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Rev. Matthew P. Jacobs, Senior Pastor Rev. William H. Holzer, Associate Pastor Rev. Ryan Ogradowicz, Associate Pastor

PASTOR'S PAGE

“For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.” Ephesians 6:12

A **cisgender** (can be shortened to **cis**; sometimes **cissexual**) person has a gender identity that matches their sex assigned at birth. A person whose sex was assigned male at birth and identifies as a boy or a man, or someone whose sex was assigned female at birth and identifies as a girl or a woman, is considered cisgender. *Cisgender* has its origin in the Latin-derived prefix *cis*, meaning 'on this side of', which is the opposite of *trans*, meaning 'across from' or 'on the other side of'. (From Wikipedia, the on-line encyclopedia, not all of which is truth.)

By now, some of you are asking, “Why is Pastor Holzer giving us an English lesson?” I wish it were a “simple” English lesson. Rather it is a lesson of the hilarious state of humanity. Who would have even conceived that we would need a special identifier for what is obvious. Males are males and females are females!

There are only two sexes: male and female. There are only three genders: masculine, feminine and neuter. One describes the sexes, as in, “male and female He made them.” The other speaks of the form of words, which in some languages divide word endings and cases into masculine, feminine and neuter forms. Whoever sold anyone on the concept that males could be females and females could be males would make a fortune in selling refrigerators to Eskimos.

But why is it necessary to belabor such an obvious point. Part of the inspiration for this brief lesson in biology and language came from a recent visit to PetSmart. They actually had a “Gay Pride” display at a local pet supply store. I’m in no way suggesting it is time to boycott the local pet supply store. The devil is mocking mankind, and having a merry time doing so. Even animals know they are

male and female. And the devil testifies that only some people aren’t smart enough to grasp such a simple truth.

I quote Paul to remind us that we are in a war with eternal stakes. We are not at war with flesh and blood, but with the forces of evil that seek only to destroy us and rob us of Christ’s kingdom, those things being one and the same. To think that there is compromise and this struggle is lost. And we can ill afford to turn a blind eye to the sexual depravity that surrounds us. We probably can’t turn back the tide but we surely must not fail to witness AGAINST such evil.

Or perhaps we have little regard for our children’s children who are daily being groomed in this filth. We cannot afford to give another inch in this war. We must witness at every opportunity that what is being done is nothing less than satanic at its core. Those that quickly point out that they have the “right” to say and do whatever they wish must be reminded that those same “rights” extend to us. We too have the “right” to point out evil and call sin what it truly is. We can do no less and still consider ourselves witnesses to the truth.

But we must also make no mistake that this sexual sin is no greater (or less) than any other sin. And we must be as adamant that there is only one Savior from sin: Jesus Christ. He died for all, and that omits no one. For only in that truth can we ourselves find comfort when confronted by our own sin. Only in Jesus is evil defeated, death destroyed and satan put to flight.

So witness against this mental illness that has so greatly afflicted our times. And witness also to the One who saves from sin: Jesus Christ.

Pastor Holzer

Worship Opportunities – June/July, 2023

Sunday Worship – 9:00 a.m.
Sunday School & Bible Classes – 10:30 a.m.

Date: June 4

The Festival of the Holy Trinity

Texts: Genesis 1:1-2:4a; Acts 2:14a, 22-36; Matthew 28:16-20

Theme: “This Jesus”

Hymns: 507-506-504

Preacher/Text: Jacobs – Acts 2:14a, 22-36



(627)
pg 184

Date: June 11

St. Barnabas, Apostle

Texts: Isaiah 42:5-12; Acts 11:19-30, 13:1-3; Mark 6:7-13

Theme: “God’s Working Through People”

Hymns: 837-349-707

Preacher/Text: Ogradowicz – Acts 11:19-30, 13:1-3

(628)
pg 203

Date: June 18

Pentecost 3 – Proper 6

Texts: Exodus 19:2-8; Romans 5:6-15; Matthew 9:35-10:8

Theme: “Laborers in the Harvest”

Hymns: 869-586-921

Preacher/Text: Jacobs – Matthew 9:35-10:8

(629)
pg 151

Date: June 25

Presentation of the Augsburg Confession

Texts: Jeremiah 20:7-13; Romans 6:12-23; Matthew 10:5a, 21-33

Theme: “Learning to Endure”

Hymns: 712-716-549

Preacher/Text: Ogradowicz – Matthew 10:5a, 21-33

(633)
pg 184

Date: July 2

Pentecost 5 – Proper 8

Texts: Jeremiah 28:5-9; Romans 7:1-13; Matthew 10:34-42

Theme: “False Prophets – False Hope”

Hymns: 966-717-965

(634)

Preacher/Text: Jacobs – Jeremiah 28:5-9

pg 203

Date: July 9

Pentecost 6 – Proper 9

Texts: Zechariah 9:9-12; Romans 7:14-25a; Matthew 11:25-30

Theme: “Prisoners of Hope”

Hymns: 606-347-763

(636)

Preacher/Text: Ogrodowicz – Zechariah 9:9-12

pg 151

Date: July 16

Pentecost 7 – Proper 10

Texts: Isaiah 55:10-13; Romans 8:12-17; Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

Theme: “The Word Is Not Void”

Hymns: 580-579-582

(637)

Preacher/Text: Ogrodowicz – Isaiah 55:10-13

pg 184

Date: July 23

Pentecost 8 – Proper 11

Texts: Isaiah 44:6-8; Romans 8:18-27; Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

Theme: “Reaping the Harvest”

Hymns: 577-523-584

(642)

Preacher/Text: Jacobs – Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

pg 203

July 30

Pentecost 9 – Proper 12

Texts: Deuteronomy 7:6-9; Romans 8:28-39; Matthew 13:44-52

Theme: “The Kingdom of Heaven”

Hymns: 684-648-686

Preacher/Text: Jacobs – Matthew 13:44-52

pg 219

Meetings This Month



Afternoon LWML will meet on Thursday, June 1 at 2:00 p.m. in the Parlor. Hostesses are Rose Marie Prenzler and Debbie Hintz. The group will also meet on Thursday, July 6 at 2:00 p.m. Linda Montgomery, Judy Studhalter and Jimmie Eckhardt will serve as hostesses.

Ladies Evening Circle will meet on Tuesday, June 13 at 7:00 p.m. in the Parlor. Sandra Zientek and Susan Buddeke will serve as hostesses. The group will not meet in July.

Men's Club will not meet in June due to VBS set-up. On July 25, there will be a Game Night.

Men's Bible Breakfast meets every Tuesday at 6:00 a.m. in the Parlor. Men of the congregation who would be interested in joining the group are encouraged to attend.

ALTAR FLOWERS

June 4 – Melvin & Kathleen Riske	July 2 –
June 11 – Jim & Karen Hart	July 9 –
June 18 – Doug & Ruth Schoppe	July 16 –
June 25 – Jeff & Charlene Rau	July 23 – David & Lynette Dahmann
	July 30 –

RADIO MINISTRY

(30-minute program aired on KWHI 1280 AM each Sunday at 12:30 p.m.)

(Cost is \$85 per week.)

June 4 -	July 2 -
June 11 -	July 9 - Randal & Gloria Hoppens
June 18 -	July 16 -
June 25 -	July 23 - Kenny & Ann Muchow
	July 30 -

COFFEE & DOUGHNUTS

June 4 – Charlie & Jean Blake	July 2 –
June 11 – Chester & Karen Markwardt	July 9 –
June 18 -	July 16 –
June 25 -	July 23 –
	July 30 – Eddie & Brit Colanter

ALTAR GUILD ASSISTANTS

Communion Ware: (June) – Lynette Dahmann; (July) – Marilyn Standlee

Paraments: Ann Muchow & Mary Lueckemeyer (through 6/18); Barbara Maurer & Bev Jaster (6/25 forward)

FINANCE COMMITTEE

(June) – Delphine Addicks, Sandra Addicks, Billy Thaler, Elroy Wellmann

(July) – Donald Becker, Charles Blake, Randal Hoppens, Shirley Paetz

MEMBERSHIP CHANGES As of May Council Meeting

Baptism:

Luis Guerrero III, 4-23-23

Junior Confirmands:

Monnica Hope Colanter, Scott Alan Hudson, Kristopher Carl Riske,
Evan Douglas Schiller, Trystan Paige Sconyers, 4-2-23

Transfer In:

Mrs. Ruth Swonke-Ho from St. John's Lutheran, Cypress, TX, 4-23-23

Profession of Faith:

Mr. Aaron Prinz, 4-23-23

Deaths:

Mrs. Mildred (Nancy) Grimm, 4-11-23

Mr. Adolph Schaefer, Jr., 4-14-23

Souls: 590

Communicants: 509

RaiseRight News

RaiseRight gift cards can be a great way to pay for your summer travel - hotels, gas, road meals, and even airfare and cruises. All gift cards can be ordered on your phone using the RaiseRight app, online at www.raiseright.com, by contacting coordinator, Sheila Green via phone/text at 713-494-6399, email at sheilawgreen@gmail.com or in person before/after service.



June 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 Pentecost - Jacobs - LSB 184 9:00am Worship w/Holy Communion 10:30am SS & BC	29 Joel 2:1-32 Memorial Day - Office Closed Day Care Closed	30 Joel 3:1-21 Day Care Closed 6:00am Men's Bible Breakfast	31 Amos 1:1-2:16 Summer Day Care Begins	1 Amos 3:1-15 2:00pm Ladies Afternoon Circle	2 Amos 4:1-5:27 Pastor Jacobs Day Off	3 Amos 6:1-14
4 Trinity - Jacobs - LSB 184 9:00am Worship w/Holy Communion 10:30am SS & BC	5 Amos 7:1-17 Pastor Jacobs on Vacation	6 Amos 8:1-14 Pastor Jacobs on Vacation 6:00am Men's Bible Breakfast	7 Amos 9:1-15 Pastor Jacobs on Vacation 7:00pm Elders	8 Obadiah 1-21 Pastor Jacobs on Vacation	9 Jonah 1:1-2:10 Pastor Jacobs on Vacation	10 Jonah 3:1-4:11
11 St. Barnabas - Ogrodowicz - LSB 203 9:00am Worship w/Holy Communion 10:30am SS & BC	12 Micah 1:1-2:13	13 Micah 3:1-4:13 6:00am Men's Bible Breakfast 7:00pm Ladies Evening Circle	14 Micah 5:1-15	15 Micah 6:1-16	16 Micah 7:1-20 Pastor Jacobs Day Off	17 Nahum 1:1-3:19
18 Pentecost 3 - Jacobs - LSB 151 9:00am Worship w/Holy Communion 10:30am SS & BC	19 Hab 1:1-2:20 Pastor Jacobs on Vacation	20 Hab 3:1-19 Pastor Jacobs on Vacation 6:00am Men's Bible Breakfast	21 Pastor Jacobs on Vacation Zep 1:1-2:15 1:00pm Trustees 7:00pm EECE	22 Pastor Jacobs on Vacation Zep 3:1-20	23 Haggai 1:1-3:20 Pastor Jacobs on Vacation	24 Zec 1:1-2:13
25 Augsburg Confession - Ogrodowicz - LSB 184 9:00am Worship w/Holy Communion 10:30am SS & BC	26 Zec 3:1-10 8:30am Vacation Bible School	27 Zec 4:1-14 6:00am Men's Bible Breakfast 8:30am Vacation Bible School	28 Zec 5:1-11 8:30am Vacation Bible School	29 Zec 6:1-15 8:30am Vacation Bible School	30 Pastor Jacobs Day Off Zec 7:1-14 8:30am Vacation Bible School	1 Zec 8:1-23



July 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
25 Augsburg Confession - Ogrodowicz - LSB 184 9:00am Worship w/Holy Communion 10:30am SS & BC	26 Zec 3:1-10 8:30am Vacation Bible School	27 Zec 4:1-14 6:00am Men's Bible Breakfast 8:30am Vacation Bible School	28 Zec 5:1-11 8:30am Vacation Bible School	29 Zec 6:1-15 8:30am Vacation Bible School	30 Pastor Jacobs Day Off Zec 7:1-14 8:30am Vacation Bible School	1 Zec 8:1-23
2 Pentecost 5 - Jacobs - LSB 203 9:00am Worship w/Holy Communion 10:30am SS & BC	3 Zec 9:1-10:12 Pastor Jacobs on Vacation	4 Zec 11:1-12:14 Independence Day Office Closed Day Care Closed	5 Zec 13:1-9 Pastor Jacobs on Vacation 7:00pm Elders	6 Zec 14:1-21 Pastor Jacobs on Vacation 2:00pm Ladies Afternoon Circle	7 Mal 1:1-2:17 Pastor Jacobs on Vacation	8 Mal 3:1-4:6
9 Pentecost 6 - Ogrodowicz - LSB 151 9:00am Worship w/Holy Communion 10:30am SS & BC	10 Mt 1:1-2:23 Pastor Jacobs on Vacation	11 Mt 3:1-4:25 Pastor Jacobs on Vacation 6:00am Men's Bible Breakfast 7:00pm Ladies Evening Circle	12 Mt 5:1-7:29 Pastor Jacobs on Vacation	13 Mt 8:1-9:38 Pastor Jacobs on Vacation	14 Mt 10:1-11:30 Pastor Jacobs on Vacation	15 Mt 12:1-13:58
16 Pentecost 7 - Ogrodowicz - LSB 184 9:00am Worship w/Holy Communion 10:30am SS & BC	17 Mt 14:1-15:39 Pastor Ogrodowicz at Conference Newsletter Deadline	18 Mt 16:1-17:27 Pastor Ogrodowicz at Conference 6:00am Men's Bible Breakfast	19 Mt 18:1-19:30 Pastor Ogrodowicz at Conference 1:00pm Trustees 7:00pm EECE	20 Mt 20:1-21:46 Pastor Ogrodowicz at Conference	21 Mt 22:1-23:39 Pastor Jacobs Day Off Pastor Ogrodowicz at Conference	22 Mt 24:1-25:46 Pastor Ogrodowicz at Conference
23 Pastor Ogrodowicz at Conference Pentecost 8 - Jacobs - LSB 203 9:00am Worship w/Holy Communion 10:30am SS & BC	24 Mt 26:1-27:66 Pastor Ogrodowicz at Conference 7:00pm Council	25 Mt 28:1-20 Pastor Ogrodowicz at Conference 6:00am Men's Bible Breakfast 6:30pm Men's Club Game Night	26 Mk 1:1-2:28 Pastor Ogrodowicz at Conference 7:00pm Voters Meeting	27 Mk 3:1-4:41 Pastor Ogrodowicz at Conference	28 Mk 5:1-6:56 Pastor Jacobs Day Off Pastor Ogrodowicz at Conference	29 Mk 7:1-8:56
30 Pentecost 9 - Jacobs - LSB 219 9:00am Worship 10:30am SS & BC	31 Mk 9:1-50	1 Mk 10:1-52 6:00am Men's Bible Breakfast	2 Mk 11:1-33 7:00pm Elders	3 Mk 12:1-13:37 2:00pm Ladies Afternoon Circle	4 Mk 14:1-72 Pastor Jacobs Day Off	5 Mk 15:1-47





Dear Parents and Grandparents,

Grace Lutheran Church invites your child and/or children to our VBS. VBS will be June 26 – 30, 2023 from 8:30 – 11:30 am for ages 2-12 at Grace Lutheran.

What is *God's Wonder Lab* VBS? At *God's Wonder Lab* VBS, children will learn that Jesus does the impossible! They'll look into the Bible, God's Holy Word, and explore five Bible accounts where God points us to our Savior, His Son, Jesus. He has done marvelous things!

God is with us and blesses us with His miraculous love through Jesus, our Savior.

At *God's Wonder Lab*, we'll learn about Jesus, our Savior, through five Bible stories, meet new friends, do fun activities, sing great songs, make crafts, play games, eat snacks, and more! It's going to be fun, but it would be more fun with you there.

Register now for *God's Wonder Lab* Vacation Bible School! Fill out the enclosed registration form and place in the Church office or place it in our Church box by June 4, 2023. For information, call the Church office 979-836-3475.

Yours in Christ,

Nancy Joiner

Bev Jaster

