



## Stewardship Article for August 2023

John 10:10  
“The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy;  
I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.”

In John 10:10, Jesus contrasts Himself with the thief, symbolizing Satan, stating, “The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life and have it to the full.” This verse signifies the opposing intentions of these two forces at work in the world. While Satan seeks to bring harm and destruction to humanity, Jesus offers abundant life as He came to bring salvation, purpose, and an intimate relationship with God. It serves as a reminder to be wary of the enemy’s destructive tactics, but also as an invitation to embrace the transformative power of Jesus, who grants us a life overflowing with blessings, spiritual fulfillment, and the promise of eternal salvation...MORE than enough!

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Grace



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# GRACE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH *Messenger*

*A reflection for this  
year month of  
August, 2023*

## *A Letter From The Pastor*

BY TOM BRODBECK

In a few days Michelle Kouse, Sandy Thompson and I will attend the national meeting of the North American Lutheran Church in Oklahoma City. This meeting now happens every two years and brings together representatives of the nearly 500 churches in our denomination. These churches are located across the United States and Canada.

The gathering will also feature missionaries and leaders of other denominations with whom we are in “ecumenical fellowship” (a fancy way of saying “we work together on church stuff”).

These gatherings are always inspirational and informative, but this year’s convocation will be especially important because we will be electing a bishop to serve us for another term. Our current Bishop, Dan Selbo, is on the ballot again. He has led us well. He is solidly committed to discipleship as the essential mission of the church, so he will have my vote.

Bishop Selbo is the primary voice behind the 20/20 vision that our denomination is working through. You heard about that in a recent Sunday School class as we introduced a current capital campaign our denomination has going on. The “Today, Tomorrow, Forever” campaign aims to provide essential funding to support the ministries of our church well into the future. You will hear more about that in the coming months.

My purpose here though is to request your prayers for the NALC event in Oklahoma City, and for all of us across the world who will be there to participate in it. Pray for wisdom and unity and a fresh touch of the Holy Spirit that enlivens our hearts for mission and ministry. Thanks!

### *IN THIS ISSUE*

August Outreach  
Corner

Soccer Shots

SummerFest

Grace’s Charity  
Auction

T-Shirt Fundraiser

August is one of our months to serve at St John's food pantry. Their current needs are: fruit, Mac & Cheese, crackers, ramen noodles, canned soup, and cereal. Please have donations turned in as soon as possible but no later than Aug 27th. Please place in the shopping cart in Community Center. See Judy Fredrich for more information about serving or helping.



SCAN ME



# August Events

11:00 am Adult Bible Study





## German Roots and Lutheran Branches by Tanya Walker, Member and Collaborative Pianist July 12, 2023

What do Michael Weisse (1488-1534), our NALC congregations, Joachim Neander (1650-1680), and 26 Tanzanian church districts in Africa share in common? Each is a BRANCH of the German reformer roots of Martin Luther.

Pictured is the Columbus membership community of the Tanzanian Evangelical Lutheran church. Our NALC is the American denomination to which the Tanzanian Evangelical Lutheran Church has chosen to develop relationship. In the words of Pastor Gwakisa, of this Columbus congregation, our churches are “hospitals”, and Jesus is the doctor.

Grace Lutheran welcomed seminary graduate Pastor Silas at our June 3 worship and Sunday School.

This photo is his Tanzanian Lutheran home going celebration event.

I served this community with concert piano leadership and music scores from the era of classical baroque pre-dating John Sebastian Bach.

Hymnists and German composers Joachim Neander and Michael Weisse are writers of standard worship preludes or hymns.

Pictured are pretty in pink piano girls that hug my waist, watch my hands, then wiggle their fingers.

Our alliance with the Tanzanian Evangelical Lutheran districts share the Lutheran roots and branches of John 15:5.

As we abide and cling to the great vine of Jesus. We are growing fruits as evidence of our values and beliefs systems.

“I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing.” John 15:5



## ShopRaise Online Shopping Program

Since Amazon Smile is no longer an option, there is a new option and an easy way to help support Grace with online shopping you are already doing! Download the ShopRaise mobile or desktop app and make a purchase at a participating retailer, and a



% goes to Grace. By completing your online purchases you are already making through the ShopRaise App, you will earn money to support Grace Lutheran Church as well. Download and start supporting us with every purchase: <https://shopraise.com/support/gracenalc>. Watch for emails from Grace about this opportunity and/or see Sandy Thompson with any questions.

### SAVE THE DATE

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**December 2, 2023**

**9:00 a.m. - Noon**



**Featuring: handmade items from members of Grace's congregation.**



**Our benefactor this year is Seeds of Grace**

<https://www.seedsofgraceministries.org/>

## T- Shirt Fundraiser For Laurel Mission Trip

Help support the adult mission trip to Laurel Mission in October by purchasing a Grace T-shirt or Polo shirt. See the Narthex display during the month of August for more information and to place an order.



## Summerfest is Back!

**August 27**

**4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.**



Invite your friends and family to join this afternoon of fun. Train rides, games for all ages, great food and fellowship. Watch for opportunities to volunteer and donate to the success of this activity in the Narthex.