

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH



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

A Letter From The Pastor

BY DIRK JENSEN

"The Timeless Treasure:
Understanding the Importance of
Martin Luther's Small Catechism"

Fellow believers,

Martin Luther's Small Catechism is an influential work in the history of Christian literature and theology. Despite being only a brief book, it has had a significant impact on the lives of numerous Christians all over the world. The need for catechism, or religious instruction, is brought home to us once more as the school year begins.

A Foundation of Hope

Martin Luther, a key figure in the Protestant Reformation, believed that faith in Christ should be firmly grounded in comprehension and knowledge. In 1529, he published

his attempt to present a concise explanation of Christian teachings, called the Small Catechism. It sought to arm Christians with the foundational doctrines of the religion so that they might boldly proclaim their faith.

A Classic Reference

The Small Catechism is composed of six fundamental parts: The Ten Commandments, The Apostles' Creed, The Lord's Prayer, Holy Baptism, Confession, and the Sacrament of the Altar. With an emphasis on the significance of a person's own relationship with God, Luther wrote this book with pastors and laypeople in mind. The Catechism's clear exposition of these key tenets of the Christian

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faith makes it useful for Christians of all ages and walks of life.

Faith Development at Home

The importance of the home as a setting for religious instruction is one of the many striking features of Luther's Small Catechism. Luther held that parents should play a central role in their children's religious education. Since its inception, the Catechism has served as a valuable resource for families looking to impart Christian values and knowledge to their young children. Luther's call for religious instruction to begin in the home continues to have practical application since it fosters the transmission of faith from one generation to the next.

A Basis for Confession

The importance of the Small Catechism in preparing individuals for confession and absolution is another important aspect. The Catechism was Luther's attempt to help Christians examine their consciences, confess their sins, and find forgiveness for their transgressions through the person and work of Jesus Christ, all of which he saw as essential to the Christian life. This practice continues across various Christian traditions today, especially for us in our Lutheran tradition, reminding us of our need for

repentance and God's abundant grace.

Today's Relevance

The Small Catechism is a reliable foundation in these turbulent times. Its accessibility and clarity make it a useful tool for everyone eager to learn more about Christianity or grow in their own personal religion. The Catechism is a vital resource for all Christians, whether they are seasoned believers or just beginning to learn about their faith.

Lastly, the Small Catechism of Martin Luther is a monument to the power of faith and learning. Its usefulness to believers of all ages stems from its capacity to clarify difficult theological ideas and from its emphasis on religious instruction within the context of nuclear families. Let us keep in mind, as we ponder the significance of the Small Catechism, that it continues to inspire and develop faith in the hearts of innumerable people across the globe.

I pray that the timeless truths found here will help us all grow in our faith and provide us with direction in life.

Blessings,
Pastor Dirk

Health Concerns:

Gary Gustafson, Carol Middlesdorf, Virginia & Maurice Murray, Joey Falch, Lim Perfecto, Dawn, Holly, Rebecca, Pete Heisler, Cindy Thoreson, George, Bill Schleusner, Skinny Roehl, Jim Thoreson, Cheryl (Turnbull) Hills, Rosie Anderson, 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.

“Cast your cares on the Lord and he will sustain you; he will never let the righteous be shaken.”

PSALM 55:22



WEEKLY BIBLE STUDIES

Tuesday's
with Pastor Dirk
7:00 - 8:00 AM

Wednesday's with Kathy
Schroeder
10:00-12:00 PM

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

Couple's Bible Study
(starting Thursday,
September 14th)
5-6pm dinner, 6-7pm study

Bible Study with Sue
Thursdays (starting 9/21)
4:00-5:00pm

Volunteer Schedule

SEPTEMBER 2023

9/3/23

Worship Coordinator: Jackie Strand

Greeters: Bruce & Susan McMillin

Ushers: Pat Bateson & Randy Pachal

Reader: Kelly Niebuhr

Communion Assistants: Kaleb Jensen, Jean Lutz & Diane Cassaday

Money Counters: Jackie Strand & Chris Larsen

Altar Guild: Patsy Bateson

Fellowship Treats: Susan McMillin & Ginny Denman

9/10/23

Worship Coordinator: Carol Mestelle

Greeters: Kathy Bergum

Ushers: Gary Gustafson & needed

Reader: Diane Cassaday

Communion Assistants: Sharon Turnbull, Terry Tarras & Jackie Strand

Money Counters: Tatum Noreen & Shari Nathan

Altar Guild: Diane Cassaday

Fellowship Treats: Cindy Thoreson & Sharon Wiek

9/17/23

Worship Coordinator: Karen Jensen

Greeters: Roxanne Lantz

Ushers: Don Aderman & DJ Aderman

Reader: Lynn Syverson

Communion Assistants: 3 needed

Money Counters: Shari Nathan & Chris Larsen

Altar Guild: Donna Yackel

Fellowship Treats: Carol Mittlesdorf & Donna Yackel

9/24/23

Worship Coordinator: Lynn Syverson

Greeters: needed

Ushers: Gary Gustafson & needed

Reader: Tanya Amys

Communion Assistants: Laura Zeigle, Jackie Strand &

Money Counters: Gary Gustafson & Jackie Strand

Altar Guild: Darlene Dennis

Fellowship Treats: Kathy Bergum & Laura Zeigle

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. This year begins September 20th.

Confirmation

Confirmation classes are held on Wednesday afternoons for kids in 6th-8th grades. The first class will begin September 13th.

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 go to our website for details on upcoming dates & times. Please check out the bulletin board for pictures of the fun had this year!

www.gracelutheran-hayward.org

Mission Outreach

Our July giving disbursements were paid out in August to the following:

1. New Life Resource Center \$450
2. Northwoods Community Food Shelf \$350
3. NW Connection Family Resource Ctr \$400
4. Meals On Wheels \$400
5. Regional Hospice \$250
6. Greater Hayward House of Hope \$300
7. New Reflections Pathway to Hope \$300

Mission Outreach meets the 2nd Tuesday of every month.

Calendar

September 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3 9:00 am Worship Service	4 9:15 am Broad Strokes	5 7:00 am Tuesday Morning Bible Study	6 10:00 am Bible Study with Kathy Schroeder 4:30pm GLOW Planning Meeting	7 9:30 am The Disciples Bible Study	8	9
10 9:00 am Worship Service	11 9:15 am Broad Strokes 4:30 pm WMMT Meeting	12 7:00 am Tuesday Morning Bible Study 9:30 am Mission Outreach	13 10:00 am Bible Study with Kathy Schroeder 4:00-5:00pm Confirmation	14 9:30 am The Disciples Bible Study 5:00-7:00 pm Couple's Bible Study	15	16
17 9:00 am Worship Service	18 9:15 am Broad Strokes	19 7:00 am Tuesday Morning Bible Study 5:30 pm GLC Council Meeting	20 10:00 am Bible Study with Kathy Schroeder 3:40-5:00pm GLOW 4:00-5:00pm Confirmation	21 9:30 am The Disciples Bible Study 4:00 pm Bible Study with Sue 5:00-7:00 pm Couple's Bible Study	22	23
24 9:00 am Worship Service	25 9:15 am Broad Strokes	26 7:00 am Tuesday Morning Bible Study	27 3:40-5:00pm GLOW 4:00-5:00pm Confirmation	28 9:30 am The Disciples Bible Study 4:00 pm Bible Study with Sue 5:00-7:00 pm Couple's Bible Study	29	30



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

Based on our giving history and budget:

Budgeted amount \$40,481
 Total rec'd since July 1 \$41,061
 Total Expenses to date \$29,984

In September:

- Confirmation classes will begin on Wednesday, September 13th.
- GLOW will begin Wednesday, September 20th.

Coming Up In October:

- Our 20th Anniversary pot luck will take place on October 8th, following the worship service.

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

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