

THIS WEEK AT GRACE

March 13, 2017



A message from Pastor Chris,

I love the story of Nicodemus (John 3:1-41) this week! It is a wonderful lesson of how someone, who seems to have it altogether, comes to Jesus in the middle of the night, asking questions, which will deconstruct everything he has believed and known. Nick was a Pharisee and knew all the laws, and was confident and self assured of all of it, all packaged in a neat little box with a bow! But there was just something about this Jesus that he had heard him say or saw him do, that confused him, and so he says to Jesus "“Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.” He comes to Jesus the question, in the middle of the night, seeking more light! And after more discussion Nick's whole world is turned upside down. As Rev. Tim Bupp says, Jesus is talking about "wombs and weather, of maternity and meteorology, and the agape, selfless love of God for the cosmos." We are born and blow through God's grace!" We are talking about John 3:16, a love which cannot be controlled, and is given to each of us freely! And the neat little laws, that Nick had learned, are thrown to the wind, by a statement of grace and love. ***For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.***

STEWARDS OF GOD'S GRACE - We continued Temple Talks as members of Grace shared their stewardship journey; why they give and how they give. It is appropriate that during this reflective season of Lent, we pause to think about all the gifts that God has generously provided to us and how we will respond with a grateful heart to share our treasures. Your Stewardship Invitation was sent out on February 27. Please prayerfully consider how you will respond to God's invitation, and return your RSVP card in the basket at the altar when you come to the communion table. If you need another RSVP card, some are available in the Fellowship Hall. Be sure to write your response to "What you think we could do in ministry if we had an additional \$50,000?" on the door in the Fellowship Hall. Also, please take a "Stewards of God's Grace" keychain!

STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY - is **April 2**, with **ONE SERVICE** at **10:00 AM** (blended contemporary and traditional) with a celebratory brunch immediately following in the Fellowship Hall. Mail your RSVP card by March 24.

LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS - continue on **March 15** with Learning/Milestone hosting soup and bread at **6:15 PM** in the Fellowship Hall. Come, enjoy a simple meal with church family and stay for Lenten worship.

LENTEN HOLDEN EVENING PRAYER SERVICES - After supper, gather in the Sanctuary for Holden Evening Prayer at **7:00 PM**. This year's reflections will be based on Martin Luther's Small Catechism, continuing with the Creed on March 15.

TROUBLE I'VE SEEN - We are postponing the start of the Book Study "Trouble I've Seen" to Wednesday, March 22. Please read the first two chapters before you come.

COFFEE HOUR HOSTS NEEDED - We are looking for some folks to help with refreshments on Sunday mornings. If you are able to assist, please contact Carla Harrison (cmharrison@comporium.net). She can help you get started. Refreshment help us to create a warm and inviting environment.

SOFTBALL - Grace's Co-ed Softball team has started practicing. Contact Larry Wunsch if you would still like to be a part. The first games are scheduled for March 21 at 6:45 PM and 7:50 PM at Cherry Park.

EASTER BASKETS OF BLESSING - Please pick up an egg in the Fellowship Hall and provide a basket of goodies for seniors in our community. There is a list of suggested items on the back. Baskets are due back on April 2.

GIFT EASTER EGG HUNT - We are collecting candy for the GIFT children's Easter Egg Hunt April 2. Please drop donations by March 26 in Pastor Rebecca's office.

LUTHEROAD (JUNE 5-9) AND VBS (JULY 24-28) SIGN UP SHEETS - are posted in the Fellowship Hall. Please stop by to sign up your child(ren) and pick up registrations forms.

GRACE CALENDAR

MONDAY - March 13

4:30 PM	Children's Music (Music)
5:30 PM	Grace Ringers (Sanctuary)
6:30 PM	Campus Ministry Meeting (WH)
6:30 PM	Pinewood Derby (FH)
6:30 PM	Cub Scouts (Youth)
7:00 PM	Grace Alone (Sanctuary)
7:00 PM	Boy Scout Troop #540 (106-107)

TUESDAY - March 14

COUNCIL REPORTS AND NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE

1:30 PM	Newcomers KnitWits (Common)
6:30 PM	NO WELCM (Spring Break)
6:30 PM	SCWW (105)
6:30 PM	AA (101)
7:00 PM	Jr. Women's Club of Rock Hill (Conf)
7:30 PM	Bridge Group (102)

WEDNESDAY - March 15

7:30 AM - 10:00 AM	Affinity Health Staff Meeting (FH)
9:30 AM	Grace-C Quilters (103)
6:15 PM	Soup Supper (Learning/Milestone) (FH)
6:30 PM	AA (101)
7:00 PM	Holden Evening Prayer (Sanctuary)
7:00 PM	NESA Meeting (106)
7:30 PM	Parish Choir (Music)
7:30 PM	Stewardship (107)

THURSDAY - March 16

7:30 AM	Centering Prayer (Prayer Room)
11:30 AM	Widow/er's Lunch (Michael's)
6:00 PM	Champions in Motion (FH)

FRIDAY - March 17

7th and 8th Grade Retreat

5:30 PM	AA (101)
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SATURDAY - March 18

7th and 8th Grade Retreat

8:30 AM	Confirmation Class (107, 108, 110, 111)
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SUNDAY - March 19

7th and 8th Grade Retreat

8:30 AM	Contemporary Worship
9:45 AM	Coffee Fellowship
9:45 AM	Sunday School
11:00 AM	Traditional Worship
2:00 PM	Council (107)
5:30 PM	GYM (Youth)
7:00 PM	AA (101)

Sunday, March 19th Worship Assistants

Hospitality:

Carla Harrison and Robin Ketner

Muggers:

Martha Hester and Larry Wunsch

Nursery:

Tabulators:

Harrison/Stonebraker

Altar Guild:

Frances Davis and Melissa Tucker

Home Communion Ministers:

Seigler; Johnson; Bartel/Cafarella

8:30 AM

Lector: Doug Gay

Communion Assistant: Sara Johnson

Petitioner: Jackie Wille

Acolyte: Connor Johnson

Greeter: Bob Wasserman

Ushers: Dan Bartel, Tom Stuniolo,

Earl Gatlin, Harold Williams

11:00 AM

Lector: Linda Horst

Communion Assistant: Melissa Tucker

Petitioner: Robin Ketner

Acolyte: Palmer Floyd

Greeters: Dewain Thiessen

Ushers: Wally Seigler, Eric Waataja, Chad Seigler

<<< SAVE THESE DATES >>>

MARCH 2017

Holden Evening Service

Wednesdays in Lent - 7:00 PM

"Trouble I've Seen" - March 22, 29

7th and 8th Grade Retreat - March 17 - 19

Wild Women Weekend

March 24 - 26, Lutheridge

Seniors@Grace

March 30, Carolina Copy Cats

APRIL 2017

Stewardship Sunday - One Worship Service

April 2 - 10:00 AM

Stewardship Brunch - 11:30 AM

MAY 2017

Child Protection Training - May 21

SC Synod Assembly - May 21 - 23

JUNE 2017

Lutheroad - June 5 - 9

LCY Convention - June 16 - 18

Confirmation Camp - June 18 - 24

JULY 2017

GYM Mission Trip - July 9 - 14

VBS - July 24 - 28

OCTOBER 2017

Women's Retreat - October 21-23 - Lutherock