

Grace Notes



2018

Over the last two months, we've considered the question, "Why should I go to church?" We've seen how the Bible has answered the question in two ways: (1) "I should go to church in order to find rest in the Lord and His Word"; and (2) "I should go to church in order to be with fellow Christians." This month, we'll consider the answer this way: "I should go to church to remain connected to Jesus."

The necessity of remaining connected to Jesus is easily seen throughout Scripture. One of the clearest passages in this regard is John 15:4-6, where Jesus says, "Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned." Clearly, if we want to remain Christians, we must remain connected to Christ.

"But, Pastor," you wonder, "isn't Jesus everywhere? Why do I need to go *to church* to remain connected to Him?" That's the rub for many people today. "Why can't I be connected to Jesus at the beach or in the deer blind? Didn't He say that He is with us always? Why is going to church that important?"

These are questions that deserve an answer, and our Lord gives an answer in His Holy Word. It is true that the Lord Jesus is everywhere. One of the attributes of God is that He is omnipresent; that is, He is present everywhere. King David prays in Psalm 139:7-8, "Where shall I go from your Spirit? Or where shall I flee from your presence? If I ascend to heaven, you are there! If I make my bed in Sheol, you are there!"

However, the fact that Jesus is present everywhere does not mean that He is present everywhere to save. Just think how His presence meant judgment for the Egyptians in the book of Exodus, and His presence in Judah at the end of 2 Kings meant exile for His idolatrous people. Therefore, for us to remain connected to Christ, it is not enough to say that Jesus is present everywhere; instead, we must look for those places where Jesus has promised to be present to save us.

This is where Jesus' grace abounds so clearly. He doesn't leave us groping about in the darkness wondering where He will be present to save us. Instead, He tells us exactly where to find Him with His salvation, and He never fails to be in those places. That's what makes coming to church so important for staying

connected to Christ. It's not about the building or the time of day; it's about what happens according to the promise of Christ. What happens in the Divine Service in which Jesus promises to be present with His salvation? To put it simply: people are baptized, sinners are absolved, the Word of God is preached, and the Body and Blood of Jesus are distributed to Christians.

Consider how Jesus promises to be present with His salvation in each of these means. In Matthew 28:18-20, Jesus makes His promise to make disciples, that is, to bring salvation, in Holy Baptism and the preaching and teaching of His Word: "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age." Jesus makes His promise to forgive sins in Holy Absolution in John 20:22-23, when He spoke to His disciples: "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you withhold forgiveness from any, it is withheld." Jesus makes His promise to be present with His Body and Blood forgiveness in the Sacrament of the Altar in Matthew 26:26, 28, "Take, eat; this is My Body...Drink of it, all of you, for this is My Blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins."

In these ways, Jesus promises to be present with us to bring us His salvation—that's why I should go to church. One brief note: when a Christian is unable to come to the Divine Service due to illness, disability, or other extraordinary circumstances, the pastor and the Church does everything possible to bring the Divine Service to them. If this is you, please contact me to make arrangements to receive these means of grace. Jesus will not fail to keep His promises. He will keep you connected to Him in these ways He has promised. Thanks be to God!

In Christ,
Pastor Appel

November 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				<p style="text-align: right;">1</p> <p>6pm LWML</p> 	<p style="text-align: right;">2</p> <p>Pastor Away-Family Day</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">3</p> 
<p style="text-align: right;">4</p> <p>8:45am Bible Class 10am Worship/Communion</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">5</p> <p>7pm Elders</p> 	<p style="text-align: right;">6</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">7</p> <p>10am GLLC Chapel MIDWEEK SCHEDULE (see below)</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">8</p> <p>11am-Bible Study</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">9</p> <p>Pastor Away-Family Day 12pm-GLLC Thanksgiving Dinner</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">10</p> <p>8:30am-Every One His Witness Workshop</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">11</p> <p>8:45am Bible Class 10am Worship/Communion 6:30pm Youth Group</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">12</p> <p>5pm Piecemakers 7pm LLL</p> 	<p style="text-align: right;">13</p> <p>9am Pastor Circuit Mtg-Serbin</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">14</p> <p>10am GLLC Chapel MIDWEEK SCHEDULE (see below)</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">15</p> <p>11am-Bible Study</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">16</p> <p>Pastor Away-Family Day</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">17</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">18</p> <p>8:45am Bible Class 10am Worship/Communion 3pm Nursing Home Devotions</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">19</p> <p>6pm GLLC Mtg 7pm Evangelism</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">20</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">21</p> <p>10am GLLC Chapel 1pm Ministerial Alliance NEWSLETTER DEADLINE-NOON 7pm Thanksgiving Eve Service</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">22</p> <p>Office Closed</p> 	<p style="text-align: right;">23</p> <p>Office Closed Pastor Away-Family Day</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">24</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">25</p> <p>8:45am Bible Class 10am Worship/Communion 11am Brd of Ed 6:30pm Youth Group</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">26</p> <p>8am Braille</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">27</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">28</p> <p>10am GLLC Chapel MIDWEEK SCHEDULE (see below)</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">29</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">30</p> <p>MID WEEK SCHEDULE 6:00p Mid Week Meal 6:30p Mid Week Bible Class – All ages</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

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): Davey Kadlecek
Cliff Burns
Organist(s): June Parker
Esther Wolff (Sub)
Kim Appel (Sub)
Ushers: Jack Page
Vince Kaiser
Trustees: Gary Smith
Kerry Becker
Nov. Altar Guild:
Toni Ann Kadlecek
Sharon Reinberg

Readers:
Nov. 4 John Stelling
Nov. 11 Philip Appel
Nov. 18 Rose Caldwell
Nov. 25 Rowan James

Acolytes:
Nov. 4 Thomas Brown & David Wolff
Nov. 11 Joshua Zimmerhanzel & Marianna Peres
Nov. 18 Mackenzie Peres & Juniper Smith
Nov. 21 Adrian Wolff & Thomas Brown
Nov. 25 Baylor Watson & Joshua Zimmerhanzel



Pre-School/ Kindergarten	Mary Lou Oliver/ Wendy Rohde
1 st /2 nd Grades	Charles Johannessen
3 rd /5 th Grades	Gene Brown
6 th /8 th 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 & Ester Wolff
4th - 6th grade	Kristin Appel (June Parker-sub)
7th - 8th grade	Pastor Appel
Adult Class	Ed Randle



NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Nov. 15	Katie & Jaysen Swartz
Nov. 17	Debbie & Tommy Higgins
Nov. 27	Vicki & Robert Vinklarek

DOLLARS & SENSE

As of October 26, 2018

Name	Balance
Prosperity Checking Acct	58,065
CEF-General	2,385
CEF-Land/Youth	12,003
CEF Scholarship	12,151
CEF Property Loan	140,763
CEF Annex Loan	35,339
Legacy Deo	11,259
Bazaar	23,678
Total Dedicated Funds	38,291
General Fund Balance	19,774

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

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**



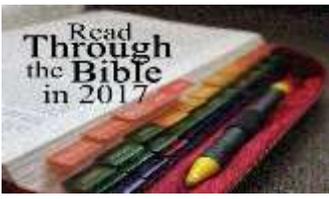
NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Nov. 3	Jocelyn Bienek
Nov. 4	Debbie Hampton
	Chuck Stem
Nov. 5	Philip Appel
	Cheryl Moore
Nov. 8	Olivia Larkin
	Phillip Hellman
Nov. 9	Rose Pietsch
Nov. 12	Mary Ann Duty
Nov. 15	Marilyn Burns
Nov. 19	William Miller
Nov. 21	Kellye Geigenmiller
Nov. 24	Kaylee Wolff
Nov. 28	Alex Caldwell

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



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



Even though the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation has passed, the importance of daily Scripture reading in our lives has not changed! In order to encourage you to

read from God's Word daily, the reading plan that will guide you through the entire Bible in a year will continue to be published in the newsletter each month during 2018. We pray that being in God's Word daily will be the blessing to you that our God has promised!



PIECEMAKERS

We meet each month to tie quilts for Lutheran World Relief. We meet the 4th Monday in the Sunday School building alley entrance. We usually work until about 7. All are welcome. Join us as you are able

Our next session is November 12th at 5pm.



GLLC Learning Center

WORK AT GLLC

Grace Lutheran Learning Center is hiring part-time workers for the afternoon shift. Applicants should be available to work between 12:30-6:00 PM, must have a high school diploma or equivalent, and be willing to submit to a background check. If you love working with kids and sharing the love of Jesus, this is the job for you! Please contact our director, **Angel Hurst**, at [512-360-2800](tel:512-360-2800) to receive an application



Here is another weekday opportunity for you to gather with fellow Christians here at Grace and study God's Word! Pastor Appel is leading a Bible study on the Small Catechism from 11 AM-Noon every Thursday morning in the parish hall. Come and refresh your memory on everything you learned as a youth during confirmation classes. Bring your Bible and your Small Catechism; if you don't have either one of those items, please let Pastor know and he'll be glad to get you one! If you have any questions, please see Pastor Appel.



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



We continue to be blessed with bountiful donations.

We will work November 5 to the 10th. 10 to 2 Monday through Thursday and 9 to 2 on Friday and Saturday

All are welcome as your schedule allows

The store will be closed November 24 through 29th for Thanksgiving. And December 24 through January 5 for Christmas

We are scheduled again to work January 14 through 19th. Mark your calendars.



ALL invited to lunch/game day THURSDAYS at NOON
In the Parish Hall

We meet at noon in the Parish hall. We have a lite meal. All our welcome to join us for a spirited game of train. If you don't know how to play--not a problem. We will help. We play for the fellowship and don't play for points



The ladies of Grace and guests are invited to attend our next meeting on November 1st at 6:00p. We meet in the Parish Hall and start with a meal, Bible Study and a business meeting.



Dear Members of Grace Lutheran Church,

REMEMBER!!!! The FIRST Sunday of every month is Sunday School Mission Sunday. Our Sunday School Mission for this quarter is The Refuge Rescue Ranch in Bastrop, for young girls who have fallen victim to human trafficking of all types. Please remember to give generously the first Sunday of every month to help support this great cause.

CHALLENGE

As most of you heard the Board of Ed is challenging the adults against the youth to see who will read their Bible the most and who pays attention to the readings on Sundays. There will be a question in the bulletin every Sunday (relating to one of the readings from the previous Sunday). I know you take your bulletin home and study it faithfully. Please answer the questions and place the answer in the basket on the table designated for the answers. We would like to encourage everyone to study their bible and to have fun at the same time. Anyone can participate no matter your age!!! If you have any questions please feel free to ask a Board member. We will also be putting in the bulletin the answer to the previous question along with results of the competition. We look forward to having fun with this in the future. If you have and questions or suggestions please feel free to contact a board member.

It is becoming the time of year that we all seem to become very busy with all types of engagements and responsibilities of the Holiday Season. Christmas is fast approaching and that means it is a wonderful time for us to remember what Christmas means and what our true responsibility should be. With out CHRIST we would not have the lives that we live and take for granted. The Board of Education would like everyone to stop and think about what this time of year is supposed to represent, and we hope that as we starting preparing for annual CHRISTmas play, you will join us in teaching our younger members of the Church the true meaning of CHRISTmas. We look forward to the 2018 CHRISTmas season and the celebration of our Lord and Savior.

May God Bless all of you.
Respectfully,
Barb Johannessen

Every One His Witness Workshop

The Evangelism Committee is sponsoring an outreach workshop for our congregation called "Every One His Witness." The Every One His Witness evangelism program considers the real-world context in which Lutherans find themselves as witnesses of Jesus Christ. It puts sound doctrine into practical action for sharing the faith with the people whom God has placed alongside His witnesses in their everyday lives. Join us on **Saturday, November 10** from **8:30-3:30** to learn more about sharing Jesus with your family, friends, and neighbors. Lunch is included; please sign up in the narthex for our planning purposes. If you have any questions, please talk to Pastor Appel.



Two Germany Trip Opportunities in 2020

In 2020, the city of Oberammergau, Germany, will be holding its world-renowned Passion Play that happens only every ten years. Two central Texas pastors are leading tours in 2020 that will include not only this Passion Play, but also a variety of Luther sites. Pastor Obersat of Ebenezer, Manheim, is leading a tour in May 2020, and Pastor Barz of Crown of Life, San Antonio, is leading a tour in July 2020. Information concerning both of these tours is available in the narthex for anyone who is interested.

Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service

Our congregation gathers on **Wednesday, November 21 at 7 PM** to give thanks to God for all that He has done and continues to do through His Son Jesus Christ. As a part of our service that evening, it is our congregation's custom to receive donations for the Smithville Food Pantry and to bring a loaf of bread to exchange with another family at the service (see instructions later in the newsletter). Donations of non-perishable food items to the Smithville Food Pantry may be brought to church all month long through Thanksgiving Eve. Please make this worship service a part of your family's yearly Thanksgiving traditions!



Festival of Lights Parade

This year's Festival of Lights in Smithville is **Saturday, December 1**. This year's theme is "Christmas in the Movies," so the Evangelism Committee is putting together a parade float with the Peanuts Christmas characters. We are looking for participants willing to dress up as their favorite Peanuts character and sing Christmas hymns while riding the float. If you are interested, contact Pastor Appel or John and Brenda Anderson.



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!

Registration

Registration is ongoing. Check out FLHS!! You can receive registration materials by calling (979) 242-2889 or visiting our website at www.faithlutheranhighschool.com.

Shadow Days

Shadow days are a great opportunity for prospective students to follow us for a day and experience what FLHS is all about. Parents, call us today at (979) 242-2889 to set up a shadow day for your child.

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.

Free Wednesday mornings?

Join us for our weekly Chapel Worship Service every Wednesday beginning at 10:30 am. Our teachers and local association pastors will be leading us in worship throughout the year.

Thank you!

There have been so many people, organizations, groups and churches who have contributed to the success and growth of FLHS over the last few months - through donations of books, wish list items, monetary donations, Opening Service gifts, and so much more. We are so incredibly thankful! THANK YOU!!

Yard Signs Available

Show your support of FLHS by placing a sign in your yard. New single sided signs are now available. There is no cost to you to obtain one! Come by and pick one up today! (*Donations are accepted to offset cost.)

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. *Current project list includes: Game Night Events, and making Christmas cards for local nursing homes and oversea missionaries.

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, or volunteer your time and talents, please contact Mrs. Nikki Kueck.

Keep in Touch

Stop by school and say "Hi," explore what the students are learning in classes and learn more about FLHS. Find and follow us on Facebook, Instagram, YouTube or Twitter - like and share our posts. Also, visit our website at www.faithlutheranhighschool.com!

2018-2019 MIDWEEK DATES

The following Wednesdays are the dates for our midweek classes this year. Our regular midweek schedule consists of a light meal at 6:00 PM, followed by classes for all ages from 6:30-7:30. Dates marked with an asterisk (*) occur during Advent and Lent, when we have midweek worship services at 7 PM. During these two seasons of the Church Year, midweek classes will begin at 5:30 PM and end at 6:15 PM so that parents and children still have the opportunity to eat at the soup suppers before services. Please note that there will also be an adjusted midweek schedule on October 31 in coordination with our congregation's Trunk-or-Treat; please watch for further announcements in bulletins and newsletters.

Sharon Reinberg will once again be coordinating and cooking midweek meals. Contributions are needed to assist with the cost; please designate your offering toward midweek meals and bring it to the office during the week or place it in the plate on Sunday morning. Please plan to participate in our midweek classes this year; it is an excellent opportunity for all of us to grow together in a deeper understanding and appreciation of our Christian faith.



2018

November 7, 2018	*December 5, 2018
November 14, 2018	*December 12, 2018
November 28, 2018	*December 19, 2018

2019

January 9, 2019	February 6, 2019	*March 6, 2019	*April 10, 2019
January 16, 2019	February 13, 2019	*March 13, 2019	April 24, 2019
January 23, 2019	February 20, 2019	*March 27, 2019	May 1, 2019
January 30, 2019	February 27, 2019	*April 3, 2019	

Read Through the Bible in 2018

Grace Lutheran Church, Smithville, TX

"God's Word is our great heritage and shall be ours forever!" Continue your daily Bible reading during 2018. 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 October

November 1	Mark 9:14-50	Jeremiah 48-49
November 2	Mark 10:1-31	Jeremiah 50-51
November 3	Proverbs 25	Psalms 119:121-160
November 4	OFF	
November 5	Mark 10:32-52	Jeremiah 52
November 6	Mark 11	Lamentations 1-3
November 7	Mark 12	Lamentations 4-5
November 8	Mark 13:1-31	Ezekiel 1-5
November 9	Mark 13:32-37	Ezekiel 6-9
November 10	Proverbs 26	Psalms 119:161-176; Psalms 120-122
November 11	OFF	
November 12	Mark 14:1-42	Ezekiel 10-12
November 13	Mark 14:43-72	Ezekiel 13-15
November 14	Mark 15	Ezekiel 16-17
November 15	Mark 16	Ezekiel 18-20
November 16	II John	Ezekiel 21-23
November 17	Proverbs 27	Psalms 123-128
November 18	OFF	
November 19	III John	Ezekiel 24-27
November 20	Hebrews 1-2	Ezekiel 28-31
November 21	Hebrews 3-4:13	Ezekiel 32-34
November 22	Hebrews 4:14-6:20	Ezekiel 35-38
November 23	Hebrews 7	Ezekiel 39-41
November 24	Proverbs 28	Psalms 129-132
November 25	OFF	
November 26	Hebrews 8-9	Ezekiel 42-44
November 27	Hebrews 10:1-18	Ezekiel 45-48
November 28	Hebrews 10:19-39	Daniel 1-3
November 29	Hebrews 11	Daniel 4-6
November 30	Hebrews 12	Daniel 7-9

The Askins in Asia



Gathering Together as the Asia Region

Sometimes, missionary work gives us opportunities to serve in ways we did not originally expect. I had such an opportunity in August and September.

For the last two months, I've been planning and preparing for our regional workgroup meeting. The majority of our team in Asia traveled to Chiayi, Taiwan, to spend time together in prayer and planning, conversations and considerations (I couldn't think of a different "c" word).

These type of gatherings help us encourage each other and plan for our future work within the region. It also provides an excellent opportunity to discuss what we're doing and how we can help each other.

When the opportunity to plan this event first came up, I didn't think it would take much work; but I was wrong. It required putting together housing and food, transportation from the airport 2 hours away, planning an agenda and scheduling speakers, providing time and opportunities for teams to meet, and organizing chapel services.

In the end, it took a team. Mrs. Irene Paul, wife of Rev. Dr. Michael Paul helped organize housing and food. She and Hellen, a member of our church here

in Chiayi, planned and prepared all the snacks and extra food. She also made plans with the hotel.

As for arrangements to and from the hotel, we were blessed with the help of a friendly local taxi driver. With his assistance, we arranged rides for all of the team to and from the airport.

In the end, the entire workgroup went off quite well. Everyone made it to the building in Chiayi; everyone got fed, housed, and presented to, and an enjoyable time was had by all. I'm glad to have had the opportunity to help provide this meeting for the good of the Asia team.

I am thankful for the assistance I received from everyone involved in the planning and execution of the workgroup meeting. I'm especially grateful to Pr. Ferry, the LCMS Asia Regional Director, for taking the lead in meeting with the team and providing a sense of direction and focus for the meeting. A number of representatives from St. Louis also joined us, and it was a delight to hear directly "from the horse's mouth" as they say.

Until next time . . .

A Rounder Moon or Greener Pastures

— by Eliza

Yes, we have all heard it before and in fact I think I have written about it before too. The age old response when we complain about our current situation is, “the grass is always greener on the other side of the fence.”

You can google the phrase and it pops up in dictionary.com. But is the grass really greener? Is someone else’s situation, job, marriage, children, life better than yours?

This same idea came up during my Chinese class, so my teacher shared that in Taiwan they too have a similar phrase. Here they say outside of Taiwan, “the moon is rounder.”

Grass is not as common around the home, so chances are if you don’t have grass neither does your neighbor. Yet, we all look up at the same moon every night. And though we may think it is rounder elsewhere, it is not. It is the same.

It does not matter the country, the city, the occupation, etc. it will always seem that someone has it better. And yet, that someone is looking at the moon thinking it is better elsewhere too. We all have our highs and lows.

But what a blessing to know Christ crucified and His grace. Because no matter the high no matter the low, He is there. He has promised His people to be faithful. He has promised to care for each hair on the head. He has promised to lead His sheep in the pastures nourishing them daily.

As the sun rises and sets and the moon waxes and wanes, He is there. It is only better with Him because He sees His children as perfect, without blame. He takes the burden and eases the yoke.

Instead of searching for the rounder moon or greener pastures, we can find Him in the Word, in the water, and in the bread and blood of life.

✠ *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 Pr. Askins as he travels the US raising additional support for our work
- For missionaries throughout Asia as they proclaim the Gospel to a world deeply in need of Christ’s forgiving Word

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 Page of Pictures

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



Worship provided a core of our time together during the meetings.



Our theological education team had the opportunity to answer questions from the team. Rev. Dr. Oliver (left) and Rev. JP Cima (right)



Christian Boehlke, assistant executive director of LCMS International Missions discussed crisis management with the team.



Rev. Dan McMiller, executive director of LCMS International Missions preached.



In the end, it's all about Christ and him crucified for the sins of the world.

SHARING OF THE BREAD



During our Thanksgiving Eve Service this year we will bring our LOAVES OF BREAD to share with one another. This bread will be used in connection with THANKING GOD for His many blessings and PRAYING for the family who shares it with you.

EXPLANATION OF HOW IT WORKS

1. BAKE A LOAF OF BREAD (Homemade or frozen-dough).
2. WRITE YOUR NAME IN THE 2 BLANKS ON THE INSTRUCTION SHEET AND PLACE IT IN A BAGGIE, THEN PLACE ON TOP OF THE BREAD. Put both in a plastic bag with your name showing.
3. BRING YOUR BREAD to our Thanksgiving Eve Service and place it on one of the provided tables by the front pews. (This is also the evening we bring food for the needy that will be placed near the altar area.)
4. During the service, Pastor will ASK GOD TO BLESS our bread and those who prepared it along with those who received it.
5. At the end of the service, you will be ushered out from the side aisles and will walk around to the front past the tables. PICK UP A LOAF to take home.

Note: Volunteer families will be called upon to bring two loaves to help cover visitors & those who forget. You will be given extra instruction sheets and two families will be praying for your family. Extra loaves will be sent along to the needy families.

GOD BLESS OUR EFFORTS AND OUR PRAYERS

Fold or cut

.....

INSTRUCTION SHEET

(PLACE THIS IN A BAGGIE, THEN ATTACH THIS TO YOUR BREAD)



This LOAF OF BREAD comes to you with love from _____ As a symbol of the sharing from our table to yours at this time of Thanksgiving.

On Thanksgiving Day, before the meal and with everyone standing in a circle or sitting at the table, the bread is passed around for each person to break off a small piece and mention something for which they are thankful.

A designated person can then read the following prayer or pray something similar. Everyone should eat their morsel of bread at the same time (either before or after the prayer).

Father in heaven, You sent your Son, Jesus, to be our living BREAD OF LIFE, so we could live forever. You continue to provide our DAILY BREAD along with all our needs. We are most thankful for your loving kindness.

Bless us, Lord, as we share this Thanksgiving Meal. We also ask you to bless the _____ family, who shares this BREAD in love with us today. Thank you for all your blessings. Help us to be a blessing to others. Give Thanks

We pray in Jesus' Name. Amen.



In Proverbs 2:6, God's Word promises: "The LORD gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding." Faith Lutheran High School exists to instill Christ's wisdom in His Word to prepare faithful leaders for tomorrow. You can be a part of this mission through your prayers and financial support. The Board of Directors has set a goal of raising \$50,000 by December 31, 2018 to support the ministry of FLHS. Please prayerfully consider how you can give to further Lutheran education in our area.

Feel free to fill out this form and return it with your donation. Thank you for your support!

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Gift: ___\$50 ___\$100 ___\$250 ___\$500 ___\$1,000 ___Other (\$_____)

Checks can be made payable to "Faith Lutheran High School" and mailed to PO Box 138, Warda, TX 78960.