

Grace Notes



A publication of Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church—LCMS



The Gift of Light

Page 2 | Stewardship Devotion

Pr. Ferd: 60 years serving our Lord!

Our congregation, along with Divine Shepherd Lutheran Church (Milwaukee), honored together the life and ministry of the Rev. Dr. Ferdinand Bahr, who is celebrating his 60th Ordination Anniversary. Family, friends, and members of both churches gathered to celebrate Pastor Ferd's ministry life. | Page 6



*Arise, Shine,
for your Light has come,
and the Glory of The LORD
has risen upon thee.*

Isaiah 60:1

WWW.GRACE-OK.ORG

3030 W. Oklahoma Av. Milwaukee, WI. 53215



The Gift of Light

“Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will be seen upon you” (Is. 60:1–2).

By Rev. Nathan Meador
Senior pastor at St. John Lutheran Church,
Plymouth, Wis.

Light.

It was the very first thing that the Creator spoke into existence.

We marvel at the way He created it. But today, it is important that we contemplate just what a simple, yet profound gift light is for us.

Did you know that without light, there would be no life on this planet? That is significant! The light that shines on our planet interacts with the green plants all around the globe and the result is the production of oxygen. No oxygen, no breath. No breath means no life. Like all things in our beloved creation, it all ties together.

Light is also a key gift that our Lord gives us in our spiritual life too! Without the light that is Jesus we too would, as Paul says in Ephesians 2, be dead in our trespasses and sins. Sin is darkness and death. Jesus is the light of life.

In Jesus, this light has shown upon us. Our sin is exposed. Our death is deserved. But as the light of life pierces the darkness in which we lay, one very simple, yet truly profound gift is given. His glory rises upon us! His love shines upon us and we are given what we don't deserve—life!

His light doesn't stop with us either. How we use this gift of light for the sake of our neighbor also reveals God's glory! As we consider this simple gift of light, may the Holy Spirit use that light to show just how good our Lord has been to us and how He is calling us to respond. This is all part of the wonderful task of stewardship for which we have been made and redeemed. As His light shines on us, we are created to reflect it to those around us in what we say, what we do and how we give! Simple gifts ... yet profound results!

Prayer

Gracious Lord, as Your light has arisen upon us in the light of the world that is Jesus, so let Your light shine in and through us today and every day. Grant us the grace to identify and use the simple gifts You call us to share in the light of Your grace today and throughout this year. Amen



all ages

all golf skills

ARE WELCOME

We'll have special prizes
and surprises!

bring a friend

Grace Lutheran Church

Golf Tournament

August 17th 2019

Saturday | August 17, 2019 | 9AM

Come join us for a fun day of golf, lunch, and fellowship
at the Valley Green Golf Course
W126s9218 N Cape Rd, Muskego, WI

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN | (414) 384 3520

Registration Fee: \$20 | includes golf & lunch

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

3030 W. Oklahoma Ave. Milwaukee, WI. 53215

Office: 384-3520—384-4817 Fax: 384-3528

E-mail: info@grace-ok.org

Office Hours: TUESDAY-THURSDAY 9am-4pm

Rev. Germán Novelli-Oliveros, Pastor

Mobil Phone: (414) 366-5299

Email: novelligrace@gmail.com

Congregational Officers

Terrence Donaldson, President

David Biermann, Vice-President

Staff

Rev. German Novelli (Sr.), Pastor-Comunidad de Gracia

Jane Donaldson, Office Secretary

Telva Szymborski, Organist

Dennis Szymborski, Choir Director

Michelle Lenski, Bell Choir Director

Lucia Novelli, Lay Readers

Jane Donaldson and Marge Wodvarka, Altar Guild

Shirley Lovas, Altar Flowers

Sue Pritzlaff, Ruth Guild President/ LWML

Sue Brahm, Sunday School Superintendent

Kenneth Lovas, Interior Custodian

Judy Zarzynski, Caring Connectors and Piece Makers

Board of Directors

Don Ewert, Board of Elders

Jim Barndt, Board of Evangelism

Brenda Nitz, Director of Stewardship

James Van Acker, Board of Trustees

Judy Zarzynski, Board of Fellowship

Kenny Lovas, Board of Human Concerns

David Biermann, Children's Ministry

www.grace-ok.org

USHERS

JULY 14th

Don and Karen Ewert
Lillian Westphal, Lin Varesi

JULY 21st

Jim Barndt, Mark Jubeck,
Dave Biermann, and Chester Zbrozek

JULY 28th

Sue Pritzlaff, Lynda Trapp,
Brenda Nitz, and Shirley Lovas

AUGUST 4th

Art and Amy Socha,
Terry and Jane Donaldson

AUGUST 11th

Dave and Danny Gaus,
Sheryl Pelican, and Lori Eshelman

AUGUST 18th

Don and Karen Ewert
Lillian Westphal, Lin Varesi

AUGUST 25th

Jim Barndt, Mark Jubeck,
Dave Biermann, and Chester Zbrozek

SEPTEMBER 1st

Sue Pritzlaff, Lynda Trapp,
Brenda Nitz, and Shirley Lovas



BASEBALL GAME

CHINOOKS Vs. MALLARDS
TUESDAY | JULY 23, 5PM

TICKETS FOR SALE | \$10 | CALL (414) 384 3520



FAMILY FIELD TRIP
DISCOVERY WORLD
science + technology center
SUNDAY | AUGUST 4, 10AM

Organized by Sunday School — SEE BARB FERRIER FOR MORE DETAILS



FAMILY DAY AT MILLER PARK

MILWAUKEE Vs. ST LOUIS
WEDNESDAY | AUGUST 28

TICKETS FOR SALE | SEE MARY RANDOW or CALL (414) 384 3520



SUNDAY
September 1st
AFTER OUR 11AM SERVICE

GRACE: Comunidad de Gracia
5050 W. OKLAHOMA AVE. MILWAUKEE

taste the nations...
enjoy food and fellowship...
REJOICE IN OUR DIVERSITY



Grace and St. Martini taught children about God's Creation

Grace and St. Martini Lutheran Church & School, partner congregations of CPTLN-Wisconsin, led an amazing Vacation Bible School in which they taught children about God's six days of creation.

Creator's Creatures was the theme of this special summer camp that started with a night of games, crafts, and Bible Story prepared by both churches, which have been working together in outreach to Latino communities in Milwaukee.

On Saturday June 29, around 100 people, including parents, children, and families from both churches visited Racine's Zoo together, where they were able to contemplate God's creatures and creation.

This was an effort of the leadership of both churches to walk together as they continue to serve the multiethnic neighborhoods of Milwaukee urban areas. During these events, families from different ethnic groups came together to celebrate that we all are children of our Almighty Father in heaven.

Rev. Germán Novelli Jr. said that "we don't believe that our differences are greater than God's love for each one of us; and neither the color of our skin, our race, nor our background, should be the wall that will divide us. Our God destroys walls, and He will never build a barrier to divide us. We all are His creatures, and Jesus died for us all."

St. Martini and Grace, along with the other congregations of CPTLN-Wisconsin, want to keep working together in further events in order to serve more communities in both English and Spanish contexts.



PASTOR FERD BAHR

Sixty years serving the Lord!

Grace Lutheran Church and Divine Shepherd Lutheran Church honored together the life and ministry of the Rev. Dr. Ferdinand Bahr, who is celebrating his 60th Ordination Anniversary.

Dr. Bahr, who was born and raised in the Sheboygan area (Wisconsin), has served in several congregations in the midwest, but spent 35 years at Divine Shepherd, Milwaukee. The last few years, Pastor Ferd has been working to expand the Latino ministry and outreach in our district through CPTLN-Wisconsin, and he also continues supporting mission efforts in India, a country he has visited many times as a temporal missionary.

Preaching the Word, training missionaries, and music are his passions in life. Pastor Ferd has written several hymns, and a couple of them were part of the special worship celebration in which members of Grace and Divine Shepherd, family and

friends, gave thanks to the Lord for such amazing life and ministry. The ceremony was held at Grace, and the preacher was the Rev. Dan Czech, pastor at Divine Shepherd.



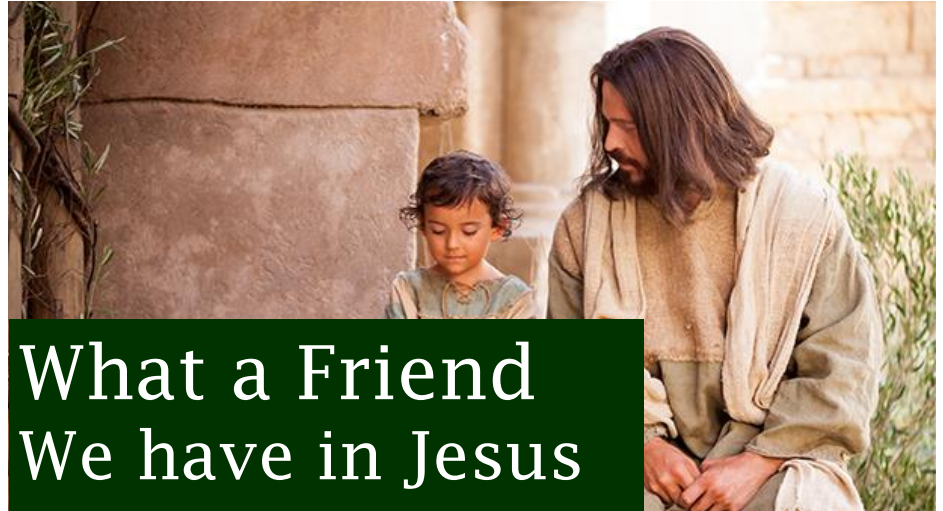
The Rev. Germán Novelli Jr, pastor at Grace, described Dr. Bahr as "a champion of faith, example of servanthood, and a vibrant preacher of God's Word to all nations, races, ages, and peoples."

While reading the gospel of John I was reminded that besides Jesus' public ministry, his most important ministry was private "Confirmation Class" for his 12 disciples. The future of Christ's church depended on them. Their inspired gospel message would be the deep well of truth, the source of every Christian sermon throughout the ages.

In his gospel, John identifies himself as the one Jesus loved (John 20:2). I found that odd, until I associated it with a best friend relationship based on mutual love and trust. I was curious about Jesus' best buddy and did a 'background check', taken from Halley's Bible Handbook. Here's a short summary of what I found: "John was a cousin of Jesus, about the same age and may have grown up with him. He was also the cousin of John the Baptist and on his testimony, he became a disciple of Jesus. John was a businessman, one of 4 partners. He had a personal acquaintance with the High Priest. Jesus nicknamed him Son of Thunder, which implied vehement and violent temper. He must have been a man of rare qualities of character to attract the companionship of Jesus."

I see John as the self-appointed bodyguard of Jesus so you better look out if you fail to give Jesus the respect he deserves! Luke 9:49, 50 says, "Master", said John, "We saw a man driving out demons in your name and we tried to stop him, because he's not one of us." "Do not stop him", Jesus said, "For whoever is not against you is for you." In Luke 9:54, 55, James and John wanted to call down fire from heaven to destroy the Samaritans' village that did not welcome them. But Jesus turned to them and rebuked them and they went to another village.

John stood by Jesus always. He followed him to court where he was sentenced to death. He was at Golgotha where, from the cross, Jesus entrusted him with the care of his mother. John's walk with Jesus was a game changer for him. He learned from



What a Friend We have in Jesus

Jesus that the backbone of the true grit of manhood is speaking truth, love and empathy for others. Webster's Dictionary adds: "Grit – firmness of mind and spirit, unyielding courage in face of hardship or danger." In a prayer for his disciples, Jesus said in John 17:3, "Now this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God and Jesus Christ whom you have sent." And in his prayer for the church, Jesus said in John 17:20, "My prayer is not for these alone but for those who will believe in me through their message." And by the divine workings of the Spirit of God, the gospel was written and is sustained by friends of Jesus who continue to share it.

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 856: O Christ, who called the Twelve

*O Christ, who called the Twelve
to Rise and follow You,
Forsaking old familiar ways
for ventures bold and new:
Grant us to hear Your call
to risk security
And, bound in heart and will to You,
find perfect liberty.*

*O Christ, who taught the Twelve,
the truth for ages sealed,
Whose words and works awakened
faith, the ways of God revealed:*

*Instruct us now we pray,
by Your empowering Word.
True teacher, be for all who seek their
light, their life, their Lord.*

*O Christ, who led the Twelve,
among the desolate
And broke as bread of life
for all your love compassionate:
Lead us along the ways
where hope has nearly died
And help us climb the lonely hills
where love is crucified.*

*O Christ, who sent the Twelve
on roads they'd never trod
To serve, to suffer, teach,
proclaim the nearer reign of God
Send us on ways where faith
transcends timidity,
Where love informs and hope sustains
both life and ministry.*

*O Christ, the apostles' Lord,
the martyr's strength and song,
The crucified and risen King
to whom the saints belong:
Though generations pass,
our tribute still we bring,
Our hymns a sacrifice of praise,
our lives an offering.*

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

3030 W. OKLAHOMA AVENUE

MILWAUKEE, WI. 53219

Phone: (414) 384 3520

info@grace-ok.org

www.GRACE-OK.org



www.GRACE-OK.org

Together
IN CHRIST

WORSHIP SERVICES
EVERY SUNDAY | 9AM & 11AM

GRACE: 3030 W. OKLAHOMA AVENUE. MILWAUKEE, WI. 53215