

THE GLEANINGS

of Grace Lutheran Church



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REV. BENJAMIN G. BAHR, PASTOR

March/April 2018



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In 1 Corinthians 15:1-8, St. Paul reminds the church of the gospel and its work in the life of the church. Here it is, outlined for the sake of clarity:

“Now I would remind you, brothers, of

I. The gospel

- A. ***I preached to you,***
- B. ***which you received,***
- C. ***in which you stand,***
- D. ***and by which you are being saved,***
 - i) *if you hold fast to the word I preached to you-*
 - ii) *unless you believed in vain.*

For I delivered to you as of first importance what

II. Also received:

- A. ***that Christ died for our sins***
 - i) *in accordance with the Scriptures*
- B. ***that He was buried***
- C. ***that He was raised***
 - i) *on the third day*
 - ii) *in accordance with the Scriptures*
- D. ***and that He appeared***
 - i) *to Cephas,*
 - ii) *then to the twelve,*

- iii) *then He appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time,*
 - (1) *most of whom are still alive,*
 - (2) *though some have fallen asleep.*
- iv) *Then He appeared to James,*
- v) *then to all the apostles.*
- vi) *He appeared also to me,*
 - (1) *last of all,*
 - (2) *as to one untimely born.”*

This same gospel we too have received, preached to us by the first witnesses of the resurrection. This chapter, which begins so boldly with a declaration of the foundation of the Church, ends with two equally stirring statements:

- ⁵⁷“Thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.”
- ⁵⁸“Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.”

The church’s life comes not from our acts but from God’s power in the gospel. Our work is the fruit of the Holy Spirit, who leads us to desire passionately that God’s will be done. May God guide you throughout this Lent and Easter season to a renewed commitment to His Word, a new dedication to His ministry, and a new zeal for His gospel.

See you at worship!

Pastor Bahr

IC | XC
NI | KA

March 2018

Lutheran Hour Radio 9:30AM WXRL 1300

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Head Ushers: <i>Ron Schulz & Randy Broecker</i>	Altar: <i>Ursula Zimmerman</i>			1	2	3 Grace Ladies Bake Sale @ American Legion 9A-3P
4 9A Sunday School & ABS 10:30A Worship (HC)	5 6:30P Survivors Group	6 6-8P Confirmation 6:30P Diabetes Ed.	7 10A ABS 5:30P Simple Supper 6:30P Worship 7P Choir	8	9	10
☀ Day Light Savings ☀ 11 9A Sunday School & ABS 10:30A Worship 11:30A Social Ministry Meeting	12 6:30P Survivors Group	13 6-8P Confirmation	14 10A ABS 5:30P Simple Supper 6:30P Worship 7P Choir	15 6P Elders Meeting	16	17 St Patrick's Day
18 9A Sunday School & ABS 10:30A Worship (HC)	19 6:30P Survivors Group	☀ 1st Day of Spring ☀ 20 Grace Ladies: GABFEST 6-8P Confirmation	21 10A ABS 5:30P Simple Supper 6:30P Worship 7P Choir	22	23	24 Church Clean Up 9A-1P
† PALM SUNDAY † 25 9A Sunday School & ABS 10:30A Worship 11:30A Coffee Fellowship START OF HOLY WEEK	26 6:30P Survivors Group	27 6-8P-NO Confirmation	28 10A NO ABS 7P NO Choir	Maundy Thurs. 29 6:30P Worship (HC) 7:30P Choir	Good Friday 30 12P Worship 7P Worship	31 Sanctuary unavailable Easter Sunday→

ABS – Adult Bible Study

(HC) – Holy Communion

April 2018

Lutheran Hour Radio 9:30AM WXRL 1300

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
†☀ Easter Sunday ☀† 1 7A Sunrise Service 8A Breakfast 9A Sunday School & ABS 10:30A Worship (HC)	OFFICE CLOSED 2	3 6-8P NO Confirmation 6:30P Diabetes Ed.	4 10A NO ABS 7P NO Choir	5	6	7
8 9A Sunday School & ABS 10:30A Worship	9 6:30P Survivors Group	10 6-8P Confirmation	11 10A ABS 7P Choir	12	13	14
15 9A Sunday School & ABS 10:30A Worship (HC)	16 <i>May Gleanings Submissions Due</i> 6:30P Survivors Group	17 6-8P NO Confirmation	18 10A NO ABS 7P Choir	19	20	21
22 9A Sunday School & ABS 10:30A Worship 11:30A Coffee Fellowship	23 6:30P Survivors Group	24 6P Grace Ladies: Soup Supper with Chet Ferry 6-8P Confirmation	25 10A ABS 7P Choir	26	27	RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE 9A-1P
29 9A Sunday School & ABS 10:30A Worship (HC)	30 6:30P Survivors Group			Head Ushers: Dick Crawford & Mark Binkley	Altar: Ursula Zimmerman	

ABS – Adult Bible Study

(HC) – Holy Communion

Sunday School

MUSIC – SINGING PRAISES TO GOD – Our Sunday School students have a 15 min. music session each Sunday (shorter when we have Opening the 1st Sunday of each month in church with Pastor Bahr) where we work on learning several songs. Mrs. Amy Folmsbee leads us and gets us ready to sing in worship, usually once a month. The following are upcoming dates that our Sunday School students will be singing at our **10:30AM worship services**. Please plan on staying for church to sing!! We usually have 4 or 5 staff that sing with us, but we need those student voices. Here are the dates for the rest of this school year:

Sunday, March 11 Easter Sunday, April 1

Mother's Day, May 13 and June 10 – our last Sunday this school year

OFFERING ENVELOPES – We have new boxes of offering envelopes and have been handing them out the last couple weeks. The envelopes are good from Jan. 2018 to Jan. 2019. Let your teacher know if you need a box. Please try to bring an offering each Sunday to help support our Sunday School. Thanks!!



Save the Date

FREE Vacation Bible School

July 9th—13th, 2018 6-8 PM

Registration Coming Soon!



MARCH SPECIAL MISSION ENVELOPES (found in your envelope packets) are designated to support SOLES FOR SOULS, the mission project of this year's Penny War. Our donations will be used in Puerto Rico to provide shoes for those who lost all of their personal possessions last September when two major hurricanes hit the island within a two week period. Many children in rural areas are without shoes, and cannot return to school until they have a pair to wear. Each \$1 donated allows SOLES FOR SOULS to provide a pair of shoes for someone in need.



UPCOMING EVENTS

YOUNG LIFE FUNDRAISING BANQUET
THURSDAY, MARCH 22nd 6:15 PM - 8:30
PM
CLASSICS V BANQUET CENTER

**THERE IS NO CHARGE FOR THIS
DINNER.**

If you wish to support Young Life, free will donations will be accepted during this event. Please sign up on the glass case in the chapel to reserve your seat if you plan to attend. Tables will be reserved for Grace members and friends.

Young Life is an interdenominational organization with local chapters run by Christian adult volunteers. They believe that kids' lives can be dramatically influenced when caring adults meet them on their turf and their culture, sharing God's love. They help youth see that their lives have worth, meaning, and purpose.

Dick Crawford has been associated with Young Life for many years and will be glad to answer your questions about this wonderful Christian organization that is reaching out to our local youth.

YOU'RE INVITED TO OUR NEXT MEETING!

The Social Ministries Committee will meet after worship on March 11. New members are always welcome. We meet five times each year for about an hour, and a light lunch is shared during the meeting. Please consider joining us as we continue to make tough decisions on how to help our neighbors in Christ. There is no need to reserve space ahead of time—just plan to join us on March 11 after worship.

APRIL SPECIAL MISSION ENVELOPE donations will be used to establish a Benevolence Fund at Grace. This fund will be an ongoing resource for Pastor Bahr's ministry for his use in cases of emergencies, such as an immediate need for food, gasoline, payment of a utility bill, overnight housing, etc. Often times when this type of need is brought to Pastor Bahr's attention, it is of an urgent nature. Having a Benevolence Fund available would ensure that the individual or family in need of assistance can receive the help they require. If you would like to assist in establishing this fund, please place your special mission envelope in the offering plate during April.

ONGOING PROJECTS

CARD MINISTRY—Please let Trish Andrews know if you are aware of a member or friend who is experiencing an illness, injury, personal loss or challenge, and we will send them a card to let them know we are thinking of them and keeping them in prayer.

OLD GLASSES & HEARING AIDS can be donated on the glass case. These will be refurbished by the Lion's Club and distributed throughout the world to those who otherwise would not be able to see or hear.

TOILETRY SAMPLES that you receive in the mail or from hotel visits are needed by the Magdalene Project in Niagara Falls as they reach out to ladies living and working on the streets with the love of Jesus. Please leave them in the basket on the glass case in the chapel.

MINISTRY UPDATES

THANK YOU for your generous donations to our special mission envelopes for January. With matching funds from the Social Ministries budget, we were able to donate \$500 to support Young Life. Grace will be listed as a Silver Sponsor in the sponsorship booklet at their annual fundraising banquet, and in their annual golf tournament program.

MARCH 11 is the date this year for our Penny War's Loose Change Sunday. On that day we encourage those who wish to participate to "lose" their donation of change or paper money from their pocket or purse onto their pew at the end of the worship service. Our children will hunt for your donations and add what they find to their class banks to earn points. You can read more about our project, Soles for Souls, on the next page.

PENNY WAR MISSION PROJECT 2018

“SOLES FOR SOULS”

FEBRUARY 18 - MARCH 25

On September 7, 2017, Hurricane Irma passed just north of Puerto Rico as a Category 5 hurricane, destroying thousands of homes and leaving 1 million residents without power. Two weeks, later, on September 20, Hurricane Maria passed directly over the island as a Category 4 hurricane with sustained winds of 155 mph. Additional structures that had survived Irma were destroyed by the winds. Flooding up to 15 feet followed, water supplies were cut off, and most of the agriculture of the island was destroyed. Their aging power grid was completely destroyed, plunging all of the island's 3.4 million residents into darkness. Most communication networks were cut off. The damage to the power grid was so severe that currently—five months later—almost 30% of the island remains without power, and it is estimated that it could be another eight months before all power is restored.

Amazingly, most of the schools in Puerto Rico have reopened, though many of them remain without power. Opening the schools was a priority so that the children have a safe place to go during the day. However, children cannot attend school if they do not have shoes to wear. And many families lost their clothing, shoes, and other personal belongings in the storms.

This year's PENNY WAR will raise money for SOLES FOR SOULS, a charity that provides shoes to the poor throughout the world. We will be able to designate our donations to SOLES FOR SOULS for the people of Puerto Rico. Because many of the shoes that SOLES FOR SOULS distributes are donated by shoe companies, they are able to distribute new shoes at a very low cost. In fact,

EACH \$1.00 DONATED = 1 PAIR OF SHOES!

HOW YOU CAN HELP: *There are several ways that you can donate to our mission project. ALL TYPES OF MONEY CAN BE DONATED (pennies, nickels, dimes, quarters, and paper money). Donations may be given to any of our Sunday School students for their class banks to help them earn points for their team. There will also be a donation jar located on the glass case in the chapel. March special mission envelope donations are designated for SOLES FOR SOULS. And our LOOSE CHANGE SUNDAY will be held on March 11. On that day, we will encourage those who wish to participate to leave a donation on their pew at the end of the worship service. Our students will hunt for the donations and add what they find to their class banks.*

We will keep track of our Sunday School teams' progress weekly, and our final totals and winners will be announced on Easter Sunday. Of course, the REAL winners will be the children of Puerto Rico as they receive their new shoes! So let's "put on the armor of God...and shoes that prepare us to preach the good news of peace with God" (Ephesians 6). Get ready, get set, and let the fun begin!

“Onward Christian soldiers, marching as to war, with the cross of Jesus going on before!”

Grace Lutheran Sunday School All-Stars

The following students had faithful attendance during the month of January.

KG & 1st Grade

Daniel Bahr
Audrey Markel
Nevaeh'a Haley

2nd – 5th Grades

John Bahr
Julia Dixon
Marissa Majka
Stewart Smith

Toddlin to Jesus

Michael Bahr
Mariah Majka
Abram Smith

6th – 12th Grades

Alexis Majka
Abigail Markel
Haley Markel

Great Job Everyone!

Announcements

Grace Ladies: Bake Sale MARCH 3

Please come out and support the Grace Ladies on Saturday, March 3rd from 9A-1P at the Indoor Garage Sale held at the American Legion on Ward Road.

Grace Ladies: GABFEST MARCH 20

Shirley Somers will be hosting GABFEST on Tuesday March 20th

Grace Ladies: Church Clean up MARCH 24

All Hands On DECK! We need your help cleaning up the Church Saturday, March 24th from 9A-1P. Please come out, even if only for a short while. Every little bit helps!

Grace Ladies: Soup Supper with Chet Ferry (the bread man) APRIL 24

Join the Ladies and Chet Ferry for a soup dinner Tuesday, April 24th at 6pm. Hosted by Brenda Boyd and Jane Hughes.

Easter Flower Orders are under way!

Purple order forms are available on the Glass case.
Please give them to Erika Tuscher or Ursula Zimmerman by **Sunday, March 18th**.
You'll be able to pick up your flowers after the 10:30 AM Easter Morning Service.

Grace Lutheran Church
736 Cayuga Drive
Niagara Falls, NY 14304

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Special Announcements/Upcoming Events

WORSHIP SERVICES

Divine Service:
Sundays @ 10:30A

Special Services:
Lent: Wednesdays starting
Ash Wednesday, Feb 14th to
March 21st @ 6:30P

EDUCATION

Sunday School:
Sundays @ 9:00A

Adult Bible Study:
Sundays @ 9:00A
Wednesdays @ 10:00A

GRACE LADIES

NEXT MEETING:
March 20th
GABFEST
Hostess: Shirley Somers

April 24th
Soup Supper with Chet
Ferry (the bread man)
@ 6pm

SOCIAL MINISTRY

NEXT MEETING:
March 11th
11:30A after worship
*New members are always
welcome.

Loose Change Sunday:
March 11th

Issue

02

Mar/Apr
2018