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**The Newsletter
for members of
Grace Lutheran Church**

422 Valhi Blvd.

Houma, LA 70360

Pastor Rich Rudnik

Phone: 985-879-1865

Fax: 985-879-1833

E-Mail:

secretary@gracehouma.org

Web Page:

<http://www.gracehouma.org/>

July 2017





Pastor's Corner "Children of Light"

The Christians in ancient Ephesus were surrounded by a pagan culture that was a constant temptation luring them back toward a lifestyle apart from the salvation of Christ into whom they stood baptized. In his epistle to the Ephesian believers St. Paul warns against the sexual immorality and impurity of the pagan worship rites and the coveting of such practices and writes, *"Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. Therefore do not become partners with them; for at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord."* (Ephesians 5:6-7)

We don't have a temple of Artemis dominating the Houma landscape and pagan worship practices aren't ingrained into our culture so we might think we are safe from such temptations. But look around your world. Folks may not be making regular visits to the local temple prostitute, but internet pornography and hyper-sexualized music, movies, television shows and facebook pages are the norm. Many believers willingly participate. Were 125 million copies of *Fifty Shades of Grey* sold only to non-believers? I think not.

St. Paul calls those willingly joining in such practices “son of disobedience” and clearly warns believers, “do not become partners with them.”

Check the partnerships, fellowship, associations you’ve established in your routine of life. Are you willingly in cahoots with impurity? Is there a favorite TV show you never miss because of the “riveting drama” ...which is actually just titillating sexual content? Is that favorite hit comedy really just raunchy filth? If you’re coming back to it again and again, you’ve established a partnership that isn’t suitable for a Christian.

Check out your top ten most frequented websites. These are your Top Ten—you have an association with them. Would you be ashamed to have that list printed in *The Pipeliner*?

St. Paul is pretty clear, *“But sexual immorality and all impurity or covetousness must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints. Let there be no filthiness nor foolish talk nor crude joking, which are out of place, but instead let there be thanksgiving. For you may be sure of this, that everyone who is sexually immoral or impure, or who is covetous (that is, an idolater), has no inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God.”* (Ephesians 5:3-5)

Paul isn’t talking about the Christian who struggles against such temptations in repentance. He is warning about those who become willing and even eager participants. He is talking about those who covet—sinfully desire—such vices over and above the gifts of God.

Why should we not partner with these? Because we are light in the Lord! By virtue of our Holy Baptism unto faith in Christ we are holy sons and daughters of light. We shine and expose the darkness of sin for the vileness that it is. We cling to the light of Christ and do not embrace the darkness from which we have been saved.

“Do not become partners with them; for at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord.” Prayerfully and soberly look around your practice of life; your routines and

entertainments and let Christ's light shine into and expose the darkness. You are not a child of your culture; you're a child of God. Cling to your Savior as you bring an end to those partnerships not proper for you—a redeemed and holy child of light.

Official Acts for June 2017

John Alexander Hassell, son of Stephen and Sasha Hassell, was baptized here June 6, 2017 and received into baptized membership.

Thank You

Thank you to everybody for your kind comments and prayers as I marked the 10th anniversaries of my ordination on June 10th and my installation here at Grace on June 24th. I especially thank the LWML/Mission Guild for the Olive Garden gift card. They must know that the way to bless their pastor's heart is through his stomach!

I am blessed and privileged to serve God in the Office of the Holy Ministry. I am doubly blessed to have been called to service here among such wonderful saints at Grace Lutheran Church. I'm grateful every day I serve. Thank you all for having me as your pastor.

Thankfully yours in Christ,
Pastor Rich

ECC PAPER PRODUCTS DONATIONS

Please consider a donation of one or more of the following items: Baby wipes, paper towels, kitchen-size paper cups, bath-size paper cups, Kleenex and napkins.

Thank you for leaving your donations in the blue box in the narthex.

Just a reminder...Board of Directors Meeting Sunday, July 9th at noon in the conference room.

**AUGUST 2017 PIPELINER ARTICLES ARE DUE
THURSDAY, JULY 27th.
PLEASE EMAIL THESE TO GORDON AT
FITZ@KWIKKOPY.COM.
THANK YOU!**

FALL FESTIVAL UPDATE

There will be no July Fall Festival meeting.

This year's charities are:

The Bunk House

The Good Samaritan Food Bank

St. Vincent de Paul Tri-Parish Pharmacy

The Louis Crisis Center

Hope Restored for Life

**Our 18th Annual Fall Festival will be Saturday,
October 28, 2017 from 9am-4pm.**

See Bonnie if you're interested in volunteering. We need everyone's support to make this year's festival great!

**Christmas in July
Fall Festival Rummage Sale
Saturday, July 22nd
8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.**

**We will be calling on our bakers for
some goodies to sell at our rummage sale.**

Mission Guild

Our quarterly meeting in June was held on June 3rd. We will meet again on Saturday, September 2nd at 10:00am in the fellowship hall.

MITES: Mites are collected the 2nd Sunday of each month, however you may put your offerings in the large mite box in the back of the church any time and we thank you. All mite monies are

forwarded to LWML for mission projects.

LWML TABLE: Please take a moment to look at the "new" items on the table! Dish cloths, Christian key rings, wallets plus other assorted items are available every Sunday on the LWML table in the fellowship hall. Thank you to Cindy Bush & Peg Kelwaski for our "homemade" items. See Bridgette, Jerrie, or Bonnie for more information.

All donations collected on Sundays for love offerings, baked goods, dish cloths, etc. are used for local projects and the support of our latest Concordia Seminary student. Bake Goods are served the second Sunday of every month. Thank you to all of the "bakers and partakers" of our goodies.

**Some people complain
because God put thorns
on roses, while others
praise Him for putting
roses among thorns**

**“Finally, brethren, whatsoever things *are true,*
whatsoever things *are honest,*
whatsoever things *are just,*
whatsoever things *are pure,*
whatsoever things *are lovely,*
whatsoever things *are of good report;*
if there *be any virtue,* and if there *be any praise,*
think on *these things.*”**
Philippians 4:8

One rainy day a woman overheard someone say, "What miserable weather!" She looked out her office window to see a big fat robin using a nearby puddle of water for a bathtub. He was splashing and fluttering, thoroughly enjoying himself. She couldn't help but think, *Miserable for whom? It's all a matter of perspective.*

That's a lesson that Lincoln Steffens learned as a young boy. He was watching an artist paint a picture of a muddy river. He told the artist he didn't like the picture because there was so much "mud" in it. The artist admitted there was mud in the picture, but what he saw was the beautiful colors and contrasts of the light against the dark.

Steffens later preached in a sermon, "Mud or beauty—which do we look for as we journey through life? If we look for mud and ugliness, we find them— they are there. Just as the artist found beauty in the muddy river, because that is what he was looking for, we will find, in the stream of life, those things which we desire to see. To look for the best and see the beautiful is the way to get the best out of life each day"

Even the Bible says that what you see is what you get!

From "God's Little Devotional Book" for Women

Serving the Lord with gladness,

Jerrie Fitzgerald Chairperson

Bridgette Rudnik, Secretary

Bonnie Dupre, Treasurer

FOOD BANK SUNDAY

Thank you to everyone who participated with Food Bank Sunday last month. \$40.00 in cash and groceries were donated. Our next collection will be Sunday, July 2, 2017.

"Best Choice" Labels Needed

The LWML/Mission Guild ladies are collecting "Best Choice" labels from Rouses and ask for your help. Please cut the UPC label off (we don't need the whole label) and place these in the plastic container by the copy machine in the church office. See Bonnie Dupre for details.



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

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wed

**Grace Lutheran Church and
Early Childhood Center**

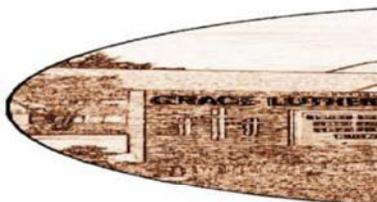
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Houma, LA. 70360

985-879-1865 / 1833 (fax)

secretary@gracehouma.org

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BD= Birthday BA=Baptismal Anniversary W=Wedding Anniversary

<p>Pentecost IV 2 Worship 9am/Food Bank Confirmation Reception to follow SS for all ages 10:45am Michael Shoryer, Jr BA Lyle Souther BA <i>I Thessalonians 1-3</i></p>	<p>3 Dennis Armstrong BD <i>Leviticus 22-24</i></p>	<p>Independence Day 4 ECC Closed GLC 4th July Celebration 5-9pm (FH) Rachel Reaves BD <i>II Kings 21-25</i></p>	<p>Bible Study Potluck Fe Prayer & P Jennifer Karly J. & K. <i>Psalms</i></p>
<p>Pentecost V 9 Worship 9am/Mite Boxes MG Baked Goods follow SS for all ages 10:45am BOD Mtg. 12:00pm <i>I Thessalonians 4-5</i></p>	<p>10 <i>Leviticus 25-27</i></p>	<p>11 VBS 6:00 - 8:15 P.M. <i>I Chronicles 1-4</i></p>	<p>Bible Study Richard R <i>Psalms</i></p>
<p>Pentecost VI 16 Worship 9am Youth Biscuits follow SS for all ages 10:45am Conner Cuneo BA <i>II Thessalonians</i></p>	<p>17 Marilyn Prosser BD <i>Numbers 1-4</i></p>	<p>18 ECC Parent mtg 6pm Sactuary <i>I Chronicles 5-9</i></p>	<p>Bible Study Potluck Fe Prayer & P <i>Psalms</i></p>
<p>Pentecost VII 23 Worship 9am/ECC Staff Inst. FF Muffins & SS follow Brandon Cinnater BD <i>I Timothy 1-3</i></p>	<p>24 <i>Numbers 5-8</i></p>	<p>St. James the Elder 25 Apostle</p>	<p>Bible Study Potluck Fe Prayer & P</p>
<p>Pentecost VIII 30 Worship 9am/Biscuits/SS <i>I Timothy 4-6</i></p>	<p>31 R. DaSilva & N. Shoryer BD <i>Numbers 9-12</i></p>	<p><i>I Chronicles 10-14</i></p>	<p><i>Psalms</i></p>

Biscuit Makers

July 16 - Cassie & Donovan Domangue
31 - Jacob & Brandon Cinnater

MEMBER BOXES

Please remember to check your member box while at church. If you don't see your name on the list, please contact Donna by calling 985-879-1865 or emailing the church office at secretary@gracehouma.org.

IF YOU ARE USING THE NURSERY...

We encourage parents and children to remain with us in the sanctuary during worship. But for those times when a parent must tend to their child apart from the crowd we provide a nursery in the Early Childhood Center classroom down the hall with closed circuit broadcast of the worship service. Please remember and respect that this space is a workplace for our ECC staff and clientele. Please keep it clean and be sure your children are not carrying the toys away with them. Be sure you leave the room neat and tidy and ready for use on Monday morning.

Thank you.

Independence Day Prayer

Thank You, Lord, for the lavish blessing of freedoms, including our religious freedom. Give to the leaders of our land moral integrity, discernment, humility, and unity of purpose. Protect those who protect us. Silence the violence so pervasive in our streets and schools. Give generous hearts so that people in need may be fed, clothed, and educated. Let our country be a beacon of hope to nations throughout the world. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Portals of Prayer July-September 2017

Thank You

Words can not express our heart felt thanks for the kindness, sympathy, thoughtfulness, and concern when Burt passed. The service gave us closure with the music, Pastor's homily, and meal served following. Thank you to all who donated food and LWML for organizing it. What a meal! The afternoon started with rain and the sun shone at the end. Glad for our church family. God is good. God Bless. Marilyn Beach & Family

BUILDING SECURITY & STEWARDSHIP

If you're among the last to leave the church building at any time, please be sure *all* doors are locked *and* closed completely. Also, please make sure all thermostats are returned to vacant-building settings.

Please...

Don't park on the church front lawn. Overflow parking is available on the side & the back of the parking lot. Thank you and God bless.

In the palm of God's Hands...

HEALTH CONCERNS: Allen & Betty Carpenter, Ann & Addie Perryman, Edna Marie Sevin, Ellen DeSoto, Jeff Jones, John Lewis, Joy Stegall, Laura Naquin, Linda Meyer, Lisa Ledet, Lorie Souther, Mike Brunette, Miriam Mix, Myra Thalheim, Paul Gerken, Sandra Matherne, & Tony Little.

ELDERLY: Iva Kohls

EXPECTANT/NEW MOTHERS & BABIES: Jessica & Baby Kelwaski; Kristen & Baby Gouaux

MOURNING A LOSS: the families of Burt Beach, Dennis Greve, Ernest Trevino Sr., John Ledet, John Pellegrin,

Lois Fitzgerald & Megan Charrier

SERVING IN OUR ARMED FORCES: Allen Trahan, Chandler Crawford, Dave McClellan, Doug Mandel, Heather Darce, Jack Hansen, Jason Reid-O'Neill, Kyle Turcott, Leo Lampinen, Matthew Spolarich, Nigel Koorie, Ronnie Joe Ojeda, Timothy DeSoto, Todd Mueller, Tom Hemminger, & Victoria Shroyer

VIETNAM MISSIONARY FAMILY : J.P., Aimee, Celeste & Bella Cima

COLLEGE STUDENTS: Alec Cunningham, Connor Cuneo, Kara Kraus, Karly Kyzar, David & Matthew Gros, Michael Thalheim, & Ross Reaves

Prayer Listings in Bulletin

June 30th marked the end of the quarter and we have attempted to clean up the prayer request list in the bulletin. If you have a prayer request, please let the office know via email to secretary@gracehouma.org or by dropping a note at the church office or by calling (985) 879-1865. On behalf of all those who benefit from your faithful prayers, thank you and thanks be to God.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Join us Sunday, July 9 - Thursday, July 13 from 6-8:15pm for **“Mighty Fortress - In Jesus, the Victory is Won!”**. Volunteers are needed and may contact this year’s director, Lisa Giroir at 337-501-0234 or call 985-879-1865 Ext. 1.

Snack food donations: large bags of chips, fruit roll ups, pretzel sticks, chex cereal, cheerios, fig newton bars, M&Ms, and 2 cases of small 8oz waters (Sam’s has best price). See Lisa Giroir for more information.

If you would like to make a monetary donation towards expenses for VBS, please add “VBS Supplies” to the memo line on your check or mark a pew envelope as such with your cash donation.

**Volunteer sign up sheet in narthex
Student registration forms are on the narthex table. Please
return to the church office. Thank you!**

LOT 'S WIFE

The Sunday School teacher was describing how Lot 's wife looked back and turned into a pillar of salt, when little Jason interrupted, 'My Mommy looked back once while she was driving,' he announced triumphantly, 'and she turned into a telephone pole!'

GOOD SAMARITAN

A Sunday school teacher was telling her class the story of the Good Samaritan. She asked the class, 'If you saw a person lying on the roadside, all wounded and bleeding, what would you do?' A thoughtful little girl broke the hushed silence, 'I think I'd throw up.'

DID NOAH FISH?

A Sunday school teacher asked, 'Johnny, do you think Noah did a lot of fishing when he was on the Ark ? "No,' replied Johnny. 'How could he, with just two worms.

THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD

A Sunday School teacher decided to have her young class memorize one of the most quoted passages in the Bible - Psalm 23. She gave the youngsters a month to learn the chapter. Little Rick was excited about the task - but he just couldn't remember the Psalm. After much practice, he could barely get past the first line.

On the day that the kids were scheduled to recite Psalm 23 in front of the congregation, Ricky was so nervous. When it was his turn, he stepped up to the microphone and said proudly, 'The Lord is my Shepherd, and that's all I need to know.'

Acolytes

July 2	Karoline Giroir
9	Raymond
16	Cassie Domangue
23	Allie Clark
30	Gabby Crawford

Ushers

July 2	Dave Akins/ Dennis Armstrong/ G. Fitzgerald/ Joey Souther
9	Gordon Fitzgerald/ Bart & Donovan Domangue
16	Youth Group
23	Dale Boger & Gordon Fitzgerald
30	Dave Akins/ Dennis Armstrong/ G. Fitzgerald/ Joey Souther

Altar Guild

July 2	John & Patsy
9	Pastor Rich & Bridgette
16	Mary Lou & Donna V.
23	Marilyn & Jerrie
30	John & Patsy

Scripture Readers

July 2	Mona LaCour
9	Bonnie Dupre
16	Youth Group
23	Dale Boger
30	Jeannie Thalheim

Offering Stewards

July 2	Brigitte & Jeannie
9	Joseph & Brigitte
16	Rana & Barbara
23	Brigitte & Jeannie
30	Joseph & Brigitte

Greeters

July 2	Dave & Gail Akins
9	Mary Lou Johnston
16	Youth Group
23	Gordon & Jerrie Fitzgerald
30	Bonnie Dupre & Charlene Shroyer

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fitz@kwikkopy.com**Business Center**

KWIK KOPY BUSINESS CENTER

7712 Main Street
Houma, LA 70360-4489
985-873-0801
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some business cards were lost. If
your card is missing or wrong,
please contact me to get it
corrected.****Fitz**

I wish there
was a way
to donate
Fat like you
can donate
Blood!



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Always believe something wonderful
is going to happen. Even with all
the ups and downs, never take a
day for granted. Smile, cherish the
little things and remember to hug the
ones you really love. ♥



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Life is too short
to be serious
all the time.
So if you can't
laugh at
yourself, just call
me, and I'll laugh
at you.



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Grace's Mission

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