

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

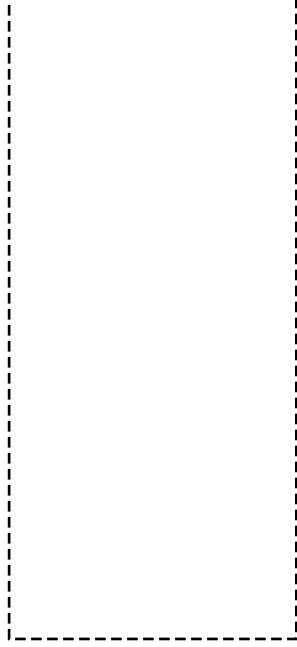
Community Outreach - Malachi Black

Delivered to the Post Office July 26



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THE GRACE MESSENGER

1889 - 2016

August
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 Fittle	Greg Hula	Loren Moyer
Brenda Spahr	Amanda Vazquez	Pastor Laaker

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

The regular meeting of the Council was held on July 12th. The Council shared their prayer concerns for members, neighbors, family members and friends who are experiencing health issues, safe travels for all who are taking vacations this summer, and for guidance and peace for the recent violence in the Sudan.

Devotions: Devotions were led by Pastor Laaker reading the selected verses in the “Daily Texts” from Amos 5:14 and 1 Corinthians 16:14. The first tells us to seek good and not evil so that we may live. The second explains that love should drive all of our actions.

Visions for Ministry: The author described a story about a school of animals that were forced to do tasks that they simply couldn’t do, which caused more harm than good not only to themselves, but to those around them, as well. It was a reminder that sometimes it is good for us to recognize and accept the real limitations we face. We should learn to celebrate the things that we cannot do well along with the things that we can do well. One of the beautiful things about human beings is that we are all different with differing abilities, talents, and motivations. While we may not be good at something, someone else is surely great at it, and together we could make a bigger difference. We will read pages 75-90 to discuss next month.

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

Christian Education: Our one-day Vacation Bible School program Raindrops to Rainbows went well. There were about 15 kids in attendance and 15 volunteers. We grilled hamburgers and hot dogs afterward and had floats. It was a full, fun day. Thanks to everyone who helped make it happen and Janet for her incredible leadership!

Evangelism/Outreach: The Kids at Work program is about 75% of the way done. There is a decline in the number of kids participating this year, but has otherwise been successful. The kids have worked at the Lutheran Home and the W. Dale Clark Library.

The first movie night for kids was held on Friday, June 17th and there were approximately 10 kids. This Friday, July 15th will be the second movie night and we will show the movie Hoodwinked.

The Little Library seems to be in use, as it appears a few books have been taken. There are plenty of children’s books; so one suggestion is to include more older/adult books.

Continued...

OTOC’s next neighborhood event will be next month and they will be discussing and preparing for a candidate forum planned for October to hear what the candidate’s plans are to address the issues most important to the community.

We discussed doing a Welcome back/appreciation for the teachers and staff at Liberty Elementary. Ron will submit a Thrivent Action Fund request to provide water glasses/tumblers with an inspirational message to help get their new school year off to a good start.

Pastor read a thank you letter from San Andres.

Finance: Price for phone/internet with Cox will increase from \$49 to \$138 because our 2-year time period is up. They also offered a lower \$75 option if we lock in for 3 years. The Council agreed to go with the offering to lock in at \$75 for 3 years.

The new iPad has been purchased and is ready to go for individuals interested in making donations via credit card.

Property: Sprinkler system was repaired – took a couple of days but the gentleman only charged us for 1 hour of work.

Carpet install is scheduled for the week of August 28th. More announcements will follow.

Roof repair bid was accepted not to exceed \$13,500.

Street signs have been ordered to replace the ones that are currently up and worn. The cracks surrounding the building has yet to be remedied and we are waiting to receive a bid.

Service/Social Ministry: Be aware of the ongoing effort to inform people of the death penalty issue that will be on the ballot this fall. Families of those who have experienced the death penalty in Nebraska will be traveling the state talking about why they want to “retain the action of the legislature” which eliminates the death penalty in the state.

Support/Stewardship: None.

Worship: Hymn selection for the next 3 months will be the last Monday of the month - July 25th at 6:30pm. Anyone interested in being a part of that discussion is welcome to attend.

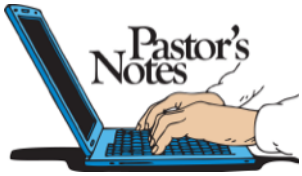
Unfinished Business: None.

New Business: None.

Announcements: Pastor will be at camp with his granddaughter for the rest of the week. Greg will bring treats for the August meeting. (Vicki will be gone in August so will plan to bring treats in September.)

Adjournment: The Council meeting closed in prayer and adjourned at 9:03 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted, Amanda Vazquez, Secretary



Recent events continue to call for attention. Issues surrounding policing practices, violence engaged with guns and vehicles, words and images, civil war in developing countries like South Sudan, all beg for some resolution.

Caption words and slogans like “Black Lives Matter,” “All Lives Matter,” and “Blue Lives Matter” have been pressed into our vocabulary and consciousness. How do I sort through the audible noise to hear the stories that underlie these words and slogans?

In order to hear the content and context of these slogans, I must first recognize what it is in me and my experience that causes me to react viscerally to them. Earlier in this week, I shared a post on Facebook entitled “Why I’m a Racist...” It was a blog post shared by a white skinned American man that mirrored many of my life experiences.

The lead sentences to the paragraphs of his reflection were: I am uncomfortable with racial inequalities that exist in my country; I am ignorant of the racial inequalities that exist in my country; My discomfort and my ignorance can be attributed primarily to one thing; and I am distant from the racial inequalities that exist in my country. He concludes by saying “How” will I change this? His answer is: “Know Someone.”

I have to admit this is what has changed my perspective over the years. The privilege offered to me has been to get to know persons whose skin color is different from mine. I have been touched by their stories of life and its challenges. My heart breaks when I learn from them the ways they have never been given the benefit of doubt. I have come to learn that I must see color and learn to appreciate what that means for them and for me. It means that I have to check my learned prejudices and be willing to give each and everyone the true benefit of doubt that has been mine from the culture.

So, “Black Lives Matter” means to me that my brothers and sisters whose skin color is black deserve the same kind of respect and expectations that accrue to me. It is not a matter of “yes, but;” it simply is.

So, “All Lives Matter” means to me that God does not show any partiality. As the gospel writer has so poignantly put it, “God so loved the world.” This means to me that God values all lives equally and so should I.

Continued.....

So, “Blue Lives Matter” means to me that I respect and trust in those whose life vocation is to protect and serve as Police Officers. I will hold them up in prayer and expect they will be honest and forthright in all their dealings with me and everyone else.

Thus, I need the lived stories of those whose lives are touched in ways that mine is not. I need to work at placing myself in relationships that enable me the opportunity to see what matters. And, I need the open and honest reflection on my racism that keeps me insulated from many of the things that matter.

One of the prayers that is available in Morning Prayer is as follows: O God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. This is my prayer on this journey.

Pastor Laaker



Pastor Laaker will be leading an Adult Study with materials from Augsburg Fortress titled “The Lutheran Course.” We will meet at St. Luke’s at 7 pm on Mondays beginning August 8. The group will meet for seven sessions and focus on the following topics: *How to Tell the Difference Between the Law and the Gospel; Five Things You Should Know about the Lutheran Reformation; The Anatomy of a Baptism; How to Receive Communion; The Three Most Rebellious Things Jesus Did; How to Read the Bible and How to Share Your Faith with Someone.* We will use our Bibles and two books *The Lutheran Course Handbook and Workbook.*



Please drop a note to the office to let Pastor know you plan to attend.



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

Please keep in your prayers the individuals listed below who have health issues and concerns:

Ron Adrian
Norma Courtney
Andrew Edwards
Ken Hilmer
Carolyn Matson
Jack Pablo McGill
Don Olson
Brian Sutej
Melvin Wipperling



Christian Barajas
Theresa Courtney
James Harrahill
Dottie Hula
Cesar Martinez
LaVonne Moss
Linda Pafford
Urbano Vasquez



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

Pray for our Shut-ins and Nursing Home residents:

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



Worship on the River

We will gather on Sunday, September 18, beginning at 9:30 am at the River City Star. We will sail the Missouri River at 10 am. A short worship service will be conducted on the boat. We will gather for a potluck meal after the boat ride at one of the churches. More info will be included in the next newsletter.



Prayer Service
Wednesday
August 17, 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.

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



Stewardship Moment
Storing Up Treasures in Heaven

Jim Elliot, who was a missionary and a martyr for his faith, gave us this profound statement: “He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose.” Through faith, we

understand the truth in this statement. All of our worldly possessions will at some time be taken away from us. We will lose them during our lifetimes, or they will be taken away at death. However, we have the opportunity to use our material possessions in service to the Lord by giving to those in need and God’s Church. What we give through faith will provide spiritual dividends for us as well as for others. As Paul wrote, “[The gifts you sent] are a fragrant offering, an acceptable sacrifice, pleasing to God” (Philippians 4:18). In verse 17, he wrote, “Not that I am looking for a gift, but I am looking for what may be credited to your account.” What we do in Christ’s name for him, stores up treasures in heaven.

Prayer: Dear Lord, show me my sin that I might repent and be restored to fellowship with you through the blood of Jesus. I pray that you will help me to be a faithful steward of all the blessings you have entrusted to my care. In Christ’s 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.



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.

Urban Abbey
1026 Jackson Street
in the Old Market



Are you thinking of Omaha CROP Walk yet? Urban Abbey is.... Gather a group of friends and make your way downtown, have fun and support Omaha CROP Walk.

During the month of August, Urban Abbey will be helping in support of Omaha CROP Walk. Through their Community Partnership, Urban Abbey will be giving 10% of all coffee bar sales and 50% of sales of the “Urban Abbey Blend” whole bean coffee.



Grace’s Free Little Library is now on display in the front island of the parking lot! Stop on by and browse for an interesting book! If you have any books for all ages you would like to contribute to the outdoor library or have any questions regarding this new adventure, please speak with Malachi. Let’s spread the joy of imagination through reading a good book this summer!



As we shift into the second half of the year, there are several points of interest to highlight for 2016. We have successfully completed another Kids at Work summer program. We spent eight weeks volunteering at Lutheran Home, W Dale Clark Library, Baker's grocery store, and in the neighborhood doing cleanup and other projects. Additionally, we have hosted a movie night once a month for the last two months, and will show one more film on Friday August 19th. We will have free popcorn and drinks. We invite families to bring their kids to see Zootopia.

Our Grace Reads program kicks off in its second year starting this school year. We will be expanding into the third grade in addition to reading to second graders. We will need more volunteers to commit to one day a month reading to kids. Other outreach programs such as our ESL Saturday class has grown in the number of people participating. We have seen an increase in English comprehension as well. It's been a great experience watching the developments of both participants and teaching leaders this year. I am also pleased to report our Little Free Library has been put to good use. We have a lot of kids books to fill the library, but could use more teenage and young adult books to add to the variety. Thanks for all the donations and help with making it a success.









Let us continue to walk in hope this year. The efforts we put forth will be instrumental in unlocking the future that we faithfully can expect. There is still much work left to do and much to look forward to this year. Whether it's our time, talents, or treasures that we give, let us remain confident in the good that the future has in store through our giving. It can be difficult to remember the goodness of life that we have amidst the tragedies and struggles we witness day to day. Let our choices and actions be focused on bringing positive change and incorporating unity in our efforts.

Malachi Black
Community Outreach Associate
outreach@graceluth.com
(940)414-3362



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 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 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 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 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 Prince of Peace congregation for the generous gift, a new Graco Pack & Play, Crib and Changing Table now in use in the Nursery.



“I insist that humor and fun (which is humor in action) are equal partners with love as key ingredients for a healthy life. Humor forms the foundation of good mental health.”

—Patch Adams, M.D. in *The Physically Fit Messiah*
Shared from JoyfulNoiseletter.com

Omaha Together One Community

Interfaith Solidarity Service

Join OTOC, Police Chief Todd Schmaderer, diverse community clergy and faith leaders for an Interfaith Solidarity Service on Thursday, August 4 at 6:00 p.m. at Augustana Lutheran (3647 Lafayette Ave). OTOC along with the Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance (IMA) Jewish, Muslim and other diverse faith leaders are organizing this brief service to demonstrate our commitment not to be divided by violence and to work together to build a community that works for all families. We will gather together to reflect on our common humanity, experience the song and prayer from different faith traditions and re-commit to work together toward creating a peace-filled community for all families. For more information go to www.otoc.org or contact OTOC at otocfornebraska@gmail.com, or by calling 402-444-4401.

Basics of Organizing Series: Leadership in an Election Year

Join leaders of Omaha Together One Community (OTOC) on Monday, August 8th at 7:00 p.m. at Augustana Lutheran Church (3647 Lafayette Ave.) for a workshop on how we organize so that candidates for public office respond to the issues that affect our families and communities. This session will focus on "How to build support for our Action Agenda through Candidate Accountability Sessions." Learn how we can organize community walks and house meetings leading to large public actions in September and October with candidates for Congress, Unicameral and OPPD. For questions, contact OTOC at otocfornebraska@gmail.com or by calling the OTOC office at 402-444-4401.

Community; a social, religious, occupational, or other group sharing common characteristics or interests, and perceived or perceiving itself as distinct in some respect from the larger society within which it exists.

definition according to dictionary.com

God's Stillness

Oh God, I need a stillness,
Deep within my soul,
That I may feel You ever near,
Though troubled waters roll.

Oh God, I need a stillness,
To wait more patiently.
I know You hear my longing cry.
I know You'll answer me.

Oh God, I need a stillness,
To meditate and pray,
A time to get to know You, Lord.
Much better every day.

Oh God, I need a stillness,
My dry soul to renew.
I need Thy Holy Spirit's power
To fill me through and through.

Oh God, I need a stillness,
To know Your perfect will,
To walk the path You'd have me walk.
To hear, "My child, be still."

~ Helen Dowd ~
Skywriting.net

August 2016



7 - Greg Hula
 14 - Mary Laaker
 21 - Arlone Farber
 28 - Margie Sutej
 Sept. 4 - Malachi Black

2 - Vicki Cox
 3 - Bobbi Jo Pankaj
 8 - Jace Hargis
 9 - Becky Hanson
 23 - Charles Emery
 26 - Kirstin Pafford
 29 - Lily Casey
 30 - Linda Pafford

August Alcolytes

7 - Janet Hula
 14 - Brenda Spahr
 21 - Vicki Cox
 28 - Donna Adrian
 Sept. 4 - Andrea Spahr

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

August Ushers

Malachi Black
 Mary Laaker
 Andrew Edwards

Ushers & Greeters



August Greeters

7 - Ron and Donna Adrian
 14 - Loren and Marsha Moyer
 21 - Andrea and Brenda Spahr
 28 - Sarah Emery and Mary Laaker
 Sept. 4 - Larry Foreman
 and Andrew Edwards



Responsibility List

Altar Flowers



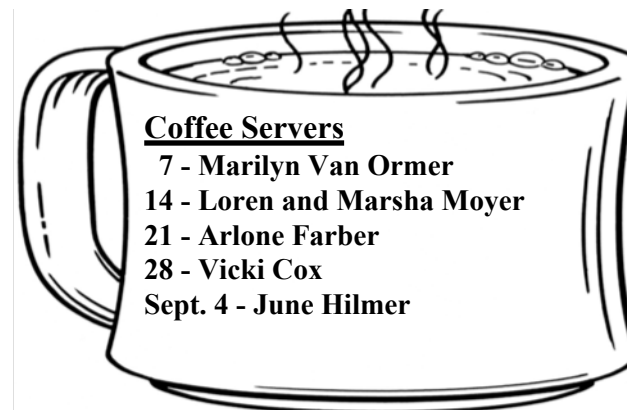
7 - OPEN.
 14 - Jerry and Marilyn Van Ormer in celebration of their
 Wedding Anniversary.
 21 - Brenda Spahr for God's Blessings for the upcoming school year.
 28 - OPEN.
 Sept. 4 - Vicki Cox to the Glory of God.

Flower Pick-Up for August: Greg and Janet Hula



Backpack Program

7 - OPEN.
 14 - Jerry and Marilyn Van Ormer in celebration of their
 Wedding Anniversary.
 21 - Pastor and Mary Laaker in honor of their grandson, Charlie's
 birthday.
 28 - Margie Sutej in honor of her grandchildren.
 Sept. 4 - Ron and Donna Adrian in celebration of their daughter
 in-law, Melissa's birthday.



Coffee Servers

7 - Marilyn Van Ormer
 14 - Loren and Marsha Moyer
 21 - Arlone Farber
 28 - Vicki Cox
 Sept. 4 - June Hilmer



The Death Penalty ELCA Social Statement Summary

“The text of the social statement of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) titled “The Death Penalty,” adopted in 1991, begins by considering how violence affects us. Recognizing the distrust, harm, anger, sorrow and injustice that follow violence, the statement acknowledges that violence makes us want to seek revenge and yearn after simple solutions. The death penalty is by nature a controversial issue: “While we all look to the Word of God and bring our reason to the death penalty issue, we can and do assess it with some diversity” (p. 2).

“We begin by assuming that government plays a God-given, protective role. “God entrusts the state with power to take human life when failure to do so constitutes a clear danger to society” (p. 2). This view is qualified, though: “[T]his does not mean that governments have an unlimited right to take life” or “must punish crime by death” (p. 2). The text quickly questions whether it is even possible to administer the death penalty justly. By the end, the social statement concludes that it is not.

“Citing Scripture, the statement supports the Christian calling to “respond to violent crime in the restorative way taught by Jesus and shown by his actions” (p. 2). Restorative justice involves “addressing the hurt of each person whose life has been touched by violent crime” (p.3). Such an approach “makes the community safer for all” (p. 3).

“Three reasons are given to oppose capital punishment: 1) executions represent an unacceptable, non-restorative approach to violent crime; 2) executions can reinforce social injustice; and 3) the death penalty cannot possibly be administered justly.”

This summary is provided as information as you seek to make a decision about your vote on the November ballot regarding “repealing LB 268” and returning the death penalty to Nebraska or voting to “retain LB 268” thereby eliminating the death penalty in Nebraska for “life in prison without parole” as adopted by the Unicameral in 2015.

Pastor Laaker

Our lives are albums written through With good or ill, with false or true;
And as the blessed angels turn The pages of our years, God grant they read
the good with smiles And blot the ill with tears.

—John Greenleaf Whittier
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Arts For All Inc. Fall 2016 Classes

Arts For All is a nonprofit arts education organization dedicated to making the arts available and affordable for all ages throughout Metro Omaha. In 2013, over 1,500 students participated in Arts For All's quality culturally-enriched programming. Fall classes will begin the week of August 22nd, register early for best class selection that fits your schedule. Seats are limited. Register soon at, artsforallinc.com or call 402-556-7821.

Family Movie Night at Grace Friday, August 19th at 7:30 pm

Come enjoy games, movie and fellowship time with one another. Bring your children, invite their friends for a movie night. Popcorn and drinks will be provided. Enjoy the fellowship during the showing of “Zootopia” together. If you have any questions, please speak with Malachi Black or call the church office.



Rachel Holder of Nashville, TN, was driving her young son, Lincoln, and his friend, Ellie, to church. The youngsters were in the back seat, and Mom overheard this conversation:

Ellie: “Did I tell you I got baptized?”
Lincoln: “You mean sanitized?”
Ellie: “No. Like when the preacher puts you in the water.”
Lincoln: “Well... they dunk you in the water and you come out clean. I’m pretty sure that’s sanitized.”

—via George Goldtrap, Ormond-by-the-Sea, FL
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How to Cut Home Water Waste

The world's dwindling water resources are being used by a growing population with increasing demands. Believe it or not, most of the U.S. is expected to face water shortages in the coming years. Last year, the USDA designated Natural Disaster Areas in 256 counties in the western and southwestern U.S. due to drought. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) granted \$4 million to four institutions in 2015 to conduct research to combat the effects of drought and extreme events on water quality in watersheds and at drinking water utilities.

According to the EPA, the average American family of four uses 400 gallons of water per day. Much of that is hidden inside the products we buy, the energy we use and the food we eat, but our laundry, hygiene, dishwashing, and personal habits do consume more than the global average.

Here are some simple, inexpensive ways to cut back on water use at home:

Use less water: one of the clearest steps toward water conservation is also the most obvious one - simply use less. Start by taking shorter showers, filling up the dishwasher and laundry machines before you run them, and turning off the faucet while brushing your teeth.

Check for leaks: look at faucets and pipes to make sure water isn't escaping.

Choose smart appliances: water-saving shower heads, low-flow toilets, and faucet aerators can lower your water bill.

Fill up a water bottle: instead of buying disposable plastic water bottles, fill up a refillable water container to decrease the energy used in producing, transporting, and disposing plastic bottles.

Avoid buying new "water-intensive" products: cotton, electronics and paper all require a lot of water in their production. Try buying used clothing and recycled paper whenever possible and resist the urge to get the latest gadget every year if your existing device is in working order.

Go renewable: Half of the water we use goes to power generation. Renewable sources like solar and wind use significantly less water than coal and nuclear. Make the switch.

green tips from earthshare.org

Reading Your Bible in a Year - August 2016

1	1 Cor 16	2 Kings 12-13	Micah 3
2	2 Cor 1:1-2:4	2 Kings 14	Micah 4:1-5:1
3	2 Cor 2:5-3:18	2 Kings 15-16	Micah 5:2-15
4	2 Cor 4:1-5:10	2 Kings 17	Micah 6
5	2 Cor 5:11-6:13	2 Kings 18	Micah 7
6	2 Cor 6:14-7:16	2 Kings 19	Nahum 1
7	2 Cor 8	2 Kings 20-21	Nahum 2
8	2 Cor 9	2 Kings 22:10-23:35	Nahum 3
9	2 Cor 10	2 Kings 23:36-24:20	Habakkuk 1
10	2 Cor 11	2 Kings 25	Habakkuk 2
11	2 Cor 12	1 Chrn 1-2	Habakkuk 3
12	2 Cor 13	1 Chrn 3-4	Zephaniah 1
13	John 1:1-18	1 Chrn 5-6	Zephaniah 2
14	John 1:19-34	1 Chrn 7-8	Zephaniah 3
15	John 1:35-51	1 Chrn 9	Haggai 1-2
16	John 2	1 Chrn 10-11	Zechariah 1
17	John 3:1-21	1 Chrn 12	Zechariah 2
18	John 3:22-36	1 Chrn 13-14	Zechariah 3
19	John 4:1-26	1 Chrn 15:1-16:6	Zechariah 4
20	John 4:27-42	1 Chrn 16:7-43	Zechariah 5
21	John 4:43-54	1 Chrn 17	Zechariah 6
22	John 5:1-18	1 Chrn 18-19	Zechariah 7
23	John 5:19-47	1 Chrn 20:1-22:1	Zechariah 8
24	John 6:1-21	1 Chrn 22:2-23:32	Zechariah 9
25	John 6:22-59	1 Chrn 24	Zechariah 10
26	John 6:60-71	1 Chrn 25-26	Zechariah 11
27	John 7:1-24	1 Chrn 27-28	Zechariah 12
28	John 7:25-52	1 Chrn 29	Zechariah 13
29	John 8:1-20	2 Chrn 1:1-2:16	Zechariah 14
30	John 8:21-47	2 Chrn 2:17-5:1	Mal 1:1-2:9
31	John 8:48-59	2 Chrn 5:2-14	Mal 2:10-16

At a staff meeting of the Brecksville, OH, United Methodist Church, the senior pastor was describing an awkward moment when he met at a store a parishioner of a former church he had served.

The former parishioner said, "Pastor! Hi!" and proceeded to talk at length. For the life of him, the pastor couldn't remember the parishioner's name and felt embarrassed.

The custodian exclaimed, "Oh don't feel bad. Apparently the parishioner couldn't remember your name and just called you 'Pastor!'"

—via Rev. Barbara Bartholomew
Associate Pastor of Visitation, Brecksville (OH) United Methodist Church
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God's kids say & do the funniest things

"My grandfather was a Presbyterian minister in Leavenworth, KS, in the 1920's and 1930's, a time when pastors' sermons went on at great length.

"One Sunday morning, my father, who was then a child, took his crayons and paper to church with him and sat with his family in the front row. When my grandfather's sermon went on at great length, my father wrote 'STOP' on the paper and held it up high, to the chagrin of my grandparents and the amusement of the congregation.

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Bible Wordsearch

Apostles Chosen

Wordsearch 251

Matt.9:33-10:10

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

AMAZED	ANDREW
FREELY	APOSTLES
HEAL	CLEANSE
HEAVEN	CROWDS
ISRAEL	DISEASE
JAMES	ISCARIOT
JESUS	JOURNEY
JOHN	KINGDOM
JUDAS	PREACH
PETER	MATTHEW
PHILIP	MESSAGE
PRINCE	SANDALS
RAISE	SHEPHERD
SHEEP	TEACHING
SIMON	THOMAS
SPIRITS	ZEBEDEE
SPOKE	TWELVE
TUNIC	ZEALOT
	THADDAEUS

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 smile costs nothing, but creates much. It cannot be begged, borrowed nor stolen, but it is of no earthly good to anyone until it is given away. So, if you meet someone who is too weary to smile, leave one of yours."

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