

# BROADCASTER

August 2023



WORSHIP ANEW  
PROGRAM SCHEDULE

A GRIEF OBSERVED

A SNEAK PEEK  
INTO HOPE-FULL LIVING

GRIEF RESOURCE



**WorshipAnew.org**



**G**rief can be extremely complex. It can arrive at different moments of life such as the death of a loved one, an estranged child or family member, or a major life change such as moving to a care facility. I've learned throughout my life that grief is very personal and each person endures it differently.

Renowned author, C.S. Lewis of *The Chronicles of Narnia* fame and other influential works, experienced profound grief after the death of his wife, Joy Davidman, in 1960. His journey through grief is depicted in his book, *A Grief Observed*, which provides a raw and honest account of his emotions and struggles during that time.

Lewis wrote about the intense sadness, anger, and confusion he faced, openly expressing his grief. Through the pages of his book, he takes readers on a deeply personal journey through the complexities of grief, providing a poignant exploration of the experience of loss.

Lewis starts out the book stating, "No one ever told me that grief felt so like fear."

This quote encapsulates the intense emotional knowledge of grief. Lewis compares the overwhelming feelings to the familiar sensation of fear, highlighting the depth of pain and uncertainty that grief can bring. It speaks to the profound impact of loss and how it can permeate one's emotions, often leaving a sense of vulnerability and unease.

*God has not been trying an experiment on my faith or love in order to find out their quality. He knew it already. It was I who didn't.*

How does the saying go? "Character is revealed in the darkest times?" In chapter 3, Lewis reflects on how his grief has exposed the fragility of his faith and the illusions of strength he held. "God has not been trying an experiment on my faith or love in order to find out their quality. He knew it already. It was I who didn't. In this trial He makes us occupy the dock, the witness box, and the bench all at once. He always knew that my temple was a house of cards. His only way of making me realize the fact was to knock it down." Here Lewis acknowledges that God, in His omniscience, was aware of his weaknesses all along. The experience of grief served as a means of revealing the true state of his faith, leading to a process of self-discovery and humbling before God.

Lewis wraps up his reflections by stating in the final chapter, "The resurrection was already the consolation even before grief came." He acknowledges the consoling power of the resurrection of Christ, even in the face of deep sorrow. This highlights his belief in the hope and eternal life found in Christ, providing a perspective of comfort and assurance during his grief.

Throughout *A Grief Observed*, Lewis intertwines his personal experiences of grief with his Christian worldview. His reflections touch on various aspects of faith, including the presence of God, the testing and refining of faith, and the hope found in Christ's resurrection. These Christian tie-ins offer glimpses into Lewis' profound grappling with grief within the context of his beliefs.

In the final days of my father's fight with cancer, I recall sitting in the hospital room with him and my parent's pastor who was a faithful shepherd. I was moved by the pastor's honest expression of death and dying. While death is a natural consequence of the fallen human condition and the result of sin entering the world, we know that death is not a part of God's original plan for humanity.

Thanks be to God we hold a firm belief in the hope and victory over death through Jesus Christ. We have hope through His resurrection, and the promise of eternal life for all who have faith in Him. Therefore, we can view death as a transition rather than an end, as we are united with Christ in His victory over sin and death.

Martin Luther's hymn, "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God," resonates this same theme in verse four.

This verse reassures us that even in the midst of grief and tribulation we need not fear. The verse affirms that God's truth will triumph, providing solace and hope in the face of loss. While the world may be filled with devils and threats, find courage knowing that the power of darkness is limited and ultimately doomed. We draw strength from God's Word, the presence of the Holy Spirit, and His gifts bestowed upon us. Even in the deepest sorrow and loss, we can find reassurance in the ultimate victory through Christ's resurrection and thus our own, bringing comfort and hope in times of mourning.

The pastor's message to us on that day in my dad's hospital room allowed me to embrace the rawness of grief as I was experiencing the depth of sorrow, anger, confusion, and complex emotions. It's important to seek out the support of those around you such as your pastor, family members, friends, or your church community. Spend time with God in prayer and in His Word. The gift of God's mercy and grace is our source of peace and yes, even joy, in moments of grief. Seeking support from your pastor or a good Christian counselor can be valuable in navigating complexities of grief.

The various names of God in the Bible can be powerful in conveying who God is and His role in our lives. Some significant names include the Good Shepherd (John 10:11), King of Kings and Lord of Lords (Revelation 19:16), and The Light of the World (John 8:12). Do you have a favorite name for God? One of my favorites is Ancient of Days as found in Daniel 7:9, "As I looked, thrones were placed, and the Ancient of Days took his seat; his clothing was white as snow, and the hair of his head like pure wool; his throne was fiery flames; its wheels were burning fire. The title "Ancient of Days" as mentioned in the book of Daniel is used to describe God's eternal and timeless nature. It emphasizes His authority, wisdom, and everlasting existence. The imagery in this verse depicts a majestic and awe-inspiring vision of God seated on His throne, representing His sovereignty and dominion over all creation.

Worship Anew comes alongside and ministers to people every day who are like Lewis, seeking consolation in the resurrection of Christ, recognizing the comfort and hope it offers even in the midst of sorrow. This vital work would not be possible without your prayers and faithful support. Despite the challenges we face in this life, God's mercy and grace are our source of comfort and strength. Though the journey may be challenging, we can find strength as we lean on our loving Savior and hold fast to the promise of eternal life through Christ's resurrection. May His presence sustain us and bring healing to our wounded hearts.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Matthew F. Leighty". The signature is fluid and cursive.

**Matthew F. Leighty**  
Executive Director



# Worship Anew in August

Year 2023 | Series A



**August 6, 2023 – Tenth Sunday After Pentecost**

**Psalm 136:1-9; Isaiah 55:1-3a; Matthew 14:13-21**

**“Hunger Met, Thirst Quenched” – Sermon Text: Isaiah 55:1-3a**

**Rev. Dr. Walter Maier III**

We all have been hungry and thirsty. We need to eat and drink in order to have physical life. But there is another type of hunger and thirst, which is even more important to satisfy. When this hunger is met, and this thirst quenched, the result is everlasting life.



**August 13, 2023 – Eleventh Sunday After Pentecost**

**Psalm 18:1-16; Job 38:4-18; Matthew 14:22-33**

**“A Little Faith” – Sermon Text: Matthew 14:22-33**

**Rev. Thomas Eggold**

Peter may have only had a little faith, but he walked on the water. And even with a little faith, you'll be amazed at where God makes you walk today.



**August 20, 2023 – Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost**

**Psalm 67; Isaiah 56:1, 6-8; Matthew 15:21-28**

**“Great Faith” – Sermon Text: Matthew 15:25**

**Rev. Shayne Jonker**

The Canaanite woman with the demon possessed daughter just wouldn't take no for an answer. No matter what Jesus said to her, she just kept coming back with a faith that wouldn't let go, no matter what Jesus did or didn't say. And she was an outsider to Israel! That's what this Gospel reading is all about: God's grace to all in His Son Jesus Christ and a faith that won't let go of Him no matter what.



**August 27, 2023 – Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost**

**Psalm 138; Isaiah 51:1-6; Matthew 16:13-20**

**“Questions and Answers” – Sermon Text: Matthew 16:13-20**

**Rev. Paul Shoemaker**

Jesus' question to His disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” gave them and gives us the opportunity to make the great confession of faith: “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” May that great confession be on our lips and lives every day.



# HOPE-FULL

## *A Look Inside* LIVING



THURSDAY, AUGUST 3, 2023

### The Next Gen

... from Abraham to David were fourteen generations  
... from David to the deportation to Babylon fourteen generations, and from the deportation to Babylon to the Christ fourteen generations.

*Matthew 1:17*

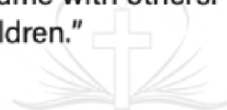
Our daughter is having a baby, our first grandchild! And his name has been chosen before he's even born. Psalm 139 says before we are born God knows us; our names are written in the Book of Life. Our grandbaby's middle name is passed on to him from his great grandfather, a man of faith. Our daughter's middle name is from her great grandmother, a woman of faith. Our work is to pass on the love of our Savior with our family and friends and to ensure they know they are loved by us and by our Father in Heaven. God knows you, loves you, and is with you before and after birth and eternally. God sends his spirit and assures us we are God's beloved child.

*Nancy Rapp  
St. Louis, MO*

**Father in Heaven**, our hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness. Amen.

**Reflect:** Share the story of your name with others. We all share the name, "God's children."

**Read:** Psalm 139 and Isaiah 43:1



Share Hope-Full Living with someone you love  
**Hopefulliving.org** or call **1-888-286-8002**



# A Tool to Navigate Grief

Grief is complex. It doesn't always follow a linear path and can sometimes feel like a twisted maze. A grief maze is a simple tool to help kids and adults process their grief by connecting the tactile to difficult thoughts and feelings. Here is a description of the grief maze from [hope4hurtingkids.com](http://hope4hurtingkids.com):

*Grief is a lot like a maze. Sometimes you move forward. Other times, like your grief journey, you will run into obstacles and road blocks. Sometime you have to go backwards to go around a wall, and sometimes you have to retrace your steps. The important thing though, both in a maze and in grief, is that you continue to move forward and eventually you will reach your goal! As you complete this maze, think about your own grief journey and the obstacles you have faced along the way. What inspired you to continue moving forward?*

**Go to [hope4hurtingkids.com](http://hope4hurtingkids.com) to find other resources for helping kids navigate grief and trauma.**





# Grief Maze



We grieve  
with **HOPE.**

1 Thessalonians 4:13

# Grandparents Care

Grandparents are amazing! If you are a grandparent, know that you are loved and appreciated for the amazing role you have in encouraging growth in faith and maturity for multiple generations.

For the last sixty years, the number of grandparents who are actively taking care of grandchildren has more than doubled. As many children are going back to school in the fall, many grandparents are playing an active role in caring for a child, whether it be helping a parent out with school or sports drop offs, watching a child a few days a week, or taking on the full parental role for a grandchild.

Martin Luther taught the concept of vocation. Just as the vocation of parent or spouse is multilayered, the role of grandparent can take on many forms.

As Christians, we celebrate the care that continues with our amazing grandparents. My grandmother lives far away, but she's always asking about my children and how they're doing. She stays abreast on any health issues I or my family are facing. She cares in all the ways she can and this is what we're all called to do as Christians bound together in the body of Christ.

So, as we get ready for another school year to start and to celebrate Grandparents Day on September 10, pray for all grandparents as they care for their grandkids, no matter what that care might entail. Pray for endurance and support. And thank God for sending a Savior who dealt with rejection and the loneliness of the cross in order to give us life and a family of faith that will never end.

*Thomas Moll*  
*Director of Content and Innovation*



**Our mission is to engage and equip aging adults with resources to live a full and abundant life in Jesus Christ.**

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5 Martin Luther Drive, Fort Wayne, IN 46825  
Phone (260) 471-5683 | Call Toll-Free (888) 286-8002

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