

Grace Notes



Our monthly journey through God's gift of prayer continues this month into the 4th and 5th Petitions of the Lord's Prayer: "Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us." Let's consider these petitions one at a time.

The 4th Petition serves as a transition within the Lord's Prayer. On the one hand, the 4th Petition is similar to the three petitions that came before it: the 4th Petition asks for something that God accomplishes apart from our prayers. Think of all the unbelievers in this world who have never once asked God for anything. Even without their prayers, God still gives them what they need for this life. Jesus says in Matthew 5:45, "[Your Father] makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust." When Jesus gives us the 4th Petition to pray, then, He does so in order that we might recognize God as the source of all that we need for this life and render Him the thanks due His name.

On the other hand, whereas the first three petitions primarily focus our eyes upward on the things of God and eternal life, the 4th Petition focuses our eyes on the needs of this life. One of the amazing truths of the 4th Petition is that God cares about this life. He created us body and soul, and so He cares for us body and soul. The needs of this life are very much His concern, and we should never be ashamed to pray concerning these needs. God wants to hear our prayers concerning this life; we should not think of our bodily needs as insignificant before God. We should cry out to Him in our sickness. We should cry out to Him for good weather. We should give thanks to Him for good government. We should praise Him for faithful friends and family. Though the world may scoff at such prayers as not sounding very "spiritual," we should have no doubt that these are God-pleasing prayers that He hears and answers for our good.

It is also worthy of our attention that Jesus teaches us to pray for *daily* bread. Such a prayer teaches trust in our Father's provision. Even if we cannot see where we will get everything we need for tomorrow, God does, and He teaches us to pray in that trust. As Jesus says in Matthew 6:34, "Do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself." We should also notice that Jesus teaches us to pray for *our* daily bread. Through this prayer, Jesus brings our neighbor's need to our mind, so that when our daily

bread is overabundant, we are moved by the Holy Spirit to share with those who are in need.

The 5th Petition turns our attention to a reality that Christians know and feel on a regular basis: we are sinners. The sinfulness of all humanity is a clear teaching of God's Word, and the consequences for our sins are equally clear in Holy Scripture: "All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23). "The wages of sin is death" (Romans 6:23). Having prayed for incredible gifts in the first four petitions, our thoughts in the 5th Petition now recall that we deserve none of those gifts. We must throw ourselves upon the mercy of God, and that is what we do. We know that we cannot pay the debt of our sin; instead, God must forgive it (Matthew 18:27). That is precisely the confidence that we have in Christ. Because of Jesus' sinless life, death, and resurrection, God has given us His forgiveness.

What do we do with that forgiveness? It cannot and does not leave us unchanged. Unlike the unmerciful servant in Jesus' parable (Matthew 18:23-35), God has given to us to recognize the enormity of the sin He has forgiven us. In comparison, the sins others commit against us seem miniscule, and there is no other thing to do than to forgive. What has been freely given to us, we freely give to others. No doubt, this is often one of the most humanly difficult things to do on this side of eternity, for the sins other commit against us are often quite painful and leave lasting scars. Only by the power of the Holy Spirit, given precisely to those who pray the Lord's Prayer, are we able to forgive those who sin against us. This is one of the most profound gifts that Christians have to share with one another and the world.

God grant us the joy of praying these two petitions of the Lord's Prayer, that we would receive our daily bread with thanksgiving, rejoice in the forgiveness Christ has won for us, and freely share that gift with everyone.

In Christ,
Pastor Appel

September 2021

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

Elders: Jack Page
Charlie Johannessen

Sept Altar Marilyn Burns
Guild: Mary Lou Oliver

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

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.



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**



As of August 26th, 2021

Name	Balance
Prosperity Checking Acct	66,952.46
CEF-General	2,464.17
CEF-Land/Youth	12,401.02
CEF Scholarship	12,553.90
Legacy Deo	13,322.99
Total Dedicated Funds	25,157.79
General Fund Balance	41,794.67

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



There is a plastic container in the Narthex for collection of **used bulletins & white printed papers** to be recycled at the Smithville Recycling facility. If there are any questions please ask Katie or John Stelling for info

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/.



Sep. 3	Barbara & Paul Hoffman
---------------	------------------------

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



Thanks to our donors and shoppers. We have resumed Saturday sales. Saturdays are slower and this remains the case. Donations are accepted on Friday and Saturday from 9 to 2.

Our next scheduled rotation will be Sept. 27th to Oct. 2nd. Monday, Wednesday and Friday and Saturdays. 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.



Sep. 1	Bonnie Kaiser
Sep. 3	Clarence Hannusch
Sep. 4	Jean Miller
	Heidi Poppe
Sep. 7	Baylor Watson
Sep. 8	Daucie Davis
Sep. 9	Jacob Stinson
	Chandler Zimmerhanel
Sep. 10	Roy Flora
	Anthony Hurst
Sep. 11	Benny Hajdik
Sep. 12	Dorine Hoskins
Sep. 13	Chrissy Becker
	Trenton Vinklerek
Sep. 16	Gene Brown III
	Donna Zimmerhanel
Sep. 17	Charlie Johannessen
	James Clifton
Sep. 23	Edward Randle
Sep. 24	Esther Wolff
	Caysen Swartz
Sep. 26	Collin Kasper
Sep. 27	Ivan Fritsche
	Patricia Satterwhite
	Robert Wolff
	Wesley Kaiser
Sep. 29	Courtney Pietsch
Sep. 30	Laurie Rector Hancock

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,

The Board of Education is proud to say that we were able to award a \$400.00 scholarship to a member of Grace Lutheran that is attending a Lutheran School.

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 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

Family Sunday School

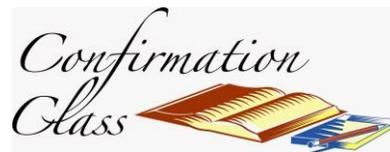
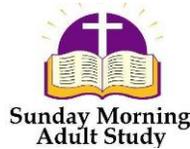
Family Sunday School continues at Grace! Please join us after the 11:00AM service each Sunday to learn and rejoice in the Word of God together as the family of Jesus here at Grace! This class is intended for anyone and everyone; whether you are single or married or have lots of kids or have no kids,



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 resume on September 1 and 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

Great Start to the School Year

We have had a great start to the school year! We love having our students back on campus and pray that their education and faith may grow abundantly this year! Registration remains on-going. Call us today - (979) 242-2889!

Free Wednesday mornings?

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

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 - through donations of wish list items, monetary donations and so much more. 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!!

5th Annual Golf Tournament

Faith Lutheran High School will be holding their annual golf tournament fundraiser on September 18th at Frisch Auf Country Club in La Grange Texas. Shotgun start at 8:00 AM. For more information on entering a 2 person team or to sign up as a sponsor, please call (979) 242-2889 or visit our website at www.flhstx.org.

Oktoberfest

FLHS will be hosting a family friendly event on Saturday, October 24th at the Holy Cross Picnic grounds. Lots of games, activities and food will be available. Stay tuned for more details!

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.

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 (flhstx.org) which is updated regularly as well.





LWML

Lutheran Women in Mission

UPCOMING:

Sept. 13th
5pm-Quilting
Sept. 27th
5pm-Quilting

No meeting date in
September

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.

Upcoming: October 3rd LWML Sunday
October 7th Birthday Party at Sharon Reinbergs home
October 10th LWML Fall Rally in Serbin

Grace Mission Project: Grace Sunday School Endowment

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:

LWML Sunday is traditional held on the first Sunday in October.
This year the theme is "Our Hearts in His Hand" 1 Peter 4:8
Above all, keep loving one another earnestly authored by Dr. Dale Meyer.

The heart of the LWML is its members; our hearts have been made holy by God. We are fully dedicated to serving Him, by serving His Church at home & abroad. Our hearts for Christ are in His hand of service, wherever and when He has need of us.



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 September

September 1	Proverbs 17	Psalms 107
September 2	OFF	
September 3	1 Corinthians 14	Ezra 1-2
September 4	1 Corinthians 15:1-34	Ezra 3-6
September 5	1 Corinthians 15:35-58	Ezra 7-8
September 6	1 Corinthians 16	Ezra 9-10
September 7	2 Corinthians 1:1-2:11	Nehemiah 1-5
September 8	Proverbs 18	Psalms 108
September 9	OFF	
September 10	2 Corinthians 2:12-3:18	Nehemiah 6-7
September 11	2 Corinthians 4:1-6:2	Nehemiah 8
September 12	2 Corinthians 6:3-7:16	Nehemiah 9-11
September 13	2 Corinthians 8-9	Nehemiah 12-13
September 14	2 Corinthians 10	Job 1-3
September 15	Proverbs 19	Psalms 109
September 16	OFF	
September 17	2 Corinthians 11	Job 4-5
September 18	2 Corinthians 12-13	Job 6-8
September 19	Philippians 1	Job 9-11
September 20	Philippians 2	Job 12-15
September 21	Philippians 3-4	Job 16-18
September 22	Proverbs 20	Psalms 110-113
September 23	OFF	
September 24	Colossians 1:1-14	Job 19-21
September 25	Colossians 1:15-2:23	Job 22-24
September 26	Colossians 3-4	Job 25-28
September 27	1 Thessalonians 1	Job 29-31
September 28	1 Thessalonians 2-3	Job 32-33
September 29	Proverbs 21:1-22	Psalms 114-116
September 30	OFF	