

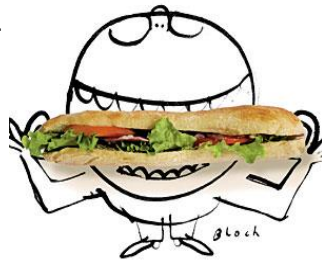


Grace Newsletter

February 2024

Youth Fundraiser—

Order sub sandwiches for your Superbowl party or simply for your lunch on Sunday, February 11th. The youth will be making subs on Saturday, Feb. 10th to be distributed on Sunday, the 11th. Get your order in by February 4th to support the Youth on their future mission trips. Order forms are available on the Family Board in the entryway or call the church office to place your order (208) 459-4191. If you like cookies, you can order some of those too!



Family Focus Night—

TATER's &



Join us at 5:00 PM on Saturday, February 3rd downstairs in the fellowship hall. Contact Lynnette with any questions at lboederdfm@gmail.com

Thank you from Pastor Brooks—

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, I can't begin to express how much the event on Saturday meant to me. Everyone was so gracious and kind. I tried to get around and thank each of you personally but I know I missed many of you. I was overwhelmed by the incredibly generous financial gift and Peggy Ledington's painting and will treasure that greatly. Janet and I thank you all so much for the last 10 years. You embraced and shared your love for us in so many ways. It's our plan to stay in the area so you'll see us around but, at the request of our Northwest District officials, I will not be in worship there for a few months. But know that you are always in our thoughts and prayers. *Love, Pastor and Janet*



Flower Calendar

You are welcome to bring in flowers for the sanctuary for either in memory of, in honor of, or just because. If you would like to participate please sign up on the 2024 flower calendar. It is located outside Lynnette's office. You may bring in either one or two cut or potted flowers as there are two shelves available to set them on. We also offer the option for people to donate to a flower fund that will cover the cost of flowers for those Sunday's when there are no sign-ups. Just indicate that your donation is for the flower fund. You may also request that the church order the flowers for you at your expense. Please contact Patti Lawson if you would like this option and be sure to still sign up on the calendar for that Sunday.

Worship Anew—

The Worship Anew program airs on Channel 6 at 9:00 Sunday morning. It provides a half hour worship service led by LC-MS pastors. Worship Anew is an excellent option for those who are unable to attend worship at their congregation and a supplement to those receiving Word and Sacrament regularly. Each Sunday broadcast costs \$600 to air. Consistent support has allowed the program to be aired for over three years. If you would like to financially support this program in 2024, please send those gifts to Grace Lutheran Church, 2700 S. Kimball Ave., Caldwell, ID 83605, noting "Worship Anew" in the notes line. You may also visit our website://gracelutherancaldwell.org and click on the online giving button and then the Worship Anew tile.



In This Issue

From the Pastor	page 2
Upcoming Events	page 1 & 3
Preschool & LWML	page 4 & 5
Prayers	page 6
Calendar	Page 7

UP TO JERUSALEM

Jesus had taken his disciples to the northern part of the country to the area of Caesarea Phillipi. It was there that Peter made his bold confession faith – **“You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God”** Shortly thereafter was the awesome story which will be our Gospel on February 11. It is the story of the transfiguration. Then came the great transition. Jesus **“set his face toward Jerusalem”**. It was time for the great event of the Feast of the Passover. But there was a greater Passover about to happen.

Perhaps Jesus stood outside that next morning at dawn and watched the sun come up over the desert. No doubt Jesus would have spent that quiet time in prayer preparing for what was ahead. He and his disciples were going to Jerusalem for the last time together. At some point in the dawn light, he must have turned to the disciples and said that it was time to go to Jerusalem. Then they would have turned toward Jerusalem and begun to walk toward the cross at Golgotha. As they walked along the roads, others would have joined them. Many would be on their way to Jerusalem for the celebration of the Passover. Thousands headed for the Holy City every year at Passover time. Along the way they would recite the familiar psalms and join with the other pilgrims on a pilgrimage every Jewish believer wanted to make. Jesus and his disciples were among them.

You and I find ourselves each Ash Wednesday ready to make a similar journey with Jesus. Each year we make a spiritual pilgrimage as we go to Jerusalem with Jesus. We will hear the Lenten readings again and sing the familiar Lenten hymns. We know what lies ahead because we have heard the account before. We know that Easter will be the joyous conclusion of our spiritual journey. But we also know that the Savior's suffering and death lie ahead. So much of our faith rests on these events that it is important for us to hear of them again and again. Let us begin our journey once again and walk with Jesus. As we walk with Jesus, we will see him arrested, convicted, crucified, and forsaken, but we will also see him resolved to die because of his great love for us.

Our Lenten series **“Up to Jerusalem”** will be a journey with Jesus from the time he withdrew with his disciples to the little village of Ephraim after the raising of Lazarus (John 11:54) to the bright dawn of Easter morning. Join us on this Lenten journey **Ash Wednesday February 14** beginning with our soup supper, followed by our hymn sing and Lenten devotional worship. May God bless us on our Lenten journey together!

Pastor Randy



2024 Church Officers—

Chairman: Chuck Stadick
 Recording Secretary: Dee Volk
 Financial Secretary: Mike Pierce
 Treasurer: Ken McIntyre

2024 Board Members—

Elders:

Aaron Christiansen Mark Elli
 Jerry Lawson Michael Randolph
 Terry Reinke Charlie Rowen*
 Don Schuster

Stewardship & Finance:

Lori Hardin* Larry Lund
 John Wilkinson Dick Ledington

Outreach:

Mary Cabral MaryEtta Fredrickson
 Colleen Fuller* Cathy Reinke

Trustees:

Gene Clements Dave Henderson
 Terry Hensen Mike Houston
 Robert Nichols Mark Runyan
 Don Southard Myron Volk*

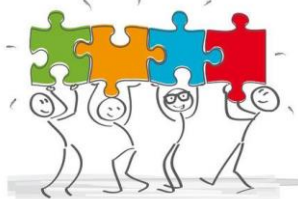
Education:

Elizabeth Lane Patti Lawson
 Cindy Runyan* Carla Shields
 Connie Stadick

Preschool:

Lorrie Houston Janis King
 Lillian Pierce Diane Roberson
 Marilyn Seay

May our Lord guide each and every one of us to support the above people who have graciously chosen to serve our church this year. If you would like to assist one of these boards please reach out to one of the board members to let them know. As you can see the church is ran by “many”.



Mark your calendar! — There will be a special meeting regarding the Childcare Center next Sunday, February 4th after church. Lunch will be served and a vote will be taken. ***Please make plans to attend in person. According to our constitution a vote is only valid if the voting member is present.***



Our next gathering of Grace Book Club will be Monday, **February 25th** at 6:30 PM. We will be discussing “my grandmother asked me to tell you she’s sorry” by Fridrik Backman. Our meeting place will be at Lorene Schuster’s.

A summary: Elsa is seven years old and different. Her grandmother is seventy-seven years old and crazy—as in standing-on-the-balcony-firing-paintball-guns-at-strangers crazy. She is also Elsa’s best, and only, friend. At night Elsa takes refuge in her grandmother’s stories, in the Land-of-Almost-Awake and the Kingdom of Miamas, where everybody is different and nobody needs to be normal. When Elsa’s grandmother dies and leaves behind a series of letters apologizing to people she has wronged, Elsa’s greatest adventure begins. Her grandmother’s instructions lead her to an apartment building full of drunks, monsters, attack dogs, and old crones but also to the truth about fairy tales and kingdoms and a grandmother like no other. *My Grandmother Asked Me to Tell You She’s Sorry* is told with the same comic accuracy and beating heart as Fredrik Backman’s bestselling debut novel, *A Man Called Ove*. It is a story about life and death and one of the most important human rights: the right to be different. Our meetings have moved back to the 4th Sunday of the month. 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.

20s/30s Group—

If you are in your **20s or 30s** (or around there) we would love for you to join us once a month at the Boeder’s home to watch and discuss *The Chosen*. This month we will meet on Thursday, **February 29th at 7:15 p.m.** to watch the next episode. Please reach out to Lynnette for an address. Appetizers and children are always welcome!



Service February 14, 6:30p.m.—

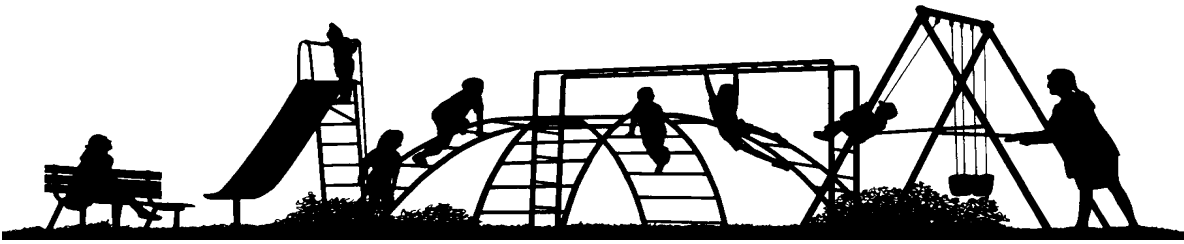


Join Us During Lent—

Wednesdays, February 21st – March 13th



*Soup Suppers
 at 5:30 PM
 Hymn Sing at 6:15 PM
 Lenten Service 6:30 PM*



Preschool News!

4-Year-Old Class

January was about celebrating all things winter! We read "Sneezy the Snowman" and then had fun creating our own "melted snowman" and saying why they thought their snowmen melted. We learned about arctic animals and how they live in the cold weather. Our science experiment this month was to cover our hands in Crisco and put them in ice cold water to see if we could feel the cold. This was to show the kids how arctic animals extra blubber keeps them warm in the arctic waters. We also made snowflakes, penguins, snowy owls, polar bears, talked about hibernation and played in water beads and ice. The kids have been working hard on practicing writing letters and sounds. Our learning focus was on the letters P, C, and S, the numbers 12 to 14, the star shape and the colors white and gray.

January Bible Verses: "Whoever believes will be saved." - Mark 16:16 & "God is an everlasting Rock." - Isaiah 26:4. We focused on the stories about John the Baptist, Jesus' Baptism, Fishers of Men, The Lord's Prayer & House on the Rock. We learned about how a house built on rocks is sturdier than one on sand by doing our own experiment and watching how water washed away the sand and made the house fall and the one on rocks didn't fall down. We made a craft out of construction paper for the kids to demonstrate John baptizing Jesus.



3-Year-Old Class

We are getting back in the swing of things and back on schedule after our Christmas Break. January was freezing, Brrr! Last month we learned about feelings and how taking something from another without asking can hurt people's feelings. Its ok to be grumpy or sad, but it is a lot better to be happy and nice to our friends at school. We learned about Jesus as a boy, and how his parents were so worried when they couldn't find him and how happy they were when they did find him. We also learned how Fishers of Men is about spreading the word of God to our friends. Due to the snow days we had to reschedule our January onsite field trip to February. Mike & Ms. Lil will be bringing in a "whole bunch" of wooden train sets for the kiddos to play with on Feb. 1. Our Bible verse for January was "Jesus grew in wisdom and the grace of God was upon him" Luke 2:40. Our colors were blue and white. We learned that another name for diamond is a rhombus. Our letters were P, D, and J and numbers were 11, 12 and 13.

Ms. Micky and Mrs. Dee

There is also an interesting article regarding children on the next page – didn't have room on this one.

Concordia Circle/LWML—

Our next meeting will be on February, 4th after the special voter's meeting. Carla will be giving the devotion and Patti & Carla will be hosting. We are scheduling Saturday, February 24 at 10 am to make and tie the blankets for residents at nursing homes. Anyone who is helping should bring fabric scissors. We were able to secure a \$250 Thrivent card for the fabric.



Getting to know our family—



Will be back next month.

Shielding kids from life's realities

Don't shelter your children from every disappointment. Help them manage each example by degrees.

Many of my friends who are parents protect their children from every little possible discomfort. I can see their kids becoming fragile and spoiled, and I don't want mine to end up that way. But I also don't think it's good to just throw them in the water every day and let them drown or swim on their own. Kids don't need to feel stress like that all the time. Help me work this out!

Sounds like you've already worked it out. As your question implies, the solution is somewhere between the two extremes. Pain is something all humans must manage. Not just physical, of course, but mental and emotional. Handling small pains at a young age (i.e. social snubs, losing games, hard teachers, not getting everything we want) can help us manage graver pains later on. Parents who always shield their kids from small pains risk depriving them of critical coping skills and training them to be entitled snowflakes. But how do parents help kids manage the pains without childhood becoming one long, stress-filled melodrama? The key is gradual, guided exposure. Life doles out plenty of pain. We can't protect our kids from all of it, but if we slowly expose them to it with coaching and wisdom, we can help prevent them from being overwhelmed when they become adults.

When I was in 3rd grade, a substitute teacher mistook me for a surly classmate. When the real teacher returned, she assigned me to write 100 sentences. I refused. I would get my father to handle this indignity! My father, unfortunately, told me to write the sentences. I told him it wasn't fair — why would he believe the teacher over me? He said he didn't know who was right, but chances are I had done plenty of rule-breaking that I had gotten away with, and I should consider this justice. Well, I didn't. Not then. But later, I saw the wisdom in my father's answer. He knew I was going to face injustice in life. He knew he couldn't possibly rectify every instance, and neither could I. Rather than rescue me from the punishment (which would have led me to expect an escape from every unjust inconvenience), and rather than shrugging and saying, "Life ain't fair" (which can make kids cynical), he made the best decision of all: he empowered me with a way to reframe the injustice. This helped me to cope with it, and it helps me to this day.

None of us want our children to feel pain, but managing discomfort is a crucial part of being a healthy, happy adult. Don't shield your children from every disappointment. Help them manage each example by degrees.

Matthew Arnold said, "What the caterpillar calls the end of the world, the master calls a butterfly." If we always keep children safely wrapped in their cocoons, how can we ever expect them to fly?

To read the complete article go to: <https://jodystallings.substack.com/>

Jody Stallings has been an award-winning teacher in Charleston since 1992 and is director of the Charleston Teacher Alliance. To submit a question, order his books, or follow him on social media, please visit JodyStallings.com.



A good gift plan within one's estate plan can help manage taxation.

Kelly and Lisa were having lunch. Both of their husbands have passed in the last couple of years, and they are learning to take over the responsibility for finances. This has been a big transition for both.

Kelly said to Lisa, "I have adapted well. I have come to appreciate all that Howard did all those years. The one thing that still intimidates me is the taxes. I am thankful I have a good tax preparer that makes this less stressful."

Lisa responded, "For the first time in my life I am paying more attention to taxes as well. In my mind, I never really made

the connection between my contributions to Church and other ministries and the amount of tax we pay. This year my Church is in a campaign to enable a building expansion for more ministry. Joe and I had already settled on a certain portion of our estate that we would give to our Church. My tax lady told me that if I give some of that now in the campaign, I can reduce my income taxes this year by 60%. I think that will make a difference in paying for the higher-than-expected pharmacy bills I have been having. It is amazing how the Lord provides His gifts at just the right time, in the right way."

Is the Lord leading you to use His gifts for ministry purposes? Would you like to discuss whether gifts now or in the future make more sense, especially considering taxes? Your LWML Gift Planning Counselor can help. contact Lois Anderson at loisander-sonlwml@gmail.com

PRAYERS

Prayer requests—

Please submit your requests for prayer by phone to (208) 459-4191 or send an email to graceonkimball@gmail.com. You may also fill out a prayer request form that is located in the bottom far right corner of the mailboxes in the entryway. Give that form to Pastor Bencoter or place it in the office. Also, please note that not all members are on our

prayer request distribution/contact list. *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.



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### *from Portals of Prayer*

**The Transfiguration of Our Lord (February 11)** ~ "Jesus, You are the fulfillment of the prophets and the Law. You are the Son of God, who perfectly completed Your mission to usher in the Kingdom until the day when You return as King over all. As we contemplate Your glory, remind us that You know our humanity and came to redeem us, body and soul, and to restore creation under Your perfect reign. Remind us that You are with us in all the highs and lows of this life. Amen."

**Ash Wednesday (February 14)** ~ "Lord, Your love is vast and deep, but ours is shallow and unfaithful. We rebel against You and betray You in what we think, say, and do and by what we fail to think, say, and do. Forgive us for our lovelessness. Turn our hearts back to You. Cleanse us from our sin, and lead us in Your ways. Gudar and keep us as we enter the season of Lent and contemplate Your immense love for us. In Jesus' name. Amen."

We have a few portals of prayer books in the entryway if you would like to pick one up.

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Keep in our Prayers—

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

Cancer – Don Southard, Teresa Owens, Dave Vorderstrasse, Wayne Snavely, Jerry Bengtson, Jim Nelson, Penny Storms Jeffries, Gary Olufson, Bill Tibbetts, Jerry Shaffer, Denise Shaffer, Doris Powell, Dave Koontz, Patti Wood

Liver – Bryant Neal

Heart– Katherine Clark, Laura Pennington, Brook Van Leuven, Bob Downen, Janice Beaudry, Gregg Nanninga (on heart transplant list)

Mental health – David Ledington

Rehabilitation – Judy Odette, Carol Moore

Deaths – Janet Travis, Glenn Schroeder

We also remember and pray for our Shut-In's – Janice Beaudry, Jerry Bengtson, Jack & Helen Carter, Mel Clausen, Margaret Edmiston, Flo Hopkins, Dorothy Jaime, Erma Ledington, Gail Meyer, 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.***



♥ February 2024 ♥

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>And he said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. Matthew 22:37</p>				<p>1 9:30 am On site Preschool Field Trip – Trains 1:00 pm Board of Stewardship & Finance 1:00 pm Quilters/Crafters 6:00 pm Call Committee</p>	<p>2 </p>	<p>3 9:00 am Group Bible Fellowship - Call Terry Hensen for details 5:00 pm Family Focus Night – Tater's & Triva</p>
<p>4 9:15 am Christian Education 10:30 am Family Worship with Holy Communion 12:00 pm Special Voter's Meeting 12:00 pm Catechism Class Concordia Circle LWML after Voter's Meeting 6:00 pm H.S. Bible Study</p>	<p>5 <i>Preschool 4's</i></p>	<p>6 <i>Preschool 3's & 4's</i> 9:15 am Preschool Partners Read (3s) 9:30 am Preschool Chapel 6:30 pm Women's Bible (Last meeting until April 2nd.)</p>	<p>7 <i>Preschool 4's</i> Bulletin Deadline 6:00 p.m. Call Committee</p>	<p>8 <i>Preschool 3's & 4's</i> 1:00 pm Quilters/Crafters</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10 9:00 am Group Bible Fellowship - Call Terry Hensen for details 10:00 am prep Superbowl sub sandwiches</p>
<p>11 9:15 am Christian Education 10:30 am Family Worship Superbowl Subs Handed Out 12:00 pm Catechism Class NO H.S. Bible Study</p>	<p>12 <i>Preschool 4's</i></p>	<p>13 <i>Preschool 3's & 4's</i> 11:45 am Preschool Staff 6:00 pm Board of Elders</p>	<p>14 Ash Wednesday <i>Preschool 4's</i> Bulletin Deadline 6:30 pm Ash Wednesday Worship Service with Holy Communion</p>	<p>15 <i>Preschool 3's & 4's</i> 1:00 pm Quilters/Crafters</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17 9:00 am Group Bible Fellowship - Call Terry Hensen for details</p>
<p>18 9:15 am Christian Education 10:30 am Family Worship with Holy Communion 12:00 pm Catechism Class 12:00 pm Board of Education 6:00 pm H.S. Bible Study</p>	<p>19 <i>No Preschool</i> </p>	<p>20 <i>Preschool 3's & 4's</i></p>	<p>21 <i>Preschool 4's</i> Bulletin Deadline 5:30 pm Soup Supper 6:15 pm Hymn Sing 6:30 pm Lenten Service</p>	<p>22 <i>Preschool 3's & 4's</i> Newsletter Deadline 1:00 pm Quilters/Crafters 5:30 pm Board of Outreach</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24 9:00 am Group Bible Fellowship - Call Terry Hensen for details</p>
<p>25 9:15 am Christian Education 10:30 am Family Worship 11:45 am Trustees Meeting 12:00 pm Catechism Class 6:00 pm H.S. Bible Study 6:30 pm Grace Book Club</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 10:30 am Reading Buddies (Pre-K) 5:30 pm Soup Supper 6:15 pm Hymn Sing 6:30 pm Lenten Service</p>	<p>29 <i>Preschool 3's & 4's</i> 1:00 pm Quilters/Crafters 7:15 pm 20s/30s Group</p>		