

VACATION

Jesus said, "Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest."
—Matthew 11:28

God wants us to get some rest. He makes this clear from the very beginning when he himself rested on the seventh day after he created the whole world. He officially instituted a "day off" for his people Israel, called the Sabbath (literally meaning "to rest"), and commanded them not to work on the seventh day of the week. This day was to be kept holy, a day dedicated to the LORD their God. In so doing, God teaches us that it's good to take a break from our work and to find refreshment in him. We shouldn't be workaholics, who are slaving away all day and everyday, but we need to find time to rest both our bodies and souls.

Even Jesus himself would do this, as it's recorded for us in the Gospels. He would often go away on his own to a quiet place to rest and pray. The pressing crowds, constantly seeking from him a sign and hanging on his every word, were sometimes too much for him. Jesus needed a vacation.

This is why it's meet, right, and salutary that we can and should also go on vacation. It's good for us to take a break and get away, whether that be camping or renting a place on the beach, going out of state or heading up north. As many of you know, my wife and I always take a trip up to the U.P., as we plan to do so this month. I don't just do this because I enjoy it, but it's actually for your benefit that I have time to refresh myself and be better equipped to serve you. It is good for me to vacate for a while, as it is for you.

But it's never good to vacate from the Lord's house. We take vacations, have days off, and seek rest because too much work isn't good for us, a burden we can't bear. But the Divine Service should never be a burden for us. And yet that's how our sinful flesh treats it. Coming to church on a Sunday morning is a chore. It's boring. A pain. We'd be better off sleeping in and staying away, most especially during the summer months when it's so nice outside or we're out of town.

But there's no excuse for missing the Divine Service. Our entire lives, every week, should revolve around it. For this is where the Lord gives us true rest. This is our Sabbath. Through his Word and Sacraments, Christ Jesus refreshes us. He forgives us of our sins and rejuvenates our faith, giving us strength for the journey.

Week after week, your Lord invites you into his home to give you treasures from heaven, preparing you for the feast which will have no end. How could you possibly tell him, "No, I won't be there"? Whether you're in town or out of town, you should be in the Lord's house every single Sunday. If you're away on vacation, that's no excuse to take a vacation from church. Ask me, and I'll help you find an LCMS congregation to join that Sunday morning, so that you'll never miss out on the opportunity to receive the real vacation you need, which only Jesus can give.

In Christ,

Pastor Haller



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.

Built on the Rock LSB 645

N.F.S. Grundtvig's (1783-1872) hymn is based on our Lord's words from the Gospel of Matthew, when he said, "Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock. And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock" (Matthew 7:24-25).

The Church is built upon the Rock Jesus Christ, which is why "the gates of hell shall not prevail against it" (Matthew 16:18). The church building itself is not the dwelling place of God, but rather, he chooses to live with us in love, making our bodies a temple of the Holy Spirit. In the sanctuary, we see how God would "deign with us to dwell." The font, the altar, and the Scriptures give us "Christ yesterday, today, the same." The Word and the Sacraments are the means by which our Rock is present with us, his bride, the Church, causing us to stand even when the rains fall, the floods come, and the winds blow and beat against us.

Thus, we pray that, when our congregation's church bells ring on Sunday mornings at 9:15 am, "many in saving faith may come where Christ His message is bringing: 'I know my own; My own know Me. You, not the world, My face shall see. My peace I leave with you. Amen.'"

- 1 Built on the Rock the Church shall stand
 Even when steeples are falling.
 Crumbled have spires in ev'ry land;
 Bells still are chiming and calling,
 Calling the young and old to rest,
 But above all the souls distressed,
 Longing for rest everlasting.
- 2 Surely in temples made with hands
 God, the Most High, is not dwelling;
 High above earth His temple stands,
 All earthly temples excelling.
 Yet He who dwells in heav'n above
 Chooses to live with us in love,
 Making our bodies His temple.
- 3 We are God's house of living stones, Built for His own habitation. He through baptismal grace us owns Heirs of His wondrous salvation. Were we but two His name to tell, Yet He would deign with us to dwell With all His grace and His favor.
- 4 Here stands the font before our eyes, Telling how God has received us. The_altar recalls Christ's sacrifice And what His Supper here gives us. Here sound the Scriptures that proclaim Christ yesterday, today, the same, And evermore, our Redeemer.
- 5 Grant, then, O God, Your will be done,
 That, when the church bells are ringing,
 Many in saving faith may come
 Where Christ His message is bringing:
 "I know My own; My own know Me.
 You, not the world, My face shall see.
 My peace I leave with you. Amen."

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

- 5 Stephen & Jennifer Bender
- 23 Paul & Lisa Hodgkinson
- Gordon & Joanne Bigham
- John & Ruth Ann Kaijala
- 29 Larry & Diane Spencer

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Marge Montgomery
- 16 Daryl Winter
- 17 Harold Burnison Joann Van Every
- 19 Pastor Joshua Haller
- 23 Daniel Reinbold
- 30 Pamela Ill

August Divine Services (services with Holy Communion)

Sunday, August 4, 2024
The Tenth Sunday after Trinity
Luke 19:41-48

Sunday, August 11, 2024
The Eleventh Sunday after Trinity
Luke 18:9-14

Sunday, August 18, 2024
The Twelfth Sunday after Trinity
Mark 7:31-37

Sunday, August 25, 2024
The Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity
Luke 10:23-37

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

Private Confession and Absolution is available on Saturday, August 24th, from 9 to 10 am in the sanctuary or anytime by appointment.

NEXT VOTERS MEETING: SUNDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2024 @ 11 AM



Check out our website: www.gracefairgrove.org









www. thewordendures.org

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

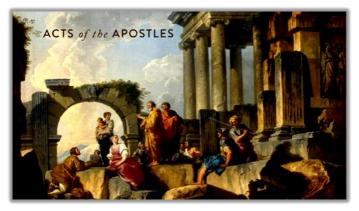
John & Ruth Ann Kaijala 6004 Gilford Rd. Fairgrove, MI 48733

Marge Montgomery

Holiday Winter Village 255 Mayer Rd Frankenmuth, MI 48734

CHRISTIAN TRAINING

SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY



SUNDAY SCHOOL

beginning September 8th



THE MEN'S STUDY

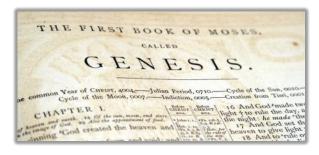
August 24th, 7:30 to 9 am breakfast + prayer + the Lutheran Confessions



WEDNESDAYS AT GRACE

9:30 am Matins

10 am Bible Study (beginning September 11th)



JUNIOR HIGH CATECHESIS

beginning Wednesday, August 28th parent meeting: Thursday, August 22nd at 7 pm

All children of our congregation are expected to study Luther's Small Catechism from the 5th through 8th grade. However, all children of any age are invited to attend, especially if they desire to receive the Lord's Supper. Please speak with Pastor Haller if you have any questions about catechesis or First Communion.

HIGH SCHOOL CATECHESIS

beginning Sunday, September 15th at Pastor Haller's house

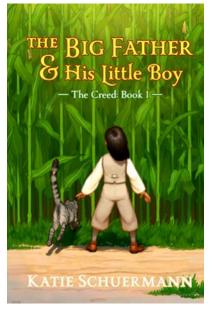
All young people of our congregation are expected to study Luther's Large Catechism from the 9th to 12th grade in preparation for the Rite of Confirmation. We meet once a month on a Sunday evening from 6 to 8 pm. Dinner is provided.

I must still read and study daily, and yet I cannot master it as I wish, but must remain a child and pupil of the Catechism, and am glad so to remain.

—Martin Luther



To check out any book from the church library, simply fill out the information needed on the clipboard hanging on the shelf.



THE BIG FATHER & HIS LITTLE BOY By Katie Schuermann

If you've been looking for an adventure story for your family, one steeped in Biblical allusion and shaped by the Lutheran confessions but also told in classic literary meter (think Pilgrim's Progress and The Chronicles of Narnia), this book is for you.

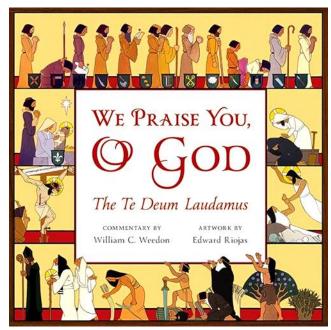
A little boy is born to a big father. The big father is mighty in power but weak in love, and the boy must flee for his life or die. But with the help of a singing milkmaid, a mute farmhand, a beekeeper's daughter, a stubborn dog, and a rather adventurous cat, the boy learns to trust in God the Father Almighty who is bigger and stronger and wiser than the only father he has known.

WE PRAISE YOU, O GOD by William Weedon & Edward Riojas

Delve into the Te Deum, one of the most majestic Christian hymns of all time. Sung during the Office at Matins and on occasions of great celebration, this creed of the church proclaims God's boundless love for His rebellious children.

Insightful commentary offers a rich exploration of the historical and theological significance of this hymn, while vivid illustrations chronicle the grace of God shining in the lives of the many saints who have gone before us. Encyclopedic entries provide additional information on the figures in these engaging pictures, ensuring an enjoyable learning experience for readers of all ages.

Adults and children will return to this book again and again, reflecting on God's wondrous mercy shown in Christ's life, death, and resurrection and joining the saints of all Christendom in this great hymn of praise.



The Riches of His Grace



Grace Lutheran Church - Fairgrove, MI Celebrating 75 years of God's faithfulness.

Sunday, November 10, 2024
Divine Service at 9:15 am
Meal at 11:30 am



To help celebrate our congregation's 75th anniversary this year, the Ladies' Aid is putting together a commemorative cookbook! Please submit your recipes to Hannah Haller by **September 1, 2024**. If you would like to include why you love the recipe, why it is special to you, or any other information, please include that with the recipe. The recipes may be submitted in any format (i.e. handwritten or typed).

ANNIVERSARY PREACHERS

In celebration of our 75th Anniversary, we have invited previous pastors to come and preach. After the Divine Service, we will have a potluck meal in which we can hear from the pastors, their experience here at Grace and an update on their lives since then. So far, we have welcomed back Pastors Astrowski (2004-2014) and Bickel (1982-1986). Pastor Petersen (1996-2000) will be with us on Sunday, October 20th.

A HOLY CONVERSATION

Saturday, November 9th 9:30 am to 1:30 pm

THE SPEAKER: William Weedon has served as a parish pastor for 26 years. He is currently an assistant pastor of St. Paul Lutheran Church, Hamel IL. Weedon served as Director of Worship and Chaplain for the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod from 2012-2019. He is the author of the books *Celebrating the Saints*, *Thank, Praise, Serve and Obey* and *See My Savior's Hands*. Pastor Weedon holds a Master of Divinity and a Master of Sacred Theology degree from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis. He and his wife Cindi stay busy trying to keep up with their eleven grandchildren.



—STEWARDSHIP—

<u>August Coffee Money</u> Seminary Student

The Stewardship Board's quarterly mission for July through September will be to Luther Classical College. This future college will provide a conservative, classical Lutheran education to Lutheran students. Paramount will be the promotion of Christian culture, a stress on the priority of Christian marriage, family, and piety, and a cultivation of confessional Lutheran theology, liturgy, hymnody, and identity. With courses using the "great books" of the past for the core curriculum, the college will offer Latin, history, theology, literature, logic, rhetoric, music, geometry, biology, and mathematics, all within a purposefully Christian and Lutheran framework. This college will receive no government funding but relies on the generosity of congregations and individuals. To learn more about the school, visit their website at lutherclassical.org.

For those willing to support, specific envelopes can be found on the back table of the narthex.



—Evangelism & Mercy—

BEAN FESTIVAL PARADE FLOAT

Monday, September 2nd, 11 am

in need of volunteers to help decorate the float in need of volunteers to walk in the parade

speak to Leslie Reinbold, director of Evangelism & Mercy



-YOUNG PEOPLE-



SUMMER CHURCH NIGHT

Wednesday, August 7th 4 pm to 8 pm

preschool through 5th grade

Evening Prayer at 7:30 pm (all are invited)

Bible Lesson
Outside Activities
Arts & Crafts
Dinner
Music

sign up on the fellowship hall bulletin board or call the church office (989) 693-6322

—FELLOWSHIP—

CHURCH BBQ

SAVE THE DATE!

Sunday, September 22nd at Pastor Haller's house

THE DAILY READINGS FOR AUGUST

"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

			·
August 1st	Psalm 70	1 Sam. 17:1-19	Acts 26:1-23
August 2nd	Psalm 71:1-8	1 Sam. 17:20-47	Acts 26:24-27:8
August 3rd	Psalm 68:4-10	1 Sam. 17:48-18:9	Acts 27:9-26
August 4th	Psalm 56:1-4	1 Sam. 18:10-30	Acts 27:27-44
August 5th	Psalm 21:1-7	1 Sam. 19:1-24	Acts 28:1-15
August 6th	Psalm 92:1-9	1 Sam. 20:1-23	Acts 28:16-31
August 7th	Psalm 144:3-10	1 Sam. 20:24-42	1 Cor. 1:1-25
August 8th	Psalm 62:1-7	1 Sam. 24:1-22	1 Cor. 1:26-2:16
August 9th	Psalm 94:8-15	1 Samuel 25:1-22	1 Cor. 3:1-23
August 10th	Psalm 14	1 Sam. 25:23-44	1 Cor. 4:1-21
August 11th	Psalm 51:10-13	1 Sam. 26:1-25	1 Cor. 5:1-13
August 12th	Psalm 99:1-5	1 Sam. 28:3-25	1 Cor. 6:1-20
August 13th	Psalm 68:1-6	1 Sam. 31:1-13	1 Cor. 7:1-24
August 14th	Psalm 33:13-21	2 Sam. 1:1-27	1 Cor. 7:25-40
August 15th	Psalm 132:11-18	2 Sam. 5:1-25	1 Cor. 8:1-13
August 16th	Psalm 11	2 Samuel 6:1-19	1 Cor. 9:1-23
August 17th	Psalm 24:1-6	2 Samuel 7:1-17	1 Cor. 9:24-10:22
August 18th	Psalm 107:1-9	2 Samuel 7:18-29	1 Cor. 10:23-11:16
August 19th	Psalm 12	2 Samuel 11:1-27	1 Cor. 11:17-34
August 20th	Psalm 51:1-8	2 Samuel 12:1-25	1 Cor. 12:1-13
August 21st	Psalm 139:13-24	1 Kings 1:1-4,15-35	1 Cor. 12:14-31
August 22nd	Psalm 97	1 Kings 2:1-27	1 Cor. 13:1-13
August 23rd	Psalm 111:1-10	1 Kings 3:1-15	2 Cor. 1:1-22
August 24th	Psalm 27:1-11	1 Kings 5:1-18	2 Cor. 1:23-2:17
August 25th	Psalm 32:1-7	1 Kings 7:51-8:21	2 Cor. 3:1-18
August 26th	Psalm 36:7-12	1 Kings 8:22-30,46-63	2 Cor. 4:1-18
August 27th	Psalm 72:1-7	1 Kings 9:1-9; 10:1-13	2 Cor. 5:1-21
August 28th	Psalm 48:1-8	1 Kings 11:1-26	2 Cor. 6:1-18
August 29th	Psalm 17:6-14	1 Kings 11:42-12:19	2 Cor. 7:1-16
August 30th	Psalm 29:10-11	1 Kings 12:20-13:5, 33-34	2 Cor. 8:1-24
August 31st	Psalm 68:15-20	1 Kings 16:29-17:24	2 Cor. 9:1-15



VOTER'S MEETING

July 14, 2024

Aaron Reinbold opened the meeting and Pastor Haller began with a devotion and prayer.

SECRETARY'S REPORT ~ Mary Masker

- Roll call was taken with 29 present and 3 excused.
- Minutes reviewed from April 14th voter's meeting. Motion to accept minutes by Steve Reinbold and 2nd by Tom Reid. Motion carried and approved to accept the meeting minutes.

TREASURER'S REPORT ~ Mary Masker

- Checking account balance as of June 30, 2024 was \$13,110.60. Only four designated mission funds with balances to pay out.
- Will be working on transferring data into the online Microsoft program.
- Boards will need to prepare budgets and give to Mary before the next parish planning meeting.

CHURCH PROPERTIES ~ Tom Reid

- Need to repair the cordless microphone.
- Still getting quotes for the front church sign replacement.

ELDERS ~ Steve Reinbold

- Elders still contacting small number of delinquent members and sending letters.
- Pastor Astrowski visited/preached on May 26th. His lodging was paid by one of our members. Pastor Bickel visited/preached on July 7th. Both visits were followed by potluck dinners and fellowship.
- Travel details have been made for Pastor Weedon, paying for his flight and rental car to visit and preach for the Anniversary service.
- Banner was placed out in front of the church in June for celebration of marriage month.
- Tuition assistance forms are available in the Narthex and may be completed and returned to any elders.

EVANGELISM AND MERCY ~ **Leslie Reinbold**

- Clothing and school supplies give away is set for Saturday, July 20th from 9am 4pm. Setting up throughout the week and anyone is welcome to volunteer to help.
- Will be working on the float for the Bean Festival starting the 2nd week of August at Dan and Tracey Reinbold's. Still looking for a trailer.
- Last day for church t-shirt orders and payments is Sunday, July 21st.
- Planning a Family Game Night on the 5th Friday in January.

LADIES AID ~ **Diane Spencer**

• Still taking favorite recipes to publish in a church cookbook. Recipes may be given to Hannah Haller.

STEWARDSHIP ~ **Joanne Hills**

- July and September coffee money will be going to Worship Anew, with August coffee money going to our seminary students. September Education Sunday envelope will go to Luther Classical College.
- Stewardship's 3rd quarter special collection from July through September is Luther Classical College.
- Mary Masker requesting board budgets be prepared by the next parish planning meeting on 9/17.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S WORK ~ Tracey Reinbold

• VBS evening for 3yrs old to 5th grade planned for August 7th from 4pm – 8pm. Activities, music, dinner concluding with an evening service at 7:30pm for all members. High school youth will be assisting with the evening activities.

FELLOWSHIP ~ Tracey Reinbold

- Special treats served for Mother's and Father's Day and end of the school year with strawberry shortcake, pies and sundaes on a Sunday.
- Good turnouts for the potlucks after services with Pastor Astrowski and Pastor Bickel, and planning to have another potluck with Pastor Petersen.
- Planning a catered dinner after the Anniversary service on November 10th. We will not be having a Harvest Dinner this year as the date falls so close to the Anniversary dinner.
- The yearly church BBQ is being planned for September 22nd.

PASTOR'S REPORT

- Aaron Reinbold started off with recognizing Pastor Haller for his nine years with us at Grace and many thanks for his service to this congregation. Hope to have many more.
- In Catechesis this year we have three candidates preparing for 1st Communion.
- We have 6 Jr. Catechumens from 5th to 7th grades and also 6 Sr. catechumens. The Sr. class will meet at the Hallers again this year once a month.
- Wednesday bible class just completed their study in Romans and starting Ruth. There will be a break from Wednesday class from the last week in July through August.
- Pastor will still be holding Wednesday morning Matins service, but will announce when skipping weeks that he will be gone to conferences and vacation.
- Sunday bible class took the month of June to study the gifts of marriage and will be returning to their study in Act 15 next week, July 21st.
- Regular Sunday School is off until after Labor Day and will resume on September 8th. Pastor is looking at a new curriculum for the new year.
- Men's Saturday bible study will be held on the 4th Saturday for the months of July and August with private confession following the men's bible study.
- Pastor will be attending the Bugenhagen conference from July $29^{th} 31^{st}$.
- Pastor and Hannah will be on vacation August 12th 16th.

OLD BUSINESS

- Joanne Reinbold is working on organizing pictures from Grace's history. If anyone has any pictures they would like to share, please send them to Joanne.
- Pastor Starke has finished the hymn for our church anniversary and Chelsea Worden is working on the music for the hymn.
- The Anniversary dinner on November 10th will be held here at Grace. May check into having a banner made for the church with the 75th anniversary logo.
- Church directory will be planned for 2025 so that we may include pictures from the anniversary year.

NEW BUSINESS

• This is an election year. Per our constitution there should be a committee of six members with Pastor to gather names for our boards and present at the October voter's meeting. Dan Reinbold motioned with a 2nd from Leslie Reinbold to suspend the constitution's requirement of six people and lower it to four members along with Pastor. Motion carried and approved. Pastor Haller along with Aaron and Dan Reinbold has started the committee. We will need two additional members to join.

Next Parish Planning meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 17th at 7pm. Nest Voter's meeting will be held October 13th at 11am after church and fellowship. Motion to adjourn made by Dan Reinbold and 2nd by Diane Spencer. Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer and singing of the Doxology.

Minutes respectfully submitted, Mary Masker, Secretary/Treasurer

AUGUST 2024

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

Executive Director: Aaron Reinbold (989) 233-5105

Elders of the Month: Thomas Reid (989) 225-8315 & Joseph Bublitz (989) 528-9120

					`	
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
					Pastor's Day Off	
4	2	9	7	8	6	10
The Tenth Sunday after Trinity			9:30 am Matins		Pastor's Day Off	
9:15 am Divine Service 11 am Bible Study						
,		7 pm Elders	4 to 8 pm Summer Church Night			
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
The Eleventh Sunday			PASTOR HALLER ON VACATION	ON VACATION		
מונבן ווווונא		9 am Quilters				
9:15 am Divine Service 11 am Bible Study						
		7 pm Properties				
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
The Twelfth Sunday after Trinity			9:30 am Matins		Pastor's Day Off	7:30 am Men's Study 9 to 10 am
9:15 am Divine Service						Private Confession
				7 pm Catechesis Parents Meeting		
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
The Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity		9 am Quilters	9:30 am Matins		Pastor's Day Off	
9:15 am Divine Service 11 am Bible Study						
			7 pm Catechesis			

Serving Our Lord in the Month of August

Elders for August

Thomas Reid & Joseph Bublitz

Ladies Aid for August

Joanne Bigham & Joanne Reinbold

Sunday, August 4, 2024

Refreshments: Joanne Reinbold, Leslie Reinbold, Tracey Reinbold

Propers Choir: Joanne Hills, Mary Masker, Susan Pfund

Acolyte: Noah Reinbold

Bible Study Babysitter: Gabriella Reinbold

Sunday, August 11, 2024

Refreshments: Diane Spencer, Laura Starkey, Bev Voss Propers Choir: Hannah Haller, Hunter Reid, Sarah Reid

Acolyte: Winston Reinbold

Bible Study Babysitter: Alberta Reinbold

Sunday, August 18, 2024

Refreshments: Cindy Voss, Helene Weber, Jennifer Bender

Propers Choir: Aaron Reinbold, Amelia Reinbold, Leslie Reinbold

Acolyte: Erwin Reinbold

Bible Study Babysitter: Jennifer Bender

Sunday, August 25, 2024

Refreshments: Ashley Bublitz, Sandy D'Addezio, Joyce Dickson

Propers Choir: Alberta Reinbold, Daniel Reinbold, Gabriella Reinbold, Winston Reinbold

Acolyte: Brandt LaPouttre

Bible Study Babysitter: Hannah Haller

^{**}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.