

THIS WEEK AT GRACE

July 24, 2017



A message from Pastor Rebecca,

He put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away." Matthew 13:24-25

Our Gospel text for this week gives us much to consider. In this parable, Jesus paints a vivid agricultural picture to explain his message. While parables are not meant to be a straight forward, black and white instruction, they should inspire faithful study and consideration. In our parable, the sower allows weeds to grow beside a wheat crop so as not to kill the good wheat. It doesn't take much to realize that we live in a world that knows evil and brokenness. But there is hope in all of this: God intended and sowed goodness from the start. God does not cause or will evil to happen. And much like the sower with the wheat, God does not forget or forsake what is healthy and good. It is not our job to defeat evil. That job is too big for you or I. God in Jesus has already defeated evil on the cross, and has taken away any chance that it could overtake this world. Therefore, it is up to us to look to the kingdom to come, to grow in God's love, to live in God's grace, to give and receive the forgiveness we know in Christ and to rely on the Holy Spirit to intercede when we need help to do these things. Know that you are good seed, planted in good soil, and that you have a community of faith to grow in, and a God that seeks to nourish and care for you.

FOUND - a hearing aid in the parking lot Saturday afternoon, after Mike Bailey's funeral. Please call the church office (803-324-5295) to claim.

PASTORAL CALL ROTATION - Pastor Ken and Pastor Rebecca will be sharing after-hours pastoral needs calls beginning this week. Pastor Ken is on call **Monday, July 24 through Thursday, July 27**, and **Pastor Rebecca Friday, July 28 and Saturday, July 29**. Any questions: contact the office first (803) 324-5295, during business hours [9:00 AM until 5:00 PM, Monday through Friday].

BLUEGRASS WORSHIP SERVICE - in Grace tradition for fifth Sunday worship, the 8:30 AM service will host a bluegrass band on **Sunday, July 30**. Please note: this special service is at **8:30 AM** only!

HUNGER OUTREACH ANNUAL PICNIC - The churches involved with Hunger Outreach are coordinating their annual picnic **Tuesday, August 1, from 6:00 - 7:00 PM** in the parking lot of Flint Hill Baptist Church, Rock Hill. We need people to attend the picnic and meet our neighbors, as well as help pass out school supplies that Grace is collecting (*spiral notebook, pencils, pens, pocket folders, glue bottles/sticks, crayons, markers, notebook paper*). School supplies can be placed in the tub in the Fellowship Hall marked "HUNGER OUTREACH SCHOOL SUPPLIES" **no later than Sunday, July 30**. Please RSVP your attendance to the picnic on Sunday's Tear and Share, and thanks in advance.

NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING - the ELCA's National Youth Gathering will be **June 27 - July 1, 2018**, in Houston, Texas. An Interest and Informational Meeting will be at Grace **Sunday, July 30 at 4:45 PM** in the Youth Room. Deadline for registration is September 10, 2017. Please contact Pastor Rebecca with any questions.

GYM BEACH TRIP - The GYM Youth Beach Trip to Isle of Palms will be **Friday, August 25** until **Sunday, August 27**. All rising 6-12 graders are invited to attend. Registration is available at the top of the stairs leading to the Youth Room. **Registration fee is \$65.00 per youth**, and is due no later than Sunday, August 6. Please contact Pastor Rebecca with any questions.

CALL PROCESS MANUALS - entitled "A Spirit Led Time of Renewal" from the South Carolina Synod and the ELCA are available for free on the counter in the office. Get yours during normal business hours.

GRACE CALENDAR

MONDAY - July 24

VBS - BRAVE BELIEVERS

6:30 PM Cub Scouts (Youth)
7:00 PM Boy Scout Troop #540 (106-107)

TUESDAY - July 25

VBS - BRAVE BELIEVERS

1:30 PM Newcomers KnitWits (Common)
5:30 PM Worship and Music (106)
6:30 PM AA (101)
6:30 PM SCWW (105)

WEDNESDAY - July 26

VBS - BRAVE BELIEVERS

9:30 AM Grace-C Quilters (103)
6:30 PM AA (101)

THURSDAY - July 27

VBS - BRAVE BELIEVERS

7:30 AM Centering Prayer (Prayer Room)
11:30 AM Seniors@Grace (Fuji Japan)
6:00 PM Champions in Motion (FH)

FRIDAY - July 28

VBS - BRAVE BELIEVERS

5:30 PM AA (101)

SATURDAY - July 29

9:00 AM Webelos Woods Planning Session (Common)

SUNDAY - July 30

8:30 AM Contemporary/Bluegrass Worship
9:45 AM Coffee Fellowship (FH)
11:00 AM Traditional Worship
5:30 PM GYM (Youth)
7:00 PM AA (101)

July 30, 2017 Worship Assistants

Hospitality:

Linda and Raymond Zieverink
Kathy Taylerson

Muggers:

Martha Hester and Larry Wunsch

Nursery:

Katie Romero

Tabulators:

Hester/Wunsch

Altar Guild:

Stephanie Beer and Pam Ritchie

Home Communion Ministers:

Huitt; Gignac; Sliney/Westbrook

8:30 AM

Lector: Jackie Wille

Communion Assistant: Bob Schavey

Petitioner: Sig Huitt

Acolyte: Coby Johnson

Greeter: Kendall Anderson

Ushers: Sig Huitt, Steve Ashley,

Harold Williams, Dan Bartel

11:00 AM

Lector: Bill Davis

Communion Assistant: Debbie Gignac

Petitioner: Kathy Schwandt

Acolyte: Jacob Corbett

Greeter: Norma and Frank Surratt

Ushers: Larry Wunsch,

Craig Ketner, Mike Dunnett

<<< **SAVE THESE DATES** >>>

JULY 2017

NYG Info Meeting - July 30

AUGUST 2017

WELCM Summer Retreat - August 11 - 13

GYM Beach Retreat - August 25 - 27

SEPTEMBER 2017

Picnic at Elk's Park - September 10

NYG Registration Deadline - September 10

OCTOBER 2017

Women's Retreat - October 20 -22 - Lutherock

JUNE 2018

National Youth Gathering - June 27 - July 1, 2018

Houston, TX