prien

Mental health – David Ledington

Multiple health issues – Melody Briggs

Motorcycle accident – Nolan Prescott

Rehabilitation – Judy Odette, Carol Moore, Jake Nash

Shingles – Christa Elli

We also remember and pray for our Shut-In’s – Lucy Anderson, Margaret Edmiston, Dora Evans, Flo Hopkins, Loraine Navis, Charles & Paula Row, Arlene Schmitt, & Rosetta Schuster.



Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. *Philippians 4:6*


September 2022


Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><i>1 John 1</i></p> <p><i>⁸ If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹ If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.</i></p>				<p>1 1:00 pm Quilters</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3 8:00 am Group Bible Fellowship</p>
<p>4 9:15 am Christian Education 10:30 am Family Worship with Holy Communion</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Voter's Meeting followed by Labor of Love Backpacks</i></p> <p>4:30 p.m. Progressive Dinner Greeters: Linda Symms</p>	<p>5 Labor Day</p>	<p>6 Preschool Starts <i>Preschool 3's & 4's</i></p>	<p>7 <i>Preschool 4's</i> Bulletin Deadline 10:00 am GriefShare</p>	<p>8 <i>Preschool 3's & 4's</i></p> <p>1:00 pm Quilters 1:00 pm Board of Stewardship & Finance 6:00 pm Council</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10 8:00 am Group Bible Fellowship</p>
<p>11 Rally Day & Backpack Blessing 9:15 am Christian Education 10:30 am Family Worship</p> <p style="text-align: center;">3:00 pm Golf Outing - Riverbend</p> <p>Greeters: Bunnie Welshons</p>	<p>12 <i>Preschool 4's</i></p> <p>1:00 pm Merry Widows 7:00 pm Concordia Circle/LWML</p>	<p>13 <i>Preschool 3's & 4's</i></p>	<p>14 <i>Preschool 4's</i> Bulletin Deadline 10:00 am GriefShare</p>	<p>15 <i>Preschool 3's & 4's</i></p> <p>1:00 pm Quilters</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17 8:00 am Group Bible Fellowship</p>
<p>18 9:15 am Christian Education 10:30 am Family Worship with Holy Communion 6:30 pm H.S. Bible Study</p> <p>Greeters: Leroy & Sherrie Prien</p>	<p>19 <i>Preschool 4's</i></p>	<p>20 <i>Preschool 3's & 4's</i> Newsletter Deadline 9:30 am Preschool Chapel 6:00 pm Board of Elder's</p>	<p>21 <i>Preschool 4's</i> Bulletin Deadline 10:00 am GriefShare 5:30 pm ELC</p>	<p>22 <i>Preschool 3's & 4's</i></p> <p>1:00 pm Quilters</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24 8:00 am Group Bible Fellowship</p>
<p>25 9:15 am Christian Education 10:30 am Family Worship</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Board of Trustee's</p> <p>6:30 pm Grace Book Club 6:30 pm H.S. Bible Study Greeters: Terry & Sharon Hensen</p>	<p>26 <i>Preschool 4's</i></p>	<p>27 <i>Preschool 3's & 4's</i></p>	<p>28 <i>Preschool 4's</i> Bulletin Deadline 10:00 am GriefShare</p>	<p>29 <i>Preschool 3's & 4's</i></p> <p>1:00 pm Quilters</p>	<p>30</p>	