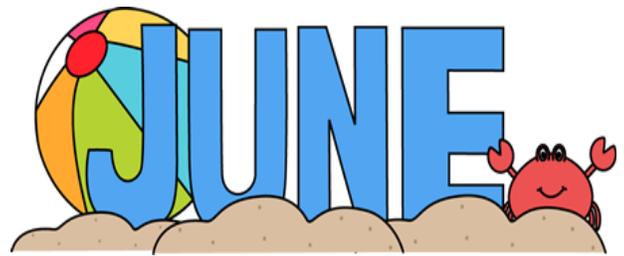


Grace Notes



2022

As we continue to learn to pray from the Psalms, this month we turn to Psalm 47, which is appointed for the festival we just celebrated, the Ascension of Our Lord. Take a moment right now to pray all of Psalm 47, and then come back so that we can consider it briefly together.

The connection between Psalm 47 and the Ascension of Our Lord is most clearly seen in verses 5 and 8: “God has gone up with a shout, the LORD with the sound of a trumpet...God reigns over the nations; God sits on his holy throne.” At His ascension, Jesus literally went up; He ascended before His disciples’ eyes until a cloud hid Him from their sight (Acts 1:9). Jesus’ ascension establishes Him as the One who has all authority in heaven and on earth (Matthew 28:18) by which He reigns for His Church’s good (Ephesians 1:22-23). In this way, the Holy Spirit speaks prophetically in Psalm 47 concerning Christ’s ascension.

The Holy Spirit teaches us to pray with great joy in Psalm 47, and this joy takes vocal and physical expression. In verse 1, all the peoples clap their hands. In verse 5, the trumpet sounds. In verse 6, we join in singing praises to God our King. The joy of what Jesus has done overflows into all our lives as Christians. Our hands and voices participate in the celebration of the forgiveness and salvation that Jesus has accomplished by His death and resurrection and which He has sealed by His ascension. This joy overflows into our prayers. We thank God for His salvation. We praise God for His victory. Even more than that, we call upon all people to join with us in this joyful praise, for the salvation that Jesus has won is for all the earth to be received by faith worked by the Holy Spirit. How can we do anything else but rejoice?

The joy with which we pray in Psalm 47 is due to the fact that God reigns as King over all the nations and all the earth. No earthly king stands over the King of creation; no earthly Lord has greater power than the Lord of all. The Crucified, Risen, and Ascended Lord stands as the victor over whatever enemies ally themselves against the

Church. Psalm 47:3 puts it like this: “He subdued peoples under us, and nations under our feet.”

God has done this, not because we earned it, but simply by His grace. Psalm 47:4 teaches us to pray in thanksgiving: “He chose our heritage for us, the pride of Jacob whom he loves.” God chose us, not based on our merit, but solely of the merits of Christ (Ephesians 1:3-4). God has prepared a heavenly inheritance for us, not because we have been sinless, but because His Son has given His sinless life into death out of love for us sinners (Romans 5:8).

Psalm 47 closes with a reminder that God has done this for *all* sinners, for the *whole* world; God desires not the death of sinners, but that all would repent and have His free gift of life in Jesus (Ezekiel 18:32; 1 Timothy 2:4-6). Psalm 47:9 puts it like this: “The princes of the peoples gather as the people of the God of Abraham. For the shields of the earth belong to God; he is highly exalted!” The LORD’s desire was never to save only the physical descendants of Abraham, but rather, through the Offspring of Abraham, Jesus Christ, to bless all the families of the earth with salvation. Psalm 47 concludes with the reality of rulers and people from every nation coming together as one Church to worship the God of Abraham, the true God, Jesus Christ. In this way, Psalm 47 teaches us to pray for the conversion of unbelievers to the true faith, so that they might join us in the joy that is ours in Christ.

In this way, Psalm 47 teaches us to pray with joy in Christ’s ascension. He reigns over all people, which brings comfort and peace to us who believe in Him, a comfort and peace we can share with those who do not yet believe. God grant us the strength to do so in the joy of Christ’s ascension!

In Christ,
Pastor Appel

June 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 10am GLLC Chapel	2 6pm LWML 	3 Pastor Away- Family Day	4
5 8:45am Adult Bible Study 10am Worship/Communion 11am-Family Sunday School	6 5pm- Quilting 7pm Elders  Elders Meeting	7	8 10am GLLC Chapel	9	10 Pastor Away- Family Day	11
12 8:45am Adult Bible Study 10am Worship/Communion Special Voters Meeting after service 11am-Family Sunday School	13 7pm LLL  LLL	14	15 10am GLLC Chapel	16	17 Pastor Away- Family Day	18
19 8:45am Adult Bible Study 10am Worship/Communion 11am-Family Sunday School	20 6pm GLLC Mtg	21	22 10am GLLC Chapel	23 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE/NOON	24 Pastor Away- Family Day	25
VBS 5:30-8PM						
26 8:45am Adult Bible Study 10am Worship/Communion 11am-Family Sunday School	27 8am Braille	28	29 10am GLLC Chapel	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
Web Site: www.glcs.org

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

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

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**



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

Elders: Galen Bunte
Davey Kadlecek Jr

June Altar Guild: Marilyn Burns
Mary Lou Oliver

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



As of May 27, 2022

Name	Balance
Prosperity Checking Acct	60,292.73
CEF-General	2,484.76
CEF-Land/Youth	12,504.70
CEF Scholarship	12,658.86
Legacy Deo	12,978.63
Total Dedicated Funds	24,758.69
General Fund Balance	35,534.04

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! 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.





June 3 Roy & Betty Flora
 June 5 Timothy & Kristin Appel
 Jack & Brenda Page
 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 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.



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



Grace will partner with First Presbyterian. Our next rotation will be the week of July 5th through 9th. Donations are accepted Friday and Saturday from 9 to 2. We appreciate our donors and shoppers your support benefits the community.

Special Voters Meeting

On Sunday, June 12, immediately after the worship service, we will have a special voters meeting to discuss and decide how to proceed with organ repairs. After hearing several proposals, the organ committee is prepared to make a recommendation to the voters. All voters are encouraged to join us for this important meeting.



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, KFUO (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/.



Dear Member of Grace Lutheran Church,

The Board has chosen our next Sunday School Mission to be the "Smithville Community Medical Clinic". We would like to invite everyone to contribute to the Sunday School offering for this very worthy mission. Our previous mission funds went to a missionary in need through LCMS.

As our youth at Grace reach a successful and safe end of the 2022 School year, it is time to think of new beginnings to help grow Christian Education for our members. As everyone knows the past few years, we have not had Sunday School before church, we are considering avenues of restarting early morning Sunday School for all ages. We welcome any input you may have on the subject. Please let a board member or Pastor know of any wishes or needs you may have regarding Christian education for your family.

VBS is soon to be here. It is exciting to have this event restart. Rose Pietsch is doing a great job putting it together. We look forward to anyone who can participate.

Please join us for adult bible class at 8:45AM and-or Family Sunday School immediately after church every Sunday.

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,

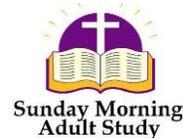
Barb Johannessen
Board of Education



Family Sunday School

Family Sunday School continues at Grace! Please join us after the 10:00AM 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 has resumed! We are studying God's Word in the Psalms that He invites us to speak back to Him in prayer. Each week has included a fantastic study and conversation so far; please join us!

Youth Group

All middle school and high school students and their parents are invited to join us at Youth Group! We're getting started again by meeting every first Sunday of the month from 6:30-8:00 PM. Each month, we'll have time for Bible study and games, as well as plenty of snacks. Please join us this month on Sunday, March 6, and invite your friends!



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!

June 2022

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 years following. God continues to bless our ministry and YOU do as well. Thank you!

Youth Camps

Summer camps are back! We are excited to offer a variety of camps for youth this summer. Ages are for grades NEXT school year.

June 1 - Frog Dissection - Grade 6 to 8 - \$15

June 6-8 - Volleyball - Grade 3 to 8 - \$15

June 13-15 - Basketball - Grades K to 8 - \$15

June 20-22 - STEM Camp - Grades K to 6 - \$ 30

~~June 27-29 - Art Camp - Grades K to 6 - \$30 FULL!~~

Aug 1-2 - Archery - Grade 4 to 8 - \$15

Please visit our website or Facebook page for more information! Don't wait --- Sign up today!! Space is limited!

New Student Registration

Registration for the 2022-2023 school year is underway. We already have new students enrolled and would love to welcome you into our Falcon family as well. Call us at (979) 242-2889 to schedule a shadow day or visit our website at www.flhstx.org for registration information.

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, and EVERY family who applies (through TADS) will receive some assistance. We'll do everything in our power to make sure that money isn't the reason you don't choose FLHS.

Save the Date!

FLHS's annual Oktoberfest will be Saturday, October 22. **New this year will be - The Battle of the Brew** - a home brew competition. Returning will be our traditional German meal, domino tournament, cornhole tournament, music, kids games, and lots of fun!

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, Thrivent Action Grant, Thrivent Choice Dollars, or volunteer your time and talents, please contact Mrs. Nikki Kueck at (979) 242-2889.

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!

Thrivent Action Team Grants

If you are a Thrivent member willing to submit an application for a \$250 grant to be used on projects at Faith, please contact Nikki Kueck by calling (979) 242-2889. Help us to be able to take advantage of these funds for the good of our school. *We are currently looking to utilize Action Grants to offset expenses associated with our summer camps!



LWML

Lutheran Women in Mission

UPCOMING:

June 2nd
6pm- Regular Meeting

June 6th
5pm-Quilting

We welcome you to join us in "Serving the Lord with Gladness." Please contact any LWML member or June Parker at 512-581-1168 to learn more or go to www.lwml.org or www.lwmltxdist.org to read about the mission and great history of LWML.

New officers for 2022-23 for Grace:
President- June Parker, Vice President-Rose Pietsch, Secretary- Mary Lou Oliver, Treasurer-Margie Hicks

Mission project was for the following:
-Confirmation and Graduation gifts
-Diaper Project

LWML TEXAS DISTRICT GRANT BULLETIN BYTES:

Mites goal was reached!

All mission grants have been paid for.

The 42nd Biannual Texas District Convention will be June 16-18th at the Hyatt Regency.

(Lamentations 3:22-23)

Key Objectives:

In a world of uncertainty, we will:

1. **Know** and **Trust** in God's faithfulness to His promises and to us
2. **Rejoice** in His might through worship and praise
3. **Share** His faithfulness and might with others

Representing Grace LWML is Rose Pietsch and June Parker. Rose will be voting on new mission projects and officers.

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

National Mission Grant Bulletin Bytes:

Educating Pastors in Africa — \$100,000

God is calling African men to become pastors. These men of faith know the culture and how best to share God's truth and the love of Christ in their native country. Matongo Lutheran Theological College, Kenya, East Africa, is a confessional Lutheran college of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Kenya (ELCK), which is in Altar and Pulpit Fellowship with The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS). This theological college is in need of support funding. Grant funds will be used for pastoral education projects, including scholarships and seminary needs in Kenya, Togo West Africa, and Uganda, as well as general support of six missionaries — five pastors and one layman.



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 2022

Grace Lutheran Church, Smithville, TX

“God’s Word is our great heritage and shall be ours forever!” Continue your daily Bible reading during 2022. 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



Vacation Bible School is right around the corner--**June 19-23, 2022, 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.**

The Key Theme is: Jesus Leads the Way. Children aged 3 thru those going into the 6th grade are welcome to join us.

Those of you who do not fall into that age category are welcome to join us to assist the teachers in each department! We would love to have you attend!! It is such a joy to see these kids learning about Jesus!!

Each evening will start with a light meal then we will have an opening devotion and learn the songs associated with this VBS program. We will then rotate in groups to the Bible Stories site, Crafts site, Games site and Snacks site. Our evening ends with another devotion and more singing. The Pre-K kiddos have a separate classroom to learn these lessons instead of rotating with the bigger kids. It really is a great week spent worshipping our Lord.

We will have a **VBS training session** on **Tuesday, May 31st at 7:00** in the Parish Hall. All teachers and helpers are invited to attend as Pastor reviews each lesson for VBS.

Reach out to me at rmpietsch@yahoo.com or call or text me at (512) 304-5866. Your help is greatly appreciated!