

The Means of Grace



MAY 8, 2022

Read: Luke 7:36-50

You are not what you have done. Sometimes that easier said than done... She stood in the doorway with the alabaster jar of perfume. The guilt of how she paid for that jar of perfume haunted her steps. Then, couple that with the fear of what she planned to do with it. How would he react? Would he cast her out like so many others had before? This was a preconceived plan, but the outcome was anything but planned. He had shown love to outcasts in the past. But did he have enough compassion for her? Did he know who she was and what she had done? At this point—in her mind—the two had become inseparable . . . what she WAS what she HAD DONE.



For just one moment, I'd like you to think like her. Filled with guilt. After reading [Luke 7:36-50](#), especially consider everything that had occurred between verses 37 and 38. If you are that woman...

- What are you thinking as you head to the house of the Pharisee?
- What's driving you to bring this alabaster jar to the house?
- Knowing that Jesus is there, what are you hoping to hear from him?
- What's the best-case scenario? What's the worst-case scenario?

Can you feel what she must have felt? Can you feel the daggers staring you down . . . the judging eyes that say, "What is she doing here?" Can you feel those judging eyes that are causing you to ask the same question of yourself, "What am I doing here?"

Guilt has a way of showing itself. It comes in many forms: anger, fear, anxiety, gut pains, seclusion, and everything in between. This woman's guilt was real because she was a sinner. She knew it and so many were likely to remind her of it. But what would Jesus say? What would Jesus do?

She made it to his feet and what did he say? Nothing! He didn't cast her out. He didn't reject her. She stood behind him at his feet, weeping. The only person in the room that mattered saw her sorrow, her regret, her guilt. Her actions cried out, "Lord, have mercy."

Can you find Jesus' first words to the woman? After sharing a simple parable with Simon, he finally speaks to her in verse 48: "Your sins are forgiven." That's all she wanted. That's all she needed. That's everything. She wasn't forgiven because of her alabaster jar. She was forgiven because of who Jesus is. She came to him a broken sinner. He forgave her. He set her free to live without the burden of sin and guilt weighing her down. Would others still judge her? Maybe. Would she still struggle with the days where she wishes she hadn't done what she had done? Maybe. But here's the reality. She's free!

And through Christ, so are you. You are not what you have done! You are a beloved child of God through faith in him. So bring your guilt to Jesus. Confess your sins and guilt and then listen for those most comforting words: "Your sins are forgiven. Go in peace."

THIS WEEK AT GRACE CHURCH AND SCHOOL

Sunday May 8, 2022-Easter 4/Good Shepherd Sunday/HOLY COMMUNION/MOTHERS DAY

Flowers for the Altar-Iris Schaumburg

Communion Prep- Sue Lewallen

8:30 AM Bible Class

8:30 AM Sunday School

9:30 AM Worship

10:45 AM Confirmation

Monday May 9, 2022

Tuesday May 10, 2022

Pastor in Office

8:00 AM Confirmation @ GLS

10:00 AM Mary Martha Meeting @ GLC

4:30 PM Indv. Confirmation

Wednesday May 11, 2022

Pastor in office

8:00 AM Conf. @ GLS

9:15 AM Chapel-Pastor Kraklow

3:30 AM Worship Mtg.

6:00-7:00 Google Meet Bible Study

Thursday May 12, 2022

Pastor in office

5th-8th graders Field Trip to OMSI

8:00 AM Conf. @ GLS

9:30 PM BIC

6:30 PM Council / BOE / Leaders Meeting

Friday May 13 2022

Pastor in office

8:00 AM Conf. @ GLS

9:30 AM Jesus Circle

3:30PM BIC

Afternoon Visits

Saturday May 14 ,2022

9:00 AM Pastor in office Sermon Preparation

Sunday May 15, 2022 Easter 5

Communion Prep-Sue Lewallen

Flowers for the Altar-Iris Schaumburg

8:30 AM Bible Class

8:30 AM Sunday School

9:30 AM Worship

10:45 AM Confirmation

If you would like to help:

Several people have inquired as to how they can help Ramona Saatkamps children Elena & Mason after the sudden death of their father, Corey. A GoFundMe has been established to assist them. If you would like to contribute directly to the family, please speak to Pastor Bitter. Should you choose to contribute, know that your gift will be incredibly appreciated. If you would like to give support of another kind, please consider sharing this information with others.

<https://gofund.me/a993de23>



Rae Robertson who will undergo surgery for lung cancer this month.

Carl & Ruth Werner as Ruth recovers from a back injury and Carl is treated for cancer.

Elke Werner as she continues to recover from knee replacement surgery.

Errol Carlson who will be moving to Kennewick this week.

CANYONVIEW SILVERTON IS BACK!

Informational Meeting today following worship!



Yes! We are planning to host our annual bible camp again this year at Camp Canyonview near Silverton on JULY 5-8. Perhaps it more of a “minicamp” but we are excited and hopeful that our area congregations will have strong participation. Please look for opportunities to be involved and much more information in the coming weeks and months.

For who?

- 4th - 12th grades in the fall of 2022

What's the cost?

- It's early... but we hope to keep the cost at about \$185 per camper. Lodging, all meals, snacks, activities, crafts all included. We will be doing fund raising and asking for people to sponsor campers which will hopefully greatly reduce or eliminate the cost!

How can I register?

- Camp registration will start in the late spring. Pastor Luke Tembruell (Beautiful Savior, Corvallis) and Pastor Mark Swanson (Trinity, Eugene) will be our new camp directors.

What happens after I register?

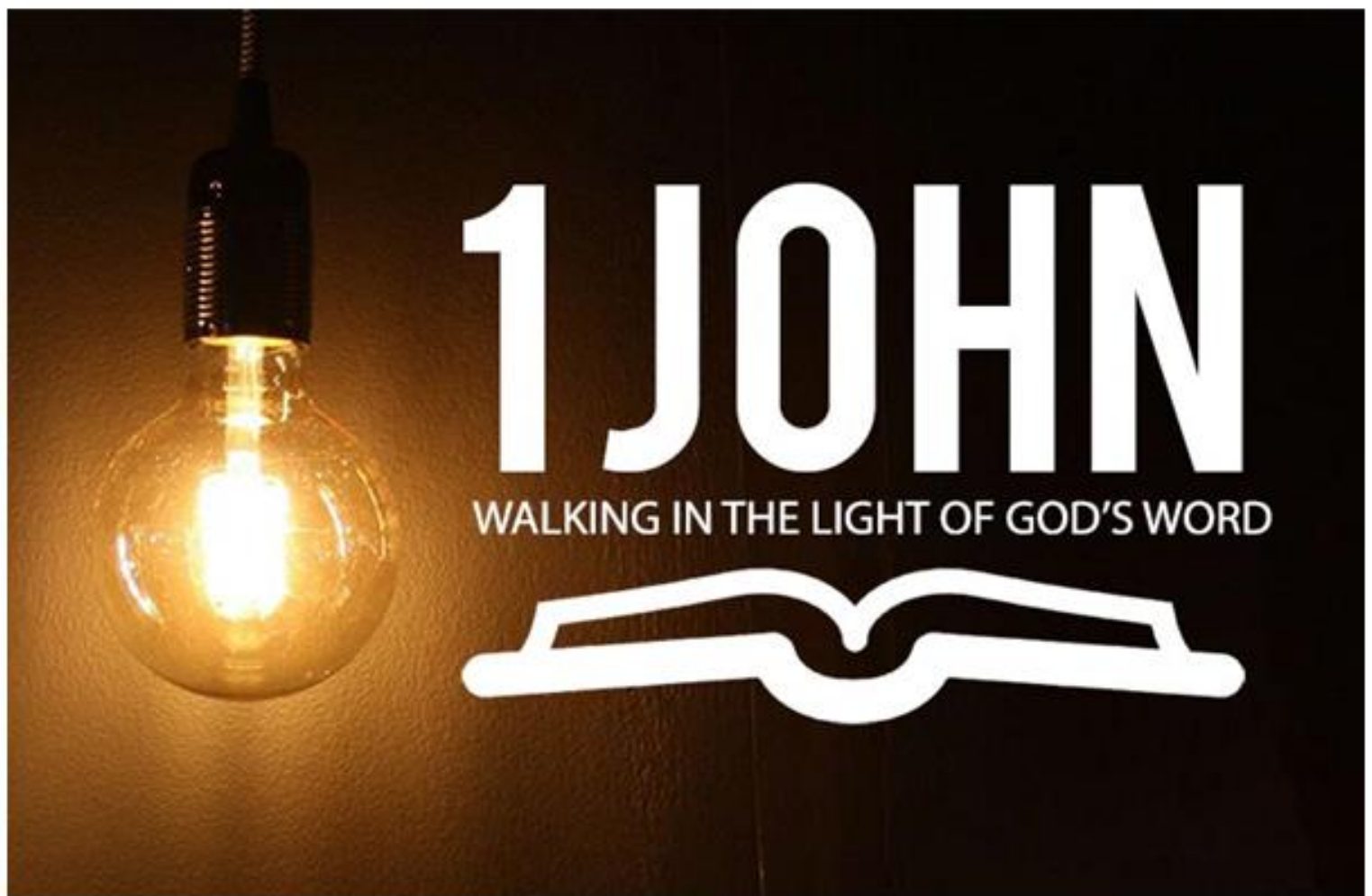
- Upon receiving your application / registration you will be sent:
 - ✓ a medical form that needs to be completed.
 - ✓ a packing list – things to bring and things not to bring to camp.
 - ✓ directions on how to get to camp.

What should my child plan on at camp?

- Lots of fun. Great food. Great kids and new friends. Bible study! Fun games and activities for everybody. Time for swimming, canoeing, creek showers. A great week!

What if I have more questions?

- Our contact person for Grace is:
Gabby Baker at turtlegb@hotmail.com or by cell phone: 503-403-8231

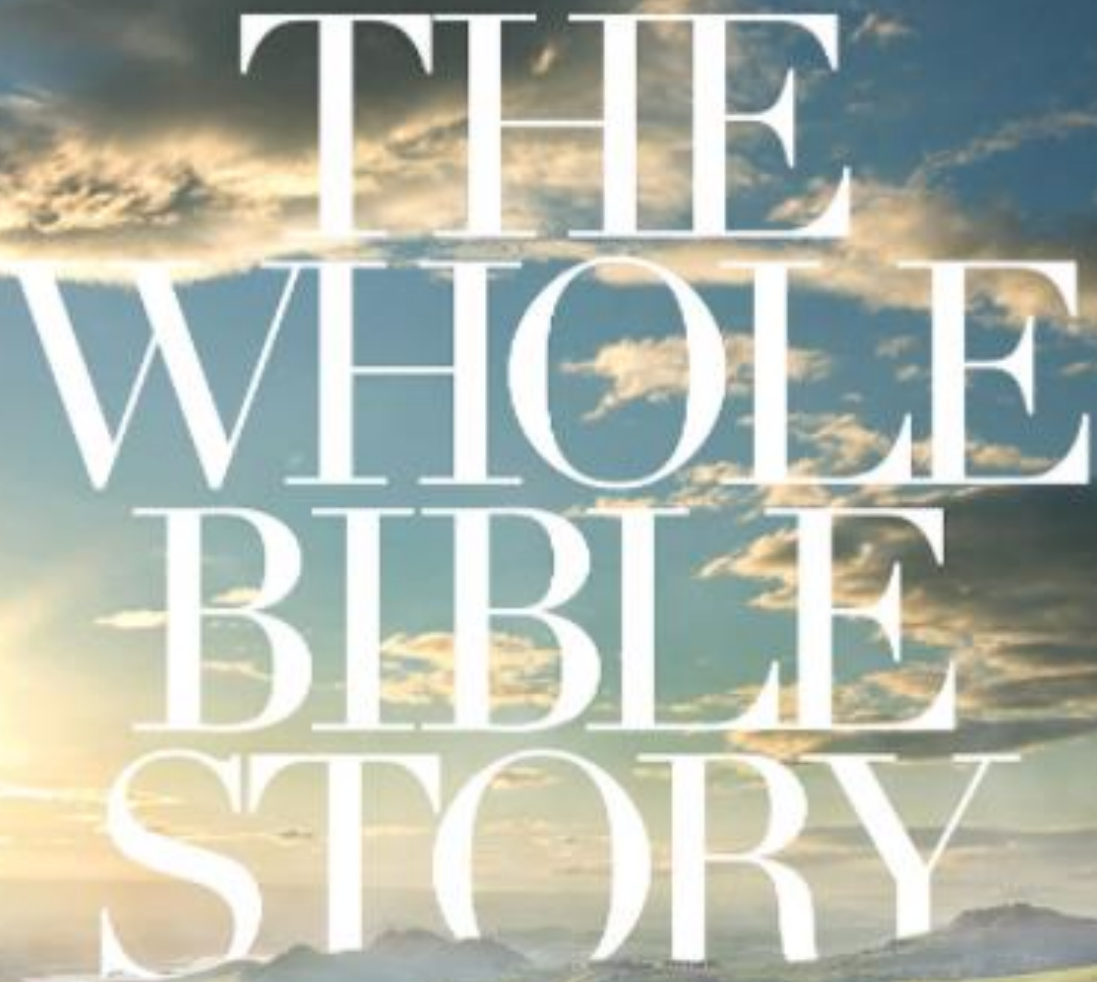


Wednesday Evenings at 6PM

Online via Google Meet

(Invite will be sent via email)

**Come Walk with Us in the
Light of God's Love!**



THE WHOLE BIBLE STORY

From Genesis to Revelation!
Come learn the whole story of the bible!
This week: THE SAVIOR COMES: GOD'S
MESSENGERS PROMISE THE BIRTHS OF
JOHN THE BAPTIST AND JESUS

Sunday School has started up again. To start we will have a combined class led by Melissa Baker.

Sunday School will meet in the room at the far end of the fellowship hall from 8:30 – 9:15 AM on Sunday mornings. Adult and older children are welcome to attend bible class with pastor in the fellowship hall. A weekly lesson will also be attached with the announcements each week.

But we could use your help too! If you're interested in teaching, assisting, administrating or participating in our Sunday School program in any way please contact Pastor Bitter.



SUNDAY SCHOOL

Make the Connection





Weekly Mowing!

Please consider signing up for spring and summer lawn care. The lawn at church needs to be cut every week... can you sign up for a weekend to cut.



Weekly Cleaning!

Please consider signing up for summer and fall church cleaning. The church building needs to be cleaned each week and we could use your help!

Weekly Fellowship Food & Drinks

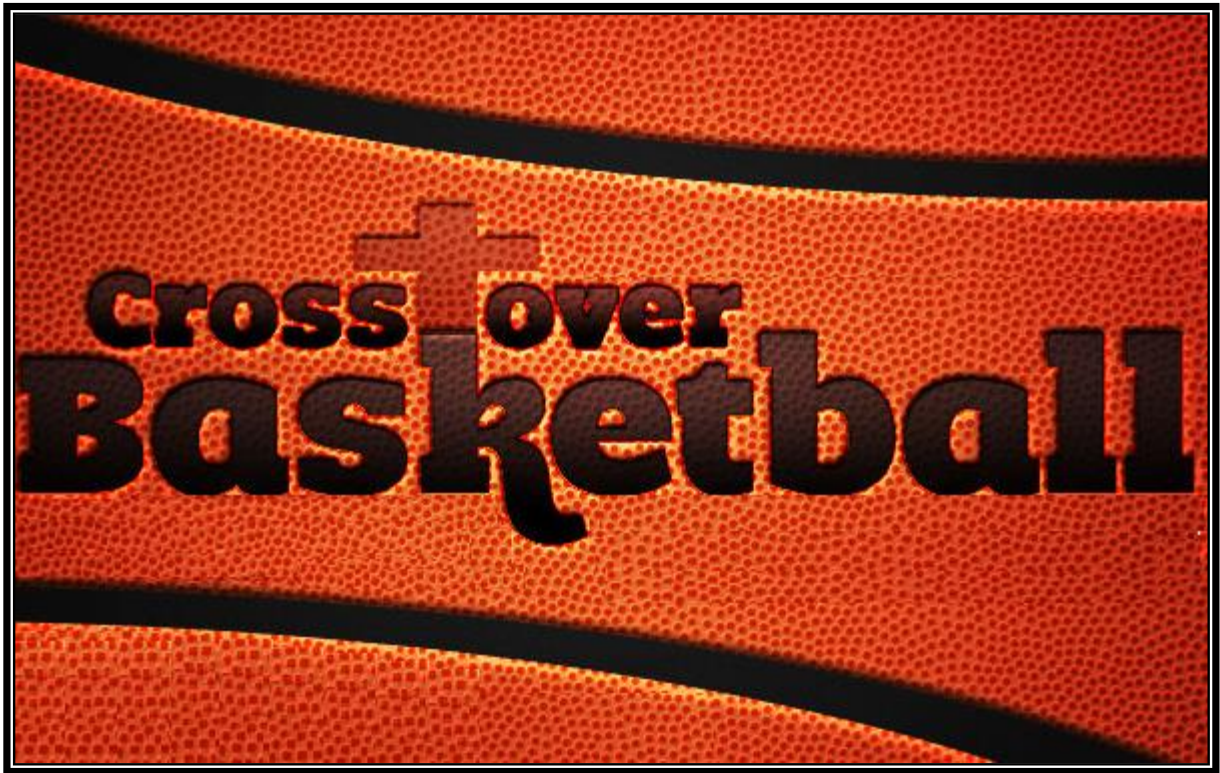
Fellowship Hour is back! Please consider signing up to host on a Sunday by providing coffee, drinks and food. A signup sheet is in the entryway at church.



Retirement Party

After 40 years as Peace Lutheran Church of Vancouver Pastor Kraklow is retiring. We are planning a retirement party/picnic May 30th rain or shine. Please let your congregations know so that all that would like to attend may do so. Attached is a signup sheet that can be used. Please email retirement signup sheet to jonelleb@icloud.com. Festivities will begin 11am. Please RSVP by May 23rd.





We would like to start our “Cross-over” Basketball nights again at our gym at Grace School again.

But we need your help!

If you, or a group, would like to help organize, plan and carry out these basketball evenings please contact Pastor Bitter.

All you need to do is come and open the gym!

This event is for adults – high school age or older.

Bringing your friends.

Get some exercise.

Dunk on someone.

Have fun.

Live your faith.

59TH ANNUAL LWMS CONVENTION
HOSTED BY THE FREEDOM CIRCUIT



LWMS CONVENTION
ROCHESTER, NY
JUNE 23-26

"Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."
-John 8:32

*Joseph A. Floreano Riverside
Convention Center
123 E Main St, Rochester, NY 14604
Register at www.lwms.org*

   @WELSYOUTHALLY

ROYAL PEOPLE • MOMENTOUS PURPOSE

HERE & NOW

2022 WELS INTERNATIONAL YOUTH RALLY

**JUNE 28–
JULY 1
2022**

**REGISTRATION RUNS
MARCH 8–MAY 31**

\$375 EARLY-BIRD RATE ENDS APRIL 30

\$395 MAY 1–31

- Hang out with **2,000 peers** who share your faith.
- Listen to speakers with **stories of faith and hope** from around the world.
- Attend **workshops with a biblical perspective** on timely teen topics.
- **Worship** with thousands.
- Consider **excursions** (additional fee): Anakeesta Theme Park, river tubing, paintball, and more.
- Enjoy music, comedy, recreation, and **FOOD!**

**UNIVERSITY
OF TENNESSEE,
KNOXVILLE**

WELS.NET/YOUTHRALLY

QUESTIONS? YOUTHRALLY2022@WELS.NET

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA: @WELSYOUTHALLY

 **WELS**
Christ's Love. Our Calling.

DEVOTIONAL THOUGHTS FOR THE WEEK OF EASTER 4 2022

Sunday

Ezekiel 34:25-28

- Read Ezekiel 34:20-24. Think about how this becomes a spiritual picture.
- By nature how much spiritual peace is there?
- Now consider the peace about which God is here speaking?
- What is the covenant God has made with His people?
- How does David fit into Good Shepherd Sunday? Who is THE Shepherd?
- What are the showers of blessings God will send through His Shepherd? Matthew 9:36; 2:9.
- How does God gather His sheep?

Monday

Ezekiel 34:29-31

- Keeping in mind that this is a spiritual picture what is the understanding “renowned for crops” mean?
- How do we understand what God is saying to us in the spiritual sense?
- What does God mean when he calls us sheep? Mt, 7:15; Mt.25:31-33
Jn. 10:11-16; 1 Peter 1:23-25

Tuesday

Revelation 7:9-12

- Describe the picture John is allowed to see? Identify who and what he sees?
- What powerful confession does the throng utter in verse 10?
- Explain the response of the angels to the people? V. 12
- Would these response to each other be acceptable in our worship services? Explain.

Wednesday

Revelation 7:13-15

- What request does an Elder make of John? How does John wisely respond?
- Who are those in the robes? Follow the Elder as he speaks about the throng. Who are they. from where did they come, and what about the white robes?
- Who made their robes so white? Define the blood of the Lamb. Is 1:18; Mt. 17:5

Thursday

Revelation 7:16-17

- What do those in white robes do day and night
- What can they expect from God? How will God watch out for us in eternity?
- What will not trouble or bother us again?
- Who will Shepherd the sheep in a wonderful way? John 1:29-34

Friday

John 10:22-25

- Where was Jesus and why? What dedication might this be? Psalm 30
- What question did the Jewish leaders ask? Was it a good question? Why or why not?
- What wonderful answer did Jesus give? How did he identify who he was?
- Should Jesus' miracles have been enough evidence? 1 Thess. 2:13; Heb. 13:17
- What miracle of Jesus do we know about that is the greatest?

Saturday

John 10:26-29

- Why do many not believe? Why are many even today not Jesus' sheep?
- Why are we Jesus' sheep? V. 28 What precious gift does he give us?
- Why can't anyone including Satan pry us away from Jesus?

Grace Lutheran Church - May 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 EASTER 3 8:30 Bible Class 8:30 Sunday Sch 9:30 Worship 10:45 Confirmation	2	3 8:00 AM Conf @ GLS 4:30 PM Indv Conf.	4 8:00 AM Conf @ GLS 9:15 AM Chapel Noon GLS Hot Lunch 6:00 PM Bible Class	5 8:00 AM Conf @ GLS 9:30 AM BIC 3:30 Staff Meeting 6:30 PM BOE	6 GLS Olympics 8:00 AM Conf @ GLS 9:30 AM Jesus Circle 3:30 AM BIC Afternoon Visits	7 Worship Prep
8 MOTHER'S DAY EASTER 4 - Communion 8:30 Bible Class 8:30 Sunday Sch 9:30 Worship 10:45 Confirmation	9	10 8:00 AM Conf @ GLS 10:00 AM MaryMartha 4:30 PM Indv Conf.	11 8:00 AM Conf @ GLS 9:15 AM Chapel 3:30 Worship Mtg. 6:00 PM Bible Class	12 GLS OMSI 8:00 AM Conf @ GLS 9:30 AM BIC 6:30 PM Council	13 8:00 AM Conf @ GLS 9:30 AM Jesus Circle 3:30 AM BIC Afternoon Visits	14 Worship Prep
15 EASTER 5 8:30 Bible Class 8:30 Sunday Sch 9:30 Worship 10:45 Confirmation	16	17 10 AM Circuit @ Eugene 4:30 PM Indv Conf.	18 8:00 AM Conf @ GLS 9:15 AM Chapel 6:30 Steering Committee Mtg. 6:00 PM Bible Class	19 GLS Softball Tourney 8:00 AM Conf @ GLS 9:30 AM BIC	20 8:00 AM Conf @ GLS 9:30 AM Jesus Circle 1:00 PM Podcast 3:30 AM BIC Afternoon Visits	21 Worship Prep 2:00 PM Piano Recital at Grace Chruch
22 EASTER 6 - Communion 8:30 Bible Class 8:30 Sunday Sch 9:30 Worship 10:45 Confirmation	23	24 8:00 AM Conf @ GLS 4:30 PM Indv Conf. 6:30 PM Elders Mtg.	25 8:00 AM Conf @ GLS 9:15 AM Chapel 7:00 PM Bible Class	26 Ascension 8:00 AM Conf @ GLS 9:30 AM BIC 6:30 PM GLS Graduation	27 Last Day of School At GLS 1:00 PM Dismissa 3:30 AM BIC Afternoon Visits	28 Worship Prep
29 ASCENSION OBSERVED 8:30 Bible Class 8:30 Sunday Sch 9:30 Worship 10:45 Confirmation	30 MEMORIAL DAY	31 8:00 AM Conf @ GLS 4:30 PM Indv Conf. 7:00 PM GLS Graduation	Notes: May 2-6 is Teacher Appreciation Week May 30 is Pastor Kraklows Retirement June 5 is Confirmation Sunday at Grace			