

Grace Notes



2021

Our monthly journey through God's gift of prayer continues this month into the 6th and 7th Petitions of the Lord's Prayer: "And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil." These petitions go together and build off each other, but they also each have their unique emphases. Let's consider the pictures each petition puts into our minds as we bring these requests to our heavenly Father.

When Jesus directs us to ask our Father to "lead us" in the 6th Petition, He brings to mind the picture of a path. The words of the LORD from Deuteronomy 30:15 come to mind: "See, I have set before you today life and good, death and evil." Which way will you walk? In our sinful natures, we would only choose the path of death and evil. That's how St. Paul puts it in Ephesians 2:1-2: "You were dead in the trespasses and sins in which you once walked." Only when God in His grace brings us His salvation through faith in Jesus do we begin by His help to walk in the good works that He has prepared for us (Ephesians 2:8-10).

That's why it's so necessary to pray the 6th Petition for God's guidance along His narrow path (Matthew 7:13-14). He promises that He does not tempt us (James 1:13), but in His testing of our faith and in His disciplining us as sons (Hebrews 12:7-11), God seeks to draw us closer to Him and produce steadfastness that leads to eternal life (James 1:2-4). The devil, on the other hand, would use such moments to cause us to question and doubt God's love and good purposes for us (Genesis 3:5); our enemy proves himself to be the tempter (John 8:44). He, along with the world and our own sinful natures, would try to lead us away from Christ into false belief, despair, and other great shame and vice. Therefore, we pray the 6th Petition regularly, asking our heavenly Father to direct us away from the wide path that leads to destruction and instead to lead us on His narrow road that leads to salvation in the death and resurrection of His Son, Jesus.

The 7th Petition connects closely to the 6th Petition with the conjunction, "but": "Lead us not in this way, dear Father, *but* instead, deliver us." Notice how the picture changes here. Now our Lord Jesus brings to mind the picture of rescue. How well have we followed along the path God has set before us? Isaiah 53:6 puts it bluntly: "All we like sheep have gone astray; we have

turned—every one—to his own way." On top of that, the world and the devil lie in wait to attack us as we walk through this life: "Behold, the wicked bend the bow; they have fitted their arrow to the string to shoot in the dark at the upright in heart" (Psalm 11:2). When we fall into the pit of our own sin or face enemies who are stronger than us, we don't simply need guidance; we need rescue. That is precisely what the LORD gives; He redeems our lives from the pit (Psalm 103:4).




In this way, the 7th Petition summarizes everything else in the LORD's prayer. The evil one would do all that he can to keep from us the spiritual and physical blessings for which we pray in the Lord's Prayer, and so we pray in conclusion that the Lord would rescue us from every evil the enemy intends against us. This does not mean that evil never attacks us as Christians; far from it. Rather, we ask that God would work even this evil for our good (Romans 8:28), that He would remain with us as we suffer evil (Psalm 23:4), and that no matter what evil attacks, God would keep us in the saving faith (Revelation 2:10).

That gives this final petition an eternal perspective, for we know that the Lord's rescue does not come finally in this life, but in the life to come. When we pray for God's rescue from evil, then, we are praying for a blessed end. Our Father grants us a blessed end when we die in the Christian faith and He takes our souls to live with Christ in peace and joy (2 Timothy 4:18), and our Father grants us a blessed end when He sends His Son on the Last Day to raise us from the dead and take us to our eternal home (1 Corinthians:15:54-57).

See just how necessary these two petitions are for us as Christians, perhaps now more than ever! "Dear Father, guide us along the narrow path of faith in Jesus Christ, and rescue us from every evil enemy until finally You bring us into eternal life. Grant it for the sake of Jesus! Amen."

In Christ,
Pastor Appel

October 2021

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

Grace Lutheran Church

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

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

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

Elders: Galen Bunte
Bert Bunte
Oct Altar Rose Pietsch
Guild: Frances Mynar

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



As of September 24th, 2021

Name	Balance
<u>Prosperity Checking Acct</u>	73,475.56
<u>CEF-General</u>	2,466.26
<u>CEF-Land/Youth</u>	12,411.55
<u>CEF Scholarship</u>	12,564.56
<u>Legacy Deo</u>	13,322.99
<u>Total Dedicated Funds</u>	29,292.79
<u>General Fund Balance</u>	44,182.77

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

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)



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

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**

KFUO Bible Study Resources

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



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



Oct. 15	Tammy & Doug Teague
Oct. 20	Barbara & Steve Pauley
Oct. 22	Rose & Ronnie Pietsch



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 and First Presbyterian partner on November 8th through 13th. This is our last rotation this year. The store is closed the week of Thanksgiving and will close after December 15th for Christmas. Donations are accepted from 9am to 2pm on Friday and Saturday. Thank everyone for their generous donations and our faithful customers. Join us as you are able.

Opportunities to Receive God's Gifts

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



Pastoral Check-Up

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



Oct. 2	Keatyn Becker
Oct. 3	Kaylee Claiborne
	Alice Pearcy
Oct. 4	Frances Pool
Oct. 7	Brenda Anderson
	Kristin Appel
	Corbin Davis
	Kolten Langer
Oct. 8	Milly Cheak
	Nickolas Claiborne
	Sherri McCullough
	Abigail Vanegas
Oct. 9	Juanita Bertsch
	Kathy Kasper
	Alex Vanegas
Oct. 11	Linda Read
	Marlene Wallace
Oct. 12	Jimmy Davis
Oct. 13	Madeline Moore
	Andrea Oates
Oct. 16	Joshua Phillips
Oct. 19	CathySmith
Oct. 20	George Helmcamp
	Davey Kadlecek, Jr
	Keegan Langer
	Barbara Pauley
Oct. 21	Don Young
Oct. 22	Nancy Young
Oct. 23	Daniel Robinson
Oct. 26	Marilyn Randle
	Rowan James
Oct. 31	Melissa Brown
	Michael Langer
	Zoey Wendland

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.



Dear Members of Grace Lutheran Church,

It is the time of year when we are all looking for **tax deductions**, just a reminder that any donation to our scholarship fund, either the Endowment fund or directly to a scholarship fund at Grace is tax deductible. If you have any questions regarding this, please feel free to contact Pastor or a board member and we will be glad to help you in any way we can. The generosity of scholarship has been able to help our young members further their education in a caring Christian setting.

Pastor will be starting his confirmation class soon, but we will hold off on midweek at this time because of the Covid virus still being such an issue.

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

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

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

May God Bless all of you.

Respectfully,
Barb Johannessen

Family Sunday School

Family Sunday School continues at Grace! Please join us after the 11:00AM service each Sunday to learn and rejoice in the Word of God together as the family of Jesus here at Grace! This class is intended for anyone and everyone; whether you are single or married or have lots of kids or have no kids,

you are welcome to join us to learn God's Word together. Tables are spaced appropriately throughout the parish hall, with one family per table. Pastor introduces a new Bible story each week, and our learning includes both activities done as individual families and as a large group. We also include a hymn and a craft each week. We finish about 11:45 am. Please join us to learn God's Word together as families and as a congregation!



Adult Bible Study



Adult Bible study at 8:45 AM 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 Confirmation

Youth confirmation classes continue each Wednesday evening this fall in the parish hall from 5:30-6:30 PM. Please keep our 7th and 8th graders and their families in your prayers as they grow in the knowledge and grace of God's Holy Word.



FAITH LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL OF CENTRAL TEXAS

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

**HOME OF THE FALCONS!
Transformed - Romans 12:2**

National Merit Semi-Finalists Announced

Benjamin Meyer, senior at Faith Lutheran High School, was named a semifinalist in the National Merit Scholarship program. Benjamin is the son of Rev. Jonathan and Ruth Meyer of Lexington. He will study pre-medicine and orthopedic surgery. Benjamin will complete the application process to become a finalist for the opportunity to earn a share of almost \$30 million in scholarship awarded over the next few months. The National Merit Scholarship Program is highly selective and receiving recognition in this program is an impressive accomplishment. Congratulations Benjamin!!

Oktoberfest

FLHS will be hosting a family friendly event on Saturday, October 23rd at the Holy Cross Picnic grounds. More details about the day are to be announced soon, but we will have a German meal, concession stand, dominos, washers and corn hole tournaments, and games for kids.

Share the Gift of Love

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

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 beginning to gather grants for our Oktoberfest event on October 23rd.

Free Wednesday mornings?

Join us for our weekly Chapel Worship Service every Wednesday, beginning at 10:30 am

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 at (979) 242-2889 today to set up a shadow day for your child.

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 this 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!

Thank you!

There have been so many people, organizations, groups and churches who have contributed to the success and growth of FLHS. Thank you, on behalf of the students who will be instilled with wisdom as they become faithful leaders tomorrow, for your generous support. THANK YOU!!

Follow Us On Facebook!

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





LWML

Lutheran Women in Mission

UPCOMING:

Oct. 7th
Regular Business
Meeting
Oct. 11th
5pm-Quilting

Oct. 25th
5pm-Quilting

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

October 3rd LWML Sunday - "Our Hearts in His Hand"
October 10th- Post Oak Zone LWML Fall Rally in Serbin - Registration 1:30
2PM Meeting begins
Speaker - Amanda Hankemeier - Theme "Adoption in Christ"
Ingathering - Monetary gifts for Upbringing Adoption Agency
Election of Officers

LWML TEXAS DISTRICT GRANT BULLETIN BYTES:

Rest and Renewal Retreat
--October 9th 9:30 to 3 PM
--Speaker - Cheryl Mattil –
Celebrating Togetherness!
Splashes of God!
--Music Leader - Rev. Mike Mattil
--Trinity at Badger Ranch –
Woodway Texas

See flyer on the LWML Bulletin
Board for other information

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

National Mission Grant Bulletin Bytes:

Deaconess Ministry Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch – \$81,680

The mission of **Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch** is to help at-risk children and their families succeed in the name of Christ. The Ranch provides unparalleled care, expertise, and presence in the name of Christ to keep today's troubled kids from becoming tomorrow's troubled adults. Recognizing the need to minister directly with the victimized boys and girls, the Ranch called an LCMS deaconess, Kelly Bristow. This role reflects the exact reason why a vibrant deaconess ministry was envisioned for our church body. Deaconess Kelly's work quickly began to bridge many of the gaps that often hinder a child's healing. Nearly all of the female residents and many of the male residents have been traumatized at the hands of a male figure. This simple reality creates immediate trust issues that can be difficult for a child to bridge, especially when dealing with a male chaplain. The Word of God helps to heal the walls of broken trust. Those at the Ranch are "Running the Race ... Looking to Jesus!" For more information, go to www.lwml.org/2021-2023-mission-grant-1.



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

Read Through the Bible in 2021

Grace Lutheran Church, Smithville, TX

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

Readings for the Month of October

October 1	1 Thessalonians 4-5	Job 34-37
October 2	2 Thessalonians 1	Job 38
October 3	2 Thessalonians 2-3	Job 39-42
October 4	1 Timothy 1-2	Ecclesiastes 1-3
October 5	1 Timothy 3-4	Ecclesiastes 4-7
October 6	Proverbs 21:23-22:16	Psalms 117-118
October 7	OFF	
October 8	1 Timothy 5:1-6:2	Ecclesiastes 8-12
October 9	1 Timothy 6:3-21	Song of Songs 1-4
October 10	2 Timothy 1-2	Song of Songs 5-8
October 11	2 Timothy 3-4	Jeremiah 1-4
October 12	Titus 1	Jeremiah 5-6
October 13	Proverbs 22:17-23:16	Psalms 119:1-40
October 14	OFF	
October 15	Titus 2-3	Jeremiah 7-9
October 16	Philemon	Jeremiah 10-12
October 17	Mark 1	Jeremiah 13-15
October 18	Mark 2:1-17	Jeremiah 16-19
October 19	Mark 2:18-3:19	Jeremiah 20-22
October 20	Proverbs 23:17-24:7	Psalms 119:41-80
October 21	OFF	
October 22	Mark 3:20-35	Jeremiah 23-25
October 23	Mark 4	Jeremiah 26-28
October 24	Mark 5	Jeremiah 29-31
October 25	Mark 6:1-29	Jeremiah 32-33
October 26	Mark 6:30-56	Jeremiah 34-36
October 27	Proverbs 24:8-34	Psalms 119:81-120
October 28	OFF	
October 29	Mark 7	Jeremiah 37-39
October 30	Mark 8:1-21	Jeremiah 40-44
October 31	Mark 8:22-9:13	Jeremiah 45-47