

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
1326 South 26 Street
Omaha, NE 68105-2380

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REGULAR SUNDAY EVENTS

9:00 A.M. Christian Education

10:30 A.M. Worship Service

Pastor - Rev. Dr. Damon D. Laaker

Editor/Church Secretary – Brenda Spahr

Organist - Lynda Laird

Sexton - Brian Sutej/Titus Duli

Interfaith Health Ministries - Virginia McGill

Lutheran Volunteer - Anna Ernst

**Inspired By Christ, it is our mission
to share God's Word and Love in
care and in service to all.**

June 2011



THE
GRACE
MESSENGER



2011 Council Members

Titus Duli	Andrew Edwards	Arlone Farber	Ralph Fitle
David Hufford	Greg Hula	Carolyn Matson	Ernie Olson
Samantha Trejo	Pastor Laaker		

Officers Serving the Congregation but not on Council:

Financial Secretary: Janet Hula Treasurer: Margie Sutej

The regular meeting of the Council was held on May 10. The Council members shared their prayer concerns: we prayed for individuals who are graduating from high school and college, including our own, Julia and Shaban, praying for their safety and trusting that good things lay ahead for them; we pray for Ron Adrian, our fellow Grace member, as he recovers from surgery; we pray for Phil Minino, who has lung cancer and a fractured hip; we pray for Sue Rose, who is undergoing radiation and chemotherapy for lung cancer; we pray for Norma Courtney, who is having some health issues and was recently hospitalized; we pray for Lois Zellner, who has some cancerous spots on her skin; we pray for Jim Howarth, who is having some neurological issues; we pray for Dottie Hula, who will be having carpal tunnel surgery; we pray for our shut-in's, Barbara Nelson, Barb Narducci, and Mae Lane; we pray for the countries that are going through tumultuous times, including Sudan, Libya, Egypt, and others who are experiencing political unrest, fighting, and unnecessary loss of life; we pray for a resolution of ending violence in our own city; we pray for all people in the United States that have been faced with physical and emotional trauma caused from natural disasters, leaving a widespread trail of death and destruction; we pray for the safety and hope for rebuilding in the wake of natural disasters for all nations afflicted; we pray for the people across the nation that are unemployed, including our own fellow member, Titus Duli; while we pray for the needs of our Sudanese brothers and sisters, we were encouraged to pray for the people who are still in Sudan and are facing many unresolved governmental issues, as well as monumental needs for hospitals and schools; we pray for the safety of armed service personnel, police and patrol officers; and as we count our many blessings, we pray for the poor, the hungry, the homeless, and the oppressed.

Devotions were led by Pastor Laaker reading the selected verses of Isaiah 64:8 and Matthew 6:10 from the "Daily Texts." Isaiah presents a loving, wonderful image. God is our "potter" and God uses creativity to mold each one of us uniquely. Matthew seems to strike a personal note. The Kingdom of God comes when God's will is done in us and as we surrender our lives to God through Jesus Christ and allow ourselves to be transformed. Then, we begin to live as Kingdom people, living out God's will on earth as it is in heaven.

Visions for Ministry: The Council continued their discussion on the book titled, "Leadership in Congregations." As in any journey, it is always good to look at where we have come from and what has been accomplished in line of growth in Church leadership. Relationships can be troubling and difficult at times, which makes navigating the challenges more important.

Reports were received from the Financial Secretary and the Treasurer. Please continue to give generously.

Continued.....

Christian Education: The official dates and times for VBS are June 26-30 from 6:00-8:15 p.m. On Sunday, May 22nd, at 3:00 p.m., at Carol Joy Holling Camp, there will be an opportunity to hear the experiences from the Synod group that traveled to Israel and Palestine.

Anna Ernst has been working with youth leaders and Sunday schools from thirteen Churches in creating "Youth Serving Omaha." The plan is to have morning, half-day "workshops" from June 13-17. There will be a short breakfast, opening devotions, and then the youth will be directed to a service site each day.

Evangelism/Outreach: "Family Fun Night" will be on May 13th at the Church, hosted by Anna Ernst from 6:30-9:00 p.m. There will be pizza, games, and a movie.

On Tuesday, May 17th, the Council is invited to welcome the kids and their families who will be involved in the "Kids At Work" program this year. A light supper will be served at approximately 6:30 p.m.

Grace Lutheran and St. Luke's Lutheran are applying for another Lutheran Volunteer position, to fill the vacancy when Anna Ernst leaves. At this point in time, there are no additional interviews lined up, but we will wait patiently to see what God has in mind for us.

Thursday, May 12th is the last day for the "After School" program. A decision for the future of the program has not been made yet.

Finance: The Council ratified the allocation of funds from the Disney Endowment.

Property: Plans to "close" the sale on the property to the north of the Church should be completed by the end of May.

Service/Social Ministry: Habitat for Humanity will start a house build at 1519 South 27th Street on June 10th.

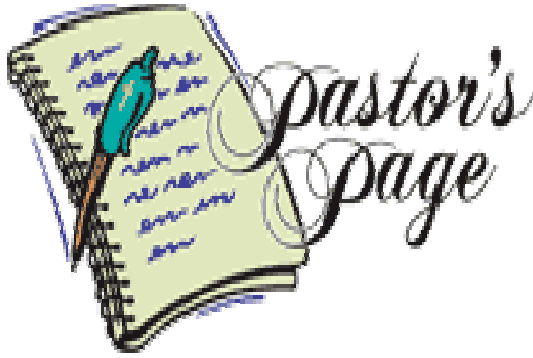
Support/Stewardship: Our fall stewardship theme will be "Investing for Time and Eternity."

Worship: Lynda Laird and her husband, Todd Laird, will be putting together some worship music for the summer months. This will be a bit different than what we currently are used to, but it will be very refreshing.

Unfinished Business: Anna Ernst will also attend the Nebraska Synod Assembly during the first weekend in June with David Hufford and Pastor Laaker. The meeting is titled, "Faith 2 Grow."

New Business: No new business.

Announcements: Pastor Laaker will bring treats and lead the closing pray for our June 2011 Council meeting. While Pastor Laaker attends the Nebraska Synod Meeting during the first weekend in June, Pastor Anna Terman-White will be doing the worship service and Pastor Neal Von Seggern will lead the worship service on May 29th, as Pastor Laaker will be on vacation. On July 9th, at the Mid America Center in Co. Bluffs, Iowa, will host a New South Sudan birthday party organized by leaders in Washington, D.C.



Dear Friends,

I write this in the last days, at least that is what is predicted by the eBible Fellowship. I suspect you have seen the billboards, bus signs, etc., throughout the city of Omaha. They are posted throughout the world. If you drop “end of the world 2011” into a search bar on the Internet, you will be given plenty of choices to read about the predicted end of the world.

The eBible Fellowship claims that May 21, 2011 is Judgment Day. On this day, those who are true believers elected by God will be raptured (taken up) out of this world to meet the Lord in the air and forever be with the Lord. The rest of humankind will be left behind to experience the awful judgment of God for five months. The end of the world will be on October 21, 2011. All of these predictions are based on a dating method that has the world created in 11,013 BC. The flood of Noah in 4990 BC, the birth of Jesus in 7BC, 1988 AD the beginning of the 23 years of tribulation, thus the end is in 2011.

In one of their documents, it even cautions readers that if they speak to their pastor about this, they will most likely be told to disregard these predictions. They say it like this:

Upon hearing the information that May 21, 2011 is Judgment Day, many in the churches immediately refer to a Bible verse such as:

Matthew 24:36 *But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only.*

“You see,” they say after quoting this verse, “the Bible tells us that no man can know.” They might even add, “Not even Jesus Himself knows the time; therefore, your date of May 21 is all wrong.” As is often the case after quickly making this statement and dismissing the information regarding the date of the end of the world, this individual will go on his or her way content that this will never happen. “After all,” they think, “the Bible says we cannot know the timing of the end.”

They make the case that one needs to read their Bible. I agree. It is important for all Christians to immerse themselves in the Word. However, the eBible Fellowship immediately makes the case for their particular reading the Bible. Claiming that this way of reading is correct and therefore one can know the precise date and time of the end.

Much of the material makes a lot of God’s judgment. I don’t see much mention of God’s grace, God’s restoration or God’s love for God’s world. It makes me wonder what happened to the idea of the resurrection of Jesus being the beginning of God’s renewal of humanity. I would like to think that Jesus’ claim that he has conquered the world and has come in order that we “might have life and have it abundantly” is more in keeping with God’s design.

I guess if you are reading this at the end of the month, one of two things may be true. One, you were left behind and if you find me, evidently, I was left behind, too. If we continue to have the same folks attend worship, evidently, we were all left behind. Or secondly, God may have a different plan in mind that truly is only known by God.

If indeed, God has a different plan, I want to encourage you to read your Bible. Find a small group that will study with you. Ask questions. I am always ready and willing to engage with you in seeking the wisdom of God. I trust the Holy Spirit will guide us into an understanding that brings hope and joy to our journey in faith.

Pastor Laaker



Prayer Concerns from Family and Friends

*"We always thank God for all of you and continually
mention you in our prayers. "*

1 Thessalonians 1:2

Those we pray for named below are members unless otherwise specified:

- ◆ Andrew Edwards - Doing dialysis a couple times a week until a kidney can be found.
- ◆ Mae Lane - Ongoing health issues.
- ◆ Ken Hilmer - Ongoing health issues.
- ◆ La Vonne Moss - Ongoing health issues.
- ◆ Ferne Matson - Ongoing health issues.
- ◆ Barbara Nelson - as she recovers from a stroke.
- ◆ Barbara Narducci - as she continues to recover from her fall.
- ◆ Margie Sutej - Ongoing health issues.
- ◆ Ron Adrian - Recovery at home following surgery.
- ◆ Jack Williams - Recovery from a fall.
- ◆ Brian Sutej - Ongoing health issues. (Margie's husband)
- ◆ Rose Heesacker - as she receives chemotherapy for colon cancer treatment. (June Hilmer's sister.)

Pray for our Shut - ins and Nursing Home residents:

Mae Lane - St Joe Villa.

Barbara Nelson - Life Care Center, Elkhorn.

Pray for wisdom for your Church Council here at Grace Church.

Pray for the Council Members. Ask God to bless their ministry among us.

Pray for strength and spiritual wisdom for the leaders in the local church and the Nebraska Synod:

Pastor Laaker

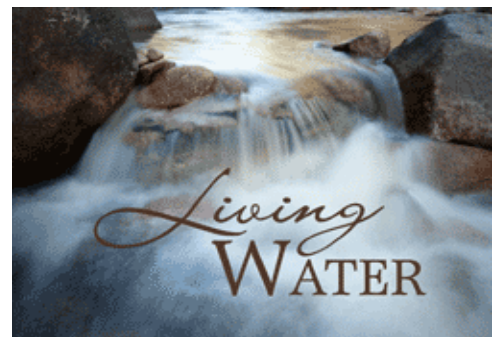
Bishop David deFreese, Nebraska Synod

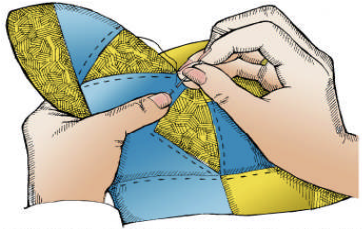
Bishop Mark Hanson, ELCA Bishop, United States

- ◆ Pray for the Sudanese community in general. Titus Duli, David Nange and Charles Tuw are the elders for the Sudanese Worshipping Community.

*Let's encourage each other as we see God's hand
in answering our prayers.*

Jesus had no servants, yet they called Him Master. Had no degree, yet they called Him Teacher. Had no medicines, yet they called Him Healer. Had no army, yet kings feared Him. He won no military battles, yet He conquered the world. He committed no crime, yet they crucified Him. He was buried in a tomb, yet He lives today. Patrick Moore.





QUILTING GROUP

The Quilting Group

Will be taking the summer off and will resume their dedication to the craft of making quilts for the Lutheran World Relief on September 12th

Have a Great Summer!

Lutheran Women of Omaha will meet
June 14, 2011 for a 12:00 Luncheon At
Lutheran Church of the Master
2617 South 114th Street.

Program: Open Door Mission

Project: Monetary - Open Door Mission

Reservations By: June 12, 2011
To

Mardelle Gocek - 402-292-1328
Luncheon: \$6.00 COME JOIN US



*Women of the Evangelical
Lutheran Church in America*



Wednesday Night

June 15, 2011

7:00 p.m.

Candle light Prayer Service
for Confession,
Meditation and Healing
at Grace Lutheran Church.

People of all faiths welcome!

Table Grace Café

A new café at 1611 ½ Farnam Street is officially open to the public! This is a unique café, "Nourishing Hungry Bodies and Souls". Everyone, regardless of economic status, is hungry in some way. TGC will provide quality food in a graceful manner to anyone who walks through the door, and give people a chance to help each other in a very hands-on, person-to-person way. Pay what you can, what you want to, or what you feel your meal experience at TGC is worth. No set prices. Come see us Monday through Saturday from 11am - 2pm. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Simone at 402-706-3065.



With the summer months come a pause in many activities. With regards to my work at Grace, this means the end of the after-school program. Getting to know the neighborhood kids and being completely in charge of the after-school program has been an eye-opening, challenging, good experience for me, and I thank you for your support. At this time, it is my recommendation that Grace not offer the after-school program next year, but it is my opinion that the nature of our continued interactions with the neighborhood families will play a very important role in how we are perceived in both the immediate neighborhood and greater South Omaha community. Smiles and welcoming attitudes will go a very long way!



A few notes on June activities:

-During the weekend of June 3 - 5th I will be at Synod Assembly, serving as one of your delegates.
-I'm excited for the Habitat for Humanity Omaha/Neighbors South Coalition build to begin, and very pleased to inform you that some members from St. Luke's and Faith Bible Church will probably be joining us for the build as well. I think being a part of Habitat is such an important, wonderful ministry - I worked on a Habitat home with my high school youth group before the 2006 youth gathering in San Antonio and had so much fun and learned a lot, so I'm looking forward to helping out with some of the build *right here in our neighborhood!*

I'm also looking forward to beginning to work with Kids at Work on Tuesday, June 5th.

-I am still planning on walking for NAMI on Saturday, June 11th at 10:00 am at Elmwood Park. Thanks to my caring contributors, I am currently one of the top 10 individual fundraisers for the walk! If you'd be interested in walking (it's a 5K/3.1 miles), let me know - I'd love to have you walk with me.

-During the week of June 13 - 17th, I will be working during the mornings at Lutheran Youth Serve Omaha, a program for youth in the churches within our cluster (the ELCA churches between the river and 60th Street). I have been working on planning this program for the past month and a half with youth leaders from St. Matthew and Kountze. The youth will begin each day with breakfast and a large-group gathering at Kountze, break into smaller age-appropriate groups to travel to and work at service sites in downtown Omaha (food pantries, daycares, parks, etc.), and gather back at Kountze for large-group closing before dismissal. We, the planning team would certainly appreciate donations for the program, including:

- Breakfast foods; milk (individual cartons, ½ gallons, or gallons), juice pouches/boxes, fruit, individual cereal boxes or granola/cereal bars
- Spray bottles of sunblock
- bags of individually wrapped candy (for a service project at deFreese Manor)

I will leave a box for those donations in the fellowship hall. Thank you so much for your generosity!



Finally, I plan on doing a lot of walking and talking this month to continue to learn as much as I can about our neighbors. May the fire of Pentecost burn brightly within all of you!

Anna Ernst, Volunteer
Community Outreach Associate

"Helping Hands"

Working Together in God's service



Project Hope

The Theme for June is:

Canned Vegetables, Baby Food, and Baked Beans

These are things our clients can not purchase with their food stamps and are always appreciated.

Diapers	Dish soap
Deodorant	Toothbrush and toothpaste
Can Openers	Mouthwash (without alcohol)
Shaving Cream	Feminine hygiene products
Razors	Hair products (combs, brushes, picks)
Kleenex	Dry Laundry Soap
Bar Soap	Bathroom tissue

We always need paper or plastic bags.



Can
You
Help?

**Neighbors South Coalition
Habitat for Humanity
Build Begins
June 10th**

**Building Site:
1519 South 27th Street
Omaha, NE**

The summer build project for the Neighbors South Coalition begins on June 10th with framing the exterior walls, interior walls and the trusses. There is still much to accomplish by the target completion date to be announced.

Volunteers are needed to help in all areas of construction, food preparation, service, and cleanup. There are two shifts per day. The morning shift is from 8:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. with a snack and lunch provided. The afternoon shift is from 12:30 - 5:00 p.m. with a snack provided.

Whether you are a skilled construction worker, a handy man type or just willing to learn, there is a job for you. On site volunteer coordinators are also needed to over see check-in, lunch and snack set up, cleanup or just being a "go fer."

If you are interested in being a part of this wonderful and satisfying project, volunteer forms are available at the back of the sanctuary or through the church office by calling 402-341-7730.



- ◆ Thank you to Jack Williams for his dedication in tending to the plants in the entry way, they continue to look welcoming.
- ◆ Thank you to Donna Adrian, Mary Laaker, Tom and Sarah Emery and Vicki Cox for their ongoing care in the nursery during Sunday morning worship service.
- ◆ Thank you to Bob Moss, Jerry Van Ormer, and Ernie Olson for their continuing efforts to maintain the church with any projects that need to be completed.
- ◆ Thank you to LaVonne Moss, Norma Olson, June Hilmer, Eva Martin and Marilyn Van Ormer for their wonderful quilting work each Monday morning for Lutheran World Relief. Enjoy your summer break!
- ◆ Thank you to all the lawn care personnel; Bob Moss, Jerry Van Ormer, and Ernie Olson who are tending the Church yard beautifully.

Happening in the Library!

Summer Reading!

This summer lets encourage everyone to read a book worth reading! Share the book with a friend, then discuss your favorite or least favorite part.



There are plenty of summer adventures waiting for all to find in a book worth reading in the church library. Come on in and discover one for yourself! Fiction, non-fiction, and biographies, take a look and check-out a book or two!

Is the library missing a book you would like to read? Please let Brenda, Donna, Eva, or Carolyn know and one of us will put it on a list for our next book shopping spree.

I've sure gotten old! I've had two bypass surgeries, a hip replacement, new knees, fought prostate cancer and diabetes. I'm half blind, can't hear anything quieter than a jet engine, take 40 different medications that make me dizzy, winded, and subject to blackouts... Have bouts with dementia, have poor circulation; hardly feel my hands and feet anymore. Can't remember if I'm 85 or 92. Have lost all my friends. But, thank God, I still have my driver's license.



Shared by June Hilmer

Pentecost Sunday is June 12th

On Sunday, June 12th Grace will have a 10:30 a.m. Joint Worship Service with our Sudanese brothers and sisters. Please wear red in celebration and reflection that this color recalls the tongues of flame in which the Holy Spirit descended on the first Pentecost. The color red also reminds us of the blood of the martyrs. These are the believers of every generation who by the power of the Holy Spirit hold firm to the faith even at the cost of their lives.



Take the Quiz!

How does your religious knowledge compare with other Americans? The Pew Research Center's Forum on Religion & Public Life quizzed Americans of all faiths on 32 religious knowledge questions. How will you do? Do You Know....

- A. Who inspired the Reformation?
- B. Where was Jesus Born?
- C. What are the four gospels?



The best revenge is a vow to never be like the one who hurt you.

The Bible in Fifty Words

God made.
Hope died.
Adam bit.
Love rose.
Noah arked.
Spirit flamed.
Abraham split.
Word spread.
Joseph ruled.
God remained.
Jacob fooled.
Bush talked.
Moses balked.
Pharaoh plagued.
People walked.
Sea divided.
Tablets guided.
Promise landed.
Saul freaked.
David peaked.
Prophets warned.
Jesus born.
God walked.
Love talked.
Anger crucified.

A. Martin Luther
B. Bethlehem
C. Matthew, Mark, Luke, & John

The Welcome Dinner held on Tuesday, May 17th was a blast! Both familiar and new people interacting and learning new things about each other. Everyone enjoyed a small "I Spy" game in the Upper Fellowship Hall, and learned that finding items alone was more difficult than in a group. Youth found it much easier and more fun to discover hidden items together.

Kids At Work 2011



Poha, Sunday, and Mesha

FUN!



We know who these two are!
Titus and Pastor!



John and Andrea

FUN!

Would you like to support kids in a good start by learning how to save money and develop good work skills? If you are an adult with a bit of time to help as a team leader, contact Brenda Spahr at 341-7730. Don't miss out on all the fun this summer!



Virginia McGill
Director

Gema C. Wolde
Community Health Worker
Se habla español.

Project Abstract

Interfaith Health Service (IHS) is a unique and successful collaborative effort of hope and healing based in South Omaha. IHS began in 1997 as a coalition of congregations, health care providers, community agencies and college personnel seeking to promote health and make a difference in a community that is often overlooked and is at-risk for poor health outcomes. It has grown to meet the changing needs of the South Omaha community.

Latinas In Action has become a beacon of hope for Latinas and their families in the South Omaha community. It began as a simple gathering place and time for new immigrants and quickly grew into a place of community learning and success. The women, including staff and participants, draw on each other's strengths, wisdom and beliefs that their lives can be what they want them to be. Over 8,000 families take part in programming each year, including exercise, educational classes, youth and children's programming, sewing and micro-business and art projects.

Over the past few years Latinas In Action programs have focused on –

- ✓ Physical health and well-being through offering a series of relevant exercise classes – including Latin-inspired Zumba and by implementing a Promotora program that provide home visits to new moms and other at-risk community members
- ✓ Mental health and well-being by providing a safe place for women and their children can gather to discuss life stressors and work towards common goals of education and employment
- ✓ Addressing societal issues, such as domestic violence, child abuse, substance abuse, etc. head-on through collaborative efforts with local agencies
- ✓ Inspiring young women to follow their dreams and enroll in higher education AND assisting them in applying for scholarships, financial aid and walk them through the process of “going to college”
- ✓ Working with new immigrant populations, such as Guatemalan, and blending the cultures to accentuate the positive in all cultures
- ✓ Partnering with local business leaders to teach the women business literacy – including how to participate and build small businesses
- ✓ Partnering with local stores in the community to sell the items developed in the micro businesses
- ✓ Introduce the concept of volunteerism in the Latina community and foster the positive interactions gained through volunteering

Latinas In Action has become an integral part of the Latina community and will continue to inspire and work with women to assist them in living their dreams – for this generation and the ones to follow.

Community News

Looking for a Fun and Meaningful Summer Service Experience?

Lutheran Youth Serve Omaha may be just what you're looking for! This FREE weeklong program will run from 8:30 am - noon from Monday, June 13th - Friday, June 17th, and is open for registration for participants who have finished kindergarten all the way up to participants who have finished high school. (We'd also LOVE to have adult volunteers!) We will begin each day with breakfast and a large-group gathering at Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church (2650 Farnam St), break into smaller age-appropriate groups to travel to and work at service sites in downtown Omaha (food pantries, daycares, parks, etc.), and gather back at Kountze for large-group closing before dismissal. Sound good? For more information or to register participants, go online to <http://www.kmlchurch.org> or call Stacia Vawter at 402-556-7030 for a printed copy of registration materials or to register as an adult volunteer. Registration deadline is Friday, June 3rd.



OTOC Spring Delegates Assembly On June 12th at 3:00 p.m. OTOC will have it's Spring Delegates Assembly at the TAC Building (30th & Cuming). Come and be apart of a conversation that looks to strengthen housing and revitalize neighborhoods, education, create a just immigration reform, find ways to support our refugee community, and recreate a workforce development center that works for all. If you have any questions, please contact the OTOC office: 402-344-4401.

"We do not know the play. We do not even know whether we are in Act I or Act V. We do not know who are the major and who are the minor characters. The Author knows. ... But we, never seeing the play from the outside, ... cannot tell at what moment the end ought to come. That it will come when it ought, we may be sure. ... That it has a meaning we may be sure, but we cannot see it. When it is over, we may be told. We are led to expect that the Author will have something to say to each of us who has played. The playing it well is what matters infinitely."

C.S. Lewis (1898-1963) English writer and scholar [Clive Staples Lewis]
"The World's Last Night"

From the book *Live and Learn and Pass It On*

I have learned that it's OK to be content with what you have, but never with what you are. ☺ Age 51





High-fives

At a wedding ceremony, the pastor raised his hand to give the couple the final blessing. The bride misunderstood and surprised him with a “high-five.” Not wanting to exclude the groom, the pastor offered him a “high-five,” too.

Reprinted from the JoyfulNoiseletter

At a church wedding, the pastor instructed the groom: “Place the ring on Jennie’s finger and repeat after me, ‘I, Andrew Smith, do take Jennie to be my lawfully wedded wife...’” The groom repeated, “I, Andrew Smith, do take Jennie to be my waffle wedded wife.” The bride quickly added, “... and pancaking wife,” breaking up the congregation.

—via George Goldtrap
Ormond-by-the-Sea, FL

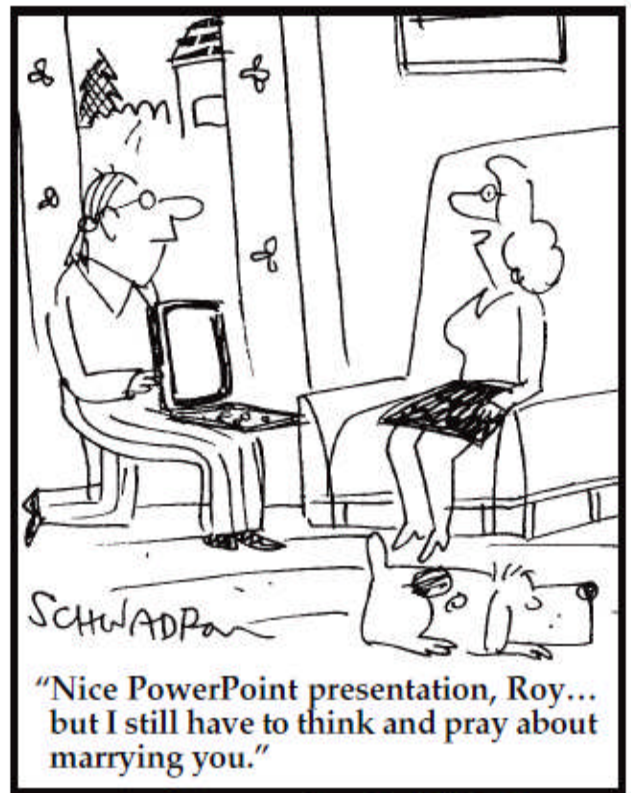
Reprinted from the JoyfulNoiseletter

June is

- ☉ Adopt-A-Shelter-Cat Month
- ☉ American Rivers Month
- ☉ Cancer In The Sun Month
- ☉ Dairy Month
- ☉ Turkey Lover's Month
- ☉ National Accordion Awareness Month
- ☉ National Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Month
- ☉ Nation Ice Tea Month
- ☉ National Papaya Month
- ☉ National Pest Control Month
- ☉ National Rose Month
- ☉ Fight The Filthy Fly Month
- ☉ Zoo and Aquarium Month

Special Days in June at Grace Lutheran Church

June 5 - Kids At Work First Sunday.
June 7 - Kids At Work First Work Day.
June 10 - First Work Day for Habitat.
June 12 - Pentecost Sunday.
June 14 - Church Council.
June 14 - Flag Day.
June 19 - Father’s Day!
June 20 - World Refugee Day.
June 26 - 30 - Vacation Bible School.



from JoyfulNoiseletter.com

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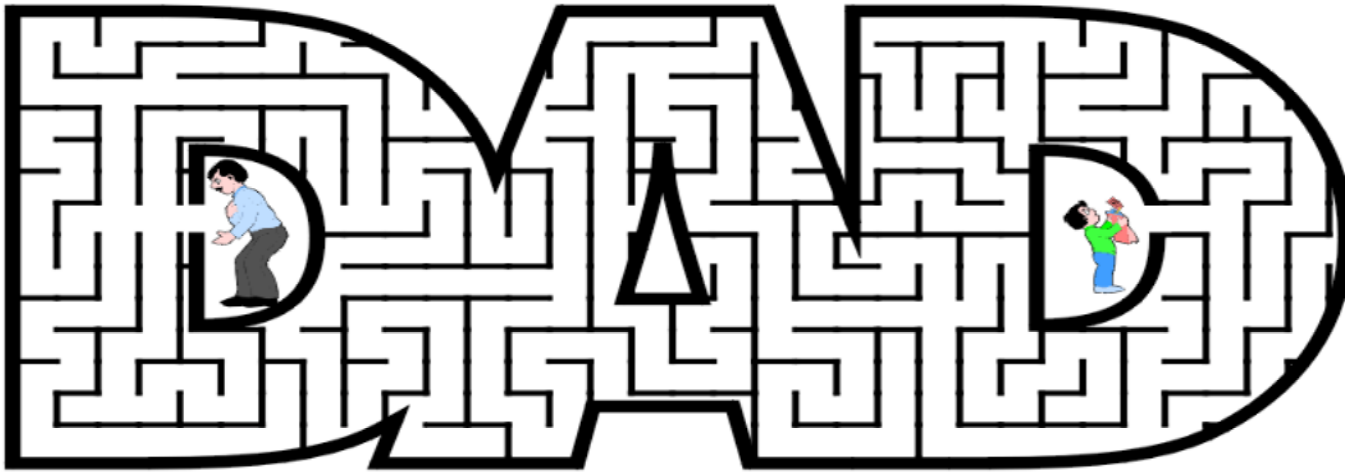
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The young couple was meeting with their pastor to sign some pre-wedding ceremony papers. While filling out the form, the prospective groom read aloud this question: ‘Are you entering this marriage of your own free will?’ He looked over at his fiancée. “Put down ‘yes,’ she said.”

—via Rev. Dr. Karl R. Kraft
Glassboro (NJ) UMC

Reprinted from the JoyfulNoiseletter

Help the father find his way through the DAD shaped maze to find his gift giving son.



Bill Gates in a talk to high school graduates:

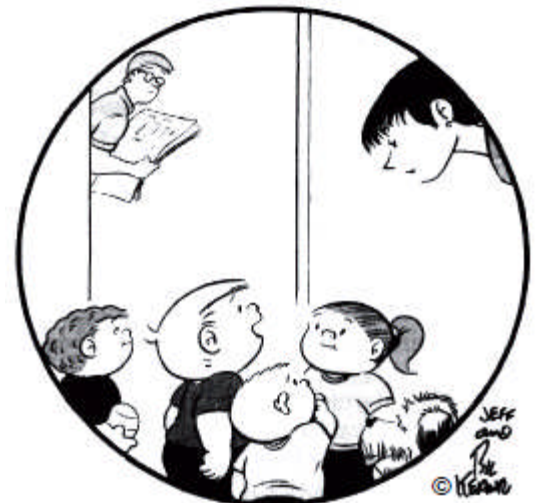
“The world doesn’t care about your self-esteem. The world will expect you to accomplish something *before* you feel good about yourself. “Be nice to nerds. Chances are you’ll end up working for one.”

Senior clown Bud Frimoth of Portland, OR, says he himself “doesn’t know how to text or tweet a thing, but since more and more seniors are texting and tweeting, there appears to be a need for an STC (Senior Texting Code).” He suggests some of the following codes:

- ATD: At the doctor’s.
- BTW: Bring the wheelchair.
- BYOT: Bring your own teeth.
- CUATSC: See you at the Senior Center.
- DWI: Driving while incontinent.
- GGPBL: Gotta go, Pacemaker battery low.
- LMDO: Laughing my dentures out.
- ROFL... CGU: Rolling on the floor laughing, and can’t get up.
- WAITT: Who am I talking to?

Reprinted from the JoyfulNoiseletter

THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil and Jeff Keane



“We voted and on Father’s Day
Daddy gets to play with us ALL DAY!”

from JoyfulNoiseletter.com
Reprinted with permission of Bil Keane

**Top 5
“We Time” Activities Families Take
Part In**

1. Watching T.V. or movies (86%)
2. Cooking, baking or grilling (49%)
3. Playing video games (42%)
4. Reading or listening to books together (41%)
5. Listening, singing, or dancing to music (39%)

From Thrivent Magazine