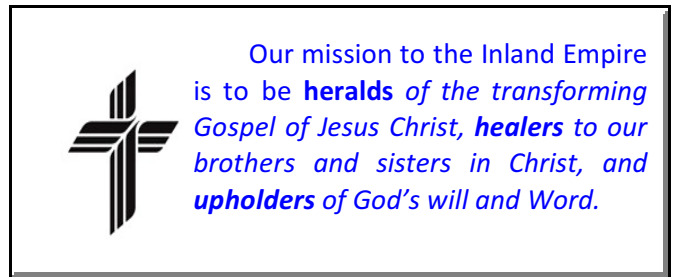


Amazing Grace

February, 2017

Volume 36, Issue # 02



Seismic Shifts, Steady Courses

My Beloved,

Very soon you will be Pastor Daniel's "beloved" as well! They say, and I can attest to the fact that if you are in a moving car it is very difficult to "feel" an earthquake while it is happening. Oh, you may "see" sway in buildings or hear the creaking of structures, but the sense of "feel" is highly deadened in a moving automobile when it comes to earthquakes.

February 12th marks a huge earthquake in our life as a congregation. The one time toddler, then boy, then teen and young man who you watched grow up, get married and become a husband and father will take on a Divine Calling. This is of a magnitude that would make the largest quake of the earth pale in comparison.

Pastor Daniel A. Holm will bear your souls. Earthquakes shake things up for a bit, but this transformation is eternal. You will hear God's eternal voice through his voice. He vows to care for you, unto eternity.

But it may "seem" to be "business as usual." It will not be. Yet you may not feel it because we as a family are growing and on the move. That is because the Holy Spirit is alive and active here in this family. In Acts 17, Paul is preaching in Athens, on the Hill of the Greek God Ares - their god of war. It was a place called "The Areopagus."

A seismic shift happened in Athens as Paul preached about the God who came to them in their flesh. He referred to an inscription "to an unknown god." (V. 23) In Acts 17:28, Paul even quotes an obscure local poet and writes, "In Him we live and move and have our being; for we are indeed His offspring." - Paul declares the twin truth that the god who was "unknown" to them is indeed the God of all creation, and indeed, is their Father! We live and move and have our being and so we are growing, walking, reaching, hearing... being His children.

In all this growing, He is steadying our course. Many are the distractions. They may be of family needs, health and otherwise related, to aging, to finance, and so many other things. God our God has put us on the steady course though. It is found in His gifts of Word and Sacrament, and now, as they come to you - not through a sem student - but through a man fully examined and approved to be your Pastor.

As we move forward in this blessed family we know as Grace, this man selected by God to serve as your Pastor will walk with you through other seismic shifts, and always giving you not the god of war, but the Prince of Peace.

This new chapter in our life as a family is truly blessed. I

am blessed by you and the joy we share in our Savior. His peace is surely keeping us. We can do all things, "because of Jesus!" In Him I remain yours, *Pastor Eric*

FROM RON

Dear Grace Family,

What a joyous time for the Grace family, for Daniel Holm will be confirmed on February 12th. Daniel has worked so very hard to accomplish this significant event and we all thank God for his gifts and talents. This day will be a day of celebration, that we will all share. Please plan on attending this special event and bring someone with you. I would also ask that each of us, dedicate ourselves to praying for that day, but more importantly, to the days to follow. Daniel and Eleanor have such a wonderful family and that needs to be their number one priority. They will need to balance those priorities on a daily basis and we need to be their spiritual partner in the journey. We thank God for the gift that Pastor and Kawai have been to this Grace family and we welcome Daniel and Eleanor in their new roles, here at Grace.

I am excited about where Grace is now and for our future.

In Jesus name, Ron

BOARD OF EVANGELISM

The tentative date for the next Daring Diners will be Saturday March 18th, 2pm, here at Grace. It will be our Deficit Reduction Daring Diners. The 'daring' part will be that you will dine on the best that the men of Grace have to offer. So far, we will serve Chicken Cordon Bleu, grilled pork chops, grilled top sirloin, and other dishes yet to be determined. We hope to have a full menu for you by late February along with a suggested donation per meal.

Some of the men have yet to advise us of what they like to make; and we already have turned down offers of 'making reservations'. And, ladies, if your men are being shy, let me know their favorite dish to prepare, and I will ask them to share their talents. Side dishes, salads, and desserts are acceptable items.

Dining at Grace will be an opportunity to support our church as the proceeds will go towards reducing our budget deficit, rather than have our dollars go to a restaurant that may not offer us a discount or rebate as a fundraiser. This

'dining' will be our first alternative to Daring Diners, and we will resume our regular program next time.

Bon Appétit, Joe

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Beginning this month we will begin a series of articles on the Lutheran Book of Concord. It is our prayer that God will use these to deepen our understanding and strengthen our faith of His Holy Word.

(The following is from the General Introduction to the Book of Concord, "With Intrepid Hearts We Believe, Teach, and Confess")

Lutherans have used the Confessions of faith contained in The Book of Concordia for nearly five hundred years as their public witness and testimony of what the Bible teaches. These Confessions give clear, unambiguous, and certain witness to the Christian faith. They unite all those who bear the name Lutheran and wish to be - and remain - genuinely Lutheran. That is why the book uses the word Concordia as a title.

Concordia comes from two Latin words meaning "with" and "heart". It describes a commitment to the truth so strong and so deep it is as if those who share it have a single heartbeat. To many twenty-first-century minds, the claim that there is objective truth is regarded with deep suspicion. To suggest that there is one, and only one, absolute truth about God is regarded by many today as absurd, foolish, ridiculous, or the sign of an intolerant and weak mind. Sadly, even many modern Christians now view claims of truth and certainty with a good deal of suspicion.

Randy York

REMEMBER In our Prayers...

Thank you for remembering our shut-ins **Helen and Jane Mathews, Margaret Dickenson**. Remember **Esther Katt, Pamela Woodcox, Jan Mansell, Bob and Cora Kern, Ron and Kim Pickinpaugh, Joyce McFarland, Charlie and Millie Thompson, Kurt and Denise Wampole, Randy and Joyce Waters, Roger and Joann Miller and Tony Mantz..** We pray for all who are great with child, including **Nathan and Cat Connell**, who are expecting in September. We pray for all of our troops overseas and their families, for our own young people in uniform - **Kurt Wampole, Jr., Nathan Connell, Noah Nery and Jacob Livoni**.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Sunday School

We may be small, but we are mighty! Thanks to Kim Franzen for teaching classes during December. Thanks to Kawai Kaelberer for teaching in January. Kim Franzen has volunteered to teach again in February and March. We need some more volunteers to be teachers for April and May. Lessons with craft ideas and materials will be provided, and

we can be present to help with lessons. Please contact **Kathy (644-1902) or Eleanor(951) 247- 3839** if you're interested. Thanks for our teacher volunteers who have shared their gifts with our young ones. Thanks to the children for being wonderful blessings to us!

Thanks to all the work Eleanor and Daniel Holm did to make the Jesus Birthday Party so fun in December. The children of Grace had a wonderful and blessed time celebrating the birth of our Savior! We had a fun day filled with the word of the Lord. We enjoyed eating a pancake breakfast, making a manger craft, playing a candy cane game, and decorating a Christmas Tree cupcake for Jesus!

We will have our traditional Easter Egg Hunt in April. We have exciting plans for games and crafts on Palm Sunday and Easter, besides the Easter Egg Hunt. We will have information in the church Sunday bulletin and will make announcements as these events get closer. Stay tuned!

Women's Bible Study

We have just started a new study called "Soul Spa: 40 Days of Spiritual Renewal" by Sharla Fritz. This is the same author of a past Bible Study which we all enjoyed very much and learned more about God's Word. I have extra books that are looking for people to study them! So please come and join us on Thursdays in the Fellowship Hall from 5:30 to 6:30pm to soothe your soul with the Scriptures!

In Christ's Constant Love,

Kathy Holm

BIRTHDAYS FOR FEBRUARY

01	Tristan Travers
02	Jacob Del Rio
05	Jonathan Will
06	Kenny Franzen
08	Stephanie Wallis
09	Judith Belter
	Jessica Wampole
10	David Stehr
17	Bryan Stringham
22	Shane Travers
25	Judy Adams
	JoAnn Miller
26	Jane Stehr
29	Kevin Mitchell

ANNIVERSARIES

14 Roger & Linda

OFFERINGS For JANUARY

January 1-29 - \$19,940

ADDRESS CHANGE: Anthony & Tamara Mahomes, 14826 Bronco Rd., Victorville, CA 92394

LENDING A HAND –

All ushers need to try to be at church by 8:30 a.m. Ushers please call the Elder-of-the-Day the night before if you cannot serve. Thank you

- 5 Richard Franzen Larry Adams, Scott Klemm, Chuck Stringham
- 12 Kurt Wampole Allan Dellinger Bill Choske
- 19 Randy York Jim Kline, Ron Pickinpaugh
- 26 Mike Miller , Mike Draney, Brent Rosen

All Elders for the ordination, February 12 at 3 p.m.
Communion Elder: Randy York

ACOLYTES

- 5 Youth
- 12 “
- 19 “
- 26 “



GREETERS

- 5 Jim & Diane Kline
- 12 Grace Family
- 19 Grace Family
- 26 Dolores Smith



LAY READERS

- 5 Jim & Diane Kline
- 12 Don Belter
- 19 Debbie Schwartz
- 26 Dolores Smith



ALTAR CARE Jeanne Nelson, Lynda Olson

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE FEBRUARY 20TH

FEBRUARY 2017

COUNTING COMMITTEE

- 5 Barbara Dellinger, Brent Rosen
- 12 Mike Draney, Katryn Mantz
- 19 Judi Parker, Anthony Mahomes
- 26 Denise Wampole, Maletta Miller

FLOWER CHART

- 5 Joe & Patti Guerra
- 12 Pastor & Kawai
Andrew & Kathy Holm
- 19 Dolores Smith
- 26 OPEN



ORGANIST/PIANIST

- 5 Dolores Smith
- 12 Gail James
- 19 Dolores Smith
- 26 Gail James

DONUT & COFFEE CLEAN-UP

- 5 Debbie Schwartz
- 12 OPEN
- 19 Barbara Dellinger
- 26 Dolores Smith



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>February 2017</h1>			Worship/Com Service every Sunday at 9:00 AM/Sunday School 10:30 AM Sunday Bible Study at 10:30 AM			
			1 Quilters 6 pm	2 Bible Study 10;30 am Women's Bible Study 5:30 pm Choir 7 pm	3 PASTOR'S DAY OFF OFFICE CLOSED	4
5	6	7 Pastor's Bible Study 7 pm	8 Quilters 6 pm	9 Bible Study 10;30 am Women's Bible Study 5:30 pm Choir 7 pm	10 PASTOR'S DAY OFF OFFICE CLOSED	11
12 Ordination of Daniel Holm 3 pm	13	14 Pastor's Bible Study 7 pm	15 Quilters 6 pm	16 Bible Study 10;30 am Women's Bible Study 5:30 pm Choir 7 pm	17 PASTOR'S DAY OFF OFFICE CLOSED	18 TEMPLE TALK 9-11 AM
19 Council Meets 11:30 am	20 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	21 Pastor's Bible Study 7 pm	22 Quilters 6 pm	23 Bible Study 10:30 am/ B;day Lunch 12:30 pm Women's Bible Study 5:30 pm Choir 7 pm	24 PASTOR'S DAY OFF OFFICE CLOSED	25
26 Voters' Meeting 10:30 am Food Offerings	27 Bd. of Worship 10 am	28 Pastor's Bible Study 7 pm				