



Dear family of Grace,

Christian, take up your cross!

"The Son of Man *must suffer* many things...be rejected...and killed." The cross is a must for Jesus. Without the cross there is no Savior.

"If anyone would come after me, he *must deny himself* and take up his cross and follow me." The cross is a must for every follower of Christ. It is not because our cross contributes in any way to our acquittal and salvation, but because following the Savior necessarily makes us enemies of our sinful selves and Satan. This means we will always suffer as a consequence of being on Jesus' side.

Christianity always has a cross in it! Therein lies the great struggle and challenge: Self-denial and cross-bearing is not exactly our human nature's idea of a good time. Our natural inclination is not self-denial but self-service, self-pampering. We want things our way; we invariably make everything about our needs and wants. Because of this, our natural inclination is not to take up our crosses, not to suffer willingly the denials of self and selfish aims for the sake of Christ and his Word, but to put down our crosses, to let go the struggles we face on the inside and out for following Christ. But dropping our cross is, as Jesus reminded Peter, Satanic. It ends in us making the fool's bargain of exchanging Jesus for this empty, perishing world.

What, then, will give us the fresh new desire and strength to take up our cross and follow Jesus, who bore the cross of our salvation? See in Christ's cross the Father's great love for you! Why was the suffering and death of God's one and only Son an absolute must for him? Because God loves you so much that more than anything he wants the joy of lavishing you with eternal bliss and joy! See in Christ's cross how much the Son loves you! Sure, he promises us suffering for following him. But look at what he promises himself: the far greater suffering we earned by our sin, just to rescue you and me from it! He suffers it all for the joy of spending forever with us! See the outcome of Jesus' cross and yours. By his cross, you can ask, "Who will bring any charge against me? Who can condemn me now?" By your cross, Jesus drives you to his to give you more blessings—more faith, more strength, more patience, more peace!

May this make us all determined and enthusiastic to do what we must as Christians—daily take up our crosses and follow him who died for us and was raised again! ~ Pastor Salinas



BIBLE CLASS/SUNDAY SCHOOL - Dear Grace family, join us as we continue our study of Genesis, a key book of Scripture, and let it make all things new for you. Kids join us for Sunday School, and lay a solid foundation for your understanding of the Bible and Christian faith. We

would still love to have help with our Sunday School. If you would like to help with this, please speak with Mrs. Ball or Pastor Salinas. Thank you. ~ Pastor Salinas and the Coordinating Council

FAMILY NIGHT AT REDEEMER - You are invited to Redeemer Lutheran on Wednesday, **October 7** from 5:30-8:00 pm for a Family Night. There will be a light supper, a Bible Study, and an outdoor concert by Branches Band. The concert at Redeemer from Branches will **be in lieu of** the concert originally planned here at Grace on Tuesday, October 6. For more information, please see the special flyer. Thank you!

PLAYDATE "FALLFEST" - On **Saturday, October 10** Playdate magazine will be hosting the first annual "Playdate Outdoors FallFest" located in downtown Yakima where the Farmer's Market takes place. This event is designed to be a fun environment where families can take part in games and seasonal entertainment. This will be a great opportunity to promote Grace School! We will be taking advantage of it by putting on an information booth! We would love to have help with this. We are looking for creative folks to plan games/activities that will draw people to our booth. We even have ready-made games and giveaways. We are also needing people to man the booth throughout the event and talk up the blessings of our school! If you would like to help and participate with this, please speak to Pastor Salinas. Thank you!

MORE FREQUENT COMMUNION COMING SOON - Dear Grace family, in accord with the incomparable and inestimable blessing that we have in the Lord's Supper and fitting with the majority of our sister churches in the WELS, starting in November with the End Times season we will be offering the Lord's Supper more frequently at Grace. We will offer it the 1st Sunday of the month as always. We will also offer it on the 3rd Sunday of the month, and whenever we have a 5th Sunday in the month. I pray that we all discover first-hand many joyous blessings from receiving our Lord's true body and blood more frequently! ~ Pastor S.

PICTORIAL DIRECTORY - It has been over a decade since we last did and put out a pictorial directory of our church. We are planning on doing one this year. A pictorial directory is a great way to put names to faces and connect better with our fellow church members and Christian family. With modern technology we will even be able to carry it in our mobile devices. Plus, if you haven't had a family portrait taken in a while, here is your chance. We have scheduled our church picture day for **Tuesday, November 3**. Please mark that day on your calendars, and keep some time open from 2:00 - 9:00 pm. More information will be coming as the date approaches.

Sunday Snacks

- September 20 - Jane Vasquez, Charity Johnson, Carol Camden, Andy Lennon
- September 27 - Julie Larson, Jacob Bolm, Karen Guenther, Donna Roth
- October 4 - Pam Matheny, Karen Beard, Mary Wachter, Mark Lennon, Becca Hussman
- October 11- Joan Riese, Connie Lehmann, Rose Mathison, Salinas Family
- October 18 - Maxine Gilbreath, Valerie Kamppi, Tammy Fuwell, Sandi Hamill, Jon Hood Family
- October 25 - Lori Hoover, Marilyn Smith, Dee Ekstrom, Dave Lennon

Upcoming Dates!

- October 2 - Spud Bowl
- October 7 - Family Night (Redeemer)
- October 10 - Playdate FallFest
- October 23 - Harvest Party
- October 30 - Choral Fest

GRACE/CAMINANDO CON JESÚS FINANCIALS

Offerings of love and thanks to Jesus on 9/13/15

Offerings for the ministry of Grace/ Caminando con Jesús	Actual received	Needed weekly as per 2015/2016 budget	Actual to Budget— This week	Actual to Budget— YTD
General Fund: 1st Service	\$2738			
General Fund: 2nd Service	\$40			
General Fund Total	\$2778			
WELS Missions	\$125			
Grace School	\$458			
Chapel	\$12			
Tuition & Fees	\$2271.61			
Meditations	\$0			
Capitol Imp.	\$0			
School/Scrip	\$0			
Radio	\$90			
Synod Subsidy	\$0			
TOTAL OFFERING	\$5734.61	\$5306	\$428.61	\$13695.54