



2020

## Grace Notes

I don't remember the topic of the last newsletter article I wrote. Was that back in March? Perhaps you remember. I suppose I could go back and look, but knowing what I wrote three months ago seems pretty irrelevant at this point. So much has changed since then.

That thought has crossed my mind countless times over the last several weeks. So much has changed. In-person interactions have changed. Trips to the grocery store have changed. Thinking about what is essential and what is not has changed. So much has changed.

However, the hope that is ours in Jesus Christ is unchangeable. So much has changed, but the most important things have not. Our sin has not changed. Our need for the Savior has not changed. The life, death, resurrection, and ascension of Jesus of Nazareth have not changed. The salvation we have by faith in His name has not changed. The means of grace have not changed. True, our hearing of God's Word and reception of His Body and Blood may have looked different in the last several weeks, but those gifts have not changed. God's Word still speaks His comfort and peace to our troubled hearts. The Body and Blood of Jesus are still the heavenly food of eternity. Our need for these means of grace has not changed. So much has changed, but the most important things have not:

"Of old you laid the foundation of the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands. They will perish, but you will remain; they will all wear out like a garment. You will change them like a robe, and they will pass away, but you are the same, and your years have no end. The children of your servants shall dwell secure; their offspring will be established before you." (Psalm 102:25-28)

"You have been born again, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding word of God; for 'All flesh is like grass and all its glory like the flower of grass. The grass withers, and the flower falls, but the word of the Lord remains forever.' And this word is the good news that was preached to you." (1 Peter 1:23-25)

"Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever." (Hebrews 13:8)

Together with the hymnist, we pray:  
"Change and decay in all around I see; O Thou who changest not, abide with me!" So much has changed, but the most important things have not. God grant to you this unchangeable confidence in Him now and always.

In Christ,  
**Pastor Appel**

# June 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 7pm Elders  Elders Meeting	2	3	4	5 Pastor Away- Family Day	6
7 8:30am Worship/Communion 10am Worship/Communion	8	9	10	11	12 Pastor Away- Family Day	13
14 8:30am Worship/Communion 10am Worship/Communion	15 6pm GLLC Mtg	16	17	18	19 Pastor Away- Family Day	20 9:30am- LWML TX District Virtual Convention
21 Father's Day 8:30am Worship/Communion 10am Worship/Communion	22	23	24	25 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE/NOON 	26 Pastor Away- Family Day	27
28 8:30am Worship/Communion 10am Worship/Communion	29	30				

**Grace Lutheran Church**

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

Email address: [gracelutheransmithville@gmail.com](mailto:gracelutheransmithville@gmail.com)  
Web Site: [www.glcs.org](http://www.glcs.org)

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

**Elder(s):** Davey Kadlecek  
Kerry Becker  
**Ushers:** Bert Bunte  
Brad Zimmerhanzel  
**Trustees** Ronnie Pietsch  
: Colby Zimmerhanzel  
Allan Riddle

**Organist(s):**  
June Parker  
Esther Wolff  
(Sub)  
Kim Appel (Sub)  
**June. Altar Guild:**  
Mary Lou Oliver  
Marilyn Burns



Pre-School/ Mary Lou Oliver/  
Kindergarten Wendy Rohde  
1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> Grades Charles Johannessen  
3<sup>rd</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> Grades Gene Brown  
6<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> Grades June Parker  
Adult Classes Pastor Appel

**STILL IN NEED OF SUBTITUTE TEACHERS**



Please contact Barb Johannessen at 512-284-0199 if you are interested in this position

**MIDWEEK AND CONFIRMATION TEACHERS**

Pre-school - K Kim Appel  
1st - 3rd grade Tim & Esther Wolff  
4th - 6th grade Kristin Appel (June Parker-sub)  
7th - 8th grade Pastor Appel  
Adult Class Ed Randle

**May God bless you and keep you always in His tender, loving care**



**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**

**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](mailto: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](mailto: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.



**Passengers for Church Van**

**Benny Hajdik** - 979-540-8437 is driving the Church Van for Sunday School and Church Services. If you need transportation, please call by 5:00 pm on Saturday. You may leave a message if no one answers.



June 3 Roy & Betty Flora  
 June 5 Timothy & Kristin Appel  
 Jack & Brenda Page  
 June 7 Stanley & Darcy Long  
 June 10 Kerry & Chrissy Becker  
 June 14 Bert & Dana Bunte  
 June 16 Ivan & Nancy Fritsche  
 June 20 Darrell & Tammy Campion  
 June 25 Blackie & Laverne Wallace  
 June 29 Joe Ray & Natalie Bennight  
 David & Nelda Rohde



June 1 Kimberly Appel  
 Luke Oates  
 June 2 Mildred Mutschink  
 Steven Phillips  
 June 6 Kristina Pietsch  
 June 9 Allan Riddle  
 June 10 Gary Smith  
 June 13 Margie Peres  
 June 18 Jacob Moore  
 June 25 June Parker

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.

As of May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020

<u>Name</u>	<u>Balance</u>
<u>Prosperity Checking Acct</u>	<b>50,901.85</b>
<u>CEF-General</u>	<b>2,432.81</b>
<u>CEF-Land/Youth</u>	<b>12,243.25</b>
<u>CEF Scholarship</u>	<b>12,394.19</b>
<u>CEF Property Loan</u>	<b>121,038.95</b>
<u>Legacy Deo</u>	<b>9,412.53</b>
<u>Total Dedicated Funds</u>	<b>20,088.38</b>
<u>General Fund Balance</u>	<b>30,813.47</b>

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

## Ongoing Worship Services at Grace

In order to continue to receive the gifts of God in the Divine Service together at Grace, all the while protecting the physical health of our neighbors during this time of pandemic, the following plan has been put in place by our elders for the coming weeks:

- Two worship services will be offered each Sunday, one at 8:30 AM and one at 10:00 AM. Attendance will be limited to 50 people at each. Each week, you will need to sign up for your desired service ahead of time, either by using the online tool sent by e-mail and posted on Facebook or by calling the church office.
- We will practice social distancing throughout the sanctuary. We will skip every other pew in the first service, and then switch the pews for the second. Households will sit together, leaving at least 6 feet of space between other households.
- Families will be ushered forward one at a time for the distribution of the Sacrament. Rather than kneeling at the rail, this will take place immediately in front of the chancel, in a method similar to what we use during our service before the bazaar. Individual cups and the chalice will both continue to be offered; the purificator, used to wipe the chalice, will be soaked in a neutral spirit with extremely high alcohol content in order to sanitize the chalice between communicants
- Commonly touched surfaces will be sanitized between services.
- The assisting elder and I will wear masks during the distribution of the Sacrament. Although wearing masks is no longer required, we are encouraging those who come to worship to wear them.
- Previously implemented health-conscious practices will be continued. The service will be printed fully in bulletin so you will not need to use the hymnal. We will forgo the passing of offering plates, the sharing of the peace, and handshakes during greeting. Please enter the church through the doors that open to the parking lot (these will be held open for you), and avoid going into the parish hall. We will also avoid congregating in the narthex.
- Additional services may be added to accommodate more worshippers.

## Opportunities to Receive God's Gifts Individually

For those who are not yet attending in-person worship, opportunities to receive the gifts of God through other means continue to be available. Please be in touch with me to let me know how I can deliver these gifts of God to you. Even in the midst of a pandemic, no Christian should go without God's gifts in Word and Sacrament. Options include, but are not limited to:



- Live stream the 10:00 AM service on our Facebook page
- Individual appointment to receive Jesus' Body and Blood at Grace
- Socially distant outdoor home visit to receive Jesus' Body and Blood

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 during this time! –Pastor Appel

## Supplies for Increased Gatherings

As Grace gathers together for worship again, it is important that we are able to prepare our facilities properly with appropriate cleaning supplies. We do not want to hoard these materials; we only want to make sure we have what is needed. The items we need most are disinfecting wipes, disinfecting spray, and hand sanitizer. If you are able to donate one of these items, it is greatly appreciated. They can be left on one of the benches outside of the parish hall during normal office hours (9 AM-2 PM, Tuesday-Friday); call the office to let us know, and items will be brought inside. Although we know these items are hard to find right now, we hope that everyone in the congregation looking for them will help us have the items that we need. Thank you for supporting Grace in this way!







The BAE opens on June 1. Some things will be different. Masks will be required by all. Items donated will be sanitized and quarantined.

No children under 16 will be allowed on sale days. The number of people allowed in store will be monitored and enforced.

We missed our last two rotations. We won't be scheduled again until June 22 to 27.

In the past staffing was primarily handled by each church. For now the responsible church will handle the deposits etc. Staffing will be available volunteers.

Donations will be accepted 10 to 2 on Monday through Saturday

Volunteers will be needed 10 to 2 on Monday through Thursday and 9 to 2 on Friday and Saturday. Please consider volunteering as you are able. We have been able to give back and we anticipate greater needs to be met in the coming days.



### **Congratulations to Our Graduates**

Congratulations to our high school graduates from Grace this year: **Andrew Hurst, Kosh Ozmun, and Ethan Psencik**. God bless you and keep you in His grace; you are in our prayers!



### **Board of Education Sunday School Midweek News**

Dear Members of Grace Lutheran Church,

The Board of Education is praying for everyone during this very trying time. We have missed our annual events this year, such as the Easter Egg Hunt and The Sunday School Rally which we normally have the first of June. At this time, we are thinking about having some type of event later in the year but will have to see what God has in store for us. We will keep you informed.

We are still here to answer any questions you may have about Sunday School or the Christian Education of our Youth.

Our Board members for this year are: Charlie Johannessen, Toni Ann Kadlecek, 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**



### **KFUO Bible Study Resources**

During this time where there continues to be no in-person Bible study at Grace, please make use of the fantastic resources for growth in your Christian faith produced by the LCMS radio station, KFuo ([www.kfu.org](http://www.kfu.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.kfu.org/category/sharper-iron/](http://www.kfu.org/category/sharper-iron/).



# LWML

Lutheran Women *in Mission*

## UPCOMING:

**June 20<sup>th</sup>**  
LWML Convention  
Virtual

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](http://www.lwml.org) or [www.lwmltxdist.org](http://www.lwmltxdist.org) to read about the mission and great history of LWML.

**Mites-** Please remember that our Texas District & LWML grants need to be funded. Even though we have not been meeting monthly, you can put your mites in the large box in the narthex or in Margie Hicks mail box.

**Grace Society donation of mission projects-** If you want to make your donations, please put in Margie Hicks mailbox.

**Virtual Convention-** Grace LWML society is planning to show the convention in the parish hall on Saturday, June 20<sup>th</sup> from 9:30 to 3:30. Watch for more details in the coming Sunday bulletins and in your mailboxes.

## LWML TEXAS DISTRICT GRANT BULLETIN BYTES:

*We will be getting new grants at the virtual convention.*

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

## National Mission Grant Bulletin Bytes:

**-Touching the Living Word: Lutheran Braille Workers (\$100,000)**

Lutheran Braille Workers (LBW) has been bringing the gospel to blind and visually impaired people around the world since 1943. In its 76 year history, LBW has produced and distributed for free over 14 million volumes of braille, large print, and audio materials. Many volunteers help produce these Bibles and other materials using zinc plates, braille presses, specialized paper, covers, and spiral bindings. Currently these materials are published in 11 languages and sent to over 130 countries. They have published over 220,000 volumes over the last 42 months as the demand keeps increasing. This incredible volume takes its toll on the production equipment since each page requires separate zinc plates which are produced by a plate embossing device. The main challenge facing LBW's goal is having the machines and technology available to produce the zinc plates. With this grant LBW will be able to purchase a PUMA plate embossing device capable of creating the necessary number of zinc plates to meet production needs. It will also allow the production of more plates in different languages, reaching even more people with the Good News of Salvation.



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



*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!**

#### **Summer Office Hours**

June office hours will be 8:30 am to 4:00 pm daily. Please drop by for a visit!

#### **Thank You!**

Thank you for all the prayers and support you have offered on behalf of FLHS. It's hard to believe another school year is complete. We ask that you continue to remember us in your prayers and gifts, as we make preparations for next year and the following. God continues to bless our ministry and YOU do as well. Thank you!

#### **New Student Registration**

Registration for the 2020-2021 school year is underway. We are looking to add more students to our family. Are you looking for a Christ-centered education, a rigorous college prep curriculum, small class sizes? Check out FLHS!! Call (979) 242-2889 today!

#### **Scholarship Program**

Have you ever had this thought? "Faith Lutheran High School sounds great, but my family can't afford it." We firmly believe that EVERY family desiring a Christ-centered education for their children should have the opportunity to attend FLHS. We have a Tuition Scholarship Program with funds available. We utilize TADS to disburse these scholarship funds, and EVERY family who applies receives some assistance. We'll do everything in our power to make sure that money isn't the reason you don't choose FLHS. Give us a call (979-242-2889) to learn more about FLHS and how you can become a part of our family! **In today's increasingly hostile, non-Christian society, you can't afford to NOT send your child to FLHS!**

#### **Staff Positions Available**

Faith Lutheran High School will have part time openings on its faculty for the 2020-2021 academic year! Interested individuals who teach in any subject areas may submit resumes to Faith Lutheran High School, PO Box 138, Warda, TX 78960, email them to [kueckn@faithlutheranhighschool.com](mailto:kueckn@faithlutheranhighschool.com), or call (979) 242-2889. If you have the time and talents, please consider applying and sharing your gifts with our students. Thank you!

#### **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!

#### **Fundraising Challenges**

This pandemic has made our fundraising efforts more challenging, but yet, still necessary. Thankfully, we have the assurance that God's word is true and "His love endures forever" (Ps. 136). Will you consider partnering with us as we carry out our mission in this new environment? Thank you, on behalf of the students who will be instilled with wisdom as they become faithful leaders tomorrow, for your generous support..



# Read Through the Bible in 2020

Grace Lutheran Church, Smithville, TX

“God’s Word is our great heritage and shall be ours forever!” Continue your daily Bible reading during 2020. 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 June

June 1	Acts 10:23-48	Judges 18-19
June 2	Proverbs 11:1-9	Psalms 72-73
June 3	OFF	
June 4	Acts 11	Judges 20-21
June 5	Acts 12	Ruth 1-4
June 6	Acts 13	1 Samuel 1-3
June 7	Acts 14	1 Samuel 4-7
June 8	Acts 15:1-21	1 Samuel 8-10
June 9	Proverbs 11:10-23	Psalms 74-77
June 10	OFF	
June 11	Acts 15:22-41	1 Samuel 11-14
June 12	Acts 16	1 Samuel 15
June 13	Acts 17	1 Samuel 16-17
June 14	Acts 18	1 Samuel 18-20
June 15	Acts 19	1 Samuel 21-23
June 16	Proverbs 11:24-31	Psalms 78
June 17	OFF	
June 18	Acts 20:1-12	1 Samuel 24-25
June 19	Acts 20:13-38	1 Samuel 26-29
June 20	Acts 21:1-36	1 Samuel 30-31
June 21	Acts 21:37-22:29	2 Samuel 1-4
June 22	Acts 22:30-23:35	2 Samuel 5-7
June 23	Proverbs 12:1-18	Psalms 79-80
June 24	OFF	
June 25	Acts 24	2 Samuel 8-11
June 26	Acts 25:1-22	2 Samuel 12-13
June 27	Acts 25:23-26:32	2 Samuel 14-15
June 28	Acts 27	2 Samuel 16:1-19:8
June 29	Acts 28	2 Samuel 19:9-20:26
June 30	Proverbs 12:19-28	Psalms 81-83