

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

402-341-7730

Email: graceluth@graceluth.com

Web Site: www.graceluth.com

Like us on Facebook at:

www.facebook.com/gracelutheranomaha

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

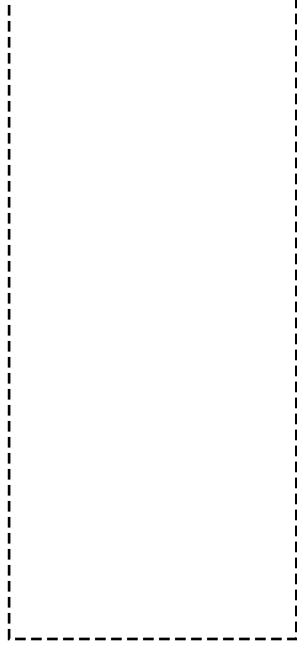
Community Outreach - Malachi Black

Delivered to the Post Office April 28



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THE GRACE MESSENGER

1889 - 2015



May
2016

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



2016 Council Members

Ron Adrian	Vicki Cox	Arlone Farber
Ralph Fitle	Greg Hula	Loren Moyer
Brenda Spahr	Amanda Vazquez	Pastor Laaker

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

The regular meeting of the Council was held on April 12. The Council shared their prayer concerns for Council Members friends and families. Pastor Laaker was remembered as he recovers from surgery.

Devotions: Devotions were led by Vicki Cox reading the selected verses in the “Daily Texts” from Amos 4:13 and Matthew 16:3. The first tells us that God is the creator of the universe in all its majesty. The second explains that we can interpret what we see with ease, however it is difficult to interpret that which we do not see.

Visions for Ministry: The author gave the depiction of an angel with 2 wings: one wing is your strengths and the other your weaknesses. If you only work on strengths and leave your weaknesses alone, you become unbalanced. It’s important to understand and recognize the importance of both weaknesses and strengths in all aspects of our lives. The idea of empowerment can be challenging to understand, as there are different approaches to empowering yourself and others. Some leaders are at the forefront, sharing their expertise with others and guiding or directing them in their lives; while others influence and lead by simply being an example of the characteristics that empower others to be leaders in their own lives.

Council members are asked to please take the Empowerment Test and bring your results to the next meeting. We will review our results next month.

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

Christian Education: Council members voted to do the Raindrops to Rainbows series for our one-day Vacation Bible School program this summer. Janet has offered to purchase the package so we can get started preparing for it. We will talk with Pastor to determine a date.

Finance: Lutheran Planned Giving Service will give a presentation for Grace & St. Luke’s jointly to go over wills and other long-term planning options. This presentation is scheduled for June 12th at 3:00 pm at St. Luke’s.

Property: Still working out details on fixing the cracks along the alley side of the building that have separated from old tar and caused water to leak in on the floor in the basement. There is fraying on the runner in the middle of the sanctuary causing a concern for tripping. Council motioned and agreed to solicit bids for replacement of entire carpeted area in the sanctuary. The fence on the south side of the building is rotting on the top tube end portions and need to be replaced. Malachi is also looking at creating a free “Little Library” and building the “house” to save money. Loren will be glad to help build a house and Malachi will help.

Service/Social Ministry: Columbus Park neighborhood cleanup is Saturday, April 16th.

Support/Stewardship: None.

Worship: None.

Unfinished Business: None.

New Business: None.

Announcements: Pastor is planning to return to work next Monday, April 18th. Loren will bring treats for May.

Adjournment: The Council meeting closed in prayer and adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

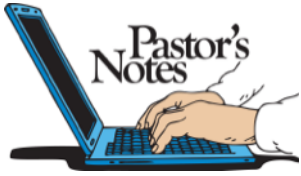
Respectfully Submitted, Amanda Vazquez, Secretary

Pentecost Sunday
May 15, 2016

In celebration of Pentecost, remember to wear the color red or orange in keeping with the tradition of the flames; the disciples being able to speak in different languages and the Holy Spirit being given to all the disciples.



Continued...



"Feeling gratitude and not expressing it is like wrapping a present and not giving it." ~ William Arthur Ward

I wish to express my sincere gratitude and deepest appreciation for your prayers, cards and letters that have speeded my recovery from hip replacement surgery. I found it extremely special to receive a note or card almost everyday over the past three weeks. Thank you!

I have returned to the office and will soon be able to work all day in support of the ministry to which God calls each of us. I am grateful for healing and recovery.

"Gratitude means thankfulness, counting your blessings, noticing simple pleasures, and acknowledging everything that you receive. It means learning to live your life as if everything were a miracle, and being aware on a continuous basis of how much you've been given." ~ Marelisa Fábrega

The miracle of healing is beyond words. Yes, I've visited with many of you and your family members over the years and you've expressed thankfulness for the healing received. Now, it is my turn. I cannot adequately express the wonder of the relief I now feel. The pain that stalked me daily is gone. The small amount of discomfort I feel at the moment will be gone once the healing is complete. I am amazed and thankful for the wonder of God's design of our human body.

I also want to say thanks to so many who stepped up and continued the care and love of others in my absence. Pastor Terry Nielsen's willingness was a significant blessing. His words of grace expressed on Sunday's was reassuring and comforting to me and hopefully also to you. Thank you!

Our very competent staff kept things moving and thriving. Thank You!

Mary watched over me with tender care. I am not one to ask for a lot of help so it was humbling that she was willing to put my socks on each day and care for my bandaging. I am truly blessed with a spouse who exemplifies Jesus' love for others.

Continued.....

My children checked in on me virtually every day offering to do whatever was needed. Each of them is a blessing beyond words. Thank you!

I am working hard at recovery. Physical therapy and a very intentional desire to increase my walking so that healing can do the very best job it can is my plan for the next month.

Again, thank you for your prayers, support and love.

Pastor Laaker

Lutheran Planned Giving Services



Of the ELCA members who die each year, only about 8% have included a bequest to their congregation or another ELCA ministry. Studies show that in most congregations a majority of adult members do not have wills.

Council members from both Grace and St. Luke's have agreed to host a "Planning Your Legacy" Seminar featuring Craig D. Stirtz, CFRE & President of Lutheran Planned Giving Services, on Sunday, June 12th at 2:00 pm at St. Luke's Lutheran Church. Councils are encouraging congregations to plan on attending this informative seminar.

Most of us have loved ones we wish to remember in our estate plan. Most Lutherans also support ministries that are important to them, including our congregation. Yet few really know the best way to do everything we want to do for loved ones while remembering a gift for ministry as well. We are often reluctant to attend a seminar for fear we will have our arms twisted or will receive a sales pitch. You can leave your checkbook at home!

If you do not have a will or trust, if you have not created or reviewed your estate plan in the past five years, or if you just want ideas on how to reduce taxes and get more to your family and your favorite charities, it is important that you attend this seminar! Join us to learn valuable information about how careful estate planning can be a great blessing for you, your loved ones and for any ministries you wish to include.



And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people.

Ephesians 6:18

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

Individuals listed below have ongoing health issues and concerns:

Andrew Edwards
Ken Hilmer
LaVonne Moss
Urbano Vasquez



James Harrahill
Carolyn Matson
Don Olson



Norma Courtney (Arlone Farber's Mom.)
Christian Barajas (Samantha Trejo, Angela & Alex Everitt's brother.)
Dottie Hula (Greg Hula's Mom.)
Linda Pafford (Friend to many.)

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

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.
Joe and Barbara Narducci - Home.
Barbara Nelson - Life Care Center, Elkhorn.



*We always thank
God for all of you
and continually
mention you in
our prayers.*
1 Thessalonians 5:25, NIV



**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 necessary!



**Prayer Service
Wednesday
May 18, 2016
7:00 p.m.**

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

The Neighbors South Habitat Coalition 2016 build has now began and will continue each Friday and Saturday. We will be working on rehabbing a home at 3319 S 20th Street for Maggie Ortega and her three daughters, Nathalia, Gabriella and Samantha. The first thing Maggie would like to do in her new house is cook a big family dinner and enjoy eating around the dinning room table together with her three daughters.



The work day begins at 8:30 am and concludes about 4:00 pm. Volunteers are needed and welcomed. We are hopeful to have ten volunteers each work day. We will be taking Memorial Day weekend, and July 4th weekend off.

Please call the church office (402) 341-7730 if you have questions or would like to help in some way.

Being a Steward

Being a good steward implies more than the giving of money. God wants most of all, not our money, but ourselves. In writing to the church in Corinth, Paul used the Macedonians as an example of generous giving. Even as an impoverished people, the Macedonians gave so freely because, as Paul wrote, “. . . *they gave themselves first to the Lord*” (2 Corinthians 8:5). Only when we have given ourselves, through faith, to the Lord are our possessions acceptable to him. We are to be stewards of our lives, time, and talents. No amount of giving of money will substitute for the faithful giving of ourselves.



Prayer: Dear heavenly Father, you so loved the world that you gave your one and only Son. You gave, and you keep on giving. Grant me a giving heart. May my tithes and offerings give you honor and praise. In Jesus' precious name I pray. **Amen.**

Blessings on your Stewardship Journey!

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.

Arts For All, Inc. and the South Omaha Public Library have partnered to host “Where Books and Art Meet” Workshops for children between the ages of 8-12. The series takes place on Saturdays from 2:30 – 3:30 p.m. at the South Omaha Library, 2808 Q Street. Each workshop is taught by professional artists and teachers and will feature a story time and an accompany arts activity. Workshops are free, registration is required, space is limited to 25 each week. You can register online at omahalibrary.evanced.info/signup/eventcalendar.aspx?df=calendar.



Kids At Work - consider the possibilities of volunteering: with only 16 total days available for participants to work; the variety of opportunities are flexible including volunteering all

16 days, or two days a week, one day a week, one week out of the month, any time you can spend helping with the Kids At Work Summer Program will be helpful. Kids At Work will continue to meet each Tuesday and Wednesday from May 31st through July 20th. If you are interested in participating or volunteering in this awesome awareness for the youth to give back to the community, please speak with Malachi Black.

Grace Lutheran Church
ESL (English as a Second Language) Classes
Saturdays 9:30 to 11:30 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.



There are many things that challenge us in life. Internal struggles, inter personal relationship conflicts, personal growth and development challenges, and the day-to-day that we face. We all have different aspects of the same type of issues. We

all share in this life opportunities and experiences that bring joy and pain. Not equally nor necessarily fairly either. Which is why we all can work to empower each other to live the most fruitful life possible. When we come together as collective members, we strengthen each individual to do and be better than one can do or be by oneself. It requires commitment to being a part of something bigger than oneself, especially when it doesn't seem to all make sense or work out in the ways we hope.

The term, "brotherly love" implies having a close relationship with one another. It does not limit one to family ties but challenges us to reach beyond our familiar relations. One way we hope to reach in the coming months is through more direct community engagement projects. The focus overall will be to engage the diverse cultures we have right in this vicinity through community activities. We will be planning Friday night movie nights, game days, and bi-monthly culture centric meals. We will need volunteers to help give about three hours of your time once to twice a month as well as any specialties you may have in the culinary arts. Mostly, we are asking for people to be open to new experiences and see how we grow through these endeavors.









Grace will continue to serve the community through our Kids At Work program, where we will take students going into fifth through eighth grades around the neighborhood to assist businesses and other needs present. Volunteers who can chaperone starting in June on Tuesdays and Wednesdays for about two hours are needed. Please keep Grace in your prayers as we venture forth with a most exciting Spring and Summer time to come. Any help you can provide will be most appreciated. It is easy to do from one's place of comfort, but much more beneficial for the soul to act when it is right but challenging.

Malachi Black
Community Outreach Associate
outreach@graceluth.com



For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

Ephesians 2:10

-  Thank you to Marilyn and Jerry Van Ormer for their on-going dedication in caring and tending to the plants in the entry way, they continue to thrive and look welcoming.
-  Thank you to the ESL tutors; Malachi Black, 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, and Eva Martin; who take turns picking up altar flowers every Sunday morning.
-  Thank you June, LaVonne, Eva, and Marilyn for your continued dedication in creating a reflection of God's love and care in every quilt sent to support Lutheran World Relief.
-  Thank you LaVonne, June, Gloria, Marilyn, Jerry, Eva, and Malachi for your dedication and help in assembling the monthly Grace Messenger!
-  Thank you to Ron and Donna Adrian and Brenda Spahr who take turns in the care of the altar, and preparing the communion table.
-  Thank you to all ushers, Andrew, Jerry, Ron, Vicki, Larry, Mary, and Malachi for greeting everyone on Sunday mornings.
-  Thank you to the Liberty Elementary readers; Malachi, Pastor Laaker, Arlone, Margie, Vicki, Eva, and Brenda for sharing the gift of learning through imagination and fun with the second graders.





In honor of her retirement

**Trinity Lutheran Church
6340 North 30th Street**

is celebrating the ministry of

Jean Johnson, AIM

Sunday, May 22nd

Traditional Worship 8:45am
Praise Worship 10:45am

Open House Reception
2:00 - 4:00pm
Program at 3:00pm

Jean Johnson, AIM had recently began her ministry work with Trinity Lutheran at the same time Pastor Laaker was making his transition beginning his ministry here at Grace Lutheran.



Join OTOC on Saturday, May 14 from 9 am to Noon at St. Pius X Catholic (70th and Blondo)

Members from OTOC congregations, collaborating congregations, Issue Action Teams and interested individuals will identify the issues and non-partisan strategies we want to pursue during this election year and beyond.

During the Fall, OTOC will ask candidates to discuss their stands on the issues that matter to all Omaha families like improving housing, mental health care and community safety and increasing access to affordable health care and sustainable energy.

You are invited to help shape the vision and work of OTOC over the next 18 months. Call 402-344-4401 or contact us at otocfornebraska@gmail.com for questions.

On May 14, OTOC will identify issues affecting our families which the organization will research over the Summer and raise with candidates for public office during the Fall, before the November General Election.

Have you heard?

Malachi Black was recently interviewed by Mitch McCarthy, Pastor John Backus, and Jenny Sharrick with “Things That Matter”, an online podcast show about faith, life, and things that matter. Malachi speaks about his experiences as Community Outreach Associate here at Grace Lutheran and what it is like interacting with people in the surrounding neighborhood.



If you would like to hear Malachi’s interview in it’s entirety, you can visit thingsthatmatterland.com and look on the list of episodes for April 22nd’s pod cast.

Baker’s Community Rewards



Grace Lutheran Church has been accepted into the Baker’s Community Rewards Program. Grace will get credit for every purchase you make using your registered Plus card. The more you shop with Baker’s, the more opportunity Grace will have to earn rewards. It is just that easy!

Haven’t had the chance to sign up? Not a problem, please contact the church office for a complete list and instructions on how to obtain your registered Baker’s Plus card, talk to a Baker’s associate; they are happy to help set up your rewards card, or you can refer back to previous issues of the Grace Messenger. Grace Lutheran’s 5-digit NPO is 62209.

For assistance setting up an online account or with general questions, please feel free to contact Baker’s at 800-576-4377 option 3, or email at DCR@dillonstores.com.

May 2016



- 1 - Malachi Black
- 8 - Mary Laaker
- 15 - Brenda Spahr
- 22 - Arlone Farber
- 29 - Greg Hula
- June 5 - Margie Sutej

- 7 - Christi Edwards
James Harrahill
- 8 - Ellison Simon
- 10 - Juan Vazquez
- 13 - Danaka Ashcraft
- 16 - Marissa Halfhill
Alexandra Everitt
- 18 - Shedu Lado
- 21 - Jessica Armstrong
- 22 - Parsila Dike
- 25 - Arlone Farber
- 26 - Estir Lewa
- 27 - Brenda Anzalone
Donna Adrian
- 31 - David Wallace
Edda Nyiwe

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

May Alcolytes

- 1 - Andrea Spahr
- 8 - Brenda Spahr
- 15 - Greg Hula
- 22 - Janet Hula
- 29 - Vicki Cox
- June 5 - Donna Adrian

May Ushers

- Ron Adrian
- Mary Laaker
- Andrew Edwards



May Greeters

- 1 - Mary Laaker and Sarah Emery
- 8 - Ralph Fitle and Larry Foreman
- 15 - Andrew Edwards and Vicki Cox
- 22 - Eva Martin and Andrea Spahr
- 29 - June Hilmer and Gloria Moore
- June 5 - Greg and Janet Hula

Responsibility List

Altar Flowers



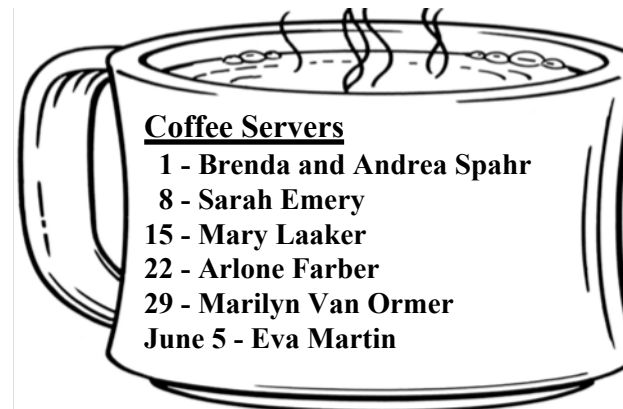
- 1 - Andrew, Christi, and Clay Edwards and Tracy Petrini
in loving memory of their mother, Charlotte Edwards.
- 8 - LaVonne Moss in loving memory of her husband, Bob.
- 15 - OPEN.
- 22 - Vicki Cox in celebration of her sister, Bev's birthday.
- 29 - Jerry and Marilyn Van Ormer and Ed and Charlotte
Palczynski in loving memory of their parents.
- June 5 - Greg and Janet Hula in celebration of their grand-
children, Trina and Anthony's birthdays.

Flower Pick-Up for May:



Backpack Program

- 1 - Vicki Cox for awareness of all who face hunger issues.
- 8 - Pastor and Mary Laaker in celebration of their son-in-law,
Juan's birthday.
- 15 - Eva Martin in celebration of her great-granddaughter,
Marissa's birthday and graduation.
- 22 - Ron and Donna Adrian in celebration of their daughter,
Brenda's birthday.
- 29 - Jerry and Marilyn Van Ormer in celebration of their
granddaughter, Kristin's birthday.
- June 5 - Eva Martin in celebration of her daughter, Emily and her
great-grandson, Milo's birthdays.



Coffee Servers

- 1 - Brenda and Andrea Spahr
- 8 - Sarah Emery
- 15 - Mary Laaker
- 22 - Arlone Farber
- 29 - Marilyn Van Ormer
- June 5 - Eva Martin





Lutheran Night at Werner Park

**Friday, June 6th
7:05 p.m.**

Nashville vs. Omaha Storm Chasers

Awesome Add-ons:

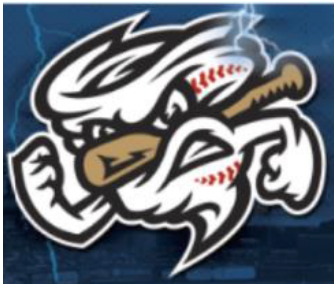
- \$5.50 Hot Dog & Soda Voucher
- \$3.00 Centris Family Fun Zone Pass
- \$2.00 Mini-Golf Pass

\$10.00 for Group Infield
Box Seats (\$14.00 value)

\$6.00 Group Outfield
Box Seats (\$13.00 value)

Sing "Take Me Out to the Ball Game"
during the 7th inning stretch

Featured Mission will Campus Ministries of ELCA and LCMS
1,422 Lutherans attended in 2015. Come enjoy the fun with
family and friends!



Deadline to receive special pricing is June 1st!

Contact Ryan Worthen for additional information or to
purchase your tickets at 402-738-5126 or by email at:
RyanW@omahastormchasers.com

Lutheran Service Corps
13th Annual Charity Golf Tournament
Monday, May 16th (rain or shine)
Oak Hills Country Club,
12325 Golfing Green Drive.



Golfers and non-golfers, men and women, young and old alike are
welcome to attend this event. Registration and raffle begins at 11:30
a.m. and ends with a banquet at 6:00 p.m. for golfers, friends and
family. If you are unable to attend the event but would like to
contribute, you can mail your donation to: Attn: Katie Osweiler,
Lutheran Service Corps, 6220 N. 30th Street, Omaha, NE 68111. If you
have any questions, please email
Omaha.dev@lutheranvolunteercorps.org or call Jim Spanjers at
402-616-7907.

Lutheran Family Services of Nebraska, Inc.

Every year, hundreds of youth in Nebraska are removed from their
families because of neglect and abuse. While these families heal, their
children need a safe, loving, home-like atmosphere with minimal
judgment and abundant patience.

Team Members: Foster parents have the most direct contact with the
child and are central to the planning team which also includes:

LFS foster care staff; A Nebraska Department of Health and Human
Services case manager; Biological parents; Teachers, therapists,
counselors and other professionals involved with the family.

The team works together in the child's best interests.

Make a difference, anyone can make a difference, and it all begins with
you!

ADOPT, If you can't adopt, then.... FOSTER, If you can't foster, then...
RESPITE, If you can't provide respite care, then....
VOLUNTEER, If you can't volunteer, then....
DONATE, If you can't donate, then...ADVOCATE!

"It is never too late - children should not have to wait" - Andrew, age 12

To learn more about providing foster care in Nebraska, contact us at
fostercare@lfsneb.org or call 402-661-7100.

Eco-Friendly Lawn & Garden Care



They may look green, but a lot of lawns are anything but. Homeowners use a lot of toxic chemicals on their lawns - up to 10 pounds of pesticides per acre. When it rains, pesticides are flushed into local streams, rivers, and lakes, harming fish and plants along the way. Here are some tips to make sure your grass looks great - and is safe for pets, children, and other living things.

Choosing the Right Mower

Using a gas-powered mower for just one hour produces the same amount of air pollution that a car emits from driving 100 miles! Luckily, there are many low-energy, high-quality alternatives to conventional gas mowers:

Rotary mowers. Those “old fashioned” hand-powered mowers your grandparents used are making a comeback! Homeowners with smaller lawns find rotary mowers particularly appealing for their maneuverability, low maintenance costs, and minimal environmental impact.

Electric mowers. Electric mowers emit far fewer pollutants than gasoline-powered machines, are much quieter, and are often easier to push.

Battery-powered mowers. Some mowers and other garden equipment operate with battery packs that can be electrically recharged. Though these mowers offer many of the same benefits as electric mowers, they do contain batteries that generally last only about five years. Because the batteries contain heavy metals, they must be disposed of in a hazardous waste facility.

Mowing and Fertilizing

Many local utilities offer discounts on new, electric powered lawn care equipment to businesses and homeowners who trade in their gasoline-powered appliances. Contact your power company to find out if they offer such a program.

Mow only as often as you need to keep your lawn in good shape. For most lawns, that means cutting your grass no lower than 2.5 inches; keeping many grasses as long as 3.5 inches is ideal for crowding out crab grass and other weeds. Longer grass retains water better.

Use natural fertilizers or compost. They release nutrients slowly throughout the year, won't leach away, and support the variety of soil organisms that combat diseases.

Leave grass clippings on the lawn after you mow to provide your lawn with a natural source of nutrients, or compost the clippings for use in your garden.

Create healthy soil. Earthworms and other soil organisms keep the soil health. By moving through the soil, they allow water and air to penetrate, and they recycle thatch back into nutrients that the grass can use.

Reading Your Bible in a Year - May 2016

1	Acts 14	Joshua 22	Job 31
2	Acts 15:1-21	Joshua 23-24	Job 32
3	Acts 15:22-41	Judges 1	Job 33
4	Acts 16:1-15	Judges 2-3	Job 34
5	Acts 16:16-40	Judges 4-5	Job 35
6	Acts 17:1-15	Judges 6	Job 36
7	Acts 17:16-34	Judges 7-8	Job 37
8	Acts 18	Judges 9	Job 38
9	Acts 19:1-20	Judges 10:1-11:33	Job 39
10	Acts 19:21-41	Judges 11:34-12:15	Job 40
11	Acts 20:1-16	Judges 13	Job 41
12	Acts 20:17-38	Judges 14-15	Job 42
13	Acts 21:1-36	Judges 16	Psalms 42
14	Acts 21:37-22:29	Judges 17-18	Psalms 43
15	Acts 22:30-23:22	Judges 19	Psalms 44
16	Acts 23:23-24:9	Judges 20	Psalms 45
17	Acts 24:10-27	Judges 21	Psalms 46
18	Acts 25	Ruth 1-2	Psalms 47
19	Acts 26:1-18	Ruth 3-4	Psalms 48
20	Acts 26:19-32	1 Sam. 1:1-2:10	Psalms 49
21	Acts 27:1-12	1 Sam. 2:11-36	Psalms 50
22	Acts 27:13-44	1 Sam. 3	Psalms 51
23	Acts 28:1-16	1 Sam. 4-5	Psalms 52
24	Acts 28:17-31	1 Sam. 6-7	Psalms 53
25	Romans 1:1-15	1 Sam. 8	Psalms 54
26	Romans 1:16-32	1 Sam. 9:1-10:16	Psalms 55
27	Romans 2:1-3:8	1 Sam. 10:17-11:15	Psalms 56
28	Romans 3:9-31	1 Sam. 12	Psalms 57
29	Romans 4	1 Sam. 13	Psalms 58
30	Romans 5	1 Sam. 14	Psalms 59
31	Romans 6	1 Sam. 15	Psalms 60

Grammy's Legacy

I watch in amazement, in curiosity, as she lives her life so beautifully with childlike wonder and playful delight, a connoisseur savoring every bite. When she smiles sweetly, laughs with ease, I say, "Grammy, tell me your secret, please."

Her kind, blue eyes caress my face. She wraps me into a warm embrace, and leaning close so none can hear, she whispers her secret into my ear: "Love," she says, "Will teach you how to be in the present, to live in the now. It speaks with a sunset, a giggle, a kiss. It is at the center Of happiness."

Confused, I inquire with a small, unsure voice, "How do I be happy?"

She responds: "It's a choice."

So I watch how she laughs. I watch how she lives. I watch how she loves, how she heals and forgives, her life a testimony to our little exchange, As I, her grandchild, stand forever changed. And now, each day I choose to smile. I choose to focus on things worthwhile. The choice to be happy is her legacy. She found it herself, then passed it on to me.

Taylor Lyons, Florida

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Bible Wordsearch

Jesus the Healer 3

Wordsearch 248

Matt.8:28-9:8

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

PASS	ARRIVED
BOAT	BEGGED
DIED	BROUGHT
DRIVE	CROWD
EARTH	COMING
EASIER	CROSSED
FAITH	DEMONS
FILLED	FEEDING
GIVEN	FORGIVE
HEART	FELLOW
HERD	MATTHEW
JESUS	PLEADED
KNOW	PRAISED
LAKE	REGION
LARGE	RUSHED
LEAVE	STEEP
LYING	TENDING
TOWN	TOMBS
WALK	VIOLENT
WATER	WHOLE

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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Signs and Wonders from JoyfulNoiseletter.com

Sign outside Unitarian Universalist Church, Ormond Beach, FL:
 "Two great days in a personal life – day we are born and day we discover why." —William Barclay via George Goldtrap Ormond-by-the-Sea, FL

Sign outside Lititz (PA) Moravian Church:
 "Recovering sinners meet here; you're always welcome."
 —via Pastor Dean Jurgen

Store sign seen on vacation in Oregon:
 "You don't have to be crazy to work here. We'll train you."
 —via Joseph Basehart Aurora, CO