



Grace Newsletter

March 2025

Lent



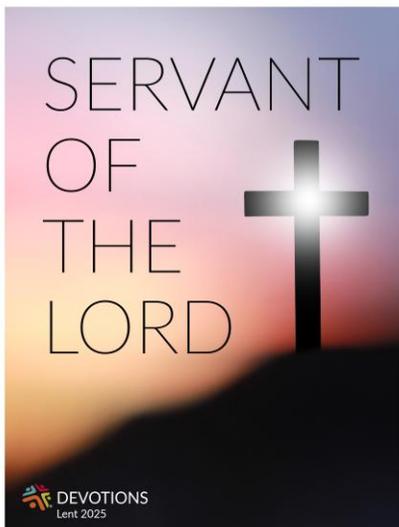
Ash Wednesday, March 5th—

We will be offering soup suppers at 5:30 PM downstairs in the fellowship hall during Lent. All are welcome to enjoy soup, bread, and a dessert. Following dinner, our hymn sing and service will start at 6:15 PM.

“Lord Jesus, as we enter this time of Lent, we turn our eyes from the busyness of this world to the cross. You knew Your Father’s plan for our salvation would be fulfilled with Your death. We thank You that You never faltered in Your love for us but kept moving on to the goal: our total redemption from sin through Your death. Grant us repentant hearts that are open to Your forgiveness. Amen. -From Portals of Prayer

Lutheran Hour Ministries—

There are a few lent devotional booklets available on the counter in the entryway. If they are no longer there and you would like one please contact the office and we will get one printed for you. The devotions are also available online at



<https://www.lhm.org/lent/>



Annual Banquet April 8th—

Lifeline Pregnancy Care Center will be holding it’s 40th Annual Banquet on Tuesday, April 8th this year instead of in the Fall. It will be at St. Paul’s in Nampa (510 W. Roosevelt Ave.). The guest speaker is Steven Holland. His incredible life story is one of resilience and faith. Grace Lutheran will have a table available for 8 people to support Lifeline. Call or text Peggy Schroeder at 208-731-3839 or Jacquie Rowen at 208-871-7862 if your interested in attending.

Youth Groups—

Both groups meet at 6:00 PM here at the church on Sundays

Contact

Lynnette Boeder or Greg King with any questions.



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“Lamb of God”

We compare people to animals. Sometimes, it is used to degrade an individual. For instance, when we talk about a person being cunning, crafty, and clever, we might say, "He is sly like a fox." When someone cuts us off on the road, we may call them "a turkey." And when children are hyper and rambunctious, we call them "a bunch of monkeys." As for that person who hoards things, we call them "a packrat." Other times, we use the comparisons to point out a special trait another possesses. We like to compare the wise to owls, the courageous to lions, and well-seeing to "eagle-eyed." This idea of comparing us humans to animals is not something new.

In the opening chapter of the Gospel of John, we are introduced to a strange individual who dresses in camel hair and a leather belt and eats locusts and wild honey, whose name is John the Baptist. He was the one the Lord had appointed as a forerunner to the promised Messiah. Following the baptism of Jesus and bearing that the Holy Spirit remained on Him, John compared Jesus with an animal. Hear these words from John 1:29: **“Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!”** What does this mean?

To start, we must look at the word: **“behold.”** In both Hebrew and Greek, it means something more unique than “look.” John is using this word to draw special attention to Jesus. In *Behold, the Lamb of God*, Reverend Timothy Barlow describes it well when he wrote: “John wanted people to look at Jesus, but more than that. He wanted them to stop, take a deep breath, clear their minds of all distractions. ‘Now, Behold! Take a serious, long, look at the one at whom I am pointing. Stop and really think about the words I am about to use to describe him.’”

This leads us to what John says: **“the lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.”** When John uses this epithet to describe Jesus, he is not thinking about a cute little fluffy white creature that goes “baaa!!!” Nor is He thinking about that pet that followed Mary to school one day like the childhood nursing rhyme. He was thinking about the lambs that played a part in Jewish worship. The center Lamb was one offered during the festival of Passover. These lambs were very special. Exodus 12:5-6 tells us their specification: **“Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male a year old. You may take it from the sheep or from the goats, and you shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month, when the whole assembly of the**

congregation of Israel shall kill their lambs at twilight.” The original lambs were killed to provide their blood to cover the door frames of Hebrews' homes to protect them from the angel of death that killed the first-born Egyptians and to provide the meat of the meal that they ate as they were delivered from slavery. During this meal, they anticipated the journey to the Promised Land. Therefore, lambs were killed every year during Passover to remind these Jews of how the Lord delivered them.

Therefore, when John calls Jesus **“the lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,”** something profound occurs. He was calling Jesus the One and the complete God's perfect sacrifice specimen that would be offered to deliver humanity with His spilled blood in His death. Jesus would do it approximately three years after John speaks these words. This true Passover Lamb would lay down His life on the cross on the day of the Passover preparation, the fourteenth day of Nisan. Unlike the Passover lambs that would be killed that Passover day, before and after Jesus, the lamb of God, delivered all of humanity from death. For Jesus' death takes away our sins. He now gives us His meal of Himself as we consume His true body and true blood under the bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins. Therefore, by being set free from sin, we now anticipate the true promised land of paradise. This is what the true Lamb of God does for each one of us.

And if you forget who the Lamb of God is, John repeats himself. We are told in John 1:35-36, **“The next day again John was standing with two of his disciples, and he looked at Jesus as he walked by and said, ‘Behold, the Lamb of God!’ The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus.”** We now follow this Lamb of God, who is also our Good Shepherd who lays down His life for us, His Sheep, so that we will walk through the shadow of death and dwell in His house forever.

Therefore, **“Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!”** This year, for our Lent Sundays and Midweek Services, we will behold this Lamb of God in different places of His passion, climaxing with the cross, where He takes away your sins, casting them as far as the east is from the west, followed by His empty tomb that gives us eternal life in His fold forever.

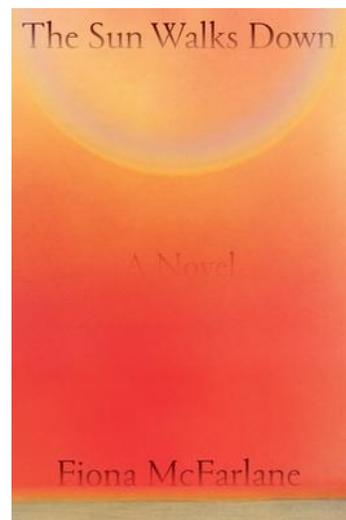
Your brother in Christ,
Pastor Jason E. Gullidge
John 10:11



Our next gathering of Grace Book Club is on Sunday, March 23rd at 6:30 m. We will be discussing “The Sun Walks Down” by Fiona McFarlane. Meeting place TBD.

A summary: In September 1883, the South Australian town of Fairly huddles under strange, vivid sunsets. Six-year-old Denny Wallace has gone missing during a dust storm, and the whole town is intent on finding him. As they search the desert and mountains for the lost child, the residents of Fairly - newlyweds, landowners, farmers, mothers, artists, Indigenous trackers, camel-eers, children, schoolteachers, widows, maids, policemen - explore their own relationships with the complex landscape unsettling history of the Flinders Ranges.

The colonial Australia of The Sun Walks Down is unfamiliar, multicultural, and noisy with opinions, arguments, longings and terrors. It's haunted by many gods - the sun among them, rising



and falling on each day that Denny could be found, or lost forever.

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.

Event in Twin Falls—

SPONSORED BY CSI STUDENTS FOR LIFE CLUB

FRIDAY, APRIL 4TH 6PM-7:30PM



Unplanned pregnancy, but not ready to parent?

Join us for a special presentation on Open Adoption, and how Idaho is leading the nation in making this a choice both the mother and baby can live with.

**Admission is free but seating is limited to 100 people
CSI Fine Arts Building, Recital Hall, Room 119**

This message is important for both **MEN** and women to hear!



Guest speaker, Terri Marcroft. Author, adoption advocate, and Executive Director of UnplannedGood.org Terri is the adoptive mom of a 25-year-old young woman who is the love of her life. Terri's favorite action hero is her daughter's birthmother, who made an adoption plan while still in high school.

Come hear her story about Open Adoption and the amazing work her organization is doing!

Questions? Email Angela Batchelor at studentsforlife@csi.edu

PURCHASE YOUR AUCTION TICKETS HERE! Just scan the code below.

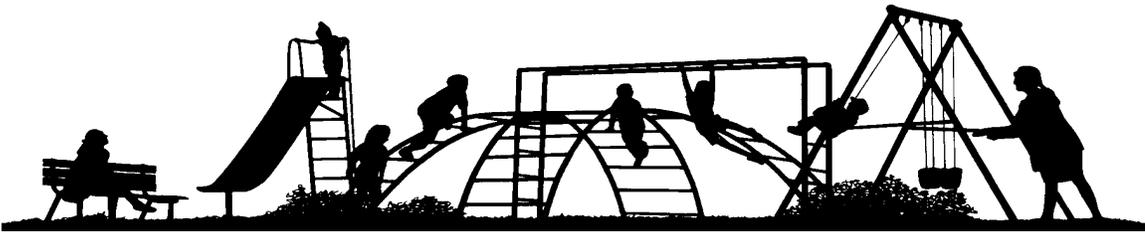


Grace Lutheran Childcare Center
Dinner & Auction

Purchase tickets after church in the fellowship hall!



THE AUCTION COMMITTEE is still seeking personal items from the members of our congregation to be donated and auctioned off at the 1st annual Grace Lutheran Church, Preschool, & Childcare Center fundraiser on Saturday, April 5th, 2025. These items to be auctioned might be: a cabin in the woods, a wine paring meal for 8, water color lessons, party baskets, personalized art, etc. Additionally, if you have something nice that is unused or unwanted around your home, we would be glad to consider it for the auction. If you have any ideas for this type of auction item or you know someone who would be willing to donate, please notify Greg King or Janet Brooks.



Preschool News!

4-Year-Old Class

We started the month off by celebrating Groundhog's Day and that little rascal saw his shadow which means we have 6 more weeks of winter. February was the month of friendship & love! We celebrated Valentine's Day with a fun little Valentine's party, made a Love Bug, heart hedgehogs & worked on drawing the heart shape all month. We celebrated Presidents Day learning about George Washington & Abraham Lincoln. Made our own president & flag craft. Dental Health Awareness month was this month and we learned all about how to keep our teeth healthy. We made a glittery tooth fairy. We had a visit from Smiles 4 Kids to help us learn how to take care of our teeth! Our learning focus was on the letters N-V-M, the numbers 15-16-17, the heart shape, and the colors pink and purple.

February Bible Verses: "Have courage. It is I. Do not be afraid." - Matthew 14:27 & "Love your neighbor as yourself." - Luke 10:27. We focused on the stories about Jesus calms the storm, Jesus walks on water, The Mustard Seed & The Good Samaritan. We had so much fun learning about all the amazing things Jesus can do and learned that even though we may be small if our faith is big and we share it with others we can do anything! We also learn that God wants us to love thy neighbor by being a good Samaritan and showing love and kindness to others whenever we can help. Ask your child if your child remembers who Jesus said our neighbor was? (Answer: Everyone)

Ms. Amanda Gigray & Ms. Cheri Nichols

Spring is Coming!!
Spring Break is March 17th - 21st (No School)

3-Year-Old Class

February went by fast. However, February came with a lot of enrichments. We worked on the letter Nn, (nutmeg), Vv, (vine), and Mm, (macaroni). We made heart patterns, and worked on paper chipping hearts. They created a stem flower using their hand. We celebrated Valentines Day. Treats and cards were delivered in their decorated bags. The children enjoyed sorting and matching their pattern blocks. They loved the different designs that could be created. I heard words like I need 2 trapezoids, or I need more rhombuses. They loved making designs with the giant foam pattern blocks. They were introduced to cube blocks. They enjoyed making towers. Most of the children were able to created 10 cube block towers that could stand on their own without falling. We have been exploring Dental Health. We talked about the 5 steps to brush their teeth. 1 wet your toothbrush, 2 put your toothpaste on your toothbrush, 3 brush your teeth, wet your toothbrush and rinse your teeth, and 5 spit the rinse out of your mouth. We learned we should brush our teeth in the morning and at night. We discussed healthy food for our teeth and not so healthy food for our teeth. They read an emergent book on teeth. At the end of this week the children will be forming the letters with wooden lines and curves. They will also cut and put together a heart puzzle with their name. We are looking forward to next month. At the end of the March, we will start painting kites. Then look for us in April flying our kites. Up, up and away!

Ms. Andrea & Ms. Martha



Next meeting is Sunday, March 2 after church downstairs in the library east of the fellowship hall. All women are welcome to join. Peggy & MaryEtta are hosting and Carla is providing our devotion. Contact Carla Shields if you have any questions.



A person wishes to go on a European vacation. However, they have delayed planning many times. Maybe there will be a better rate? Who knows when the best weather will be? What if my health takes a turn and I am not able to go? The bliss of vacation will never happen if you continue living in paralysis of the unknown.

Returning God's Blessings That same kind of paralysis can keep the Lord's people from putting estate plans in place and carrying out faithful stewardship of God's gifts. In the barrage of "what if's", we choose to do nothing. If that procrastination lasts long enough, we may choose to do nothing, expecting that our children will take care of things after the Lord calls us home. The trouble is, we may not have communicated our wishes to our children clearly or they may not share the same priorities. God has made us stewards of His things and it is our job to put a plan in writing that faithfully guides how financial assets should be handled through our estate. We don't let fear of the imperfect keep us from acting.

Certainly, in estate plans, there are many things that can change over time. Family can grow. Financial assets can grow. Ministries can close and new ones can open. An estate plan needs to be nimble to be effective. It is wise to see the need to review an estate plan and update it every 5-7 years. Yet the prospect of those changes should not keep us from setting up a plan that covers the needs of today. Your LWML Gift Planning Counselor can help you consider what you need to have in place today. Contact Lois Anderson at loisandersonlwml@gmail.com



LWML
Western Zone
Spring Event
March 29, 2025
Pilgrim Lutheran Church
208 SW 1st Ave
Ontario, OR

Set Free From the Gift of Self
So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed. *John 8:36*

*Bible Study
Leader:
Rev. Dan Jones*
*Registration
9-9:30*
Suggested Donation \$3
*Babysitting available
Contact Roberta Trenkel
by March 22, 2025*
*(208)452-5743
or
rtrenkel2023@gmail.com*

**Ingathering to benefit
Treasure Valley
Children's Relief Nursery**
Baby wipes, diapers all sizes
(large especially)
Clothing (infant to 3 yr old)
including socks and shoes
Pantry items (canned goods, cereal)
Hygiene items (shampoo,
conditioner, soap, deodorant,
toothpaste, toothbrush)

For additional information contact: Karolyn Rippy (208)454-0535

PRAYERS

Prayer requests—

Please submit your prayer requests by phone (208) 459-4191 or by email to graceonkimball@gmail.com.

[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***

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If you do not keep your Portals of Prayer books, please consider returning the books to the church.  
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 – Sharon Andrews, 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*  
*Liver – Bryant Neal*

*Heart–Brook Van Leuven, Janice Beaudry, Gregg Nanninga (on heart transplant list)*  
*Mental health – David Ledington*  
*Hip replacement surgery – Diane Roberson*  
*Broken ribs – Jerry Bengtson*  
*Knee surgery recovery – Bunnie Welshons*

# Grace Lutheran Childcare Center—

October 2, 2024 – Construction Started

February – flooring almost completed, carpeting is next, fountain installed, rain gutters and downspouts done.



March 2025

| Sunday                                                                                                                                                                            | Monday                                | Tuesday                                                                                                                                                                                     | Wednesday                                                                                                         | Thursday                                                                                                                                                                 | Friday                            | Saturday                                                                                               |                                                                 |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
|  <h1 style="margin: 0;">Lent</h1>                                                                |                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                          |                                   | <b>1</b><br>9:00 am Group Bible Fellowship at a member's home.                                         |                                                                 |
| <b>2</b><br>9:15 am Christian Education<br>10:30 am Family Worship with Holy Communion<br><br>Concordia Circle/LWML<br>12:15 pm Confirmation Class<br><br>6:00 pm Youth Groups    | <b>3</b><br>Preschool 4s              | <b>4</b><br>Preschool 3s & 4s<br><br>9:00 am Women's Morning Bible Study                                                                                                                    | <b>5</b><br>Preschool 4s<br><b>Bulletin Deadline</b><br><br><b>6:30 pm Ash Wednesday Service</b>                  | <b>6</b><br>Preschool 3s & 4s<br>9:15 am Preschool Partners<br>9:30 am Preschool Chapel<br>9:50 am Pre-K Buddies<br><br>1:00 pm Crafters<br>1:00 pm Board of Stewardship | <b>7</b>                          | <b>8</b><br>9:00 am Group Bible Fellowship at a member's home.<br><br><i>Turn your clocks forward.</i> |                                                                 |
| <b>9 Daylight Saving Starts</b><br>9:15 am Christian Education<br>10:30 am Family Worship with New Member Introduction<br>12:15 pm Confirmation Class<br><br>6:00 pm Youth Groups | <b>10</b><br>Preschool 4s             | <b>11</b><br>Preschool 3s & 4s<br>11:30 am Preschool Staff Meeting<br><br>6:00 pm Board of Elders                                                                                           | <b>12</b><br>Preschool 4s<br><b>Bulletin Deadline</b><br><br>5:30 pm Soup Supper<br>6:15 pm Hymn Sing and Service | <b>13</b><br>Preschool 3s & 4s<br><br>1:00 pm Crafters                                                                                                                   | <b>14</b>                         | <b>15</b><br>9:00 am Group Bible Fellowship at a member's home.                                        |                                                                 |
| <b>16</b><br>9:15 am Christian Education<br>10:30 am Family Worship with Holy Communion<br>12:15 pm Confirmation Class<br><br>No Youth Groups                                     | <b>17</b><br><b>St. Patrick's Day</b> | <div style="background-color: #4CAF50; color: white; padding: 5px; border-radius: 10px; display: inline-block;">Preschool on Spring Break</div>                                             |                                                                                                                   | <b>19</b><br><b>Bulletin Deadline</b><br>5:30 pm Soup Supper<br>6:15 pm Hymn Sing and Service                                                                            | <b>20</b><br><br>1:00 pm Crafters | <b>21</b><br><b>Newsletter Deadline</b>                                                                | <b>22</b><br>9:00 am Group Bible Fellowship at a member's home. |
| <b>23</b><br>9:15 am Christian Education<br>10:30 am Family Worship<br><br>6:00 pm Youth Groups<br>6:30 pm Grace Book Club                                                        | <b>24</b><br>Preschool 4s             | <b>25</b><br>Preschool 3s & 4s                                                                                                                                                              | <b>26</b><br>Preschool 4s<br><b>Bulletin Deadline</b><br>5:30 pm Soup Supper<br>6:15 pm Hymn Sing and Service     | <b>27</b><br>Preschool 3s & 4s<br><br>1:00 pm Crafters                                                                                                                   | <b>28</b>                         | <b>29</b><br>9:00 am Group Bible Fellowship at a member's home.                                        |                                                                 |
| <b>30</b><br>9:15 am Christian Education<br>10:30 am Family Worship<br>12:15 pm Confirmation Class<br>6:00 pm Youth Groups                                                        | <b>31</b><br>Preschool 4s             | <i>"Be strong and courageous. Do not fear or be in dread of them, for it is the Lord your God who goes with you. He will not leave you or forsake you."<br/>           Deuteronomy 31:6</i> |                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                          |                                   |                                                                                                        |                                                                 |