



South Big Horn Lutheran Parish  
Grace and Zion Lutheran Churches  
Newsletter, August 2018

Dear brethren,

The Fourth Commandment is: *Honour your father and your mother.* And our Catechism teaches us that this means that *we should fear and love God, so that we do not despise or anger our parents and other authorities, but honour them, serve and obey them, love and cherish them.*

From Holy Scripture we learn that this applies also in Church: *Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account.*

Hebrews 13:17

But which Pastor is it, then, that I should obey and to whom I should submit? Is it necessarily my own Pastor, or could it be a preacher I like better, like one who will not try to correct me or teach me anything other from the Word of God than what I already think, and think that I know? A preacher in a different church, perhaps a church of different faith, or one on television?

Obviously, to honour and obey only the authorities I feel like honouring and obeying is *not* to obey God or His Commandment. It is to not be under authority at all, other than my own; which is clearly not what God intends. To obey only when I want to goes against the very idea of obedience itself. It is an attitude of ungodliness.

*Obey your leaders and submit to them,* is what Holy Scripture teaches. And the holy Apostle Paul writes: *We ask you, brothers, to respect those who labour among you and are over you in the Lord and admonish you, and to esteem them very highly in love because of their work.*

1 Thessalonians 5:12-13

The authority I must honour is that under which God has placed me. That is the heart of the Fourth Commandment. I am not free to honour only the authority of my choice, and choose from among my many passing preferences.

The Apostle Paul admonished the Pastors in Ephesus: *Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which He obtained with His own blood.*

Acts 20:28

Pastors are placed in the churches by the Holy Spirit. And so are all other Christians, called by the Word of God to worship Him in truth, that is: to gather with other Christians around His Word where it is His Word that is spoken, rather than something else.

The modern phenomenon of Christians piecing their private religion together from pieces of truth heard here, from one preacher, and lies heard there, from another, is foreign to Holy Scripture; not *unknown*, necessarily, but *foreign*. And so is the notion of a Christian not being "bound to the churches", and even more so the attitude behind it, that I am *above* all churches because I know so much better than everybody else, and when I piece my religion together of all that I like, what will come out of it will be the truth of God; of my private God, that is, which really means: myself! The command of God binds us to specific settings, that is: where He has set us; as the obedience He calls for is *actual* obedience - to Him, rather than our own wishes and wants.

Sincerely

Jais H. Tinglund

**Board Meeting at Zion Wednesday, July 25th, at 6 pm.**

**Free will offering at Grace on Sunday, July 29, in favour of the Community outreach Fund.**

**Help with Vacation Bible School:** Help is needed for Vacation Bible School on August 7-9, not only with "big" things like teaching and leading groups, but also with smaller tasks such as being there during class to help the children, and help serving snacks. Think it through if you would like to help out, and with what, and be on the lookout for the opportunity to sign up.

**Vacation Bible School at Grace** Tuesday, August 7, through Thursday, August 9, for children from the age of 3 up to the 5th grade, culminating with a program and dinner on Thursday evening. Feel free to spread the word, particularly to parents of children in the target age group with whom you may have contact or upon whom you may have influence.

**Vacation Bible School program** for the public, including members of the congregations, at Grace Thursday, August 10th, at 6 pm., followed by dinner. Yes, that means that there will be food!

**Pastor Tinglund shall be gone** most of Tuesday, August 14, for a Circuit Pastors' meeting. Messages can be left on cell phone 605-228-9216, which will be checked regularly.

**Pastor Tinglund shall be gone** for a Circuit Visitors' Meeting Tuesday, August 28, through Wednesday, August 28. Should an urgent need for pastoral assistance arise, feel free to call Pastor Korb of Worland at 307-388-4044.

**LWML Meeting at Grace** not until Monday, August 27, at 7 pm.

### **Synodical Convention, Circuit Forum and Voters' Meeting**

The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod will meet in Convention in Tampa, Florida, on July 20-25, 2019. Prior to that, on Saturday, September 22nd, 2018, the *Western Circuit of the Wyoming District of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod* shall have a Circuit Forum to elect voting delegates for the convention. And prior to that, we shall have a Voters' Meeting in each of our congregations to elect a lay delegate from each congregation for the Circuit Forum, and to nominate a lay delegates for the Synodical Convention. Give it some thought who should represent your congregation at the Circuit Forum - and if you can think of a lay member of a congregation in either the Yellowstone Circuit or the Headwaters Circuit you think would be a good choice to represent the Western Circuit at the Synodical Convention. Lay delegates for the Synodical Convention must be nominated by congregations *prior* to the Circuit Forum, that is before September 22.

**Just so we do not forget:**

*What is Confession?*

Confession has two parts. First, that we confess our sins, and second, that we receive absolution from the Pastor as from God Himself, not doubting, but firmly believing that by it our sins are forgiven before God in heaven.

*What sins should we confess?*

Before God we should plead guilty of all sins, even those we are not aware of, as we do in the Lord's Prayer; but before the Pastor we should confess only those sins which we know and feel in our hearts.

*Of the Small Catechism*

**Financial report for Zion, June:**

Debits: \$ 4,255.09; Credits \$ 3,555.00

## **Birthdays in August**

- as known to the editor

### August 16th:

Matthew Werbelow

August 28th:

Victor Werbelow

## **Anniversaries in August**

- as known to the editor

### August 2nd:

Terry and Sandy Cole

August 4th:

John and Nancy Preis

August 5th:

Ray & LeAnn Frazier

August 21st:

Dean and Mary Marchant

## **South Big Horn Lutheran Parish**

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<http://gracegreybull.ctshost.org>

Zion website:

<http://zionemblem.ctshost.org>

### **Regular office hours at Grace:**

Tuesday-Friday, Noon -1 pm.

### **Regular Summer Worship Hours**

*Zion:*

Sundays at 8 am.

Bible Study at 9:15 am.

*Grace:*

Sundays at 10:30 am.

Bible Study at 11:45 am.

**LWML** meets at *Grace* at 7 pm. on the first Monday of every month except July, August and September, and on the **last** Monday of August. All ladies of the congregation are members of the LWML, according to the LWML rules, and thus they are not only more than welcome, but also invited to attend all LWML meetings - and so are all ladies of *Zion*.

