

# *The Means of* **Grace**



**JUNE 28, 2020**

Take heart! Your sins are forgiven!

"Jesus stepped into a boat, crossed over and came to his own town. Some men brought to him a paralytic, lying on a mat. When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, "Take heart, son; your sins are forgiven." -- Matthew 9:1,2

Matthew chapter 9 is one of the most rapid-fire chapters of the Bible. In fewer than forty verses, we see Jesus perform at least seven miracles, answer questions and complaints from the teachers of the law, Pharisees, and even followers of John the Baptist. All the while we see him confidently going about his ministry, calling another Apostle, instructing his disciples, and explaining his purpose on earth: to forgive sins and save souls. He raises a girl from the dead. He reads minds. He heals the blind, the paralyzed, the demon-possessed, and a woman with an unknown malady of constant bleeding. Except for time out to eat at Matthew's house, the text of the chapter suggests that these events happened in a very short period of time during a brief stay in Jesus' "own town."



Jesus' "own town" was Capernaum. This was his base of ministry in Galilee. Often he visited there, but he wasn't completely welcome there. In Matthew 11:20-24 we read that Jesus warned this city that it would be judged because the people refused to believe in him despite the miracles he performed in their midst.

But therein Capernaum Jesus shows us why he came into the world—he came to forgive sins. He said to the paralyzed man, "Take heart, son; your sins are forgiven."

When God declares our sins forgiven, we can be assured that they are completely gone because God cannot lie.

If your sins are burdening you, if your guilt is weighing you down, take heart. In Jesus, your sins are forgiven!

# THIS WEEK AT GRACE CHURCH AND SCHOOL

## Sunday June 28, 2020-

9:30 AM Worship Service in person and livestream [grace-wels.net/worship](http://grace-wels.net/worship) or [facebook.com/GraceWELS](https://facebook.com/GraceWELS)

10:30 AM – Small group / Private Communion

OFFERINGS CAN BE MAILED TO THE CHURCH-

7610 NE FREMONT

PORTLAND, OREGON 97213

OR online at: [bit.ly/GracePortland](http://bit.ly/GracePortland)

## Monday June 29, 2020

Pastor in office

## Tuesday June 30, 2020

Pastor in office

9:00 AM Staff Meeting at Grace School

10:00 AM Member Meeting

## Wednesday July 1, 2020

Pastor in office

2:00 PM BIC

6 PM Bible Class (Google Meet)

## Thursday July 2, 2020

Pastor in office

## Friday July 3, 2020

Pastor in office

## Saturday July 4, 2020 –Independence Day

Pastor in office/Sermon Preparation

## Sunday July 5, 2020

8:30 AM Bible Class-ONLINE

9:30 AM Worship Service in person and livestream [grace-wels.net/worship](http://grace-wels.net/worship) or [facebook.com/GraceWELS](https://facebook.com/GraceWELS)



A Family of Ministries For Christian  
Worship, Education and Care



**Justin & Sara Eternick** arrived safely in Portland this week. Justin is excited and eager to begin his ministry with us as our new principal. The Eternicks will be staying with the Garcia's while they search for a home.

**Dan & Sara Hehr** celebrated 55 years of marriage on Friday of this past week. Congratulations!

**Carl & Feather Thompson** celebrated 20 years of marriage on Friday of this past week. Congratulations!

**Hunter Thompson** finished his BMT this past week and will continue his path as an Airman now in the United States Air Force. God Bless!

**Cali Godish** completed her AA at MHCC and will be attending OSU Bend in the fall to pursue her BA in Early Elementary Education. God Bless!

# Summer Sermon Series!

## Your Everyday Calling

*“Indeed, you were called to do this, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example so that you would follow in his steps.”*

1 Peter 2:21

**June 28<sup>th</sup> – “Content Every Day in Your Calling”**

**July 5<sup>th</sup> – “Be Generous Everyday in Your Calling”**

**July 12<sup>th</sup> – “Wrestle Every Day in Your Calling”**

**July 19<sup>th</sup> – “Forgive Every Day in Your Calling”**

**July 26<sup>th</sup> – “Worship Every Day in Your Calling”**

**August 2<sup>nd</sup> – “Believe The Impossible Every Day in your Calling”**

**August 9<sup>th</sup> – “Committed Every Day in Your Calling”**

**August 16<sup>th</sup> – “Show Love Every Day in Your Calling”**

**August 23<sup>rd</sup> – “Be Ready Every Day in Your Calling”**



**EVERYDAY  
CALLING**



5/22/20

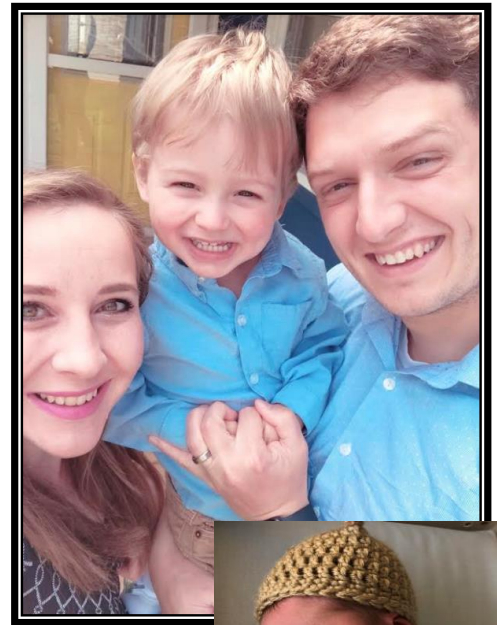
Gethsemane Lutheran Church  
9640 SW Greenburg Rd  
Tigard, OR 97223

Dear Members of Gethsemane Lutheran Church,  
On May 21, 2020 I received the solemn call that you have extended to me through the Assignment Committee. With this letter I wish to announce my acceptance of this call. Looking to the Lord, who has called me, for strength and wisdom through his Word, I look forward with joy to serving Gethsemane Lutheran Church.

My wife Charis, my son Theo, and our **newborn daughter Adeline**, and I are thrilled to come and be among you, to be encouraged by you, and to fight for God's kingdom together with you.

Installation plans will be made in consultation with Pastor Thad Bitter and with Lukas Dahlberg. I would like to suggest July 18 as a SATURDAY for the ordination and installation service.

May our mutual prayer be that the Lord bring us safely into your midst and bless our labors together in his vineyard.



In His Service with You,  
Paul Bourman



### **Update from the Eternicks**

The Eternicks are staying with the Garcia's while they continue to search for housing options.

Please pray for Justin & Sara as they make these monumental changes, pack up their home, move west, look for housing and prepare to serve the Lord with us as our new principal!



GROWING  
— SMALL GROUPS —

# ONLINE GROUP STUDY

## 6:00 – 7:00 PM

### WEDNESDAYS

An invitation and link will be sent to your email.  
If you don't get an email with an invite and link please call  
Pastor Bitter at 503-290-6316.

#### DEVOTIONAL THOUGHTS FOR THE WEEK OF PENTECOST 4 2020

**Sunday**      **Numbers 27:15-17**

- Describe the request Moses places before the Lord? What does the way in which Moses addressed God say about how Moses felt about God?
- Was this a minor task which God and Moses were planning for Joshua? Explain.
- How do we view God's role in our lives and in the world? Isaiah 42:1-8 What gives God the right to feel this way?

**Monday**      **Numbers 27:18-23**

- How does God express the fact that he is pleased with the choice of Joshua?
- Describe the process Moses is to follow in installing Joshua into his office as the chief leader of Israel? What important point does God make with this procedure?
- What tool is Joshua to use as he deals with and leads God's People?
- How does God's Word relate to the installation and work of a pastor? 2 Tim. 4:1-4

**Tuesday**      **2 Thessalonians 2:16-17**

- This is a prayer spoken by Paul. How does he describe the one of whom the request is being made? Discuss each of the glowing words and phrases.
- What is the basis for such a tribute of Jesus? One word.
- Discuss the request Paul makes of God. How did Jesus encourage us to make such a request regularly? Matthew 11:25-28

**Wednesday**      **2 Thessalonians 3:1-5**

- For what did Paul ask the Thessalonians to pray on His behalf?
- Why did Paul ask for this and why should we pray for our pastor, our leaders and one another? How often should we speak such prayers? James 5:13-16

**Thursday**      **Matthew 9:15-34**

- What two kinds of miracles do we have here? What other two kinds of miracles did Jesus perform during his ministry?

- Review the four miracles and discuss what was involved with each one?
- What kind of diseases were these? Could just anyone heal them? Explain
- Agree or disagree: These were truly “mission impossible” for everyone except Jesus. Acts 2:22

Friday            Matthew 9:15-35

- Look at each miracle: Did any of them give Jesus any trouble or did he perform them with ease? Explain your answer.
- What message is Jesus bringing to us with his miracle performances? Who is He?
- What was Jesus greatest and most important miracle? 1 Corinthians 15:1-22
- Agree or disagree: Death came through sin but was conquered by Jesus.

Saturday        Matthew 9:36-10:8

- What is the harvest about which Jesus here is speaking? Why will this harvest in reality be another great miracle?
- How did Jesus picture all people? How bad off are all people spiritually?
- What kind of authority and responsibility did Jesus give his twelve Apostles?
- How thus the sending of the Apostles apply to us? John 20:19-23