

✠ **SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST** ✠  
Saturday, 5:00 p.m., September 3, 2016 ~ Sunday, 9:30 a.m., September 4, 2016

**Grace Lutheran's Purpose Statement**

***“We share God’s love by welcoming all and  
making a Christ-like difference in our community and world.”***

**HYMNS**

**G–R858** Praise to the Lord, the Almighty  
**Psalm 1** (Psalms begin page 339)  
**D–R801** Change My Heart, O God  
**C–R815** I Want to Walk as a Child of the  
Light  
**S– R798** Will You Come and Follow Me

**WELCOME TO OUR CHURCH**

Welcome to our guests and visitors who are with us today. We hope you feel at home in our midst and look forward to seeing you again. If you would like more information about Grace Lutheran, the pastor or ushers can help you. Please consider your presence to be your gift to us. No other is necessary or expected. Thank you for worshiping with us today.

**IN OUR PRAYERS**

In observance of our covenant with the LARCC (Lutheran, Anglican, Roman Catholic and Congregational UCC) parishes of Alpena, we pray each week for a specific ministry of one of the 8 LARCC parishes. Today we pray for the Children’s Program at First Congregational UCC.

**PRAYERS**

Gerald Lancaster, Gar Nicholls, Bunny Lyon, Judy Kautz, Debbie Anderson, Marilyn Whitscell, Erv Simi, Jeanette Grove, Elfie Jahnke, Lorraine Leathead, Gloria Moore, Dave Chroninger, Harold & Jean Kissau, Jim Malaski, Karen & Walter Spigelmyre, Dorothy Gentry, Emma Nelson, Julie Troy, Jeff Lee, Conrad Addison, David Schaedig, Linda Norton, Bishop Craig Satterlee, Cody Gustin, Brett & Katie Schoner, Eric Carlson, Martin Suszek, Larry Beaudoin, Shirley Johnson, Mike Knoblett, Dennis Diamond, Stuart Grenkowicz, and the Dorr family. We also remember the family of Sawyer Boyd, who passed away Sunday, August 28.

*Our prayer list is redone each month. If you, or a family member, would like to continue on the prayer list, please call the office (354-2640).*

**ALTAR FLOWERS**

In celebration of Clarence & Bonnie Cross’ 44th wedding anniversary, September 2.

**LARGE PRINT WORSHIP FOLDERS**

Large print worship folders, including hymns and weekly bulletin are available. Please ask the ushers for one.

## **ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

### **Chair for the Study of Atheism**

Atheism is a significant topic in the religious landscape of America today. Why do you think it has become more prominent, with numerous popular books on the topic and seemingly more people claiming it as their philosophy? What does that say about religion in America today? Join us at 11 in the Lounge for discussion.

### **SAVE THE DATE!!!**

**God's Work, Our Hands Sunday - 9/11/16**

**LUTHER MANOR:** Cleaning gardens and planting mums - bring garden tools

**GRACE CEMETERY:** Cleaning headstones per direction of Sandra Christopherson and Thelma Stevens. Power washers are needed for this project.

**\*\*A sack lunch will be provided for everyone.**

We will eat right after church and then head out to do our projects. Wear your work clothes to church!!

**\*\*Youth will be helping at Huron Humane Society, probably on Saturday. List is available for us to donate items on their Wish List.**

**\*\*Sign-up sheet is in the Narthex. Please designate where you will be helping. Also indicate if you have a power washer you can bring.**

Any questions, call:

Dawn Anderson, Chairperson (657-6923)

Joelyn Rich (340-0592)

### **GENERAL FUND GIVING**

Average needed each week to meet budget	\$ 3,981.00
Weekly giving - August 21	\$ 3,000.00
Year-to-date over/(under)	(\$ 6,235.00)

## **INTERFAITH AMIGOS**

### **Workshops and Presentation**

**Their coming! September 22**

### **PLEASE REGISTER**

**11 AM Workshop @ ACC**

**Creating Trust in an Interfaith Environment**

**2 PM Workshop at ACC**

**The Value of a Core Teaching**

Register for the daytime workshops by calling 657.9474

or

emailing [ifaalpena@gmail.com](mailto:ifaalpena@gmail.com)

**7 PM Presentation @ AHS**

**Challenges to Interfaith Cooperation**

No need to register for evening program.

See Pastor Tom for more details

### **WE NEED YOU, YOU OLD BAG**

Needed: plastic Neiman's/Walmart/Meijer-type plastic bags. Bags are being used to make mats for people to sleep on. We have three mats made already and our workers are anxious to make more, but plastic bag supply has run low. We can use all the bags you can bring us. Please place them in the recycling box in the Fellowship Hall. Thanks!

### **CHURCH DIRECTORY INFORMATION**

Have you changed your phone number? Gone to just a cell phone? Have a new email? Please let the office know so we have the latest information.

Remember...we email the weekly bulletins and monthly newsletters to our members. If you are not receiving yours, please check with the office to make sure we have the correct email address on file. Thanks.

In this season of our lives we can welcome the transformative action of the Divine as we name and embrace our emotions. In examining particular patterns experienced with some of the painful emotions--specifically anger, shame and fear--we can become more deeply attuned to God's wisdom and compassion for ourselves and others. This time of input, reflection and sharing is an invitation to grow in your understanding and acceptance of the unique person you are. The retreat will be led by Jessie Vicha, who holds an M.A. in Spirituality from Loyola University Chicago. See flyer on bulletin board for more information. **Please bring a bag lunch, beverages will be provided. Suggested donation \$20.00.** **Registration ends September 14.** Call New Life Lutheran at 989.736.7816 or email [newlifeluth@gmail.com](mailto:newlifeluth@gmail.com) to register.

## SERVING THIS WEEK

**Ministers** ..... God's People  
**Pastor** ..... Rev. Tom Orth  
**Music Director** ..... Berniece Lyon  
**Lector** ..... Dawn Anderson  
**Communion Assts.** ..... Clarence & Bonnie Cross  
**Ushers** .. Joel & Logan Suszek, Gary & Kay Grove,  
                   Jo Ann Smith, Bev Attwell, Rick  
                   Engstrom, Tom Brennan (Saturdays)  
**Greeters** ..... Rich & Sherie McTaggart  
**Hospital** ..... Janet Chroninger  
**Altar Guild** ..... Sherie McTaggart, Sandy Malaski,  
                   Bonnie Cross  
**Counters** ..... Cheryl Lang, Cindy Suszek  
**Coffee Hour** ..... Vicki, Trevor, Taylor &  
                   Isabelle Denstaedt

## HAPPENING THIS WEEK!

**Sunday - 4th**

**9:30 a.m.          Worship**  
11:00 a.m.        Adult CE - Lounge

## Monday - 5th

**CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED**  
6:00 p.m.      Remembering Our  
Children - Lounge

**Tuesday - 6th**

9:00 a.m.	Sewing/Quilting
3:30-7:00 p.m.	Lounge Reserved
7:00 p.m.	Property WG
	Organizational Mtg.

### Wednesday - 7th

5-6:30 p.m. Sanctuary Reserved

**Friday - 9th**

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

**Saturday - 10th**

**5:00 p.m.      Worship**

## SERVING NEXT WEEK

**Ministers** ..... God's People  
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**Music Director** ..... Berniece Lyon  
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**Communion Assts.** ..... Clarence & Bonnie Cross  
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                   Jo Ann Smith, Bev Attwell, Rick  
                   Engstrom, Tom Brennan (Saturdays)  
**Greeters** ..... Jo Ann Smith, Everett Haske  
**Hospital** ..... Janet Chroninger  
**Altar Guild** ..... Sherie McTaggart, Sandy Malaski,  
                   Bonnie Cross  
**Counters** ..... Cheryl Lang, Cindy Suszek  
**Coffee Hour** .... Corky Gates, Patti MacNeill, Phran  
                   Ludington

**FIRST READING**                      **Deuteronomy 30:15-20**

<sup>15</sup>See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. <sup>16</sup>If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the LORD your God, walking in his ways, and observing his

commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. <sup>17</sup>But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, <sup>18</sup>I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. <sup>19</sup>I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, <sup>20</sup>loving the LORD your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the LORD swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.

**PSALM 1** (Psalms begin page 339)

**SECOND READING Philemon 1-21**

<sup>1</sup>Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, To Philemon our dear friend and co-worker, <sup>2</sup>to Apphia our sister, to Archippus our fellow soldier, and to the church in your house: <sup>3</sup>Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup>When I remember you in my prayers, I always thank my God <sup>5</sup>because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith toward the Lord Jesus. <sup>6</sup>I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective when you perceive all the good that we may do for Christ. <sup>7</sup>I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother. <sup>8</sup>For this reason, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do your duty, <sup>9</sup>yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love—and I, Paul, do this as an old man, and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. <sup>10</sup>I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment. <sup>11</sup>Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful both to you and to me. <sup>12</sup>I am sending him, that is,

my own heart, back to you. <sup>13</sup>I wanted to keep him with me, so that he might be of service to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel; <sup>14</sup>but I preferred to do nothing without your consent, in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced. <sup>15</sup>Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back forever, <sup>16</sup>no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brother—especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord. <sup>17</sup>So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. <sup>18</sup>If he has wronged you in any way, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. <sup>19</sup>I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self. <sup>20</sup>Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. <sup>21</sup>Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.

**GOSPEL Luke 14:25-33**

<sup>25</sup>Now large crowds were traveling with [Jesus;] and he turned and said to them, <sup>26</sup>“Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. <sup>27</sup>Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. <sup>28</sup>For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? <sup>29</sup>Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, <sup>30</sup>saying, ‘This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.’ <sup>31</sup>Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? <sup>32</sup>If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. <sup>33</sup>So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions.”

<b>GRACE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH</b>		<b>119 W. Dunbar St., Alpena, MI 49707</b>
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<b>Pastor: Rev. Thomas W. Orth ~ Web Site: <a href="http://www.gracelutheran-alpena.org">www.gracelutheran-alpena.org</a></b>		
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