

Amazing Grace

May, 2017

Volume 36, Issue # 05



Our mission to the Inland Empire is to be **heralds** of the transforming Gospel of Jesus Christ, **healers** to our brothers and sisters in Christ, and **upholders** of God's will and Word.

COLLECT OF THE DAY Almighty God, through the resurrection of Your Son You have secured peace for our troubled consciences. Grant us this peace evermore that trusting in the merit of Your Son we may come at last to the perfect peace of heaven; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Beloved,

The above is appointed to be prayed on the Tuesday after Easter. I just love how Easter continues, long after the day. By the time you are reading this we will already be entering the 4th week of Easter. The Good Shepherd leads us on May 7th while Jesus tells us of the many mansions for His beloved saints on the 14th. We are not left as orphans, for He comes to us on May 21st. Then, in mid week, on the 25th we watch our Savior ascend as He opens their minds to the beauty of repentance and forgiveness of sins in His name. The month ends with the 7th and final Sunday of Easter as we eavesdrop on the opening to the sweet prayer of Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane as He reminds us that this is eternal life, that they know You, the only true God and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent.

Such Peace-Giving Texts are His gift to us. Many are our needs, from health, for loved ones or for ourselves, to the vicissitudes of life, to the pain of loss. Oh how we need for Easter to be exactly what it is: Christ fully given for us, for you. Peace, yes, peace!

It is easy to lose sight of the victory that Jesus won for us. The needs of the day are like weeds that seek to crowd-out the Rose of Sharon, our Jesus. I invite you, if I may, this May, to keep these promises and this Word close to your heart, and especially when things are tough. Oh, and lets see who we know who need this same comfort, this same Jesus, and lets bring 'em home with us.

With all my love in thankfulness to our Savior who has given me such a blessed Family of Faith, I remain yours,
Pastor Eric

Dear Grace Family,

I would like to thank all family members who helped make the "daring diners deficit reduction dinner" and "yard sale" a complete success! Both of these events raised over \$1,600.00 to go towards our budget. Both of these events took many hours of loving help to be successful. Our God is an awesome God! Our prayer tree, continues to be a blessing for those who are in need of God's loving hand. These prayers that we offer to God are so important to us all. Holy week was such a blessing to us all. Thanks to both Pastor Eric & Daniel as well as all the volunteers who cleaned, prepped, cooked and prepared the sanctuary for this special week.

In Jesus Name,

Ron

REMEMBER in our prayers...

OUR SYMPATHY AND PRAYERS to JoAnn Miller and family. Dear Roger passed away on April 18th after many health problems. He was a faithful member of Grace and both he and JoAnn were active members. The choir was blessed and enriched by both JoAnn and Roger. Roger has served as elder and helped train the acolytes. He will be missed but we know he is at peace and home with Jesus. We invite everyone to celebrate Roger's inheritance of the Kingdom as the beloved son of God on Saturday, May 6th at 11 a.m.

Thank you for remembering our "shut-ins" **Helen and Jane Mathews, Margaret Dickenson, Evelyn Smith, Esther Katt, Pamela Woodcox, Jan Mansell, Joann Miller, Charlie and Millie Thompson, Joyce and Randy Waters, Kurt and Denise Wampole, Bill Choske and step-mother Diane, Clyde Lyons and Tony Mantz.** We pray for **Heather and Jonathan Hathcock** who are expecting an addition to their family. 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.**

EVANGELISM

Friday May 19th: Faith and Family Night at 66ers San Manuel Stadium. We have 37 tickets available for \$8 each, in Section 204, which is behind home plate slightly on the **1st base side**. Sign-up is in the Narthex at church, so if you have not yet signed up or contacted me by email, please do so a.s.a.p. as tickets are going fast. If I have to get more tickets, I'll get them as close to our group as possible.

Saturday May 20th: Rialto's Run Whatcha Brung Car Show. We will have a booth to hand out info about Grace and will need to staff the booth from 9am to 3pm that day. Shifts will be 2 hours each from 9 to 11, 11 to 1, and 1 to 3. A sign-up sheet for shifts is in the Narthex. Additionally, we'd like to entertain the event participants by having members of Grace's choir, or Quartet, or individuals perform at some time throughout the day. If you are interested in assisting us at this event please let us know. And, if you'd like to be a part of a performance, also let us know.

Saturday June 3rd: Daring Diners at Round Table Pizza in Highland from 2pm to 4pm. Round Table will reserve 2 rooms for us and will return a portion of the proceeds from our purchases back to us as a fund raiser. We still are working out the details with them, but we could get back up to 20% depending on the number of attendees. So we can invite extended family and friends to this event. The adjoining rooms will hold up to 50 people. Aside from pizza and salads, this location offers wings, onion rings, fries, burgers, sandwiches, and sliders, and, of course, sodas and beers. Menus are posted in the Narthex next to the sign-up sheet. The restaurant is located at 27961 Highland Ave., Highland, CA.

So mark your calendars for these upcoming events.
Joe

GRACE CRUSADERS AGAINST CANCER AND SCOUTING FOR A CURE are having their annual all you can eat breakfast on Saturday, May 13, from 8-10 am at Grace! The cost is \$8 per person for sausage, eggs, hash browns and pancakes.

Scout leaders are cooking and scouts are serving, you just need to show up. All tickets sold or purchased by members of the church will be credited to the Grace Crusaders team.

This is Mother's Day weekend, so bring all the wonderful moms you know to breakfast. Purchase tickets from Kathy or Debbie. All proceeds go to the American Cancer Society.

STEWARDSHIP

James 1:17 "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change." There are a great many passages in Scripture which echo this theme: everything good we have is from God. He loves to give. He loves to bless. He loves to show us generosity time and again – and He desires that we grow into His image, and reflect His love and open-handed kindness.

Wow! What a reminder of all He has given us. Do you look at your possessions... your house, your car, clothes, jewelry, toys, as the result of your hardwork? Is it really you providing for yourself or your family? Did you do it on your own? Think about it! Your ability to provide is a gift from your loving Father. He gives so lovingly with one request... to reflect his love and generosity so that others may come to know him.

1 Peter 4:10 "As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace." God's grace is His undeserved mercy toward us. And what do we have that is not a gift flowing from God's grace? He means for us to use all these gifts in service toward our neighbor. And chief among the ways we serve one another is to support the Church's work of bringing more of God's grace to more of God's people. And that's what it means to be a steward!

Barbara Dellinger, Stewardship
(Excerpts from LCMS Stewardship Ministry)

YEAR TO DATE BUDGET SNAPSHOT:

Congratulations! The entire congregation has responded generously to the fiscal challenges of this year's budget. As of April 30th, with one third of the year behind us, we have had total income (regular offerings, interest, scrip income and special deficit reduction offerings) of \$73,469.74 against a projected income of \$65,453.26. Our year to date expenses total \$68,563.98 which means we have a budget surplus of \$4,905.76 year to date! This means that we have a little cushion going into the summer vacation months. The church council continues to look for ways to keep expenses under control as we look ahead to some major necessary maintenance work in the coming months. Thank you for your continued faithful stewardship.

CONTINUING OUR STUDY ...

Through the Lutheran Confessions, we have our first installment on Holy Baptism. It may sound familiar, and it should, for it brings such comfort and it identifies us as Christ's own. Read and enjoy – Randy York

Baptism

(From the commentary on Article V of the Smalcald Articles from Concordia, the Lutheran Confessions)

Echoing the language he uses in his Small Catechism, Luther emphasizes that the power and promise of Holy Baptism are located entirely in the life-giving Word of mercy and grace. Therefore, he rejects any notion that the water by itself or the action in the ritual have any spiritual power. Rather, God's Word is the key to Baptism's strength and blessing. Certainly infants and children should be baptized, for they are just as much a part of Christ's redeeming work and God's kingdom as anyone else.

The Small Catechism, By Martin Luther

Part IV The Sacrament of Holy Baptism

First... **What is Baptism?**

Answer: Baptism is not simple water only, but it is the water included in God's command and connected with God's Word.

Which is that Word of God?

Answer: Christ, our Lord, says in the last chapter of Matthew, "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit" (Matthew 29:19).

Second... **What does Baptism give or profit?**

Answer: It works forgiveness of sins, delivers from death and the devil, and gives eternal salvation to all who believe this, as the words and promises of God declare.

Third... **How can water do such great things?**

Answer: It is not the water indeed that does them, but the Word of God which is in and with the water, and faith, which trusts this Word of God in the water. For without the Word of God the water is simple water and no Baptism, but with the Word of God it is a Baptism, that is, a gracious water of life and a washing of regeneration in the Holy Spirit. As St. Paul says in Titus, chapter three, "He saved us... by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that being justified by His grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life. The saying is trustworthy" (vv.5-8).

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY TO ALL MOTHERS...

and remembering those that have gone home. Memories are forever.

MOTHER'S RECIPES

Most women have a pantry filled
With spices, herbs and stuff,
Salt and sugar, yeast and flour
But that's not quite enough.
My mom's the finest cook on earth
And she told me long ago
That bread's no good unless you add
Some loving to the dough.
"And when you're baking pies," she says
"A pinch of faith and trust,
If added to the shortening makes
A tender, flaky crust;
And compassion by the spoonful
In the batter of a cake,
Makes it come out light and fluffy,
Just the finest you can make."
Now these things can't be purchased
in the store across the way;
But mother keeps them in her heart
And uses them each day.

BIRTHDAYS FOR MAY

- 02 Tamara Mahomes
- 08 Savannah Rose Travers
- 13 Kurt Wampole Jr.
- 15 Maletta Miller
- 17 Sophie Little
- 18 Nathan Pickinpaugh
- 19 Carla Del Rio
- 20 Nathaniel Petrovick
- 22 Mike Draney
Hannah Villaseñor
- 24 Rick Little
- 28 Patrick Holm
Heather Hathcock

ANNIVERSARIES FOR MAY

- 02 Randy & Gail York
- 20 Tony & Katryn Mantz
- 29 Dave & Sue Nehls

OFFERINGS FOR APRIL

\$19,036

LENDING A HAND –

May 2017

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

- 7 Mike Miller Chuck Stringham, Bill Choske
- 14 Richard Franzen Jim Kline, Ron Pickinpaugh
- 21 Brent Rosen Mike Draney
- 28 Kurt Wampole ... Larry Adams, Scott Klemm, Allan Dellinger

Communion Elder: Kurt Wampole

ACOLYTES

- 7 Youth
- 14 “
- 21 “
- 28 “



GREETERS

- 7 Jim & Diane Kline
- 14 Grace Family
- 21 Dolores Smith
- 28 Richard & Kim Franzen



LAY READERS

- 7 Don Belter
- 14 Joe Guerra
- 21 Randy York
- 28 Debbie Schwartz



ALTAR CARE Jeanne Nelson, Lynda Olsen
 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE MAY 22nd .

COUNTING COMMITTEE

- 7 Mike Miller, Ron Pickinpaugh
- 14 Barbara Dellinger, Brent Rosen
- 21 Mike Draney, Katryn Mantz
- 28 Denise Wampole, Maletta Miller

FLOWER CHART

- 7 Pastor & Kawai
Andrew & Kathy Holm
- 14 OPEN
- 21 Ron & Kim Pickinpaugh
Greg & Jeanne Nelson
- 28 Andrew & Kathy olm



ORGANIST/PIANIST

- 7 Dolores Smith
- 14 Dolores Smith
- 21 Gail James
- 28 Gail James

DONUT & COFFEE CLEAN-UP

- 7 OPEN
- 14 Jeanne Nelson
- 21 Barbara Dellinger
- 28 Dolores Smith



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
<h1>May 2017</h1>			Worship/Com Service every Sunday at 9:00 AM/Sunday School 10:30 AM Sunday Bible Study at 10:30 AM				
	1	2 Pastor's Bible Study 7 pm	3 Quilters 6 pm	4 Bible Study 10:30 a Women's Bible Study 5:30 pm Choir 7 pm	5 PASTOR'S DAY OFF OFFICE CLOSED	6 Memorial service for Roger Miller at 11 am	
7	8	9 Pastor's Bible Study 7 pm	10 Quilters 6 pm	11 Bible Study 10:30 a Women's Bible Study 5:30 pm Choir 7 pm	12 PASTOR'S DAY OFF OFFICE CLOSED	13 Relay for Life Breakfast 8 - 10 am Temple Talk	
14 MOTHER'S DAY`	15	16 Pastor's Bible Study 7 pm	17 Quilters 6 pm	18 Bible Study 10:30 a Women's Bible Study 5:30 pm Choir 7 pm	19 PASTOR'S DAY OFF OFFICE CLOSED 66ers Baseball Night	20 Rialto Car Show 9am-3pm Armed Forces Day	
21 VOTERS' MEETING 10:30 am	22 Bd. Of Worship 10 am NL DEADLINE	23 Pastor's Bible Study 7 pm	24 Quilters 6 pm	25 Bible Study 10:30 a Women's Bible Study 5:30 pm Choir 7 pm B'day Lunch Bunch 12:30 pm	26 PASTOR'S DAY OFF OFFICE CLOSED	27	
28 FOOD OFFERING	29 Memorial Day	30 Pastor's Bible Study 7 pm	31 Quilters 6 pm				