

GRACE

for the Moment



The Newsletter of Grace Lutheran Church

August 2019



New Lock Schedule at Grace Lutheran

A friendly reminder of our new lock schedule at Grace Lutheran Church. Due to vandalism issues, the side doors on the South and West of the building will be locked except for Wednesdays from 5pm-8pm and Sunday 6am-noon. Main doors will be unlocked from 6am-6pm daily and on Wednesdays 6am-8pm.

August Worship:

Sunday mornings:

9:00 am

Wednesday evenings:

6:30 pm

(No Worship

July 31 & Aug 14)



Fair Week Lock Schedule:

Main doors and west door: LOCKED

South Door: open 6 am – 6 pm

If you need to drop your pies off outside these hours, please feel free to take them to the church fair stand or contact Shannon Avilla (605-261-0179) or Pastor Don (605-759-6065) for assistance in opening the church.



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From *the* Pastor

Perspective: A Pastor's "Rules" for Worship

By Stephanie Lape – July 9, 2019

I recently read a list of “20 rules of etiquette for attending worship” shared by a clergyperson (not of my denomination). They were things people needed to do if they wanted to do worship “right”—such as never giving kids snacks; never looking at cell phones; bowing, sitting, standing and kneeling at all the right times; dressing in a certain way, etc. In response, I thought I’d share my own clergy list of etiquette.

1. I assume that, when you walk into church, you feel weighed down by the world. You probably had a hard week at work or failed on your diet or argued again with your spouse or have had it up to *here* with the kids. I could be wrong, but I assume you need a break. My job is to smile and welcome you. Your “rule” here is simply to walk in the door, if you choose.
2. As our guest of honor, you are in church to be served. This means you do not come to serve God or anyone else. Before you worry that this will make you feel entitled, remember that the gathering commonly called “mass” was renamed “service” by Martin Luther, who said *God* is the one serving. God is lavishly serving you in word and sacrament. This is not to make you feel entitled but to make you feel loved and free to love others. (You will know when God puts it on your heart to serve others, prompted by your overflowing love.) So your “rule” here is to try to open your heart to God, who will serve you as you worship and praise God. It’s not really a rule but a good idea. You’ll get more out of things this way.
3. The music is always nicer if you sing along. The prayers are more powerful if you join your voice in the ancient rhythm created by billions of people over thousands of years. You’ll get more out of the sermon if you listen. So your “rule”—let’s call it a *suggestion*—is to involve yourself in what we call “the work of the people,” which is what “liturgy” literally means. It’s not a requirement, though. If what you need to do is sit in silence, cry, meditate, whatever—have at it.
4. Parents and grandparents, we give you all the breaks you need. Jesus loved kids and loves yours. Feed them Cheerios, give them toys — yes, quiet ones would be nice—step out of the sanctuary if you want, utilize the nursery and Sunday-school options, and ask your neighbors for help. Many of us have been there, and you’re doing great. (I can preach with kids in the room. I just get louder!) If they are loud, do your best—but know that we love you and we love them.
5. The table is owned by Jesus Christ. He called you and all people to join in Holy Communion. I will never withhold the sacrament from anyone. (It’s not mine to withhold.) Don’t feel worthy? Well, Jesus fed Judas. It’s not about worthiness; it’s about God’s love for you. Feel better? Good. Get up here and let me put bread in your hand!
6. Ask me anything about worship that you want to understand but know that it all unfolds over time and that we all grow, as we should, over a lifetime.

...pastor article con't

7. Cell phones are best kept quiet—but hey, pull it out to tweet an interesting sermon note (I do say some tweet-worthy things sometimes). Record, go “live,” spread the gospel in new ways. No rule here either.

8. Wear whatever you want. This is the most irrelevant thing in the history of *ever*.

9. Your love of God pales in comparison to God’s love of you. If you are a persistent troublemaker, I’ll let you know. But regardless of your culture or background, if you are wounded, broken, anxious, insecure, depressed, or unsure if you even believe in God, you will not be judged by God or our congregation. Bring your authentically human self to the worship service—and see how much God serves you in profound and soul-healing ways.

10. Relax.

Rules and requirements won’t save you, me or anyone. Salvation was—and is—a gift from the cross. If any of us could have earned salvation by being the perfect churchgoer, the cross wouldn’t have been necessary. I assume that we’re all trying our best with what we know. But our trying is *nothing* compared to God’s love. The mercy flows from God into our hearts.



I **LOVE** these “rules”!! Summer Blessings!

Continue to *Shine***!! (*Daniel 12:3*)

-Pastor Don



Important Dates 2019-2020

Wednesday, **August 28**: Pre-Confirmation/Confirmation Parent/Student Meeting (7:00 pm)

Sunday, **September 8**: Rally Sunday

Wednesday, **September 11**: First Pre-Confirmation/Confirmation Class

Sunday, **September 15**: Sunday School Teacher Installation

Sunday, **September 22**: Third Grade Bibles

Sunday, **October 27**: Reformation Sunday

Wednesday, **November 27**: Thanksgiving Eve Worship (6:30 pm)

Sunday, **December 15**: Sunday School Christmas Program

Tuesday, **December 24**: Christmas Eve Worship (6:30 pm)

Sunday, **January 12**: Confirmation Retreat (5th-8th grade) (1:00-4:00pm)

Sunday, **January 19**: Grace Lutheran Annual Meeting

Sunday, **February 2**: First Communion (5th grade)

Wednesday, **February 26**: Ash Wednesday Worship (6:30 pm)

Thursday, **April 9**: Maundy Thursday (6:30 pm) (8th graders get feet washed)

Sunday, **April 12**: Easter Sunday

Wednesday, **April 22**: Confirmation Banquet (8th grade) (6:00pm)

Sunday, **April 26**: Confirmation Sunday (8th grade)

Wednesday, **May 6**: Last Pre-Confirmation/Confirmation Class

Grace Pre-Confirmation and Confirmation 2019-2020

2019-2020	Pre-Confirmation (5th/6th) 4:00-5:00	Confirmation (7th/8th) 5:00-6:00	Details...(We meet 20 times)
September 11th	OT: Creation	NT: Wilderness Temptations	First Class
September 18th	OT: The Human Condition	NT: Jesus' Nazareth Sermon	
September 25th	OT: The Flood	NT: Jesus Calls First Disciples	
October 2nd	What it means to be Lutheran	Small Catechism - Creed	
October 9th	OT: Abraham & Sarah	NT: The Beatitudes	
October 16th	OT: Sarah, Hagar, Abraham	NT: The Gerasene Demoniac	
October 23rd	OT: Isaac & Rebekah	NT: Feeding of the 5000	
October 30th	What it means to be Lutheran	Small Catechism - Baptism	
November 6th	OT: Jacob & Esau	NT: The Transfiguration	
November 13th	OT: Joseph	NT: The Annunciation	
November 20th	OT: Moses & Pharoah	NT: Birth of Jesus	
November 27th	NO CLASS!	NO CLASS!	Thanksgiving Eve Worship - 6:30
December 4th	NO CLASS!	NO CLASS!	Mid-Week Advent Worship - 6:30
December 11th	NO CLASS!	NO CLASS!	Mid-Week Advent Worship - 6:30
December 18th	NO CLASS!	NO CLASS!	Mid-Week Advent Worship - 6:30
December 25th	NO CLASS!	NO CLASS!	Christmas/New Year Break
January 1st	NO CLASS!	NO CLASS!	Christmas/New Year Break
January 8th	What it means to be Lutheran	Small Catechism - Communion	
January 15th	OT: The Ten Commandments	NT: Simeon	
January 22nd	OT: Wilderness to Land	NT: The Sending of the 70	
January 29th	OT: Judges	NT: The Good Samaritan	
February 5th	What it means to be Lutheran	Small Catechism - Lord's Prayer	
February 12th	OT: Ruth	NT: Healing Bent-Over Woman	
February 19th	OT: Samuel & Saul	NT: Parables of Lost & Found	
February 26th	NO CLASS!	NO CLASS!	Ash Wednesday Worship - 6:30
March 4th	NO CLASS!	NO CLASS!	Mid-Week Lenten Worship - 6:30
March 11th	NO CLASS!	NO CLASS!	Mid-Week Lenten Worship - 6:30
March 18th	NO CLASS!	NO CLASS!	Mid-Week Lenten Worship - 6:30
March 25th	NO CLASS!	NO CLASS!	Mid-Week Lenten Worship - 6:30
April 1st	NO CLASS!	NO CLASS!	Mid-Week Lenten Worship - 6:30
April 8th	NO CLASS!	NO CLASS!	Holy Week/Stations - 6:30
April 15th	NO CLASS!	NO CLASS!	Easter Week
April 22nd	NO CLASS!	NO CLASS!	Confirmation Banquet - 6:00
April 29th	OT: King David	NT: The Rich Man & Lazarus	
May 6th	End-of-Year Celebration	End-of-Year Celebration	Last Class

Church Council Meeting Minutes

June 5, 2019

Present: Shannon, Chela, Cam, Pastor, Stacey, Dawn, Jay

Shannon Avilla called the meeting to order.

MSP to approve the agenda.

Secretary's report approved MSP

Treasurer's report approved MSP

Trustee report: tentative start date of August 1st for the roof project.

Deacon Report: business as usual

Board of Education: VBS will start Sunday, June 9th. May fishbowl went to Community VBS. June-Aug fishbowl will go to the backpack program

Wednesday, June 5, 2019 – Pastor's Report (Pastor Don Reiffenberger)

*I had **33** visits since May 8 [last Council Meeting] (*most with Holy Communion*).

Funeral/Committal: John D. Thompson – Sunday, May 26 (2:00)

Baptisms: Sunday, **May 19** – Korri Alayne Nolan (Derek & Tarah Nolan)

Sunday, **May 26** – Tripp Ruger Pulse (Duane & Erin [Smith] Pulse)

Scheduled: Sunday, **July 28** – Joseph Wayne McKenney (Rob & Alexxis McKenney)

"Blessing of Graduates" – Sunday, May 12

Synod Assembly was Friday, **May 31** – Saturday, **June 1**. We have a new bishop. Our **Bishop-Elect** is the **Rev.**

Constanze Hagmaier from Trinity Lutheran in Madison, SD. Bishop David Zellmer is completing his second and final term – *12 years* – and will now be **Bishop Emeritus**. The 5th ballot was Rev. Bill Tesch = 247 votes; Rev. Constanze Hagmaier = 250 votes. Bishop Elect-Hagmaier will take office on **September 1st**, with an **Installation Service** on Saturday, **September 7**, at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church in Sioux Falls led by **Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton**.

Nursing Home Worship Services: Tuesday, June 4 (2:00 pm) – Tieszen Memorial in Marion

Sunday, June 9 (2:00 pm) – Pioneer Memorial in Viborg

Parker Community VBS: begins Sunday, June 9 (ends June 12). I will be leading the 5th and 6th graders.

Ordination: I will be attending the Ordination of Randall Questad (Luther House of Study) on Saturday, June 15 (4:00 pm) at West Nidaros Lutheran Church in Crooks, SD.

...June Council meeting minutes con't...

Fallen Officers Bike Blessing: I will be leading the Bike Blessing for Fallen Officers on Saturday, June 22 (11:15 am) at the Turner County Courthouse (2nd year in a row).

For the summer months – **June, July, and August** – the Message during our Wednesday Worship Services (6:30 pm) will be by video presented by Pastor Nadia Bolz-Weber. Pastor Nadia is an ELCA pastor who was one of the keynote speakers at last summer's National Youth Gathering. Her 2-3 *minute* video messages entitled, "**Have a Little Faith,**" are life-changing lessons in which she **calls out** the nonsense of having it all...**reassures us** that our worthiness is **not** in our busyness...and **teaches us** to drop the social media filters and accept ourselves just as we are.



Vacation Request: I am requesting time off (**Friday, June 28 – Friday, July 5**). There will be a Hymn-Sing on Sunday, June 30. The Worship Service is all planned. A "Leader" will be needed. There will be NO Worship Service on Wednesday, July 3.

Continuing Business:

- Discussed fundraising options for the combined furnace/air conditioning, roof, carpet and ceiling project.
- A letter will be sent to address Wednesday evening school/church concerns.
- Library room floor will have carpet placed over existing tiles.

New Business:

- Earl Joffer and Family proposed donation of a new coffee machine. Donation was approved. MSP
- Due to vandalism issues, the side doors on the South and West of the building will be locked except for Wednesdays from 5pm-8pm and Sunday 6am-noon. Main doors will be unlocked from 6am-6pm daily and on Wednesdays 6am-8pm. This practice will go into effect Thursday, June 13th. Approved MSP

Next meeting is set for 07/14/19 after worship

Adjourn the meeting. MSP

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH TREASURER'S REPORT 7/8/2019

<u>INCOME:</u>	<u>Current</u>	<u>Year To Date</u>
101 General Offering	\$2,116.00	\$7,945.55
102 Envelope Offering	\$9,974.00	\$52,982.36
103 Quarterly Offering	\$610.00	\$3,924.00
104 Lenten Offering	\$0.00	\$1,723.25
109 Camper Savings	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
121 Transfer from Audio Visual	\$0.00	\$1,086.57
123 Endowment	\$0.00	\$0.00
202 Use of Building	\$0.00	\$0.00
203 Misc. Income	\$35.00	\$1,329.61
204 Augie/USF PACT	\$0.00	\$0.00
205 Thrivent	\$0.00	\$839.00
208 Amazon Smile	\$0.00	\$16.37
219 Transfer from Building Fund	\$0.00	\$709.12
222 Transfer from Memorial Fund	\$0.00	\$0.00
TOTAL INCOME:	\$14,735.00	\$72,555.83

SUMMARY GENERAL CHECKING:

Beginning Balance	\$10,063.37	-
Total Income	\$72,555.83	
Total Expenses	\$79,893.42	
Ending Balance	\$2,725.78	

Monthly Summary

	Offering Total	Misc Income	Monthly Expenses
January	\$8,484.00	\$567.00	\$8,192.15
February	\$7,531.18	\$740.15	\$11,476.14
March	\$10,785.00	\$3,202.73	\$14,485.47
April	\$10,310.00	\$3,680.82	\$11,858.20
May	\$8,416.73	\$707.22	\$9,474.91
June	\$12,785.00	\$500.00	\$12,828.39
July	\$2,616.00	\$2,230.00	\$11,578.16
August			
September			
October			
November			
December			
Total Monthly Offering	\$60,927.91	\$11,627.92	\$79,893.42

SAVINGS ACCOUNT BALANCES:

Campers Savings	\$235.74
Building Fund Savings	\$8,275.14
Audio Visual Savings	\$3,528.11

OTHER ACCOUNT BALANCES:

River's Edge Bank CD	\$37,144.17
First Savings Bank Money Market	\$3,410.73

River's Edge Bank Loan/Audio Visual \$6,584 as of October 15, 2018 - Next payment due 1/1/2020

Dawn Duerksen, Treasurer

<u>EXPENSES: SALARIES/BENEFITS</u>	<u>Current</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u>	<u>Proposed Budget</u>
301 Pastor Base Salary	\$3,933.33	\$27,533.31	\$47,200.00
302 Pastor Housing Allowance	\$1,000.00	\$7,000.00	\$12,000.00
303 Pastor Pension/Retirement	\$291.96	\$1,751.76	\$3,600.00
305 Pastor Car Allowance	\$487.50	\$3,412.50	\$5,850.00
307 Pastor Insurance - Health & Benefits	\$90.24	\$541.44	\$1,500.00
308 Pastor Continuing Education	\$0.00	\$30.00	\$750.00
320 Custodian	\$1,393.00	\$3,041.44	\$7,000.00
321 Organist	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,560.00
322 Secretary	\$384.31	\$2,456.24	\$6,500.00
325 Sub Pastor	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
326 FICA Expenses	<u>\$421.66</u>	<u>\$882.04</u>	<u>\$2,000.00</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES-SALARIES/BENEFITS:	\$8,002.00	\$46,648.73	\$88,960.00

<u>EXPENSES: BUILDING & GROUNDS</u>	<u>Current</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u>	<u>Proposed Budget</u>
401 Snow Removal	\$0.00	\$2,335.35	\$3,000.00
402B Natural Gas	\$64.78	\$2,310.97	\$3,400.00
405 Electricity and Water	\$360.54	\$2,087.62	\$4,000.00
407 Insurance	\$0.00	\$3,404.49	\$6,750.00
408 Misc. Bldg. & Grnd. Exp.	\$462.18	\$2,866.12	\$8,500.00
409 Piano Tuning	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$250.00
409A Organ Maintenance	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$200.00
413 State Farm - Workmen's Comp.	\$0.00	\$392.46	\$900.00
414 Audio Visual Loan Payments	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00
415 Audio Visual Expenses	\$1,863.75	\$4,338.55	\$0.00
417 Transfer to Correct Account	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$482.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES-BUILDING & GROUNDS:	\$2,751.25	\$18,217.56	\$29,000.00

<u>EXPENSES: CHURCH PROGRAMS</u>	<u>Current</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u>	<u>Proposed Budget</u>
502 Bible Camp Sponsorships	\$2,912.50	\$2,912.50	\$1,500.00
503 Offering Envelopes	\$0.00	\$222.17	\$350.00
504 Confirmation Expense	\$0.00	\$274.83	\$900.00
506 Synod Assembly	\$150.00	\$600.00	\$750.00
507 Books and Materials	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
508 Misc. Program Expense	\$98.07	\$1,088.29	\$3,000.00
512 Bank Service Charges	\$17.95	\$380.83	\$1,250.00
517 Bibles for 3rd Graders	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$200.00
519 Postage	\$0.00	\$259.00	\$350.00
526 High School Graduate Gifts	\$0.00	\$253.40	\$250.00
TOTAL EXPENSES-CHURCH PROGRAMS:	\$3,178.52	\$5,991.02	\$8,650.00

<u>EXPENSES: MISSIONS/BENEVOLENCES</u>	<u>Current</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u>	<u>Proposed Budget</u>
602 Augustana/USF PACT	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00
603 ELCA Benevolence	\$1,278.50	\$5,887.87	\$9,000.00
604 Shetek Bible Camp	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$650.00
605 Crossroads Conference Dues	\$0.00	\$28.20	\$200.00
614 Emergency Cash Fund	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$200.00</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES-MISSONS:	\$1,278.50	\$5,916.07	\$12,050.00

<u>EXPENSES: OFFICE</u>	<u>Current</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u>	<u>Proposed Budget</u>
701 Copier Lease	\$190.12	\$1,166.45	\$2,400.00
702 Bulletins and Inserts	\$0.00	\$988.05	\$1,750.00
703 Church Office Telephone	\$100.24	\$701.93	\$1,200.00
704 Office Supplies	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$263.61</u>	<u>\$750.00</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES - OFFICE:	\$290.36	\$3,120.04	\$6,100.00

GRAND TOTAL EXPENSES:	\$15,500.63	\$79,893.42	\$144,760.00
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