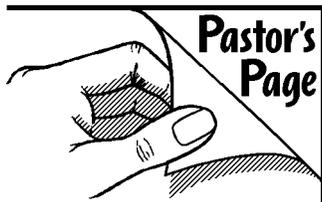


# Ge + hsemane

## Lutheran Church

News from 4040 N. 108<sup>th</sup> Street, Omaha, NE 68164  
October, 2016



### LET ME INTRODUCE MYSELF

Galatians 1:1-2

Paul, an apostle -- sent not from men nor by man, but by Jesus Christ and God the Father, who raised him from the dead -- and all the brothers with me, To the churches in Galatia:

This month, as we celebrate the Lutheran Reformation, we begin looking at Paul's letter to the Galatians - a book of the Bible that emphasizes the fact that we are saved by grace alone through faith alone. As mentioned at the end of verse 2, we notice that this letter went out to more than just one congregation or one city - it went to several ("to the churches in Galatia"). Some of those churches in the province of Galatia we know by name. On both his first and second missionary journeys, Paul had shared the Gospel in the cities of Iconium, Lystra, and Derbe. These congregations, while they had several Jewish Christians (converts) serving as elders, were primarily made up of Gentiles Christians.

The amazing thing for us to consider is that even though this letter was first addressed to the churches in Galatia, it is also addressed to us today. The Holy Spirit not only inspired the Apostle Paul to write the words of this letter but he also had them preserved for us to read and study. The same Holy Spirit will work through this Word of God to both instruct us and to strengthen our faith. We thank God for using a man like Paul - an apostle sent out by Christ himself - to instruct us in these verses with all the authority that God himself had given him.

Paul's authority had been questioned by his opponents in Galatia. Paul's opponents in Galatia were trying to undermine his authority so that they could write him off as a teacher and lead people away from God's Gospel of free grace. Paul assures the Galatians that his apostleship was not conferred upon him by men but by Christ himself. What he is about to say he has the right to say and the authority to say. What he is about to say he says also to us. May God bless our look at Paul's letter - and God's Word - to the Galatians.

**Voters' Meeting**  
**Sunday, October 30**  
**9:15 a.m.**  
**fellowship hall**  
**Please come!**

*PRAYER: Holy Spirit, I thank you for every word of Scripture. I pray that whenever I read it or whenever I hear it that you would increase my knowledge and strengthen my faith. Bless my study of your Word and of this letter to that end. Amen.*



# Area Reformation Worship



Sunday, October 30, 2016

4 p.m.

Living Hope Lutheran Church  
168<sup>th</sup> Street just north of Q

Guest Speaker - Pastor Phil Zarling



## School News

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

October is the month of our annual teachers' conference.

The Nebraska District (NE schools, plus Kansas, Colorado, and Utah schools) and the Dakota-Montana District gather together each year over parts of three days to grow in faith and in knowledge. We worship together, we learn together, we share and network together. It is such a blessing to experience the fellowship of the brothers and sisters across eight different states this early in the school year. In addition to the spiritual and professional growth offered through worship, devotions, key note speakers, and sectionals, we get to share our blessings and challenges with folks who are most likely having similar experiences. The oneness in Christ is the best benefit of networking at an event like this, but the secondary benefit of the oneness of ministry is not overlooked.

A tertiary benefit for us this year is to see the majesty of God's creation in the Rocky Mountains. It is always an awesome experience to see and appreciate how geography can remind us about the greatness of God and the smallness of man. We ask for God's blessings on our annual teacher conference in Estes Park, Colorado. May he guard all of those traveling to and from the conference.

*God be with you all,  
Mr. Pederson*

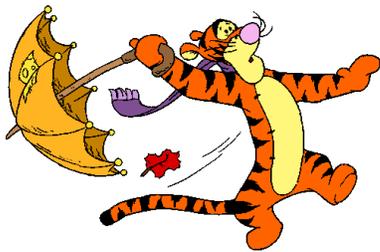
School continues to blur by right in front of our eyes. October means we have completed seven weeks of school. Parent-teacher conferences will be held before we turn the calendar. Besides our teachers conference, October means the end of soccer (including our annual scrimmages

with Good Shepherd and a trip to Norfolk for their tournament), the start (and finish) of the fall volleyball season, and the start of some of our basketball. Standardized testing will be in the books before October starts, as will our annual Book Fair.

September was wonderful, not just because of the weather, but we checked off a few good things from our list. We held a special Police Appreciation Day on 9/9. Outdoor church with the picnic was once again a great event for us. Our upper graders headed out to Nebraska Lutheran for their annual recruitment day. Our kids helped to make up a near 200 elementary students on the NELHS campus. FOCE has the ball rolling on their events and support of GLS for this year. Our teachers were able to head into sister schools to observe how things are done in other places and hopefully learn/gain new ideas to put into practice.

We thank you for all of your support. Please look for additional opportunities to support GLS including our Book Fair next week and supporting the work of our FOCE. We ask that you continue to pray for the students, families, and the teachers and staff of GLS.

Jesus is the answer!



# FOCE

Our Yankee Candle fundraiser is in full swing! All students should have brought home one packet per family for our fall fundraiser. This year we are able to order different seasonal scents using the insert in each packet which will direct you to order online without school order number!

This is an excellent opportunity to support our school and knock some gifts off your Christmas list as well! All orders must be turned in by October 12.

We had our first meeting of the school year on Tuesday evening, September 20. Among the highlights:

- \* 8 iPads and accessories have been ordered for use in grades K-2
- \* If you have a policy with Thrivent, you receive two action plans per year of \$250! These can be donated to GLS, and are exceedingly beneficial to our mission of providing additional educational enrichments for our students!! If you have questions, please contact Wendee Masters.
- \* Keep clipping those Box Tops and Campbell's Labels for Education, and keep turning in your Hy-Vee receipts! Box Tops will be counted October 1<sup>st</sup>, so please have those in before then. Campbell's Labels for Education is being discontinued at the end of the year, so please turn in all that you have! Please keep turning in your Hy-Vee receipts! All 3 of these programs are basically free money for our school!!

Our next FOCE meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 29<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. We hope to see you all there!

*Liz K, Secretary*



# OWLS



## (Organization of WELS Lutheran Seniors)



The September 11<sup>th</sup> meeting started with a presentation by Kitty Williams on being a Holocaust survivor. The presentation was sobering to understand the evil that Kitty saw and had been through. It was amazing how God worked within her to protect her. She is very thankful for the USA and even became a vice president of a bank in Council Bluffs, Iowa. About 50 attended the presentation and then we had a short meeting of 25 members. Most of our meeting centered on the OWLS convention coming in October!

The OWLS convention is coming October 10-13! It's not too late to sign up for the convention or just plan on coming! This is the first time in Nebraska, and we would love for as many people to come as possible. You are invited to join us for the opening worship on Tuesday, October 10<sup>th</sup> beginning at 7:15 p.m.

We are planning a work afternoon on September 29<sup>th</sup> from 3:30 to 6:30 at Gethsemane to put together welcome bags. Anyone is invited. We need all the help we can get!

On October 9<sup>th</sup> our regular meeting will be in the Dakota Room at the Ramada Inn on 72<sup>nd</sup> to scope out the hotel and get an idea of what is needed.

Please consider joining us at any of the meetings or coming to the convention. Just let the church office know.

*Sandy T, Secretary*

# WINGS

## (Women IN God's Service)



Our first meeting of the year was held on Thursday, September 8<sup>th</sup>. Thank you to all those who were able to attend. We had plenty to discuss and now have a full calendar this fall. The minutes were emailed out, but please contact Rachel Clayton ([r.l.clayton@hotmail.com](mailto:r.l.clayton@hotmail.com)) if you would like another copy.

Looking ahead, we have several dates for you to mark on your calendar:

- **October 6<sup>th</sup>** - Due to the eventful fall, we will be having a meeting in October instead of fellowship.
- Weekends of **October 8<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup>** - We will be collecting items for a fall care package for NELHS students. We are also collecting \$5 gift cards for college students or money to purchase them. You may give them directly to Becky G or place them in the locked box on the table (please label). There are 23 college students at Gethsemane!
- **October 23<sup>rd</sup>** - The Omaha area churches are in charge of the meal with the NELHS silent auction and fall concert. Our church, specifically, has the main dish. We are collecting cash donations for this meal. Any cash donations can be placed in the locked box in the fellowship

hall. Please label it for that meal. Please look for signup sheets and announcements on the various ways you can help with this.

- Weekends of **November 6<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup>** - Our annual silent auction will take place a little earlier this year. Please plan accordingly. Your gifts and donations make this event a success year after year and with the funds we are able to supply the church with much needed items.
- **December 4<sup>th</sup>** - WINGS will once again be hosting an Advent by Candlelight. Look for announcements and opportunities to help out in the coming months.

If you have any questions about any of the upcoming events or how you can help please contact any of the WINGS officers.

Christine H, President  
Shonni J, Vice President  
Rachel C, Secretary  
Becky G, Treasurer

Rachel C



# LWMS

## (Lutheran Women's Missionary Society)

“Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Thy Word”

The Fall LWMS Rally will be held this Saturday, October 1<sup>st</sup>, at Trinity Lutheran Church in Hoskins, NE. The guest speaker will be the Board for Home Missions Chairman, Pastor Keith Free. It will be a fantastic rally! Through the door offering, \$174.00 will be given from our congregation to the fall rally. There is a sign-up sheet on the table in the fellowship hall if you are interested in attending.

The 2016 Prayer Calendars are again available, and are \$10.00. They make such neat gifts or even one for your personal use. Each month highlights a different mission and missionary throughout our mission field. What a wonderful daily reminder of the work that is being done throughout the world! A brochure with more details about the calendar is on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall.

Want to take a trip to Florida? Well, next summer is your chance! The 54<sup>th</sup> Annual LWMS Convention will be held in Orlando, Florida, June 22<sup>nd</sup>-25<sup>th</sup>, 2017! Start making your plans now!

### 2015-2016 Befriend a Missionaries:

- World Missionary—Mr. Pasch  
Chiang Rai, Thailand
- Home Missionary—Pastor Kent Reeder  
Illumine Lutheran Church Rock Hill, SC

### October Prayer Requests

- ~The new mission start at Living Savior in Blair.
- ~The work being done in Mexico.
- ~The fall LWMS rallies that are being held throughout the country.



Leslie B  
~Reporter



# NELHS

## (Nebraska Ev. Lutheran High School)

- We welcomed 198 Lutheran elementary school students to our campus on Friday, September 16, for NELHS Day. These students spent the day learning about Nebraska Lutheran and meeting new friends from other schools. The number of 198 students is about 20 more students than attended last year and the largest amount we have seen attend this day in recent memory. We pray that many of these students will attend NELHS in a few years.
- NELHS participated in the Yorkfest parade on September 10. About 40 students and faculty marched in the parade and handed out promotional materials to the crowd. This parade is an important part of our strategy for recruiting more local students.
- We added another student in September and we now are blessed to serve 91 students. Praise the Lord!
- Football is still looking for its first win, but the team is competing hard. Volleyball is 5-5 with some close losses to ranked teams.
- Recruitment visits to our Lutheran elementary schools will take place in the month of October.
- Homecoming will be celebrated the week of September 26-October 1. A week of dressing up and games leads up to Homecoming Friday on September 30, when the Knights will take on East Butler in football. This will also be parents' night for our football players and cheerleaders.
- The biannual association meeting will take place at NELHS on Sunday, October 16, at 4 pm. Delegates will hear updated reports, set the tuition for the 2017-2018 school year, and give the go ahead to launch a program entitled "This is our school."
- Our annual fall "Silent Auction" will be held on Sunday, October 23, starting at 1 pm. Please consider donating to and attending this event which helps fund so many important extra-budget items. This year, the proceeds will go towards upgrading dorm furnishings. The goal is to raise \$32,000 between the fall "Silent Auction" and the spring "Knight Out." This amount would allow us to basically put \$1,000 of improved furniture into each dorm room.
- Preparations are underway for hosting WELS Choral Fest this year. The dates for this event are November 11-13.
- We are beginning to receive applications for mid-year transfer students. We are hoping to add 5-10 students at this time. If you have a son or daughter who is interested in transferring to Nebraska Lutheran in January, please let Administrator Mark Otte know at [motte@nelhs.org](mailto:motte@nelhs.org) or 402-728-5236.
- Our recruitment goal for next year is 40 new students by the start of school in August of 2017. If you know of a family whom we can contact to tell about our ministry, please let us know. Please pray for this goal.

*Mark O, Administrator*



# Discipleship

## Sunday School



Sunday School has started and we still have room for students in Preschool (age 3) through 8<sup>th</sup> grade!

Sunday School starts each week at 9:15 a.m. Please help your child to be on time and attend as often as possible. We carefully prepare lessons each week and look forward to sharing God's word with as many students as possible.

Preschool through 6<sup>th</sup> grade will meet in the sanctuary from 9:15 to 9:30 for the opening, offering, and songs and then will proceed with their teacher to their classrooms for their lessons.

October lessons for Preschool-6<sup>th</sup> grade:

- 2 - Baby Moses
- 9 - God Calls Moses
- 16 - The Plagues
- 23 - The Passover
- 30 - Crossing the Red Sea

The 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade class starts right away, they meet in Mr. Z's room. They will have a Bible study on the scripture lessons from the worship service that Sunday.

Teens meet with Dan S in the church basement at 9:15 a.m.

A big thank you to all our teachers, helpers and substitutes who put in time, talents, and resources to have lessons and activities planned for their classes.

See you Sunday!

*Nickie L  
Sunday School Coordinator*

## Properties and Buildings



# Deacons

The parsonage roof shingles have arrived and will be installed soon.

Lien Pest Control will treat the termites around the school. After this is completed, repairs will be made to the north exterior wall of the school.

Thank you to the behind-the-scenes people who help to keep the landscaping and parking lot looking nice. It's always so nice to see the flowers in bloom when we come to church and school!

If the weather continues to stay warm, we may need some help with the mowing in October. If you'd like to take a shot at mowing and didn't get a chance this summer, please contact the church office.

Thank you for helping us keep the property in ship shape!

# Stewardship

\* Stewardship Sunday is coming up on October 9<sup>th</sup>. We will have the privilege of hosting two WELS Christian Giving Counselors in Pastor Michael Dietz and Mr. Ken Dierks. Pastor Dietz will preach a

message titled, "Love Is Extravagant" at the three services. Mr. Dierks will lead a special Bible Class regarding "Christian Wills and Estate Planning." Have you made an estate plan or set up a will? Have you considered options to utilize the earthly blessings that God has granted you to help support ministry even after death? Do you know about the options available? Come with your questions and ideas to encourage and support future ministry.

\* New Member Dinner (October 23<sup>rd</sup>) Chili Cook-off. Please plan to join us in welcoming our newest members. We will have a sign-up sheet to bring chili for the cook-off or some of the needed sides and extras.



## Adult Tone Chimes

On October 19<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m. the adult tone chimers will gather to start learning music for upcoming services. We would love to have you join us!

Please contact the church office if you'd like to play with us!

\*\*\*\*

Three Gethsemane couples and a pair from Living Hope took off from the Gethsemane parking lot on one of the most beautiful days in September. We had blue skies, pleasant temps and smooth roads (except for that one part). ☺

We went through Beebeetown, Logan, and Woodbine, Iowa, before a



stop at Pisgah at Dave's Old Home Café and Bar for lunch where the food was tasty and the fellowship was treasured!

The homeward route took us through Missouri Valley, IA, and Blair, NE, past Living Savior Church.

The group gave the experience two thumbs up! We are ready to ride again any time!

# Pig Roast Recap

Many folks enjoyed the beautiful day God gave us for our annual picnic on September 11<sup>th</sup>!

The air was warm and the breeze kept the bees away so all could enjoy the fabulous lunch with pork cooked by Nick R as well as baked beans and tasty potatoes. If that wasn't already enough, we totally enjoyed the delicious desserts brought by members!

"In God We Trust" was this year's theme. We were treated to a demonstration of the work done by the Police K-9 unit. We saw how the dogs assist in apprehending bad guys and locating illegal drugs. We also got a chance to check out a fire truck and speak with fire fighters who came. A kiddie parade of patriotic entries was enjoyed by all! After the parade, we could partake in the giant slip and slide or go into the church sanctuary to listen to Kitty Williams, a Holocaust survivor.

Many thanks to Todd L and the all of the members of the Stewardship Board for all of the planning they did to this make this a great day! Thank you to all who brought food and helped with set up and tear down. An event like this can't happen without everyone pitching in. Thank you!

# Book Club



Our September get-together (the 27<sup>th</sup>), if you're reading this still in September, will be at Joy's new place; and we'll be discussing **Redeeming Love** by Francine Rivers.

We'll meet on October 25<sup>th</sup> at Jeff and Karen's house at 7 p.m. We do not have a book selected yet. We've decided to try the "Reserve a Book Bag" from the Omaha Public Library, but unfortunately, of the several books chosen, none are available for our use for the October meeting. So....we're in need of a good book to read!

If you're interesting in hosting a month for the Book Club just let me know. And.....if you have suggestions for a book to read, we'd welcome the ideas.

*Becky G*

Come let us  
*Adore*  
Him



Join us for worship

**Sunday, December 18<sup>th</sup>**

**10:00 a.m.**

at

**Bennington High School Auditorium**

No other services will be held that weekend at Gethsemane!! Mark your calendars!

