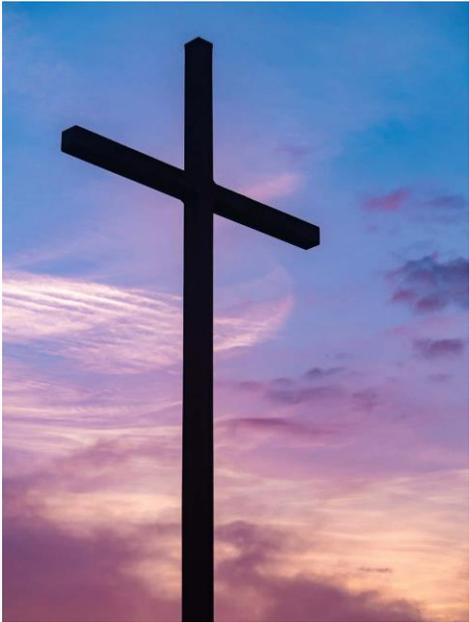


Graceline

A monthly publication of Grace Lutheran Church



Pastor David's Message



The Contrasts of Life and the Theology of the Cross

1 Peter 2:24 New International Version 24 "He himself bore our sins," in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; "by his wounds you have been healed."

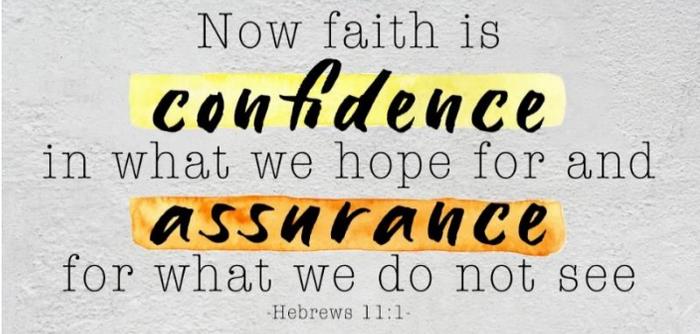
Martin Luther had a great insight on the theology of the cross. The cross helps us to deal with the contrasts of life. In his series of lectures given in 1515 and 1516 on the Book of Romans, he wrote: "For what is good for us is hidden, and that so deeply that it is hidden under its opposite. Thus, our life is hidden under death, love for ourselves under hate for ourselves... salvation under damnation, heaven under hell ... And universally our every assertion of anything good is hidden under the denial of it, so that faith may have its place in God, who is a negative essence and goodness and wisdom and righteousness, who cannot be touched except by the negation of all our affirmations."

What Martin Luther is saying is that the opposites or contrast in life awakens us, and that we are in need of a saviour. We would not know of God's love or savings acts without it. It is Jesus' victory over the cross that pulls us out of the contrast from

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darkness to the light. It is this process that we are tested, it is further explained in Luther's sermon, he preached: "He thrusts us into death and permits the devil to pounce on us. But it is not his purpose to devour us; he wants to test us, to purify us, and to manifest himself ever more to us, that we may recognize his love." It is the struggles of this life that makes us realize that we need a saviour. It is our own cross that we bear that we realize that we do not bear it alone. We all go through hard times; it is in these times that we may come to a Jesus moment. It is here where God's mysteries show his grace and mercy. It is like a child or baby; if they had no needs or troubles, they would not need a closer or deeper relationship with a parent. Because of the contrast in life, it can either break a person or bring them close to God who is the source of comfort and help. It is God who can help us make that choice. I believe the choice is easy.

In Christ, Pastor David

UPCOMING EVENTS



SATURDAY, MAY 25TH – 6:00-7:30PM

UPCOMING MINI-GOLF YOUTH EVENT

Pastor David will meet be meeting with the youth at the Scandia Mini-Golf course, 2898 Hwy 97N Kelowna. For more information, text Pastor David at: 250.317.6502.

(April Event TBA)

Grace News



SPRING is a time of making all things new again!

Days become longer and weather gets warmer in the temperate zone because the Earth tilts relative to its orbital plane around the Sun. In many parts of the world, it rains for hours. This helps the plants grow and flowers bloom. Wikipedia.org

After a very busy and event-filled March, we can look forward to settling into a more routine church calendar in April. From April 7th until May 5th, we will observe the season of Easter. Jesus appears to his disciples, breathes on them and says, "Receive the Holy Spirit." John 20:22 NIV. We will then take time to observe how Jesus prepares His disciples to spread the Good News, to love one another and to be His much-needed witnesses to the world after He ascends to the Father. May God also bless us to be His much-needed witness to the world this Easter season.

Grace Choir continues to practice on Thursdays at 7:00PM and we look forward to hearing anthems from Grace Choir on the 2nd & 4th Sundays. Deni invites everyone who has been thinking about joining choir to finally make the move to come out on Thursday nights at 7:00PM. You won't be disappointed because of all the health, social & spiritual benefits you will receive from singing with the choir. Take a moment to read the following article <https://www.healthline.com/health/benefits-of-singing>, and discover the many benefits.

Thank you to *Full of Grace* who has continued to provide a monthly Call to Worship and who are also leading the hymns on Sundays in the 11:00AM service. *Full of Grace* continues to provide their music ministry at Brookhaven Care Home and Brent Keith gives a short message with Bible readings and prayers to a very enthusiastic audience. Vivien Georgeson has joined us at Brookhaven to help with the scripture readings and everyone, Full of Grace and the Brookhaven residents, has an awesome time! Starting in April, Full of Grace will also be providing a chapel service at Village at Smith Creek. We are very blessed to have this music ministry in our church.

It is so good to hear and see more people in the church during the week and on Sundays. If there is an area where you would like to help out in the church or in the worship services, please contact the pastor or the office and let us know what you would like to do. If you are still undecided about coming out for Sunday worship, please consider it, we miss seeing you!

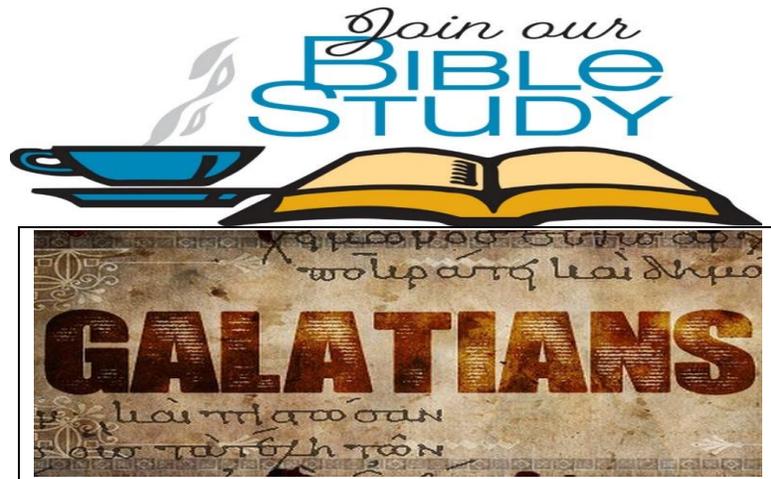
Grace Choir Practice is on Thursdays at 7:00PM. If you have any questions call Deni Skutshek 250.801.9098 or the church office 250.769.5685.

Full of Grace is the singing group leading the 11:00AM worship hymns and who perform an anthem in the 11:00AM service once a month. We could use a bass singer so if you love singing and can sing the bass-line, please contact Miriam in the office at 250.769.5685.

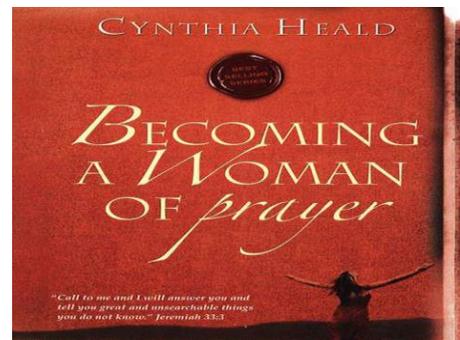
Men's Breakfast Second Saturday of each month 8:30AM in the Fellowship Hall unless otherwise notified.

Online Services We continue to record one Sunday worship service each week, and our sound booth team makes it ready for viewing on Sunday afternoon. If you have provided the Church Office with an email address, the video link will be sent to you on Sunday or Monday. If you do not receive it in your email box, it might have gone into Junk Mail or spam folder.

Special Occasions Are you celebrating a milestone birthday or anniversary and would like to share your happy day in a picture that we could include in our monthly newsletter, please send it to info@gracelutheranelowna.com with a brief description of the momentous occasion.



Galatians Bible Study
Tuesdays at 1:00 to 2:30PM
April 9th to May 7th
Any questions please contact:
Pastor David or Don Chapman



Ladies Bible Study
Wednesdays at 9:30AM
Topic: Becoming a Woman of Prayer

COMPASSION CORNER

Pray for everyone in our church family who mourns including the Schoepp and Vinge families. Pray for those needing prayer in hospital including Robert Shopland, Marlene Folk and Len Weber. Pray for those at home, including Kris Gering, Maria Heise, Karen Arend, Jim Szabo, Louise Shopland, Nedra Schuler, Gerald Schuler, Penny Pfahl, Emily Hughes (Deni Skutshek's mother), Fran Schmidt, Joan Ulmer, Coco Heebner, Brenda Heise, Helene Hack, Lorraine Wentland, Ferne Sather, and Myrna

Smith. **Therefore, confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective. James 5:16**

My God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.

PHILIPPIANS 4:19 NIV



Monday Night Zoom Study
Living the Gospel

Mondays at 7PM
Topic: I Peter followed by II Peter
'Living the Gospel Today'
Contact Jim Statham for a Zoom invitation: jhwstatham@shaw.ca

Congregational Life

Christian Education

Sundays - Sunday School – 10:15AM. Please meet Marilyn in the Quiet Room.

Mondays - Bible Study at 7:00PM via ZOOM. Email Jim for an invitation at: jhwstatham@shaw.ca

Tuesdays – Galatians Bible Study 1:00PM. April 9th to May 7th.

Wednesdays - Ladies Bible Study at 9:30AM

Thursdays - Choir practice at 7:00PM. Choir will sing an anthem at the 2nd & 4th Sunday service at 11:00AM.

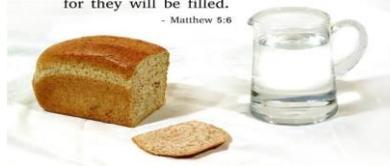
SO VERY
grateful
INCREDIBLY
thankful
UNBELIEVABLY
blessed

Serving Others

Volunteer at the Kelowna Gospel Mission
251 Leon Ave, Kelowna, BC

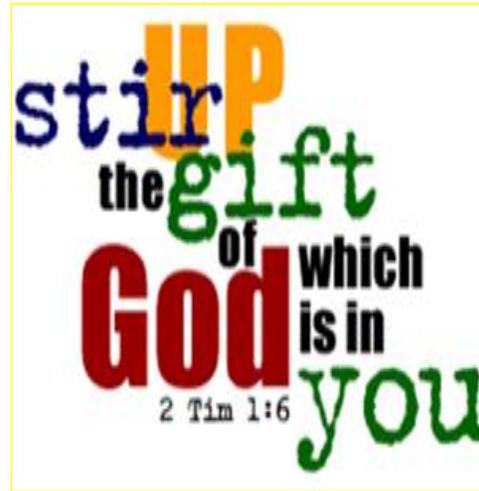
On the 4th Tuesday of every month a team from Grace Lutheran goes to the Kelowna Gospel Mission. They help in the kitchen with lunch preparation and serving. If you would like to serve in this way, please contact Corinn Lutz at 250.869.8092 or by email: timcorlutz@gmail.com

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.
- Matthew 5:6



Grace Dine & Chat

Are you interested in meeting more people from Grace Lutheran Church and enjoying Christian fellowship and good food? Grace singles & couples are invited out after church on the 3rd Sunday of each month for lunch and discussion at one of our local restaurants. Contact Karen Arend at: arendek@shaw.ca.

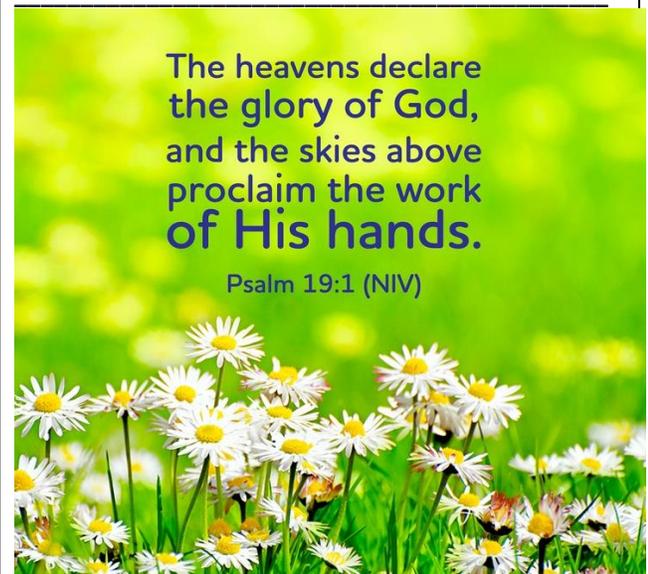


GRACE COFFEE SOCIAL

People of Grace are encouraged and welcome to join us in the Fellowship Hall on Sundays between 10:10-10:50AM for coffee, a snack and fellowship with other Grace members. This is a great opportunity to reach out and meet with one another. We chose this time slot in order for people from both services to attend. If you would like to help out with the coffee, minimal setup and cleanup is involved, so please contact Erika Burt for more information at 250.768.5912.

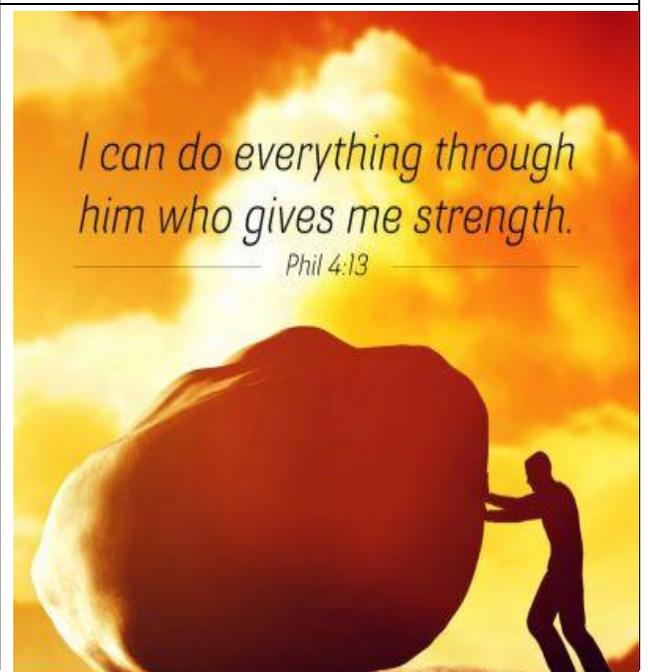
Council Meeting

April 9th at 7:00PM



The heavens declare the glory of God, and the skies above proclaim the work of His hands.

Psalm 19:1 (NIV)



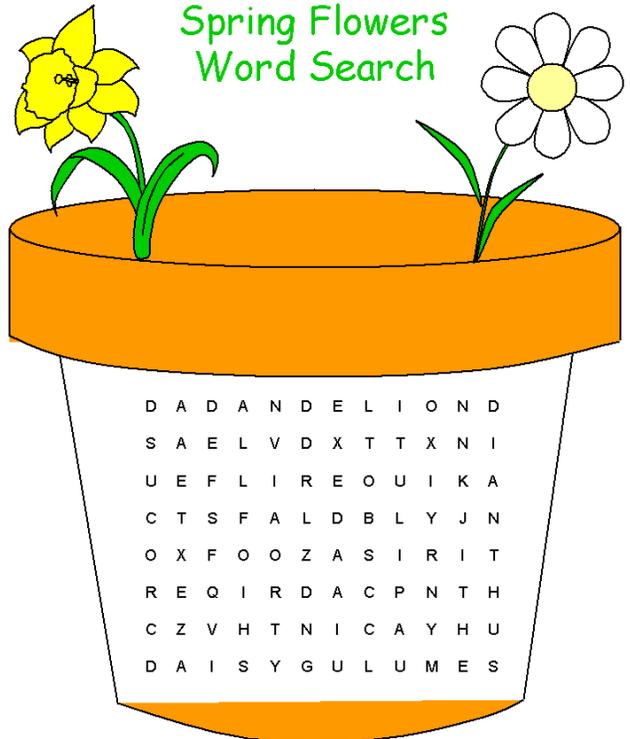
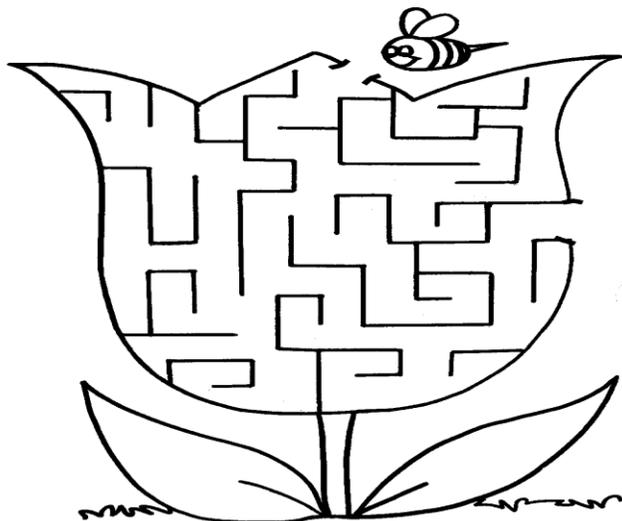
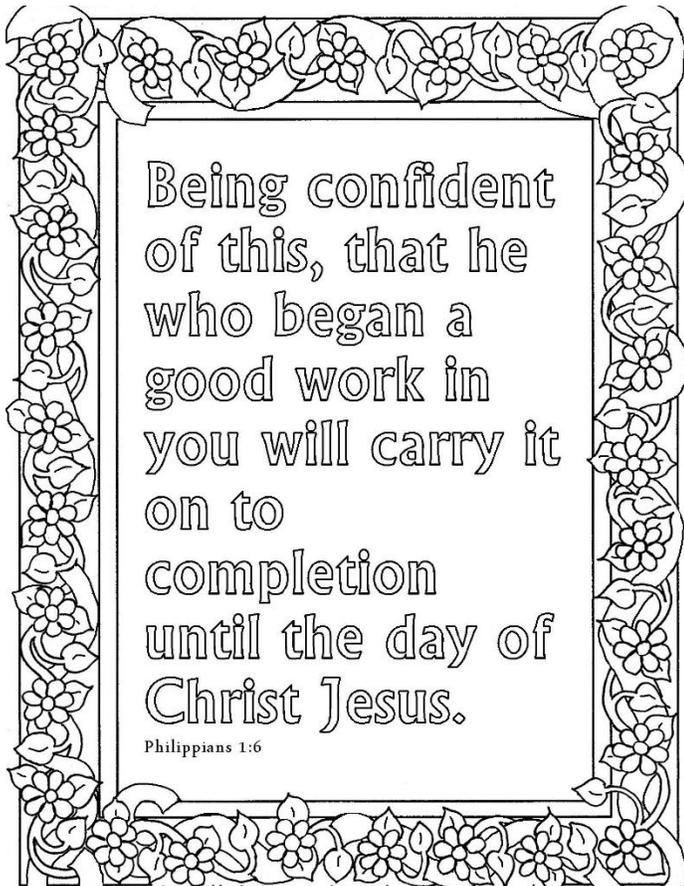
I can do everything through him who gives me strength.

Phil 4:13

Jesus Loves ME!

The Bible tells me so!

Remember to come to Sunday School at 10:15AM! See You There!

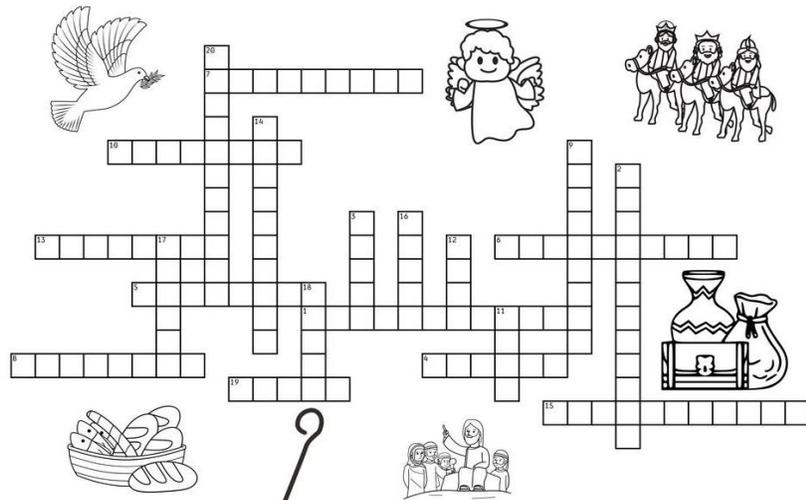


- azalea
- daisy
- hyacinth
- rose
- crocus
- dandelion
- iris
- tulip
- daffodil
- dianthus
- lilac
- violet



Scripture Crossword

Find the correct answers to the clues and fill them into the crossword puzzle.



DOWN

2. Unwavering belief in God's will
3. Traitor who betrayed Jesus
9. An important event at the end of the world
11. Biblical site of resurrection
12. Jesus uses this plant as a metaphor
14. A struggle against wrong desires
16. What Peter & Jesus walked on
17. The one who let Barabbas go free
18. God's boundless kindness
20. Restoring a relationship after hurt

ACROSS

1. Easter celebrates this event
4. His nickname was "Doubting"
5. A divine gift or action
6. Feeling regret & changing your behaviour as written in the New Testament
7. Obeying God's commandments
8. Christ's method of teaching in the NT
10. A religious group Jesus warned about hypocrisy
13. Part of the group called, "The Twelve"
15. Oppressed for faith
19. Biblical figure who brings news

APRIL 2024 – Grace Lutheran Church

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 -Easter Monday-	2 2:00PM Lakeview Lodge PD	3 9:30AM Ladies Bible Study with Liliias Statham	4 7:00PM Choir Practice	5	6 1:00PM 4-H Fireside Rm
7 Easter 2 9:00AM Contemporary w/Holy Communion 10:15AM Sunday School 11:00AM Traditional w/Holy Communion	8 7:00PM Zoom Bible Study with Jim Statham	9 1:00PM Galatians Bible Study 7:00PM Council Mtg.	10 9:30AM Ladies Bible Study with Liliias Statham	11 No Choir Practice this week!	12	13 8:30AM Men's Breakfast 1:00PM Emmaus Finnish Service 1:00PM 4-H Fireside Rm
14 Easter 3 9:00AM Contemporary 10:10AM Coffee Social Fellowship Hall 10:15AM Sunday School 11:00AM Traditional	15 7:00PM Zoom Bible Study with Jim Statham	16 1:00PM Galatians Bible Study	17 9:30AM Ladies Bible Study with Liliias Statham 2:00PM Brookhaven Chapel FOG	18 7:00PM Choir Practice CALC	19 CONVENTION	20 →
21 Easter 4 9:00AM Contemporary 10:15AM Sunday School 11:00AM Traditional w/Holy Communion	22 7:00PM Zoom Bible Study with Jim Statham	23 1:00PM Galatians Bible Study 2:00PM Village at Smith Creek Chapel FOG	24 9:30AM Ladies Bible Study with Liliias Statham	25 7:00PM Choir Practice	26	27 Youth Event TBA
28 Easter 5 9:00AM Contemporary 10:10AM Coffee Social Fellowship Hall 10:15AM Sunday School 11:00AM Traditional Service	29 7:00PM Zoom Bible Study with Jim Statham	30 1:00PM Galatians Bible Study				

“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.” Jeremiah 29:11 NIV

