

**The Pipeliner  
of  
Grace Lutheran Church  
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## Pastor's corner:

### Hobby or Passion

“Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord.” (Romans 12:11)

Our fallen nature is a terrible thing. Even among Christians who know and believe in all God has done for us through our Redeemer Jesus Christ it has a terrible effect. The Son of God who became our brother in human flesh to die and rise and gain us eternal salvation; that guy becomes our hobby while the lesser things of this fallen life become our passion.

It's undeniable. Consider the excitement so many Christians have for their favorite sports team—how does it compare to their zeal for Jesus? Consider the anticipation of and regularity with which so many Christians go gambling—how does that compare with going to church? Does one's desire to hear the words of absolution even approach the intensity of one's desire to go fishing? I bet every person who reads these words can shame themselves in citing an example of how they feel more passion for some trivial pursuit of the world than they do for hearing the proclamation of the Gospel.

And the truth is, berating y'all for this terrible state of affairs isn't going to change matters. Nobody gets shamed into zealotry. Passion flows from the love of a thing. So what shall we do?

Get to know your Savior better. If you do, you'll find the passion and zeal He has for you. Your Bible is not a dry book of history and philosophy. It is a love story. It is the story of a Creator's love for His creation. It is the story of a Father's love for His wayward children. It is the story of a warrior-king's willing sacrifice in humbling Himself unto capture, torture and death to save the damsel in distress, adulteress though she was. It is the story of God's passionate love for you and in experiencing it you cannot but become passionate yourself.

The story of God's love shames us, accuses us, convicts us. As we respond in zealous contrition and repentance, it passionately forgives us, reconciles us, comforts us and inspires us.

“Is my faith in Christ my passion or my hobby?”

If you find attempting to answer that question unsettling, get settled in the God that loves you. Pray some more. Read His Word some more. Meditate on His love some more. Then pray some more. Get to know God's passion for you more intimately, and receiving that love will inspire your zeal for Him.

—Pastor Rich

## Lectionary Readings:

September 6, 2020—Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost (Green)  
Ezekiel 33:7-9, Romans 13:1-10, Matthew 18:1-20  
September 13, 2020—Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost (Green)  
Genesis 50:15-21, Romans 14:1-12, Matthew 18:21-35  
September 20, 2020—Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost (Green)  
Isaiah 55:6-9, Philippians 1:12-14, 19-30, Matthew 20:1-16  
September 27, 2020—Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost (Green)  
Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32, Philippians 2:1-4, 14-18, Matthew 21:23-27

## 2021 Board of Directors

President: Brandy Lirette  
Vice-President: Jerrie Fitzgerald  
Board Secretary: Bridgette Rudnik  
Financial Secretary: Bonnie Dupre  
Treasurer: Lisa Giroir  
Activities Chair: Open  
Christian Ed. Chair: Open  
Social Ministry Chair: Open  
Stewardship Chair: Kim Cape  
Property Chair: Dale Boger  
Mission Outreach Chair: Open

## Seeking Mowers

The small courtyard behind the church needs to be mowed by hand because our lawn service's machines are too big and their weed-whackers are too brutal. We need a few volunteers willing to take on this task that requires less than an hour to accomplish. If you're willing, contact Pastor Rich and he'll show you where the mower and gas are located and add you to an email list to request a volunteer when the grass gets long. Thanks for your service.

## 2021 Elders

Derek Crawford, Gordon Fitzgerald, Joey Souther, John Wegner and Joe Deane

October 2021 Newsletter articles should be turned in to Lisa by Thursday, September 23rd. You may email these to [secretary@gracehouma.org](mailto:secretary@gracehouma.org)

At the end of the first of his chapters on the virtue of faith in Mere Christianity, C.S. Lewis provides a helpful reminder, by way of analogy, for the foundation of stewardship. He wrote:

“Every faculty you have, your power of thinking or of moving your limbs from moment to moment, is given you by God. If you devoted every moment of your whole life exclusively to His service you could not give Him anything that was not in a sense His own already. So then, when we talk of a man doing anything for God or giving anything to God, I will tell you what it is really like. It is like a small child going to its father and saying, ‘Daddy, give me sixpence to buy you a birthday present.’ Of course, the father does, and he is pleased with the child’s present. It is all very nice and proper, but only an idiot would think that the father is sixpence to the good on the transaction. When a man has made these two discoveries God can really get to work. It is after this that real life begins. (128-129).”

This is the first thing we are given to confess about stewardship, and it has to do with ownership. God owns everything, and we are simply managers - stewards - acting on His behalf. This is true not only of all that we have in this life (Deut. 8:17-18) but also all that we are in this life (1 Cor. 6:20).

The rest flows from here. Since we are stewards, or managers, of what belongs to God, entrusted to make use of it according to His will, there is an expectation of responsibility and accountability. For the Lord said, “Everyone to whom much was given, of him much will be required, and from him to whom they entrusted much, they will demand the more” (Luke 12:48b). And from this comes blessing and reward: “Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master” (Matt. 25:21).

We have everything we need to support this body and life from our God’s fatherly divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in us. We have everything we need for our spiritual life also from His merciful hands. On account of the sacrifice of His Son, our Lord Jesus, through the preaching of the gospel and the administration of the sacraments, we have the forgiveness of sins, eternal life, and everlasting salvation delivered to us with absolute certainty that it is ours - not as stewards but as sons (Gal. 4:1-7). Let us then, as His own sons, press all that He gives to us into the service of His church and to His glory.

### In the palm of God’s Hands...

HEALTH CONCERNS: Angelo Michel, Burt Hebert, Gary Moore, Hunter Moore, Marabelle Leggett, Margret Cuccia, & Mary Deane

BATTLING CANCER: Cindy Gorham, Georgette Savoie, Jay Cruse, John Adams, Karen Curtis, Nan Ashley Hebert, Penny Emling & Ursula Breaux

CHRONIC CONDITIONS & ELDERLY: Bobby Torbert, Brian Hoover, Camile Adams, Cindy Deane, Connie Oswalt, Edna Marie Sevin, Helen Hoover, Jackie Webb, Kim Cape, Lisa Ledet, Rana DaSilva Moise, Richard LaCour, Sue Ackett & Virginia Cunningham

MOURNING A LOSS: the family of Billy Palmer, Harold Lebeouf, Gordon Fitzgerald & Ken Broussard.

New & Expecting Mothers: amye Jakob & Stephen Carl Jakob, Jacey Corbitt & baby Corbitt, Kara Trahan & baby Trahan and Lori Prugh & baby Prugh.

SERVING IN OUR ARMED FORCES & THEIR FAMILY: Andrew Winn, Gage V. Romano, Haily Crawford, Heather Darce, Jack Hansen, Kyle Turcott, Leo Lampinen, Matthew Spolarich, Natalie Turcott, Nigel Koorie, Todd Mueller, Tom Hemminger, Victoria Shroyer & Zhain Shroyer

COLLEGE STUDENTS: Adriana Vitrano, Allen Trahan, Annie Reaves, Armand Erhart, Blayne Barras, Brandon Cinnater, Brooks Thomas, Emma Thomas, Donovan Domangue, Fielden Baker, Gabbie Corbitt, Hannah Cuneo, Harleigh Dahl, Isabella Appenzeller, Jared Moise, Karly Kyzar, Lauren Boudreaux, Madeleine Boudreaux, Peyton Kraus, Ross Reaves, Sophia Miller & Victoria Thalheim

#### A PRAYER FOR HURRICANE IDA AND OTHER DISASTERS, FOR CHRISTIANS TO USE IN THE HOME

Lord of all, You govern all things in heaven and on earth. Our days are in Your hands. Teach us to number our days aright, repenting of our sins and trusting in Christ. Provide for those who suffer the effects of Hurricane Ida as well as recent earthquakes, wildfires and political unrest. Protect and bless those who help and serve in the midst of disaster, and draw all to the cross of Jesus, where we see Your merciful deliverance. In Jesus’ name. Amen.



#### Prayer for Schools...

Lord Jesus, as You grew up in Nazareth, You grew in wisdom and knowledge, not only at the feet of Your earthly but also at a local synagogue school. Grant Your direction and guidance to the teachers and administrators of the schools of our community and nation so their students may not only increase in wisdom and knowledge but also, like You, may grow “in favor with God and man” (Luke 2:52). In Your name we pray. Amen.

Portals of Prayer July- September 2021

#### Prayer for Our Nation...

Kneeling before You, Jesus, we ask You to embolden us to carry Your saving message to the cities where we live. We call on You for our nation—to heal our land. Confuse and destroy the plans of those who are not governing honestly or with integrity. Grant us courage to carry out Your Great Commission to make disciples of all nations, and, eventually, bring us to heaven with You. Amen.

Portals of Prayer July- September 2021


### Grace’s Mission

**Building one body in Christ through Worship, Witness,  
Stewardship, Service, Love, Teaching and Fellowship**



Building One Body in Christ Through Worship, Witness,  
Stewardship, Service, Love, Teaching and Fellowship

# September 2021

| Sunday  | Monday  | Tuesday  | Wednesday  | Thursday   | Friday   | Saturday                         |   |
|---|---|--|--|--|--|----------------------------------|---|
| <p><b>Grace Lutheran Church and Early Childhood Center</b><br/>422 Valhi Boulevard<br/>Houma, LA, 70360<br/>985-879-1865 / 1833 (fax)<br/><a href="mailto:secretary@gracehouma.org">secretary@gracehouma.org</a><br/><a href="http://www.gracehouma.org">www.gracehouma.org</a></p>  |   |  |  |  |  |                                  |   |
| <b>Pentecost XV</b><br>Worship 8am/10am<br>Youth Breakfast follow<br>\$\$ for adults 10:45am<br>B. Bohannon, E. Sevin,<br>G. Fitzgerald & K. Trawick BD<br>V. Crawford & H. Cunes BA<br><i>Hebrews 6-7</i>  | <b>5 Labor Day</b><br><br>Church Office<br>& ECC Closed<br><br>Karyl Kyzar BA<br><i>Numbers 33-38</i>   | <b>6</b><br><br><b>13 Holy Cross Day</b><br><br>Kendra Eschete BD<br><i>II Chronicles 18-20</i>  | <b>7</b><br><br><b>14</b><br><br>Kendra Eschete BD<br><i>II Chronicles 18-20</i>                     | <b>8</b><br><br>Gabriel Moore BD<br>Dale Boger BA<br>Jeannette Burke BA<br>Niyah Shroyer BA<br><i>Psalms 117-118</i> | <b>9</b><br><br><i>Proverbs 28</i>   | <b>10</b><br><br><i>Jonah</i>    | <b>11</b><br><br>Carolina Crawford BD<br>Josie Lapeyrouse BD<br><i>Acts 3-4</i> |
| <b>Pentecost XVI</b><br>Worship 8am/Mile Boxes<br><br>Hally Crawford BD<br><i>Hebrews 8-10</i>  | <b>12</b><br><br><b>19</b><br><br>Bridgette Rudnik BA<br>Cassie Bean BA<br>Leah Gouaux BA<br><i>Deuteronomy 1-3</i>   | <b>13</b><br><br><b>20 St. Matthew,</b><br>Apostle, Evangelist<br><br>Shelby Giroir BA<br>Shelby Giroir BA<br>Gage Romano BA<br><i>II Chronicles 25-28</i> | <b>14</b><br><br><b>21</b><br><br>Aldie Perryman BD<br><i>II Chronicles 21-24</i>                    | <b>15</b><br><br>Fat Bauman BD<br>Gabriella Crawford BD<br>Ann Dyer BD<br><i>Psalms 118</i>                          | <b>16</b><br><br><i>Proverbs 28-30</i>   | <b>17</b><br><br><i>Micah</i>    | <b>18</b><br><br>Chad Hammusch BA<br><i>Acts 6-8</i>                            |
| <b>Pentecost XVII</b><br>Worship 8am<br><br>Hally Crawford BD<br><i>Hebrews 11-13</i>   | <b>19</b><br><br><b>20 St. Matthew,</b><br>Apostle, Evangelist<br><br>Jesse McDonald BD<br>Richard Thalhaim BD<br>Emily Boquet BA<br>Marilyn Prosser BA<br><i>Deuteronomy 4-8</i> | <b>20</b><br><br><b>21</b><br><br>Aldie Perryman BD<br><i>II Chronicles 21-24</i>  | <b>21</b><br><br><b>Autumn Begins</b><br><br>Gabriel Moore BA<br><i>Psalms 121-124</i>               | <b>22</b><br><br><i>Proverbs 31</i>  | <b>23</b><br><br><b>PIPELINER</b><br><b>ARTICLES DUE</b><br><br>Ezra Bourg BA<br>W. & D. Pellegrin W<br><i>Ecclesiastes 1-2</i>  | <b>24</b><br><br><i>Habakkuk</i> | <b>25</b><br><br>Dian Pellegrin BD<br><i>Acts 7-8</i>                           |
| <b>Pentecost XVIII</b><br>Worship 8am<br><br>Aisa Theriot BD<br><i>James 1-3</i>  | <b>26</b><br><br><b>27</b><br><br>Kaeden Shroyer BD<br>Jacey Corbett BA<br><i>Deuteronomy 7-9</i>   | <b>28</b><br><br><b>28 St. Michael</b><br>and All Angels<br><br>Kara Kraus BA<br><i>II Chronicles 28-32</i>  | <b>29</b><br><br><b>30</b><br><br>Mary Lou Johnston BD<br>Jason Greene BA<br><i>Ecclesiastes 3-4</i> | <b>30</b><br><br><i>Proverbs 31</i>  | <b>BD= Birthday</b> BA=Baptismal Anniversary<br>W=Wedding Anniversary<br><br><a href="http://www.bible-reading.com/bible-calendar.html">http://www.bible-reading.com/bible-calendar.html</a> |                                  |   |