



March 8, 2020

GE + HSEMANE

Lutheran Church

News from 4040 N. 108th Street, Omaha, NE 68164
March, 2020

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

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

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

How fitting an end to the perfect prayer our Lord has taught us. After all that our Savior has invited us to ask, after all he has shown us to be of vital importance in our lives both on earth and in heaven, we conclude with a proclamation of which only he is worthy. In guiding us to seek through our prayers all that is holy and good and in extending his grace to grant those requests, we cannot help but declare that he is worthy of the kingdom, he is deserving of all power, and that all glory belongs to him for all eternity.

So, we proclaim that the kingdom truly does belong to him. What a lofty thing, far beyond all human reason and beyond the scope of human

understanding that the kingdom of this world and the kingdom of heaven should belong to our own dear Father—to the one who calls us his very own children. Yet, how could the kingdom not be his? If he is the one whose name is made holy above all names, who promises to bring his kingdom into our hearts and graciously causes his will to be done in our lives; if he is the one who opens his hand to give us all we need for our physical preservation and forgives us our sins for our spiritual preservation; if he is the one who leads us away from the temptations that would otherwise surely bring us to ruin and away from the evil one who has made our destruction his primary goal; if he is the one who blesses us in these ways, then the kingdom can belong only to him.

We wouldn't have it any other way. He alone rules the kingdom of this world and he has assured us in his Word that his rule is always for the benefit of those whom he has called his children. From the moment of our birth to the hour of our death, our dear Father in heaven guides and governs the times and days so that we need not fear anything in this life, even if the mountains should fall into the sea. God our Father will rescue us from death and from the torments of condemnation to bring us to his heavenly kingdom where we ascribe to him all honor and glory for all eternity.

What blessed hope we cling to, because the kingdom belongs to God and all power is his. We wouldn't have it any other way. Through this perfect prayer, we recognize what is most precious and important to us; and we recognize that it is

Voters' Meeting
March 8, 2020
9:15 a.m.
Gethsemane fellowship hall
All voters and guests are invited to attend!

the power of God that supplies all to meet our needs. All our power is nothing and accomplishes nothing without his gracious aid and protection—without his power. How blessed we are that God has been pleased to use his power for our protection and our deliverance from sin and death—undeserving though we are.

Yes, the power must belong to God for our feeble efforts would have left us in the powerful jaws of the devil who plots and strives by night and day to ruin us for eternity. Yes, the power of our Lord’s resurrection has won for us the assurance that the devil’s power has been shattered and we are free. It is this power of God by which we are guarded each and every day; and by that same power, we are lifted up to heaven when we leave this world and raised from the dust of the earth on the Last Day.

It is there in heaven where we proclaim that all glory belongs to God forever and ever. We wouldn’t have it any other way. To God belongs the glory for the miracle of our conversion and for the preservation of our faith. To him alone belong the glory for the final rescue from death and decay. To him alone we sing praises forever and ever. We praise him first here in this world along with all who have been redeemed by him, with whom we unite as brothers and sisters in the faith, imperfect though our praises may be. We then praise him in perfect union with all the saints of heaven who stand in his presence for eternity.

To this we say, “amen”—yes, let it be so. Let it be that God will receive and hear our prayer. After all, he himself has taught us to pray in this way. He himself has given us the perfect words of this prayer and bids us make these perfect petitions. How could it not be so, that God will grant our requests and give to us what we humbly ask? Yes, we say “amen” as we pray with total confidence that God will bless us in all these ways. We pray with the confidence that comes from knowing that our Savior Jesus has made us God’s children, has made us worthy to pray, has given us holiness in God’s sight so that when we make the request before him, he will say to us, “Amen”—yes, let it be so.

Pastor John Koester

Lenten Worship Schedule



February 26th, Ash Wednesday
6:30 p.m. Worship w/Lord’s Supper

March 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th, & April 1st
6:30 p.m. Midweek Lenten Worship

April 5th, Palm Sunday
8 & 10:30 a.m. Worship w/Lord’s Supper

April 9th, Maundy Thursday
3:30 & 7 p.m. Worship w/Lord’s Supper

April 10th, Good Friday
Noon & 8 p.m. Worship

April 11th – NO WORSHIP—SILENT SATURDAY

April 12th, Easter Sunday
7 a.m. Sunrise Service
9 & 10:30 a.m. Festival Worship

School News

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

God be praised for his goodness to us! As March kicks off soon enough, a few major items are in Gethsemane Lutheran School's recent past or near future. These would include such things as -



Our annual K Round-Up + Open House was held February 12. The Evangelism Committee worked with the School Board to create a Facebook advertisement. We reached over 4,400 people with our ad, with over 70 people chasing through the ad to get to our GLS page. This was a great trial-run to see how many people can be reached with that kind of advertising - and how many were curious enough to follow through! We now are in our Early Registration process for the 2020-21 school year (through April).

Our annual Lutheran Schools Week + Open House is February 24-27. We celebrate this with our sister schools in Norfolk, Hoskins, Hadar, Lincoln, Waco, Plymouth, Valentine, Overland Park (KS), our own Good Shepherd, and a few schools in Colorado. Most schools celebrate with dress-up days, special events, and combine efforts for a special mission project using chapel offerings. This year we designate offerings for Mrs. Winkel of Colorado.

Our annual Christian Education Sunday will be held on Sunday, March 1. We look forward to celebrating and remembering why we do what we do at GLS.

**Christian
Education
Sunday**

Our third quarter ends on Friday, March 6. Hard to believe that we are that close already to the start of our final quarter on March 9.

Our annual GLS Academic Fair will be held on Thursday, March 12, as a "living" Reading Fair. Students will give a short, live-action presentation of their book for a small fee of one quarter. Acting as a character or the author, the students will show knowledge of their books AND proceeds will go to Tuition Assistance!

Our annual Spring Break comes along in the middle of March. We'll take a break, rest up, gather our wits, (watch some March Madness), and be ready to storm the last chunk of the year!

Our annual Nebraska Schools Science and Arts Fair will be held on Saturday, March 21, at Nebraska Lutheran High School. Students from grades 3 to 8 can participate in a Spelling Bee, Quiz Bowl, Speech (Declamations), Art, Craft, Science Project, Piano or Instruments. It is a very cool event that showcases the many and varied gifts that God gives to our students. A few changes are in play for this year, including running the Spelling Bee closer to what you see on ESPN.

Our what-hopes-to-be-an-annual Spring Teachers' Conference will be held Friday, March 27. Most of our Nebraska WELS schools will be meeting in Lincoln for some Bible Study, professional growth through Lincoln Public Schools, and fellowship with our peers.

Not sure if that schedule looks like "in like a lion, out like a lamb." Looks like "go, go, go" and then all of a sudden Easter will be here!
God bless you all!

Mr. Pederson

FOCE

(Friends Of Christian Education)



Can you smell the spring? Or maybe it's just the lingering smells of delicious muffins, donuts and goodies from our Lutheran Schools Spirit Week. Hope all the moms/dads/grandparents/guardians had a chance to join us with your children!

March is a busy month for us. Look for an upcoming Eileen's Cookies Fundraiser, starting March 10th and going through March 24th. SELL! SELL! SELL! We will have prizes for the highest sellers! This will give all the kids an opportunity to

sell over spring break, with orders coming in before Easter (Easter cookies!!). If we reach over 100 pounds of dough/frosting, Eileen's will deliver to our school which gladly saves the FOCE ladies' backs.

March 26th will be our meeting right after school. Please plan to attend! We will be discussing our upcoming efforts for the track meet, fellowship ideas, and more!

-Your Favorite 2019-2020 FOCE Ladies

OWLS

(Organization of WELS Lutheran Seniors)

OWLS Newsletter

Our chapter gathered on Valentine's Day at WOWT Channel 6 Studio A in midtown Omaha with 18 members present to tour the studio and watch a live news and weather broadcast. Everyone was amazed at the behind-the-scenes controls and technology implemented.





Our members regrouped at La Casa's for lunch, devotion, and brief meeting.

A vote was taken to donate \$200 to the NELHS Debt Retirement Drive, \$100 to the European Chaplaincy Ministry and \$100 to the WELS Prison Ministry.

The next meeting will be held at Gethsemane on **March 15th at 2:00 pm**. Jean Redford is our guest speaker who will provide a presentation on her experiences as a mission nurse for two years in Zambia and will also share a native African meal.

We continue to invite guests to join us and enjoy the fellowship that we continue to share at our gatherings.

*Dick V, President
Dawn V, Secretary*

LWMS

(Lutheran Women's Missionary Society)

“Jesus, I will Ponder Now”



The Spring LWMS Rally will be held at St. John's Lutheran Church in Stanton, NE, on Saturday, April 4, 2020. Registration is at 8:30 a.m., with the rally will beginning at 9:00 a.m. The guest speaker will be Pastor Stellick. He is currently the campus pastor at NELHS, but previously was a missionary in Taiwan and China. He will speak about his mission work in those countries. Please sign up on the sheet in the fellowship hall if you are interested in attending.

The Befriend-a-Missionary month has arrived! There was a large delay in receiving the information and materials regarding our Befriend a Mission. March is the month when we can learn more about the mission and missionary that we support. You will be able to find out

more information regarding our missionary and ways that we, as a congregation, are able to help them. This is such a fantastic way to support our Home Missions!

The CAMM (Central African Medical Mission) is also a great way to spread the Gospel—just in a different form! Through the work of the nurses and medical team, they are able to provide not only help with their physical needs, but also their spiritual needs.

Looking ahead...The 2020 LWMS Convention will be held in Athens (Atlanta), Georgia on June 25-28, 2020. There is more information on the flyer in the fellowship hall.

March Prayer Requests

- Gethsemane, as we call for a new servant for our 3rd-4th grades
- The work being done on the Apache Reservation.
The work being done right here in Omaha.

~Leslie B, Reporter



NELHS

(Nebraska Ev. Lutheran High School)

Galatians 3:26-29

- ²⁶ So in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith, ²⁷ for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. ²⁸ There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. ²⁹ If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

March is the month with St. Patrick's Day. I have a small issue...do I wear green or orange? I had a grandmother from one of my students who was from England explain to me that her grandchildren would not be wearing green but orange, because they were English. Green is the traditional color to wear for Irish. Why do I have a small issue? Because while exploring my family heritage, I have found out that I have ancestors from both Ireland and southern England. The family heritage that we have no conflict over is our heritage from the Lord! As our sophomores were just reviewing, we are children of God...why? Because God himself came to earth as the God-man, Jesus, to accomplish what we cannot do - pay for our sins. Jesus was born to live a perfect life under the law so his sacrifice would make full payment for our sins. The Holy Spirit has used the means of grace to both work faith in our hearts and keep us in our faith. What a blessing to serve in a vocation where I get to help students be reminded every day that no matter what problems in life they may be experiencing, no one and nothing can take the love of Jesus away from them! What a blessing for our students to have teachers, staff, and classmates to encourage them to stay on the path to Jesus! So whatever color you choose to wear on St. Patrick's Day, be sure to clothe yourself with Christ. You are an heir of eternal life!

Call updates: At the time of this writing, NELHS has extended an English call to Mark Hesse in Kewaskum, Wisconsin. Another math call will be extended soon. Please pray for these people and for God to send needed workers into His kingdom.

SCRIP reminder: check out www.nelhs.org/scrip for information on SCRIP...especially for you Amazon.com shoppers!

Easter Concert
Sunday, March 22, 2020
"From Death To Life"
A meditation on Christ's death and resurrection
featuring When I Survey the Wondrous Cross,
Indodana, I Know that My Redeemer Liveth,
and There Is a Higher Throne.

Upcoming Dates:

- Spring Break - Housing Needed (break begins after Sat tourney-Feb 28; dorms open Mar 8th)
- March 8: NELHS Association Meeting, 4 p.m.
- March 22: Easter Concert 4 p.m.; Winter Activities Banquet 6 p.m.
- March 28: *Knight Out* in Beatrice, 5 p.m.
- April 8 after classes, Easter Break Begins - Dorms open Monday 13th at 4 p.m.: HOUSING NEEDED
- June 7-12: Activities Camp

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, Administrator

You are cordially invited to the 6th annual

Knight Out!

Join us for an evening of fellowship & food, with silent and live auctions to raise support for remodeling needed at NELHS.

Saturday, March 28, 2020

Vintage Venue

620 Court Street, Beatrice, Nebraska

5:00 PM - Welcome / Check-in / Silent Auction begins

6:00 PM - Catered meal by Colleen's Catering

7:00 PM - Entertainment

8:00 PM - Live Auction

Fellowship Time until 10:00 PM

Tickets: \$65 per person

Link to purchase tickets nelhs.schoolauction.net/knightout2020/
or by mailing check to NELHS.

RSVP by March 1

Contact Sarah Stellick at sstellick@nelhs.org
or 920-306-3575 for questions.

For those traveling a bit of a distance...consider planning a fun evening and great weekend getaway! Attend our 6th Annual Knight Out event at Vintage Venue in Beatrice! Don't like to drive at night? Then plan to spend the night at a local hotel. Venture out the next day and attend one of our area Lutheran churches and meet more of our fellow association members who support NELHS with you! Worship locations and some area hotels are as follows:

Worship Opportunities in the Beatrice Area

- Beatrice - Christ Lutheran, Sunday at 7:45AM
- Clatonia - Zion Lutheran, Sunday at 8:30 (Bible Class at 9:30)
- Cortland - St. John Lutheran, Sunday at 10:45 services
- Plymouth - St. Paul's Lutheran, Sunday at 10 a.m. (Childcare, Sunday School, Bible Class at 9 a.m.)

Some Beatrice area hotels

- Beatrice - Victorian Inn, 1903 N 6th Street 402-228-5955
- Beatrice - Holiday Inn Express, 4005 N 6th Street 402-228-7000
- Beatrice - Capri Inn & Suites, 3721 N 6th Street 402-228-8808

Remember to RSVP by March 1 to ensure your place at *Knight Out!* Website link is <https://nelhs.schoolauction.net/knightout2020/> or contact Sarah Stellick at stellick@nelhs.org or (920)306-3575 for any questions.

Hope to see you on March 28!

If you did not receive an invitation in the mail, it means we don't have your contact info in our "mailing database." If you would like to be added to this list, please email Lisa at ldressel@nelhs.org to be added.

Deacons

A new light with a motion sensor has been installed on the outside of the building near the school entrance to replace the outdated light that was in its place. Plans are to make the school entry light to be a motion sensor light as well so we don't need that light on 24/7 since the exterior light was tied into that light. By the time you read this, this should be done!

The dumpster enclosure has been improved to accommodate the new 4 yard dumpster. The larger size was necessitated because the 3 yard dumpster was being overfilled. A new chain was installed to secure the gates and some lumber was added to reinforce the structure where the larger dumpster pushed against it. We ask everyone to please be attentive when throwing trash into the dumpster and making sure it actually gets *into* the dumpster and not on the ground outside the container.

Considerations are being made for flooring in the school classrooms. New doorknobs are on order for the classrooms and will be paid for thanks to a special donation received for them.

If you see anything that needs to be attended to, please contact the church office (402) 493-2550.

Discipleship

Save the Dates!!!
Easter for Kids: April 4th, 9 a.m.
Vacation Bible School: June 22-25

Sunday School News

Sunday School starts each week at 9:15 a.m. Preschool through 6th grades meet in the sanctuary from 9:15 to 9:30 for the opening, offering, and songs and then proceed with their teacher to their classrooms for their lessons. 7th-9th grade students report to their classroom with Mr. K for their lesson. 10th-12th meet in their classroom with Mr. S.

Guests are always welcome, too. Join us for songs, stories, games, crafts and discussions that teach us God's Word.

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. 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.



March lessons for Preschool-6th Grade

1 - "The Parable of the Bags of Money"

8 - "Taxes to Caesar"

15 - *Family Bible Games*

22 - "Jesus' Trial Before Pilate"

29 - "Our Savior Dies"

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

The Vine

A place where children grow in faith.

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

February was a month filled with all things heart, pink, red, and love! We learned about the letters O, P, and Q, and also celebrated Valentine's Day with a party with our friends. We learned about the letter P in our pajamas! Each week is filled with ways that the kids can commit to memory the letter that we are learning. From playing the game, Operation, to learning about ocean animals in the sensory bin, to lacing heart cards for Valentine's Day and putting on a puppet show...it all contributes to a morning filled with fun and learning. It is truly a blessing to be able to spend each Wednesday morning together! Want to jump into The Vine, but not quite sure what it is all about? Perfect! Each morning consists of fine and gross motor skill activities, along with a craft, snack, a devotion, and story time. We even eat a snack that begins with the letter that we are learning. We will learn about the letters R, S, and T, with Dr. Seuss Day added into our mix too!

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.!





Stewardship

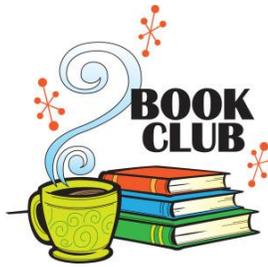
Thirty-nine folks from Gethsemane attended the 2nd Annual Gethsemane Hockey Night on February 8th. We had awesome “50-yard line” seats and got to witness “teddy bear night” where many teddy bears/stuffed animals were tossed onto the ice after the first Lancers goal. Those will be donated to charity. Hope you can join us again next year!

The Stewardship Board will be serving Easter breakfast again this year. We would appreciate donations of muffins and pastries to complete the meal.

Book Club

Our February meeting will be on Tuesday, February 25th so depending on when you're reading this you might still have a chance to come! We're meeting at Mandie Linde's home to discuss **Night** by Elie Wiesel. Please feel free to join us whether you've read the book or not.

We will be reading the book **The Lager Queen of Minnesota** by J. Ryan Stradel for March. Shonni secured this book thru the Omaha Public Library so we may or may not have copies already in hand for you at our get together on the 25th. Right now, we do not have a host location; so if you're willing to volunteer for that, just let me know. We would be meeting on Tuesday, March 24th.



And just FYI, there'll only be one more meeting for us this spring (yes - can I call it spring yet?) - that will be on April 28th. We'll need to decide on a book for that month as well as need a host for the month.

As always - please feel free to join us at any time for one of our monthly get-togethers. It's a great evening of a few snacks and maybe a drink, and of course a discussion of our current book - but most of all it's about the fellowship.

It's a chance to sit amongst friends and simply talk and enjoy one another's company! It's a GREAT GROUP! Join us!!!!

Becky G



LUTHERAN MILITARY
SUPPORT GROUP
Shoulder to Shoulder in Service

LMSG

Operation Care Giving

There are one hundred WELS and ELS members that are deployed in Iraq, Kuwait and Afghanistan. The Lutheran Military Support Group (LMSG) is supporting a mission called Operation Care Giving. We want to shower these members with care packages to show them our support and love. Boxes to collect items will be placed on the table in the fellowship hall March 1st. Any donations are welcomed and appreciated and should be brought here by Sunday, March 22, so they can be mailed on the 23rd—in time for the soldiers to receive them before Easter.

A list of suggestions are as follows:

PERISHABLE

Beef jerky
Hard candy
Cereal and instant oatmeal
Dried fruits
Tea and instant coffee
Microwave popcorn
Microwavable soup and macaroni
Nuts and sunflower seeds
Power bars and granola bars
Chips, cookies, and crackers
Gum and breath mints
Ice pop quick-freeze juice packets

NON-PERISHABLE

Lotion, lip balm, and sunscreen
Bandanas and hair bands
Face and body wipes
Shaving items
Magazines
Books
CDs and DVDs
Calling cards
Calendars
Disposable cameras
Pencils, paper, and envelopes
Frisbees, balls, and outdoor games

These are also posted on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall.

Thank you, in advance, for your support.



I would like to say a special thank you to all who donated to the Veteran’s Home in Bellevue. Your contributions were received by them with much gratitude! Many residents are without family or sufficient income to provide for their needs. That’s why your gifts were so appreciated! If anyone has additional gifts throughout the year, you can contact me; and I’ll be happy to deliver them. I will be getting an updated Needs List soon!

Please continue to pray for these amazing men and women who have served our great Country so well! Thanks again!

*Ginny Thamm
Good Shepherd
402-676-4487*