



# GETHSEMANE

## LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

June, 2019

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Area Ascension Worship @  
Sumtur Amphitheater  
June 2  
No Service @ Gethsemane

*This is the first of a ten-part series on the Lord's Prayer.*

## Our Father, Who Art in Heaven

1. Address
2. 1<sup>st</sup> Petition
3. 2<sup>nd</sup> Petition
4. 3<sup>rd</sup> Petition
5. 4<sup>th</sup> Petition
6. 5<sup>th</sup> Petition, pt. 1
7. 5<sup>th</sup> Petition pt. 2
8. 6<sup>th</sup> Petition
9. 7<sup>th</sup> Petition
10. Doxology

People will tell you that perfection does not exist. Outside of Christ, this is true. But through Christ and in Christ, the perfect appears to us and serves us. Amazingly, because Christ came and taught us perfectly, we retain a morsel of that perfection simply by praying in the way he taught us. Of course, this perfection fades because of the imperfection of beings who recite this prayer, but the words themselves remain. And we hold to them dearly. Perfection might not exist within us but the perfect prayer is ours to use whenever and wherever we may find ourselves. The Lord's Prayer, nine distinct parts with which we praise God and ask him for all we need, is the perfect prayer we offer to God.

How fitting that our series of devotions begins with the address, "Our Father, who art in heaven," on the month during which we celebrate fathers across our nation. We give thanks to God for the care and concern they give; the sacrifices they have made for us; the glory they bring to God through their instruction, discipline and affection. No father is more worthy of praise and thanks for all of these things than our Father who reigns in heaven.

That he is our father in *heaven* should give us great comfort. He stands above the toil and turmoil of this world. Not only that, he rules over it, even directing it for the good of his children who live here on earth. After all, it was in the midst of the toil and turmoil of sin that he chose to send his one and only Son to be our brother and give his life as a ransom, a payment that made complete our adoption as his children. He cannot abandon us to this toil and turmoil because he has paid a steep price to make us his own, to give us the right to call him Father.

As our Father in heaven, he gives us a glimpse of that heavenly home even while we live on earth. No matter what joys we experience through the blessings of wealth, popularity, good health; no matter what excitement grips us in prosperity or success, we will never find in them a heaven on earth. Those things come and go. What remains a fixture in our lives is our heavenly Father and he gives us that foretaste of heaven when he comes to us. There in his Word we find him; there in the Sacrament of the Altar we taste and touch. There in the waters of baptism he makes a home in our souls. These are his guarantees, these are his unending assurances that we have a father who will not come and go, but who is with us for eternity.

Voters' Meeting  
June 16, 9:15 a.m.  
Budget

Our Father in heaven is very much involved in our lives here and now. Good fathers discipline their children, chastising them when they do wrong, teaching and correcting them to steer them away from mistakes and bad behavior. Sometimes that discipline seems harsh or, perhaps, unfair, but a godly father does what he thinks is best in the best interest of his

child. From heaven, our Father reaches in to discipline and chastise but, unlike good fathers who are inevitably influenced or even misled by the sinful nature they carry, our heavenly Father's discipline is perfect. Never too harsh, never too light, our Father sends trouble into our lives at the right time and in the right way. We might think it unfair at times, but we can be sure that his correction and instruction are never self-motivated but only come to serve our best interests.

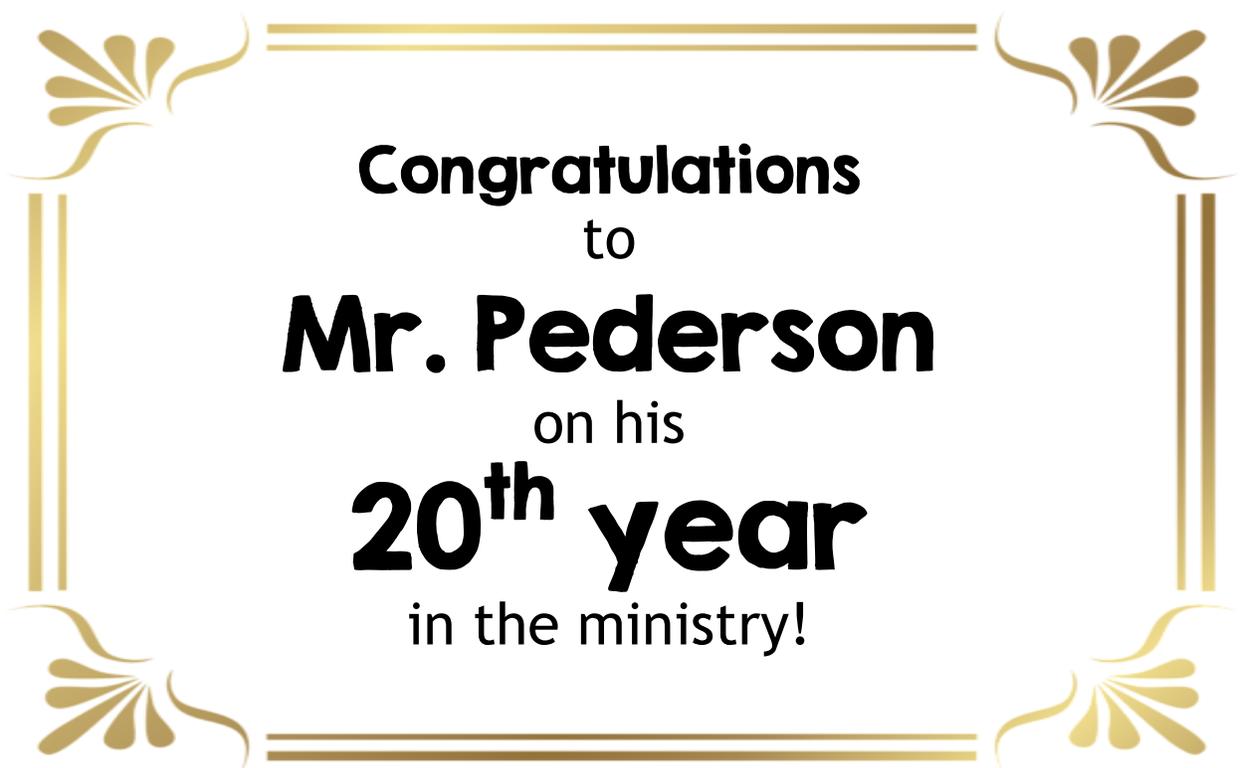
So, we rejoice in the midst of difficulties. We rejoice because they serve as a reminder that we have a Father in heaven who loves us and cares enough about us to guide us and never let us stray. We have a heavenly Father who does not bring upon us the full consequence that our sins deserve. He placed that on Jesus, his Son, our brother and made him suffer. Instead, he disciplines us in love. What a blessing that he never runs out of time or wisdom or energy but deals with us personally and deals with us in love. This is our Father in heaven.

And that is what we call him. How great, how far above us our God is and yet, he is not so far away and not so high above us that we must address him as "master", or "sir", or "your highness." We call him "dad." When we come to him in prayer, we need not be afraid; we need not approach with timidity. We have this close relationship with him, made possible because he has come to us, he has made himself known, he has forgive the sins that should drive a wedge between us. He comes to us in love and draws us closer and closer to himself by faith, watchful and caring, devoted and loving. This is our dear Father in heaven!

*Pastor Koester*

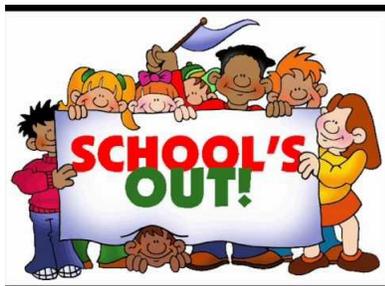
## SCHOOL NEWS

An unfortunate timing of strep throat and end of the school year took priority over a newsletter article this month. Stay tuned to our next newsletter for the end of the school year recap.



# FOCE

## (FRIENDS OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION)



As we welcome summer, we bid a fond farewell to Christine H and Heidi S for all the hard work the past two years! We welcome our new Vice-President Sonya B and Treasurer Michelle B to the 2019-2021 FOCE school years. These amazing ladies will be an awesome contribution to the parent-teacher team.

We ended the year with an outstanding Teacher Appreciation week and contributions to the last day of school festivities. Stay tuned for upcoming beginning of the year events as the summer winds down.

If you have any ideas or questions about the upcoming school year, please don't hesitate to ask!

*Liz G, Secretary*

# OWLS

## (ORGANIZATION OF WELS LUTHERAN SENIORS)



On May 18<sup>th</sup> our chapter gathered at the Garden Café for a brunch and meeting. A devotion was shared that focused on Christ's ascension and the positive news that it provided his followers and for all of us. Discussion centered on upcoming events, and some advances that are being made at the OWLS National office. A new member pamphlet is under development with a July 1<sup>st</sup> target for finalization and distribution to congregation seniors.

**Special Ministries** discussion included Nursing Home Outreach devotion packets that are available to share. The financial resources report of the Prison Ministries was presented and a motion carried to send a \$200 donation for this effort.

**Community support activities** discussion included working with ENOA on the adoption of clients for Christmas gifts again this year. Plans are to request donations of unused bar soaps, shampoos, lotions, etc., commonly provided at motor lodges, conference centers, etc. These items will be collected for distribution to the needy. Also considered is collection of toy dolls for distribution to tenants at various memory care facilities in the area. Our goal is to reach out to our congregations to help support these projects.

### Upcoming Events:

- **June 9** - Meeting at Gethsemane (speaker TBA)
- **July 14** - Meeting at Good Shepherd -speaker, former NASA engineer to talk on the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Lunar landing.

Guests are always welcome,

*Dick V, President*  
*Sandy T, Secretary*

# WINGS

## (WOMEN IN GOD'S SERVICE)

There are still some payments coming in from the Silent Auction, so we are still making the final tally for donations. Please remember that if you haven't yet made your payment, you can give your silent auction bid sheets with payment to Rachel C or Becky G, or place it in the brown locked box on the table. Thank you!

Thank you to those ladies who were able to make it to our final meeting at Le Mesa. We are so very pleased to announce that we were able to elect four new officers at the meeting!:

President: Wendee M  
Vice President: Mandie L  
Secretary: Liz K  
Treasurer: Jana L

We feel very blessed! Thank you also to Rachel C, Becky G, and S Johnson for their hard work and years of service. Over the summer, we will gladly help the new officers transition into their new roles with whatever they need, or answer any questions. They will start their new positions at our fall meeting.

Our fall meeting will be September 5<sup>th</sup> in the fellowship hall. Snacks and fellowship will be at 6:45 p.m., and the meeting starts at 7:00 p.m.

We do not have any specific events planned over the summer at this time, but we will keep you informed if something comes up!

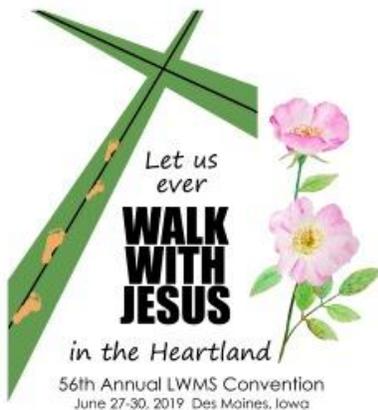
In Christ,  
*Ginger B, Vice President*



# LWMS

## (LUTHERAN WOMEN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY)

“Do not be afraid, for I am with you. Do not be afraid for I am your God.”  
-Isaiah 41:10



The 56<sup>th</sup> Annual LWMS Convention is quickly approaching! The convention will be held in Des Moines this month-June 27-30, 2019. The theme is, “Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus in the Heartland.” If you are not able to attend the convention, it will be streamed LIVE on the LWMS website-[www.lwms.org](http://www.lwms.org). Feel free to check it out and watch the opening service, missionaries and speakers LIVE from your own home!

### June Prayer Requests

The faculty, staff, and students of St. Mark's Lutheran School in Green Bay, WI.

The mission work being done in Japan.

The work being done by the WELS Military chaplains.

~Leslie B  
Reporter



# NELHS

## (NEBRASKA EV. LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL)

On May 11, 20 new members were added to the NELHS alumni. The graduation service ended with the hymn 293 with these words: *God's Word is our great heritage And shall be ours forever; To spread its light from age to age Shall be our chief endeavor. Through life it guides our way; In death it is our stay. Lord, grant, while worlds endure, We keep its teachings pure Throughout all generations.* Sharing God's Word, bringing the message of reconciliation to our students, is a vital mission of NELHS. What a privilege to have had our 20 graduates join us in growing in God's Word and sharing it with those around them. We pray for God's blessings for them as they move into their next phase of life.

We thank Jesus for sending us our newest teachers from call day at MLC. Nathan Guhl - Science, Rylee Weisensel - Girls' Tutor, Chris Beagle - Boys' Tutor, Bryan Walkley - Boys' Tutor. We look forward to welcoming these newest servants of Jesus onto our campus.

We also thank and pray for continued blessings on those leaving our ministry: Katelynn and Tyler Dorn, Ben Olsen, Megan Schoch, and Martin Santos; as well as our student teacher Tim Weddle.

As this 40th year at NELHS comes to an end, I can't wait to see what God has in store for our shared ministry!

#### Upcoming dates:

- ✓ Throughout the summer: many work projects on campus - look for more info to come!
- ✓ June 9-11: LES Sports and Fine Arts Camp; sign up information being sent to your school
- ✓ July 20: 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Classic at Crooked Creek Golf Course in Lincoln (9 a.m.)
- ✓ Aug 4: Conditioning camp / Registration
- ✓ Aug 11: Registration and Opening Service
- ✓ Aug 12: School Starts

Thank you for your continued support of NELHS. Your prayers are appreciated as we partner together to fulfill our mission: "NELHS exists to assist parents and congregations by providing Christian training in the skills and values necessary for loyal service to Jesus Christ for time and eternity."

-Skip Bremer, School Administrator



Please join us for our  
12<sup>th</sup> annual NELHS Golf Classic  
at Crooked Creek Golf Club, Lincoln  
Saturday, July 20<sup>th</sup>

(Registration/Info Form Hole Sponsor Form are posted on the church bulletin board)

The money raised for this tournament will go towards our Tuition Assistance Program. The cost per golfer includes 18 holes of golf, a cart, dinner and more! The deadline to submit your team is Monday, July 8<sup>th</sup>. If you are unable to get a team together, we will do our best to put you on a team. Any questions can be addressed to Vickie Himmelberg via email at [vhimmelberg@nelhs.org](mailto:vhimmelberg@nelhs.org) or call the school at 402-728-5236 or (402) 641-2812

Registration: 8 - 9 a.m.  
Time: Shotgun 9 a.m.  
Location: Crooked Creek Golf Club (Lincoln)  
Golfers: Four per team (scramble format)  
Cost: \$90.00 per golfer/\$20.00 for meal only  
Prizes: Yes! (flag prizes and door prizes)



Hope you can join us and help us to make this golf outing the best we've had!

## DEACONS



The Deacons replaced the doors with a new closer on the cleaning supplies closet next to the kitchen since the others weren't fixable any more. New closers and door stoppers were installed on the narthex doors so that the doors stop before they dig into the drywall. The next project is patching and painting that wall, since it wasn't completed when the rest of the narthex was painted.

The sump pumps have been permanently installed in the basement, so we will hopefully avoid future water problems.

New disabled parking signs have arrived, but new posts to bring us to code are on order. Look for those to be installed soon.

We have received one estimate for bug and spider spraying around the building and are waiting for another. The office gal is getting really good at smashing those smaller white spiders. Blechhh. Hopefully that will be completed soon.

In May, our semi-annual fire alarm inspection was done. This is a requirement by law for our school. Two fire extinguishers were replaced at no cost to us. The fire alarm did go off in the middle of the night, prompting an early morning for some folks. It was determined that we have a bad smoke detector in the basement of the building. Should anyone experience a false alarm, please call the alarm company (number is posted next to the keypads) to report a false alarm, go into the Utilities & Supplies closet to the fire panel and push the "silence" button to stop the alarms from sounding. Please don't reset the fire panel. This will allow us to go into the basement to check the detectors to see which one is bad. (The bad one will have a solid red light on it; the others should be green or blinking.) You can always call Karen if you have questions.

Thank you to Mr. P for fixing the ceiling tiles in Mrs. Fincham's classroom. The drywall will be repaired and painted over the summer.

We've mowed the grounds a couple times, and we already need to have some mower repairs. We hope to get that fixed and in good shape for the rest of the summer. Thanks to Allan for being our lead man on the mower maintenance.

The pots have been planted, and we thank our landscape volunteer for welcoming us to the building with such pretty flowers. When you see a clean parking lot, it's not by accident. We appreciate all of the work done by this individual.

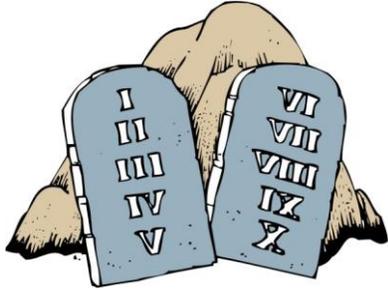
We have scheduled the stripping and waxing of the floors for June 25 and July 1. We need your muscles to help move items out of classrooms on Sunday, June 23. The teachers normally have the smaller stuff out, so we just need to move the larger items into the hallways. Thank you, in advance, for your help!

Summer goals include painting the exterior of the building, installing heat tape in the gutters, taking care of the trees, and painting Mrs. Fincham's classroom.

We are working to maintain the grounds, but we need your help! If you ever see some garbage, please pick it up! If you see something that needs to be repaired or attended to, please contact the church office.

# DISCIPLESHIP

## NEW BIBLE STUDY



A new adult Bible study will begin on Sunday mornings starting June 9! Join us as we learn about the Ten Commandments. Here's the schedule for June:

June 2 - Area Ascension Service @ Sumtur Amphitheater - No Class  
June 9 - The First Commandment  
June 16 - Voters' Meeting - No Class  
June 23 - The Second Commandment  
June 30 - The Third Commandment

## SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL

The following is the schedule for summer Sunday school:

June 2 - No Class - Area Ascension @ Sumtur Amphitheater  
June 9 - Amalekites Defeated - Exodus 17:8-16  
June 16 - Balaam's Donkey - Numbers 22:21-39  
June 23 - The Sun Stands Still - Joshua 10:1-14  
June 30 - God's Signs for Gideon - Judges 6:19-22; 36-40

Children are to gather in the sanctuary and will be divided into classes from there.



## THE VINE

A place where children grow in faith.

"I am the Vine; you are the branches."-JESUS  
(John 15)

We finished up our final session of The Vine for the school year during the first three Wednesdays in May. We learned about how flowers grow, and then the children got to plant a flower in a pot that they had each painted for their moms for their Mother's Day gift. The final session of The Vine found us outside having fun with our field day events! Who knew a three-legged race game could be so much fun? ☺

The Vine will continue throughout the summer, meeting the first Wednesday of each month. We will meet on June 5<sup>th</sup>, July 3<sup>rd</sup>, and August 7<sup>th</sup> from 9:00am-10:30am. We will continue to meet in Mrs. Roberts' classroom, but will most likely spend more time outside this summer! Older siblings of children from The Vine are also welcome to come!

Feel free to spread the word to friends and neighbors on what The Vine is all about! Everyone is always welcome!

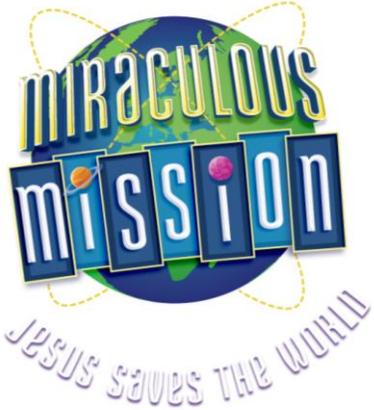
Your generous donations of the Wish list items every month is so greatly appreciated. It is truly incredible!

Feel free to contact the office or ask either of the pastors with any questions.

# EVANGELISM

Vacation Bible School is coming up June 17-20. The Evangelism Board would like to coordinate a canvass event to drop off flyers at homes in our local neighborhoods. We would like to get as many members together as we can for this to make light work of it. We only ask that you place the flyer in their door and nothing more. Our goal is let people know that it is an option for them and their family and remind them that we are here. The plan is to meet at church on Saturday, June 8 for a couple of hours and on Sunday, June 9 after second service for an hour. We hope you consider this opportunity to spend some time together and spread the word about the opportunity we have available at our VBS.

- ★ Saturday, June 8<sup>th</sup> - Meet at church at 0900, divide up flyers and split up into the different neighborhoods
- ★ Sunday, June 9<sup>th</sup> - Meet after second service, divide up the remaining flyers and go out for one hour



**JUNE 17-20 9-NOON**  
**AGES 3 THROUGH GRADE 4**

REGISTER AT [WWW.GETHEMANELUTHERAN.COM](http://WWW.GETHEMANELUTHERAN.COM)  
OR ON THE PAPER COPIES AVAILABLE IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL

# STEWARDSHIP

**P I G R O A S T**

**SUNDAY,**  
**S E P T E M B E R 8**

Mark your calendars and plan to attend!



## BOOK CLUB

We are now off for the summer months of May, June and July. Here's a list of a couple of books for summer reading:

- The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society, by Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Barrows
- The Girls of Atomic City, by Denise Kieran
- Born a Crime, by Trevor Noah

We'll see you in August. Everyone have a great summer!!!!

*Becky G*

## CALL NEWS

We are pleased that Pastor Helwig returned his call to Immanuel Lutheran Church and School in Greenville, Wisconsin. We appreciate Pastor Helwig's many spiritual gifts and are grateful that he will remain among us here in Omaha!

Miss Rachel Veith has returned her call to teach Grades 3-4 at Immanuel Lutheran in Medford, Wisconsin. We are grateful that our teaching staff is still intact, and we look forward to an awesome 2019-20 school year!