



A Ransom for Many and A King's Ransom

Instructing us to serve others, rather than sitting back and expecting others to serve us, our Lord Jesus Christ puts Himself forth as our example. He tells us this is the reason He came to earth; He came to serve people and fulfill humanity's greatest need by giving His own life as a paid ransom for our eternal salvation. His sacrificial service was the greatest of all "king's ransoms."

What's a king's ransom?

In 1193, King Richard I of England, also known as Richard the Lionheart, was returning from a Crusade in the Holy Land. As he returned through Europe, Leopold V captured him in Austria. The Holy Roman Emperor, Henry VII, seized the opportunity. Even though the pope excommunicated him for trying it, Henry VII demanded an enormous ransom from England for their King to be released. The price was to be 150,000 marks or three tons of silver. The people of England willingly paid a 25% property tax and many nobles donated their fortunes. After many months, a "king's ransom" was finally raised and England's beloved King Richard was returned to England.

For Jesus, a "king's ransom" meant that the king would pay the price for all the people and not the other way around. And this Jesus did willingly; but not with silver or gold or anything this world values. Jesus paid the price with blood, His own sinless blood as the Son of God. The apostle Peter couldn't help but proclaim the significance of this joyous truth. *"For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed... but with the precious blood Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect."* (1 Peter 1:18-19) This is what it means to serve others. **This is how much the Lord serves you and me!** *For the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and give His life as a ransom for many.* (Matthew 20:28)

In His service,

Pastor Charles Reich



VOICE
OF
GRACE

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www.glwh.org

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Voters' Assembly

September 19 & September 20 after Each Worship Service in the Sanctuary

Information, reports and proposed motions will be provided for membership prior to meeting

New Sunday Bible Study Starting September 13 Trinity Hall - 9:45 AM Led by Vicar Michael Duffy

Join us in Trinity Hall as we resume our large group Bible Study. Vicar Michael Duffy will be leading us through a study of 1 John. We will explore in this epistle a beautiful testimony by John of Jesus as true God. And as the Son of God, he forgives us our sins and presents us with a new life of love, living in the light of the love of the Father.

Small Groups This Fall

Our Small Groups will be meeting this October to discuss a very timely book, *"Anxious for Nothing"* by Max Lucado. This is the perfect time to join a group and for new groups to form, especially digital groups. We're now seeking both Participants and Facilitators. Sign up today. Go to www.glwh.org/smallgroups and fill out the registration page, or fill out a form in the blue pages and drop it off at the church office front desk. Feel free to order your own copy or email us at frontdesk@glwh.org and we'll order one for you. We have 50 copies available for \$12 each in the church office.

Sunshine Club News

Happy September to all of the Sunshine Club members. I know being apart is very challenging, especially when it means missing the wonderful company of each other at our monthly meetings. As always, putting the health and well-being of our members first is the most important approach right now. I hope that you are staying connected with our wonderful church and ministry teams and that you are staying safe and healthy. So what can we do to stay connected during this time? **PRAY**. We can pray for the ministries at Grace church and the children and families who attend our life-changing school...that they may hear the Gospel every day and grow in love of their Lord Jesus. Pray for our teachers who are the seed sowers...that the Holy Spirit would give them the courage and the words to help the children see Jesus as their friend and Savior.

There are things we can't control right now. But we know who controls all things. Trust in Jesus and his saving grace...and pray for our church and school. That is something we can do together.

Blessings,
Tammi Straughn, Sunshine Club coordinator

OUTREACH

Mission Projects & Assimilation

The Going Teams exist to help each generation of Grace *connect people to Jesus*. Would you like to help us GO and bring the good news of Jesus to our neighbors, to our community, and to the nations? Please give us a call, 293-8447 or email Jeff Wittcop (jwittcop@glwh.org) and we would be glad to help you get involved!

YOU'RE INVITED to our Going Team Meeting on Tuesday, September 15, at 6:30 PM in the Mary-Martha Room. Join us as we discover ways to reach out into our church community, neighborhoods, and be involved in national and international missions. For more information, contact Jeff Wittcop, Director of Outreach and Assimilation at 863-293-8447, or email jwittcop@glwh.org.

BOND

LEARN

ENGAGE

SERVE

SHARE

Grace members are mindful of B.L.E.S.S. and equipped and encouraged to put it into practice as they are "Going" to the neighbor.

SEPTEMBER MISSION PARTNERS

THE MISSION

Anchor House Ministries

Missionary Support
Papua New Guinea

JFL JOBS for LIFE™

Jobs for Life is now enrolling for their fall class which begins September 15 with an Open House. Classes meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays beginning September 17 to November 10, with graduation on November 12.

Champions are needed for each student who enrolls. See Judy Hinsch or call 561-859-1883 for more Information.

Student applications are available in the Church Office.

Grace Lutheran Church is a Mission Partner with Heart for Winter Haven which sponsors Jobs for Life.

THANK YOU NOTES RECEIVED

We received thank you notes for our prayers and gifts received from Redeeming Life Ministry and Meals on Wheels.

Want to connect with our community and learn more about what we believe?

Here is your invitation to "Discover Grace"

Child care is available!
Conversational classes take place over four Wednesday evenings in the Mary-Martha Room from 5:30 to 7:30 PM.

Dates:

9/23

9/30

10/7

10/14

Weekly Topics:

Starting with Grace

Why Jesus? • Why the Bible? • Law & Gospel

The God of Grace

Who is God? • Who is Jesus? • Who is the Holy Spirit?

Delivering Grace

Baptism • Communion • Confession & Absolution

Living in Grace

The Church • Worship • Prayer • Christian Life

CALENDAR

September 15: Going Team Meeting 6:30
September 15: Jobs for Life Open House
September 17: Jobs for Life Classes begin
September 23: Discover Grace Class begins
September 24: Serving Lunch at The Mission
September 26: Soup Kitchen @ First Presb.

Youth Ministry

Beginning September 9, Youth Group will resume our regular schedule. All you need to remember is 2, 4, 6, 8!

Youth Group meets the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month from 6:00 - 8:00 PM. In September and October, please eat before you arrive. We may have a lite snack but are going to avoid serving food for safety and sanitizing reasons during the COVID outbreak.

We will have three small groups meeting starting in September; please meet your small group in your designated area. We will play a zoom game/ice breaker from our separate meeting spots; have small group Bible study time; and those who wish, can stay for a social distanced game in the gym.

6:00 - 7:30 PM Small group time.

- Social distancing/masks optional: Meet at the school picnic pavilion. (Parents, please drop off in the school parking lot. The small group leader will have the gate open by 6:00 PM)
 - Boys only: School library/masks required.
- Girls only: Youth Room/masks required.

7:30 - 8:00 PM Social distanced active game in the gym.

Confirmation

All 7th and 8th grade students are welcome to participate in Confirmation instruction at Grace Lutheran! Please contact Pastor Reich or Miss Leah if you have any questions or know a middle school student you'd like to have get involved.

Confirmation instruction: 1st, 3rd, and 5th Wednesday of each month from 6:00 - 7:30 PM. Meet in the Mary-Martha Room. (Orientation and first lesson will take place on August 19. If you missed the meeting, contact Leah Welter at lwelter@glwh.org for a copy of the power point.

If you haven't yet enrolled in confirmation instruction, please use the following link to register online:

<https://forms.gle/yXMTKVT4pmV9hjqQ8>

The confirmation retreat at Warren Willis IS happening, and it's happening soon! Mark your calendars: September 18 and 19, 2020.

Acolyte Ministry

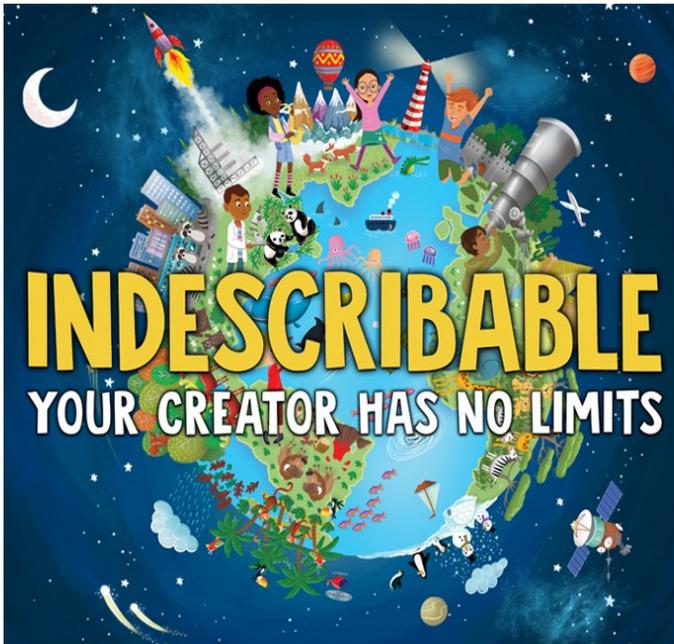
Students may begin serving on Grace's acolyte team in 5th grade. (If your 4th grader is very tall, and ready to acolyte, contact Miss Leah.) We are in need of - and greatly appreciate - the service of our youth to help serve as acolytes, candle bearers, and crucifers at our Sunday morning 8:30 AM and 10:45 AM services.

This year, acolyte registration will take place online. Please use the link below to register and to let Miss Leah know when and how often you are willing to serve. (Confirmation students, this is the same link, you only need to register once.) If you are filling out the form for multiple children, write the names of all youth who are willing to acolyte in the first name section.

<https://forms.gle/yXMTKVT4pmV9hjqQ8>

After you have registered, Miss Leah will contact new acolytes to set up a training time before their first scheduled service. Miss Leah will email an acolyte schedule for September - August to the parent listed on the registration form. If you need a paper registration form or paper schedule, they are/will be available in the Robing Room.

Children's Ministry



Children's church (offered during the sermon at 8:30 AM and 10:45 AM worship) and Sunday School (9:45 AM) are back! We will be using the Youth Room and adjoining classroom for both.

Children attending children's church and Sunday School in person have been doing an amazing job social distancing in their hula hoops and wearing their masks. Thank you parents for your encouragement and behind the scenes preparation. We will continue to wear masks in September during Children's Ministry.

Families still have options for Sunday School! Children are now welcome to attend in person or you can continue to join us on Facebook Live. If you are not able to join us, you can pick up an at home kit from the white bookshelf in the narthex (across from the women's bathroom). The at home kits will be in gallon sized Ziploc bags. Grab the bag with the date you know you won't be with us in person and you should have the supplies needed to participate along with us!

join us

Sept 6

FAMILIES
— IN THE —
PARK

**Grace
Pre-School
Playground**



MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES TO EXPLORE IN WORSHIP ARTS – What does this mean?

The Bible tells us that we are all born with distinct gifts and talents that set us apart from one another. When we know what our God-given gifts and talents are and use them to glorify Him, we will experience an enriched life. Our loving Father wants us to feel whole and complete, and it is through the use of our gifts that we can find our unique calling in life. In 1 Peter 4:10, Peter states that *each of us should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms*. What are YOUR gifts and how are using them for His glory?

Being a member of Grace is your opportunity to serve others through the gifts God has given you. There are, of course, many ways in which one can serve through the various ministries of the church. The Worship Arts Ministry has the following opportunities including, but not limited to:

Musical arts

Singing in the choir (Grace Chorale, Praise Team, Kidz Choir, or small ensemble)

Playing an instrument (brass, woodwind, string, bells, guitar, percussion, drums, keyboard)

Teaching a particular musical instrument

If you need to develop your musical gift, private lessons are available through The Fine Arts School of Central Florida (a ministry of Grace Lutheran Church and School)

Technical arts

Live streaming operator (camera, text, sound, video mixer, director)

Sanctuary audio operator

Projection operator

Projection graphic creator

Anyone high school age and up with good attention to detail qualifies for training in any of the technical art positions. There are openings in every area.

NOTE: Our Live Streaming Ministry, called "Grace Lutheran Media Now," currently streams on the Grace Lutheran **website**: GLWH.ORG LIVE STREAMING; **YOUTUBE** GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH, WINTER HAVEN, FL; and on **FACEBOOK** GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH WINTER HAVEN FL

If you have questions about info in this month's article, please call Wynn Bonner, cell:(863)258-5411.

Serving together with you,
Wynn Bonner



All women are invited to attend, get acquainted with, and consider becoming a member of one of our two thriving and active LWML "Circles" that meet once a month. During our time together, we enjoy a time of Bible study, having meaningful discussions, and planning projects or special events in fellowship with our sisters in Christ.

We are kept informed of and participate in missions and events relating to our zone (other churches in our area), district, and Synod-wide. Because of the pandemic, things are obviously being done differently and certain events and activities are not happening as they would ordinarily.

Our Women's Ministry LWML Board continues to meet monthly to discuss possible ideas for get-togethers, service projects, and fund-raising events once we can resume these. New ideas and your input are always welcome. If interested in joining one of our "Circles," they are as follows:

- Naomi Circle - meets on the **2nd Wednesday each month at 9:30 AM** - led by Georgia Fisher
- Martha Circle - meets on the **2nd Thursday each month at 1:00 PM** - led by Vivian Meyer

Both groups usually meet in the Women's Center on Bates Avenue; but, because of pandemic precautions, **we are temporarily meeting in the Mary-Martha Room in order to accomplish social distancing.**

If you have any questions or would like additional information about our ministry, please contact any Women's Ministry Board member or the church office.

Women's Ministry LWML Board members for 2020-2021 are as follows:

Krista Bernthal
Janice Graydon
Georgia Fisher
Pat Wittcop

Vivian Meyer
Janet Pabor
Kathy Stevens
Sharon Ross



8 - August 2020

President's Equip Conference September 25-26, 2020



David Kinnaman



Donna Snow



The Skit Guys

Be part of Florida-Georgia District history by attending the first
FLGA District Virtual President's Equip Conference
on September 24-26, 2020!

Only \$50 per person gives you access (until 12/31/20)
to amazing speakers PLUS over 80 workshops
PLUS an Equip Mall...

There is something to see and learn for
.....Virtually Everyone!

Get all the information and
sign up to register at:
flgadistrict.org/pec



**ONE BODY
MANY PARTS**

floridageorgia district
President's Equip Conference
September 24-26, 2020

Grace is having a Follett Book Fair!

Shop at our School



If you choose to visit the fair, please wear your masks & use hand sanitizer!

Come explore the fair at our school and help your child find their next favorite book.
Fair Dates: Sept. 13-18, 2020
Time: Before and After School & Between Services on Sept. 13
Location: Trinity Hall

Follett Gift Cards are available to purchase to use at our on-site event! Visit follettbookfairs.com/gift to purchase.

Shop Online



The online book fair site will be available from August 28 to September 18!

Perfect if you can't shop our fair in person or have non-local family that would like to participate. In addition to the same great books at our fair, you will find an expanded catalog to shop online:

efairs.follettbookfairs.com
Code: ZX167

Follett will ship your books to the school after our fair is complete.

No matter how you choose to shop, all purchases benefit our school library!

*There are many little ways to enlarge your child's world.
Love of books is the best of all. —Jacqueline Kennedy*

Follett Book Fairs

Treasurer's Report for Grace Lutheran Income Statement Compared to Budget for the Twelve Months Ending June 30, 2020

	Current Month Actual	Year to Date Actual	Year to Date Budget	Variance
Church:				
Income	90,706.37	1,177,700.95	1,090,620.00	87,080.95
Expenses	79,270.50	1,018,523.65	1,090,289.00	(71,765.35)
Net	11,435.87	159,177.30	331.00	158,846.30
School:				
Income	37,217.99	1,816,395.97	1,928,766.00	(112,370.03)
Expenses	136,311.19	1,864,440.34	1,965,238.00	(100,797.66)
Net	(99,093.20)	(48,044.37)	(36,472.00)	(11,572.37)
Balance of Endowments/Scholarships:				
Church Endowment Fund	1,258,648.19			
School Endowment Fund	1,380,328.56			
Bernthal Endowment Scholarship Fund	124,566.74			

Charitable IRA Distributions

Individual Retirement Account (IRA) owners aged 70 ½ or older are eligible to make qualified distributions directly to a charitable organization. The benefits of making a direct Qualified Charitable Distribution from an IRA include:

- The contribution results in a reduction of adjusted gross income (AGI). A number of tax calculations are based on AGI, such as:
 - ◊ AGI is used in determining the how much of Social Security income is taxable, with a maximum of 85%. Therefore, making a direct contribution makes it less likely that Social Security benefits will be taxable.
 - ◊ Medical expense deductions are limited to amounts in excess of 10% of AGI in 2019. By lowering this threshold by reducing AGI, more medical expenses become deductible for those that itemize deductions.
 - ◊ The Net Investment Income Tax of 3.8% applies once AGI reaches certain thresholds for single (\$200k) and married (\$250k) filers. Lowering AGI could reduce or eliminate this tax on investment income.
 - ◊ Medicare premiums are based on AGI, so the reduction in could result in lower insurance costs.
- The contribution allows taxpayers who use the standard deduction to reduce taxable income.
- The charitable amount counts toward the individual's required minimum distribution (RMD) for the year, as calculated annually based on age and account balances.

The contribution must be made directly from the IRA trustee to the charitable organization (the funds cannot be received by the account owner).

Weekly "In-Person" Attendance Report

8/1 - 220 8/16 - 231
8/9 - 260 8/23 - 294

**We are also very thankful for our
many digital worshippers!**

Parish Statistics

Weddings

*Mike Rottmann & Lisa Whitley
7/12/2020*

Baptisms

Zandr Martin Monti - 8/31/20

Deaths

*Donna Trask - 8/21/20
Carolyn Douches - 8/24/20*

Grace Lutheran School Pre-School 2's-8th Grade News



Different, New & Exciting Times at Grace Lutheran School!

On Sunday, August 9, five new teachers were installed.



Left to right: Melissa Davis (Kindergarten), Tracy Navarro (C.A.R.E. & MS Literature), Sarah Duffy (Music), Christie Thompson (3rd Grade), Adrienne Locke Richardson (Art)

Six church & school faculty & staff members celebrated anniversaries.



Left to right: Julie Sear (2nd Grade - 30 years), Gillian McIntee (PS Admin. Asst. - 10 years), Jon Peterson (Asst. Principal/Tech - 35 years), Teri Ogle (Financial Asst./HR - 30 years), Michael Rottmann (Principal - 25 years), Leah Welter (Director of Youth and Family Life Ministry - 15 years).

Grace Lutheran School opened its doors to begin the 2020-2021 school year on Monday, August 10, 2020.

Extra precautions and safety measures are in place. Temperatures are taken of each child before entering the school, everyone is wearing masks and practicing social distancing. Hand sanitizer stations are positioned throughout the school, and new plexiglass shields (made by ASAP Prints) have been installed in the Pre-School and Main School offices. Desk plexiglass partitions have also been placed in many classrooms (made by Dan Trinklein).



THE MISSION STATEMENT OF GLS: *The mission of Grace Lutheran School is to provide its students and their families with a strong spiritual and academic foundation so that they know and understand God's plan of salvation through Jesus Christ and are also able to live lives appropriate to their positions in their families, churches, community, and country.*



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 8 AM School Pictures 10 AM Bible Study 10:30 AM Admin Staff 5:30 PM Prayer Svc 6 PM American Heritage Girls 6:15 PM Praise Band	2 1 PM Women's Ministry Board Meeting 6 PM Confirmation	3 9:30 AM LWR Quilters 3 PM Kidz Choir	4 10 AM Bible Study w/ Rev. Meyer - MM	5 5 PM Worship Svc
6 8:30 AM Worship 9:45 AM Children's Sunday School - FB 10:45 AM Worship 12 PM Families in the Park - Pre-School Playground	LABOR DAY 7 NO SCHOOL CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	8 7:30 AM Staff Devos 10 AM Bible Study 10:30 AM Admin Staff 5:30 PM Prayer Svc 6 PM AHG 6:15 PM Praise Band	9 9:30 AM Naomi Circle 6 PM Youth	10 9:30 AM LWR Quilters 1 PM Martha Circle 3 PM Kidz Choir 6 PM Trinity Bells	11 10 AM Bible Study w/ Rev. Meyer - MM	12 5 PM Worship Svc <i>Worship with Holy Communion</i>
13 8:30 AM Worship 9:45 AM Children's Sunday School 10:45 AM Worship <i>Worship with Holy Communion</i>	14 7:30 AM Staff Devotions 10 AM Chapel - Virtual 7 PM Elder Zoom Meeting	15 10 AM Bible Study 10:30 AM Admin Staff 5:30 PM Prayer Svc 5:30 PM Jobs for Life 6 PM AHG 6:15 PM Praise Band 6:30 PM Going Team	16 6 PM Stephen Ministry 6 PM Confirmation	17 9:30 AM LWR Quilters 3 PM Kidz Choir 5:30 PM Jobs for Life 6 PM Trinity Bells	18 10 AM Bible Study w/ Rev. Meyer - MM Confirmation Retreat	19 Confirmation Retreat 5 PM Worship Svc 6 PM Voters' Assembly
20 8:30 AM Worship 9:45 AM Voters' Assembly 9:45 AM Children's Sunday School 10:45 AM Worship 11:45 AM Voters' Assembly	21 7:30 AM Staff Devotions 6 PM School Board Mtg	22 10 AM Bible Study 10:30 AM Admin Staff 5:30 PM Prayer Svc 5:30 PM Jobs for Life 6 PM AHG 6:15 PM Praise Band	23 12 PM School Early Release 6 PM Discover Grace 6 PM Youth	24 NO SCHOOL President's Equip Conference - Virtual 9:30 AM LWR Quilters 11:15 AM Serving Lunch at The Mission 5:30 PM Jobs for Life 6 PM Trinity Bells	25 NO SCHOOL President's Equip Conference - Virtual 10 AM Bible Study w/ Rev. Meyer - MM	26 President's Equip Conference - Virtual 2:30 PM Soup Kitchen @ First Presbyterian 5 PM Worship Svc <i>Worship with Holy Communion</i>
27 8:30 AM Worship 9:45 AM Children's Sunday School 10:45 AM Worship <i>Worship with Holy Communion</i>	28 7:30 AM Staff Devotions 5:30 PM Bus. Mgt. 6:30 PM BOD Meeting	29 10 AM Bible Study 10:30 AM Admin Staff 5:30 PM Prayer Svc 5:30 PM Jobs for Life 6 PM Exec. Elders 6 PM AHG 6:15 PM Praise Band	30 6 PM Discover Grace 6 PM Confirmation			



VOICE OF GRACE
Grace Lutheran Church
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CONNECTING PEOPLE TO JESUS