

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH



*Teach the Truth of the
Word for the Glory of God*

A Letter From The Pastor

BY DIRK JENSEN

Thursday mornings, a group of us men meet early in the morning for Bible study. While there are a few of us there who are Lutherans, this isn't an exclusively Lutheran group. You can imagine then that I was a bit surprised to hear a comment from someone who does not attend our church making a comment about a sermon I preached a couple of weeks ago. Some of you may remember it in regard to 2 Peter 1:16 talking about cleverly devised myths. This got me thinking about some of the cleverly devised myths of today. To be honest, the more I thought about it, the more disturbing it became because there are so many; in fact, I would even dare say they are everywhere, and we have become so accustomed to them we hardly even notice them. There is the obvious, like the theory of evolution; while we do see survival of the fittest, this is "microevolution," in which species adapt to environments. This is a far cry from macroevolution, where species change into new ones. On a daily basis, from the music we hear on the radio to the news on television, to advertisements, they are trying to sell you something: you are not good enough, you won't be happy, but if

you buy this thing, you will be happy. This has to be the most cleverly devised myth out there. Everything in this world is designed to make you a consumer, a cleverly devised myth, dressed up as "you are not happy but if you buy our product you will be," but will you really be happy?

A free gift, on the other hand, is just that: a free gift, given to you without anything you did to deserve it, for that would be wages. No, an absolutely free gift comes with no strings attached; it is not trying to sell you anything but just gives. This is what the Christian message is; too often we try to sell Christianity, we try to get people to church; this is not what we are called to do; this is not what Christianity is about. 2 Corinthians 5:20 says that we are called to be ambassadors of grace; we are called to give this free gift to others, to share in this good news, and to give what we have been given, freedom in Christ. Through his work on the cross, he has reconciled us, made us his—not by works that we have done but simply because he loves us—loves us to the point of suffering, dying, and then rising again, making us clean, washing away our sins, and setting us free.

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On March 26th, we will have a Thank You Celebration to recognize the many years that Tony Hopp has worked at the church as our Financial Secretary. Please join us following the worship service for cake and coffee, to recognize Tony and let him know how much his work and time have been appreciated.



"Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain."

1 CORINTHIANS 15:58

WEEKLY BIBLE STUDIES

Tuesday's
with Gary Nathan
7:00 - 8:00 AM

Wednesday's
with Danielle Wheeler
8:30 - 10:00 AM

Thursday's
Disciple's Bible Study
9:30 - 10:30 AM

ACT NOW! DIRECT YOUR THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS BEFORE 3/31/2023!

If you are a Thrivent member and are eligible for the Thrivent Choice program, any dollars accumulated under your name in 2022 must be directed by 3/31/2023 or they will expire.

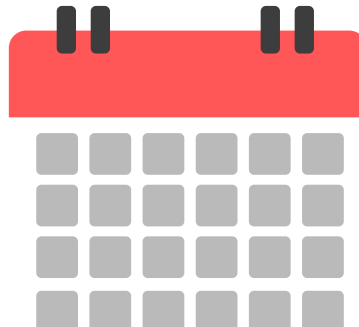
Grace Lutheran has received over \$40,000 from this program since its inception in 2011! Sadly, hundreds of thousands of dollars in the program go unclaimed every year, as members may not be aware of the program, think it may be difficult to access, or don't have internet access at home.

Eligibility for the program is based upon owning specific types of assets with Thrivent, to include cash-value life insurance, annuities, Medicare supplements or certain proprietary long-term care insurance.

To direct your Choice Dollars, call 1-800-847-4836. Say "Thrivent Choice" at the prompt, then press "1." You will be connected with a staff member who can assist you in determining if you are eligible or if you have dollars accumulated under your name. Have your membership number or a contract number handy.

For help or more information,
contact Joey Falch at 715-462-4055

Church Calendar



Volunteer Schedule

MARCH 2023

GREETERS:

5TH: SHERM & MARIILYN
GOEHRING
12TH: PAT & PATSY BATESON
19TH: KATHY BERGUM & CAROL
MITTLESDORF

26TH: TONY & MILLIE HOPP

USHERS:

5TH: GARY & PHYLLIS HENNEN
12TH: BILL MESTELLE & BILL
SCHLEUSNER
19TH: GARY GUSTAFSON & 1
NEEDED

26TH: DAVE WIEK & 1 NEEDED

READER:

5TH: TANYA AMYS
12TH: SHARON TURNBULL
19TH: DIANE CASSADAY
26TH: LYNN SYVERSON

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS:

5TH: JACKIE STRAND, DJ ADERMAN
& JEAN LUTZ

12TH: SHARON TURNBULL, CAROL
HEISLER & GINNY DENMAN

19TH: SHARON TURNBULL & 2
NEEDED

26TH: KALEB JENSEN, PHYLLIS
HENNEN & JACKIE STRAND

ALTAR GUILD

5TH: KARI ADERMAN
12TH: DIANE CASSADAY
19TH: DARLENE DENNIS
26TH: KAREN WILLIAMSON

FELLOWSHIP & TREATS:

5TH: KAREN GUSTAFSON & BERIT
BOETTCHER
12TH: DONNA YACKEL & MARY
NILSSEN
19TH: SHARON WIEK
26TH: CINDY THORESON & PATTY
TARRAS

Mission Outreach

Our January giving disbursements were paid out in February to the following:

- | | |
|--|----------------------|
| 1. New Life Resource Center | \$280 |
| 2. Northwoods Community Food Shelf | \$200 (for forklift) |
| 3. Northwest Connection Family Resources | \$250 |
| 4. New Reflections Pathway to Hope | \$250 |
| 5. Greater Hayward House of Hope | \$250 |
| 6. St. Paul Lutheran Seminary | \$200 |
| 7. Meals On Wheels | \$250 |
| 8. VCY America Christian Radio | \$200 |

****Mission Outreach meets the 2nd Tuesday of every month.****

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

G.L.O.W.
(Grace Lutheran On
Wednesdays)

All children 4 years-5th
grade are invited to learn
about God's love. They meet
weekly, during the school
year, from 3:40-5:00pm.

Confirmation

Confirmation classes are
held on Wednesday
afternoons for kids in 6th-
8th grades.

Vacation Bible School

The first week of August, all
GLOW age children are
invited to participate in a
week long adventure,
learning about God. Please
check our website for
details on upcoming dates &
times.

www.gracelutheran-hayward.org

Health Concerns:

Carol Mittlesdorf, Bill Schleusner, Lois Lund, Skinny Roehl, Jim Thoreson, Cheryl (Turnbull) Hills, Rosie Anderson, Jim Ahrens, Marilyn Goehring, Christine, Sharron Probyn, Jodi Waggoner, Bev Overmyer, Mary Ann Sebek, Ryan Sebek, Don Milne, Dee Dee Goodnow, Norma Enerson, Herb Kieffer

If you would like to be taken off of the prayer list, please let the office know.

Calendar

March 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
26	27	28	1 8:30 am Bible Study with Danielle Wheeler 3:40 pm GLOW 5:15 pm Lenten Dinner 6:00 pm Lenten Service 6:45 pm Praise Band Practice	2 9:30 am The Disciples Bible Study	3	4
5 9:00 am Worship Service 10:00 am Altar Guild Meeting	6 9:15 am Broad Strokes 4:00 pm Worship & Music Meeting	7 7:00 am Tuesday Morning Bible Study	8 8:30 am Bible Study with Danielle Wheeler NO GLOW 5:15 pm Lenten Dinner 6:00 pm Lenten Service 6:45 pm Praise Band Practice	9 9:30 am The Disciples Bible Study	10	11
12 9:00 am Worship Service 	13 9:15 am Broad Strokes	14 7:00 am Tuesday Morning Bible Study 9:30 am Mission Outreach	15 8:30 am Bible Study with Danielle Wheeler 3:40 pm GLOW 5:15 pm Lenten Dinner 6:00 pm Lenten Service 6:45 pm Praise Band Practice	16 9:30 am The Disciples Bible Study	17 	18
19 9:00 am Worship Service	20 9:15 am Broad Strokes 	21 7:00 am Tuesday Morning Bible Study 5:30 pm GLC Council Meeting	22 8:30 am Bible Study with Danielle Wheeler 3:40 pm GLOW 5:15 pm Lenten Dinner 6:00 pm Lenten Service 6:45 pm Praise Band Practice	23 9:30 am The Disciples Bible Study	24	25
26 9:00 am Worship Service	27 9:15 am Broad Strokes	28 7:00 am Tuesday Morning Bible Study	29 8:30 am Bible Study with Danielle Wheeler 3:40 pm GLOW 5:15 pm Lenten Dinner 6:00 pm Lenten Service 6:45 pm Praise Band Practice	30 9:30 am The Disciples Bible Study	31	1



Dear Friends, here are our figures from the beginning of the new fiscal year.

Based on our giving history and budget:

Budgeted amount
\$146,063
Total rec'd since July 1
\$153,693
Total Expenses to date
\$150,991

In March:

- We will have Lenten services each Wednesday. Please join us for a light supper at 5:15 pm, followed by the service at 6:00 pm.
- March 26th --Tony Hopp's 'Thank You' celebration!
- Keep your eyes open for our Easter Lily order sheet

If you would like to add something to the monthly newsletter, please see Pastor Dirk or Amy.

www.gracelutheran-hayward.org