



South Big Horn Lutheran Parish
Grace and Zion Lutheran Churches
Newsletter, February 2019

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 account.*

Hebrews 13:17

But in what is it that Christians owe obedience and submission to their Pastors, by the command of God?

Clearly, the authority of a Pastor is the *spiritual* authority bestowed upon him by God to lead the Christians in his congregation, with the Word of God, for their salvation. The Pastor's first duty is always to proclaim *the Gospel*, that is: the Word of salvation. Christian preaching preaches Christ! But the Word of God is also given to His Church *for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for formation in righteousness, in order that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.*

2 Timothy 3:16-17

In other words, the Word of God is given also to teach His Christians how they are to live and serve Him. And since preaching and teaching is the Word of God, all that the Word of God addresses must also be addressed in preaching and teaching.

The notion is common that Pastors should stay out of *politics*. This notion is not entirely wrong. The Kingdom of Christ is not of this world, nor is the Word of God a means to govern this world; it is, again, given to His Church to make sinners wise unto salvation and guide us in how to live and serve God. And faithful Christians can disagree as to how God is best served in the administration of the matters of this world. A Pastor must accept this.

Some policies are, however, sinful and ungodly in themselves; suppression of the faith and the slaughter of innocent children are obvious examples. Others are born out of sinful and ungodly motives and attitudes, or they might have a potential for causing Christians to become comfortable with sinful motives and attitudes, such as callous anxiety to protect the interests of one's own kind, disregard for the needs of others, be they groups or individuals, or harshness and hatred towards those who think differently, or otherwise threaten my own interests.

Particularly in a polarised political climate might it be tempting for Christians not only to excuse the ungodly attitudes and beliefs of politicians with whom they sympathise, but also to become sympathetic to these attitudes and beliefs themselves, and to set the Word of God aside, when their party or politician of preference encourages or demands it.

This is a danger to the faith. A Pastor must warn against it, even at the risk of being perceived as preaching politics. And Christians should heed such warnings in obedience to God.

Sincerely

Jais H. Tinglund

Pastor Tinglund shall be gone Wednesday, January 23 through Thursday, January 24, for a District Circuit Visitors' Meeting. Messages can be left at cell phone 605-228-9216. Should an urgent need for pastoral assistance arise, feel free to call Pastor Korb of Worland at 307-388-4044.

Voters' Meeting at Grace Sunday, January 27th, after worship.

Voters' Meeting at Zion Sunday, January 27th, after worship, with a **catered** dinner, sponsored by Thrivent. Members are asked to bring salads and/or desserts.

LWML Meeting at Grace Monday, February 4, at 7 pm.

Pastor Tinglund shall be gone most of Tuesday, February 12, for a Circuit Pastors' Meeting. Messages can, nevertheless, be left at cell phone 605-228-9216.

Pastor Tinglund shall be gone for vacation from the afternoon of Thursday, February 14, through Thursday, February 19. Calls can be made to cell phone 605-228-9216. Should a need for immediate pastoral assistance arise, feel free to call Pastor Korb of Worland at 307-307-388-4044

Pastor Tinglund may not be gone, technically speaking, but shall nevertheless in principle be unavailable from the afternoon of Friday, February 22, through Saturday evening, February 23. Messages can be left at cell phone 605-228-9216.

Stewardship Conference Tuesday, March 12, at Saint Paul Lutheran Church in Thermopolis, beginning with dinner at 5:30 pm. How do we encourage cheerful, generous living, and giving, in our congregations in a manner corresponding to the faith, and motivated by it, rather than by pressure and appeals to a bad conscience? Participation is free, as well as the dinner. See the advertisement in the District Newsletter, and register through the Wyoming District by the end of February.

Lenten Worship at Grace on Wednesdays at 7 pm., beginning on March 6th. For these services we shall continue our Catechism focus from recent years. Under the theme *His Spirit and His Sufferings* we shall meditate, in the light of the sufferings of our Lord Jesus for our salvation, on how He brings His work of salvation in His Church through His Spirit.

Lenten Dinners at Grace,

- beginning at 6 pm.

March 6: Soup and pie - served by the LWML

March 13: Carry-in

March 20: Pork loin - served by the Youth

March 27: Carry-in

April 3: Baked potatoes - served by the LWML

April 10: Carry-in

This we believe - *from the Lutheran Confessions*

What in the Church is more certain than that the remission of sins occurs freely for Christ's sake, and that Christ, and not our works, is the atonement for sins?

Apology of the Augsburg Confession

Birthdays in February

- as known to the editor

February 4:

Al Corbin

February 7:

Brian DeRosa

February 17:

David Bernard

February 19:

Taylor Werbelow

February 22nd:

Alex Preis

Martha Werbelow

February 28:

Quinton Hibbert

Anniversaries in February

- as known to the editor

February 28:

Ray and Dory Cauffman

LWML meets at *Grace* at 7 pm. on the first Monday of every month except in 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 all ladies of the congregation, of all ages, are not only more than welcome, but also actually invited to attend all LWML meetings - and so are all ladies of Zion.

South Big Horn Lutheran Parish

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Grace website:

<http://gracegreybull.ctshost.org>

Zion website:

<http://zionemblem.ctshost.org>

Regular office hours at *Grace*:

Tuesday-Friday, Noon -1 pm.

**Regular Winter Worship Hours,
October-March**

Grace:

Sundays at 8 am.

Bible Study at 9:15 am.

Zion:

Sundays at 10:30 am.

Bible Study at 11:45 am.

**Regular Summer Worship Hours,
April-September**

Zion:

Sundays at 8 am.

Bible Study at 9:15 am.

Grace:

Sundays at 10:30 am.

Bible Study at 11:45 am.