



OUR SAVIOR EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

THE
CRESTVIEW LUTHERAN
NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2023

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“This was the true Light that, coming into the world, enlightens every person. He was in the world, and the world came into being through Him, and yet the world did not know Him. He came to His own, and His own people did not accept Him. But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name, who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of a man, but of God.” - John 1: 9-12

FROM THE PASTOR

My offering for this month. Enjoy!

Pax Christi,

Pastor Parent



What About...

The Lord's Prayer

The blood of Jesus Christ cleanses us from all sin, reconciles us to God and thus makes it possible for us to come to God in prayer. Prayer is a marvelous privilege from the Lord. He not only commands us to pray, but He invites us to pray to Him. He wants our prayers. What a fantastic blessing prayer is! The Lord's Prayer is the prayer above every other prayer because our Lord Jesus Christ personally gave this prayer to the Church. Let's spend a few moments here exploring the Lord's Prayer.

The Introduction:

Our Father who art in heaven.

Our Father, who from heaven above has told us here to live in love. And with our fellow Christians share, our mutual burdens and our prayer, teach us no thoughtless word to say, but from our inmost heart to pray.¹

What a marvelous blessing! We are able to come to the Lord of the heavens and the earth, the maker of all

things, both seen and unseen, the all-powerful and almighty God, and call Him "Father." By nature, we human beings are not inclined to faith, trust and love in God. Instead, the Scriptures reveal we are by nature children of wrath, in rebellion against God, fallen and lost. Thanks be to God through Christ our Lord we are able to call God "Father." What is more, He even wants us to come to Him in prayer. We pray to our heavenly Father with boldness and confidence, through Christ Jesus, our Lord, knowing that He will hear and answer our prayers, according to His good and gracious will.

Our Father who art in heaven. ...You who loved us enough to send your only begotten Son to save us from our sins, I now come before You in prayer, even as Your Son has taught us to pray.

The First Petition:

Hallowed be thy name.

Your name be hallowed. Help us, Lord, in purity to keep your Word, that to the glory of your name, we walk before you free from blame. Let no false teaching us pervert; all poor deluded souls convert.

God surely does not need our prayer to make sure His name is kept holy. It is holy in and of itself, and it is holy among

us when we teach His Word in all its truth and purity, and live holy lives according to His Word. Anyone who teaches or lives contrary to the Word of God is actually profaning and blaspheming the holy name of God.

Hallowed be thy name. ...By grace You have brought me into Your Kingdom of salvation. Ever keep me in the true faith and help me through my words and actions to hallow Your name.

The Second Petition:

Thy Kingdom come.

Your kingdom come, guard your domain and your eternal righteous reign. The Holy Ghost enrich our day with gifts attendant on our way. Break Satan's power, defeat his rage; preserve your church from age to age.

Again, God's Kingdom does not depend on our prayers, but we pray here that His Kingdom would come among us in all its grace and truth. God's Kingdom does not come because we make it come, but because the Holy Spirit is working powerfully in us so that we believe His Word and live godly lives here in time and eventually in all eternity.

Thy Kingdom come. ...Lord, use me mightily to share your saving Gospel with others.

The Third Petition:

Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Your gracious will on earth be done, as it is

done before your throne, that patiently we may obey in good or bad times all you say. Curb flesh and blood and every ill that sets itself against your will.

God will have His way with us and with the world, that is sure and certain. Here we are praying that His will may be done among us. We are asking God to prevent anything in our lives—including the devil, the world, and our own sinful nature—from placing an obstacle between us and the will of God. We ask that He would give us strength to keep us steadfast in His Word until our death. This is what God's good, gracious will is all about.

Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. ...Daily cause Your holy will to be done in my life, and when the world would entice me to turn from You, give me the strength to remain faithful to You.

The Fourth Petition:

Give us this day our daily bread.

Give us this day our daily bread, and let us all be clothed and fed. From warfare, rioting, and strife, disease, and famine save our life, that we in honest peace may live, to care and greed no entrance give.

We are asking God to lead us to recognize all the fantastic blessings He showers on us in this life, and so lead

us to thank and praise Him for these blessings, which include all that we need or require in this life.

Give us this day our daily bread.

...Thank You for all of those temporal blessings You daily pour out into my life, and which I can so easily forget.

The Fifth Petition:

And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.

Forgive our sins, let grace outpour, that they may trouble us no more; we too will gladly those forgive, who harm us by the way they live. Help us in each community to serve with love and unity.

Here we ask our heavenly Father not to see our sins, or deny our prayer on account of them. We recognize and here confess that we are not worthy of any of the abundant gifts God gives us and that we surely do not deserve His blessing, but only His punishment, because we sin. Through Christ our Lord, who gave Himself for us, we are able to ask God to grant us His mercy, for the sin that daily we commit. Being forgiven so graciously by God, we want to forgive and do good to people who sin against us.

And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. ...Help me to be forgiving of others, even when this is difficult, always remembering how forgiving You have been of me.



The Sixth Petition:

And lead us not into temptation.

Lead not into temptation, Lord, where our grim foe and all his horde, would vex our souls on every hand. Help us resist, help us stand firm in the faith, armed with your might; your Spirit gives your children light.

Here we are asking that God would protect us from temptation and keep the devil from attacking us through the world and our own sinful flesh. We are asking that we not be led astray into false belief, or despair, or other shameful sins. We know we are attacked daily and tempted to live contrary to God's will. We have the sure promise from God that Christ has overcome the world for us and will, in our final hour in this life, grant us final victory over them.

And lead us not into temptation. ...Lord, help me to resist and overcome the temptations that assail me in this life.

The Seventh Petition:

But deliver us from evil.

Deliver us from evil days, from every dark and trying maze; redeem us from eternal death, console us when we yield our breath. Give us at last a blessed end; receive our souls, O faithful friend.

We are praying here that the Lord would rescue us from every evil in this life, evils that have to do with our body, our soul, those things God has given us, our good name and so forth. We ask that when the time comes for us to be taken home to be with the Lord, God would extend His loving protection over us and take us from this valley of sorrow to be with Him forever in heaven.

And deliver us from evil. ...Keep from me all those hurts and evils in life that would assail me, and ever give me the power always to resist the evil one.

The Conclusion:

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

Amen, that is, it shall be so. Make our faith strong that we may know we need not doubt but shall receive all that we ask, as we believe. On your great promise we lay claim. Our faith says “amen” in your name.

At the conclusion of the Lord’s Pray-

er, we express a confident hope in the truth that our Lord is the mighty One, whose Kingdom and power and glory are for all eternity. With these words we are saying to the Lord, “You are a great and glorious God.”

With the word, “Amen” we are saying, “Yes, yes, it shall be so. And thus, with the certainty that rests on the promise of God that He both invites and hears our prayer, we conclude the prayer He taught us. We say, “Amen” that is, “Yes, Lord, you have commanded me to pray to you and you promise to hear me.”

Amen, amen, may all these things we have prayed be so, for Jesus’ sake.

¹. Martin Luther, Our Father Who from Heaven Above, Hymn 766, Lutheran Service Book, (St. Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 2006).

—Dr. A. L. Barry President

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

Sunday’s Readings (Lectionary)

Date	Old Testament	Epistle	Gospel
Sept. 10	Proverbs 4:10-23	Galatians 5:116-24	Luke 17:11-19
Sept. 17	1 Kings 17:8-16	Galatians: 5:25-6:10	Matthew 6:24-34
Sept. 24	1 Kings 17:17-24	Ephesians 3:13-21	Luke 7:11-17
Oct. 1	Proverbs 25:6-14	Ephesians 4:1-6	Luke 14:1-11

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Well, summer is almost over and we're just getting into the peak hurricane season. If a Category 1 or higher storm is forecast to strike us (i.e. near the storm track's centerline, 3 days out), you can expect us to exercise the phone chain (or group text) a day or two ahead of the arrival so we can get a sense of who's staying and who's leaving. Participation is completely voluntary. Soon after



the storm clears, we'll use the chain again (communication lines permitting) to see who needs help and who's available to provide assistance. Please don't try to tough it out after the storm; if you need help, ask for it! In doing so, you give your brothers and sisters in Christ the opportunity to love you by serving you as a result of Him first loving us. Blessings,
Alex

OPPORTUNITIES TO GET INVOLVED AT OSEL

Serve on a Board - See Alex Franco, Pres.

Sign up for Flowers—See sign up list in the Parish Hall

Sign up for Refreshments—See sign up list in Parish Hall

Serve on the Altar Guild—See Dcs. Heather Bien

Ongoing Project on Campus—See Brian Hull, Trustee

Serve as an Usher—See Julie Blaylock

Sunday School—9:00 a.m. Sunday, Parish Hall

Coffee with Pastor and Women's Study—9:00 a.m. Thursday

FROM THE BOARD OF CHRISTIAN LIFE

Define Your Life by How You Give

Winston Churchill reportedly said that “we make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.” According to Churchill, our lives are defined not by what we have gotten, but by what we give away.

Our Lord’s life is defined in this way. He gave completely of Himself for us. He became man for us. He taught the truth of God’s Word. He healed those with many and various diseases. He died the death that we deserved for our sins. He gave of Himself in order to save us from sin, death and hell. And so it is that by giving completely of Himself, He got for Himself us, making us citizens of His eternal kingdom by grace.

As it was for Jesus, so it also is for us. We get more from giving than we do from simply getting. For giving softens our hearts and frees us from the grip which the worries of this world and making a living has on us. For when we are singularly focused on making a living, we are singularly focused on what we get. That mindset begins to bleed into all areas of

our lives — our relationships with friends and family, with neighbors and coworkers, and with the Lord. It shifts our focus from asking the question, “How can I be a friend, family member, neighbor and servant to others,” to asking the question, “What have they done for me lately?” We become more selfish instead of selfless.

But when we give, we do not have less, we do not become less; rather, we have more and become more. When we give, we join in the bond of friendship and family, the bond of service to those around us out of love for them. And love is the fulfillment of the Law. It is the nature of God Himself, for God is Love. Thus, we are participating in the divine nature. As Jesus said, “It is more blessed to give than to receive” (Acts 20:35).

Taken from LCMS Stewardship Ministry (Board of Christian Life) – lcms.org/stewardship

Blessings, Jennifer Currid

FROM THE LWML

Serve the Lord with Gladness! Psalm 100:2

The Ladies of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Shalimar, Florida invite the ladies to the

LWML Emerald Coast Zone Fall Rally

September 30, 2023

9:30 am – 2:00 pm

Registration begins at 9:00 am

Theme: “Be Still”

Psalm 46:10 “Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!”

Please join us for Bible study, fellowship, convention highlights, and zone meeting.

Cost: \$10.00 per person (includes breakfast pastries and lunch)

RSVP to Linda Urda by September 17, 2023.

Gifts from the Heart will benefit the Fisher House of the Emerald Coast. Fisher House provides a “home away from home” so that our military families can be together during treatments for serious illness or physical/occupational therapy. Much needed items are listed below:

K-cups

Flavored creamers, powdered – hazelnut, French vanilla (large containers from a bulk store are fine)

To go coffee cups with lids (going through these quickly)

Cereal bars (especially if we have children as

guests or for those kids at heart) – stone ground whole wheat fig bars are very popular

Asst. individual cereal (single serve)

Asst. mini chocolates - we keep a large bowl on the counter in the kitchen for passersby needing a quick shot

Asst. individual chips

Fruit snacks

La Croix flavored sparkling water

Ginger Ale (diet and regular)

Gatorade

Paper plates

Mixed nuts

Laundry detergent

Dishwasher detergent

Fabric softener

Paper towels

Bottled water

Herbal teas (caffeine free)

Travel sized hand sanitizer

Because a family’s love is the best medicine and many of our guests are too humble to ask for specific items, let’s help keep the pantry stocked with fresh, fun and feel good items during their stay.

Donation box is located in the narthex.

LWML cont.

OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS:

OSELC LWML Meeting

Thursday September 14, 2023, 11:30 am after Ladies Bible Study

Gulf States District LWML Fall Retreat, October 13-15, 2023, Stone Bridge Farms, Cullman, AL. Details and registration form are in the Glad Tidings Summer Issue.

LWML Gulf States District Convention, April 26-27, 2024, Marriott Hotel and Convention Center, Prattville, AL

“Return to Your Rest”

Rest once more, my soul, for the LORD has vindicated you. Psalm 116:7

41st Biennial LWML National Convention,

Omaha, NE, June 26-30, 2025

MITES:

August mites: \$10.56. Mite box Sunday is the first Sunday each month. The mites are sent to the Gulf States District to fund mission grants at both the national and district levels and also fund district travel and administrative expenses.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Urda

LWML President



Getting Around OSELC

- Flower sign up—Sign up poster in the Fellowship Hall
- Refreshments sign up - Sign up sheet in the Fellowship Hall
- Directories—In the brochure rack in the Narthex
- Members’ mailboxes—In the Narthex
- LWML mite boxes—On the back counter shelf in the Nave
(find the list of board members on the back of the Newsletter)
- Make Offerings Electronically—See Brian Hull
- Subscribe to the Lutheran Witness magazine—See Trish Hull
- Websites:
 - Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod—www.LCMS.org
 - Southern District—www.southeranlcms.org

Birthdays:

Dawn Heller	9/12
Brian Hull	9/24
Jennifer Currid	9/24

Reminder!

If you are the last to leave the premises, please check all doors to assure they are closed securely and locked.

Thank you!
Julie Blaylok

Our Savior Evangelical Lutheran Church

Council Meeting Agenda (In-Person/ TEAMS)



August 8, 2023



President – Alex Franco

Vice-President- Brad Bien

1. Attendance: Pastor Parent, Alex Franco, Brad Bien, Jeannie Harrison, Julie Blaylock, Linda Urda, Brian Hull, Alan Widener
2. Opening Prayer - Pastor Parent opened the meeting at 6:30 in prayer.
3. Approve previous council minutes. – Minutes were read and approved (Linda/Brad).
4. Reports:
 - a) Pastor's Report (Fr Parent) - Attendance is holding steady around 35 communicants each Sunday. Pastor visited Steve Kamradt and gave him Communion. Pastor, along with Becky Williams, visited Jeannie Arveson at the Shoal Creek Rehab Center. Pastor asks for assistance in keeping the prayer list up-to-date. The "Membership Directory" includes non-members. This topic will be discussed at the Voters' Assembly on August 13.
 - b) Deaconess Report (Dcs Bien)-See attached.
 - c) Treasurer (Brian) – See attached.
 - d) Financial Report (Jeannie) – See attached.
 - e) Board of Security (Julie) – No recent incidents to report.
 - f) LWML (Linda) – See attached.
 - g) Board of Christian Life (Jennifer) - No report.
 - h) Board of Education/ Youth (Gervase) - See attached.
 - i) Board of Elders (Alan) – No report.
 - j) Board of Trustees (Brian) – See attached. The Council approved a motion for Brian Hull to obtain quotes for reflective numbers for the Fellowship Hall building. Brian will present at the Voters' Assembly a proposition to erect an enclosed pole barn on the existing cement slab (previous basketball court).
 - k) Board of Social Ministry (Becky) - No report.
 - l) Board of Evangelism (Alex) – No report.
5. Unfinished Business:
 - a. Our constitution is still at the Southern District office. No word on approval yet.
 - b. The Nominating Committee will be discussed further at the upcoming Voters' Assembly.
6. New Business: Voters' Assembly will be held on Sunday, August 13, 2023.
7. Closing- Pastor Parent closed the meeting at 7:35 with Compline.

Respectfully submitted,
Jennifer Currid

Our Savior Evangelical Lutheran Church

Voter's Assembly Meeting Minutes

August 13, 2023

President – Alex Franco

Vice-president- Brad Bien

1. Attendance – See attached.

2. Opening Prayer by Pastor Parent at 11:50.

3. Approve previous Voters' Assembly Meeting minutes (Linda/Brad).

4. Reports:

a) Pastor's Report (Fr Parent) – Thank you for the Ordination Dinner held in his honor on June 27th. Sunday morning Bible study is going well. Sunday worship service is well attended. With all the houses being built in Crestview at this time, we should garner a few members.

b) Deaconess Report (Dcs Bien) - Heather asked for prayers for Olivia and Sean as well as Alayna and Sean as they go through Catechism class.

c) Treasurer (Brian) – See attached treasure's report from August 8th council meeting. Brian explained the different sections of the treasure's report that is posted on the Fellowship Hall wall each month. Last quarter we were \$9,000 ahead of projected expenses; this quarter \$13,100.

d) Financial Secretary (Jeannie) – See attached.

e) LWML (Linda)- Linda handed out this year's list of mission grants. She also noted that there will be an Emerald Coast Zone rally on Sept. 30, from 9-2, at Good Shepherd in Shalimar.

f) Security (Julie) – No recent incidents to report. Julie asks that if you need to modify your door code usage hours, please let her know.

5. Unfinished Business: OSELC Nominating Committee (Validation)- The Nominating Committee members, Julie Blaylock, Jeannie Harrison, Dawn Heller, Trish Hull, and Jennifer Currid, were approved to move forward (Brad/Rich). Pastor Parent encouraged the congregation to not "burn out" our leadership and to stand up and say "yes" when asked to serve.

6. New Business:

a. Church Directory (Fr Parent) – Pastor Parent requests that the church directory list members only. Julie Blaylock said that members should be able to opt out of any personal information they do not want included in the directory. A motion was made to dispense of the directory in its current form. If members want a copy of the directory, they may contact Trish who will send them a copy via text or email.

b. Pole Barn Plan (Brian) – Voters approved a motion (Rich/Bruce) to explore options for a erecting a storage building to be placed on the existing, but unused, basketball court cement slab.

7. Closing – After a motion was made to adjourn, Pastor Parent led us in the Doxology at 12:27 (Brad/Rich).

Respectfully submitted,
Jennifer Currid

**OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN
EVANGELICAL CHURCH**

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We are on the Web!

www.Oselc.net



Council President: Alex Franco

Council Vice-President: Brad Bien

Secretary: Jennifer Currid

Treasurer: Brian Hull

Financial Secretary: Jeannie Harrison

Board of Elders: Alan Widener

Board of Christian Life: Jennifer Currid

Board of Trustees: Brian Hull

Newsletter Editor: Dcs. Bien

Board of Youth: Gervase Anthony

Board of Education: Gervase Anthony

Board of Evangelism: Alex Franco

Board of Social Ministry: Becky Williams

Board of Security: Julie Blaylock

LWML: Linda Urda

Library: Jennifer Currid

Usher Director: Julie Blaylock

Organist and Kantor: Brian Hull

Office Administrator: Trish Hull

Pastor Raymond Parent · Deaconess Heather Bien