



Grace Newsletter

September 2024

Women’s Morning Bible Study—

Beginning Tuesday, September 10th our Director of Family Ministry will lead a women’s Bible study from 9am-10:30am at the church. They will start with the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month during the school year. Please see Lynnette if you have any questions.

Women’s Evening Bible Study—

Starts Tuesday, September 10th. They will be studying “Unshakeable” by Donna Snow. This group meets in the conference room at 6:30 p.m.

Youth Groups—



Starts August 18th! High School Youth Group:
Ignite
“Don’t burn out; keep yourselves fueled and aflame.”
-Romans 12:11

Both groups will meet at 6:00 PM here at the church.



5th through 8th grade Youth Group:
Transformed
“Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.”
- Romans 12:2
Starts August 18th!

Contact Lynnette or Greg with any questions.

Family Focus Night—

Spaghetti Feed and Trivia Night is Saturday, September 28th at 5pm! Spaghetti will be prepped and served by the youth as a fundraiser, and good times are sure to follow with some friendly trivia competition! Please see the family board to sign up or contact the church office!



Grief Share is a 13-week, Bible based program designed to assist grieving people through the journey and point them to the true source of healing and hope. Topics include how to manage grief related emotions such as loneliness, anxiety, sadness, anger and regret; how to cope with the changes in your life and relationships; how to recognize what’s normal in grief and what to do if you feel stuck or hopeless. We are offering another session starting this month. Details are below:

- When:** Thursdays, 11:30am-1:00pm
September 12 – December 12
- Where:** Grace Lutheran Church
2700 S. Kimball Ave.
Caldwell, ID 83605
- Contact:** Colleen Fuller
cmfuller2009@live.com
- Register:** griefshare.org/findagroup

There is no meeting on Thanksgiving. If you are dealing with the loss of a loved one we hope you will consider joining us or pass along the information to someone you know who is grieving a loss.

Preschool Registration—

We still have a few openings!
2 spots in Pre-K and 4 in the 3’s class.
Tours are Available Tuesday thru Fridays 10AM to 4PM
Call the Office 208 459-4191 if another time is needed.

In This Issue

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

“Courage & Strength”

New beginnings are difficult. On August 14th, the girls went back to school. They were scared of what lay ahead of them. The girls were nervous about going to a bigger school that was three times the size of the one they left in Twin Falls. They were going to a place not knowing anyone except a few of the staff members they met when they went on a tour last Spring. Christa was uncertain about what it would be like to teach sixty fifth-graders English and Language Arts. She had not been in the public-school sector since her student teaching. That was thirteen years ago. As for me, I have been trying to get into my routines as the pastor here at Grace Lutheran Church & Preschool. Therefore, when we face these things and try to establish our way of going about things here in Caldwell, I am reminded of those words that appear in Joshua 1:9, “Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.”

The Lord had spoken these words originally to Joshua. This son of Nun was facing his own uncertainties, challenges, and difficulties. Not only had Moses, his beloved mentor, died, but God selected him to be the next leader of the Israelite nation, who were on the verge of the Promised Land. He would lead them into the land and be charged with conquest. Therefore, the Lord said to him more than those words that I just wrote. Hear these words in their original context, Joshua 1:2-9, “Moses my servant is dead. Now therefore arise, go over this Jordan, you and all this people, into the land that I am giving to them, to the people of Israel. Every place that the sole of your foot will tread upon I have given to you, just as I promised to Moses. From the wilderness and this Lebanon as far as the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites to the Great Sea toward the going down of the sun shall be your territory. No man shall be able to stand before you all the days of your life. Just as I was with Moses, so I will be with you. I will not leave you or forsake you. Be strong and courageous, for you shall cause this people to inherit the land that I swore to their fathers to give them. Only be strong and very courageous, being careful to do according to all the law that Moses my servant commanded you. Do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, that you may have good success wherever you go. This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all

that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success. Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.” Did you catch what the Lord repeatedly said to His servant? The Lord reiterated not only to “be strong and courageous” twice, but He was always going to be with him. Joshua was not going to face anything alone. What a sense of comfort and peace!

These words of the Lord remind me of another set of words He spoke. He had spoken life and made these individuals His disciples. They were sent out with the Good News that the Lord saves humanity. Therefore, He promised to be with them in their uncertainties, challenges, and difficulties. Jesus spoke to His disciples these words just moments before His ascension back to the right hand of His Father, Matthew 28:18-20, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” Like the promise to Joshua from centuries before, Jesus also promised to be always with His disciples. They were not going to face anything, including their future martyrdom alone. The Lord was going through it with them.

What does that mean for us? As we go about our lives, there will be times of regular routines and there will be new uncertainties, challenges, or difficulties. It is easy to forget. It is easy to become stressed and overwhelmed. It is easy to freak out and question and doubt. However, the Lord comes to us. He comes to be with us. For the Lord is our Immanuel, God with us today and forevermore. The Lord still comes to us through His Word and Sacraments of Baptism and the Lord’s Supper. He will never leave us alone. Therefore, “Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.”

Have a blessed September with the Lord, your courage and strength!

Pastor Jason Gullidge



Our next gathering of Grace Book Club is on Sunday, September 22 at 6:30 p.m. We will be discussing “The Sanatorium” by Sarah Pearse and meeting at Marilyn Seay’s residence.

A summary: Half hidden by forest and overshadowed by threatening peaks, Le Sommet has always been a sinister place. Long plagued by troubling rumors, the former abandoned sanatorium has since been renovated into a five-star minimalist hotel. An imposing, isolated getaway spot high up in the Swiss Alps is the last place Elin Warner wants to be. But Elin's taken time off from her job as a detective, so when her estranged brother, Isaac, and his fiancée, Laure, invite her to celebrate their engagement at the hotel, Elin really has no reason not to accept. Arriving in the midst of a threatening storm, Elin immediately feels on edge--there's something about the hotel that makes her nervous. And when they wake the following morning to discover Laure is missing, Elin must trust her instincts if they hope to find her. With the storm closing off all access to the hotel, the longer Laure stays missing, the more the remaining guests start to panic.

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.



The strange economy of giving

Does it please God to receive what's already His?

“Every good and perfect gift is from above.” James 1:17

It was my mother’s birthday, and as a ten-year-old “Mama’s boy,” I was horrified to realize I hadn’t gotten her anything. “Mom, can I borrow a dollar?” I asked. “What do you want it for?” she said. “I can’t tell you,” I replied. I put the dollar in the pocket of my Rustler jeans and biked to the Family Dollar. I combed the shelves until I found the perfect gift: a small plaque, 7x13 inches. It looked like this:



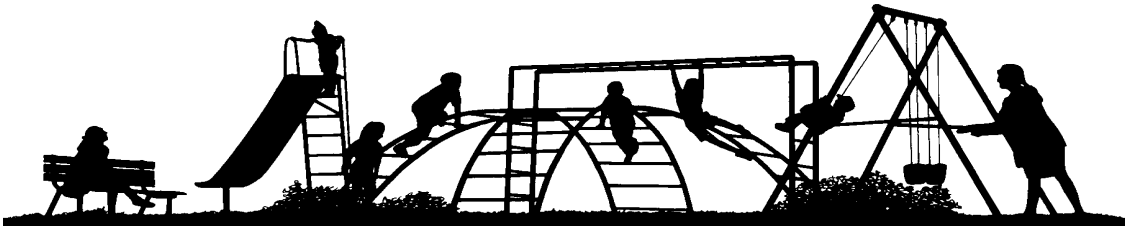
I know now my mom couldn’t have cared less for the plaque’s astrological angle, but when I gave it to her, she was thrilled. She swooped me into her arms and kissed me. She would die of cancer two years later, but for a moment, we were happy together.

Years later, I reflected on the strangeness of her reaction that day. It was *her* dollar I spent. She paid for her own birthday present. Yet somehow this unjust economy brought her joy.

God views our giving to others in much the same way. In 2 Corinthians 8:7, Paul urges believers to “excel in this grace of giving.” When we do, God’s response, like my mother’s, is one of warmth and delight: “God loves a cheerful giver” (2 Corinthians 9:7). If you want to give a present to the Lord, give something to others. But James 1:17 says, “Every good and perfect gift is from above.” This means we are all like 10-year-old me, able to give God and others only what He has already graciously given to us. And our gifts aren’t always financial in origin because God bestows on us much more than money. 1 Peter 4:10 says, “Use whatever gift you have received to serve others.” Think of all God’s gifts that can be shared. Think, for example, about love, time, and talent. We hoard each for self-serving purposes, but when we let them flow freely to help others without any thought of gain, God is ecstatic. It is unwise to feel that the gifts we give away come from our personal storehouse. The truth is that everything we give back to God has come from God Himself. King David once donated a fortune worth over \$200 billion dollars. If that happened today, we’d marvel that he would give away so much of “his own money.” But that’s not what David thought. He said in a prayer to God, “Everything comes from You, and we have given You only what comes from Your hand.” He recognized it was never really his. So should we. I think one reason my mom was so happy with my awkward present is the surprising potential it revealed in her beloved child. Based on my history, she surely expected me to use her money to buy a toy for myself. Breaking that expectation let shine a glimmer of selflessness in her son’s heart that was rarely on display. It exposed a shadow of the man she no doubt hoped I would one day become. That made her happy.

God certainly feels all this and more when we cheerfully share the gifts He has generously shared with us.





Preschool News!

4-Year-Old Class

We are so excited to be back in school after a wonderful summer break. We welcomed 14 sweet little kiddos into our Pre-K class and they are all eager to learn and have fun. We are 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 numbers, counting and beginning math skills & fine motor 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:

Ms. Amanda is starting her 10th 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 23 years. They have 4 children (3 boys & 1 girl) and they are her pride and joy. She enjoys crafting, camping and of course teaching!!

Ms. Cheri is starting her 3rd year teaching here at Grace. She loves helping our friends grow in their explorations especially science and God's great outdoors. Cheri is a military kid and has been married to Robert for 7 years. Together they have 6 children (3 Boys & 3 Girls) who are the center of their world, after God of course! She enjoys camping, kayaking, hiking, anything outdoors, teaching and sharing!

3-Year-Old Class

We are blessed to be able to teach your children this school year. It will be our (Miss Andrea's and Miss Martha's) first year teaching at Grace Lutheran. We hope everyone had a wonderful summer break. We have been working hard to get the classroom ready and are excited about meeting your children. Miss Martha has taught in the public schools for about 30 years. She has primarily worked with younger children. Her studies focused on early childhood and special education. Miss Andrea has been a SAHM for 24 years and is looking forward to the next chapter of being a teacher. We are excited to teach your child about Jesus, colors, shapes, letters and numbers. We will be sending home tiny books that you can read with your child that have repetitive patterns for example, (I see _____). What your child will see is a picture of what we are working on in school. Our first book would be school tools such as, a pencil, and a backpack. We hope you and your child will enjoy reading together. The first part of the year will also be learning the rules of the classroom, listening ears, calm body, quiet voice or voices off, walking feet, and watching eyes. The children will also be learning rules for transitioning to the playground and the playground rules. Thank you to all who showed up for parents' night. We are excited to greet your children on September 3 at 8:55 AM.

Miss Andrea & Miss Martha



Their next meeting is Monday, September 9th at 6:00 p.m. in the church fellowship room. All women are welcome to join. Barbara will be providing the devotion and Carol & Connie are hosting. Contact Carla Shields if you have any questions.



Returning God's Blessings

Best friends, Mike and Dave, were out one morning fishing in their favorite spot. The action was pretty light, and they got to talking. Mike said, “We just finished our estate plan last week and now we don’t have to think about it or talk about it ever again.” Dave said, “Have you talked with your children about it?” Mike said, “No, my wife doesn’t want to upset them.” Dave said, “Are you sure that’s the right decision? Don’t you want to share with them your dreams about what their inheritance can accomplish in their lives, blessing them with God’s gifts? And didn’t you guys leave a gift to the endowment at Church to provide scholarships to make sure children can keep going to the Lutheran School regardless of their economic level? You should tell them why that is important so that they can celebrate it with you. Otherwise, they might not understand and might even fight your plans after the Lord has called you home.” “But,” Mike replied, “How do you sit down for that conversation?” Dave thought for a moment and said, “I bet an LWML Gift Planning Counselor could help you line up what you want to share with them, maybe even give you an illustration to share with them.” Family conversations can be tough, especially if life has caused some separation, or it has been a while since you talked about deep things with your children. But pray to the Lord for guidance, seeing the value of faith witness and faithful stewardship that such conversations can provide. Would you like some help? Contact, Lois Anderson at loisandersonlwml@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 the form to an Elder, the Pastor 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, from and for our members please ask to be put on the “prayer chain” email distribution list. This list is different from our “general” distribution list.

***Rejoice always, pray without ceasing,
give thanks in all circumstances;
for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.
1 Thessalonians 5:16-18***

~~~~~  
If you do not keep your Portals of Prayer books for reference, please consider returning the books to the church office. They will be distributed in the future as part of prison ministry.  
There is a box in the entryway to place them in



### Keep in our Prayers—

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

*Cancer – Fred Florence, Patrick Knee, Don Southard, Teresa Owens, Dave Vorderstrasse, Wayne Snavely, Jerry Bengtson, Jim Nelson, Penny Storms Jeffries, Gary Olufson, Jerry Shaffer, Denise Shaffer, Doris Powell, Dave Koontz, Patti Wood*  
*Heart– Katherine Clark, Laura Pennington, Brook Van Leuven, Janice Beaudry, Gregg Nanninga (on heart transplant list)*

*Liver – Bryant Neal*  
*Mental health – David Ledington*  
*Recovering from*  
*Back Surgery – Randy Benscoter*  
*Heart Surgery – Terry Hensen*  
*A broken knee ~ Liz Osmus*  
*Hip Surgery – Diane Roberson*

*We also remember and pray for our homebound members – Janice Beaudry, Jerry Bengtson, Jack Carter, Mel Clausen, Margaret Edmiston, Rayaline Hartsock, Flo Hopkins, Dorothy Jaime, Erma Ledington, Gail Meyer, Irene Pedro, and Charles & Paula Row.*

*September 2024*

| <i>Sunday</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | <i>Monday</i>                                                               | <i>Tuesday</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | <i>Wednesday</i>                                                                                       | <i>Thursday</i>                                                                                                                                                            | <i>Friday</i>    | <i>Saturday</i>                                                                                                                                          |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>1</b><br/>9:15 am Christian Education<br/>10:30 am Family Worship with Holy Communion</p> <p>No Youth Groups<br/>Greeters: Dick &amp; Peggy L.</p>                                                                                                       | <p><b>2 Labor Day</b></p>                                                   | <p><b>3 Preschool Starts</b><br/>Preschool 3s &amp; 4s</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                 | <p><b>4</b><br/>Preschool 4s<br/><b>Bulletin Deadline</b></p>                                          | <p><b>5</b><br/>Preschool 3s &amp; 4s<br/>1:00 pm Board of Stewardship &amp; Finance</p>                                                                                   | <p><b>6</b></p>  | <p><b>7</b><br/>9:00 am Group Bible Fellowship at a member's home.</p>                                                                                   |
| <p><b>8 LHM Sunday</b><br/>9:15 am Christian Education<br/>10:30 am Family Worship</p> <p>11:45 am Board of Education<br/>6:00 pm Ignite &amp; Transformed YG</p> <p>Greeters: David &amp; Alice K.</p>                                                        | <p><b>9</b><br/>Preschool 4s<br/><br/>6:00 pm Lutheran Women in Mission</p> | <p><b>10</b><br/>Preschool 3s &amp; 4s<br/>9:00 am Women's Bible<br/>6:00 pm Board of Elders<br/>6:30 pm Women's Bible</p>                                                                                                                                 | <p><b>11</b><br/>Preschool 4s<br/><b>Bulletin Deadline</b><br/><br/>5:30 pm Board of Outreach</p>      | <p><b>12</b><br/>Preschool 3s &amp; 4s<br/>11:30 am Griefshare<br/>11:45 am Preschool Staff Meeting<br/>6:00 pm Council Meeting</p>                                        | <p><b>13</b></p> | <p><b>14</b><br/>9:00 am Group Bible Fellowship at a member's home.</p>                                                                                  |
| <p><b>15</b><br/>9:15 am Christian Education<br/>10:30 am Family Worship with Holy Communion</p> <p>6:00 pm Ignite &amp; Transformed YG<br/>Greeters: Jeanne B.</p>                                                                                            | <p><b>16</b><br/>Preschool 4s</p>                                           | <p><b>17</b><br/>Preschool 3s &amp; 4s<br/><br/>6:30 pm Women's Bible</p>                                                                                                                                                                                  | <p><b>18</b><br/>Preschool 4s<br/><b>Bulletin Deadline</b></p>                                         | <p><b>19</b><br/>Preschool 3s &amp; 4s<br/>9:15 am Preschool Partners<br/>9:30 am Preschool Chapel<br/>11:30 am Griefshare<br/><br/>7:00 pm The Chosen at the Boeder's</p> | <p><b>20</b></p> | <p><b>21</b><br/>9:00 am Group Bible Fellowship at a member's home.</p>                                                                                  |
| <p><b>22 Newsletter Deadline</b><br/>9:15 am Christian Education<br/>10:30 am Family Worship<br/>11:45 am Board of Trustees</p> <p>6:00 pm Ignite &amp; Transformed YG<br/>6:30 pm Grace Book Club at Marilyn Seay's<br/>Greeters: Jimmy &amp; Lynnette B.</p> | <p><b>23</b><br/>Preschool 4s</p>                                           | <p><b>24</b><br/>Preschool 3s &amp; 4s<br/><br/>6:30 pm Women's Bible</p>                                                                                                                                                                                  | <p><b>25</b><br/>Preschool 4s<br/><b>Bulletin Deadline</b><br/><br/>10:30 am Pre-K Reading Buddies</p> | <p><b>26</b><br/>Preschool 3s &amp; 4s<br/><br/>11:30 am Griefshare</p>                                                                                                    | <p><b>27</b></p> | <p><b>28</b><br/>9:00 am Group Bible Fellowship at a member's home.<br/><br/>5:00 pm – Family Focus Night - Dinner &amp; Trivia Fundraiser for Youth</p> |
| <p><b>29</b><br/>9:15 am Christian Education<br/>10:30 am Family Worship<br/><br/>6:00 pm Ignite &amp; Transformed YG<br/>Greeters: Mary C.</p>                                                                                                                | <p><b>30</b><br/>Preschool 4s</p>                                           | <p><i>1 John 1</i><br/><i><sup>8</sup> If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. <sup>9</sup> If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.</i></p> |                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                            |                  |                                                                                                                                                          |