

Grace Notes



As our newsletter series on the parts of the liturgy continues, this month we come to the Hymn of the Day, which also allows us to speak about hymns in general. For as long as God has been giving His people His gifts, His people have been responding to Him in song. Exodus 15 records the song of God's people as they praised Him for rescuing them in slavery in Egypt. Judges 5 is the song of Deborah and Barak as they gave thanks to the LORD for delivering them from their enemies. The entire book of Psalms contains on song after another, several of them even containing instructions as to a tune or instrument to be used. Though some of these exact details may be lost to us today, our response to all that our Lord Jesus Christ has done for us is exactly the same—we sing!

This is God's invitation and command to us throughout the pages of Scripture. Here are just two examples, one from the Old Testament and one from the New Testament. Consider these words from Psalm 98:1, 4-6: "Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things! His right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him...Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises! Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody! With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD!" St. Paul says very similarly: "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God" (Colossians 3:16).

From these verses, we see several reasons why our Lord in His wisdom has given us the gift of song. First, the gift of song allows us to give thanks among ourselves and proclaim to others the salvation that God has won for us through our Lord Jesus Christ. Second, the gift of song joins us together with other Christians and all creation in praising the One who has created us, redeemed us, and will bring us to His eternal kingdom. Third, the gift of song takes the Word of God and puts it onto our lips in such a way that it also goes straight into our hearts. Martin Luther wrote this concerning music in 1538: "Not in vain, therefore, do the fathers and the prophets want nothing more intimately linked to the Word of God than music. From this arise so many hymns and psalms, in which the message and the singing voice act upon the heart of the hearer at the same time" (*What Luther Says*, p.983).

These reasons apply to the singing of all hymns, and in particular the hymn of the day. The hymn of the day, or the sermon hymn, is sung right before the sermon and is chosen in order to fit with the major themes of the day. By singing the sermon hymn, the congregation is given in song much of what we have already heard in God's Word and much of what we can expect to hear in the sermon. For example, on the First Sunday in Lent, the Gospel reading is the temptation of Jesus. The hymn of the day that is normally used for this Sunday is "A Mighty Fortress is Our God." This hymn speaks of Satan as "the old evil foe" whom we cannot defeat "with might of ours." At the same time, we sing of Jesus Christ as the One "whom God Himself elected" to "hold the field forever" and win the victory for us. Because of Jesus, "we tremble not; we fear no ill" from Satan because we know "our victory has been won; the Kingdom ours remaineth." As you can see, the themes from "A Mighty Fortress" serve to reinforce everything else that we hear during the First Sunday of Lent, putting the Word of God into our hearts in a helpful and memorable way.

Because the practice of singing hymns is well-grounded in God's Word, we make frequent use of hymns in our congregation both in variety and in consistency. In terms of variety, we don't sing the exact same hymns every week, in order that the hymns we sing might fit with the assigned Scripture readings for the day and in order that we might come to appreciate a wide variety of the Church's hymnody beyond our personal favorites. In other words, if you don't see your favorite hymn in the bulletin on a particular Sunday, still sing along—the words of an unfamiliar hymn often prove to be very helpful in building up your faith. At the same time, in terms of consistency, we do make repeated use of hymns in order that we might learn them well and so have the Word of God close to our hearts at all times. There is little that is more comforting to us than a familiar hymn that brings God's Word to our minds in times of difficulty and sorrow. So keep singing, dear Christians! Let your joyful noise overflow now in song, looking forward to the Day when our voices will join the choir immortal in Jesus' nearer presence!

In Christ,
Pastor Appel

March 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 ASH WEDNESDAY 10am GLLC Chapel 5:30pm Lenten Schedule (see below) Soup: A-Fo Host: LLL	2 6pm LWML	3 Pastor Away Family Day	4
5 8:45am Bible Class 10am Worship/Communion	6 7pm Elders	7 6pm Community Bunco 7pm Adult Confirmation Class	8 10am GLLC Chapel 5:30pm Lenten Schedule (see below) Soup: Fr-P Host:	9	10 Pastor Away Family Day	11
12  8:45am Bible Class 10am Worship/Communion 6:30pm Youth Group	13 7pm LLL	14 9am Pastor Circuit Mtg – Winchester 7pm Adult Confirmation Class	15 10am GLLC Chapel 1pm Ministerial Alliance 5:30pm Lenten Schedule (see below) Soup: R-Z Host: LWML	16	17 Pastor Away Family Day	18
19 8:45am Bible Class 10am Worship/Communion 3pm Nursing Home Devotions	20  6pm GLLC Meeting 7pm Evangelism	21 7pm Adult Confirmation Class	22 10am GLLC Chapel 5:30pm Lenten Schedule (see below) Soup: A-Fo Host:	23 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE NOON	24 Pastor Away- Family Day	25 LENTEN MIDWEEK SCHEDULE
26 8:45am Bible Class 10am Worship/Communion 11am Brd of Ed 6:30pm Youth Group	27 8am Braille 5pm Piecemakers	28 7pm Adult Confirmation Class	29 10am GLLC Chapel 5:30pm Lenten Schedule (see below) Soup: Fr-P Host: Brd of Ed	30	31 Pastor Away Family Day 5:30p 	5:30-6:15p Bible Class 6:00-6:45p Soup Supper 7:00p Worship

Grace Lutheran Church

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

Email address: gracelutheran_church@yahoo.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

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.



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.

Elder(s): **Vince Kaiser** Trustees: **Allan Hancock**
Jack Page **Tommy Oates**

Ushers: **Chad Catron**
Galen Bunte

Altar Guild: **Helen Fleck**
Billie
Courtemanche

June Parker
Organist(s): **Esther Wolff (Sub)**
Kim Appel (Sub)

READERS:

Mar. 5 **Nancy Fritsche**
Mar. 12 **Bernie Satterwhite**
Mar. 19 **Chad Catron**
Mar. 26 **Rose Caldwell**

Acolytes:

Mar. 1 **David Wolff & Alex Caldwell**
Mar. 5 **Gene Brown & Brenden Kadlecek**
Mar. 8 **Thomas Brown & Ramon Wolff**
Mar. 12 **Barrett Watson & Juniper Smith**
Mar. 15 **Sterling Brown & Baylor Watson**
Mar. 19 **David Wolff & Brenden Kadlecek**
Mar. 22 **Gene Brown & Alex Caldwell**
Mar. 26 **Ramon Wolff & Barrett Watson**
Mar. 29 **Thomas Brown & Juniper Smith**



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

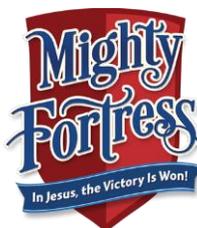
STILL IN NEED OF SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS

MIDWEEK AND CONFIRMATION TEACHERS

Pre-school - K Kristen Smiley
1st – 3rd grade Alex & Amanda Vanegas
4th - 6th grade Kristin Appel (June Parker-sub)
7th - 8th grade Pastor Appel
Adult Class Ed Randle



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



Save the Date for VBS 2017
June 4-8
More info will be out soon!



Mar. 2	Dorine & Bobby Hoskins
Mar. 4	Debbie & Lee Hampton
Mar. 10	Crystal & Kevin Vinklerek
Mar. 12	Kristina & Brandon Pietsch
Mar. 13	Esther & Timothy Wolff
Mar. 19	Kayla & Brandon Herschap

- Mar. 1 Victoria Caldwell
- Mar. 3 Marilyn King
- Mar. 4 Eugene Randle
- Mar. 5 Barbara Johannessen
- Mar. 6 Sarah Gwin
- Tommy Higgins
- Mar. 7 Cassidy Penn
- Mar. 9 LaVerne Wallace
- Timothy Wolff
- Mar. 10 Brandon Pietsch
- Mar. 13 Mitchell Randle
- Mar. 14 Jeanie Kaiser
- Jeremy Rector
- Mar. 15 Steve Pauley
- Mar. 16 Tim Claiborne
- Mar. 17 Ronald Pietsch
- Mar. 18 Allan Hancock
- Ramon Wolff
- Mar. 19 Elois Curriuan
- Margie Hicks
- Mar. 20 Mike Davis
- Mar. 21 Lorine Vogel
- Mar. 23 Patsy Wiggins
- Mar. 24 Katie Swartz
- Mar. 25 Thomas Brown
- Mar. 28 Brenden Kadlecek
- Brad Zimmerhanzel
- Mar. 29 Elizabeth Caldwell
- Cole Hampton
- Mar. 31 Frances Mynar
- Crystal Vinklerek

DOLLARS SENSE

Name	Balance
Prosperity Checking Acct	\$40,685.42
CEF-General	\$2,341.45
CEF-Land/Youth	\$11,783.61
CEF Scholarship Fund	\$12,618.78
CEF Property Loan	\$152,930.92
CEF Annex Loan	\$85,506.54
GLLC Playground Equip	\$100.00
Van Repairs	\$790.00
SS Missions	\$273.00
Memorial	\$2,485.22
Special Missions	\$20.00
Annex Bldg.	\$549.00
Door Offerings	\$382.05
Thrivent	\$842.00
Dedicated Misc	\$5,262.32
Youth Group	\$10.00
Faith Lutheran HS	\$1,050.00
Endowment	\$770.13
Rental Income	\$6,892.04
Bazaar	\$12,287.61
Total Dedicated Funds	\$31,713.37
General Fund Balance	\$11,313.50



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

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

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

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

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



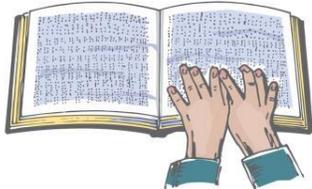
The ladies of Grace are invited to join us on Thursday March 2. We meet at 6:00 pm beginning with a light meal. We have a bible study and business meeting.

Time to order your Easter Lilies! Sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the Narthex. The cost is \$10.00 each and last date to order is **Sunday, March 26th**.

Thanks.

Billie Courtemanche

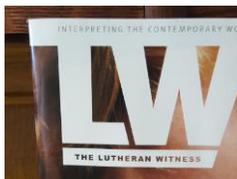
Braille Workers



“The mission of Lutheran Braille Workers is to bring the message of salvation through faith in Jesus Christ to individuals who are blind or visually impaired throughout the world.”

On the fourth Monday

morning of each month, several ladies from Grace travel to Giddings for Braille workshop. We are currently in need of substitutes. ALL who are interested or need more information, please contact **Billie Courtemanche**



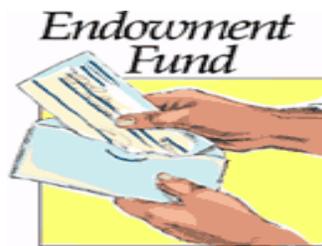
Lutheran Witness Magazine price for 2017 is **\$13.65**



Board of Education
Sunday School
Midweek News

Dear Members of Grace Lutheran Church,

REMEMBER!!!! The FIRST Sunday of every month is the Sunday School Mission Sunday. Our Mission for this quarter is Pastor Askins and his family. Please Help us support him. This means that all the offerings generously given, the FIRST Sunday of every month, in Sunday School will be given to this Mission. Please remember to bring your offerings to Sunday School each Sunday. (This does include the Adult Sunday School Class). Any child 3 years old and older are welcome to attend Sunday School every Sunday. We start at 8:45AM. COME JOIN US!!!!



The Board of Education would like to remind every member of Grace Lutheran Church that we can add to the Endowment Fund at any time in any amount.

Remember the Fund will be used for the Education of our Youth at Grace Lutheran.

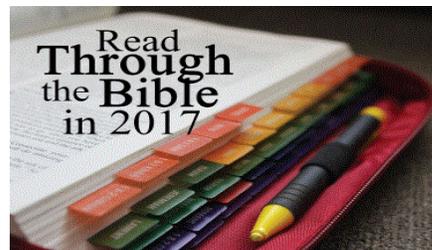
It will be used for scholarships to Christian Camps as well as to help off set the tuition, for any qualifying member, to a Lutheran based school this includes higher education levels. This is a tax-deductible contribution. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact any Board member.

We are once again starting plans the East Egg Hunt on Easter Sunday, April 16. We will be accepting donations of individually wrapped candy (not Chocolate preferably) as time approaches.

Sunday School is going very well. Mary Lou Oliver is now the official Sunday School Teacher for Pre-k and Kindergarten class, with the help of Wendy Rohde and Marilyn Randle. They are doing a great job and would like to remind anyone with children 3 and up to bring them to Sunday School every Sunday!!!

If anyone has any interest in teaching or substitute teaching for any Sunday School Class, please contact myself or any Board of Ed Member.

May God Bless all of you. Respectfully,
Barb Johannessen



Read through the Bible in 2017

Our congregation continues to celebrate 500th Anniversary of

the Reformation in 2017 by reading through the Bible during the year. A reading plan for the month of March is included in this newsletter; these readings will also be included in the daily devotion suggestions given on the back of the bulletin each week. We pray that being in God's Word daily has been a blessing to each and every one who is on this journey. Even if you struggled last month or didn't read at all, don't be afraid to start this month! God's Word is full of blessings for you and for me!



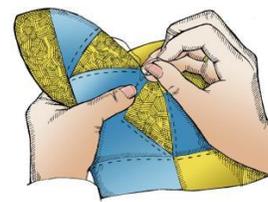
DAYLIGHT-SAVINGS
TIME BEGINS
MARCH 12, 2017



Volunteer at GLLC

Grace Lutheran Learning Center is an important ministry of our congregation, and you can be a part of it! GLLC is looking for volunteers to provide helping hands in the afternoons from 2:30-4:30 PM.

Volunteers should be able to have a regular schedule and must submit to a background check. If you love working with kids and sharing the love of Jesus, this opportunity is for you! Please speak with our director, **Angel Hurst**, for more information!



PIECEMAKERS

We meet on the fourth Monday at 5:00 pm in the Sunday School building. We welcome anyone to help us tie quilts. We usually work for two hours. Your donations of material and sheets is greatly appreciated.

We will have the blessing of the quilts on Palm Sunday. The quilts will then be boxed and prepared for shipment



The BAE has purchased property and is moving toward a new location to better serve. The property is located on the loop. Old auction barn spot--but that was before my time. We are looking forward to a more user friendly space. We have come a long way from the garage sale at Central School. We look forward to the new ventures Grace is scheduled to staff the store the week of **March 20-25. Monday through Thursday hours are 10-2. Friday and Saturday are 9-2.**

Join us and help as you are able. We do work but we also have good times. We especially need help for sale days. The BAE has been doing very well. We appreciate all the generous donations and shoppers who support us. Remember we happily accept those garage sale items. The store will be closed for Holy Week and Easter. The next scheduled dates will be **May 30 through June 3. This is the week of Memorial Day.** The store will be closed the week of the 22nd through the 29th. As of the writing we don't have a projected move in date but we look forward to better serving everyone.



5:30-6:15p Bible Class
6:00-6:45p Soup Supper
7:00p Worship

Our Lenten midweek offerings this year will go to support three important missions: Grace Lutheran Learning Center, Faith Lutheran High School in Central Texas, and Pastor Askins in Hong Kong. Please give generously to support the work of spreading the the good news of Jesus Christ through these ministries!

Our Lenten Midweek Services will be based on the theme "The Salutory Gift," focusing on the blessing of the Lord's Supper. Scripture readings and catechism readings each week will help us to appreciate all the more this gift from God.

Mar. 1	Ash Wednesday	Soup: A - Fo Host: LLL	Life Giving Fruit
Mar. 8	Lent Midweek 2	Soup: Fr – P Host:	Bread from Heaven
Mar. 15	Lent Midweek 3	Soup: R – Z Host: LWML	Healing Medicine
Mar. 22	Lent Midweek 4	Soup: A - Fo Host:	Blest Communion
Mar. 29	Lent Midweek 5	Soup: Fr – P Host: Brd of Ed	Rest for the Weary
Apr. 5	Lent Midweek 5	Soup: R-Z Host:	Wedding Feast
Apr. 9	Palm Sunday	10:00 am	Procession of Palms
Apr. 13	Maundy Thursday	7:00 pm	Divine Service with Holy Communion
Apr. 14	Good Friday	7:00 pm	Tenebrae Vespers
Apr. 16	Easter Sunday	8:00 am	Easter egg hunt & breakfast following the Service

The Askins in Asia



He was Transfigured before Them

In the one year lectionary, this coming Sunday is the Transfiguration of our Lord (Matthew 17:1–9). Jesus took Peter, James, and John, and was transfigured before them. The sight overwhelmed the three. Peter says, “Lord, let us build three tents,” for Moses and Elijah had appeared talking with Jesus.

Peter longed to remain in the presence of Christ’s glory. Undoubtedly, the sight was glorious. If Peter would have built the three tents to preserve that glory, the nations would have come to see it. Then, at least in Peter’s thinking, maybe the nations would respect Israel again.

But our Lord did not come to accumulate earthly glory, to show off what He had so carefully hidden during His days on earth. Jesus told the apostles not to say anything until after His resurrection. The Transfiguration could not be understood apart from His death and resurrection.

It was not until Peter looked back on the experience years later that he realized his mistake. He wrote in his second epistle that we have something more certain than a fleeting vision of Christ’s glory: the confirmed Word of God.

For thus God said to the three apostles on the mountain, “This is My Beloved Son . . . *listen* to Him.”

And thus also God speaks to us. Do not look with eyes to see visions of glory; He does not promise us those things which the eyes long to see. He does not promise us church buildings filled with members or visions of His glory.

He does offer us promises in His Word, however; promises to which we do well to listen. He promises us forgiveness wherever two or three are gathered in His name.

He promises new life wherever His Word is preached, wherever Baptism is offered, and the Lord’s Supper is administered according to His command.

So may we learn to listen to Him. Let us listen to what He says in His Word and through His called and ordained preachers. Let us receive what He has given, trusting not in visions of glory, but in Word of truth which we have received.

For we will one day see this Beloved Son of God, because we listened to Him as He revealed Himself in His Word.

Happy New Year

—By Eliza

The beginning of the month was the western New Year that we are accustomed to celebrating. I remember staying up late, tooting horns, watching the ball drop on television, popping or tossing streamers on a tree covered in balloons, and finally removing those balloons to pop in any number of creative ways.

It was a new start, a fresh beginning. It was goodbye to the old, worn, tiredness of the previous year. It was joy and celebration of what was and what was to come.

Now we celebrate a second new year living in Hong Kong. Chinese New Year was just days after we arrived last year. This year it is the end of January just days before our one year anniversary of being on the field.

It is red envelopes, decorations, five generation plants, orange fruits, roosters, dragons, Kung Fu, and more. It is a time to celebrate and be with family. It is a chance to learn about the culture and the people. It is an opportunity to live our faith trusting in the one true God where many gods and ancestral spirits are worshipped.

For us, many things will remain the same in the new year. We've celebrated each member of the family's birthday here at least once. We've adjusted to a newborn. We've made new friends and met other missionaries from around the region and plan to continue gathering together. We are finding the balance of travel, school, home, and play.

But in the new year, new things will come also. We will start learning a new language. We hope that will open other new doors of meeting people and sharing the gospel in Hong Kong and Asia.

The Lord will also provide other new opportunities as well. We wait with patience to see what He reveals.

✠ *Soli Deo Gloria* ✠

To support the LCMS through the work of Rev. Roy S. Askins, you may send a tax-deductible gift to:

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
P.O. Box 66861
St. Louis, MO 63166-6861

Make checks payable to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod or LCMS. Include "Askins-Hong Kong" in the memo line. Gifts can also be given securely online through the LCMS website at www.lcms.org/givenow/askins. To give a gift over the phone, please call 1-888-930-4438.

Contact us at roy.askins@lcmsintl.org.

For Your Prayers

In your prayers, please keep these things in mind:

- For missionaries still building support networks
- In thanksgiving for the opportunity to gather with fellow missionaries to be fed and renewed
- For all those Christians throughout Asia celebrating the Chinese New Year
- For the Church, that we might remain ever vigilant to preserve the means of grace, pure and unadulterated
- For the Asia region as the search continues for a regional director and regional business manager

Thank You

To all of you who are supporting us in so many and various ways, thank you.

For your prayers, thank you. For your financial support, thank you. For your notes and thoughts, thank you.

—The Askins

A Year in Review

— by Rev. Roy S. Askins



February third marks the one year anniversary of our arrival in Hong Kong. As I look back on the last year, I continue to marvel at the opportunities God has given me since then, opportunities to see and support the work of His Church in Asia.

While I have supported various partner churches by helping build websites and record podcasts to share the Gospel in the language of the people, what I particularly recall are the opportunities God has given me to see the work of His Church throughout Asia.

In April of last year, I traveled to Sri Lanka to see and record the work of the Lanka Lutherans. I met with their pastors and vicars, and told their story for Lutherans Engage the World. Despite their struggles,

God continues to proclaim the Gospel of forgiveness to the men and women of the Lanka Lutheran Church.

Here recently, through the work of missionaries like Rev. Roger James and Rev. Dr. Edward Naumann, even more opportunities have risen to see how Christ is working through education to prepare men for the office of preaching and teaching.

Also last year, I attended the synode convention of the GKLI (Indonesian Christian Lutheran Church). I met a number of church leaders and people of the GKLI, and learned about opportunities to support their work, primarily through providing assistance to the translation process.

I also traveled to Bangladesh. The pastor, deacons, and evangelists of the Bangladesh Lutheran Church Mission welcomed and hosted us. We learned of their bold confession, and assisted them in a number of ways. You can read about it all on blogs.lcms.org.

First, I thank the Lord for sending me to do this work, to assist and help His church proclaim the Gospel throughout the world. Secondly, I recognize that He provided this opportunity through you, those who have chosen to support us by partnering with The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod to send us.

So, what else can be said except, “Thank You.” We give thanks to God for all of you.

A Page of Pictures

Enjoy these pictures from the last month. For more, visit our website: askinsinasia.com.



Our silly goons.

Best mom, ever.

With our friends, the Boehlkes.



PRAYER HANDS

Make these hands as a helpful prayer guide.



What you need:

- 7 pieces of construction paper (different colors)
- Pencil
- Scissors
- Stapler
- Colored pens
- Stickers

What you do:

1. Trace your hand (the same one) on each piece of paper.
2. Cut out and stack the hands. Staple together atop the pinky.
3. On the top hand (the front cover), write "Prayer Hands." Decorate with stickers.
4. On the second hand, write "Praise God." On the third, write "Ask for forgiveness." On the fourth, write "Thank God." On the fifth, write "Pray for others." On the sixth, write "Pray for me."
5. Use your book to remember what to pray for every day.

The psalmist's prayer

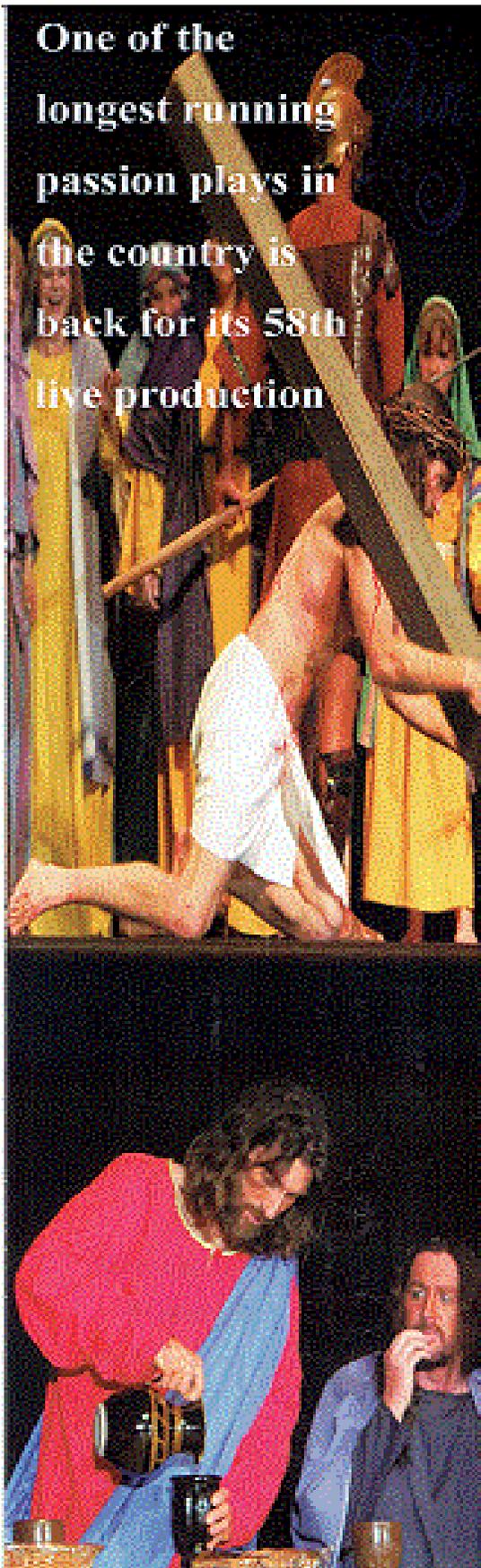
The Psalms are full of wonderful verses about God's care and protection.

Directions: Find each missing letter in the alphabets below. Use the resulting words to complete Psalm 86:7, NIV.

A	B	C	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	___	
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	___	
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	___	
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	___	
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	___	
A	B	C	D	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	___	
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	___	
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	___	
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	___	
A	B	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	___	
B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	___	
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	___	
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	___	
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	___	
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	___
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	___
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	___
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	___	

When I am in _____, I _____ to you,
because you _____ me. Psalm 86:7, NIV

Answer: When I am in distress, I call to you, because you answer me. Psalm 86:7, NIV



Greetings in the name of the Lord:

I am Richard Giro. Some of you may know me as the "Snowcone Man". Besides serving the Lord through our Shaved Ice business here in Bastrop (Snowball Express), I have been involved in an Easter Pageant for the past 32 years. This year the EASTER TRIUMPH will be performed for the 59th consecutive year, and is one of the longest running Passion Plays in the nation. This year the performances will be presented in Bastrop at the Wilhelm PAC on April 8', which is the day before Palm Sunday. There are two performances, at 3pm and 6pm. There is no admission charge, we exist solely by free will donations. Our web site is www.eastertriumph.com.

I am writing you to share a vision I have of these performances being an opportunity for an Easter Celebration event in Bastrop, and to invite anyone or group of people in your congregation to be involved in the cast. We will be looking for about 50 people locally. No acting experience is required. The pageant is narrated, with the actors performing the narration. The only need is a desire to serve the Lord.

We will be advertising the pageant county wide and beyond, and welcome any help in getting the word out.

I have been involved as a cast member, director, narrator, and servant of the Lord. I truly believe that because the Wilhelm PAC in Bastrop is the only PAC available to us this year, that God has plans for special ministry here. Our web site will show that Chester Eitze Manager of the Bastrop Opera House directed the pageant from 1967-1971, and I was honored to direct it from 1992-2000, when the pageant was still performed in Austin at the former Palmer Auditorium. We are a non-profit, 501c3 entity, dedicated to sharing the life and ministry of Christ.

If you have any questions or encouragement, please share them with me by phone or e-mail, or I would be glad to visit personally with you.

Email at rsgiro@yahoo.com

512-925-1529 (cell)

512-303-3537 (home)

In His Service, Richard Giro
Steering committee member
EASTER TRIUMPH

2/1/17

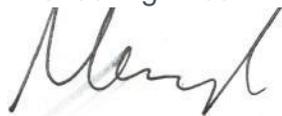
Grace Lutheran Church Pastor Tim Appel
308 Byrne St.
Smithville, TX 78957

Dear Grace Lutheran Church:

Greetings in the name of Jesus from Faith Lutheran High School in Central Texas! Thank you for your congregation's partnership in ministry with FLHS. Your support is leading to the establishment of a quality educational option for young adults in Central Texas to be engaged in a Christ-centered environment where faith and knowledge grow as one. We appreciate your commitment you've made to making disciples of all nations (Matthew 28:18-20) by sharing God's Word with students and their families at FLHS.

We know that you are as thankful and joyful as we are to be welcoming our first administrator, Nikki Kueck, and our first full-time teacher and athletic director, Jonathan Kueck, in the coming year. As they work with us to open FLHS with a freshman class this fall, the challenges are many, but the blessings and opportunities from our Lord Jesus Christ are even greater. Please prayerfully consider how your congregation can continue to partner with FLHS in 2017 through your prayers and gifts. Even such seemingly small things like keeping FLHS in the prayer of the church each week and publishing our bulletin announcements and newsletters make a huge impact. Such support will provide invaluable encouragement to everyone associated with Faith Lutheran High School and will enable this important ministry to grow. As our school's name constantly reminds us, we live by faith in Jesus Christ alone (2 Corinthians 5:7), because we know that what St. Paul says is true: "I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes" (Romans 1:16).

God's richest blessings on your congregation's service in the name of Jesus Christ during the coming year!



Marsha Pohorelsky, President Faith Lutheran High School

PO Box 138Warda, TX 78960 • (979) 540-8510 • hsfuture@gmail.com

FAITH LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL OF CENTRAL TEXAS

Read Through the Bible in 2017

Grace Lutheran Church, Smithville, TX

“God’s Word is our great heritage and shall be ours forever!” Celebrate the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation by reading through the Bible in 2017. These same readings can be found on the back of your Sunday bulletin every week. *(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 March

March 1	Galatians 1	Exodus 17-19
March 2	Galatians 2	Exodus 20-22
March 3	Proverbs 4:20-27	Psalms 32-33
March 4	OFF	
March 5	Galatians 3:1-4:7	Exodus 23-24
March 6	Galatians 4:8-31	Exodus 25-26
March 7	Galatians 5-6	Exodus 27-28
March 8	Ephesians 1	Exodus 29-31
March 9	Ephesians 2-3	Exodus 32-33
March 10	Proverbs 5	Psalms 34-36
March 11	OFF	
March 12	Ephesians 4:1-16	Exodus 34-36
March 13	Ephesians 4:17-5:33	Exodus 37-38
March 14	Ephesians 6	Exodus 39-40
March 15	1 John 1-3	Leviticus 1-3
March 16	1 John 4-5	Leviticus 4-6
March 17	Proverbs 6:1-8	Psalms 37-38
March 18	OFF	
March 19	1 Peter 1:1-2:3	Leviticus 7-8
March 20	1 Peter 2:4-25	Leviticus 9-11
March 21	1 Peter 3-4	Leviticus 12-13
March 22	1 Peter 5	Leviticus 14-15
March 23	Luke 1:1-25	Leviticus 16-18
March 24	Proverbs 6:9-19	Psalms 39-40
March 25	OFF	
March 26	Luke 1:26-56	Leviticus 19-20
March 27	Luke 1:57-80	Leviticus 21-23
March 28	Luke 2	Leviticus 24-25
March 29	Luke 3:1-20	Leviticus 26-27
March 30	Luke 3:21-38	Numbers 1
March 31	Proverbs 6:20-35	Psalms 41-44

This Reformation Reading Plan has been provided by the Michigan District, LCMS through their Here We Stand