

## Prayer Concerns:

- **Family of Scott Kline – His mother, Betty, passed away happily at 94 years**
- **Sunday School Teachers, Administrators, and Students – begin new year**
- **Randy – Infection after surgery – Pray: Successful outcome – 08/14/18 (upd)**
- **Moorman family – Lost everything/fire – Pray: Strength & Courage – 08/26/18**
- **Jim & Shari – Serious motorcycle accident – Pray: Speedy healing – 08-26/18**
- Sharon & Ron Voss – Health issues – Pray: Healing – 08/24/18
- Lila – Dizziness & falls – Pray: continued recovery from stroke – 08/24/18
- Rose H. – Auto accident – Pray: Recovery from injuries – 08/13/18
- Ellen – Surgery complications – Pray: Repair & quick recovery – 08/12/18
- Brian – Auto accident – Pray: Speedy recovery – 08/02/18
- Josh - Construction accident, badly hurt. Pray complete healing -- 07/31/18
- Rob C. – Terminal cancer – Pray for peaceful passing – 07/21/18
- Butch – Moved to assisted living; pray: successful transition – 07/14/18(upd)
- Dave J.– Hip surgery – Pray: Quick return to normal living! – 07/10/18
- Lori – Early cancer diagnosis – Pray: Speedy/complete cure – 07/09/18
- Scott – Kidney/pancreas transplant – Pray: No rejection – 07/09/18
- Amanda – Undisclosed medical issues – Pray: Resolution – 07/08/18
- Kevin – Recovery from prostate cancer– Pray: Total remission – 07/07/18
- Keith – Lung cancer found, new treatment – Pray: Effective treatment – 07/07/18
- Larry – Cancer found, chemo, surgery – Pray: Remission– 07/07/18(upd)
- Mariah – Tumor removal was complete; no residual cancer– 06/30/18(upd)
- Vern – Heart issues – Pray: Successful treatment – 06/30/18
- David – Mental illness issues – Pray: Successful treatment/control – 06/22/18
- Alyce – Surgery– Pray: Successful outcome & speedy healing – 06/14/18

## Consider-ables w/Max Lucado

### Taking Out the Trash

Who wants to live with yesterday's rubble? Who wants to hoard the trash of the past? You don't, do you? Or do you? I'm not talking about the trash in your house, but in your heart. Not the junk of papers and boxes but the remnants of anger and hurt. Do you rat-pack your pain? Amass offenses? Record slights?

A tour of your heart might be telling. A pile of rejections. Accumulated insults. No one can blame you. They're innocence takers, promise breakers, and wound makers. They're everywhere and you've had your share. Jesus answered Peter's question in Matthew 18:21-22 when he asked: "*Lord, how often should I forgive someone who sins against me? Seven times?*" "*No, not seven times,*" Jesus said. "*Seventy times seven!*"

Do you want to give every day a chance? Jesus says to get rid of the trash. Give the grace you've been given!

## Responsive Reading: Psalm 15

- ALL:** O LORD, who may abide in your tent? Who may dwell on your holy hill?
- PC: Those who walk blamelessly.  
PC: *Those who do what is right.*  
PC: Those who speak the truth from their heart.  
PC: *Those who do not slander with their tongue.*  
PC: Those who do no evil to their friends.  
PC: *Those who do not take up a reproach against their neighbors;*  
PC: Those in whose eyes the wicked are despised.  
PC: *Those who honor those who fear the LORD.*  
PC: Those who stand by their oath even to their hurt.  
PC: *Those who do not lend money at interest.*  
PC: Those who do not take a bribe against the innocent.
- ALL:** **Those who do these things shall never be moved. But those who do the will of the LORD will be blessed and kept from harm and brought to salvation.**

## Lesson: James 1:22-27

Be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. Those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act--they will be blessed in their doing.

If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

## Gospel: Mark 7:1-9, 14-23

Now when the Pharisees gathered to him, with some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem, they saw that some of his disciples ate with hands that were defiled, that is, unwashed. (For the Pharisees and all the Jews do not eat unless they wash their hands properly, holding to the tradition of the elders, and when they come from the marketplace, they do not eat unless they wash. And there are many other traditions that they observe, such as the washing of cups and pots and copper vessels and dining couches.) ...

## Gospel... (cont'd)

And the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, “*Why do your disciples not walk according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?*”

He said to them, “*Well did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites, as it is written,*

*“This people honors me with their lips,  
but their heart is far from me;  
in vain do they worship me,  
teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.”*

*You leave the commandment of God and hold to the tradition of men.”*

And he said to them, “*You have a fine way of rejecting the commandment of God in order to establish your tradition!*”

And he called the people to him again and said to them, “*Hear me, all of you, and understand: There is nothing outside a person that by going into him can defile him, but the things that come out of a person are what defile him.*”

*And when he had entered the house and left the people, his disciples asked him about the parable.*

And he called the people to him again and said to them, “*Hear me, all of you, and understand: There is nothing outside a person that by going into him can defile him, but the things that come out of a person are what defile him.*”

*And when he had entered the house and left the people, his disciples asked him about the parable. And he said to them, “Then are you also without understanding? Do you not see that whatever goes into a person from outside cannot defile him, since it enters not his heart but his stomach, and is expelled?” (Thus he declared all foods clean.) And he said, “What comes out of a person is what defiles him. For from within, out of the heart of man, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, coveting, wickedness, deceit, sensuality, envy, slander, pride, foolishness. All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.”*

## Announce-able(s)...

### Sunday School Kickoff --

Keep in mind... Sunday School kicks off **NEXT SUNDAY!!**

**THANKS** for those who have committed to teaching this year (Gina Nechal, Deb Stenberg, and Terrienne Lindholm) and to Emily Egan who will provide behind-the-scenes help/support. We could still use one more teacher.

+ Congratulations to the Egan family on the baptism of their new twins, LillyMae LeAnn and Kylar James!!

## Lutheran-ables...From “The Lutheran Handbook II”

**How to receive God’s grace daily---** God’s grace exists in a dual, paradoxical state that many Protestant theologians describe as being transcendent and immanent---that is, above and beyond the realm of human understanding, but also ever-present and constantly available to human beings. One suggested analogy involves the human as a radio, “tune in” to God’s grace the same way a dial is set to a constant, pre-existing signal.

- 3. Stay Positive** – Certain attitudes of the recipient make grace easier to apprehend. These include: Thankfulness, obedience, and not being invested in the outcome of situations. It can, in part, be described by this phrase from the Lord's Prayer: “Your will be done.”
- 4. Remain spiritually still; practice stillness in all its forms.** Grace, coming from God, is often received and perceived in quiet moments that allow the “still small voice” of God to speak a peace that passes understanding.
- 5. Utilized prayer as a means to tune your dial to the right signal.** Meditative prayer is often best, as it encourages the values mentioned above, but the beloved Serenity Prayer is a viable linguistic means: “*God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change; courage to change the things I can; and wisdom to know the difference.*” (cont'd next week)

## Grin-able(s)...



**“They’re sending all of us to auctioneering class.  
If we learn to talk faster, we’ll get more  
done at staff meetings.”**  
*council*

## Calendar...

- Next Council Meeting – September 11<sup>th</sup>
- Next Communion – September 16<sup>th</sup>