

A HOLY CONVERSATION

Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity!
—Psalm 133:1

Our Lutheran confessions teach us that God is “richly extravagant in his grace” not only through his Word and the Sacraments but also by means of “the mutual conversation and consolation of the brethren.” That is to say the simple conversations we have with one another, as brothers and sisters in Christ, is a way in which God is gracious toward us sinners. It is not only good but also necessary for us, as the body of Christ, to be with one another, to talk with and encourage each other. This, of course, we are to do at our own congregation here at Grace, but it is also good for us to gather with other Lutherans in the area, in order to hold a holy conversation.

We hosted the first of these conversations last year with Rev. David Petersen. This year, we welcome Rev. Dr. Robert Bennett, executive director of Luther Academy, as he speaks to us about Spiritual Warfare. This will, no doubt, be of great benefit to all people of all ages (yes, even children!) as such a topic will help us better understand the battle that still rages between good and evil in this world but also the victory that is ours in Christ over sin, death, and the devil.

In a world that is hostile and broken, we need more and more of these holy conversations that will encourage us to face the many challenges ahead of us. Now is not the time to sit back and become complacent. It’s time to study God’s Word with one another and prepare ourselves for battle. So, please join us for this event by signing up on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall.

I pray that through this holy conversation, God would extravagantly enrich us with his grace.

In Christ,

Pastor Haller

The Topic: Spiritual Warfare

Have you noticed that during the last two decades there has been a resurgence of interest and fascination in supernatural phenomena, featuring everything from movies, books, and TV shows about ghosts, demonic possession, paranormal, exorcisms, occult, and satanic worship? With all that has been written and produced it can be difficult to ascertain fact from fiction. Are these things real? Do we have documented evidence of such things? Do they affect our daily lives? What do we do about these things? You’ve got real questions and Dr. Robert Bennett has real answers.

Saturday, November 11th

9:30 am Matins
10:15 am Session 1
11:30 am Lunch
12:30 am Session 2

Sunday, November 12th

9:15 am Divine Service (Pr. Bennett preaching)
11 am Session 3



In anticipation of our congregation's 75th anniversary in November 2024, we will have a hymn chosen for the month that will be used during the Divine Service. The hymns of the church give God's people the words to sing his praises and to confess what he has done for them in the saving death and resurrection of his Son Jesus Christ.

***I Trust, O Christ, in You Alone* LSB 972**

This Reformation hymn, written by Conrad Hubert (1507-1577) boldly proclaims the Lutheran understanding of justification. We are declared righteous before the Righteous Judge solely by his grace, without any merit or worthiness within us.

The first stanza makes this clear when we put our trust in Christ alone, knowing that “no earthly hope avails me” and “no human strength, no earthly power can see me through the evil hour.”

In stanza two, we pray for true contrition that we might receive God's forgiveness won for us in Christ's “death upon the tree” and be free from our sin and guilt that plague us. The risen and ascended Son of God continues to “recall [his] matchless deed of love” before the Father so “that he may lift [our] dreadful load.”

In stanza three, we shift from the first person singular (“I” and “me”) to the plural (“we” and “us”), teaching us that we do not stand alone, but as the Church militant, we hear the Word of God together, living out our various vocations, and awaiting the day when our Savior bears us safely home.

The tune for this hymn will be unfamiliar to us, but over time, we will learn to love the music attached to these sweet words of comfort, as we trust in Christ alone.

1 I trust, O Christ, in You alone;
 No earthly hope avails me.
 You will not see me overthrown
 When Satan's host assails me.
 No human strength, no earthly pow'r
 Can see me through the evil hour,
 For You alone my strength renew.
 I cry to You!
 I trust, O Lord, Your promise true.

2 My sin and guilt are plaguing me;
 O grant me true contrition
 And by Your death upon the tree
 Your pardon and remission.
 Before the Father's throne above
 Recall Your matchless deed of love
 That He may lift my dreadful load,
 O Son of God!
 I plead the grace Your death bestowed.

3 Confirm in us Your Gospel, Lord,
 Your promise of salvation.
 And make us long to hear Your Word
 And follow our vocation:
 To spend our lives in love for You
 And show Your love in all we do.
 And then, at last, when death shall loom,
 O Savior, come
 And bear Your loved ones safely home.

STEWARDSHIP

October Coffee Money
Good Samaritan Fund

October Mission Envelope
Luther Classical College

The Stewardship Board's quarterly mission for October through December will be to Special Friends Camp. This is a camp for adults living with cognitive/intellectual disabilities. The adult campers live with disabilities such as Down's syndrome, autism, and others. The camp will be celebrating 30 years of serving.

Special Friends Camp was started and continues to serve with three major goals in mind:

1. Above all else, the camp strives to share the love of Jesus. Statistics says that 80% of these families are unchurch and don't know Jesus.
2. We want our campers to experience a "vacation" from their day-to-day routine, to be outdoors with activities on the lake, around the campfire, in the woods, etc.
3. We know that often this is the only respite the caregivers and family members get—knowing their loved one is in a safe place.

Please help us support this great cause that will help so many to get to know our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, as well as provide fellowship with other campers. Specific envelopes can be found on the back table of the narthex beginning in October.

HARVEST DINNER

Sunday, October 29th, at 5:30 pm
freewill donation

Invite your family and friends!



ORGAN RECITAL

Our very own organist, Chelsea Worden, will be performing at organ recitals in both October and November. We are so very blessed to have such an accomplished musician help us sing unto the Lord a new song. If you are able, please consider joining her at these recitals.

October 29th at 4 pm
First Presbyterian Church
805 Center Ave.
Bay City, MI 48708

November 12th at 4 pm
Memorial Presbyterian Church
1310 Ashman Street
Midland, MI 48640

**GOD LOVES
A CHEERFUL GIVER.**

2 Corinthians 9:7





**LUTHERAN
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*The WORD of the LORD
ENDURES FOREVER*

www.thewordendures.org



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Grace Lutheran Church—Fairgrove

Check out our website:

www.gracefairgrove.org



October Divine Services
(services with Holy Communion)

Sunday, October 1, 2023

The Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity

Luke 14:1-11

Sunday, October 15, 2023

The Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity

Matthew 9:1-8

Sunday, October 22, 2023

The Twentieth Sunday after Trinity

Matthew 22:1-14

Sunday, October 29, 2023

The Festival of the Reformation (observed)

Matthew 11:12-19

SHUT-IN ADDRESSES

Continue to pray for those who can't be with us on Sunday mornings.

Jean Adams

8678 W. Deckerville Rd.
Reese, MI 48757

John & Ruth Ann Kajjala

6004 Gilford Rd.
Fairgrove, MI 48733

Marge Montgomery

8039 Massoll St.
Reese, MI 48757

Lorna Bills

Brookdale Bay City
734 North Pine Rd.
Bay City, MI 48708

NEXT VOTERS MEETING:

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2023 @ 11 AM

PRIVATE CONFESSION

Private Confession and Absolution is available by appointment. You can call Pastor Haller at the church office or on his cell phone: (248) 794-3703.

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Cindy Burnison
Pat Starkey
- 4 Diane Spencer
- 17 Julia Hargash
- 24 Aaron Reinbold
- 30 Winston Reinbold

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

- 20 Daryl & Holly Winter
- 26 Brandon & Chelsea Worden

CHRISTIAN TRAINING

SUNDAY SCHOOL & ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Sunday School

11 am to 11:40 am

Lesson (preschool—4th grade)

11:40 am to 12 pm

Music (preschool—8th grade)

Adult Bible Study

Acts (also 5th—8th grade)

Explanation of the Common Service

**THE SUNDAY SCHOOL CHILDREN'S CHOIR
WILL BE SINGING FOR REFORMATION SUNDAY (October 29th)**

THE MEN'S STUDY

October 21st, 7:30 to 9 am
every 3rd Saturday of the month
prayer + breakfast + the Lutheran Confessions

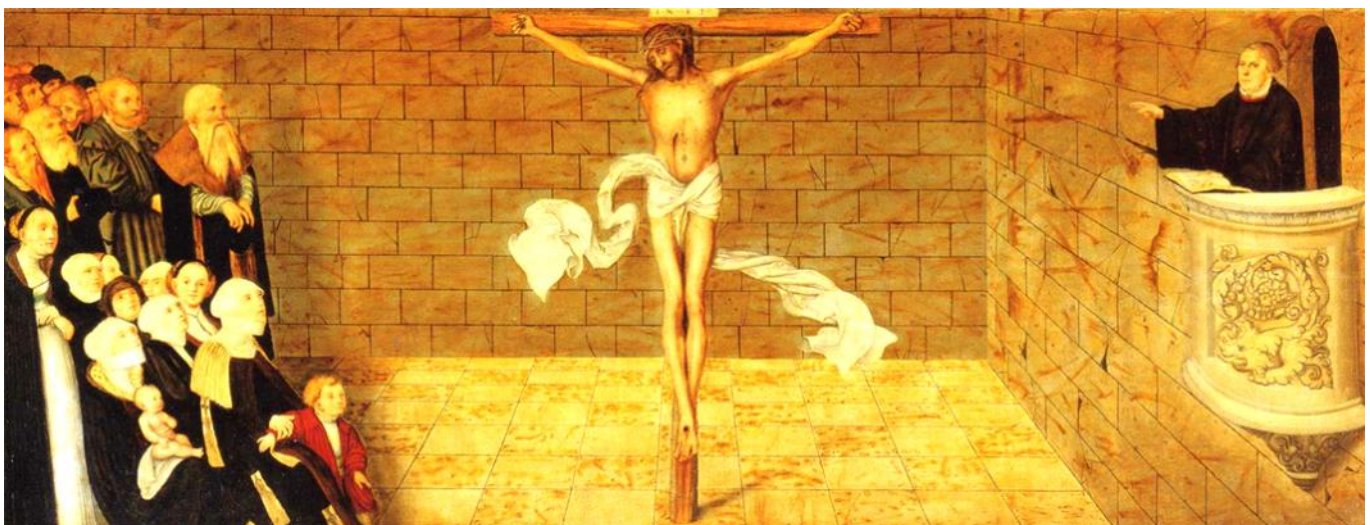


WEDNESDAYS AT GRACE

9:30 am Matins
10 am Bible Study

For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, "The righteous shall live by faith."

—Romans 1:16-17



THE DAILY READINGS

“God’s Word is the treasure that makes everything holy. By it all the saints have themselves been made holy. At whatever time God’s Word is taught, preached, heard, read, or pondered, there the person, the day, and the work is hallowed, not on account of the external work but on account of the Word that makes us all saints.”

—Martin Luther, The Large Catechism, 91-92

Sunday, October 1st	Psalm 130	Deut. 2:16-37	Matt. 6:16-34
Monday, October 2nd	Psalm 3	Deut. 3:1-29	Matt. 7:1-12
Tuesday, October 3rd	Psalm 119:9-16	Deut. 4:1-20	Matt. 7:13-29
Wednesday, October 4th	Psalm 80:1-7	Deut. 4:21-40	Matt. 8:1-17
Thursday, October 5th	Psalm 86:1-10	Deut. 5:1-21	Matt. 8:18-34
Friday, October 6th	Psalm 91:9-16	Deut. 5:22-6:9	Matt. 9:1-17
Saturday, November 7th	Psalm 121	Deut. 6:10-25	Matt. 9:18-38
Sunday, October 8th	Psalm 126	Deut. 7:1-19	Matt. 10:1-23
Monday, October 9th	Psalm 103:1-10	Deut. 8:1-20	Matt. 10:24-42
Tuesday, October 10th	Psalm 106:1-12	Deut. 9:1-22	Matt. 11:1-19
Wednesday, October 11th	Psalm 23	Deut. 9:23-10:22	Matt. 11:20-30
Thursday, October 12th	Psalm 119:97-104	Deut. 11:1-25	Matt. 12:1-21
Friday, October 13th	Psalm 111	Deut. 11:26-12:12	Matt. 12:22-37
Saturday, October 14th	Psalm 114	Deut. 12:13-32	Matt. 12:38-50
Sunday, October 15th	Psalm 119:33-40	Deut. 13:1-18	Matt. 13:1-23
Monday, October 16th	Psalm 37:3-11	Deut. 14:1-2, 22-23; 14:28-15:15	Matt. 13:24-43
Tuesday, October 17th	Psalm 39:4-7, 12-13	Deut. 15:19-16:22	Matt. 13:44-58
Wednesday, October 18th	Psalm 75	Deut. 17:1-20	Matt. 14:1-21
Thursday, October 19th	Psalm 80:14-19	Deut. 18:1-22	Matt. 14:22-36
Friday, October 20th	Psalm 138	Deut. 19:1-20	Matt. 15:1-20
Saturday, October 21st	Psalm 142	Deut. 20:1-20	Matt. 15:21-39
Sunday, October 22nd	Psalm 62	Deut. 21:1-23	Matt. 16:1-12
Monday, October 23rd	Psalm 107:10-16	Deut. 24:10-25:10	Matt. 16:13-28
Tuesday, October 24th	Psalm 99	Deut. 25:17-26:19	Matt. 17:1-13
Wednesday, October 25th	Psalm 93	Deut. 27:1-26	Matt. 17:14-27
Thursday, October 26th	Psalm 12	Deut. 28:1-22	Matt. 18:1-20
Friday, October 27th	Psalm 20	Deut. 29:1-29	Matt. 18:21-35
Saturday, October 28th	Psalm 127	Deut. 30:1-20	Matt. 19:1-15
Sunday, October 29th	Psalm 56	Deut. 31:1-29	Matt. 19:16-30
Monday, October 30th	Psalm 90:7-17	Deut. 31:30-32:27	Matt. 20:1-16
Tuesday, October 31st	Psalm 46	Deut. 32:28-52	Matt. 20:17-34



**Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
Parish Planning Meeting September 19, 2023**

Attendance: Pastor Haller, Aaron Reinbold, Joanne Reinbold, Steve Reinbold, Leslie Reinbold and Mary Masker.

Aaron Reinbold called the meeting to order. Pastor Haller opened with a reading and devotion from Matthew 18 and closed devotion with prayer.

Review of July Voter's Meeting minutes. Motion to accept the minutes by Joanne Reinbold and 2nd by Leslie Reinbold. Motion carried and approved.

Treasurer's Report ~ Mary Masker

- Balances as of end of August, checking account balance at \$33,379.83.
- \$320 collected this quarter for our special mission, the Bethesda group home in Frankenmuth. One more Sunday in this quarter for collections. St. Lorenz has special committee working to keep the homes open and Wellspring is now working with them as well.

Church Properties ~ No Report

Elders ~ Steve Reinbold

- First men's Saturday morning bible study and breakfast had 9 men in attendance. Next meeting will be on October 21st.
- Christi Diener has transferred into Grace's membership and the Bender family is in process of transferring in.
- Still working with a few delinquents, but with not much success.
- Lutheran school tuition assistance forms were turned in and tuition paid to Trinity Lutheran School.
- Had a good turnout and new banners for the Bean Festival parade.
- Lining up Pastors for return visits to preach during our Anniversary year in 2024: Pastor Johnson in April, Pastor Astrowski in May, Pastor Bickel in July and Pastor Petersen in October. Pastor Will Weedon will be preaching the Anniversary service on November 10th.
- Elders had flowers once in September and will again in October.
- Next meeting will be on October 3rd. Reviewing the budget for 2024 is on the agenda.

Evangelism and Mercy ~ Leslie Reinbold

- Parade banners were expensed to Evangelism, but will be transferred to Elders budget under worship supplies.
- The Advertiser yearly bill was received and turned in for payment.
- Decided that we may want to hold off on next church directory until after the church anniversary to be able to include pictures throughout the year of the anniversary festivities.
- Planning a family game night on Friday night, January 26th with a back-up date of February 2nd. Will plan on possible free will offering for popcorn and hot cocoa and maybe making dry soup mixes for sale with proceeds going to the clothing drive. Always taking donations for school supplies and clothing throughout the year for the clothing drive.
- Budget to be determined.

Ladies Aid ~

- Ladies Aid will supply desserts for 75th Anniversary dinner if needed.
- Ladies Aid will serve the first Advent dinner.

Stewardship ~ Joanne Reinbold

- Coffee money for October and December will go to the Good Samaritan Fund, benefitting the Akron-Fairgrove Ministerial Fund. November coffee collections will go to our seminary student. Pastor Haller suggested supporting Ian Habicht again during his 2nd year and Nathan Bublitz, now attending seminary in St. Louis. Stewardship board to determine if we can support both.
- October Mission envelope designated to Luther Classical College. November Anniversary envelope goes in the Building Fund. Thanksgiving goes to Bethesda home in Frankenmuth. Lessons in Carols service collection proceeds go to Wellspring Lutheran Child & Family Services. Christmas Eve candlelight service and Christmas Day collections stay here for Grace General Fund. New Year's Eve collection will go to POBLO.
- Our 4th quarter special missions collection will be going to Special Friends Camp. There will be information in the next newsletter about this program.
- Joanna Johnson graduated from her Deaconess program, so for 2024 Special Missions Epiphany collection, the proceeds will now be going to Orphan Grain Train.
- Stewardship budget will probably stay the same with the exception of adding a line item for a purchase of favors for the 75th Anniversary party for our members and those in attendance.

Fellowship ~ via Tracey Reinbold

- Special treats served for Sunday School Kick-Off.
- Having Chicken BBQ this upcoming Sunday at the new Haller residence. We have 64 signed up. Harvest Dinner is being planned for October 29th.

Young People's Work ~ via Tracey Reinbold

- Everyone had a great time at Higher Things. Really enjoyed the breakouts and making new friends.
- 1st Sunday in October will be holding a 2024 Higher Things meeting.
- Planning fundraisers and activities for next year. Our Junior gathering was cancelled and trying to see if we can work out a date to reschedule.

Pastor's Report

- Christian Training: Jr High Catechesis has 6 catechumens. High School has 5 catechumens.
- Wednesday Bible Study is in The Book of Romans and Sunday Bible Class is in The Book of Acts.
- 1st Men's Bible Study and breakfast group met this past Saturday and will meet on the 3rd Saturday of every month.
- The next Holy Conversations class will be held November 11th and 12th with Dr. Bob Bennett from the Luther Academy. He teaches on Spiritual Warfare.
- We have 8 teachers to rotate with the 5 "Youngers" class and Dan and Tracey Reinbold will still teach the 7 "older" children for our Sunday School classes. Beginning study in Genesis and choir with Mrs. Haller. The children will be singing the last Sunday in October.
- Pastor Haller and Hannah have vacation planned for October 5th – 9th. Pastor Wenskay will be preaching that Sunday morning.

Old Business

- Kitchen Remodel ~ 3 people on the committee: Tracey Reinbold, a member of Ladies Aid and a member of the Church Properties board. Tracey will be trying to meet with the contractor that helped with Good Shepherd's kitchen remodel.
- Church Anniversary ~ Planning in the works.

New Business

- Would like to move the Library into the Fellowship once painting is done for more visibility. Then the library room will be converted into a nursery.

Voter's meeting on October 8th. Next Parish Planning meeting on Tuesday, December 20th at 7pm.
Motion to adjourn made by Steve Reinbold, 2nd by Leslie Reinbold. Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Minutes respectfully submitted,
Mary Masker
Secretary/Treasurer

OCTOBER 2023

Church Office: (989) 693-6322 Pastor Haller's cell phone: (248) 794-3703

Executive Director: Aaron Reinbold (989) 233-5105

Elders of the Month: Aaron Reinbold (989) 233-5105 & Steven Reinbold (989) 233-5097

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 <i>The Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity</i> 9:15 am Divine Service 10:45 am Sunday School & Bible Study	2	3 7 pm Elders	4 9:30 am Matins 10 am Bible Study	5 <i>Pastor on vacation</i> 10 am Ladies Aid	6 <i>Pastor on vacation</i>	7 <i>Pastor on vacation</i>
8 <i>The Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity</i> 9:15 am Matins 10:15 am Sunday School Voters Meeting	9 <i>Pastor on vacation</i>	10 9 am Quilting Bee 7 pm Properties	11 9:30 am Matins 10 am Bible Study 7 pm Catechesis	12	13 Pastor's Day Off	14
15 <i>The Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity</i> 9:15 am Divine Service 10:45 am Sunday School & Bible Study 6 to 8 pm H.S. Catechesis	16	17	18 9:30 am Matins 10 am Bible Study 7 pm Catechesis	19	20 Pastor's Day Off	21 7:30 am Men's Study
22 <i>The Twentieth Sunday after Trinity</i> 9:15 am Divine Service 10:45 am Sunday School & Bible Study	23	24 9 am Quilting Bee	25 9:30 am Matins 10 am Bible Study 7 pm Catechesis	26	27 Pastor's Day Off	28
29 <i>The Festival of the Reformation</i> 9:15 am Divine Service 10:45 am Sunday School & Bible Study 5:30 pm Harvest Dinner	30	31				

Serving Our Lord in the Month of October

Elders for October

Aaron Reinbold & Steven Reinbold

Ladies Aid for October

Jean Trisch & Joanne Reinbold

Sunday, October 1, 2023

Refreshments: Laura Starkey, Bev Voss, Cindy Voss

Propers Choir: Alberta Reinbold & Daniel Reinbold

Acolyte: Winston Reinbold

Bible Study Babysitter: Alberta Reinbold

Youngers' Sunday School Teacher: Steve Reinbold

Sunday, October 8, 2023

Refreshments: Helene Weber, Chelsea Worden, Ashley Bublitz

Propers Choir: Joanne Hills, Mary Masker, Susan Pfund

Bible Study Babysitter: Jennifer Bender

Youngers' Sunday School Teacher: Chelsea Worden

Sunday, October 15, 2023

Refreshments: Sandy D'Addezio, Joyce Dickson, Ann Emery

Propers Choir: Hannah Haller, Hunter Reid, Sarah Reid

Acolyte: Noah Reinbold

Bible Study Babysitter: Chelsea Worden

Youngers' Sunday School Teacher: Jennifer Bender

Sunday, October 22, 2023

Refreshments: Sarah Hall, Hannah Haller, Renee Hecht

Propers Choir: Aaron Reinbold, Amelia Reinbold, Leslie Reinbold

Acolyte: Wayne Seeley

Bible Study Babysitter: Susan Pfund

Youngers' Sunday School Teacher: Stephen Bender

Sunday, October 29, 2023

Refreshments: Joanne Hills, Beth Hoppe, Pamela Ill

Propers Choir: Alberta Reinbold, Daniel Reinbold, Winston Reinbold

Acolyte: Erwin Reinbold

Bible Study Babysitter: Alberta Reinbold

Youngers' Sunday School Teacher: Susan Pfund

**If your name is not on the refreshment list and you would like to serve, please contact the church office.

**If you're not able to serve on a particular Sunday, please call someone to replace you.