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July, 2023 Newsletter

Grace Lutheran Church <office@graceofnaples.com>

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July, 2023 Newsletter

Grace, mercy, and peace are yours in our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

Dear Family of God at Grace,

A blessed July to all of you! We will be spending Independence Day at Andrew and Nicole's home, our son and daughter-in-law. On the 4th it is always great to spend the day with family, food, and fireworks. It is sure to be a blessed day.

Do you remember the best fireworks display you have ever seen? I have a couple that come to mind. When I was a teen, we were visiting with my Uncle Tom and his family in Cincinnati Ohio. The city was having a celebration/dedication of a new bridge. They had a display of fireworks that was incredible.

I can't speak for my family, but two memorable 4th of July celebrations were the two we had in Washington DC. Being in our nation's capital on Independence Day is an awesome experience. The fireworks were second to none. Sitting at the base of the Washington Monument on the Mall with 3 million of my closest friends and eating food and drinks out of the cooler we brought, watching the display over the reflection pool of the Lincoln Memorial was unforgettable.



On our first 4th of July here in Naples, we went to the beach to watch the fireworks and my kids said after the display, "That was it? Is it over?" Now it was a nice display but after coming from DC, everything else is just not as good.

This 4th of July there are no fireworks in Naples due to the pier being damaged by Ian and because we are having the 100th birthday of our city, the council has decided to hold off and do a display of fireworks for the Centennial Celebration.

America, as a nation, has been fascinated with fireworks from the beginning. Even before our first Independence Day Celebration we lit off firework displays for different events. I guess we like bright sparkling flashes and loud booms in the sky. These are displays of glory and power. They are great celebrations of wonderful events that should be remembered!

You may be wondering, "why all this firework talk?" Well, when I see the fireworks, I think about Jesus' return. What does Jesus Second Advent look like? Let me share a page from the Commission on Theology and Church Relations of our Lutheran Church Missouri Synod written in 1989. It is called, *The End Times: A Study on Eschatology and Millennialism*.

The Second Advent of Christ

The New Testament Scriptures teach that Christ will one day visibly return in glory. They refer to His second advent by using several different terms: "coming" or "presence" (parousia), "appearance" (epiphaneia; s.v. phaneroo), "revelation" (apokalypsis), and "the day of the Lord" (hi hemera tou Kyriou). A study of the texts in which these terms occur reveals that Christ's second advent is one event at the end of history. The Scriptures teach the following concerning Christ's second and final coming:

1. Christ will come visibly and all people will see Him (Acts 1:11; Matt. 24:27,30; Luke 17:22-24; 21 :27,35; Mark 13:24-26; 14:62; Rev. 1:7).
2. Christ will come in glory surrounded by the host of His angels (Matt. 13:39-43,49; 16:27; 24:30-31; 25:31; 2 Thess. 1:7; Rev. 19:11-14; Titus 2:13; Jude 14, 24; 1 Pet. 4:13; Zech. 14:3).
3. When Christ returns, a bodily resurrection of all the dead will take place. Believers will be raised to salvation and unbelievers to damnation John 5:27-29; 6:39-40,44,54; Rev. 20:11-15; 1 Cor. 15:12-57; Dan. 12:1-2). All believers, both dead and living, will be "caught up" to "meet the Lord in the air" (1 Thess. 4:13-17). Death will be destroyed (1 Cor. 15:26,54-57; Rev. 20:14).
4. When Christ returns, He will judge all people, both the living and the dead (Matt. 25:31-46; John 5:27; Acts 10:42; 17:31; Rom. 2:16; 2 Tim. 4:1,8; Jude 14-15; Rev. 20:11-15). Believers will receive eternal salvation and unbelievers eternal damnation (Matt. 25:31-46; 1 Pet. 1:4-5,7; 5:4; 1 John 3:2; Heb. 9:28; 2 Cor. 5:10; 2 Thess. 1:6-10). Satan and the Antichrist will be destroyed (2 Thess. 2:8; Rev. 20:10).

5. When Christ returns, "new heavens and a new earth" will be created (2 Pet. 3:10-13). Nowhere, however, do the Scriptures teach that at His return Christ will establish a this-worldly, political kingdom or "millennium."

The date of Christ's second advent is unknown. Jesus Himself taught, "But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father only" (Matt. 24:36; Matt. 24:42,44; 25:13; 1 Thessalonians 5; 2 Peter 3). The times or seasons fixed by the authority of the Father are "not for you to know" (Acts 1:7). Therefore, speculation concerning the time of the end is forbidden.

This much can be said: the fact that God has delayed it now for almost two millennia is due to His patience and mercy, for "the Lord is not slow about His promise as some count slowness, but is forbearing toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance" (2 Pet. 3:9). The Scriptural teaching concerning Christ's second advent has a very practical purpose. God wills that all come to believe in the Gospel, lead a holy life in service to Christ, and eagerly await the last day with patience (Rom. 13:12-14; Titus 2:11-13; 1 Pet. 1:13-15; 2 Pet. 3:11-12; 1 John 3:2-3; 1 Tim. 6:14; Matt. 25:14-30).

The Lord Jesus' Return/Second Advent is certainly a reason for celebration and remembrance! I can't imagine the fireworks display that Jesus will bring with him. I hope you join with me in hopeful expectation for that great return of our Lord Jesus! Until that day we will have to settle for the firework displays we have on the 4th.

The Lord bless you all this month!
In His Service,

Pastor Lingsch



GIVE ONLINE!!

We now have **ONLINE GIVING** on our website: www.graceofnaples.com. The **GIVE** button can be accessed from your mobile device in the menu options found in the upper right corner of the page. You can also access the **GIVE** button from your laptop or desktop on the church home page. Just click on the button **GIVE** and follow the instructions.

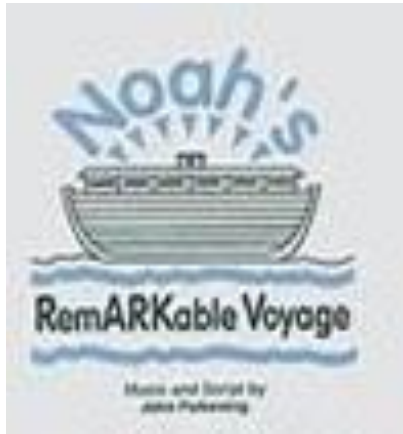
Please keep the email that you receive from Vanco (Joyful Response) for your personal records. Contributions made through the website will not appear on your year-end contribution statement.



The Men of Grace is a gathering of the men in our congregation with the intention of lifting them up and strengthening them to be true men of grace. We want to become a band of brothers in Christ, who love and

serve each other by lifting up one another so that as men of God, we can live out our calling in our families and in our church family. We call all men of our congregation to be a part of this gathering, for men, guided by men for the glory of God.

The group meets on the 1st & 3rd Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.



What a terrific job the 8 youths did presenting "Noah's RemARKable Voyage" on June 18!

If you missed it, you can see it on YouTube [Watch "Noah's RemARKable Voyage"](#)

The presentation begins at about 33 minutes into the service.



*From the Director of Christian Education --
Kami Jo Mogelwang*

July Events

Youth Day!

Middle and High School Youth are invited to meet at Sun and Fun waterpark on July 28th . RSVP to DCE Kami Jo for group ticket rates and times.

VBS Snack Donations and Volunteers!

VBS is July 31-August 4th, please consider donating a day or more of your time to help with camp. DCE Kami Jo will walk you through everything you need to know. Simply call or email DCE Kami Jo for more information. Camp runs 9am-12pm. Snacks are needed for our hungry campers! A snack donation box is in the narthex to drop off your donations. Thank you!

- Veggie Straws
- Pirate Booty
- Beef Sticks
- Anything GF and dye free



2023 VBS

Don't miss out on this fun filled week!

Kids will spend time learning 5 different Bible lessons through interactive lessons, music, crafts and games.

Registration forms are on the narthex bulletin board.

Cost is \$20 per family (4-year-olds through 5th grade).

July 31st-August 4th, 9am-12pm

Contact DCE Kami Jo with questions



A special packing event for Operation Christmas Child will happen in July. We are asking everyone to be on the lookout for items to place in the boxes now.

There is a container in the Narthex for items. Some suggestions: pencils, crayons, markers, craft items, small dolls, small stuffed animals, water bottles, sunglasses, coloring books, wash towels, toothbrushes, balls, stickers, cards, games, books, barbies, soccer balls, small Lego sets, small puzzles, matchbox cars, plastic Disney figures, sticker books, be sure to go online for even more suggestions.



Women of the Bible Speak

Bible Study Schedule for July is as follows:

- July 3rd : 10am in Fellowship Hall
- July 13th : NO Women's Study
- July 18th : 10am in Fellowship Hall
- July 27th : 10am in Fellowship Hall

Ladies! Please join us!



Grace Lutheran Summer Music Camp

Children, second grade and older will be rehearsing from 8:30 am - 3:30 pm, June 12-16, to prepare for a performance of "Noah's RemARKable Voyage" on June 18th, **only at the 10:30 service**. You won't want to miss this remARKable experience, as children always deliver an incredible message through these plays.



Altar Flower Donations

Would you like to remember your birthday or anniversary with a special offering to God? Would you like to remember someone special in your life who is with the Lord? Would you like to beautify the Sanctuary with a special offering of flowers?

There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the Narthex for you to claim the date for your special occasion. Cost of arrangements is \$45.00.

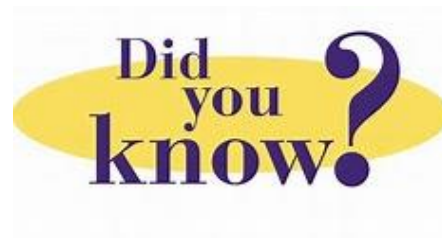


- 1 Harold Feuser
- 1 Luke Perri
- 2 Barb Drake
- 2 Asher Witherow
- 4 Sandra Birner
- 4 Stacy Heidel
- 4 Willy Lehninger
- 5 Denise Canning
- 6 Trenton Strackbein
- 8 Frederick Hill
- 10 Judith Carlson
- 11 Ed Follmer
- 12 Zachery Davenport
- 13 Abigail Garner
- 13 Andy Koehneke
- 14 Patrick Hill
- 15 Aiden Strackbein
- 15 Jim Tracy
- 16 Judy Sadowski
- 17 Tom Murray
- 20 Marty Hybl
- 22 John Benson
- 23 Khloe O'Keefe
- 24 GraceAnn Mogelvang
- 25 Donald Hartman
- 26 Chris Leibfried



- 6 Andy & Sarah Koehneke
- 12 Mark & Sandy Eisold
- 14 Dwayne & Mary Zeedyk
- 18 David & Jessica Zimmerman
- 22 Louis & Rae Anne Ouillette
- 25 David Wolff & Sharon Sheline
- 27 Patrick & Lisa Perri
- 30 Jonathan & Sandra Birner

- **There WILL BE celebrations and fireworks for the Fourth of July in Collier and Lee County!**



NAPLES

Naples Fourth of July Parade: The parade starts at Third Street South and Eleventh Avenue South to Fifth Avenue South onto Eighth Avenue South, returning back to

Eleventh Avenue South. The event is 10 a.m. to noon Tuesday, July 4. [For Details Click here](#)

EAST NAPLES

Fourth of July Celebration: Annual event held in past years at Sugden Regional Park in East Naples moves to Paradise Coast Sports Complex, [3940 City Gate Blvd. N.](#) Gates open at 6 p.m. Tuesday, July 4, with a band playing at 7 p.m. and fireworks at 9 p.m. No outside food and beverages allowed but they will be sold in the complex. And no grills or pets are allowed. Bring your own lawn chairs or blankets. Seating available in complex stadium (3,500 seats plus grass areas and bleacher seating). Additional seating on The Great Lawn & at The Cove. Carpooling is strongly urged, as a large crowd is expected and there is a limited number of parking spots at the complex. [playparadisecoast.com](#)

MARCO ISLAND

Marco Island July Fourth Fireworks: The skies light up on South Marco Beach, [130 S. Collier Blvd.](#), beginning at 9 p.m. Tuesday, July 4. [cityofmarcoisland.com](#)

EVERGLADES CITY

Event starts at 10 a.m. Saturday, July 1, at Everglades City Hall, [102 Copeland Ave.](#), with opening ceremony, followed by parade at 10:30 a.m. Other activities include contests, raffle and food to enjoy until 12:30 p.m. The day will conclude with a fireworks display at 9 p.m. The celebration is at Everglades City Hall and McLeod Park and is free. The theme of this year's Independence Day celebration at Everglades City is "100 Years of History."

<https://visitevergladescity.com/events/annual-independence-day-celebration-everglades-city/>

BONITA SPRINGS

Star Spangled Bonita: The city of Bonita Springs hosts its annual Independence Day celebration on Tuesday, July 4. The day begins with the Bonita Springs Firefighters Union's annual parade at 9 a.m. The parade runs along Old 41 Road, from Kentucky Street to Rosemary Drive. Old 41 Road will close at 8:30 that morning. The remainder of the event will at Riverside Park, 10450 Reynolds St., from 6 to 9 p.m. with the Ben Allen Band performing and a fireworks display at dusk. At 5 p.m., Old 41 Road from Wilson Street to Childers Street will close until 10 p.m. Riverside Park. https://www.cityofbonitasprings.org/star_spangled_bonita_-_july_4th_2023





VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED FOR ALL WORSHIP SERVICES!
There are multiple opportunities for you to volunteer for weekend services at Grace. We need Ushers, Lectors, Altar Guild Members, Greeters, Crucifers and Acolytes, Sound Board Operators and people to prepare for Coffee Hour.

Click the link below to access the signup website.

[Click here to volunteer](#)

Weekly Events

Quilters'

Tuesday's, 10:00 am
Fellowship Hall

Knitters

Tuesdays, 10:00 am
Will Resume in the Fall

Women's Bible Study

Will continue thru summer
See July Schedule above
or
Contact Kami Jo

Bible Study Will Resume in the Fall

Wednesday's,
10:30 am
Fellowship Hall

Wednesday Dinner and Prayer Service

Will Resume in the Fall

Men of Grace

1st & 3rd Tuesdays
6:30 pm

Grief Share

Thursdays, 1:00 pm
Will Resume in the Fall

Cool Mom Bible Study

Tuesday's, 9:00 am
Contact Kami Jo
Will resume in the Fall

Choir Rehearsals

will resume in the Fall

Choristers

Wednesday, 4:15 pm

High School Choir

Sunday, Noon

Adult Choir

Wednesday, 7:00 pm

Sunday Morning Coffee Hour

We are always looking for people to set up or clean up Sunday Morning Coffee Hour. Sign up at the table in the fellowship hall. If you want more information, please email Lori at lorilingsch@yahoo.com



The Rev. Philip and Deaconess Rachel Jaseph serve the Lord as missionaries of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) in Uruguay. In this role, Philip plants new churches and works with a team of pastors in Uruguay, while Rachel serves as a deaconess and supports the mercy ministry efforts of the Uruguayan Lutheran Church.

Philip is from Crownsville, Md., and his home congregation is St. Paul Lutheran Church, Annapolis. He earned a bachelor's degree from Lehigh University in Bethlehem, Pa., in 2012 and a Master of Divinity degree from Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, in 2021. After college, he served the LCMS as a GEO missionary and communications specialist for the Africa region (2013–2016). He then was director of communications at St. John Lutheran Church and School in Indianapolis (2016–2017) before enrolling in the seminary. In his free time, Philip enjoys reading, writing, hiking, biking and cooking.

Rachel was born in Bryant, Ind. She received a Bachelor of Arts in Theology degree with deaconess certification from Concordia University Chicago, River Forest, Ill., in 2013. Like Philip, she also previously served as a missionary — first as a deaconess intern in Peru (2012–2014) and then as a career missionary to the Dominican Republic (2014–2017). Prior to moving to Uruguay, Rachel was the founding executive director of The Shepherd's Hand Community Outreach Center, a new LCMS Recognized Service Organization in Fort Wayne, Ind. In her free time, she enjoys cooking, baking, reading, hiking and exercising.

Pray for the Jasephs as they live and serve in Uruguay. Ask that God would give them wisdom as they navigate cultural differences and share the Gospel in this secular country. Pray also for the Uruguayan Lutheran Church and her pastors, workers and

members, and for the many Uruguayans who are living without faith in Christ, that God's Word would be proclaimed boldly and faithfully to them and all people.

- **BIRTHDAYS:** Philip — May 30, Rachel — Aug. 13
- **ANNIVERSARY:** Nov. 18 • **HOME DISTRICT:** Southeastern



Tune in for good Lutheran music and Bible teaching.

KFUO (850 kHz) is a non-commercial AM radio station licensed to Clayton, Missouri and serving Greater St. Louis. It has a Christian talk and teaching radio format. KFUO is one of the oldest continuous operating Christian radio stations in the United States, with its first broadcast on October 26, 1924; 98 years ago. Owned and operated by The Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod (LCMS), its radio studios and offices are in the LCMS headquarters in Kirkwood, Missouri.

KFUO is a daytimer station. By day, it is powered at 5,000 watts, using a non-directional antenna. Because KFUO operates on the same frequency as Class A KOA (AM) Denver, KFUO must sign off at sunset. As such, the on-air hours vary depending on time of year. The station's website plays sacred music when the 850 signal is dark. KFUO broadcasts using HD Radio technology. The transmitter is on the grounds of the Concordia Seminary in Clayton.

You can connect online at KFUO.org



"Gift Planning Training"

July, 2023 Newsletter

Bernie and Helen created their first estate plan when they were 25, right after the birth of their first child. In the fifty years since that time, they have had three more children, and now have eight grandchildren. During those fifty years, they moved four times, to four different states. In each place, they engaged with their local church. Combined, there have been six congregations in their lives. Two of them have closed, as they were located in urban areas that changed from the ethnic origins of the congregations.

Two of the congregations have Lutheran Schools, bursting at the seams with enrollment. One of the congregations has a vibrant caring ministry for battered women. One has an outreach to immigrants in their community. All four of these congregations and their ministries have had a place in Bernie's and Helen's life. They want to reflect this connection with ministry and update their fifty-year-old wills, creating gifts for their children and grandchildren.

They met with their local LCMS Foundation Gift Planning Counselor and began organizing a survey of family, assets, and goals. They indicated that one of their goals is to build flexibility into their plans, as life has taught them that life changes. They were happy to see some of the flexible tools the LCMS Foundation offers. Now instead of putting off their planning, or dreading it, they are excited about leaning into the future which includes one day living face to face with Jesus.

Your LCMS Foundation Gift Planning Counselor can help you too. Contact Tony Hunt 260-222-1291 or email tony.hunt@lfnd.org.

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