



May, 2023 Newsletter

Grace, mercy, and peace are yours
because of Christ crucified and risen from the dead!

Dear Family of God at Grace,

“Alleluia, Christ is Risen! He is Risen indeed, alleluia!”

In the March Newsletter I spent some time explaining the Latin names and their meanings for the Sundays leading up to Lent and Easter. Now that the Resurrection of our Lord has happened, we are in what is called the Cycle of Pentecost. These Sundays after Easter, that are called Easter 2, 3, 4 etc., also have Latin names attached to them. Let me spend some ink in explaining what these Latin names are all about.

You may think, “Let’s focus on Jesus and not this Latin stuff.” Well, this “Latin stuff” helps us focus on Jesus! When you understand the meaning of these Latin names then you will understand how these Sundays work in leading us to the Risen Lord Jesus and how they prepare us for Pentecost, which is the birthday of the Christian Church.

This is a lengthy quote from the *History of The Christian Church* but very good,

The whole period of seven weeks from Easter to Pentecost bore a joyous, festal character. It was called Quinquagesima, or Pentecost in the wider sense, and was the memorial of the exaltation of Christ at the right hand of the Father, His repeated appearances during the mysterious forty days, and His heavenly headship and eternal presence in the church. It was regarded as a continuous Sunday, and distinguished by the absence of all fasting and by standing in prayer. Quinquagesima formed a marked contrast with the Quadragesima which preceded. The deeper the sorrow of repentance had been in view of the suffering and dying Savior, the higher now rose the joy of faith in the risen and eternally living Redeemer. This joy, of course, must keep itself clear of worldly amusements, and be sanctified by devotion, prayer, singing, and thanksgiving; and the theatres, therefore, remained closed through the fifty days. But the multitude of nominal Christians soon forgot their religious impressions, and sought to compensate their previous fasting with wanton merry-making.

The seven Sundays after Easter are called in the Latin church, respectively, Quasimodo-geniti, Misericordia Domini, Jubilate, Cantate, Rogate, (or, Vocem jucunditatis), Exaudi, and Pentecoste.^[1]

Let’s take a quick look at each Sunday:

Easter 2 is called “**Quasimodo-geniti**” which means “as newborn babies” from the first words in the Introit of the Day. It is the antiphon for Psalm 81 and is taken from 1 Peter 2:2a “Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk.” On this 2nd Sunday of Easter, we are like newborn babies, newborn Christians, craving the milk of the Gospel. We long for the Word of Christ risen from the dead!

Easter 3 is “**Misericordias Domini**” is about the mercy of the Lord. The introit says, “the earth is full of the steadfast love of the Lord” (Psalm 33:5b). This is who God is. He is merciful and compassionate. This is also “Good Shepherd Sunday.” The merciful Lord is our Good Shepherd who loves and cares for every one of His beloved sheep. As a side note, “Misericordias” is the name of a dagger used to deliver the merciful death blow to a dying animal, like a sheep lead to the slaughter.

Easter 4 is “**Jubilate**.” This is a time of rejoicing! The Introit says, “Shout for joy to God, all the earth. Sing the glory of His name; give to him glorious praise!” (Psalm 66:1-2). We have reason to be joyful. Our king is risen from the dead. He lives! The disciples saw him, then they didn’t see him for he was taken from them and crucified, but then in just a little while, three days, they got to see him again and their sorrow was turned into GREAT JOY! A joy that no one can take from them or from us. Jesus has risen and that fact gives us joy, no matter what! Not a slap-happy joy, but a true joy that nothing the world can do can destroy! Sing for “jubilate” joy that Jesus lives who once was dead!

Easter 5 is “**Cantate**” Sunday. We should have the choir or Jonathan explain this one by singing a cantate. The antiphon for the introit of the day is from Psalm 98:1a, “Sing to the Lord a new song.” Music delivers a message. Why do we sing the hymns that we sing in church? Because they deliver the good news of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. They tell the story of Christ risen from the dead. You don’t go home after church humming my sermon, but you do hum the hymns of faith. That “new song” is in your heart and mind and on your lips.

Easter 6 is “**Rogate**.” This Latin phrase comes not from the introit but from the Gospel for the day, John 16: 23-33. “Ask and you will receive.” This Sunday is about prayer. These Sundays of the Pentecost cycle, are about the birth of the church in Christ’s giving of the Holy Spirit. The Spirit takes from Jesus and delivers His message to the church. The church’s life is one in which we are in prayerful communication with the Lord. The church prays!

The Ascension of our Lord falls in this season. Jesus who came down from heaven now ascends to His throne at the right hand of the Father. He takes our human flesh with him into heaven so that we can now, in the body, make our home with Him for all eternity.

Easter 7 is “**Exaudi**.” We are back to the Introit and its antiphon, Psalm 27:7a “Hear, O Lord, when I cry aloud.” We are not being told to hear the Word, although it is always good to hear God’s Word in our life, but we are crying to the Lord for Him to hear our prayer and answer our cry. Who else can we go to? We want Him to hear the joy that we have this Pentecost season that our Lord is risen. We are not afraid for the Lord is our risen Savior! Who can harm us! No one!

Finally, we reach the climax of these Sunday of the Pentecost season in “**Whitsunday**” White-Sunday. Often this was the Sunday of Confirmation when the confirmands wore white. It is the Sunday of the giving of the Holy Spirit and the great birthday of the church. We hear from the Book of the Acts of the Apostles, how the Spirit was given. Tongues of fire rested on the Apostles, and they spoke in the language of the peoples of the world there present. They told them about Jesus, born, lived, crucified, risen and ascended. And 3000 were added to the number that day and the Christian church was off and running.

So why do we use these Latin names? To tell the story that was proclaimed by the Apostles on Pentecost as the church now celebrates its birthday of almost 2000 years!

I hope this was helpful and instructive. I hope it helps in your understanding of these wonderful names and Sundays that we have and the rich and beautiful salvation history that they bring!

Thank you all for a wonderful season and I pray that you all have a great summer. Remember, we still have church at Grace every Sunday. Just a reminder.

In His Service,
Pastor Lingsch

[1] Schaff, P., & Schaff, D. S. (1910). [*History of the Christian church*](#) (Vol. 3, pp. 407–408). New York: Charles Scribner’s Sons.

Thank
you!

Dear members and friends of Grace Church,

This note is to thank you from the bottom of our hearts for the opportunity to serve you as Seasonal Pastor for the past eight years. It has been a wonderful journey. Our lives have become intertwined. We have many happy memories that we will always cherish.

Thanks also for the Saturday farewell celebration and The Sunday fellowship hour.

We so appreciate your many cards, messages, gifts, gift cards and dinner invitations. Also gifts from the congregation, a rose stole and pectoral cross for me and a cross bracelet for Sandy.

We hope to come back for a few weeks next winter. But if not, we Christians never have to say, goodbye, for we will see each other again in heaven.



Read Joshua 1:9 and Revelation 2:10.
God's richest blessings on each of you.

In Christian Love,
Pastor and Sandy Kudart



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.



Registration forms are at the Welcome Desk in the Narthex.



Before you go...

Some of you will be heading north, soon. Before you go, please add a yellow 'Out of Town' card to your mailbox. If you haven't had a chance to update your address, telephone number or email, call the office at (239) 261-7421 or email (office@graceofnaples.com). Even when you are not with us, we would like to stay in touch.

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.



We will meet on the 1st & 3rd Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

Did you know?

- If you had damage from Ian, you may be entitled to a deduction for damages on your 2022 tax return? IRS has a helpful publication, PUB584, that is a great guideline for figuring out how much you actually lost. If you already filed your 2022 tax return, and you didn't take a deduction, you can file an amendment to take advantage of the tax savings.
- *The Thursday morning Women's Bible Study is going to continue meeting this summer? The subject matter is still to be determined, but this is a very good*

group for women to belong to at Grace.

- *The Thursday morning Women's Bible Study is going to continue meeting this summer? The subject matter is still to be determined, but this is a very good group for women to belong to at Grace.*
- A new directory will be published before the end of the summer? If you have had any changes to address, phone, e-mail, marital or family status, please contact the church office!
- Printed copies of the monthly newsletter are available at the Welcome station for people who don't have e-mail? If you would like to have a copy mailed to you, contact the church office!
- Portals of Prayer are made available to congregation members every quarter? If you haven't received one or would like to have a copy mailed to you, contact the church office.



Mite Box Sunday is first Sunday of every Month!

A Mite Box is based on the Biblical account of the widow's mite (Luke 21:1–4), the Mite Box is intended for regular contributions of "mites" — offerings above and beyond the regular support. Mites can be you putting your pennies in the box at the end of each day, a "thank you" whenever calamity or misfortune has been averted, or simply each day empty your loose change from your kitchen coin bowl into the box to be shared with God's people on the first Sunday of each Month.

The Widow's Mite

Jesus sat down opposite the place where the offerings were put and watched the crowd putting their money into the temple treasury. Many rich people threw in large amounts. But a poor widow came and put in two very small copper coins, worth only a fraction of a penny. Calling his disciples to him, Jesus said, "I tell you the truth, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others. They all gave out of their wealth, but she, out of her poverty, put in everything — all she had to live on".



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

May 7th: Youth Night, 5-7pm

May 21st: Youth Night, 5-7pm

Sunday School End of Year Party, Details coming soon!

Register for Vacation Bible School! July 31st-August 4th

High School Youth, stay tuned for Summer Servant Dates



We will be having a special packing event for Operation Christmas Child this 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.

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.



Once again, we have a \$25,000 donation for matching funds to get another Habitat house going in our community. What a blessing these homes are to our neighbors in Naples and the county. The goal is another \$25,000 which gets us to the magical mark of \$50,000! Any support you can give would be blessing!



Sponsor A Kenyan Child

Seize the opportunity to help a child in Kenya receive an education and put them on the path to a better life. For more details, contact

Dcs. Linda # 248-892-7405 or dcs linda1492@gmail.com



Luther Mogelvang
breaks records!



**15 feet
2.25 inches**

breaks the Collier County and
Naples High School
pole vault records.



Luther with his parents Erik and
Cindy Mogelvang

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.
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050F4AA9AA2CA0F49-april>



The Preschool students had a wonderful April learning about Easter and celebrating the amazing Earth God created for us!

They learned about the earth and watched their plantings grow!



They were so excited to go into the Sanctuary and smell the aroma of Easter Lilies!



The Preschool Donation for the month of APRIL is Bubbles.

Donations can be dropped off in the office or ordered from Amazon and shipped directly to the Preschool.

Mark These Dates on Your Calendar!

May 2 Women's Lunch
May 21 Confirmation of Andrew Sanchez
May 28 Graduate Recognition
June 12-16 Music Camp

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
Thursday's, 10:00 am
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

Choristers

Wednesday, 4:15 pm

High School Choir

Sunday, Noon

Adult Choir

Wednesday, 7:00 pm

The Pelican LC Newsletter

May 2023

John 13:16-17

<¹⁷ If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them.>>

Dear Partners in Christ's Mission:

Grace, mercy and peace are yours in Christ Jesus through faith in His atoning sacrifice and physical resurrection!

The text above is often read for *Maundy Thursday*, as it is the last part of the account of Jesus washing His disciples' feet. The ability to serve others with humility is more important today than ever. In fact, a lot of the contention and chaos and threats in homes, streets, offices, churches, cities and our nation is due to the selfishness and disrespect of so many.

Yet, how can anyone serve willingly *without* the truth of Christ's loving sacrifice and victory, order, personal responsibility/accountability, respect, education and decent, conscientious teachers of God's love story to the world (the Bible)??

Even Christians can stray from this important truth taught by our Savior, Jesus. YES, even Christians.

Therefore, as people of God in Jesus Christ, and carriers of the TRUTH, let's put this important teaching into practice like never before with honor, respect, and loving, humble service. Remember, it is not just *WHAT* you do, but also *HOW* you do it. Love and humility distinguish the People of God from everyone else.

A humble act of loving service to others in today's world will be noticed and may even change a life. Sharing the message and encouragement in Christ, may hit like cool water in a hot dry desert for someone "dying of thirst" in the spiritual wasteland surrounding us.

PELICAN UPDATE:

The Lord blessed us with strong attendance on Maundy Thursday (30), Good Friday (21), and Easter Sunday (116 over our two locations). In the first two weeks after Easter the Lord brought folks who we had not seen since December. The members of the Pelican LC had to make the most of "the season" from January- April, as October – December were washed out by the hurricane damage and a lack of work without the presence of our beloved winter visitors.

Preparation of new deacons continues with an online class every Thursday, and our First Communion Classes continue every Wednesday in person.

Our new outreach ministries AT Pelican are going well, and all of our other ministries within Naples are as well.

We plan to launch some new, Hispanic outreach this summer and will be involving some of our new deacons-in-training as well.

Around town, Pastor Eisold led Man In The Mirror at Pelican one Saturday and will participate in the National Day of Prayer at both City Hall at 8:30 a.m. and at the Collier County Courthouse at Noon.

Sweeping changes are happening in Immokalee ahead of Pastor and Donna Selle's retirement, after which I will serve as Pastor and overseer of those ministries. I speak with and visit with Pastors Karl Glander and Andre Mezilus nearly every week as we prepare for the upcoming sale of the building and properties of the "Amigos Center".

We worked together with Pastor Selle at the fundraiser for the Haitian and multicultural ministries at Zion LC, Fort Myers. We are now praying for the Lord to provide locations for the two ministries somewhere in the city of Immokalee for Sunday, Tuesday night and Friday night.

This year we plan to renew our annual Easter Campaign for matching gifts to the Pelican Lutheran Church, after a delayed campaign last year. **THANK YOU** for your ongoing prayers, encouragement, and support!!! This mission grows by Jesus' provision.

Keep praying for us and all our local pastors with special efforts to reach the lost and keep up with the changes happening in Collier County and our nation.

Your Brother in Christ,

Pastor Eisold