



Bethlehem Lutheran Church



Bethlehem News



Dear Friends in Christ,

In the book of Matthew, Jesus gives us his instructions on prayer. We can and should use the Lord's Prayer as a template for our prayers. The Lord's prayer is simple opening up with who our Father is. Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.

By acknowledging that he is Holy we acknowledge what we are. In other words, poor miserable sinners. Some might say He made a mistake with us, but you and I know and believe it is because of original sin. For in the beginning when They had finished creating us, They said it was good. Our confession we use on Sunday is really on point with who we are in a fallen world. If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. So let's look at how Jesus would have us pray.

Matthew 6:9-14 "This, then, is how you should pray: "'Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, 10 your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

11 Give us today our daily bread. 12 And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. 13 And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from the evil one.'

14 For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. 15 But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.

When you read this prayer in the light of we are sinners because of original sin you realize the magnitude of God's grace and mercy for us in Christ Jesus. We are forgiven on account of Christ. He has redeemed us with His blood.

Then on top of that He provides for our every need. In the United States unfortunately our wants always seem to transform to our needs. We know that in reality needs are just that what you need for life. And God gives us much more that we actually need for our daily lives.

Now we come to the one that seems very difficult for us...forgiving others. But take a look at the word order. We are instructed by Jesus to ask our Father in Heaven to forgive us first before we forgive others. The fact is as we talked in Bible Study Sunday our Human Nature does now allow or enable us to forgive others. For some people their human nature might make it impossible to forgive ourselves.

The fact is that God freely forgives us on account of Christ. Think about everything God had done for you. Providing for your needs, comforting you when you suffer, and the biggest one... forgiving your sins. The creator of us and the universe forgiving you. We are then moved by faith to love others and when they wrong us, we are drawn forgive them.

As we live our lives remember we live in a fallen world, but Christ as redeemed us. Many around us are suffering and may have had events in their lives that are beyond words to describe the aftereffects. As Saint Paul says such forward put the new self on. We have Christ walk in the spirit of Love, Patience and Kindness.

Yours In Christ,

Pastor Karl



News and Updates



Tim and Mary Tobeck have joined the Stewardship Board. They will share the duties of processing and depositing the weekly offering with Rollin and Pat Duckwitz.

thrivent

I am sharing some of the web sites to check out items for Operation Christmas Child items to order. Amazon has a special area for OCC, Western Star, Target and Lion Wholesale are some of the ones that I have ordered from. We can use socks, underwear, hair items, and school items. Check OCC website for other suggestions for items. Betty Willis

Questions call *Betty Willis* at 239-240-5972.



We had a wonderful VBS this year. Thanks to all who helped make this a success. See the photos below and on pages 3 & 4



Elders Monthly Devotion

ADAM AND EVE

*On the sixth day of Creation, God created "in his own image"
man both "male and female "God told them to be
"Fruitful and multiply"*

and gave them dominion over living things.

*Under penalty of death, he commanded Adam not to eat
the fruit of the*

"Tree of knowledge of good and evil"

God created Eve from one of Adam's ribs.

*Eve yielded to the temptation of the evil serpent and
lured Adam to join her in eating the forbidden fruit.*

*God's punishments to the woman,
pain in childbirth and subordination to man,
and for the man, committed him to an accursed
ground with which he must work and sweat for his subsistence.*

Genesis

*Therefore, just as sin came
into the world through one
man, and death through
sin, and so death spread
to all men because all sinned.*

Romans 5:12

*For the wages of sin is death,
but the free gift of God
is eternal life.*

in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 6:23

Ask God

for forgiveness of your sins.

Lord, would you bless and keep us,

**Lord, please make your face
shine upon us.**

Amen

Klaus Naumann



Summer is moving along quickly and I am sure everyone is trying to stay indoors to avoid the heat. Thank you to the kitchen helpers for always pitching in when needed. If you can help even a Sunday or two, let one of the ladies know. I am sure they would appreciate it.

Also a big thank you to the ladies taking care of the altar and flowers. All of these tasks keep things running smoothly. God's blessings. Sandy



August 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1 VBS 9-12	2
3 10:30 Worship 11:30 Bible Study; Sunday School 12:30 VBS Picnic	4	5	6 10:30 Bible Study	7	8	9
10 10:30 Worship 11:30 Bible Study; Sunday School	11	12	13 10:30 Bible Study	14	15	16
17 10:30 Worship 11:30 Bible Study; Sunday School	18	19	20 10:30 Bible Study	21	22	23
24 10:30 Worship 11:30 Bible Study; Sunday School	25	26	27 10:30 Bible Study	28	29	30
31 10:30 Worship 11:30 Bible Study; Sunday School						

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES		AUGUST BIRTHDAYS	
8	Carol and Sam Harrison	6	Judy Hinrichs
10	Laurie and Noel Schroskey	10	Carrie Stecklein
21	Ginny and Pastor Karl Glander	12	Debbie Jackow
21	Judy & John Wittenberg	21	Chester Rust
26	Yvonne and Greg Murray	22	Carolyn Fernberg
<div>May God Bless Each One of You As We Celebrate Your Special Day!</div>		24	Linda Rust; Betty Willis; Richard Gerlach
		25	Jacqueline Blake
		27	Kurt Laser





Bethlehem Lutheran Church

Phone: 239-694-3878

Website: www.bethlehemplutheranfortmyers.org

Email: bethlehemlc@gmail.com

Prayer Chain Needs

Do you know that Bethlehem has a prayer chain that prays for the sick, dying and hurting needs of our church family?

Call or email Linda at (239) 693-5026 or jlkirsch3@comcast.net

Your needs will be taken to the Lord!

Sunday Worship

10:30 AM Worship Service

Rev. Karl Glander

pastorkarlglander@gmail.com

239-293-1489

Organist: Holly Bell

Church Secretary: Linda Kirsch



LOU SCHAFER
JULY 23, 2025

