



NEWSLETTER

GRACE
Evangelical Lutheran
Church

July 2019

“What Would Jesus Do?” A Little More on Demons and Stigmas The Reverend Heinz D. Raidel

On Sunday, June 23rd, I preached on Luke 8:26-39; that was the story of Jesus driving the demons out of a man and into a herd of pigs. I left out a faith and life lesson, and I want to share that with you.

In the course of that message I described “demons” in the context of Luke’s writing as things that medical science has not yet explained. The ancients had many, many of those demons as the medicinal arts and sciences were quite primitive at the time.

In the last 2000 years, medical and health knowledge has flowed from God to humans in such a way that much of what was considered to be caused by demons is now treatable. I mentioned that within some of the individual congregation member’s lifetimes, TB, polio, Rubella, measles, and mumps have become preventable and treatable, and have lost their status as demons.

I also mentioned that we still have some things which could be considered demons. I named addiction as a modern day demon; we know what addiction is, we know how it destroys lives and wrecks relationships, but medical science has not quite yet figured out how to drive it out of people.

I hope that if you were in church on the 23rd, you remember that one of the points of good news in Luke, (and in my message) was that if Jesus crossed boundaries to drive the demons out in the story, Jesus will cross boundaries to heal and make us whole and well again in our present lives.

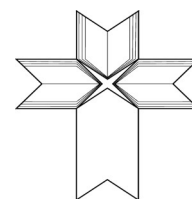
The other point of good news in that reading is that Jesus crossed boundaries to help and heal. In Jesus’ time and culture, the man he healed should have been shunned and avoided, because the man was considered unclean. The man was a Gentile, he was around dead people, he had a demon; all those things made the man unclean in the eyes and the minds of the Jews, and the Jews were expected to avoid unclean situations. That concept of “unclean” though was not enough of a boundary to stop Jesus from seeing, and helping, and healing people back then. And folks, it should not stop us from seeing, and helping, and healing the unclean in our world.

Now, let me be quite blunt, and in the process save

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OUR MISSION STATEMENT:

The mission of Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church is to live the Gospel of Jesus Christ and share God’s good news with others with an emphasis on youth and families.

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time; we need to think if we are calling mental health issues "demons," and we need to think that we might be considering folks with these "demons," unclean. If we're attaching a stigma to folks with mental health issues, or if we ourselves are avoiding seeking help or counseling because we have attached a stigma to mental health issues, then we're pure plain and simple, calling it unclean, and we're setting up a boundary we're not going to cross.

And I will leave you with this: we lose 129 people a day to suicides in the US; 22 of those suicides every day are veterans. I will leave to the reader to consider what Jesus would have us do.

The July council meeting will be the 16th at 2pm.

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR!
JULY 4TH PICKERINGTON PARADE**

Grace Church will be participating in the 4th of July Pickerington Parade. We need walkers and riders! We will meet on Opportunity Way (Central High School) between 9:00am and 9:30am. The parade kicks off at 10. For more information or questions, please call Larry (614-578-2810) or Linda (614-582-9115) Frazee.



Grace Garage Sale

***Proceeds will Benefit Our Church
Electric bill***

Friday August 23rd 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Saturday August 27th 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

- ◇ Power Hours Saturday 12 noon to 1 p.m. 1/2 off sales except Furniture
- ◇ Clean out your garages, houses, closets, whatever and bring your treasures to Grace. Starting April 28th boxes will be available for your treasures. Judi Layman has graciously said we could store our goodies in her storage unit. Thank you Judi!
- ◇ We will price your treasures.
- ◇ Please do not bring old "big box" TV's or computer monitors, or VHS tapes. We do not sell these items and no one will pick up these items. But please bring your flat screen TV's and computer monitors.
- ◇ We will be setting up for the garage sale the week of August 18th. Volunteers are GREATLY appreciated.
- ◇ Volunteers are GREATLY appreciated during our sale Friday & Saturday also.
- ◇ Refreshments & Light Lunch available for purchase inside. Our visitors love to eat!

Thank you in advance Grace Family for everything each of you do! This is a money maker for our church, gives each of us a chance to clean out our homes and meet our community. Our prices are a gift to our community.

~The Grace Garage Sale committee



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES TO BENEFIT THE PICKERINGTON FOOD PANTRY

There are several great events coming up where you can volunteer and help the pantry.

Summer Meal Packs:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b044ba5ad2fa4fe3-summer>

As you may know, the school district provides a summer lunch program at Tussing Elementary during the month of June, but does not offer any service for the remaining six weeks of the summer break. The Fairfield County Foundation has graciously provided the pantry a grant for this program. Help assemble meal packs that contain: Soup (2 cans), Pasta with Meat (2 cans), Macaroni and Cheese (2 boxes), Pork and Beans (2 cans), Vegetables (2 cans), Fruit (2 cans), and Snacks (8 items).

4th of July Fundraiser:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b044ba5ad2fa4fe3-play>

The pantry will be hosting a family fun event at Victory park to raise money for the pantry.

Picktown Palooza:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0d49aea728a75-picktown3>

The pantry will receive a donation from the Picktown Palooza for helping staff the entrance gates.

Labor Day Fundraiser:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B044BA5AD2FA4FE3-labor>

The pantry will be hosting a family fun event at Victory park to raise money for the pantry.

Continued, next column

For more information, call Vanessa Niekamp at the Food Pantry (614-441-3377).



On July 4th at 1pm, there will be a Baptism service for Willow Kathleen and Sam Braxton Patmon (children of Stephanie Patmon). All are invited to the service and light refreshments to follow.

We will be joining with Faith (Baltimore) for a joint service on August 11th at 10:30am. This joint service will take place at the Grube Farm, in Baltimore. More details are to follow!



PLEASE NOTE:

The August Dorcas Circle meeting has been moved up one week. The Dorcas Circle meeting for August will be August 14th.



Thanks to all those who brought in food for the brown bag lunches to benefit hungry kids in Pickerington. The food pantry is working to bridge the gap between the end of the brown bag program and the start of school. To do this, they are assembling different packs of food. Please see the list on p.3 of the newsletter to see what is desired for those packages. Thank you!

ALSO, we will continue to collect items for Health Care Kits (dark towels, washcloths, toothbrushes, combs and nail clippers). We have chosen to focus on these kits this year, however, if you wish to assemble school kits at home and bring them in, completed, we will ensure they get shipped. School Kits include:

- 4- 70 sheet notebooks (wide or college ruled)
- 30 cm ruler (or at least cm on one side)
- Pencil sharpener
- Blunt scissors
- 5 unsharpened #2 pencils bound together with a rubber band
- 5 blue or black ball point pens bound together with a rubber band
- 1 box- 16 or 24 count crayons
- 1- 2.5 inch eraser

Kroger will donate a percentage of all purchases to Grace Church! All you need to do is call 1-800-576-4377, or go to Kroger.com and click the community rewards link. To register you will need our account number: QS108. Last year, we earned \$1200 through this program and we can earn up to \$4000. Register yourself, friends and family!

If you have not yet linked your Rewards card to Grace, please do so ASAP, our account number is QS108. Let's see how much we can earn in the next three months.



Summer Office Hours: Elaine will now be in the office Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays 9:30am-1:30pm, and Tuesdays & Thursdays 1:30pm-5:00pm.

This schedule will be until the school year begins again. As always, thank you for your flexibility and understanding!

PS. The office is closed July 4th!

JULY

Joseph Bias	07/04
Debbi Dunlap	07/04
Tina Siddle	07/04
Brian DuMond	07/13
Judi Layman	07/23
Devin Lawson	07/27
Alfreda Havens	07/28
Larry Frazee	07/29
Rod DuMond	07/30



Please review the "Prayer Concerns" list in the Grace Notes. If you have placed someone on the list that no longer needs prayers, please contact the office.

Financial Stewardship Through May 2019

Giving:






May 5	\$2,516.00
May 12	\$1,655.00
May 19	\$3,036.00
May 26	\$1,630.00
Total	\$8,837.00

Year-to-Date

YTD Income	\$46,312.85
Total Expenses	\$10,097.09
Total Expenses YTD	\$47,790.36
Capital Exp & Misc	\$00.00

July Worship Assistants



Date	 Ministry Team		 USHERS	 Altar Guild	 Greeters
July 7	Doug Jackson	Karen Jackson	Joe Biri & Craig Norman	Ann Biri, Mary Lapham, & Cathy Dorion	Gary & June Bohrer
July 14	Doug Jackson	Gary Bohrer	Joe Biri & Craig Norman	Ann Biri, Mary Lapham, & Cathy Dorion	Gary & June Bohrer
July 21	Doug Jackson	Tom Siddle	Joe Biri & Craig Norman	Ann Biri, Mary Lapham, & Cathy Dorion	Gary & June Bohrer
July 28	Tina Siddle	Athena Kelley	Joe Biri & Craig Norman	Ann Biri, Mary Lapham, & Cathy Dorion	Gary & June Bohrer

****If any of the assistants or readers have a conflict with the dates they have been asked to participate, please contact Doug Jackson.**

Did you know that you can receive your monthly newsletter by e-mail? This way you don't have more clutter on your kitchen counter. Help Grace save the additional costs of paper and stamps by signing up to receive your newsletter online. Just email Elaine (office@gracecolumbus.com) and let her know!

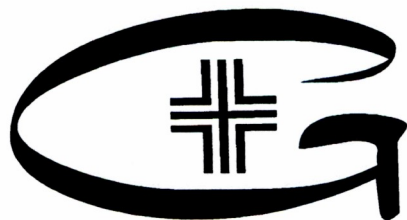


Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
8950 Refugee Road
Pickerington, OH 43147

“Return Service Requested”

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Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

8950 Refugee Road
Pickerington, OH 43147
(614) 868-3397

Pastor Heinz Raidel
Office: 614-868-3397

SUNDAY SCHEDULE:

Education Hour - 9:45 am

Worship - 11:00 am

Email for the Office:
office@gracecolumbus.com

We're on the Web!