

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

Return Service Requested

Dated Material

Delivered to the Post Office July 27

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Omaha NE
Permit No. 39

Email: graceluth@graceluth.com

Web Site: www.graceluth.com

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.

August 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 July 12. The Council members shared their prayer concerns: we pray for Phil Minino, who is dealing with lung cancer and a fractured hip, and is extremely weak and hospitalized at this time; we pray for Sue Rose, who is battling lung cancer; we pray for Timmy Campbell, who is having some health issues with his blood; we pray for Dottie Hula, who is having her second carpal tunnel surgery; we pray for our shut-in's, Barbara Nelson, Barb Narducci, and Mae Lane (presently hospitalized with pneumonia); we pray for Grace member, Jack Williams, who is dealing with some health issues; we pray for Elaine McKenzie who is battling some health issues; we pray for the people across the nation that are unemployed, including our own fellow member, Titus Duli, as well as so many others that we personally know who are looking for work; we pray for Jim Menard, who is having a heart catheterization procedure; we pray for Thelma Paniagua, who is having carpal tunnel surgery; we sing praises of thanksgiving for having a successful Vacation Bible School this year and were so thankful to have wonderful leadership and volunteers, who made it all possible; we sing praises of thanksgiving for the blessings that Lynda and Todd Laird have given our Church and will miss them dearly; we pray for the countries that are going through tumultuous times, including Sudan and Africa; we continue to 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 safety for all people traveling in flooded areas; we pray for flood victims in our own state of Nebraska and surrounding states; we pray for states and nations that have had extreme heat and drought conditions; we pray for the needs of our Sudanese brothers and sisters, and be ever mindful to pray for the people in Southern Sudan, who are facing many issues as they start a new country; 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 Genesis 18:19 and Luke 22:35 from the "Daily Texts." Genesis 18:19 reminds us that in God's love, he chose Abraham to have a covenant relationship that endures forever. Abraham directed his children and household after him to keep the way of the Lord by doing what is right and just. Luke 22:35 reminds us that our trust in God will give us what we need. Being a faithful servant of God's love, is what Jesus teaches us. As Pastor Laaker uplifts our pray requests, we are reminded that we are not perfect and we must ask for the forgiveness of our sins and ask God to keep us on "His path."

Visions for Ministry: The Council continued their discussion on the book titled, "Leadership in Congregations." Leadership requires learning the use of the congregation's story to shape the community and guide ministry. We increasingly understand faith and religion as a doorway to creating meaning in our lives.

Continued...

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

Christian Education: VBS was a success. Approximately 33-36 kids attended with 25 adult “helpers.” Thanks to everyone who made this all possible.

Evangelism/Outreach: “Kids at Work” program is going well with 20 young people attending this summer.

Anna Ernst reported that this would be her last Council meeting at Grace. The Council reflected upon the past year we have had Anna in our presence and we are certainly going to miss her and her contributions.

Finance: The Mission Investment Fund paperwork has been completed on the purchase of the property to the north of the Church (Olson Property). There will be some final costs to pay which includes title insurance, property taxes, and gas and electricity charges. A motion was made and carried by the Council to utilize 2400.00 out of the Contingency Fund to cover the above costs.

Property: Pastor Laaker will share a progress report of the work involving the property improvement plan. It has been reported that part of the tower roof on the Church is rotted and causing a leak. Pastor was encouraged by a contractor to contact the insurance company for an inspection and proposal for repair.

Service/Social Ministry: A “farewell” to summer is going to be held on Sunday, August 7th. The “Kids at Work” program is ending, Anna’s last Sunday at Church will be that day, and the Laird’s are leaving us will be celebrated. Greg Hula, Ralph Fitts and Andrew Edwards will coordinate the meat; while there will be a sign-up sheet for desert and side dishes.

Support/Stewardship: The Council approved a special offering for Joseph LaL, a young gentleman working toward being a Lutheran Pastor in the Sudan. He is in need of funds for housing. The Endowment Fund has provided funds for the tuition costs. Joseph’s family lives in a refugee camp in Ethiopia.

Worship: There will be a joint ministry “field trip,” sponsored by the Nebraska Synod, on September 30-October 2 at the Welcome Center in Lexington, Nebraska. The Council tossed around a couple ideas for getting a small going away present for the Lairds and Anna Ernst.

Unfinished Business: At this time, there is no replacement for Anna Ernst, so the Lutheran Volunteer position will be vacant for the coming year.

New Business: No new business.

Announcements: David Hufford will bring treats and lead the closing pray for our August 2011 Council meeting. Pass the word around for August 7th-it’s going to be fun. The “Christ Clowns” will be here.

Computer one-liners:

It said "Insert disk 3..." but only 2 fit.

If a train station is where the train stops, what is a work station?

All wiyht. Rho sritched mg kegtops awound?

Willyoupleasehelpmefixmykeyboard?Thespacebarisbroken!





St. Paul writes to the Corinthian congregation: I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus,⁵ for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind. 1Cor 1:4-5

This is a bittersweet time. We are soon to say goodbye to Anna Ernst who has been a part of our ministry for the past year. I remember the anticipation and wonder that accompanied her arrival. I now think of all the ways we have shared in ministry and find myself missing her before she leaves.

We have experienced Anna's enthusiasm for life. She has brought energy and vitality among us. She has expressed her love for learning and developing new relationships. She has participated in ongoing ministry projects and led new efforts.

I, like St. Paul, give thanks to God for this opportunity to share ministry and life together. We have experienced the grace of God in conversations, in ministry activities and in personal conversations. I am grateful for Anna's willingness to come to a new community and offer herself and her gifts in ministry. We have been enriched.

So while we must say, goodbye, we remember in thankfulness the grace of God that has come to us through Anna.

In May of 2009, we said goodbye to our organist of many years, Cody Talarico. We wondered what God would do in helping us find someone who would help lead us in worship. We were wonderfully surprised when Lynda Laird substituted and then became our regular music leader. She has now submitted her resignation and will leave us after the first Sunday in August.

Lynda has brought her wonderful talents and led us with joy. Her flexibility and spirit is contagious. She brightens the room when she enters and her voice fills our spirits with joy.

We have celebrated with Lynda and Todd the birth of their two boys, Holden and Harrison. Their boys have brightened the faces of many as they share their vigor for life.

I give thanks to God for Lynda because of the grace that God has blessed us with through her ministry of music. I give thanks for the privilege of working alongside her and have truly experienced the riches of her musical talents.

Ministry is filled with many beginnings and many endings. In all of these, we experience God's grace and the unfolding of the fabric of life together in Christ Jesus. It is unknown at the moment how God will bless us with new ministry partners. Yet, I am confident that God will.

I give thanks to God for the life and ministry we have shared with Lynda and Anna. Please come on Sunday, August 7, participate in our praise of God's blessings and bid them farewell and God's speed.



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.
- ◆ Barbara Nelson - as she recovers from a stroke.
- ◆ Barbara Narducci - as she continues to recover from her fall.
- ◆ Margie Sutej - Ongoing health issues.
- ◆ Brian Sutej - Ongoing health issues. (Margie's husband)
- ◆ Rose Heesacker - as she receives chemotherapy for colon cancer treatment. (June Hilmer's sister.)
- ◆ Rex Olson - Cancer returned and for his cancer treatment. (Don Olson's brother.)
- ◆ Bradley Collett - continuing treatment for blood clots. (Kids At Work Alumni.)

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 deFosse, 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 Worshiping Community.

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

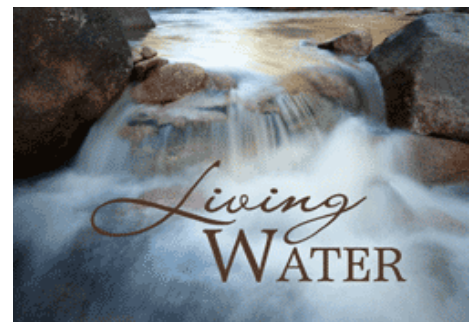
Prayer is a free gift.

We can pray to God anywhere, anytime.

Jesus does always hear us.

A gift no one can take away.

~ Crystal C.A. Spence





Wednesday Night
 August 17, 2011
 7:00 p.m.
 Candle light Prayer Service
 for Confession,
 Meditation and Healing
 at Grace Lutheran Church.
People of all faiths are welcome!



*Women of the Evangelical
 Lutheran Church in America*

Lutheran Women of Omaha is in a partnership with Nebraska Lutheran Outdoor Ministries in creating 3,000 School Kit bags. To date, 301 bags have been completed, which is only 10% that is needed before September. If you or someone you know is interested in helping to make some bags, additional information is located in the church office. Included with that information is a pattern on how to make the School Kit bags.

Confirmation Orientation

Our initiation into the Christian faith begins at baptism. One of the promises that parents and sponsors make at that time is to provide for the instruction of the baptized in the Christian faith.

Confirmation instruction is an effort to provide young persons with a basic understanding of the Christian faith.

Pastor Laaker would like to meet with parents and interested students to answer questions, talk about the learning opportunities and agree to a schedule for classes to begin in September after Labor Day.

Confirmation Orientation will take place on Sunday, August 28, 2011 at 9:00 a.m. Questions? Please call Pastor Laaker at the church office, 402-341-7730.



Property Update

The Loan with Mission Investment Fund has been finalized. We have signed the contract with the Engineer/Architect.

The next step is that the Engineer will be letting bids for the various portions of the work (demolition, construction of the retaining wall, regarding the lot, resurfacing the new lot, sidewalks, fence, and sealing of the north basement wall). These bids will be opened on or about August 15. The best bids will be accepted with work to begin September 1. The planned completion date is November 1.

This means that beginning the first of September the parking lot will most likely be unavailable for use. We will need to park on the street. This will be an inconvenience but hopefully not an impossible task for the duration of the construction.

It's over?

What do you mean, it's over? Monday I have staff meeting at 9 am with Pastor Laaker and Brenda, and I'll get there at 9:06 am, and then at 10 am is coffee break with my favorite quilters and lawn care specialists. I have to go eat lunch at Sarita's Pupuseria y Taqueria at 24th and Hickory, go to some meetings, plan for the next Family Fun Night, translate something into Spanish, and walk the neighborhood a few thousand more times.



How can it be over?

I'm not sure I know the answer to that question. I think it's because there are two answers. One, this year of service can be over because I can feel it in my soul that it is time for me to move into exploring other parts of my identity, through different job and location choices – for now. Two, this year of service can't be over, because, in some ways, it is never going to be over.

“All right,” you are now saying to yourselves, “I know Anna is a little goofy, but that just does not make any sense. How can a job be over and not over at the same time?”

Well, you're right that I am a little goofy...so bear with it, just for this last article.

Grace is a congregation that has seen the benefits of opening the church's doors to community. Many individuals and organizations know that they can find peace at Grace – and for those who might think of the negatives of letting lots of different people use the building, let me share this quote with you about peace that I recently learned:

“Peace. It does not mean to be in a place where there is no noise, trouble or hard work. It means to be in the midst of those things and still be calm in your heart.” –unknown

In the midst of noise in the form of changing neighborhoods and neighbors, trouble in the form of crime and conflict, and hard work in the form of, oh I don't know, ESL classes quilting property maintenance Habitat for Humanity deer text study Kids at Work and board meetings...there is Grace, where people can find peace.

“Grace” is a key word for me, too. We joke about it, but there have been days this year when I've overslept, or had some tough times with the after-school program, and days I just get tuckered out thinking about all the people that don't know about the peace that can be found at Grace and all the relationships still to be built, especially with our immediate neighbors. And the questions begin turning in my head...“Why didn't I talk to more people? What more could I have done?”



Then the grace shown by God's people of Grace comes in, reminding me that no matter how much better I think I could have done – no matter what – I am loved. What a blessing, to experience such grace and therefore be able to grow in confidence and knowledge throughout the year in a way I have not been able to before.

It is time – it has always been time – for Grace to break down whatever invisible walls still exist between congregation and the community that surrounds its church building. Time to welcome the family moving in at 1519 S. 27th Street who now have a home thanks to the Neighbors South Habitat Omaha coalition (you have a very good opportunity to do that at the upcoming home dedication!).

Continued....

Time to continue partnerships with local churches and organizations, and see how a sense of community can be strengthened because of those partnerships. Time to continue getting to know the stories behind the organizations and the people that already use the building at 1326 S. 26th Street. And time to continue to reach out, as best as you can, to our immediate neighbors and let them know that Grace is a place where they are welcome, not just on Sunday mornings but at other times as well, no matter who they are, what they look like, how old they are, or what language they speak; time for you to continue to show, in whatever way you can, that amazing grace that you have shown me to the neighborhood around you. Your neighborhood.

And that's why it's not over. There is a saying that evolved out of the Jesuit Volunteer Corps that once you give a year of service, you are "ruined for life". I can't imagine my life without service – so, for me, this year is just the beginning. And for you, my dear Grace – you know that there is still a job for you to do, too. How wonderfully exciting!

See you at the Neighborhood Picnic on Sunday, August 7th!

Anna Ernst, Volunteer
Community Outreach Associate

3rd Annual Lutheran Service Corps Wine Tasting Fundraiser

Saturday, August 27, 2011 from 3:00 - 6:00 p.m. at the Soaring Wings Vineyard, Springfield, NE. Tickets are \$30 per person or \$50 for two people. Ticket includes a tasting of five wines, souvenir wine glass, and light appetizers. The Lutheran Service Corps will receive 10% of wine sales that day. Interested in tickets please see Pastor Laaker.



Save The Date!



The beginning of school symbolizes new pencils, paper, books, tennis shoes and the possibility of being better than you ever were before! Please join the community in supporting our children to start the best school year yet! Saturday, August 6, 2011 at the Josie Harper Center, Creighton University.

Intended audience are parents of children; birth through 12th grade, school staff, school administrators (childcare, refreshments, and a meal will be provided). Admission is free. Registration is required. To complete online, go to www.surveymonkey.com/s/88H86H7 or by phone, call Jackie Hankins at 402-451-2939.

Exhibitor's Hall opens at 9:00 a.m. and orientation begins at 10:00 a.m. There will be two sessions; the first with attention to behavior, leadership, purpose, and attendance. The second sessions identifies team work, wellbeing, and transition from elementary to middle school. Presenter will be Freddie Gray.



"Helping Hands"

Working Together in God's service

Project Hope

The Theme for August is:
Tomato Products and Soup

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.



**Neighbors South Coalition
Habitat for Humanity**

Can
you
help?

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

The summer build project for the Neighbors South Coalition will soon be completed.

Volunteers are needed to help painting 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.

Lunch preparation volunteers are still needed for August 5 and/or August 6. If you can help please call Fred Beschorner, 402-889-5431.

Watch for the date of dedication.



HABITAT
Project



Save the Date! Sunday, August 7

Worship at 10:30 a.m.
Last Sunday of Kids at Work
Attendance, Participation and
Super Saver Awards given

Guest Ministry Team:

The Life In Christ Circus Clown Ministry

Traditional circus clowns, at their best, serve up generous portions of the foibles of our own human nature for our amusement. Christ Clowns add a new dimension to the circus clown. They are “fools for Christ: in the best sense of those words of St. Paul (1 Cor. 4: 8-13). With their colorful antics they reveal our human frailties and allow us to laugh at ourselves.

Christ Clowns explode into the humdrum of daily routine with colorful costumes and makeup. They play and laugh with children of all ages. They are tricked and trampled, but never defeated because they stand in the cross of Christ and in the glory of the resurrection.

All Church Picnic at 12:30 p.m.

The Clown Ministry will be with us for the meal!

The church will provide hot dogs, hamburgers, drinks and the paper products.

Please bring salads, chips and desserts to complete the meal.

If you are willing to provide buns or condiments, a sign up sheet has been posted on the bulletin board.



Comedian Quotes:

“You don’t stop laughing because you grow old.
You grow old because you stop laughing.”

- Michael Pritchard

“An onion can make you cry, but there never
was a vegetable invented to make people laugh.”

- Will Rogers

“A Clown is like an aspirin. Only he works
twice as fast.”

- Groucho Marx

Posted on Facebook by “Wendy” in
St. John, AL:

“I dream of a world where a chicken
can cross the road and not have her
motives questioned.”

*Reprinted with permission
from Joyful Noiseletter*





Kids At Work 2011



Kids At Work has been fun during the month of July and looks to continue for that first week of August, which will be the last work week of the summer program. Youth have picked up well over 20 bags of trash over the course of the summer, the effort put in on some very warm days has been greatly appreciated.

Every youth has gone to the Precious Memories Daycare at least twice, if not more, and all could tell at least one story on their encounters with a toddler named Marcos. If you have a few moments, ask a Kids At Work youth how their day was when they spent time at Precious Memories, and get ready for a tale.

Time at the Lutheran Home have been spent interacting with residents in games of Bingo, Scramble, visiting during craft time, so they could decorate the "Bird Room" for the Fourth of July. Not sure what the "Bird Room" is? Ask a youth and they will be happy to fill you in.

Cristo Rey, has a great variety of items that need to be done. Whether cleaning the sanctuary, tables, chairs in the lower fellowship hall, or even pulling weeds in a flower garden, this has remained a favorite work site for the youth. With all the cleaning duties, etc. that have to be done, how can this be a favorite? You've got it, ask a youth and you will find out why many of the children ask week after week when their turn will be to go to Cristo Rey.

A change in the weather brought changes to the summer program. With the cooler weather in June, plenty of rainfall all summer, and the flooding of the Missouri River and several smaller tributaries; the need for sandbagging has been instrumental this year. Mid America Center in Council Bluffs has allowed youth to volunteer and help out with sandbagging. Many youth have noted that this has been beneficial to them seeing all the people, of all ages, come together and help out the community surrounding the flood.



In the past couple of years Kids At Work has helped the Salvation Army with their Back to School, Backpack Program. Again this year we will be sending youth to the Salvation Army to help with this backpack effort.

Here at Grace Lutheran Church youth have enjoyed the discovery of cooking many different snacks and then serving them to other work groups on their return. Crocheting and knitting have brought new curiosity to the youth who are interested in learning this historical craft. Cleaning in the building has revealed new corners, nooks, and crannies that some youth never knew existed.

Please continue to enjoy pictures on the bulletin board of all the activity during the 2011 Kids At Work Summer Program.

Having Fun This Summer
Brenda Spahr



- ◆ 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, Arlone Farmer 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 all the lawn care personnel; Bob Moss and Jerry Van Ormer, who are tending the Church yard and the yard to the north of the church beautifully.
- ◆ Thank you to Kids At Work for their ongoing summer project of picking up trash throughout the neighborhood.
- ◆ A big thank you to Janet Hula and all of her volunteers for another successful Vacation Bible School this summer!

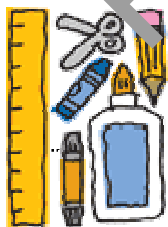
North Central Douglas-Sarpy Chapter

Thrivent Financial is sponsoring a Family Gathering at Mahoney State Park (1-80-Exit 426) Sunday, August 21st from 1-4 p.m. at the Bur Oak Picnic Shelter. (Rain or Shine)



BRING THIS POSTCARD TO VERIFY YOUR THRIVENT MEMBERSHIP FOR FREE PARK ENTRY AND ACTIVITY TICKETS.

Each person will receive free activity tickets to Miniature Golf, Driving Range, Activity Center and Paddle Boats. Hot dogs, chips, cookies and drinks will be provided. Come join the fun! NO RSVP REQUIRED. Any questions, please contact Nancy Hornig [402-571-1603](tel:402-571-1603).



SCHOOL SUPPLIES NEEDED

Community News

The Salvation Army is collecting school supplies! Since 1998, nearly 100,000 local youngsters have benefited from The Salvation Army KETV 7 Can Help Kids Back-To-School Backpack Program. These backpacks, stuffed with new supplies, insure that less fortunate children in our community go back to school with confidence. Now through August 10, 2011 collections are needed for new school supplies. Any questions, please call Patti at 402-898-5906, or send an e-mail at Patti_Camelia@USC.salvationarmy.org. Backpacks will be distributed in August.



from JoyfulNoiseletter.com
©Tim Oliphant
Reprinted with permission

Special Days in July at Grace Lutheran Church

- August 2 - Kids At Work.
- August 3 - Kids At Work.
- August 7 - KAW Awards Ceremony.
- August 7 - Neighborhood Picnic.
- August 9 - Church Council.
- August 17 - Prayer Service.
- Every Friday and Saturday is the Habitat Build project at 1517 So. 27th Street.

The pastor's five-year-old boy had been so badly behaved during the week that she told him his punishment would be that he could not go to the Sunday school picnic that Sunday.

When Sunday came, the pastor felt she had been too harsh and told her son that he could go to the picnic. The boy looked even sadder.

"What's the matter? I thought you'd be happy to go to the picnic," his mother said.

"It's too late," the boy replied.
"I've already prayed for rain."

—via Peter Dring
Land O Lakes, WI
Reprinted with permission
from JoyfulNoiseletter



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

I have learned that when you have the choice of eating at a table or at the counter in a coffee shop, choose the counter. The service will be faster, the food hotter, and the conversation livelier. ☺ Age 46



"Three-fourths of the earth's surface is water, and one-fourth is land. It is quite clear that the good Lord intended us to spend triple the amount of time fishing as taking care of the lawn."

—Chuck Clark
Reprinted with permission
from the Joyful Noiseletter



THE PROPHETS

Fifteen Old Testament prophets are listed below. Find them and circle their names in the puzzle below. Names may run in any direction but must be in a straight line.

Isaiah
Jeremiah
Ezekiel
Daniel
Hosea

Joel
Obadiah
Jonah
Micah
Nahum

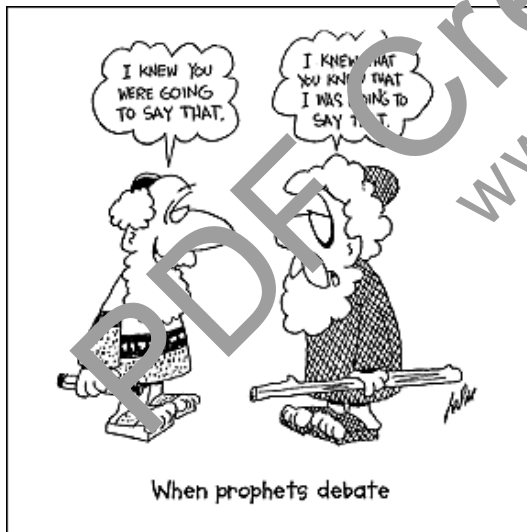
Habakkuk
Zephaniah
Haggai
Zechariah
Malachi



O	L	D	T	E	S	T	A	M	E	N	T	G	L
P	N	J	O	S	I	A	H	M	I	C	A	H	O
R	A	Z	E	P	H	A	N	I	A	H	T	F	M
O	H	E	Z	R	A	A	M	T	L	H	S	M	A
P	U	T	E	R	E	D	I	R	T	L	A	O	L
H	M	O	J	S	A	M	F	S	O	E	R	A	C
E	A	E	O	E	T	D	I	S	A	I	A	H	C
T	J	H	N	S	A	A	E	A	E	K	L	A	H
S	P	D	A	V	D	N	N	D	H	E	F	I	I
Z	E	C	H	A	R	I	A	H	A	Z	Y	D	R
F	G	Y	O	U	B	E	W	A	G	E	L	A	D
S	N	O	F	X	A	L	T	R	J	C	K	S	S
H	A	B	A	K	K	U	K	S	L	E	O	J	S
L	H	E	Z	E	K	I	A	H	I	I	N	G	S



Bonus Question: Can you find the name of one good king of Judah hidden in this puzzle?



“I think the most revolutionary act that you can commit in our society today is to be happy.”
-Patch Adams, M.D.
Gestundheit!
Reprinted with permission from JoyfulNoiseletter

After VBS, a boy sees God

Kitty Katzell of Medford, NJ, tells the story of a little boy who was zigzagging his way home from Vacation Bible School one beautiful summer day.

He found a caterpillar and a fluffy milkweed pod, and blew out all the filler. He saw a bird's nest in a tree and a swan in a pond. He picked up a worm and thought of going fishing.

A neighbor watched his zigzag path, greeted him, and asked him what he was doing.

“I’ve been to Vacation Bible School,” the boy replied.

“Good for you,” the neighbor said. “If you tell me where God is, I’ll give you this quarter.”

“I’ll give you a dollar, Mister, if you can tell me where God ain’t,” the boy replied.

Reprinted with permission from JoyfulNoiseletter