

Gethsemane



Lutheran Church



News from 4040 N. 108th Street, Omaha, NE 68164
October, 2019

This is the fifth installment of a ten-part series on the Lord's Prayer.

Give Us This Day Our Daily Bread

1. Address
2. 1st Petition
3. 2nd Petition
4. 3rd Petition
5. 4th Petition
6. 5th Petition, pt. 1
7. 5th Petition pt. 2
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9. 7th Petition
10. Doxology

The perfect prayer that Jesus has taught us includes those requests that seek to glorify God and serve him in faith. If that were all we were to ask for, that would be enough. That God's name be glorified, that his kingdom come and be established among us and within us, that his will be done and that he accomplish his work in our lives—these are the most important things for which we could ask. These petitions should rightly be the sum and substance of all our prayers, for his glory is all that matters.

Yet, in the perfect prayer taught by Jesus, our Lord graciously and tenderly invites us to ask for those things that are for our good as well. As we call out to our dear Father in heaven, we are reminded that the one who truly is our Father is the one who provides for every bodily and physical need we have.

Perhaps, however, we feel a twinge of embarrassment and shame when we ask the Lord for our daily bread. For our Lord is gracious and lovingly provides just that—our daily bread. But instead of stopping there, he goes beyond our needs and supplies even our wants. All too often, however, this is not enough for us. We ask God for our daily bread and then grumble and complain that it is not more. How ungrateful we have been when the Lord provides; how arrogant as well to believe that we deserve what he gives us.

We see our Savior who fed the thousands with a few loaves of bread and some small fish. We see the power and the grace in such a miracle. To us he has given not just bread and fish but every manner of fruits and vegetables, meats and desserts; and we tend to take it all for granted. We do not deserve the right to ask God for our daily bread.

Yet, in spite of our thoughtlessness and our child-like behavior, our Lord still provides each day; he still gives us all we need and more. In his goodness he causes the rain and the sun to come down upon the fields to yield abundant harvests. He gives peace to our land so that fields and forests are preserved and famine might not fall upon us. He gives friends and family with whom we gather around the abundance he provides. And when these things are withdrawn for a time, he promises to sustain us with what is needed until he perfectly fulfills our every need in heaven.

In providing all things necessary for the support of body and life in this world, he provides the greatest blessing: that we can glorify his name. By the strength and health that he showers upon us, by the blessings of the table, the state, the farms and fields, of friends and family, we receive the physical and mental strength needed to make it our goal to hallow his name. Through his providence, despair over earthly things need not enter our lives and make it more difficult to live in service to him. We have all we need to seek ways for his will to be done through us.

Therefore, we ask our dear Father to give us our daily bread. We ask him to shower us still with his abundance that we may glorify his name with thanksgiving and with a generous sharing of his bounty. We ask for our daily bread so that others might know that he is our good and kind Father in heaven when we give willingly and reflect the generosity he has already displayed in our lives.

Finally, as we ask for our daily bread, we ask that we might receive it with joy and thanksgiving. We pray also that we might recognize that all he gives us, whether the bounty enjoyed with family and friends at the holiday table, or the scraps and crumbs that are barely scraped together in time of sorrow or loss—all is a precious gift from his hand. We ask for our daily bread while we simultaneously ask him to remind us that in times of plenty and in times of want, we have that which truly matters: the sacrifice of his Son, the Word and sacraments which feed our souls and the promise of an eternity at his side in paradise. We ask for our daily bread knowing that in having him, we have everything.

Our Heavenly Father always gives us what we most need and more than we could either ask for or deserve. Knowing this, may we ever be confident as we approach his throne and ask him for personal blessings. He has given these already and he promises to do so continually.

Pastor Koester



School News

Fall greetings to you all!

Just the other day, youths from all parts of the Nebraska “half” of the Nebraska District gathered at Nebraska Lutheran for their annual NELHS Day event. NELHS Day is usually seen as the number one event for NELHS recruitment and relationship building. The day was filled with different activities related to the classrooms and also extracurricular interests. But the one thing that stood out to me (again) was the message that came out of the chapel service, which always kicks off the event. Pastor Stellick, the NELHS Campus Pastor, didn’t hesitate to use the platform of the chapel service to remind anyone who would listen that Nebraska Lutheran is “YOUR school” - from his speaking perspective. Or, from the listener’s perspective, we were to hear that Nebraska Lutheran is OUR school. I pray that all those students, teachers, and parents - about 180 of them - heard that, knew that, and understood what role they all play in that.

So, as the October newsletter rolls around, I am stealing his idea, connecting it to our Gethsemane Lutheran School. One of the messages that we can do a better job with from the north-half of the building is the very same thing - GLS is YOUR/OUR school! It’s been that way for over 70 years; and we ask God to give us at least 70 more! GLS is YOUR/OUR school regardless if you are single, married, kids at home, kids all gone away. GLS is YOUR/OUR school regardless if you do, did, or didn’t send your kids there. GLS is YOUR/OUR school regardless if you will or will not send your kids there. GLS is YOUR/OUR school because offerings, gifts, prayers, and teacher calls all come from the congregation - OUR congregation. Students, of course, are needed for us to have a ministry; but if it just came down to students, we would have failed in this element of our ministry long, long ago.

And as GLS is YOUR/OUR school, the Gethsemane ministry plan has some targets coming up where the School Board and School will be taking steps to better connect you, the members of Gethsemane, with YOUR/OUR elementary school. Will some of that work be recruitment-minded? Sure. Will that work be relationship building-minded? Absolutely! So please, as you might see some of these ministry plan targets come to fruition, celebrate them - get behind them - share them - pray for them - support them. As a congregation, everyone here wins when the mission and ministry of 4040 N. 108TH Street is accomplishing all of its goals. Together. For Christ and the strengthening and furthering of His kingdom. I pray that all of us hear, know, and understand our roles in that!

God be with his people,
Mr. Pederson

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October is another busy month for the teachers, students, parents, staff, and volunteers at GLS.

- Our first session of Standardized Testing starts 10/1 for grades 3-8.
- Our second (and final scrimmage) against our cross-town rivals, the Good Shepherd Bulldogs, will be held 10/2 after school at Falcon Field.
- Our 5-8TH grade soccer players will travel to Norfolk for the annual tournament put on by the fine folks at St. Paul's (Norfolk), Immanuel (Hadar), and St. John's (Stanton).
- Our first quarter ends on 10/11 after 37 days in session.
- Our final soccer games of the YMCA season will be held on 10/12.
- Our teachers will be heading to Thornton, Colorado, for the annual Teachers' Conference of the Nebraska District, in conjunction with the Dakota-Montana District.
- Our Fall Break means NO SCHOOL for 10/14 - 10/18.
- Volleyball will start on 10/10 and end with the annual tournament held at NELHS on 10/26.
- Reformation Day will be remembered and celebrated on 10/31.
- Weekly chapels (WEDs), band practices, Jr. Choir / Tone Chimes, and the like will all continue with or at GLS all month long.

May God give us the strength to faithfully and safely navigate all that OCT has in store!

Mr. P.

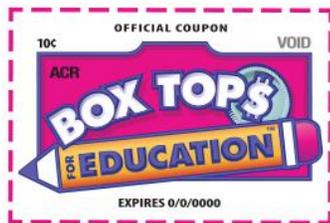
FOCE

(Friends of Christian Education)

Thank you to everyone that attended our first FOCE meeting in September! We appreciate all the participants who took time from their busy schedules to join us. One exciting note from the meeting is our upcoming Yankee Candle fundraiser. Details are coming soon so you can prepare for upcoming Christmas gifts and delicious smells.

Our next meeting is scheduled for November. If you ever have questions, thoughts, or ideas on how FOCE contributes to GLS, please contact any of the ladies below!

Liz G, Secretary



Box Tops Makes It Easy

No more clipping. No more sending Box Tops to school. All you need is your phone. Download the ALL-NEW Box Tops app, shop as you normally would, then simply scan your store receipts to find participating products. The app will automatically credit your school's Box Tops earnings online.

Physical Box Top clips are being phased out of production, but may continue to be found on many products throughout the store. Send your clipped Box Tops, along with any unexpired clips you may have at home to us by October 27th.



Save your Hy-Vee receipts dated September 1 through December 31 and place them in the boxes on the table in the southwest corner of the fellowship hall or on the table in the school hallway. Hy-Vee will donate \$1 for every \$200 spent between these dates to Gethsemane School. We appreciate your support!

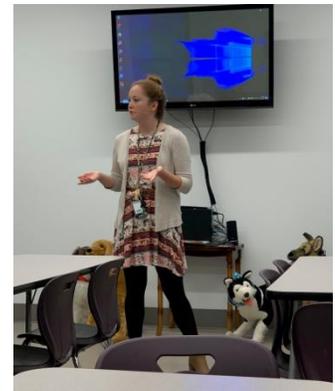
OWLS

(Organization of WELS Lutheran Seniors)



On September 13th chapter members met at the **Nebraska Humane Society** for a presentation and tour of the facility at 89th and Fort Street. Sixteen gathered including one guest. Attendees were provided a presentation that highlighted services provided. Everyone was amazed with the magnitude of this non-profit organization that includes 170 employees and 600 volunteers (about half active). In 2018 over 6,000 surgeries

were performed by five full-time veterinarians. Over 11,000 animals found adoptive homes and in excess of 2,600 lost pets were reunited with owners. Also the Nebraska Humane Society provides pet training classes, Humane Education, and numerous community services as well as responding to wildlife calls. A tour followed including a preview of the facility features upon completion of the massive renovation currently in progress.



The group had a meeting and meal that included luscious lasagna and salad from Mangia Italiana. Our devotion focused on Hebrews 12:1, 2 “Undivided Attention” and how the many things that we work on daily can take our concentration off Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith.

After a tribute to Merv Baumann, our beloved and recently departed member, the group focused on chapter business. Donations of \$200 for the Civilian Chaplaincy and \$100 for Prison Ministry were approved and will be offered at the OWLS convention October 6-9.

A new survey is being introduced from the Membership Development Committee that will be used to determine overall skills of OWLS members nationwide. OWLS was recently approved to accept Thrivent Choice Dollar donations.

Locally, plans are to push for greater congregation support in collection of donations for community charitable organizations in the upcoming holiday season. It was agreed that our annual **Holiday Dinner** would be on **November 10th at 4 p.m.** and will include area pastors and families.

Next up:

- **October 13th** - Guest speaker from ENOA (Eastern Nebraska Office on Aging) to discuss their programs. Location is Gethsemane at 2 p.m.



*Dick V, President
Sandy T, Secretary*



WINGS

(Women In God's Service)

The WINGS group held their kick off meeting Thursday, September 19th in the fellowship hall. During this meeting we passed around the yearly sign-up forms for monthly care meals and cheer cards - a BIG THANKS to all who signed up to help make these projects happen!

Please mark your calendars for the annual Silent Auction which will be set up over two weekends in the fellowship hall. The weekends of November 16th & 17th as well as 23rd & 24th were chosen to have all items displayed and available for bidding! If you would LOVE to contribute any items for this event, we would LOVE to have them! All proceeds will be going towards the many projects WINGS supports throughout the church.....new church banners, tables and chairs for the fellowship hall, and the new church sign, just to name a few!

We are looking for new and exciting ideas for future fun meetings....if you have any, please email any of the WINGS gals, because we would be interested in mixing things up! Please look for emails in the near future regarding our October gathering and all of the events coming up!

WINGS Gals

LWMS

(Lutheran Women's Missionary Society)

"Brothers, Sisters, Let us Gladly"

The Fall LWMS Rally will be held on Saturday, October 5th, at Living Hope Lutheran Church in Omaha. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m., with the rally beginning at 9:00 a.m. The rally will conclude at 12:30 p.m. with lunch. The rally is all about ACTS! What does ACTS stand for, you ask? ACTS stands for: Apache Christian Training School. The guest speaker is, Pastor Howard Mohlke, who is currently the leader of this program. He is also the former pastor at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Norfolk. It will be a wonderful morning learning about the work being done on the Apache Reservation. Sign up on the sheet in the fellowship hall if you are interested in attending. Childcare is also available.



The 2020 LWMS Prayer Calendars are now available. They are \$10.00 per calendar, with a \$5.00 shipping cost. If you are interested in order a calendar (or two!), please let me know, and I will coordinate it for you!

Looking ahead...The 2020 LWMS Convention will be held in Athens (Atlanta), Georgia on June 25-28, 2020. Georgia peaches, here we come! See you in Georgia!

October Prayer Requests

- The work being done at Nebraska Lutheran High School.
- The work being done in Canada.
- All of the staff at Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary.

*-Leslie B
Reporter*



NELHS

(Nebraska Ev. Lutheran High School)

Psalm 119:15,16

I meditate on your precepts and consider your ways. I delight in your decrees; I will not neglect your word.

As this is being written, we are in the middle of homecoming. What a great time for the students! Dress up days, class competitions, hallway decorations, volleyball games, and an upcoming tailgate and football game. What I marvel at during all of this is how our students stay connected to Jesus and serve Him in all they do! Having God's Word guide us is one of the biggest blessings we have at NELHS. What a privilege to serve here...and to have my son be a student as well!

NELHS Day: We had about 180 students on campus for our September 20th NELHS Day. Students had a chance to visit a rotation of curricular areas as well as choose an activity (drama/music, art, or conditioning). It was great seeing how much fun the students were having...especially during the pep rally - the rafters may have been shaking. Many were able to stay and cheer the Knights football team on to an impressive performance as we upset previously undefeated Heartland. Feedback on ways to improve this would be greatly appreciated.

Gym update...the construction company gave the go ahead for getting the floor installed. They began nailing down the floor on September 23rd. We are hoping the floor is ready to go for the last home volleyball game. We hope to soon have a contractor to help do the needed concrete work around several areas.

Enrollment for next year: we are beginning to schedule visits to our Lutheran elementary schools and congregations. Please talk to those you know about the value of a high school Christian education.

As always, we ask for your continued support. Please continue to pray for our former students who have moved on to serve Jesus in their next phase of life; continue to pray for our current students who are being guided by the gospel but are bombarded every day with the world's philosophies; continue to pray for our future students - we need an association army of recruiters for NELHS; continue to pray for our parents and families who make sacrifices for their children to be immersed in God's Word in their academic studies with many living away from home; continue to pray for our faculty and staff who also sacrifice much to give not only a top-notch education to our students, but who also guide, direct, and help build Christian leaders through our school.

Don't forget we also have our *Fill the Bins* donation program where donations of grain (or livestock), and our *This is Our School* - automatic monthly giving program. These third source funding programs are appreciated and vital to our financial needs. Contact me if you would like more information.

Upcoming Dates:

- Sep 27: Homecoming, football at 7 p.m. (football/cheer parents night too)
- Oct 6: Fall Silent Auction (1-4 p.m.), Concert at 4 p.m., Meal follows (about 5 p.m.)
- Oct 6: Association Meeting 5 p.m. at NELHS (working lunch after the concert)
- Oct 11: Quarter 1 ends
- Oct 14-15: Fall break - teachers' conference
- Oct 26: LES VB tourney

Mission Statement:

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.

Yours in Christ,
-Skip Bremer, School Administrator



Silent Auction

The annual silent auction at Nebraska Lutheran High School will be held on Sunday, October 6th from 1 to 4 p.m. The new link to view the Fall Silent Auction items is:

<https://nelhs.schoolauction.net/auction2019/>

Proceeds from the auction will be used to fund the non-budgeted renovation of the bathrooms in the older wing of the school. If you have any donations, please bring NEW items to the school now or send them with parents of Omaha students, so they have time to enter items into the software. Donations may be dropped off or mailed to NELHS at 203 Kendall St., Waco, NE, 68460. For any questions, contact Sarah Stellick at sstellick@nelhs.org or call (402) 728-5236.

Women *in* Music

The students of Nebraska Lutheran High School will be presenting a concert on Sunday, October 6th at 4 p.m. in Waco. The theme for the day is “Celebrating Women in Music.” To commemorate the 100th anniversary of the 19th amendment, the music will feature pieces by female composers. Everyone is invited to attend.



Deacons

Heavy rains caused the gutters on the northwest side of the building to fall recently. As the building ages, little things keep popping up, or in this case, falling down. We are trying to keep up with the needed repairs.

September winds down the mowing schedule for the year. Thank you to all who helped to keep the property looking amazing. We may need a mower or two in October before the frost comes. Let the church office know if you would like to help out. It won't be long and we'll need to clean up leaves and, gasp, the snow will start to fly. For now, we'll enjoy the beautiful fall weather God is giving us!

It takes everyone to help keep us the property. We are grateful to anyone who picks up garbage or pulls a weed to help make it look better. One student in our school does a fantastic job of leaving the world in better shape than she finds it every day by picking up trash on her way to school. She is setting a great example for all of us!

If you see something that needs to be repaired or attended to, please contact the church office at 402-493-2550.



Discipleship Sunday School

The Sunday School Year has begun!

All Gethsemane Lutheran children from preschool through high school are invited to take part. Guests are always welcome too.

We start at 9:15 a.m. and end at 10:15 a.m. when Adult Bible Study is done. Preschool through 6th grade meets for Sunday School in the sanctuary. 7th-9th grade meets in their classroom. Teens meet in the basement.

In the sanctuary, we start with songs. We are up and moving, singing with joy for God to hear during the first 15 minutes of our Sunday School day. We then head to class with our teachers who will share the Bible lesson and then have discussions and activities based around the lesson of the day.

Our teachers carefully prepare their lessons for their class. We are using Sunday School Year 2 of Christ Light. Our teachers have Teacher Guides along with ideas for activities. Pastor Koester also provides our teachers with lesson summaries and answers any questions we might have preparing for class.

October Lessons

6 - "Samson's Sin and Death"

13 - "Ruth's Faith"

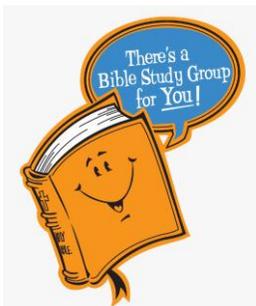
20 - "Jesus Is Born"

27 - "The Faith of the Captain"

We welcome your support of our Sunday School program here at Gethsemane. There are many ways to do that, the most important one is to send your children to Sunday School. Every student is important to our Sunday School classes. Every student brings their own questions and understanding of the Bible lessons and brings each of us new things to think about. We can always use your prayers for our school year.

See you Sunday!

Nickie L
Sunday School Coordinator



SUNDAY MORNING - 9:15 to 10:15

"Worship Matters" - September-October (Adults)

"Marriage Matters" - November-December (Adults)

TUESDAY MORNING - 6:00 to 7:00 McDonalds on 108th and Emmet

"Your Place In God's Plan" (Women's)

WEDNESDAY MORNING - 6:00 to 7:00 HyVee - at 108th and Fort

"The Book of Daniel" (Men's)

WEDNESDAY EVENING - 7:00 to 8:00

Bible Information Class (Adults)

THURSDAY MORNING - 9:45 to 11:00

"The Book of Revelation" (Women's)

SUNDAY SCHOOL - 9:15 to 10:15

Age Appropriate Lessons for:

Pre-K through 6th Grade

7th through 9th (Youth Group)

10th through 12th (Teen Group)

MOUNTAIN MOVERS

College Students Mentoring High School
Students
Monthly Gatherings
Watch for Details

*If you have any questions or would like
more information, please ask!
If you have something you would like to
study, please let me know!
Sitting at His feet with you,
Pastor Helwig*



The Vine

A place where children grow in faith.

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

The Vine is back in full swing! We are busy learning about a new letter each week. We spend the morning doing a variety of activities that involve that

particular letter. It is a fun morning learning about a new letter! Each morning consists of fine and gross motor skill activities, along with a craft, snack, and story time.

Each session is held every Wednesday from 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. in Mrs. Roberts's classroom. The Vine is open to children ages birth-age 4 and their parents, grandparents, guardians, etc.!

If you have never been to The Vine, NOW is your opportunity to jump in and to see what it is all about!

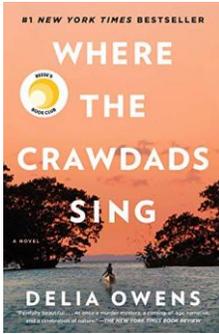
Leslie B, Coordinator

Stewardship

Pig Roast 2019 was a huge success on September 8th, thanks to the work of many people. Thanks to those who cooked the food and coordinated the meal. Thanks to those who brought desserts. Thanks to those who helped set up and clean up.

The afternoon was fun for all! Pony rides, carnival games, a dunk tank and a cake walk were enjoyed in between eating cotton candy and funnel cakes.

Many folks commented on what fun they had! Thank you to all who made it possible!



Book Club

Thanks to Liz for hosting the September Book Club evening where **The Devil in the White City** was "sort of" discussed! Thanks to everyone who was able to make it.

We'll meet in October on the 22nd at Sharon's home and will be discussing **Where the Crawdads Sing** by Delia Owens. Please join us if you can.

Everyone is invited to attend our book club meetings, whether you've read the book or not. It's a fun evening of food and fellowship. Hope to see you there!



There were seven bikes and twelve riders representing three Omaha area churches (WELS Angels?) who enjoyed a ride on Saturday, September 14th.

With impending rain and lightning to the north, we rode west on highway 92 then north through David City, and other towns before we ended up at Bob's Bar & Grill in Martinsburg, NE! We indulged in burgers that were twice as big as the bun and a lot of deep fried stuff—fries, tots, mushrooms, and cheese curds.

We took a different route home into West Point and to get back to

Omaha from there some folks went through Scribner while others went through Oakland, Tekamah, Herman, and Blair.

The weather was great, the food was good, and the fellowship was fantastic!

We hope to make this an annual event and hope you can join us next time.

