

Grace Notes



Our monthly journey through God’s gift of prayer continues this month into the first three petitions of the Lord’s Prayer: “Hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.” Let’s consider what these petitions share in common first before examining their particular emphases.

First, notice that each of these petitions asks for the things of God. We pray concerning the hallowing of *His* name, the coming of *His* kingdom, and the doing of *His* will. None of these things can be accomplished by us; they can only be accomplished by God. Luther’s Small Catechism further reminds us that God will do each of these things even when we fail to pray for them. God will cause His name to be holy, He will bring His kingdom, and He will do His will, with or without our prayers. When we pray these three petitions, then, we are not somehow forcing God’s hand to do something He otherwise would forget. Instead, we are humbly asking Him graciously to include us among His blessed ones when He does these three things.

Second, Jesus’ ordering of these three petitions before any of the others is hardly accidental. Think about the prayer requests that often cross your mind. How often do they deal with the things of this life—failing health, employment issues, or family relationships? If you’re like me, these sort of prayer requests from ourselves and others are often dominant. Now, there’s absolutely nothing wrong with these prayer requests. We can and should pray concerning these things; they are all involved in God’s gift of daily bread. But notice that He places that fourth and these three petitions first. He knows our tendency to focus only on the things of this life, and so He teaches us to pray for the things of God first—His name, His kingdom, and His will—so that we would learn to ask and receive the great blessings God desires to give.

With those commonalities in mind, let’s briefly look at each petition individually. In the 1st Petition, we pray that God would *hallow* His name among us; we pray that God would cause His name to be kept *holy* among us. In this way, the 1st Petition is connected directly with the 2nd Commandment, in which God gives us His name for proper use. God’s name is kept holy

among us and used properly in two ways. First, His name is kept holy among us when we teach and learn His Word in its full truth and purity (John 8:31-32). Second, His name is kept holy among us when we lead our lives according to His Word as His children (Matthew 5:13-16).

In the 2nd Petition, we pray that God would bring His kingdom to us. When I hear the word “kingdom,” images of castles and knights in shining armor come to mind. When we pray for God’s kingdom in the 2nd Petition, the primary image that should come to mind is not a place, but a Person—God who reigns as King. Certainly, God reigns as King over all creation and all people, both those who trust in Him and those who do not (Psalm 24). More specifically, God reigns as King over His Church; as He rules all creation, He is constantly working for the good of His people (Romans 8:28; Ephesians 1:22-23). Therefore, when we pray the 2nd Petition, we are asking God to send His Holy Spirit to keep us as members of His Holy Church in faith and life, to extend His Church to more who do not yet know Him, and to send His Son quickly to take us and all Christians into His heavenly kingdom.

In the 3rd Petition, we pray that God would do His will among us. Holy Scripture is clear that three primary enemies stand against the will of God: the devil (1 Peter 5:8), the world (1 John 2:15-17), and our own sinful nature (Romans 7:18). In the 3rd Petition, then, we ask God to prevent these enemies from having their way and leading us away from His name and His kingdom and instead to strengthen us and draw us closer to Him now in this life until He finally brings us into the life to come (Romans 16:20; 12 Corinthians 12:9-10).

What joy is ours to pray these first three petitions of the Lord’s Prayer. God lavishes upon us His gifts that we might otherwise never have asked. In your Brother, Christ, boldly approach God’s throne of grace (Hebrews 4:14-16) with these petitions and rejoice to know that God will answer for your greatest good.

In Christ,
Pastor Appel

August 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1</p> <p>8:45am Adult Bible Study 10am Worship/Communion 11am-Family Sunday School</p>	<p>2</p> <p>7pm Elders  Elders Meeting</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p> <p>6pm LWML </p>	<p>6</p> <p>Pastor Away-Family Day</p>	<p>7</p>
<p>8</p> <p>8:45am Adult Bible Study 10am Worship/Communion 11am-Family Sunday School</p>	<p>9</p> <p>5pm-Quilting 7pm LLL</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Pastor Away-Family Day</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>15</p> <p>8:45am Adult Bible Study 10am Worship/Communion 11am-Family Sunday School</p>	<p>16</p> <p>6pm GLLC Mtg</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Pastor Away-Family Day</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>22</p> <p>8:45am Adult Bible Study 10am Worship/Communion 11am-Family Sunday School</p>	<p>23</p> <p>8am Braille 5pm Quilting</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p> <p>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE/NOON </p>	<p>27</p> <p>Pastor Away-Family Day</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29</p> <p>8:45am Adult Bible Study 10am Worship/Communion 11am-Family Sunday School</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p>				

Grace Lutheran Church

308 Byrne Street
Smithville, TX 78957
Office Phone: (512) 237-2108
Fax Line: (512) 237-2832

Email address: gracelutheransmithville@gmail.com
Web Site: www.glcs.org

Sunday School 8:45 AM
Midweek Classes 8:45 AM
Worship Service 10:00 AM

Elders: Kerry Becker
Davey Kadlecek

Aug Altar Becky Watson
Guild: Helen Fleck

Organist(s):
June Parker
Esther Wolff
Kim Appel
Ruth Eaton

Grace Lutheran Learning Center

401 Wilkes Street
Smithville, TX 78957
Office Phone: 512-360-2800
Fax Number: 512-237-5990

Email address: gracelutheranlearn@att.net

We now accept CCMS enrollment

Please feel free to put old or unused toys in our box located in the Narthex

Pastor Timothy Appel

If you need to contact him, his email address is: timothyappel@gmail.com and his home phone number is 512-237-9664, or contact our Office at 512-237-2108. If you are not able to reach either number and it is an emergency, contact your Elder. (Elders list on bulletin board by the Office)

CHURCH OFFICE

Normal hours are 9 to 2 Mon. – Fri. If you need any help from the office i.e., copying documents, record information, info to be put in the bulletin and/or newsletter, etc., please feel free to stop by, call, etc. We are there to provide you with whatever you need from the church office. You may also leave a note in the Secretary's box in the Narthex, and we will get back with you as soon as possible. Please let us know if you have any questions or suggestions.



In the Hospital

If you are admitted to the hospital, I would like to visit you in order to share God's Word and share a prayer with you in that difficult time. As you are able please let the church office know or ask the hospital to call the church office so that I can best minister to you. **Pastor Appel**



As of, July 29th, 2021

Name	Balance
Prosperity Checking Acct	90,197.12
CEF-General	2,462.15
CEF-Land/Youth	12,390.84
CEF Scholarship	12,543.59
Legacy Deo	12,872.25
Total Dedicated Funds	33,084.11
General Fund Balance	57,113.01

If your birthday or anniversary does not appear correctly, please contact the church office so we can correct our files. Thank you.



There is a plastic container in the Narthex for collection of **used bulletins & white printed papers** to be recycled at the Smithville Recycling facility. If there are any questions please ask Katie or John Stelling for info

KFUO Bible Study Resources

Looking for Bible study opportunities during the week? Make use of the fantastic resources for growth in your Christian faith produced by our very own LCMS radio station, KFUE (www.kfuo.org). Their variety of programs will provide something of value to every person who listens. Of particular interest for Grace, every weekday morning at 8



AM, you can hear Pastor Appel host the Bible study, *Sharper Iron*, with guest pastors from around the country. If you can't catch the show live, you can listen to archived episodes at www.kfuo.org/category/sharper-iron/.



AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

Aug. 1	Philip & Kimberly Appel
Aug. 18	Don & Nancy Young
Aug. 20	Mark & Margie Peres
Aug. 23	Daniel & Donna Kadlecek
	James & Murrelyn Rice
Aug. 24	Jim & Mary Ann Duty
	John & Katie Stelling
Aug. 26	Mackie Wayne & Kathy Kasper
Aug. 29	Bill & Jean Miller



Braille volunteers meet the 4th Monday of each month @ 8am.
We carpool to Immanuel Lutheran Church in Giddings to assemble braille bible study books.



Help Needed at Born Again Emporium Thrift Store

Monday and Wednesday 9 am – 2 pm

Friday and Saturday 9 am – 2:30 pm

Must be able to load and unload cars – move and lift furniture – sort merchandise.

Work is outside.

Pay is \$10 an hour.

Call the store 512-237-2060 to get more information and pick up an application.



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Aug. 2	Kellie Rice
Aug. 4	Bobby Hoskins
Aug. 6	Jacob Hannusch
	Vance Kaiser
Aug. 7	Bradley Campion
Aug. 8	Peyton Bennight
Aug. 9	Mike Davis, Jr.
	Bernie Satterwhite
Aug. 10	Donna Kadlecek
Aug. 14	Stanley Long
Aug. 15	Wendy Rohde
Aug. 16	Kaleb Barho
	Clint Zimmerhanel
Aug. 17	Ashlyn Zimmerhanel
Aug. 19	Eleanor Mutschink
	Kennedy Pietsch
Aug. 20	Nancy Fritsche
	Hannah Stem
Aug. 21	Angel Hurst
Aug. 23	Linda Noack
Aug. 25	Patricia Kaiser
	Julia Lorenz
Aug. 27	Debbie Higgins
	Patt Langer
Aug. 29	Troy Kasper
	David Rohde
	Stefanie Monecke
Aug. 30	Cindy Davis
	Katie Stelling
	Kira Kaiser
Aug. 31	Hallye Bonorden
	Gene Brown, Jr.
	Paul Hofmann

Wishing these Friends a Happy Birthday! from your "Grace" family

If your birthday or anniversary does not appear correctly, please contact the church office so we can correct our files. Thank you.

Ongoing Worship Services at Grace

As of Sunday, March 7, we have transitioned back to one worship service at 10:00 AM on Sunday mornings. Here are some important details:

- Appropriate distancing will be maintained by making use of our entire facility. In addition to continuing the practice of roping off pews in the sanctuary, the balcony and parish hall will both be available. Some chairs will be set up ahead of time in the parish hall in those places that allow for the best view of the sanctuary, but you may also choose to use the rest of the parish hall to sit farther away, according to your preference. You will still be able to hear, receive the Lord's Body and Blood, and be together with your brothers and sisters, even at a distance.
- When you arrive at church, please go in an expedient manner to your seat and remain there, as much as you are able. Similarly, when you leave, please avoid lingering in the narthex and other common areas as much as possible.
- Please continue to wear a mask or face-covering to worship and throughout as much of your time at worship as possible, both in accordance with recommendations from health authorities and especially out of our love for each other as fellow Christians, knowing that others may have greater risk or concern.
- For the time being, family Sunday school will continue to be offered after worship in order to continue to allow for appropriate distancing, both in Sunday school and as people are coming and going to and from worship.

Please note that this plan is subject to change based on the continuing conditions of the pandemic and feedback from you. We welcome your questions, comments, and concerns as we return to one worship service; please be in touch with any member of the Board of Elders or with Pastor Appel. We ask for your patience and prayers as we move once again to worshipping all together as a congregation.

Opportunities to Receive God's Gifts

When you are not able to make it to the weekly Divine Service on a regular basis, please know that opportunities to receive the gifts of God at other times are available. I encourage you to be in touch with me to let me know how I can deliver these gifts of God to you, because no Christian should go without God's gifts in Word and Sacrament. When circumstances do not allow you to join the congregation for a time, I certainly encourage you to make use of the Facebook livestream to hear the Scriptures and the sermon; I also would welcome the opportunity to set an appointment with you to study God's Word with you and bring you the Body and Blood of Jesus on an individual basis. ***This offer is made in earnest. You are not imposing on my time by requesting this of me; this is precisely why God has given time to me.*** Please let me know how I can best serve you in Christ's name! –Pastor Appel



Pastoral Check-Up



Many go to their doctor regularly to check on their physical health; why not do the same with your pastor concerning your spiritual health? I know that the previous year was difficult in many respects. How has your Christian faith been challenged? How has your Christian faith grown? Let's visit! The precautions of a pandemic aren't so great that a pastoral visit is impossible. Let's find some time to talk so that I can minister to you with the Word of God so that your faith in Christ will grow even in the midst of this life's troubles and trials.



Board of Education
Sunday School
Midweek News

Dear Members of Grace Lutheran Church,

The Board of Education will be meeting soon as we have a child applying for scholarship to a Lutheran School. We are excited to have the chance to help with this education.

We would like to invite everyone to attend Sunday School or Adult Bible Study each Sunday. Adult Bible study is at 8:45 and Sunday school starts as close to 11:00am as possible. Directly after the Church Service. It is truly exciting to see Adult Bible Study back and to see and hear the ones that are attending enjoy it the way they do. We will be collecting an offering each Sunday at Sunday School that will go to a missionary. Both groups seem to be going well and everyone is enjoying their study time with and about GOD. We look forward to what the new school year will bring and pray everyone will stay healthy. If you have any comments or suggestions you may have regarding Sunday School or adult Bible study please contact any board member.

With School about to start and COVID still lingering, it is a trying time for everyone. We pray that God will guide us in the direction that most people will benefit and keep us all safe at the same time.

Our Board members for this year are: Charlie Johannessen, Toni Ann Kadlecsek, Kathy Kasper, Mary Lou Oliver, Melissa Brown, June Parker, Barb Johannessen and the Sunday School Superintendent is Donna Zimmerhanel. Please feel free to contact any of us at any time if you have questions.

May God Bless all of you.
Respectfully,
Barb Johannessen

Family Sunday School

Family Sunday School continues at Grace!



Please join us after the 11:00AM service each Sunday to learn and rejoice in the Word of God together as the family of Jesus here at Grace! This class is intended for anyone and

everyone; whether you are single or married or have lots of kids or have no kids, you are welcome to join us to learn God's Word together. Tables are spaced appropriately throughout the parish hall, with one family per table. Pastor introduces a new Bible story each week, and our learning includes both activities done as individual families and as a large group. We also include a hymn and a craft each week. We finish about 11:45 am. Please join us to learn God's Word together as families and as a congregation!

Adult Bible Study

Adult Bible study at 8:45 AM will resume on



**Sunday Morning
Adult Study**

Sunday, June 6 (please note that Family Sunday School will continue each week after worship). We will be studying God's Word in the Psalms that He invites us to speak back to Him in prayer. Please join us!



FAITH LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL OF CENTRAL TEXAS

Faith Lutheran High School of Central Texas seeks to engage young adults in a Christ-centered environment where faith and knowledge grow as one.

HOME OF THE FALCONS!

New Student Registration

We are overjoyed to have **17 students** registered for the 2021-2022 school year. We continue to add more students to our family. FLHS offers a Christ-centered education, a rigorous college prep curriculum, and small class sizes. You can receive registration materials by visiting our website, at www.fhlstx.org, or calling (979) 242-2889. Tuition scholarships are available.

First Day of School

Please keep our faculty and students in your prayers as classes begin Wednesday, August 18th. Final preparations are underway in preparation for the big day!

Opening Service

Please join us on Sunday, August 22nd at 3 pm as we will officially open our fifth academic school year. "Transformed" based on Romans 12:2 is the theme for 2021-2022. A worship service will be held at Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Warda. The service will be led by our association Pastors, with the sermon by Pr. Dustin Beck. Offering will be collected to support the FLHS Scholarship Fund. A potluck dessert and punch reception will follow.

Camp Lone Star Retreat

FLHS students and faculty are preparing for our annual retreat to Camp Lone Star on August 26 and 27. We would appreciate prayers as we prepare for this valuable experience for all students. Also, food and monetary donations would be greatly appreciated. Please contact FLHS to find out how you can support our retreat!

Thank You!

Thank you for all the prayers and support you have offered on behalf of FLHS. As we prepare to begin another year, we are thankful for each of you who faithfully pray and support the ministry God has created at FLHS. Thank you, on behalf of the students who will

be instilled with wisdom as they become faithful leaders tomorrow, for your generous support!

Amazon Smile and Wish List

Did you know Faith Lutheran High School is on Amazon Smile? After you select FLHS as the charity of your choice, everytime you purchase something from Amazon Smile, FLHS will receive a donation. FLHS has also created a wish list on Amazon, for needed materials for the upcoming school year. The easiest way to find it is by clicking on the link on the FLHS Facebook page or website. Thank you for your generous support!

Share the Gift of Love

Faith Lutheran High School has a unique role in combining knowledge and God's love in a student's high school experience. We are partnering with families at the intersection of education and faith development. If you would like to support our ministry through a one-time or enduring gift, memorial contribution, or a Thrivent Action Grant, please contact us.

Follow Us On Facebook!

With a new school year almost underway, you may want to see the exciting things happening inside here on a daily basis! By "liking" our Facebook page and "sharing" our posts, you will be in the loop on all the great things happening and sharing Faith with your friends as well. If you're not on social media, head to our website (fhlstx.org) which is updated regularly as well.





LWML

Lutheran Women in Mission

UPCOMING:

August 5th
6pm- Business Meeting
August 8th
Appel Baby Shower

We welcome you to join us in "Serving the Lord with Gladness." Please contact any LWML member or Sharon Reinberg at 512-923-8222 to learn more or go to www.lwml.org or www.lwmltxdist.org to read about the mission and great history of LWML.

Grace LWML Mission Project:
Camp Lone Star

Lutheran World Relief Ingathering 2021:
This year's ingathering will again be in November.
Saturday, November 6, 2021

LWML TEXAS DISTRICT GRANT BULLETIN BYTES:

- The members of the Texas District LWML are looking ahead for their convention in 2022 in Houston but until then they are:

*Held by Christ
Obedient to His calling
Perfected by His promise
Encouraged to share*

Our mite goal of \$377,500 is now up to \$231,171.66 with the finish date of March 31, 2022. Each month as mites are received 25% is sent to National LWML to fund their goals.

Donations to the large Mite Box in the Narthex are joyfully accepted.

National Mission Grant Bulletin Bytes:

The LWML 2021 convention may be over but the members throughout the United States are still "Running the Race.... Looking for Jesus" by proclaiming the love of Jesus. Mission work still continues and now to reach a goal of \$2,150,000 before 2023 when we meet again but this time in Milwaukee, Wisconsin June 22-25.



The Widow's Mite --- And a poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which make a penny. And he called his disciples to him and said to them, "Truly, I say to you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the offering box. For they all contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on." Mark 12:42-44 ESV

Read Through the Bible in 2021

Grace Lutheran Church, Smithville, TX

“God’s Word is our great heritage and shall be ours forever!” Continue your daily Bible reading during 2021. God’s blessings for you in His Word abound! (Note: On days listed as “OFF,” consider re-reading something from earlier in the week or making up a day that you might have missed.)

Readings for the Month of August

August 1	Matthew 21:1-22	1 Chronicles 1
August 2	Matthew 21:23-46	1 Chronicles 2-4
August 3	Matthew 22	1 Chronicles 5
August 4	Proverbs 15:1-11	Psalms 96-100
August 5	OFF	
August 6	Matthew 23:1-12	1 Chronicles 6-7
August 7	Matthew 23:13-39	1 Chronicles 8
August 8	Matthew 24	1 Chronicles 9-11
August 9	Matthew 25:1-30	1 Chronicles 12-14
August 10	Matthew 25:31-46	1 Chronicles 15-16
August 11	Proverbs 15:12-24	Psalms 101-103
August 12	OFF	
August 13	Matthew 26:1-35	1 Chronicles 17-20
August 14	Matthew 26:36-75	1 Chronicles 21-23
August 15	Matthew 27:1-26	1 Chronicles 24-26
August 16	Matthew 27:27-66	1 Chronicles 27-29
August 17	Matthew 28	2 Chronicles 1-3
August 18	Proverbs 15:25-33	Psalms 104-105
August 19	OFF	
August 20	1 Corinthians 1-2	2 Chronicles 4-6
August 21	1 Corinthians 3	2 Chronicles 7-9
August 22	1 Corinthians 4-5	2 Chronicles 10-14
August 23	1 Corinthians 6	2 Chronicles 15-17
August 24	1 Corinthians 7	2 Chronicles 18-21
August 25	Proverbs 16	Psalms 106
August 26	OFF	
August 27	1 Corinthians 8-9	2 Chronicles 22-24
August 28	1 Corinthians 10:1-22	2 Chronicles 25-28
August 29	1 Corinthians 10:23-11:34	2 Chronicles 29-31
August 30	1 Corinthians 12:1-11	2 Chronicles 32-33
August 31	1 Corinthians 12:12-13:13	2 Chronicles 34-36