



Grace Newsletter

May 2023

Congregational Meeting—

Our next congregational voter’s meeting is May 21st. The meeting will begin following a potluck lunch. The Council is meeting on May 18th at 5:00 pm to finalize the agenda.

Note: cakes are being provided as the dessert in honor of those graduating from High School this year.



Potluck Information: If your last name begins with the letters **A-J**, bring a meat dish; **K-R**, bring a hot side dish; **S-Z**, bring a salad.

Graduations— Liv and Maddie Elli graduate from Nampa High School on May 22nd. They will both be attending Boise State University where Maddie will pursue illustration and Liv is leaning towards business and culinary. Whitley Groom graduates June 5th from Isuceed (online school). She plans to go to college and eventually be a tattoo artist.

Evening Sunday Service Added—

JOIN US FOR A
4TH SUNDAY
PRAISE AND WORSHIP
SERVICE
BEGINS ON MAY 28 AT 6PM
PRAISE MUSIC, SCRIPTURE,
HOMILY & PRAYER

Community Yard Sale

Grace Lutheran Church
backyard
2700 S Kimball Ave,
Caldwell, ID



Saturday, May 20, 2023

9:00 am – 1:00 pm

(Set up at 8am)

WHO: Our Caldwell friends and neighbors – come sell, come shop.

WHAT: Any used items or small crafts. Bring a lot or a little, no fee, no commission.

(You take home whatever you have left.)

WHERE: In the backyard area of our church.

WHY: To have fun and to provide you with more visibility for your sale. We hope you have a chance to meet and mingle with your neighbors.

Bring crafts you have been working on for all to admire. Clean out those attics and closets and bring your treasures for others to browse.

Register for a spot by calling one of the numbers below or filling in the form at church:

- Mary Cabral (925) 980-1212
- MaryEtta Fredrickson (208) 761-3264
- Church Office (208) 459-4191

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SERVING THE LORD NEVER ENDS

“For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven.” Ecclesiastes 3:1

When I accepted the call to serve as your pastor in late 2013, I had no idea how tired I really was. Pastoral ministry can be exhausting and I had not set good boundaries at my previous parish. But coming here has truly been a healing experience. God was so gracious in moving you to call me to be your pastor and I am deeply thankful to Him.

I am also deeply thankful for you, the people of Grace Lutheran. Serving with you is a joy and this congregation is probably the warmest I've had the pleasure to serve. I hear again and again from people who have visited as well as from new members how welcome they have been made to feel.

As most if not all of you know, since we've been here, Janet and I have grieved the death of significant family members. In 2015, 2016 and 2019 my father, brother (only sibling) and mother died. And in 2016 and 2017 Janet's brother and mother died. On each of these occasions you cared for and gave comfort to our family. Life is truly fragile and short.

Before I accepted the call to Grace, Janet and I came to visit and I met with the leadership. At that time I was 56 years old and I knew there was some concern about my age because retirement might be on the horizon. I remember telling the leadership of the congregation that I felt I could serve another 10 years and that I would give it my all because I wanted to finish strong. I also told them that if this was a problem or if, after meeting me, they didn't believe we would be a good fit for ministry they were welcome to rescind the call. I'm so glad that they did not do that!!

Now, after much conversation with Janet and the rest of my family I've decided that it is time for me to retire from full-time parish ministry. I've already spoken with the Elders and the actual date of my retirement is still a bit up in the air (keep reading and this will make more sense).

Janet and I plan on staying here in Caldwell as she continues to work and we want to remain members here at Grace. This is a bit unusual for our church body because the majority of pastors who retire move away to be closer to their family. At this time, our family lives here in Idaho so we have no reason to move.

Please begin praying now for the man who will be your next pastor. God knows who that will be and now each of you need to be praying for God to guide you to him. Janet and I will also be praying for him because he will be our pastor, too. I can't emphasize this strongly enough!! Begin praying now!!!!

The first step for the congregation is to form a Call Committee as laid out in the church's constitution. That committee will conduct what is known as a "Congregation Self Study." They will be asking for input

from the congregation as a whole and the plan is to have this self-study completed as quickly as possible, preferably by the middle of May.

After the self-study is completed it will be sent to our District President. The members of our congregation are then invited to submit names of pastors they know who may be a good fit for our congregation. These will be sent to the District President.

The District President will use the self-study and submitted names to put together a list of pastors. He will then send that list along with information on each of the pastors to the Call Committee who will begin speaking with them and possibly bringing some out to meet the congregation. Once a recommendation is ready for the congregation to consider they will submit that to the Voter's Assembly to make a final decision on issuing a call. This process will continue until a pastor makes a decision to accept that call.

I am willing to continue to serve as your pastor through this process. My last Sunday will then be two Sundays before the new pastor is installed to allow for a transition period or until January 7, 2024 (the first Sunday in January), whichever comes first. At that time I will no longer be your pastor, in fact, I will technically not be a pastor at all since I will no longer have a call to serve a congregation.

After I retire I will remain very busy. I will continue to serve as the Circuit Visitor until the Circuit or the District decides to replace me. That position is put to a vote every three years coinciding with our District's triannual Convention.

You may eventually see me working part-time at another business in the area. I'm looking forward to the possibility of serving our community as all of you do. It will be interesting to see how God will use me as I begin "rubbing elbows" with people who are not necessarily Lutheran or even Christian at all.

And I'm very excited to have time to serve my family and to learn the truth I've heard so many people who have retired say: "I'm busier now than I was when I was working full-time!"

I'm also looking forward to hearing a new name – "Papa." We recently learned that my son and daughter-in-law, Paul and Kenzie, are expecting their first child in November. Please keep them in your prayers.

As I said earlier, I am so grateful for the time I've spent serving as your pastor. But it's now time for a new chapter in our lives together as we continue to serve the Lord until He returns to take us home.

I'll still see 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



Our next gathering of Grace Book Club will be Sunday, **May 21** at 6:30 PM. We will be discussing "The Last Sin Eater" by Francine Rivers. Our meeting place is TBD.

A summary: A captivating tale of suffering, seeking,

and redemption set in Appalachia in the 1850s.

In the misty peaks and valleys of Appalachia roams the sin eater—a myth as much as a man, burdened with absolving the sins of villagers passing from this life to the next. But when a young girl uncovers the dark secret behind the tradition, she vows to show her village the truth. All that matters for young Cadi Forbes is finding the one man who can set her free from the sin that plagues her, the sin that has stolen her mother's love from her and made Cadi wish she could flee life and its terrible injustice. But Cadi doesn't know that the sin eater is seeking as well. Before their journeys are over, Cadi and the sin eater must face themselves, each other, and the One who will demand everything from them in exchange for the answers they seek.

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.

All youth event—



It is time for all youth to say good-bye to our High School Seniors:

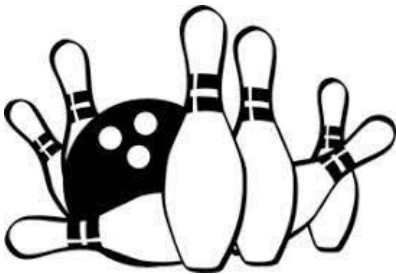
Liv, Maddie & Whitley

There will be a BBQ, and games at Lynnette's on Sunday, May 7th starting at 6PM.

All the best to the graduates!

Contact Lynnette (503) 320-5416 with any questions.

Let's Bowl—



Friday, May 5th, those in their 20's and 30's are invited to dinner and bowling! We will meet at Chik-fil-a at 8pm for a

time of fellowship and food, then head over to Nampa Bowl for cosmic bowling from 10pm-12:30am. Please R.S.V.P. to Lynnette by May 2nd at 503-320-5416.

Youth Summer Mission Trip—

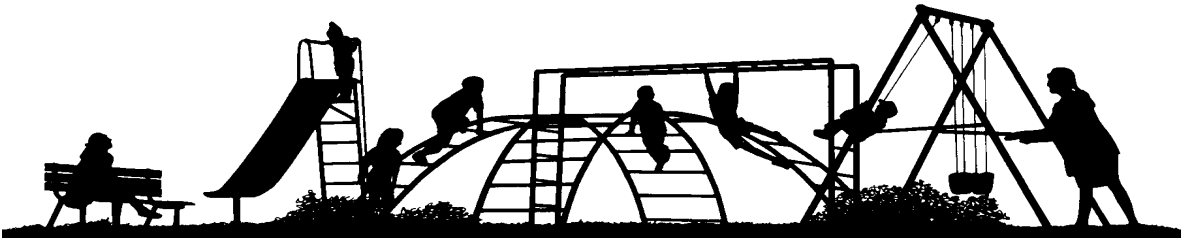


For our 2023 Youth Mission Trip we are heading to the Yellowstone Boys and Girls Ranch in Billings, Montana. We will leave July 27th and return on August 1st. If you would love to chaperone or just be a part of this mission trip, please contact Lynnette Boeder at lboederdfm@gmail.com. We would love to have at least one more adult attend and the more the better! We will be spending some time in Yellowstone on our way back home, so it is sure to be a great time, as well as an opportunity to show the love of Jesus to some youth!

Thank you—



Thank you to all who donated cake mix, frosting, candles, pans, and soda for our youth Birthday in a Box fundraiser. All donations were put together by the youth and delivered to Notus School District food bank. They were so grateful and excited for our partnership with them to bless families!



Preschool News!

4-Year-Old Class

April was jam packed with all things easter, spring, & earth day! We had so much fun doing crafts like directed drawings of bunnies and learning about the true meaning of Easter. We started our butterfly and spring unit. We have some fun little caterpillar friends arriving soon in our classroom and we will patiently wait for them to turn into butterflies. We are making our own fun butterflies to decorate our classroom. Earth Day was April 22nd and we celebrated with a fun craft and nature walk. With spring comes lots of new plants and we have been planting seeds and watching things grow like grass & beans. Our learning focus was on the letters G-E-F, number review 1-10, the rectangle shape, the AABBC pattern and all the colors of the rainbow.

April Bible Verses: "He is not here for he has risen." -Matthew 28:6 & "For whoever is not against us is for us." -Mark 9:40. We focused on the stories about Palm Sunday, Easter and the resurrection of Jesus, The Great Commission & Ascension. We did bible crafts of the Easter cross and Jesus' Ascension, as well as made resurrection rolls for snack time.

END OF THE YEAR CELEBRATION ON MAY 18th

Ms. Amanda Gigray & Ms. Cheri Nichols

DID YOU KNOW?

April was a great time to touch up on earth day and why we must always take care of it. Here are a few things kids can do to help keep earth healthy and beautiful! For more ideas please visit- <https://community.thriveglobal.com/10-simple-ways-kids-can-help-the-earth/>

1. **Kids can Conserve Water**
 - Turn off the water when you're brushing your teeth, don't fill the bathtub up too full, & be conscious of how much water you are using when you play outside water games over the summer.
2. **Kids can Save Electricity**
 - Unplug the iPad charger when it is fully charged, turn off the TV when you're not watching it, turn off the lights when you leave a room.
3. **Kids can Minimize Food Waste**
 - Be aware of food waste by saving your leftovers for later or putting less on your plate next mealtime.
4. **Kids can Recycle**
 - Learn how to recycle various items and materials, & then be sure to do it correctly each week.
5. **Kids can Care for Animals & Insects**
 - Bees & spiders might seem scary & icky, but they all serve a purpose in our environment. Learn more about the critters in your environment – they are fascinating!

3-Year-Old Class

April has been so much fun! We have been continuing to learn about Spring and plants, we began growing some flowers from seed and it has been neat to watch them grow! Easter was great. We got out our big stuffed rideable donkey and replayed Palm Sunday when Jesus rode into Jerusalem, the kids loved it!! We spent a lot of time talking about why we celebrate Easter, the kiddos loved the message! Ms. Micky brought in her bunny Cleo to share with the kids and they were pretty happy about that. We talked about earth day and why it's so important for us to be good stewards to the earth. Our bible verse for the month was "He is not here, he has risen" Matthew 28:6. Our learning focus was on the color gray, we reviewed all the shapes, letters X, Y, Z, and we reviewed all our numbers!

Love, Ms. Micky and Ms. Hannah

Concordia Circle/LWML—

Next meeting is Monday, May 1st at 6 PM. Donna Rookstool and Jean Anderson are hosting and Peggy Schroeder will be providing the devotion. Please contact Carla Shields with any questions.

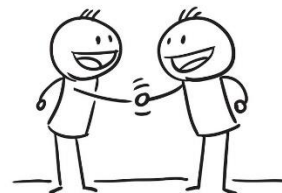


Boxed Birthday, Get Well, Sympathy, and Encouragement cards are available \$5 for 12 cards. Mother's Day and Graduation Cards are now available as well. See Barbara James or Bunnie Welshons for assistance.

This group will be helping to kick off Lifeline's Pregnancy Care Center *Change for Life* Baby Bottle Drive on Mother's Day, May 14th

Getting to know our family—

May's Circle Spotlight shines on another of Grace's homebound members, Lucille Anderson, fondly known as "Lucy". Lucy is a Caldwell resident, living alone in an over 55 community just off the Boulevard. Attending Sunday morning worship regularly, one will find her sitting in the last pew on the left next to the aisle. Adult Bible Class on Sunday mornings was a favorite time, too, until mobility became an issue.



Born in Sacramento January 10, 1933, Lucy shared the family lived in Fair Oaks where she attended San Juan High School and worked in the olive groves. There were two children in the family and Lucy's job was to help with the cooking, specifically the potatoes. She can still hear her mom say, "Put the potatoes on, Lucy." Mom worked as a housekeeper and Dad was employed by the Southern Pacific railroad. Train rides into San Francisco and San Francisco Zoo visits are two of Lucy's fondest childhood memories.

Lucy married and had four children, two of which are still living, a son in Texas and a daughter in California. It was through her daughter that Lucy first came to Grace Lutheran, Caldwell. It seems Lucy attended church with her daughter in California and genuinely liked the service. When she moved to Caldwell, her daughter located the closest Lutheran Church which was Grace. It was a Lutheran Church in California Lucy had liked so much. GOD is always working!!

Lucy was married to William Anderson for sixteen years. "He was a wonderful man," she said, "and I wish he were still around." Although the couple met in California, William had relatives in Idaho whom they would often visit. Eventually Lucille and William moved to the area where they had sixteen wonderful years together.



Returning God's Blessings

Twenty-three years ago, Frieda and Herman put their estate plan together with their attorney, right when Herman retired. Last month, the Lord called Herman home and now Frieda has an appointment next month to go to the attorney to have her will be redrafted. The thought of taking Herman's name out of her will pains her. Yet, she is confident that he lives on in Jesus. She is working through that change.

The second thing she is pondering is that in her last will, it referenced all three of their children. Frederick died as a hero in Afghanistan fifteen years ago. As with Herman, Frieda clings to the resurrection hope in Jesus about Frederick as well.

In recent days, she has been considering that in the past, their estate was to be equally divided in three parts to their three children. Frederick passed without a wife or children. Frieda has a desire to make his share become a personal endowment to offer support to her congregation to assist those going through grief, all to make sure people can find their comfort in Jesus, just as she has. Her congregation is talking about a new Stephens ministry program, part of which will be directly focused on grief care. She wonders if her endowment could pay for her congregation enrolling in that program.

She scheduled an appointment with her LWML Gift Planning Counselor for tomorrow to discuss this. For the first time in weeks, she is feeling great energy and joy about her life, working toward this goal.

Your LWML Gift Planning Counselor can help you too. 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:

- Colleen, Chelsea & Erin Fuller

- Trish Haffner
- Shirley Hanson
- Mike & Lori Hardin
- Dave & Trish Henderson
- Terry & Sharon Hensen
- Nancy Hoffmann
- Joan Hood
- Flo Hopkins
- Mike & Lorrie Houston
- Dorothy Jaime
- Dawna James
- Ray & Barbara James



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*from Portals of Prayer*

**The Ascension of Our Lord (May 18)** ~ “Jesus, You gave Your life for us on the cross. On the third day, God raised You from the dead. Forty days later, You ascended to Your throne at the right hand of God. Thank You for all that Your death, resurrection, and ascension mean for us. It means that we will join You in Your eternal kingdom, where there is no more sin, death, tears, or loneliness. For this, we give You endless praise. Amen”

**The Day of Pentecost (May 28)** ~ “Lord, thank You for sending the Holy Spirit to keep us in our faith as we journey to our eternal home. Let us find peace in knowing that the Spirit intercedes for us. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, help us understand Your Word and Your will. Convict us of our sin and lead us toward repentance. Restore an everlasting hope within us and empower us to proclaim You to others. In Jesus’ name we pray. 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

Arthritis – Gary Meyer

Heart– Katherine Clark, Pat Torrey, Laura Pennington, Brook Van Leuven, Bob Downen, Janice Beaudry

Lung – Sherrie Prien

Mental health – David Ledington

Rehabilitation – Judy Odette, Carol Moore

Deaths – Julie Frazier, Warren Taylor

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*

May 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
	<p>1 <i>Preschool 4's</i></p> <p>6:00 pm Concordia Circle LWML Meeting</p>	<p>2 <i>Preschool 3's & 4's</i></p> <p>9:00 am Preschool Partners read 9:30 am Preschool Chapel Last Chapel for the School Year 6:00 pm Theology on Tap at Burger Theory 6:30 pm Women's Bible</p>	<p>3 <i>Preschool 4's</i> Bulletin Deadline 10:00 am Griefshare</p>	<p>4 <i>Preschool 3's & 4's</i></p> <p>11:00 a.m. Pre-K Reading Buddies – Last Session 1:00 pm Quilters/Crafters</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6 9:00 am Group Bible Fellowship - Call Terry Hensen for details.</p>	
<p>7 9:15 am Christian Education 10:30 am Family Worship with Holy Communion</p> <p>6:00 pm All Youth Goodbye BBQ at Lynnette's</p>	<p>8 <i>Preschool 4's</i></p>	<p>9 <i>Preschool 3's & 4's</i></p> <p>11:45 am Preschool Staff meeting</p> <p>6:00 pm Elder Meeting 6:00 pm Theology on Tap at Burger Theory</p>	<p>10 <i>Preschool 4's</i> Bulletin Deadline 10:00 am Griefshare</p>	<p>11 <i>Preschool 3's & 4's</i></p> <p>1:00 pm Quilters/Crafters 1:00 pm Board of S&F</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13 9:00 am Group Bible Fellowship - Call Terry Hensen for details.</p>	
<p>14 Mother's Day</p> <p>9:15 am Christian Education 10:30 am Family Worship</p>	<p>15 <i>Preschool 4's</i></p>	<p>16 <i>Preschool 3's & 4's</i> Newsletter Deadline</p>	<p>17 <i>Preschool 4's</i> Bulletin Deadline 10:00 am Griefshare</p> <p>5:30 pm ELC Meeting</p>	<p>18 <i>Last Day of Preschool</i></p> <p>1:00 pm Quilters/Crafters</p> <p>5:00 pm Council Meeting 6:30 pm Preschool Celebration</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20 Community Yard Sale 9AM – 1PM</p>	
<p>21 9:15 am Christian Education 10:30 am Family Worship with Holy Communion</p> <p>Potluck & Voter's Meeting 6:30 pm Grace Book Club</p>	<p>22 <i>Parking Lot Work</i></p>	<p>23 <i>Parking Lot Work</i></p> <p>6:00 pm Theology on Tap at Burger Theory</p>	<p>24 Bulletin Deadline 10:00 am Griefshare</p>	<p>25</p> <p>1:00 pm Quilters/Crafters</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27 9:00 am Group Bible Fellowship – Call Terry Hensen for details.</p>	
<p>28 9:15 am Christian Education No Sunday School 10:30 am Family Worship</p> <p>6:00 pm Praise & Worship Service</p>	<p>29</p> <p style="text-align: center;">  </p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31 Bulletin Deadline 10:00 am Griefshare</p>	<p>Mother's Day is May 14th "Happy Mother's Day"</p>			