



South Big Horn Lutheran Parish
Grace and Zion Lutheran Churches
Newsletter, February 2024

Dear brethren,

the Sixth Commandment is: *You shall not commit adultery!* And it is obvious that our Lord Jesus was addressing sin against this Commandment when Holy Scripture tells us that He said to a woman (who happened to be a Samaritan woman, but in this context that is beside the point): *You have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband!* **John 4:17-18**

The woman herself perceived that it was *sin* on her part He addressed; she described the encounter as such: *He told me all I ever did.* **John 4:39**

Our Lord Jesus confronted her with two different sins (one of them committed by her on five occasions, for those who are mathematically inclined, but that, also, is beside the point); and in having had His holy Apostle John record His words for us, He presents us with two different ways in which the Sixth Commandment can be, and often is, violated.

First there is this: *You have had five husbands!* Presumably, our Lord Jesus was not pointing to her being five times a widow, which would not constitute sin on her part (dependent, of course, upon what she might have done to become a widow), but rather that she was five times married and divorced. And since our Lord Jesus bothered to confront her with her series of divorces and subsequent marriages, it is also safe to assume that none of her divorces were of a such nature that she should be considered a mere *victim* of divorce, that she had rather been an active participant in them, and thus sinned.

And this means that in at least four of her marriages, she had been *living in sin*, in a permanent sinful arrangement.

And she was living in sin also when the encounter took place, in that the husband she now had was not really her *husband*, that is: she was not married to him (nor he to, her, obviously); this, also, was sin with which our Lord Jesus found it worthwhile to confront her.

It does not come as news to us that these are sins; at least it should not. As our Lord Jesus pointed it out, on another occasion, it was always clear from Holy Scripture: *Have you not read that He who made them at the beginning 'made them male and female,' and said: 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh'? So then, they are no longer two but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let not man separate."* **Matthew 19:4-6**

Only God has the right to separate what He Himself has joined together; and when a man and a woman have formed a household together, and bound themselves to each other with a promise, then God *has* joined them together, and it is, first of all, fully legitimate for them, and not at all sinful as it would otherwise have been, to become one flesh, and, secondly, it is sinful for them to separate!

All this points back to God; all things good are His to give, and not for us to take for ourselves, our own way, in this life as well as with regards to His salvation.

Sincerely
Jais H. Tinglund

Services of penitence and prayer at Grace Friday nights at 7 pm. in response to political and cultural chaos and other threats to the freedom of the Church of Christ, and the general well-being of human beings everywhere.

Pastor Tinglund shall be gone for a District Circuit Visitors' meeting Tuesday, January 23, through Wednesday, January 24. Messages can be left at 605-228-9216. Should a need for immediate Pastoral assistance arise, feel free to call Pastor Korb of Worland at 307-388-4044.

Free will offering at Grace on Sunday, January 28, in favour of Lutherans for Life.

LWML Meeting at Grace Saturday, February 3, at 10 am.

Pastor Tinglund shall be gone on holiday Thursday, February 1, through Wednesday, February 7. Messages can be left at cell phone 605-228-9216. Should a need for immediate Pastoral assistance arise, feel free to call Pastor Korb of Worland at 307-388-4044.

Pastor Tinglund shall be gone for continuing education Friday, February 10, through Saturday, February 11. Messages can be left at 605-228-9216. Should a need for immediate Pastoral assistance arise, feel free to call Pastor Korb of Worland at 307-388-4044.

TTGNAJ Convocation in Casper February 10-11. Rev. Dr. John C. Wohlrabe, Great Lakes Regional Vice President and 6th Vice President of the LCMS, will speak under the topic: *They Walked Away from God's Word: How the 1974 Seminary walkout changed the way the Gospel is proclaimed*. Registration information can be found in the District Newsletter and on the Wyoming District website.

Pastor Tinglund shall be gone on Tuesday, February 13, for a Circuit Pastors' Meeting. Messages can be left at 605-228-9216.

Lenten Dinners at Grace at 6 pm., prior to Lenten Worship on Wednesdays, February 14, 21, and 28, and March 6, 13, and 20.

February 14: Tacos

February 21: Carry-in

February 28: Spaghetti

March 6: Carry-in

March 13: Baked potato dinner

March 20: Carry-in

Free will offerings will be taken for our Youth/Emergency/Visitation Account.

Lenten Worship at Grace on Wednesdays, February 14, 21, and 28, and March 6, 13, and 20. Our theme this year will be His Law and His Love. We shall meditate upon some of the ways in how our Lord Jesus actually gives His salvation to us, in light of the account of Holy Scripture of how He has suffered to win salvation for us to begin with.

Bring your receipts from Lynn's to Church. For every bundle of receipts for purchases of \$ 10,000 we collect, Lynn's will give us \$ 100 for the LMWL at Grace. Last year we received \$ 800 by collecting receipts. This is an easy way to provide money for missions, without too much of a sacrifice for anyone - other than Mrs. T, who has to put up with her husband having developed yet another obsession.

Birthdays in February

- as known to the editor

February 7:

Brian DeRosa

February 19:

Taylor Stewart

February 22nd:

Alex Preis

Martha Werbelow

February 28:

Quinton Hibbert

Anniversaries in February

- as known to the editor

February 28:

Ray and Dory Cauffman

Just so we do not forget:

What is the third Commandment?

Remember the Sabbath Day by keeping it holy.

What does this mean?

We should fear and love God, so that we do not despise preaching and His Word, but hold it sacred and gladly hear and learn it.

Of the Small Catechism

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, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday,
Noon - 1 pm.

Regular Worship Hours

April-September:

Grace:

Penitence & Prayer Fridays, 7 pm.

Sundays at 10:30 am.

Bible Study at 11:45 am.

Zion:

Sundays at 8 am.

Bible Study at 9:15 am.

October-March:

Grace:

Penitence & Prayer Fridays, 7 pm.

Sundays at 8 am.

Bible Study at 9:15 am.

Zion:

Sundays at 10:30 am.

Bible Study at 11:45 am.

LWML meets at Grace at 10 am. on the first Saturday of February, March, April, and November, and also at 7 pm. on the last Monday of August - unless announced otherwise.