

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

402-341-7730

Email: graceluth@graceluth.com
Web Site: www.graceluth.com

REGULAR SUNDAY EVENTS
9:30 a.m. Christian Education
11:00 a.m. Worship Service

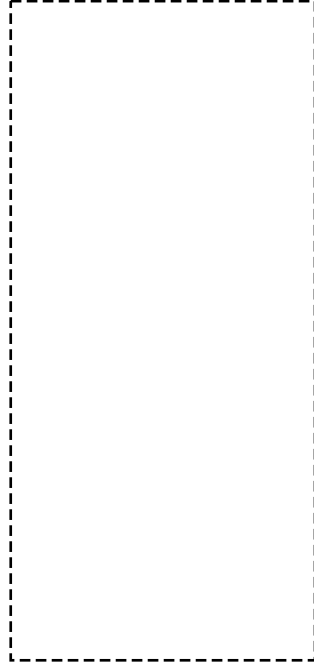
Pastor - Rev. Dr. Damon D. Laaker
Editor/Church Secretary - Brenda Spahr
Organist - Colleen Jeffrey
Sexton - Alma Lopez
Families In Action - Virginia McGill
Lutheran Volunteer Corp - Malachi Black

Delivered to the Post Office October 28



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THE GRACE MESSENGER

NOVEMBER

2014



1889 - 2014

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



2014 Council Members

Vicki Cox	Janet Hula
Andrew Edwards	Eva Martin
Sarah Emery	Loren Moyer
Arlone Farber	Charles Tuw
June Hilmer	Pastor Laaker

Officers Serving the Congregation:
Financial: Janet Hula Treasurer: Ralph Fittle

The regular meeting of the Council was held on October 14th. The Council members shared their prayer concerns: We pray for the continued recovery of those close to us; for Amanda and Juan Vazquez as they prepare for a new baby, for Sarah’s mother in law, Roseanne as she continues to struggle with the healing process. We pray for Dottie Hula and her family as she works through the steps in Assisted Living. We pray for Vicki’s friend Ulla as she prepares for cancer surgery and for the families of Sandra Fitzgerald and Norma Courtney as they work through the last stages of their lives. We remember the victims of Ebola along with their families and all caretakers.

Pastor led devotions from Psalm 9:1 and 1 Thessalonians 5:18. The first speaks to us about using prayer to thank God, not just to ask for things we want. The second reminds us to find focus in the good, regardless of the bad. See all of the positives. God’s desire is for us to find reason to give thanks!

Visions for Ministry: The Council continued reading The Future Starts Now. We spoke about doing the right thing for the right reason, not to know necessarily who was touched or how. People are around you and may be touched by the way you live your life, without you even knowing! See how you live your life, think of the pebble in the pond that creates ripples. Where do they go? Who is affected? Should we care? Be - See - Do!! Reevaluate the rotating cycle. Being active or passive...change will happen!! For next meeting, bring up one thing that influenced you, and one thing that you took away.

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

Christian Education: No new report.

Evangelism/Outreach: Halloween party is Friday, October 24th from 7-9. Please plan to attend!

Finance: Jack Williams’ belongings will be sent to auction soon.

Property: The kitchen floor and front steps look great! Thanks to all who were involved. We have asked for bids on replacing the front doors. Loren has offered to help install windows in the nursery, library & offices. The basement North wall needs to be scraped and sealed. Boiler maintenance is upcoming.

Service/Social Ministry: No new report.

Support/Stewardship: Fall program begins in November, with Sunday Stewardship Moments - Living Generously.

Worship: Joint service for Thanksgiving still planned. Will hold two services for Christmas Eve. Pastor will be at Grace at 4:30 and St. Lukes at 6:30.

Unfinished Business: No new report.

New Business: No new report.

Announcements: Pastor & Malachi will be at the Synod Theological Conference next week, and Pastor will be at a Voyagers event in DC 11/10 - 11/14. Sarah will bring treats for our November meeting.

**Thanksgiving Eve Service
Wednesday, November 26th, 5:30 p.m.
First Lutheran Church
31st and Jackson Street**

Grace Lutheran Church has been invited to participate in a special service of Thanksgiving featuring Taize music. This is a great opportunity to worship and give thanks with surrounding churches and additional children of God! Please plan to attend First Lutheran on this special occasion!



Please bring canned goods for the pantry.



The Usher Volunteer Group is in need of additional people to help participate during Sunday worship service. If you have any questions regarding this opportunity, please speak with Andrew Edwards. Thank you!

Continued...



Fall is a wonderful time. It is a time to reflect on the many blessings that have surrounded each of us throughout the year. Soon we will be celebrating Thanksgiving and then the wonder of God coming to be with us, Immanuel. As we consider those many blessings, it is also time to consider our response to

God's generous blessings. This year our Stewardship Emphasis is Living Generously.

In our first week, we are introduced to Frank Donovan, a successful businessman, and his family. As he meets with his financial consultant, we learn he has a high standard for success but isn't very concerned with giving. When missionaries return to the States with little, Frank's wife commits to throw a welcome back party for them. Frank is less than thrilled. We are also introduced to Re, their gardener. He is a humble man who serves happily. When Frank's son asks Re why he is doing more than his job, Re tells the boy about the sacrifices God's people gave God in Israel. Some people gave their best sheep while others gave their spotted, stinky sheep. Re says, "Which do you think pleases God? The spotted sheep or the best, healthy sheep? I want to give God my best."

Re's example impacts Frank's son, prompting him to give his favorite toy to the returning missionary's son. Frank sees the sacrifice and is humbled. He was going to give his old, worn out watch to the missionary.....That night, Frank got a glimpse of his heart and real generosity. The question we are left with is, "Do you give God your first and your best or your leftovers?"

In our second week, Frank's story continues as we find him in court. He is dazed and confused as he realizes that he is on trial for loving money more than God. His attorney tries to defend Frank, but as his money takes the stand he affirms that Frank is the boss. His money testifies that Frank is very conscientious about his money but he never asks for God's advice. Frank wants his generosity to defend him. But when his generosity takes the stand, his testimony is less than helpful. Frank's generosity doesn't think Frank sacrifices much in giving his money. When the prosecution calls the other 90% of Frank's money to the stand, he doesn't even have to testify in order to show Frank's indulgence. Before rendering a guilty verdict, the judge warns Frank the Bible says you can't serve both God and money. The judge's banging gavel wakes Frank from his dream.

After getting out of bed, Frank looks out the window to see Re hard at work pounding a stake in the ground. Later, Re makes the observation that the dream was Frank's own heart convicting him for giving God only his leftovers. Frank used his money, his time, his talent to serve himself rather than to serve God. Everything in your life either an idol or a tool to serve the Lord. *Living Generously* is about having a heart so focused on God that it overflows to others. And the question we are left with is, "How do you plead?"

I hope you will come and experience the wonder of God's blessings and consider how you might Live Generously throughout the coming year.

LIVING
GENEROUSLY

Pastor Laaker

Sunday Afternoon on October 12th twelve people representing both Grace Lutheran and St. Luke's walked in the 32nd Annual Crop Walk. Funfilled, sunny and a little breezy, great company all walking together to help end hunger not just in the metro area but also globally. Grace Lutheran was able to raise \$456.00 toward this mission with the help of several generous individuals! Thank you to all who participated in this year's Crop Walk - Way To Go!





Yet give attention to your servant's prayer and his plea for mercy, Lord my God. Hear the cry and the prayer that your servant is praying in your presence this day.

1 Kings 8:28

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

Individuals listed below have ongoing health issues and concerns:

Andrew Edwards
Ken Hilmer
Sharon Irwin
LaVonne Moss
Don Olson
Margie Sutej
Urbano Vasquez



James Harrahill
David Hufford
Carolyn Matson
Robert Moss
Cheryl Powley
Lori Vasquez

Norma Courtney (Arlone Farber's Mom.)
Bob Hargis (Jerry and Marilyn Van Ormer's son-in-law.)
Christian Barajas (Samantha Trejo, Angela & Alex Everitt's brother.)
Pam Reents (Close friend to many!)
Roseanna Emery (Tom Emery's Mom.)
Gema Wolde (Interfaith/Families in Action and friend to many!)
The family of Sandy Fitzgerald.

Pray for wisdom for your Church Council here at Grace Lutheran 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 Damon Laaker, Grace Lutheran Church
Bishop Brian Maas, Nebraska Synod
Bishop Elizabeth Eaton, ELCA Bishop

Pray for the Sudanese community in general. David Nange, John Boato and Charles Tuv are the elders for the Sudanese Worshiping Community.

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



Pray for our Shut-ins and Nursing Home residents:

Ferne Matson - Home.
Barbara Narducci - Home.
Barbara Nelson - Life Care Center, Elkhorn.



Prayer Service
Wednesday
November 19, 2014
7:00 p.m.

An inspiring and quiet experience in meditation, light music, and a deeper connection within God's presence, peace, and love.



**Grace Quilters for
Lutheran World Relief**

Monday mornings from 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Join a lively group of people and assemble amazing tie quilts for Lutheran World Relief organization. These quilts are delivered around the world to areas most in need of a little comfort. Please feel free to stop by check out the activity. Coffee break and joke time is 10:00 a.m.; another opportunity in fellowship with one another. No experience is necessary!



The Top 10 Most Important Items to Recycle



Recycling is one of the most important things we can do to preserve our planet. On a daily basis, more than 100 million Americans participate in recycling used and old materials in their household and offices. Are you one of them? Or are you trying to sort which items you can recycle and which ones belong in the compost or the garbage?

To help you out, the National Recycling Coalition has put together a list of the top ten most important items to recycle.

#1: Aluminum. This is because aluminum cans are 100 percent recyclable and can also be recycled over and over again. Even better, turning recycled cans into new cans take 95 percent less energy than making brand-new ones. So how about starting with all those soda and juice cans?

#2: PET Plastic Bottles. Americans will buy about 25 billion single-serving bottles of water this year, according to the Container Recycling Institute. Worse yet, nearly 80 percent of those bottles will end up in a landfill. Let's put a stop to that. Making plastic out of recycled resources uses about two-thirds less energy than making new plastic. And because plastic bottles, more than any other type of plastic, are the most commonly used type, they are usually the easiest to recycle.

#3: Newspaper. This is a pretty obvious one, right? It seems like a no-brainer to set up a recycling bin next to your garbage can for newspaper and any other scrap paper. So why should we recycle paper? According to the Environmental Protection Agency, paper make up about one-third of all the municipal waste stream in the U.S. That's a whole lot of paper, and since we know that recycling all that paper consrves resources, saves energy, and doesn't clog up the landfills, there's no reason not to do it.

Once you have those in place, let's move on to the rest of our list.

#4: Corrugated Cardboard. Old corrugated cardboard (OCC) represents a significant percentage of the commercial solid waste stream. In 1996, the U.S. generate 29 million tons of OCC, or 13.8% of our municipal waste stream. Approximately 90% of that comes from the commercial or non-residential sector, the places where we work. So next time UPS delivers a big box to your office, be sure to break it down and recycle it. (After you've emptied it, of course.)

#5: Steel cans. Just like aluminum, steel products can be recycled over again without compromising the quality of the steel. We're talking about steel cans, but maybe you have some steel auto parts or appliances ready for recycling too? More than 80 million tons of steel are recycled each year in North America, and recycling steel saves the equivalent energy to power 18 million households a year. You can learn more about steel recycling by visiting the Steel Recycling Institute website.

#6: HDPE plastic bottles (HDPE stands for high-density polyethylene, a common and more dense plastic, which is used for detergents, bleach, shampoo, milk jugs.) HDPE plastics are identified by the logo on the bottom of the container. (Three arrows in the shape of a triangle.) Check the number inside that logo: numbers 1 and 2 are recyclable almost everywhere, but 3 through 7 are only recyclable in limited areas. And don't forget to rinse and clean all of your HDPE containers in the sink. Any remaining dirt or food particles can contaminate the recycling process.

#7: Glass containers. Recycled glass saves 50 percent energy versus virgin glass, and recycling just one glass container saves enough energy to light a 100-watt bulb for four hours. Recycled glass generates 20 percent less air pollution and 50 percent less water pollution, and one ton of glass made from 50 percent recycled materials saves 250 pounds of mining waste. Wow!

#8: Magazines and #9: Mixed paper. There are so many reasons to recycle all kinds of paper that it makes no sense not to. First, recycled paper saves 60 percent of energy versus virgin paper, and also generates 95 percent less air pollution. Recycling one ton of paper saves 17 trees and 7,000 gallons of water. Sadly, though, every year Americans throw away enough paper to make a 12-foot wall from New York to California. Let's work on changing that!

#10: Computers. Computers can be recycled in a couple of ways, depending on the state of the machine. Giving old, working computers to friends and family members or donating them to nonprofit organizations not only keeps the somputer entirely out of the waste stream, but it presents computer access to someone who might not otherwise be able to afford it. Non-working computers can be sent to recycling centers where they are dismantled and valuable components are recovered.

Of course, there's also reducing and reusing, and if you choose those, you will have even less to recycle!

Read more at care2.com/causes



Grace. What does it mean? We may hear phrases such as, "By the grace of God" or "God's saving grace keeps us" or the well noted Scripture "His grace is sufficient for you". I like to refer to grace based on an acronym of the word grace itself: God's Riches At Christ's Expense. We discussed grace during Confirmation class with 7th and 8th graders of community churches who have been exploring their faith. We as Christians can be confident that we have access to God's unmerited favor because Christ paid the ultimate cost for our sins. Unearned, unmerited favor God has for us because He loves us and wants us to prosper in His Will.



Do we see God's grace active in the world? In our lives? As Lutherans commemorate the anniversary of the Reformation, consider how God is reforming and transforming relationships in your life. He empowers and equips each of us with gifts and abilities to use in a way to build community, establish truth, and foster love and mercy in the world. How blessed we are to be filled and commissioned to be a blessing to others. Giving of our time, talents, and treasures helps keep the fruitfulness of God's faithfulness to humanity alive in the world. We help shine a light for those who cannot recognize God's grace within the fabric of the human timeline. His grace shapes our hearts and minds into an image that reflects His love for all creation.

This church is an active extension of God's grace in the world. The various activities and events of which this church partakes are great examples of how we show our appreciation of God's unmerited favor toward us. Whether it was through the recent CropWalk event, being a part of the Quilt committee as a part of the service done for the Lutheran World Relief campaign, our church's Halloween party, prayer, fellowship, or simply relationship building with one another, we shine radiantly in grace. Grace isn't just God's unmerited favor, it's also power and energy that provides a need and sustains us. How can you continue to speak life and be a positive energy in other peoples' lives? Be blessed and be a blessing.

Malachi Black
Community Outreach Associate
Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
Lutheran Volunteer Corps Community Outreach Associate
outreach@graceluth.com

Grace Lutheran Church
ESL (English as a Second Language) Classes
Saturdays 9:00 to 11:00 a.m.
402-341-7730



Do you know anyone searching for the opportunity to learn the English language? Please direct them here at Grace. Every Saturday morning they would be greeted with a smile and very helpful tutors to start their education in one of the most difficult languages to learn as a second language.



And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.

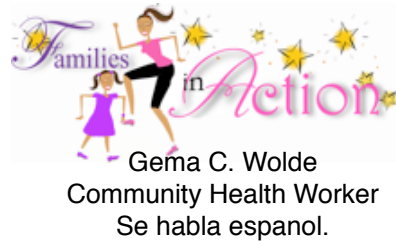
2 Corinthians 9:8

- ☿ Thank you to Marilyn and Jerry Van Ormer for their dedication in tending the plants in the entry way, they continue to thrive and look welcoming.
- ☿ Thank you to the ESL tutors; Vicki Cox, Arlone Farber, Mary Laaker, and Amanda Vazquez, for making connections with the students willing to learn and form friendships.
- ☿ Thank you to Jerry and Marilyn Van Ormer, Greg and Janet Hula; who pick up altar flowers every Sunday morning.
- ☿ Thank you to the crew from Prince of Peace who are taking on the role of lawncare this fall.
- ☿ Thank you to Ron and Donna Adrian and Brenda Spahr who take care of the altar, and prepare the communion table.
- ☿ Thank you Alma for her dedication, efforts, and responsibility of cleaning this busy building, it looks fantastic!



Virginia McGill, MA
Executive Director

www.familiesinactionomaha.org



Gema C. Wolde
Community Health Worker
Se habla español.

Families in Action Partnership Will Offer Mobile Clinic For South Omaha Children and Families

As a result of our partnership with Children's Hospital & Medical Center to prevent childhood obesity and promote health for children and families, Families in Action is enthused to offer screenings, nutritional education, activities and services for children and their families on **Sunday, November 9th from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm at 1723 South 17th Street.**

We will be joined in this important endeavor by students and faculty members from Nebraska Methodist College with their Mobile Diabetes Center, along with volunteers from Metropolitan Community College and Creighton University.

The following **FREE SERVICES** will be available to children, youth and adults: Flu shots (ages 5 and older) Cholesterol Check, Glucose/Blood Sugar Check, Blood Pressure Check, Height and Weight Measurements, Nutrition Education and Information and activities.

All are most welcome for this free health screening. Children are encouraged to attend and bring their parents

We are deeply grateful to Children's Hospital & Medical Center, Nebraska Methodist College and our many partners and volunteers for their commitment to promoting healthy children and communities! Questions? Contact Families in Action at 402-616-4721.

La **Clínica Móvil** visitará Lynch Park el **Domingo 9 de Noviembre a la 1:00 a las 3:00 en la calle 1723 Sol 17th.**

Los servicios gratuitamente los proporcionará a adultos y jóvenes son: Vacuna contra la Influenza (5 años de edad y mayor), Chequeo de Colesterol, Chequeo de la Azúcar, Chequeo de la Presión Arterial, Medida de Altura y Peso, y Educación Nutritiva. Por favor venga con su familia para participar en esta oportunidad ofrecido con el apoyo del Hospital de los Niños, Nebraska Methodist College, y Familias en Acción. Preguntas? Llame al Gema a 402-616-4721.

Made Possible via our Partnership with Children's Hospital & Medical Center/ Este oportunidad ofrecido con el apoyo de Children's Hospital & Medical Center

Buy Your 2015 God's Creation Calendar!

The Calendars Are Here! Calendars are open for everyone, if you would like to purchase a copy, please look for Donna or Brenda on Sunday mornings or call the church office at 402-341-7730.



Calendars include beautiful monthly scenic photography enhanced with inspiring Scriptures from the Holy Bible. High-quality, heavy-weight stock with gloss coated photo pages and ample space to write appointments and family events.

Same Great Price ~ Only \$5.00



Lutheran South Pantry
4401 South 23rd Street
402-502-7070

Items that clients cannot purchase with their food stamps are always appreciated: Dish Soap, Kleenex, Bar Soap, Deodorant, Toothbrush and toothpaste, Shaving Cream, Razors, Mouthwash (without alcohol), Feminine hygiene products, Hair products (combs, brushes, picks), Bathroom tissue, Shampoo, Dry Laundry Soap, Can Openers, Diaper wipers, and Diapers, especially sizes 4, 5, 6 and pull-ups.

We always need paper or plastic bags.

Electronic Giving is a convenient, consistent way to help our church year round.



Consider scheduling a recurring electronic contribution today. It's easy! You will no longer need to write out checks and prepare envelopes every week. Even when travel, illness or other circumstances prevent you from attending services, your electronic contributions will continue to be received on an uninterrupted basis.

Get started today! Ask for an authorization form in the church office.

November 2014

Responsibility List



Worship Assistants

- 2 - Malachi Black
- 9 - Lori Vasquez
- 16 - Brenda Spahr
- 23 - Greg Hula
- 30 - Arlone Farber
- Dec. 7 - Mary Laaker



- 2 - Barnaba Nyiwe
- 5 - Alexandra Granillo
- 6 - Jan Monico
- 10 - Telly Mounto
- 11 - Margie Sutej
- 17 - Emerita Alberto
- 18 - Charlotte Palczynski
- 20 - Pastor Laaker
- 22 - Don Olson
- 26 - Greg Hula
- Ralph Fitle
- 29 - Ron Adrian

Did we miss your birthday?
Please contact the church office and let us know!



November Ushers

- Ron Adrian
- Jerry Van Ormer
- Vicki Cox
- Andrew Edwards

Ushers & Greeters



Greeters

- 2 - Bob and LaVonne Moss
- 9 - Bobby Stechenfinger and Greg Hula
- 16 - Larry Foreman and Andrew Edwards
- 23 - Andrea and Brenda Spahr
- 30 - Lori Vasquez and Davena Garcia
- Dec. 7 - Loren and Marsha Moyer



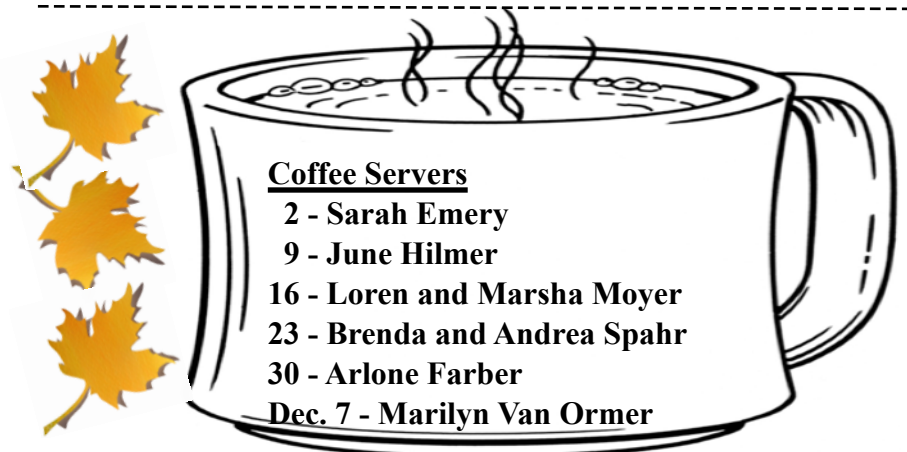
Altar Flowers

- 2 - OPEN.
- 9 - David Hufford, in loving memory of his mother, Gertrude's birthday.
- 16 - Pastor and Mary Laaker, in honor of Pastor's birthday.
- 23 - Bob and LaVonne Moss, in honor of their great-granddaughter's birthday.
- 30 - OPEN.
- Dec. 7 - Bob and LaVonne Moss, in honor of their 66th Wedding Anniversary.

Flower Pick-Up for November - Greg and Janet Hula

Backpack Program

- 2 - Brenda Spahr, remember all our loved ones.
- 9 - OPEN.
- 16 - Pastor and Mary Laaker, in honor of Pastor's birthday.
- 23 - Arlone Farber, remember all who are hungry.
- 30 - OPEN.
- Dec. 7 - OPEN.



Coffee Servers

- 2 - Sarah Emery
- 9 - June Hilmer
- 16 - Loren and Marsha Moyer
- 23 - Brenda and Andrea Spahr
- 30 - Arlone Farber
- Dec. 7 - Marilyn Van Ormer

A shared e-mail from Jessica!

I am doing great, I love Sitka! It is a very nice community and people here love the arts and love outdoor adventures. The ocean, mountains, and moss are gorgeous! I love hiking biking and canoeing here. I like my job too! It's going well I have been working on a mailing campaign, a grant, helping with the community youth play, and am going to co-teach an intro to theater class for kindergarteners and first graders next month. I like the people I am living with a lot! There are 12 of us, similar to last year, but different from last year is that they all love to go on adventures in the great outdoors and they love playing board games, cards, etc!



Today is Alaska Day! Sitka is the only place that celebrates because it is the location where the turnover happened from Russia to the U.S. I am excited for the parade and fun events and food today! Yesterday I went on a hike with friends, it was the most beautiful day!!! Generally it is a bit cloudy here but yesterday was the perfect fall temperature with lovely sunshine and it was so clear that when we got to the top of the mountain we climbed I think we could see all the way across Sitka to the mainland of Alaska!

I miss you guys! Let me know how everything is going :)

Halloween Party Pictures!



Great Spider
Malachi and Greg!

Thanks to everyone who helped in the success of a joyful Halloween event! Many children, kids at heart and some (very few) adults in attendance!



This little dinosaur loved to go fishing, not just once but several times throughout the night!



**Detectors
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Lives**

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The Detector and Installation is Free
Just call the Omaha Fire Department
at 402-444-3560 for the
Free Detector and Installation



Sleep better at night with the peace and knowledge that your family is protected with early detection incase of a dangerous situation!

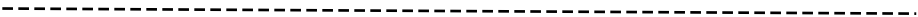
Detectors supplied by the First Responders Critical Support Foundation.

Confirmation Classes from October 29th through November 19th will be held at Augustana Lutheran Church (3647 Lafayette Avenue). Pastor Jan Peterson will lead classes. Topics include; "Is the Holy Spirit a person or wind or fire or what?" "Why do we say we believe in 'the holy catholic church' if we're not Catholic?", "Do cremated people go to heaven?" and "Can you accept the theory of evolution and still be a Christian?" There will be no classes on November 26th in honor of the Thanksgiving holiday.

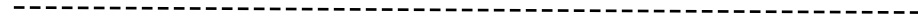


There will be no Confirmation Classes during the month of December. Classes will begin again in January, 2015 at Shepherd of the Hills. Additional information will be available in the December Newsletter.

Is your child entering the sixth grade? Your household did not receive an invitational letter into Confirmation Classes? They are ready for Confirmation Class! Please call the office and speak with Pastor Laaker to enroll your child today.



Siena/Francis House will benefit from four Omaha seafood restaurants in the Omaha metro area on Tuesday, December 2nd. The four restaurants participating are Shuck's Fish House & Oyster Bars located at 119th & Pacific, 168th & Center, and at 19th & Leavenworth Street. The fourth participant is Bailey's Breakfast & Lunch located at 120th & Pacific Street. Please consider stopping by one of these four locations on December 2nd for a bite to eat and support the Siena/Francis House at the same time! If you have any questions, please call the Siena/Francis House at 402-341-1821.



Daylight Savings Time Ends

Don't forget to set your clocks back an hour before going to sleep on Saturday, November 1st!



Congratulations to Juan and Amanda Vazquez and big brothers, Jaydn and Jackson!



Jericho Damon Vazquez arrived early on Saturday, October 18, 2014

Jericho weighed 7 pounds 8 ounces and was 20 1/2 inches long.

Both Amanda and Jericho are healthy, thriving and at home.

May God bless the Vazquez family abundantly with God's love and care. Congratulations!



Thank You God

Sent straight from heaven up above
 Came an angel for me to love
 To hold and rock and kiss good night
 To wrap my arms around real tight

To cuddle and nurture and watch him play
 To kiss his boo-boo's all away
 To keep him safe and warm and count all his toes
 To hold the tissue for him when he blows his little nose.

To hold him close and be by his side
 To watch him through life as my heart fills with pride
 To help him with decisions, the best that I can
 To know that someday he'll be a fine young man

familyfriendpoems.com



Congratulations to Angela Everitt and Daniel Martinez on the birth of their first child: Chadney Shane Everitt arrived late evening on Sunday, October 26, 2014. Chadney weighed 8 pounds 2 ounces and was 20 1/2 inches long.

Both Angela and Chadney are doing great and hope to be home soon.

God bless Angela and Daniel abundantly with his love and care. Congratulations!



Ode to Thanksgiving

May your stuffing be tasty
 May your turkey plump,
 May your potatoes and gravy
 Have nary a lump.
 May your yams be delicious
 And your pies take the prize,
 And may your Thanksgiving dinner
 Stay off your thighs!



The Tale of the Pregnant Turkey

One year at Thanksgiving, my brothers and I were invited to my sister Jenny's house for the traditional feast.

Knowing how gullible my sister is, we decided to play a practical joke. My two brothers lured Jenny outside to check out some trees at the bottom of the garden.

As soon as Jenny left I took the turkey out of the oven, removed the stuffing, and replaced it with a partridge. Then I replaced the bird carefully in the oven.

Later, when the turkey was cooked my sister took the bird out of the oven and when it had rested she started to carve it. Then she decided to add the stuffing. Much to her amazement she found the partridge. At this point our mother piped up, "Jenny you've cooked a pregnant bird!" With this Jenny started to cry.

It took my brothers and I until early evening to convince Jenny that turkeys lay eggs, and don't give birth to live young.

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Bible Wordsearch

Wordsearch 230

Matt 1:1-13

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

Genealogy of Jesus

ABIJAH	ABRAHAM
ABIUD	BABYLON
AHAZ	BROTHERS
AMON	CHRIST
ASA	ELIAKIM
AZOR	FATHER
BOAZ	HEZEKIAH
DAVID	HEZRON
EXILE	JECONIAH
ISAAC	JEHORAM
JACOB	JOSIAH
JESSE	JOTHAM
JESUS	MANASSEH
JUDAH	MOTHER
KING	NAHSHON
OBED	RECORD
PEREZ	REHOBOAM
RAHAB	SALMON
RUTH	SOLOMON
ZERAH	UZZIAH

After you find all the hidden words the left over letters spell out a Bible verse reading from the top left to the bottom right

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A Piece of Pumpkin Pie?

Jolene was only 8 years old and lived with her parents and brother in the country. Consequently they did not have visitors from the city very often. One day Jolene's mother said that father was bringing two guests home for Thanksgiving supper.

After they had enjoyed the turkey, Jolene went to the kitchen to help her mother, and proudly brought in the first piece of pumpkin pie and gave it to her father. He then passed the plate to a guest. When Jolene came in with the second piece and gave it to her father, he again gave it to a guest.

This was too much for little Jolene, who blurted out, "It's no use, Daddy. The pieces are all the same size."

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