

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

402-341-7730

Email: [graceluth@graceluth.com](mailto:graceluth@graceluth.com)  
Web Site: [www.graceluth.com](http://www.graceluth.com)  
Like us on Facebook at:  
[www.facebook.com/gracelutheranomaha](http://www.facebook.com/gracelutheranomaha)

#### REGULAR SUNDAY EVENTS

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

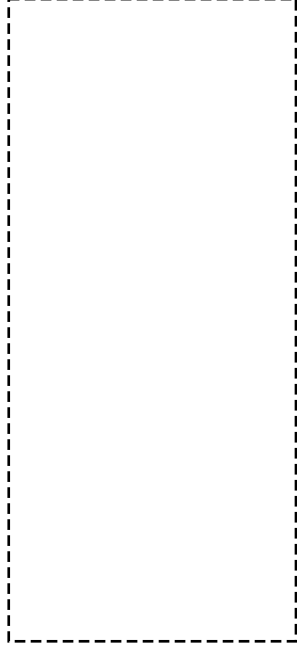
Pastor - Rev. Dr. Damon D. Laaker  
Editor/Church Secretary - Brenda Spahr  
Organist - Colleen Jeffrey  
Sexton - Alma Lopez  
Families In Action - Virginia McGill  
Community Outreach - Malachi Black

Delivered to the Post Office August 25



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

Return Service Requested  
Dated Material



# THE GRACE MESSENGER

1889 - 2015



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



## 2015 Council Members

Ron Adrian	Eva Martin
Andrew Edwards	Loren Moyer
Arlone Farber	Charles Tuw
Ralph Fitle	Amanda Vazquez
Janet Hula	Pastor Laaker

\*\*\*\*\*

Officers Serving the Congregation:

Financial: Janet Hula      Treasurer: Ralph Fitle

The regular meeting of the Council was held on July 14th. The Council members shared their prayer concerns: We ask for prayers for returning students, Suzie Heldt & Lindsey Zach and their family as Suzie has been hospitalized with 3 blood clots in her lungs and pneumonia along with having terminal cancer, Bobbi Jo's mother in law, Mrs. Pankaj, as she just had brain surgery and discovered multiple other tumors, Arlone's mom, Norma Courtney and sister-in-law, Teresa Courtney, and uncle Melvin Obst with ongoing health issues, Eva's sister's husband Chet Mace and family. We offer a prayer of thanks for the Lord answering one of Ron's prayers. We pray for peace in Ferguson and throughout the country in response to the recent protests.

Devotions were led by Pastor Laaker reading the selected verses in the "Daily Texts" from Deuteronomy 4:10 and Acts 11:23. The first tells us that God wanted the people to overhear his conversation with Moses so that they would learn to be faithful followers. The second tells us that Barnabas experienced something good and, rejoicing in God's grace, went on to spread the good news.

### Visions for Ministry

This chapter talks about "mission" and what that means for the church and the people. Often people forget or lose sight of the mission, and simply go through the motions. The author illustrates the importance of not resorting to "survival mode" if numbers are declining; rather, we should use that change as an opportunity to look at who we are and what we want to do in light of it. We are also faced with seeking a transformation within oneself, which in turn translates into transformation of those around that person. People shouldn't expect a transformation in others if they are not experiencing it in themselves. If we ask the question "who are we?" - there are many ways to answer it. It's ok to not know specifically, but to continue asking the question and working to spread God's love to the world. Read chapter 6 for next month.

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

*Continued...*

Christian Education: Janet has volunteered to pull a committee together to discuss some new ideas for opportunities throughout the year.

Evangelism/Outreach: Liberty Reading program will be underway. A handful of people have volunteered to be a part of that program. Next Monday, the Halloween Committee will meet to discuss dates for planning the Halloween Party scheduled for Friday, October 30th.

God's Work Our Hands day is on September 13th. Thrivent has project money available simply by going to your Thrivent account and indicating your plans. Individuals can get up to \$250. Amanda suggested doing something for teachers at Liberty Elementary. We could pass around a wish list or do an appreciation gift for each teacher. Amanda will look into different ideas. We should login to Thrivent and fill out the request so we can start collecting the funds.

Finance: Motion was made to ratify Disney Endowment distributions from June and the motion carried. We still have about \$4,000 left from Jack's estate that will be distributed at the next Endowment Board meeting.

Property: After the judge ordered us to go back to mediation, our attorney spoke with Church Mutual's attorney, and they agreed to pay us \$100,000 to settle the dispute. \$17,126.55 has been spent through July 2015 on attorney fees throughout this whole process. Pastor will sign the agreement tomorrow.

Service/Social Ministry: None. Support/Stewardship: None.

Worship: The KC baseball trip that was planned in conjunction with St. Luke's for Sunday, August 16 has been moved to September 6. We will have a combined service at 8am at St. Luke's, no service at Grace, so Pastor can go on the trip, too. Flowers will have to be cancelled for that Sunday.

Grace will be joining St. Luke's for a special service scheduled for Sunday September 27th on the River City Star at 10 am. A potluck will follow at St. Luke's. (So there will not be another service at either church that morning).

Unfinished Business: None.

New Business: Brenda wanted the Council's opinion on a different calendar option. The group preferred the calendar's we have had in past years. Pastor spoke with the Campus Pastor in Omaha and learned of their new approach: encouraging students to stay worshiping with their own congregations but offering more peer group/small group opportunities for students.

Announcements: Amanda will bring treats for September.

Adjournment: The Council meeting closed in prayer and adjourned at 9:01 p.m.

# Pastor's Post

The Church Council and I have been reading "A Door Set Open" by Peter L. Steinke. Each chapter has provided excellent material for thought and conversation. The most recent chapter was titled "The Making of a Mission Culture." He begins the chapter by saying that individuals are best served if they have direction for their life. He shortly thereafter says this same thing regarding groups and organizations.

Dr. Steinke goes on to state that he is often called in to work with congregations embroiled in conflict or paralyzed by passivity. One of his first questions is: Does this congregation have a clear sense of its mission?

As we talked at our council meeting, we came to the conclusion that for Grace we have a fairly clear sense of mission. We share God's Word and God's Love in care and service to all. We talked about a variety of ways this mission is validated through the ministries offered.

Church historian Diana Butler Bass in "Christianity for the Rest of Us" indicates that congregations ought to examine their self-understanding as people of God by asking themselves, Who are we? What is God calling us to be?

It seems clear to me that the people of Grace are persons for whom their baptismal vocations are marked with a warmth and love that is noticed by others. I have people say to me, "There is something special about this place. I can just feel it."

I have observed the welcome that is more than a handshake on Sunday morning. I see intentional efforts to sit and visit with persons who are new to this community of faith. I see efforts of invitation and inclusion of persons who might otherwise be over looked.

I marvel at the generosity that is displayed through financial gifts that support the ministry and support the efforts beyond our doors. The gifts for World Hunger, Food Bank Backpack program, CROP Walk sponsorships and the estate gifts that have made it possible to share love beyond our wildest imagination.

God is not calling us to be the biggest ministry in the city of Omaha. God is calling Grace and its people to live out their baptismal calling by sharing God's Word of Love in creative and genuine ways. Let's see how God continues to unfold this ministry in our midst.

*Pastor Laaker*



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 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, Mary, and Malachi for greeting everyone on Sunday mornings.
- ♥ Thank you to our friends from Prince of Peace who are doing an awesome job mowing the church yard.
- ♥ Thank you to Doug and Lisa Halbur for your generous donation which in turn supports the Sewing Classes through Interfaith Health, Quilting for Lutheran World Relief and the Christmas Mitten Tree.





*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  
Carolyn Matson  
Don Olson



James Harrahill  
David Hufford  
LaVonne Moss  
Urbano Vasquez



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 Tuw are the elders for the Sudanese Worshipping 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 1:2, 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  
September 16, 2015  
7:00 p.m.**

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



**Sermon On The River!**

St. Luke's has invited Grace to worship in a most unique way. On Sunday, September 27th, we will meet at the River City Star Landing at 10:00 am that day with St. Luke's Lutheran! The Landing is at 151 Freedom Park Rd, just north of Gallup

University. Lots of convenient parking. Potluck will follow our boat ride and service at St. Luke's! Grace's council graciously accepted the invitation and cancelled the 11:00 am service for that day so that all could enjoy this special occasion.

The passenger limit is 145 persons. Please contact Dee Povich at 402-734-0865 to put in your reservation now! Regular size wheel chair accessible! Come and enjoy a wonderful Service and Music on the boat! Enjoy the river ride and then come and have lunch together at St. Luke's!



This marks the beginning of the upcoming school year, where parents rejoice at the freedom of having more time to be an adult while also shedding tears at seeing their children growing up. It's a shift toward the last business quarter of the year. It's also the time we near some of the biggest and most celebrated holidays of the year in Halloween, Thanksgiving, and Christmas. There still plenty of things yet to come even with over half of the year already completed. What are you looking forward to in these last several months?



Here at Grace, we will be launching our Growing with Grace Book Reading Program at Liberty School. We will go in and read to second graders, interact with them, and give them a copy of the book we read to each student to take home with them. We hope to establish good reading habits amongst the students. The goal is to gain students' interest in reading outside the classroom and for it to be fun and enjoyable. Practically, we would also hope this would translate in higher literacy rates and better testing scores as well. Most of all, we want to build and establish a deeper more visible relationship with the local school as well as the community. Volunteers who are able to read for 30-60 minutes on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, or Fridays midday should inquire about specifics. We will be starting soon!

Part of discipleship is building relationship with others, just as God calls each of us to relationship with Him. How can we reasonably expect to spread the gospel and plant seeds on fertile ground if we are merely spraying seeds out and about the area without intentional purpose or understanding of where we are sowing seeds? Anyone can tell another about Jesus and the text within Scripture, but to share the glory of God means we must identify within the context of our own personal relationship with God first. Then, we must connect to others in a bonding way such that all hearts can be open to sharing and receiving what God wills by the meeting of people with whom we interact. God does not call us to be drive-by Word spreaders, but seed planting Word deliverers, both in actions and in speech.



*Continued...*



Be a part of the efforts we are spearheading in these upcoming weeks and months. God's Work, Our Hands will also be one of several opportunities to get involved and give back to the community. Even as you are reading this, final preparations for this year's project are in the works. We continue to engage and be active in the community through this and many other events. We are extremely thankful for the continued support of the church in each endeavor we strive to do. Be blessed in your giving of your time, talents, and treasures. May the love of God be made evident through the works and hands of His Beloved.

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

### *God Works through Us*

J. Hudson Taylor wrote, "God's work done in God's way will never lack God's supply." The message from this statement is that God has given God's people all the material and spiritual resources needed to accomplish God's purposes. When we do God's will, God will supply, through us, all the resources that are needed for God's Church (2 Corinthians 9:10-11). God wants us to be God's channels through which the gifts needed for God's work will flow. By God's grace, we can be faithful stewards who willingly share our gifts for God's work.



**Prayer:** Dear Lord, I come to you as a humble grateful servant who gives you praise and thanks for who you are and all that you have done and continue to do for me. Show me my sin, that I might repent and be restored to fellowship with you through the blood of Jesus. Help me to know the work which you have laid before me. I pray that you will help me to be a faithful steward of all the blessings entrusted to my care. In Christ's name I pray. Amen.

***Blessings on your stewardship journey!***



Grace Lutheran Church  
Halloween Party  
October 30, 2015  
1326 South 26th Street  
402-341-7730



Plans are underway for this year's Halloween Party. Watch next month's issue for party times and any additional information. Please look over the list below and help where you can, as always your help is graciously appreciated and needed.

Items needed for the Halloween Party:



Costume Contest will be judged in three different categories: scariest, funniest, and most creative. First and second place prizes are needed in each category. Prizes should cost around \$3.00 to \$6.00 each, and be something that can be used for Halloween, or have a Halloween theme.

Game Prizes:

Hundreds of trinkets for carnival games.  
Candy for carnival games.  
Dum-dum suckers for the "Lollipop Tree"  
Bottles of 2 liter pop for "Ring Toss"  
Cakes for the "Cake Walk"  
White Elephant give-aways for "Bingo".



Refreshment items:

3 large bags of Vic's popcorn.  
Dozens of cookies! Homemade or store bought, all are good!  
Bags of wrapped Halloween candy for treat bags.  
Cellophane holiday treat bags for popcorn and candy.

Money, a donation container will be placed on the table in the back of the sanctuary each Sunday for your convenience.

Donated items should be placed in the Halloween Box in the upper fellowship hall.



If you would like to be a helper during the Halloween Party, please speak with Lori Vasquez or Malachi Black. Prayers are appreciated ~ please pray for a successful and entertaining evening for all!

**Midland University  
and  
Kountze Memorial Church  
Present**

Dr. Tim Wengert, ELCA Pastor and Ministerium of Pennsylvania Professor of Reformation History at the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia will be speaking on The Ecumenical Lutheran and Catholic Responses to the Reformation, specifically the 95 Theses. September 8, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. at the Kimmel Theater, Midland University, Fremont Nebraska.

Please RSVP to Development @MidlandU.edu or (402) 941-6053

-----  
What is a CROP Walk?

CROP Walks raise money for local hunger fighting agencies as well as the international relief and development efforts of Church World Service.



Founded in 1946, Church World Service is the relief, development, and refugee assistance ministry of 35 Protestant, Orthodox, and Anglican denominations in the United States. Working in partnership with indigenous organizations in more than 80 countries, CWS works worldwide to meet human needs and foster self-reliance.

Hungry people in developing countries typically walk as much as six miles a day to get food, water and fuel, and to take their goods to market. We walk in solidarity with their struggle for existence. We walk because we want to end hunger – one step at a time.

This year marks the 33rd Omaha Crop Walk. You can help make a difference in the lives of people locally and worldwide by sponsoring a walker or walking and getting sponsors. Please see Malachi to secure a walker donation envelope and begin securing pledges for the Omaha Walk on Sunday, October 11. As a sponsor, look for the donation envelopes that are placed on the back table in the sanctuary.

The walk begins 1:00 p.m. at the new location – Luther Memorial Church, at the corner of 61st and Western. Walkers may choose from 1, 2.5 or 5 mile routes.



Virginia McGill, MA  
Executive Director

[www.familiesinactionomaha.org](http://www.familiesinactionomaha.org)



Gema C. Wolde  
Community Health Worker  
Se habla español.

Interfaith Health Service/Families in Action is gearing up for “Back to School” time! We have had a very busy summer that has included: getting active with children and families in the Castelar, Field Club and Lynch Park neighborhoods, an amazing video shoot, luncheon and meetings with our grant partner, Children's Hospital & Medical Center, several site visits from our funders, new programs for teen moms at Educare, and a new filled-to-capacity microbusiness initiative for women, among many other wonderful activities!

We will be sharing information about our programs and services on August 20th with the community of Park Avenue at the inCommon Community Development organization's “Back to School Night” from 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. located at 1340 Park Avenue.

Come on by and visit our table if you are in the neighborhood! We would love to see you! As always, we appreciate your support and prayers for our growing ministry!

Virginia, Gema and Kaela, IHS/FIA

---

### Arts For All Inc. Fall 2015 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 31st, register early for best class selection that fits your schedule. Seats are limited. Register soon at [artsforallinc.com](http://artsforallinc.com) or call 402-556-7821.



**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.

---

Alegent Creighton Health, Methodist Hospital and Visiting Nurse Association are conducting Hospice Volunteer Education Classes in September. Please call one of the following agencies to request an application, space is limited.



VNA Hospice: Gina Binder at 402-930-4143,  
Methodist Hospice: Angela Wichita at 402-354-3200, or  
Alegent Creighton Hospice: Mary Pendell at 402-898-8239.



**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.**

September 2015



6 - Bus Trip - St. Luke's 8:00 am  
 13 - Terry Nielsen  
 20 - Margie Sutej  
 27 - Sermon on the River  
 Oct. 4 - Mary Laaker



1 - Terry Nielsen  
 3 - Munna Lewa  
 5 - Lealen Costanzo  
 7 - Ronald Andersen  
 13 - Loren Moyer  
 23 - Katelyn Bauer  
 28 - Damien Rodriguez

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

#### August Alcolytes

6 - Bus Trip - St. Luke's 8:00 am  
 13 - Donna Adrian  
 20 - Greg Hula  
 27 - Sermon on the River  
 Oct. 4 - Brenda Spahr

#### September Ushers

Ron Adrian  
 Vicki Cox  
 Andrew Edwards



#### September Greeters

6 - Bus Trip - St. Luke's 8:00 am  
 13 - Greg and Janet Hula  
 20 - June Hilmer and Gloria Moore  
 27 - Sermon on the River  
 Oct. 4 - Lori Vasquez and Davena Garcia



Responsibility List

#### Altar Flowers

6 - Baseball Bus Trip to Kansas City - St. Luke's 8:00 am.  
 13 - Brenda Spahr in honor of the Spahr Wedding Anniversary.  
 20 - David Hufford in honor of family birthdays.  
 27 - Sermon on the River.  
 Oct. 4 - Cindy Flatt in loving memory of her husband, Tony  
 and their Anniversary.

Flower Pick-Up for September:  
 Eva Martin

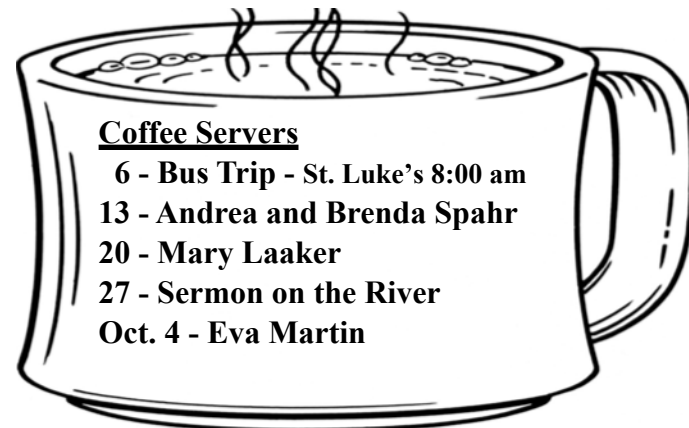
#### Backpack Program



6 - Ron and Donna Adrian in honor of their daughter-in  
 law, Melissa's birthday.  
 13 - Loren Moyer in honor of his birthday.  
 20 - Arlone Farber, please remember all who are hungry.  
 27 - Vicki Cox in celebration of her daughter, Cimber's  
 birthday.  
 Oct. 4 - Jerry and Marilyn Van Ormer in honor of their  
 great-granddaughter, Amelia's birthday.

#### Coffee Servers

6 - Bus Trip - St. Luke's 8:00 am  
 13 - Andrea and Brenda Spahr  
 20 - Mary Laaker  
 27 - Sermon on the River  
 Oct. 4 - Eva Martin





## 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!



As a Baker's customer you must have the following three things to register and begin supporting Grace:

**One:** A Plus card, which are available at any store by asking an associate.

**Two:** A valid email address, which can be obtained from any free online service and can be anonymous.

**Three:** A personalized account at Baker's website, which again can be anonymous.

To enroll in the community rewards program:

**One:** Visit Baker's website at: [bakersplus.com/communityrewards](http://bakersplus.com/communityrewards).

**Two:** Sign in OR Create an account (see below instructions on how you can create your online account)

**Three:** Click on "Enroll Now"

**Four:** Enter the 5-digit NPO (62209) and search

**Five:** Select Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church and click on "Enroll"

To Create An Online Account At Baker's Website:

**One:** Go to Baker's website at [bakersplus.com/communityrewards](http://bakersplus.com/communityrewards).

**Two:** Click on "Register" at the top of the page.

**Three:** Enter your email address, password, zip code (select preferred store) and check the box if you desire to receive email communication from Baker's.

**Four:** Click on "Create Account" at the bottom of the page.

**Five:** You will receive an email confirmation to your inbox, to activate your account click on the link in the body of the email and enter your sign in information to confirm.

For assistance setting up an online account or with general questions, please feel free to contact us at 800-576-4377 option 3. Administrators are always welcome to email us at [DCR@dillonstores.com](mailto:DCR@dillonstores.com).

## Fall Planting Pointers



Though many people gear up to work on their yards and gardens in the spring, fall is actually an ideal time for yard work. Here are a few ideas for bringing your gardening to life in the fall:

**Compost the leaves.** Falling leaves are beautiful to look at but may seem like an inconvenience when planning your garden. Instead of bagging the leaves and leaving them out with the trash, consider collecting them and composting them to create nutrient-rich, organic soil that will be ready for use by the spring.

**Fertilize organically.** When preparing your soil for next year, add organic, slow-release fertilizers that will help enhance your soil over time. These fertilizers are made of natural materials, contain vital nutrients to help your plants grow, and prevent plants from getting nitrogen. Most garden stores today carry a wide variety of organic fertilizers; many catalog companies also sell organic products.

**Plant trees.** By the time autumn rolls around, summer heat waves are long past, rainfall is usually more plentiful, and new trees, bushes and flowers have a greater chance of surviving than they would if they were planted during a hotter season. Choose species native to your area as well as those that are drought and pest resistant and can grow in the kind of soil and amount of sunlight available on your property.

**Other ideas.** If you have a vegetable or fruit garden that you want to maintain throughout the winter, consider planting root bulbs and leafcrops that will continue to produce despite the colder weather. This will work in many regions of the country, but some places might still be too cold. Building a greenhouse or a hot bed to cultivate your veggies could keep the fresh food coming throughout the winter!

*green tips from earthshares.com*





Come Celebrate  
Dinner and Dancing will be at  
Omar Arts and Events  
4303 Nicholas Street, Omaha, NE

Cocktails will begin at 5:30 p.m.  
Please RSVP by Sept. 10th at  
[NICANDRIS.COM/RSVP](http://NICANDRIS.COM/RSVP)

Nicolas is a Kids At Work Alumni and would welcome all from Grace to help celebrate this special day with his family.

Below is a portion of the letter Grace recently received from Grace Lutheran Church in New Orleans, LA:

Dear Christian Friends:

August 29, 2005 was a dreadful day in the life of Grace. Katrina had passed through around 6 am that morning and we felt we had avoided catastrophe. How wrong we were! The 17th Street canal is less than one mile from our church and drains a significant portion of the area into Lake Pontchartrain. Around 2 pm, the flood wall on the near side of this canal gave way.

Our beloved church was inundated with eight feet of water, and everything on the ground floor was destroyed. While we had insurance, the total of all damages left us a million dollars short.

Almost immediately, the generosity of our many fellow believers in Christ began pouring in. Your generous gifts were among them. So much came in that our million dollar shortfall was erased. An internal campaign generated another \$100,000 to refurbish our organ. Only God can perform miracles like that.

We were so blessed by all our Christian brothers and sisters, that we challenged ourselves to establish a fund from which we would in turn help other congregations who experience great hardship. Praise the Lord for all these many blessings!

On August 30th, Grace will be marking the 10th anniversary of Katrina with a Commemorative Service followed immediately by a Louisiana Barbecue. We will be praising God for all the blessings sent our way. Your congregation is a bona fide member of that legion and we bless you and love you for it.

We invite you to celebrate with us on August 30th. We will welcome you with open arms. If you are not able to be here, we ask that you lift us up in prayers of thanksgiving for all God's many blessings. We will be lifting up all of you in thanksgiving on that day for without your love and generosity we might not exist today.

God bless you and accept our heartfelt thanks and gratitude.

John Lewis, Council President  
Grace Lutheran Church, New Orleans, LA

A doctor, who had a reputation for helping arthritic patients, had a waiting-room full of people. A little old lady, completely bent over in half, shuffled in slowly, leaning on her cane.



When her turn came, she shuffled into the doctor's office, and emerged within half an hour walking completely erect, her head held high.

A woman in the waiting room walked up to the little old lady, and exclaimed, "It's a miracle! You walked in bent in half and now you're walking erect. What did that doctor do?"

"Miracle, schmiracle," the little old lady replied. "He gave me a longer cane."

—via Rev. Harry Mahoney, Dedham, MA  
Reprinted with permission from JoyfulNoiseletter.com

### God's kids say & do the funniest things

Rev. Richard Rush, a friend of Rev. Harry Mahoney of Dedham, MA, passed on these comments on "Angels, as explained by children":

"I only know the names of two angels – Hark and Harold."  
—Gregory, age 5

"Angels work for God and watch over kids when God has to go do something else." —Mitchell, 7

"What I don't get about angels is why, when someone is in love, they shoot arrows at them." —Sarah, 7

"My guardian angel helps me with math, but he's not much good for science." —Henry, 8

"Some of the angels are in charge of helping heal sick animals and pets. And if they don't make the animals get better, they help the child get over it." —Vicki, 8

Reprinted with permission from JoyfulNoiseletter.com



## Bible Wordsearch

Wordsearch 240

Matt. 5:31-42

Sermons of Jesus

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

ADULTERY BLACK  
ANYONE BREAK  
BEYOND CHEEK  
BORROW CLOAK  
CANNOT EARTH  
CAUSES GREAT  
COMMITTS HEARD  
DIVORCE KEEP  
EITHER KING  
EXCEPT LONG  
FORCES LORD  
HEAVEN MADE  
MARITAL MILES  
PEOPLE OATHS  
PERSON RESIST  
SOMEONE RIGHT  
STRIKES SIMPLY  
SWEAR TOOTH  
THRONE TUNIC  
WOMAN WIFE

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

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

MORE PUZZLES AT:  
<http://biblewordgames.com> COPYRIGHT 2015 ALL RIGHTS RESERVED

Today

Tomorrow

is the

you

worried

about

yesterday