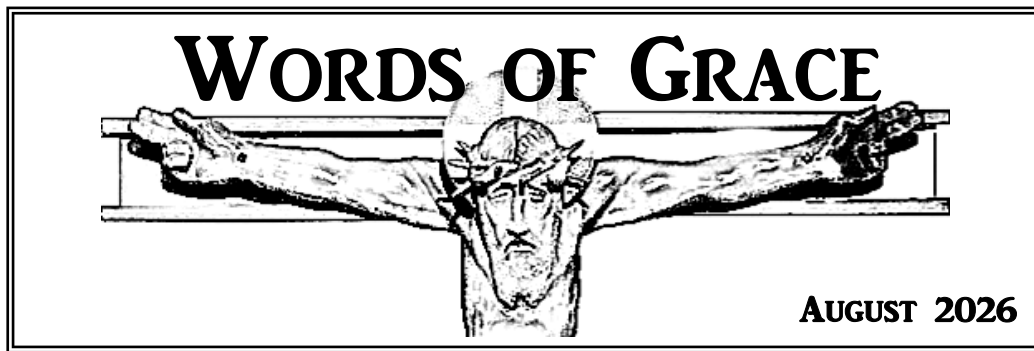




LIFE TOGETHER

For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them.

—Matthew 18:20

As sinners, we are in desperate need of God's grace. Without it, we are left empty-handed and stuck in our sin. This is a situation we can't climb out of or improve, for we are by nature dead in our trespasses and sins. But God is gracious, that is, he gives freely to sinners. He forgives them, strengthens and keeps them, until they are with him forever at the resurrection. God gives us his grace in more than one way. Martin Luther writes:

God is extravagantly rich in his grace: first, through the spoken word, in which the forgiveness of sins is preached to the whole world; second, through baptism, third, through the holy Sacrament of the Altar; fourth, through the power of the keys and also through the mutual conversation and consolation of the brethren.

The grace of God earned by his Son on the cross and from the grave is now hand-delivered to us that we might receive it and have it as our very own, first, through the Word and then through the sacraments (Baptism, the Lord's Supper, and Confession). But the last item on Luther's list seems a bit strange and out of place: "the mutual conversation and consolation of the brethren." This means that our simple conversations 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 necessary for us, as the body of Christ, to be with one another, to talk with, forgive, and encourage one another. This means that we need to spend more time with one another, instead of sneaking out the back door quick after church. For we are a family. You matter to me, and I matter to you. We need one another, because solitude is the place where the devil does his best work. When we are left alone to fend for ourselves, we will lose more times than not to this world and our sinful flesh. Martin Luther writes this on the matter:

Everything is less burdensome if you have a brother with you; for then the promise applies (Matt. 18:20): "Where two or three are gathered in My name, there am I in the midst of them." Therefore solitude should be shunned and the companionship of familiar people sought, especially in spiritual perils.

We do not fully realize the negative impact we have when we do not attend the Divine Service on a regular basis. We are missing out on being there for our brothers and sisters. Your absence matters, and it has a deep effect on the rest of us. You need to be there for yourself, to receive the forgiveness of sins in Word and Sacrament, but you also need to be there for others, to stand beside them, sing with them, and receive God's grace together with them, but also to converse with and console one another, as Christ does for us.

So, come to the fellowship time after the Divine Service and stay for Bible Study. Come to the church picnic next month and any other event our congregation has. Be with one another. Encourage one another. This is not only good for you but most especially for the brethren.

In Christ,

Pastor Haller



Every month, as a congregation, we will have a Bible verse to memorize, so that together the word of Christ may dwell richly in our hearts. Here is August's Bible verse:

**The heavens declare the glory of God,
and the sky above proclaims his handiwork
(Psalm 19:1).**

CATECHESIS

Catechesis (pronounced ka · tuh · kee · suhs) comes from a Greek word that literally means to “echo down.” The Church has historically used the term to refer to oral instruction of the Christian faith. This is accomplished only and always through the Holy Scriptures. Such instruction doesn’t just inform but it transforms, and not just once but throughout a person’s life. Catechesis takes place from conversion to death, as God’s Word not only brings a sinner to faith but also sustains him in the faith. Catechesis begins in the Divine Service, and from there, it continues in Bible Study, at home in family devotions, and also in formal catechesis offered to our children.

For the past ten years, we have offered such formal catechesis from the fifth to the eighth grade using Luther’s Small Catechism. For about five years, we expanded that into high school, where Luther’s Large Catechism is studied. And beginning this September, we will offer catechesis to some of our youngest members, which will be called “Little Lambs Catechesis.” Such a class will allow our children to begin memorizing the Small Catechism in preparation for Junior High Catechesis. This group will meet nine times this year and is available for those in the fourth grade and under. Parents will decide if this is something that their child can handle and at what age he should start. If any of our families desire to have their children move up to Junior High Catechesis before the fifth grade, they are free to do so, just as long as they are prepared to complete all of the normal work that is expected of those from the fifth to the eighth grade. Pastor Haller can help you decide that.

Adding Little Lambs Catechesis will mean that we offer formal catechesis to our children from as young as preschool through high school, giving them a solid foundation on which to build for the rest of their lives. May God continue to bless our children, as we “bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord” (Ephesians 6:4).

Little Lambs Catechesis	preschool through 4th grade
Junior High Catechesis	5th through 8th grade
High School Catechesis	9th through 12th grade

Some notes on the Divine Service . . .

Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise! (Psalm 100:4).

Everything we do in the Divine Service is focused upon what God is doing in the Divine Service. We believe our Lord Jesus is truly with us in the church, speaking to us through his Word and feeding us with his body and blood. Therefore, how we conduct ourselves should always be a reflection of what we believe is actually taking place. With this in mind, one of the ways we can do this is when we choose to enter and exit the sanctuary. There are appropriate times to come and go, so as not to distract others or take away from what is going on in the Service.

Therefore, out of reverence for what the Lord is doing in his house, the elders on duty will ask those entering the sanctuary to do so when it is most appropriate, so that the congregation's attention is focused upon receiving God's gifts and responding in worthy praise.

Following the order of the Divine Service, here are times when it is best to enter or simply to wait in the narthex:

WHEN TO ENTER:

- Processional Hymn
- Introit, Kyrie, Gloria in Excelsis
- Hymn of the Day
- Offertory, Offering, Announcements
- Distribution Hymns
- Recessional Hymn

WHEN NOT TO ENTER BUT TO WAIT:

- Confession of Sins
- Collect of the Day, Readings, Nicene Creed
- Sermon
- Prayer of the Church, Preface, Sanctus, Lord's Prayer, Words of Our Lord, Agnus Dei
- Nunc Dimittis, Thanksgiving, Benedicamus, Benediction

PLEASE SIGN IN

Instead of using the fellowship pads in the pews, there will soon be a place for you to sign in at each entryway into the narthex. This will allow us to keep attendance, as well as give the elders on duty an accurate count for those who will be communing, as well as whether or not you will receive our Lord's blood from the chalice or an individual cup. Thank you for your cooperation!

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

16	Daryl Winter
17	Harold Burnison Joann Van Every
18	Julian Worden
19	Pastor Joshua Haller
23	Daniel Reinbold
30	Pamela Ill

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

5	Stephen & Jennifer Bender
26	Gordon & Joanne Bigham
27	John & Ruth Ann Kajjala
29	Larry & Diane Spencer

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

Don Carpenter

Tuscola County Medical Care Facility

1285 Cleaver Rd.

Caro MI 48723

John Kajjala

6004 Gilford Rd.

Fairgrove, MI 48733

Ruth Ann Kajjala

Heritage Hill Assisted Living

1430 Cleaver Rd

Caro, MI 48723

The Readings in August

Sunday, August 2, 2026

The Ninth Sunday after Trinity

2 Samuel 22:26-34

1 Corinthians 10:6-13

Luke 16:1-13

Sunday, August 9, 2026

The Tenth Sunday after Trinity

Jeremiah 7:1-11

1 Corinthians 12:2-11

Luke 19:41-48

Sunday, August 16, 2026

The Eleventh Sunday after Trinity

Genesis 4:1-15

1 Corinthians 15:1-10

Luke 18:9-14

Sunday, August 23, 2026

The Twelfth Sunday after Trinity

Isaiah 29:17-24

2 Corinthians 3:4-11

Mark 7:31-37

Sunday, August 30, 2026

The Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity

2 Chronicles 28:8-15

Galatians 3:15-22

Luke 10:23-37



**LUTHERAN
PUBLIC RADIO**

Sacred Music for the World

www.lutheranpublicradio.org



Issues, Etc.

Christ-Centered Cross-Focused Talk Radio

www.issuesetc.org



*The WORD of the LORD
ENDURES FOREVER*

www.thewordendures.org



Like us on Facebook 

Grace Lutheran Church—Fairgrove

Check out our website:

www.gracefairgrove.org



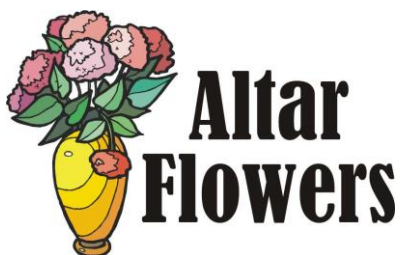
—STEWARDSHIP—

August Coffee Money
Seminary Student

The Special Mission from July to September will be to Family Promise of Tuscola County, an organization that helps homeless and low-income families achieve sustainable independence through a community-based response



For those willing to support, specific envelopes can be found on the display table in the fellowship hall.



In an effort to enhance the Divine Service, Ladies Aid has posted a flower chart for families or church boards wishing to participate. Please consider signing up to beautify the altar sometime this year.

Thank you to all those who purchased Easter flowers to adorn our altar!

BEAN FESTIVAL PARADE

Monday, September 7th at 11am

All are welcome to walk with our church's float.
Candy donations can be placed in the box underneath the fellowship hall coatrack.



—FELLOWSHIP—



On Sunday, September 13th, after the Divine Service, join your brothers and sisters in Christ at the Hallers' (4818 Slack Rd.).

Drinks and the main dish will be provided. Bring a side dish or dessert to share!

A HOLY CONVERSATION

Saturday, November 14th

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

Sunday, November 15th

Session 3 during Bible Study

THE SPEAKER: Rev. Dr. Korey Maas is Associate Professor and Chairman of the Department of History at Hillsdale College and an Assistant Pastor at St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Hillsdale, MI.



**NEXT VOTERS MEETING:
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2026 @ 11 AM**

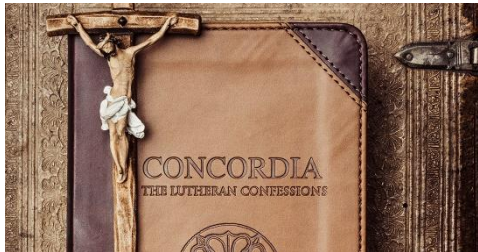
CHRISTIAN TRAINING

SUNDAY SCHOOL AND ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Sunday School for all ages will begin Sunday, September 20th. During August, there will still be Sunday School for the “youngsters” (preschool through 1st grade). The older children will join the adults in Bible Study.

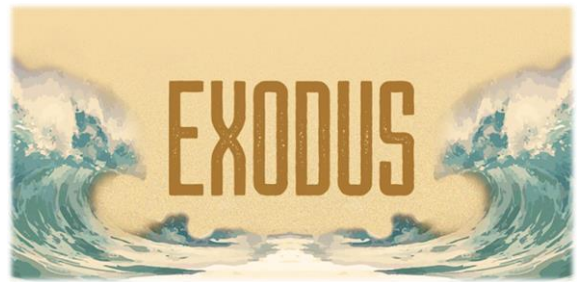
THE MEN’S STUDY

Saturday, September 12th, 7:30 to 9 am
breakfast + prayer + the Lutheran Confessions



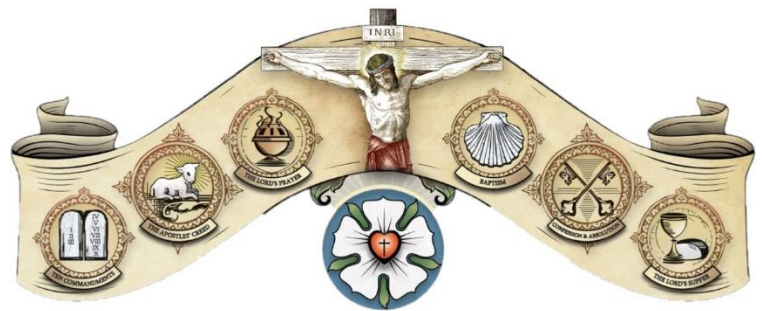
WEDNESDAYS AT GRACE

9:30 am Matins
10 am Bible Study



PRIVATE CONFESSION

Confession & Absolution is available Saturday, September 12th, from 9 to 10 am in the sanctuary or anytime by appointment. The rite can be found on page 292 in the hymnal.



LITTLE LAMBS CATECHESIS

Wednesday, September 16th at 6 pm
The First, Second, and Third Commandments

JUNIOR HIGH CATECHESIS

Wednesday, September 2nd at 7 pm
Introduction to the Catechism

HIGH SCHOOL CATECHESIS

Sunday, September 20th at 6 pm
First, Second, and Third Commandments

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH HOMESCHOOL CO-OP

beginning Thursday, August 27, 2026 at 9:15 am

For more information, speak with Jennifer Bender or Pastor Haller.

Grace Lutheran Homeschool Co-op is a society of Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church (LCMS) in Fairgrove, Michigan, dedicated to supporting and enriching the God-given vocation of Christian fathers and mothers to “bring [their children] up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord” (Ephesians 6:4).

A NOTE FROM OUR SEMINARY STUDENT

Dear Grace Lutheran Church,

Greetings in the name of our risen and reigning Lord Jesus Christ! May His grace and peace always be upon you!

Thank you for your continued financial and spiritual support! You have truly been a blessing to me and Rachel in many ways throughout my seminary education and this vicarage year, which is drawing to a close. It is hard to believe, but July 19th will be my last Sunday at Hanover Lutheran Church before we return to St. Louis to complete my final year of seminary.

There were so many learning opportunities and experiences this vicarage year that it is hard to recount them all, but ultimately I have come to realize that if you love God’s Word and the way He bestows His grace upon us (the sacraments), and then love and care for God’s people, the pastoral office is one of joy and blessings. I look forward to all the ways God will utilize me to care for His people, but am even more aware of the ways God has and will continue to bless me through His people, such as yourselves and members at my vicarage congregation. God’s blessings and peace!

In Christ,

Nathan & Rachel Bublit

new address:

5127 Romaine Spring Dr.
Fenton, MO 63026

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

Serving Our Lord in the Month of August

Elders

Stephen Bender & Joseph Bublitz

Ladies Aid

Jean Trisch & Joanne Reinbold

Sunday, August 2, 2026

Refreshments: Helene Weber, Chelsea Worden, Ashley Bublitz

Proprs Choir: Aidan Hanby, Charity Hanby, Jacob Hanby

Acolyte: Wayne Seeley

Bible Study Babysitter: Charity Hanby

Youngers' Sunday School Teacher: Laura Starkey

Sunday, August 9, 2026

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

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

Acolyte: Aidan Hanby

Bible Study Babysitter: Olivia Hargash & Isabella Reinbold

Youngers' Sunday School Teacher: Nicole Seeley

Sunday, August 16, 2026

Refreshments: Sarah Hall, Renee Hecht, Joanne Hills

Proprs Choir: Olivia Hargash, Aaron Reinbold, Amelia Reinbold, Noah Reinbold

Bible Study Babysitter: Amelia Reinbold

Youngers' Sunday School Teacher: Diane Spencer

Sunday, August 23, 2026

Refreshments: Beth Hoppe, Pamela Ill, Sarah Reid

Proprs Choir: Sandra D'Addezio, Sarah Hall, Joanne Hills, Mary Masker

Acolyte: Ward Hanby

Bible Study Babysitter: Hannah Haller

Youngers' Sunday School Teacher: Holly Winter

Sunday, August 30, 2026

Refreshments: Joanne Reinbold, Tracey Reinbold, Diane Spencer

Proprs Choir: Hannah Haller, Hunter Reid, Sarah Reid

Acolyte: Colman Hanby

Bible Study Babysitter: Chelsea Worden

Youngers' Sunday School Teacher: Laura Starkey

**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.

AUGUST 2026

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

Executive Director: Aaron Reinbold (989) 233-5105

Elders of the Month: Stephen Bender (989) 430-9910 & Joseph Bublitz (989) 528-9120

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 <i>The Ninth Sunday after Trinity</i> 9:15 am Divine Service 11 am Sunday School Bible Study	3	4	5 9:30 am Matins 10 am Bible Study 7 pm JH Catechesis Parents Meeting	6	7 - Pastor's day off -	8
9 <i>The Tenth Sunday after Trinity</i> 9:15 am Divine Service 11 am Sunday School Bible Study	10 - Pastor on vacation - 7:30 pm Properties	11 - Pastor on vacation - 9 am Quilters	12 - Pastor on vacation -	13 - Pastor on vacation -	14 - Pastor on vacation -	15 <i>St. Mary, Mother of Our Lord</i> - Pastor on vacation -
16 <i>The Eleventh Sunday after Trinity</i> 9:15 am Matins 10:30 am Sunday School Bible Study	17 - Pastor on vacation -	18 - Pastor on vacation -	19 - Pastor on vacation -	20 - Pastor on vacation -	21 - Pastor on vacation -	22
23 <i>The Twelfth Sunday after Trinity</i> 9:15 am Divine Service 11 am Sunday School Bible Study	24 <i>St. Bartholomew, Apostle</i>	25 9 am Quilters 7 pm Elders	26 9:30 am Matins 10 am Bible Study	27 9:15 am to 1 pm Homeschool Co-op	28 - Pastor's day off -	29 <i>The Martyrdom of St. John the Baptist</i>
30 <i>The Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity</i> 9:15 am Divine Service 11 am Sunday School Bible Study	31					