



South Big Horn Lutheran Parish
Grace and Zion Lutheran Churches
Newsletter, March 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.

So the Pastor is not a life coach or a financial advisor, not a guide to wealth and health and happiness. The Word of God is *not* given for such purposes; to think that it is is to have gravely misunderstood what the faith is, and to devalue our Lord Jesus and His love!

But what kind of matters should the Pastor not address? Although it does not fall under the purview of the ministry to teach Christians how best to master their finances and run their business, to teach people how *not* to master their finances or run their businesses actually might, in a certain way, under certain circumstances.

Clearly enough, the Word of God forbids a Christian to be *dishonest*, that is: to steal or deceive. But the Word of God actually goes farther than to direct Christians to obey the laws of the land; it commands Christians to show responsibility and Christian love in all that they do, and so also in finances and business matters.

Holy Scripture identifies greed with *idolatry*; now, this would apply not only to greed as an emotional or psychological impulse, but also to *acting greedily*. In light of the Word of God, sinful greed is what is at work whenever a person sets obedience and Christian love aside, or other duties a Christian has to God, in order to secure worldly wealth. Sinful greed is exercised when one does business with no concern for charity and Christian love, so that the lives of others are destroyed. Sinful greed is exercised when one neglects the Word and worship of God in order to make money, Sinful greed is exercised when one makes it impossible for one's employees to come to Church and hear the Word of God and have His salvation given to them. And Sinful greed is exercised when one fails to support His Church financially. to the best of one's ability, in order to have more money for oneself.

There are situations in which it is quite clear from the Word of God that a choice is sinful; in other situations it is less clear how far one should go. The Word of God, however, always calls for self-examination, for repentance, and for a life in love for God and neighbour. And Christian preaching and teaching *must* address, as needed, what the Word of God addresses.

Sincerely
Jais H. Tinglund

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

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 and mashed potatoes - served by the Youth

March 27: Carry-in

April 3: Baked potatoes - served by the LWML

April 10: Carry-in

Lenten Worship at Grace on Wednesdays at 7 pm., beginning on March 6. 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.

Pastor Tinglund shall be gone for Stewardship Conference in Thermopolis on the afternoon of Tuesday, March 12. Messages can, nevertheless, be left at cell phone 605-228-9216.

Pastor Tinglund shall be gone for a Circuit Pastors' Meeting on Tuesday, March 19. Messages can, nevertheless, be left at cell phone 605-228-9216.

Daylight Savings Time will go into effect on Sunday, **March 10th**, at 2 am., which will then become 3 am. Be prepared, so that you will not be late for Church. Worship times in our churches will remain the same, however, until Sunday, April 7.

Let's do the time Warp again. Beginning **Sunday, April 7**, our worship times will switch over so that worship at Zion will be on Sundays at 8 am. and at Grace on Sundays at 10:30 am. until October.

Holy Week Worship:

Maunder Thursday, April 18:

Communion Worship, Grace, 7 pm.

Good Friday, April 19:

Passion Worship at Zion at Noon.

Passion Worship at Grace at 7 pm.

Zion Financial report, January:

Debits: \$ 4,920.76; Credits 5,059.28

Birthdays in March

- as known to the editor

March 13:

Mary Marchant

March 19:

Callee Catlyn

March 21st:

Todd Werbelow

March 23:

McKenzie Mazur

March 26th:

Blake Gernant

Howard Gernant

Joyce Werbelow

Mason Werbelow

March 27:

Christine Klitzke

LWML meets at Grace at 7 pm. on the first Monday of every month except in July, August and September, and on the last

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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.

This we believe - of the Lutheran Confessions

The Ten Commandments require outward civil works, which reason can in some way produce. But they also require other things placed far above reason: truly to fear God, truly to love God, truly to call upon God, truly to be convinced that God hears us, and to expect God's aid in death and in all afflictions. Finally, the Law requires obedience to God, in death and all afflictions, so that we may not run from these commandments or refuse them when God lays them upon us.

Apology of the Augsburg Confession

South Big Horn Lutheran Parish

Pastor Jais H. Tinglund

409 5th Avenue

Greybull

WY 82426

Phone: 307-765-2865

e-mail: tinglund@nvc.net

Grace website:

<http://gracegreybull.ctshost.org>

Zion website:

<http://zionemblem.ctshost.org>

Regular office hours at Grace:

Tuesday-Friday, Noon -1 pm.

Regular Worship Hours,

October-March

Grace:

Sundays at 8 am.

Bible Study at 9:15 am.

April-September

Zion:

Sundays at 10:30 am.

Bible Study at 11:45 am.

