



Grace Newsletter

April 2023



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. We understand that there are other losses in life that create feelings of grief. You might be experiencing a job loss, a divorce, estrangement from a child, or the loss of friends because of a move. This grief is real, but it is not the kind of grief discussed in GriefShare sessions. We encourage you to ask a pastor, counselor, or church leader for help in finding resources that will be of specific help in your situation.

A weekly session will include: opening with a prayer, welcome & covering any announcements, a workbook discussion, watching a video, engaging in small group discussion and a wrap-up.

WHEN:

Wednesdays
10AM—12PM
March 15—June 7

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 grief-share.org, search on our location and register there.

No Registration Fee

Childcare will be provided as needed.

Community Yard Sale—

Spring Cleaning? Save those items that need to bless someone else for our Community Yard sale scheduled May 20th on our plaza. Enjoy a great day of fellowship and finding deals. More details to come. Board of Outreach



Spring clean-up for Easter—

Join us Saturday April 1st



We have lots to do and the church needs your participation. Stop by even if you missed the sign-up sheet but would still like to help. Contact Myron 208 573-5665 if you have any questions.

Sunday School Children—



Join us during
Sunday School on April 9th

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CHRIST'S SABBATH SLEEP WAS INTENTIONAL

“Then he took it down and wrapped it in a linen shroud and laid him in a tomb cut in stone, where no one had ever yet been laid. It was the day of Preparation, and the Sabbath was beginning” Luke 23:53-54

This month I'm sharing another article from 1517.org

The Bible has God-designed gaps in it. These literary holes are designed to make us pause, look and ponder. Something seems missing. Something we expected to be there. What is it? And what does its absence imply?

One such gap is in the creation story in Genesis: there seems to be a missing verse.

As we read through Genesis 1, six times we find the phrase, *“and there was evening and there was morning, the ___ day.”* That blank is filled in with *“first...second...third”* and so forth, all the way to verse 31, where we get to *“the sixth day.”*

Here's the unwritten verse: *“And there was evening and there was morning, the seventh day.”* We would expect that verse to be there on the final day of creation. *But it doesn't!* It's not there. But why? And what does its absence imply?

It suggests that the first Sabbath day is waiting for its true completion. The seventh day, the day God rested from all his work of creation, has a gap that needs to be filled. When and how would this happen? Welcome to Holy Saturday.

Holy Saturday – The Day before Easter

Jesus was arrested on Thursday evening and crucified on Friday. After Christ's death, Joseph of Arimathea asked Pilate for the Lord's body. *“Then he took it down and wrapped it in a linen shroud and laid him in a tomb cut in stone, where no one had ever yet been laid. It was the day of Preparation, and the Sabbath was beginning.”* And the women who were disciples of Jesus, *“saw the tomb and how his body was laid. Then they returned and prepared spices and ointments. On the Sabbath they rested according to the commandment.”* Luke 23:53-56).

On the Sabbath, they rested. They, the women. But not these women alone. Jesus, too, rested on the Sabbath, according to the commandment. He rested in the tomb.

On the first Friday of creation, the sixth day, *“God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good.”* Genesis. 1:31 Then the Lord rested the following day, the seventh day.

On the Good Friday of re-creation, the Friday we dare to call “Good,” Jesus saw everything that He had done – He saw His miracles; He saw all His teaching; He saw His faithfulness; He saw how He had *“borne our griefs and carried our sorrows”* Isaiah. 53:4 – and behold, it was very good. And He cried out, *“It is finished,”* John 19:30 and breathed his last.

Our slain Creator, *“who for the joy set before him had endured the cross”* Hebrews 12:2 and labored in love for our salvation, entered His Sabbath rest, fulfilling the last part of the Law we are required to keep if we would be saved.

In so doing, Jesus filled the gap in the creation account. Now he could pull out the scroll of Genesis and write, *“And there was evening and there was morning, the seventh day.”* The first Sabbath, which for ages had awaited its true completion, was finally and fully finished on Holy Saturday. The Son of God, having recreated the world and ushered in a new humanity, took his rest.

We must not rush past Holy Saturday in our haste to celebrate Easter morning. Stop. Wait. Reflect.

For twenty-four hours, every year, we let seep into our minds and hearts the shocking fact of the death and burial of Jesus, our God and our Savior. He embraced our human condition so wholly that He was crushed and crucified and confined.

A man named Joseph was there when he was born, a babe wrapped in swaddling clothes. And another man named Joseph was there when he was dead, an adult wrapped in a linen cloth.

He went above and beyond for us. Conceived and born. Hungered and thirsted. Tempted and tried. And, as if all that were not enough, He was even dead and buried. He was “all in” for humanity. Not even the cemetery was off-limits for the Savior who came to bring us back to His Father. No sin of any person, of any time, survived the cross. It was all there, on him, and him alone. He became sin. And in him, sin became forgiven.

Now a new creation winks and yawns and stretches on the horizon. The kingdom has been established, and cannot be moved. It abides forever.

Because of this, when we ourselves are buried, or we bury our loved ones, we escort them into a Sabbath rest. They sleep the sleep of death. For this reason, we call our Christian burial sites “cemeteries,” which comes from the Greek word *koimeteria*. This does not mean “place of the dead” or “graveyard” but “sleeping place.”

For those in Jesus Christ, the grave is the portal to paradise with Jesus, and the bed for our bodies, as we await resurrection. Jesus has dehorned and defanged the grave. It cannot hurt, bite, or even bark at us. Like a servant, all the grave can do is bow at our feet and do our bidding.

All because of Jesus. All because of Holy Saturday. For on that day, Christ filled the gap in the creation story and has filled us with a hope that stretches from now until forever and ever.

Chad Bird - Author

I'm always amazed at how, from beginning to end, God's Word beautifully shows us that everything our God has done was for our salvation. And what a joy it will be to finally see and fully know what that means when we are with our Easter – risen and reborn Savior. God bless you and I look forward to seeing you in church.

Pastor Brooks

Preschool Registration—

Our preschool registration is now open!

Register early and by May 15th

to lock in lower registration fees and tuition rates for the 2023-2024 school year.

The 3-year-old class meets on Tuesday and Thursday.

Fee is \$95 then goes up to \$105 after May 15th.

Tuition cost is the same respectively.

The 4-year-old class meets 4 days a week:

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday.

Fee is \$180 and then goes up to \$190 after May 15th.

Tuition cost is the same respectively.

Your child must be the respective age by September 1st to enroll into either class.

Register via our website:

gracelutherancaldwell.org



Holy Week Schedule

Palm Sunday - 10:30 AM, April 2

"That Day, and Today"

Luke 23:26-43

Maundy Thursday - 7:00 PM, April 6

"The Eternal Passover That Jesus Desired to Eat" - Luke 22:14-23

Good Friday - 7:00 PM, April 7

"Evil Friday is also Good Friday"

Luke 23:44-56

Easter Sunrise - 7:00 AM, Apr. 9

"Living Outside the Tomb"

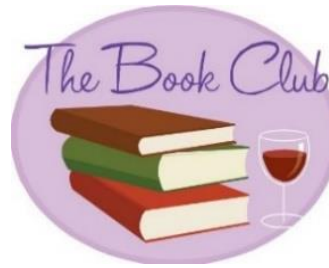
John 20:1-18

Easter Festival Worship - 10:30 AM, Apr. 9

"The Power of the Easter Promise"

Luke 24:1-12

Breakfast will be served after the sunrise service from 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM by our Youth



Our next gathering of Grace Book Club will be Sunday, **April 23rd** at 6:30 PM. We will be discussing "These Silent Woods" by Kimi Cunningham Grant. Our meeting place will be at Janet Brooks' residence.

A summary: No electricity, no family, no connection to the outside world. For eight years, Cooper and his young daughter, Finch, have lived in isolation in a remote cabin in the northern Appalachian woods. And that's exactly the way Cooper wants it, because he's got a lot to hide. Finch has been raised on the books filling the cabin's shelves and the beautiful but brutal code of life in the wilderness. But she's starting to push back against the sheltered life Cooper has created for her - and he's still haunted by the painful truth of what it took to get them there. The only people who know they exist are Scotland, an overly friendly hermit with murky intentions, and Cooper's old friend, Jake, who visits each winter to bring them food and supplies. But this year, Jake doesn't show up, setting off an irreversible chain of events that reveals just how precarious their situation really is. Suddenly, the boundaries of their safe haven have blurred - and when a stranger wanders into their woods, Finch's growing obsession with her could put them all in danger. When a shocking disappearance threatens to upend the only life Finch has ever known, Cooper is forced to decide whether to keep hiding - or finally face the sins of his past.

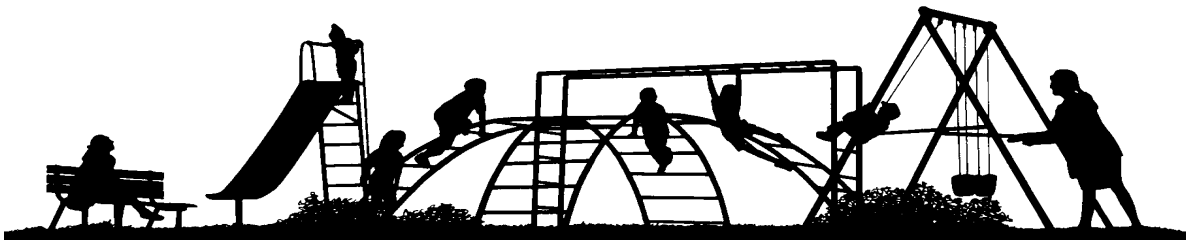
All women are welcome to join us for a heartfelt discussion and a glass of wine! If you have any questions call Hope at (208) 405-6080.

Childcare during Worship—

Attention parents, as mentioned last month we are now offering child care during worship service. There will be two adult volunteers in the Preschool 3's classroom (the door straight ahead as you pass the bathrooms) ready to watch your kiddos for you before the service starts. You can bring them in right away, or whenever works best for you. You can bring them in after the children's message, or pick them up before communion! Whatever works for you. And do not feel like you have to bring them to child care, this is just something we felt was important to offer to families. Babies up through around age 5 are welcome! Feel free to contact Lynnette with any questions. Her email is lboederdfm@gmail.com



There is also a sign-up sheet outside of the DFM's office for those who would like to volunteer to watch the children.



Preschool News!

4-Year-Old Class

We started the month off celebrating Dr. Seuss and Read Across America. We read Seuss books and had some fun with silly dress up days. We celebrated St. Patrick's Day with all the rainbows and made rainbow heart name tags. We built some traps to try and catch those sneaky leprechauns in our classroom, but had no luck. They left lots of glitter and green foot prints all over the classroom. We had a fun lucky family project to learn about each other and what makes each of our families special. With spring upon us we started planting things to watch them grow. We read fairy tale books and are trying to grow our own bean stalks like "Jack and the Beanstalk." We can't wait to see what comes from the little tiny seeds! We ended the month with a fairy tale/pirate dress up day and the kids followed a trail to an X to find our pirate treasure, just like on the treasure maps they made. We also celebrated our 100th day of school on March 23rd with everyone dressing up like they were 100 years old. Our learning focus was on the letters U-R-X, the numbers 18-19-20, the diamond shape, the AABB pattern and all the colors of the rainbow.

March Bible Verses: "Seek the Lord and his strength..." -1 Chronicles 16:11 & "All things are possible with God." - Mark 10:27b. We focused on the stories about the Lost Sheep, Ten Men Healed & Jesus Feeds 5000. We had fun searching the sanctuary for our lost sheep (cotton balls) & learning about the miracles of how Jesus healed ten men and fed 5000 people with just 5 loaves of bread and 2 fish. We also had the privilege to sing for the church during the soup supper on March 22nd and the kids had so much fun.

Spring is Here!! We have been longing for more sunshine and warmer days and we are so excited that it is finally here.

Ms. Amanda Gigray & Ms. Cheri Nichols

DID YOU KNOW?

Handwriting Foundation

The foundation of all good handwriting begins with the following skills:

1. Pencil Grasp
2. Proper Letter Formation (top to bottom)

Therefore, it only makes sense to focus our efforts on these two skills when introducing young children to handwriting.

Introducing the right skill at the right time

Many adults jump the gun when it comes to handwriting and begin their instruction with writing on the lines. In order for young children to be successful with handwriting they must be introduced to the skills in the proper order first. Every child progresses through these skills at a different rate based on their fine motor skills.

FIND OUT MORE AT: <https://www.pre-kpages.com/handwriting/>

3-Year-Old Class

We are hopping right into spring here at Grace Lutheran Preschool! As the weather slowly starts warming up, we have been talking about spring and what that means for plants and animals. We celebrated Dr Seuss' birthday by dressing up as our favorite Dr Seuss character, it was great to see all the kiddos dress up! For St. Patrick's day we had a great time playing a game in class and enjoying some treats and when we were on recess, we had a leprechaun sneak into our classroom and mess it up and really cause some mischief, the kids really got a good laugh out of it! We also talked about Saint Patrick and the true meaning of the holiday. For our bible stories we talked about all the events leading up to Easter, Palm Sunday, the last supper, Jesus getting arrested and crucified.

Our bible verse for the month was "I am the way, the truth, and the life" John 14:6. Our color was purple, shape triangle, letters- M, N,V,W, numbers-17,18,19. We hope you enjoyed your spring break and look forward to seeing you again April 4th.

Love, Ms. Micky and Ms. Hannah

Concordia Circle/LWML—

Next meeting is Monday, April 3rd at 6 PM. Sheila Engle is hosting and will also be providing the devotion. Please contact Carla Shields with any questions.



Individual Easter Cards and Confirmation Cards are available for purchase for 50 cents. Boxed Birthday, Get Well, Sympathy, and Encouragement are also available \$5 for 12 cards. Mother's Day and Graduation Cards will be available after Easter. See Barbara James or Bonnie Welshons for assistance.

LWML - Western Zone Spring Event

April 22nd at Christ Lutheran, 1406 W Cherry Ln, Meridian, ID 83641

Ingathering items for the Boise Rescue Mission: canned protein/meats, bath towels/washcloths (not white), twin sheets/blankets, men's underwear and white T-shirts, snack size bags, batteries (all sizes), Walmart gift cards.

Getting to know our family—

Our sister-in-Christ Loraine Navis is being featured this month in Concordia Circle's Spotlight on Grace Lutheran's homebound members.

Born in Lewiston, Idaho April 15, 1930, Loraine spent her growing up years in Kingston while her father worked as supervisor for a Zinc Plant in nearby Kellogg. One of seven children, Loraine has fond memories of time spent sledding down a steep, snow-covered hill on cold, winter days. "The ride down was fast," she said with a smile, "and the walk back up long!" A family member shared that Loraine was also a proficient ice skater.



Along life's journey Loraine met Calvin Burns, marrying him in the early 50's and moving to Moscow where Calvin attended the University securing his MBA. During those years Loraine worked as a receptionist, earning a PHT (Putting Hubby Through) degree. Sharing in that endeavor with her husband was a very meaningful experience. After graduation, the family spent a brief time in Lewiston before moving to Caldwell where Calvin took a position with a small accounting firm. While living in Caldwell, Loraine developed a passion for golf, not only spending many hours on the links but also making some deep friendships in the process. She was involved with the Junior Golf program at the elementary school level. In addition, one would often find her helping with golf tournaments. Her passion for the game was passed on to her children. Calvin and Loraine had three children one of which has since gone home to be with JESUS.

After becoming a widow, Loraine married Loris Navis in 1988, blending two families. Loris was a widower with adult children, too. The two were married at Grace Lutheran in Caldwell. Loraine and Loris had become acquainted through their shared love of golf. Thus, Loraine's love affair with the game continued. She also shared that one home in Caldwell was right across from the golf course allowing her to watch the golfers on days when she could not play.

Although these days Loraine is a resident at Aspen Creek Residential Living facility, on any given Sunday one can find her at Grace Lutheran sitting up front on the left side of the sanctuary. Just look for the lady with the pleasant smile wearing a colorful jean jacket. That's Loraine Navis.



Returning God's Blessings

A faithful husband and wife created a sizable estate planned gift for the future, when they were much younger. Today, they are closer to the day when the Lord will call them from this earth. Their attitude has changed about their earthly possessions. Several years ago, they decided that they were going to start giving now the things they had planned to give in the future. But they comprehended the mistake of doing this too hastily. They wanted to be careful. One by one, they began looking at the pieces of their original gift plan and asked themselves the question, "What would we have to do to give this now?" In some cases, the gifts have been a stock transfer using the LCMS Foundation. Some of the assets are qualified retirement assets like IRA's. Being older, they can take advantage of the Qualified Charitable Deduction (QCD) that allows those over 70 ½ to transfer up to \$100,000 per year to charity. But they realized this was throwing their overall estate plan out of balance, that also included some gifts directly from their will. Giving God's gifts to family is also important to them. They had to rebalance as they went. At one point, they asked their LWML Gift Planning Counselor for some advice and struck the balance they were seeking. Was it some work? Yes, it has involved some effort. But for this couple, they celebrate the joy of seeing God's gifts in action. They also have a sense that ministry gifts today can make a big difference. If you want to investigate the possibility of doing the same thing, your LWML Gift Planning Counselor can help. Contact Lois Anderson at loisandersonlwml@gmail.com or Cell: 208-954-3534



LCMS – Life Ministry Resources on Life:

www.lcmslife.org, www.facebook.com/lcmslife,
<https://www.youtube.com/LCMSLifeMinistry>

PRAYER PAGE

Church Family Prayers—

We are praying for our church families each month. 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 and pray for those people, 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. We are praying for the following families this month:

- Bob & Diana D.
- Chuck & Patty Eckman
- Margaret E.
- Mike, Louise, Cody & Carli E.
- Ron & Donna E.
- Mark, Ellie, Liv & Maddie E.
- Sheila E.
- Martin, Hope, Greg & Thomas F.
- Lynette F.
- Julie F.
- Larry & MaryEtta F.
- Jim & Mary F.



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*from Portals of Prayer*

**Maundy Thursday (April 6)** ~ “O Christ, on this day, You gave Your body to be the bread of life. You gave Your blood as payment for our sin. You promised that whoever comes to you will never hunger or thirst. You promised that whoever eats Your body and drinks Your blood in the bread and wine of the Sacrament shall have eternal life and be raised up on the Last Day. Keep us in this faith, O Lord, even as we eagerly long for the eternal feast to come. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord, Amen”

**Holy Saturday (April 9)** ~ “O Jesus, Creator of the world, throughout this great week, we have heard again that You re-create us through Your holy Passion. You are the king of creation, who humbly bears our sins. You give Your body and blood, that death may pass over us. You are cursed in our place by being nailed to a cross. Your labor for our salvation is finished. Today You rest in the tomb, as we have eternal rest in You. Rest, O Jesus, as we await Your glorious resurrection. Amen.”

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Keep in our Prayers—

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

*Cancer – Steven Jakcsy, Amy Soud, Teresa Owens,
Dave Vorderstrasse, Wayne Snavely, Jerry
Bengtson, Jim Nelson, Gary Smith, Penny
Storms Jeffries, Gary Olufson, Bill Tibbetts,
Jerry Shaffer, Denise Shaffer, Doris Powell,
Dave Koontz, Patti Wood*

Liver – Bryant Neal

*Heart– Katherine Clark, Pat Torrey, Laura Penning-
ton, Brook Van Leuven, David Cuthbert, Bob
Downen, Janice Beaudry*

Lung – Sherrie Prien, Julie Frazier

Mental health – David Ledington

Rehabilitation – Judy Odette, Carol Moore



Deaths – Dora Evans, Wendell Robinson

We also remember and pray for our Shut-In’s – Lucy Anderson, Margaret Edmiston, Flo Hopkins, Erma Ledington, Loraine Navis, Irene Pedro, and Charles & Paula Row.



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*

April 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <p style="text-align: center;">Matthew 28:6 <i>He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay.</i></p> 						1 9:00 AM Church Spring Clean Up Day – Inside & Out
2 Palm Sunday 9:15 am Christian Education 10:30 am Family Worship with Holy Communion 6:30 pm H.S. Bible Study	3 <i>Preschool 4's</i>	4 <i>Preschool 3's & 4's</i> 9:30 am Preschool Chapel 6:00 pm Theology on Tap at Burger Theory	5 <i>Preschool 4's</i> Bulletin Deadline 10:00 am Griefshare 5:30 pm ELC Meeting	6 Maundy Thursday <i>Preschool 3's & 4's</i> 7:00 pm Maundy Thursday Service	7 Good Friday 7:00 pm Good Friday Service	8 9:00 am Group Bible Fellowship - Call Terry Hensen for details.
9 Easter Sunday 7:00 am Sunrise Service 8:00 am Easter Breakfast 9:15 am Christian Education (with Easter Egg Hunt) 10:30 am Easter Festival Service with Holy Communion	10 <i>Preschool 4's</i>	11 <i>Preschool 3's & 4's</i> 11:45 am Preschool Staff meeting 6:00 pm Elder Meeting 6:30 pm Women's Bible Study	12 <i>Preschool 4's</i> Bulletin Deadline 10:00 am Griefshare	13 <i>Preschool 3's & 4's</i> 1:00 pm Board of S&F 1:00 pm Quilters/Crafters 5:30 pm Board of Outreach	14	15 9:00 am Group Bible Fellowship – Call Terry Hensen for details.
16 9:15 am Christian Education 10:30 am Family Worship with Holy Communion 6:30 pm H.S. Bible Study	17 <i>Preschool 4's</i>	18 <i>Preschool 3's & 4's</i> Newsletter Deadline 9:10 am Partners Read 9:30 am Preschool Chapel 6:00 pm Theology on Tap at Burger Theory 6:30 pm Women's Bible Study	19 <i>Preschool 4's</i> Bulletin Deadline 10:00 am Griefshare	20 <i>Preschool 3's & 4's</i> 11:00 a.m. Pre-K Reading Buddies 1:00 pm Quilters/Crafters 7:00 pm Family Group at Lynnette's	21	22 9:00 am Group Bible Fellowship – Call Terry Hensen for details. 9:00 am LWML Spring Event at Christ Lutheran Church – Meridian.
23 9:15 am Christian Education 10:30 am Family Worship 6:30 pm H.S. Bible Study 6:30 pm Grace Book Club	24 <i>Preschool 4's</i>	25 <i>Preschool 3's & 4's</i> 6:30 pm Women's Bible Study	26 <i>Preschool 4's</i> Bulletin Deadline 10:00 am Griefshare	27 <i>Preschool 3's & 4's</i> 1:00 pm Quilters/Crafters	28	29 9:00 am Group Bible Fellowship – Call Terry Hensen for details.
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