



South Big Horn Lutheran Parish
Grace and Zion Lutheran Churches
Newsletter, March 2021

Dear brethren,

the Fifth Commandment is: *You shall not murder!* And the innermost meaning of this Commandment is that God alone is Lord of life. He is the one to whom our life belongs, as He is the one who gives it to us in order for us to put it to use in service to Him. And we owe it to Him to live and serve Him for as long as He would have us do that. As such, life is not only a *gift* for us to treasure - although it is that - but also an *obligation* for us to honour.

This is the innermost meaning of the Commandment: *You shall not murder!* Wilfully to take the life of another person is to deprive God of his or her service to Him, and to hinder the fulfilment of His purposes in his or her life. And similarly, to take your own life is to deprive God of your service to Him and to hinder the fulfilment of His purposes in your life.

Like all the other Commandments of God, this Commandment calls for *faith*, that is: for trust in God, that He knows what is good for us, that what He wills and commands is what is good for us, and that, ultimately, He will work what is good for us.

There are times in the lives of many when it seems not only that life is unbearable, and I would be better off dead, but also that everybody else would be better off with me being dead; that I am a burden more than anything else to those I love.

This is wrong. Not only is it pretty much a given that those whom you love would not agree that they would be better off without having you in their life; although it *is* pretty much a given.

The faith also teaches us that God is the one who knows what is good, not only for me, but also for those around me, and those whom I love.

To take matters into my own hands by ending my own life would be to live out the lie of the evil one, that I am myself the rightful judge of good and evil, rather than to acknowledge that God alone is that. It is to claim for myself the right to be lord and master of my own life, to force the hand of God, so to speak - in so far as His hand can in any way be forced, which it can not; but that is a different discussion!

Even if you really are a burden to those whom you love, and those who love you, this does not change anything in this regard. If you are a burden to others more than anything else, well, then you are a burden God Himself has given to them to bear, by which He will bring His good purposes to completion in their lives as well as in yours. By making a beloved one a burden, along with all that they *also* are to us, He helps us to understand in greater measure what love is: that His love, and real love, is love that will bear burdens and make sacrifices for the beloved; we learn how true it is what we know already from the burden He has borne for us. *By this we know love*, writes the holy Apostle John: *that He laid down His life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers.*

1 John 3:16

This holds true, even when laying down our lives for the brothers means to bear the burdens of life for them, as well as for Him.

Sincerely
Jais H. Tinglund

Pastor Tinglund shall be gone on Wednesday afternoons and evenings and most of Thursdays until mid-March to tend to his duties as Vacancy Pastor to Saint John's Lutheran Church in Lovell.

Services of penitence and prayer are held at Grace every Friday night at 7 pm. in response to the Wuhan Virus crisis and other current threats to the peace and freedom of the Church of Christ, and His Christians, and all people in the country and the community.

LWML meeting at Grace on Monday, March 1, at 7 pm.

Lenten Dinners at Grace at 6 pm., Tuesdays, February 23 and March 2, 9, 16, and 23.

February 23: Carry-in

March 2: Mongolian - served by the Youth

March 9: Carry-in

March 16: Pizza dinner - served by the Youth

March 23: Carry-in

Lenten Worship at Grace on Tuesdays, February 23, March 2, 9, 16, and 23. at 7 pm. Our theme this year is **His Mercy and His Men**. In light of the Passion of Christ we meditate upon what Holy Scripture teaches about His gift of Confession and Absolution and the Office of the Holy Ministry.

Pastor Tinglund shall be gone for a Circuit Pastors' meeting most of Tuesday, March 9. Messages can be left at cell phone 605-228-9216, which will be checked regularly.

Daylight Savings Time will take effect in the early morning of Sunday, March 14. Members are encouraged to set their chronometers accordingly so as not to be late for Church.

Delicious Butter Braid pastries are being sold as a fund raiser for our youth account. Place your order on the sheet provided by **Sunday, March 14**. Your Pastries should be available on Easter Sunday.

High quality cutlery and other food items are being sold as a fundraiser for our youth account. Look through a catalogue if there is something you would like, whether for yourself or as a gift for someone else, and let Mrs. T. know by Sunday, **March 14**.

Installation at Lovell: Saint John's Lutheran Church in Lovell invites you to the installation of her new Pastor, Jacob Benson, on Sunday, March 14, at 4 pm. A dinner will follow. Come and celebrate with your brothers and sisters in the faith, and be reminded what a Pastor is, and what it means to have one of those, and be Church and be Christian.

Let's do the time warp again: Our Worship times will switch over on Sunday, April 4. After that, Worship will be at Zion at 8 am. and at 10:30 am at Grace.

Birthdays in March

- as known to the editor

March 1:

Ken Fink

March 13:

Mary Marchant

March 19:

Callee Catlyn

March 21st:

Todd Werbelow

March 23:

McKenzie Mazur

March 26th:

Blake Gernant

Howard Gernant

Mason Werbelow

March 27:

Christine Klitzke

Zion Financial Report, January

Debits: \$ 10,407

Credits: \$ 13,460

LWML usually meets at Grace on the first Monday of every month at 7 pm., except in July, August and September, and also on the **last** Monday of August. All ladies of the congregation are members of the LWML; and as such all ladies of the congregation, of all ages, are not only more than welcome, but also actually invited and encouraged to attend all LWML meetings at Grace - 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, Wednesday, and Friday Noon -1 pm.

Regular Worship Hours,

October-March:

Grace:

Saturdays at 7 pm.

- please call the Parsonage

to announce your attendance!

Sundays at 8 am.

Bible Study at 9:15 am.

Zion:

Sundays at 10:30 am.

Bible Study at 11:45 am.

April-September:

Grace:

Saturdays at 7 pm.

- please call the Parsonage

to announce your attendance!

Sundays at 10:30 am.

Bible Study at 11:45 am.

Zion:

Sundays at 8 am.

Bible Study at 9:15 am.