

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

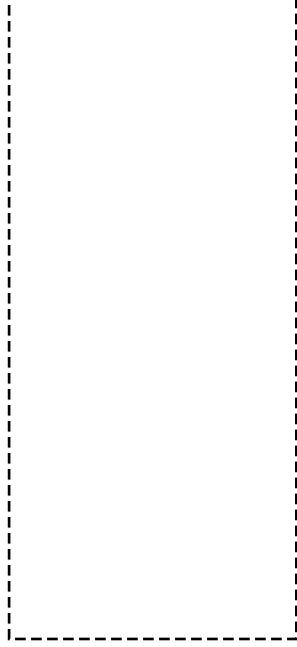
Pastor - Rev. Dr. Damon D. Laaker
Editor/Church Secretary - Brenda Spahr
Organist - Colleen Jeffrey
Sexton - Alma Lopez

Delivered to the Post Office November 28



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THE GRACE
MESSENGER
1889 - 2017



2017



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



2017 Council Members

Ron Adrian	Vicki Cox	Andrew Edwards
Ralph Fittle	Greg Hula	Marsha Moyer
Terry Nielsen	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 November 14th. Council members shared their prayer concerns for individual needs, all victims of violence around the world, the victims of the shootings in California today, and those affected by the recent earthquake on the border between Iran and Iraq.

Pastor Laaker led devotions from Isaiah 47:13-14 and 3 John 1:4. The first tells us that those who believe in false prophets will be consumed by fire. The second describes a joy unmatched in knowing one's children believe in God.

Visions for Ministry: Some of the things we learned from the book *The Agile Church* and could apply as goals of our congregation are - We need to communicate more and differently with our church members and neighbors to learn more about what their needs and wants are. We also need to reach out to people and meet them where they are. Rather than trying to bring more people to church, we need to try to bring the church to more people. We can easily practice some of Jesus' teachings by simply spreading kindness, love, and compassion with all we meet day to day.

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

Christian Education: None.

Evangelism/Outreach: Janet Hula thanked everyone who helped out with the Halloween Party. It turned out very well!

Finance: The Council adopted a resolution to designate a certain portion of Pastor's salary as housing allowance for 2018. Council addressed salary issues for Malachi's departure.

Property: The kitchen countertop has been repaired. Prince of Peace paid for the damage costs. Fall servicing took place on forced air furnaces in. The boiler will be checked in the near future.

Service/Social Ministry: Vicki, Arlone, Mary, Andrew, and Pastor attended OTOC's Delegates Congress. We are to consider an issue for which our congregation would be willing to be involved. Vicki suggested immigration because of the diverse church groups that use our building and the neighbors who surround us. We have until February to make our decision so please give it some thought. Vicki, Mary, and Amanda attended an event a week ago put on by OTOC that provided information on people affected by the Temporary Protected Status. If you feel so inclined, please consider contacting your Senators and Congressman to share your concerns. Prison Ministry – We have been asked if we would be willing to do a meal on February 11th. We could offer to host the service and meal at Grace. Vicki will reach out to confirm.

Support/Stewardship: We have had 2 people share the first two readings during Sunday service. The last 2 individuals need to be secured. Thanks to Ralph and Brenda for volunteering.

Worship: We have a number of Sundays where people are not choosing to sponsor flowers. In order to eliminate the expense of having flowers, we will only buy flowers on the weeks that someone has signed up to sponsor them. Silk arrangements will be made to fill in on the weeks that flowers are not sponsored.

Thanksgiving Service will take place at Augustana Lutheran Church at 6:00 pm. A light soup supper will be served at 5:00 pm. Please consider bringing a dessert or bread to share.

Christmas Eve – There will be one service Sunday morning 10 am at St. Luke's. Then the typical Christmas Eve services will be held at 4:30 pm at Grace and 6:30 pm at St. Luke's to keep with tradition and accommodate those who come only on the major holidays.

Unfinished Business: Urban Cluster Congregations began gathering to discuss what the future holds. It would be good to have someone from Grace be a part of that going forward.

New Business: We need to convene a nominating committee to determine new Council members to take the place of the three departing members. Vicki and Amanda will work on this, and will ask Janet to help.

Announcements: Vicki and Arlone have taken over the lending Little Library and have a good handle on what types of books are being utilized. We are in need of Pre-K and Kindergarten type books, as they seem to be very popular. Magazines are also needed, as are Spanish/English dictionaries. Greg will bring treats for December.

Continued...



In Sundays and Seasons, a guide to worship and planning, the author states: Advent is both a wonderful and a challenging liturgical season. We begin a new church year while the world is busy finishing a calendar year – and the

month is filled with shopping, pageants, and parties beyond our energy and time can handle. But while society urges us to hurry and spend, scripture and tradition beckon us to slow down and wait.

Is this not a clear picture of our lives at this moment? I think we lament that the retail had things out for this time already in September. Hurry! Hurry! Hurry! Get started now. We also lament that we do not have time to truly slow down and appreciate this very important season. It rushes by so quickly.

In our Advent observance, we will be reminded of our desperate need for a God to restore and save. We will be urged to reorder our lives. We will be offered good news as those who walk in darkness receive a new light. We will accompany Mary as she becomes a willing participant in the salvation story.

Then Christmas arrives in the song of the angels and the visit of the shepherds. God's salvation breaks on the scene. God comes to meet us where we live.

I hope you will join me in this wonderful journey. May we take the time to savor the moments within the four weeks of Advent. May we pause the busyness of our lives to ponder the wonder that delivers us.

Our Sunday morning worship will begin lighting of the Advent Wreath and singing Christ, Be Our Light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness. Christ, be our light!

Continued.....

Our worship schedule will be as follows. Please mark your calendar!

Sundays, December 3, 10, 17, worship at 11 am.

Sunday, December 24, morning worship at 10 am with St. Luke's at St. Luke's Lutheran, 2315 I Street.

Sunday, December 24, Christmas Eve worship at 4:30 pm.

May the joy and wonder of God's marvelous love made present in Christ accompany you this Advent and Christmas season.

Pastor Laaker

PEACE LOVE HOPE JESUS PEACE LOVE HOPE JESUS

"Loving Father, help us remember the birth of Jesus, that we may share in the song of angels, the gladness of the shepherds, and the worship of the wise men.

"Close the door of hate and open the door of love all over the world.

"Let kindness come with every gift and good desires with every greeting.

"Deliver us from evil by the blessing which Christ brings, and teach us to be merry with clear hearts.

"May the Christmas morning make us happy to be thy children, and the Christmas evening bring us to our beds with grateful thoughts, forgiving and forgiven, for Jesus' sake. Amen!"

– Robert Louis Stevenson

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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:

Mickey Andersen
Andrew Edwards
Jayne Gustafson
Carolyn Matson
Sue Mize
Don Olson
Trent Spence
Dan Taylor



Theresa Courtney
Will Gugat
Ken Hilmer
Jack Pablo McGill
LaVonne Moss
Pam Reents
Pauline Stechenfinger
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 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:

Joe & Barbara Narducci - Maple Crest, Omaha
Barbara Nelson - Life Care Center, Elkhorn.



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!

**COFFEE
FELLOWSHIP**

Join us!



Prayer Service
Wednesday
December 20, 2017
7:00 p.m.

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





Grace's Free Little Library continues to be used in the neighborhood on a regular basis and is now in need of additional books. Pre-school, 1st grade and 2nd grade books and periodicals seem to be the most popular items. If you have any of these items that you are willing to donate, please speak with Vicki or Arlone. Please continue your participation by stopping and browsing for an interesting book. Let's help spread the joy of imagination through reading a good book!





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 ESL tutors; Vicki, Arlone, Mary, and Amanda, for making connections with the students willing to learn and form friendships.

 Thank you Greg, Janet, Mary and Eva; 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, Marilyn, Gloria, Donna, and Ron, for your dedication and help in assembling the monthly Grace Messenger!

 Thank you Ron, Donna and Brenda for taking care of the altar, and preparing the communion table.

 Thank you to all ushers, Andrew, Vicki, Oren, and Mary for greeting everyone on Sunday mornings.

 Thank you to Prince of Peace for caring, maintaining, and making the lawn at Grace Lutheran look so inviting.

 Thank you to all who share their time and talents with Liberty Elementary through the "Grace Reads" partnership.

The Salvation Army
Kroc Center Food Pantry
2825 Y Street, Omaha NE 68107



Open every Wednesday
9:00 - 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 - 3:30 p.m.

Documentation needed: Photo ID, social security cards or birth certificates for everyone in the household and mail dated within the past 30 days.



Grace Reads

Liberty Elementary will resume their class schedule during the second week of January; therefore, readers will be asked to adjust their reading schedules by one week. If you normally read during the first week, you will be reading during the second. If you normally read during the second week, you will be reading during the third week and if you normally read during the third week, please plan on reading during the fourth week. If you have any questions, please call the church office at 402-341-7730.

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.



Sunday School continues to meet every second and fourth Sunday of the month from 10:00 to 10:45 am.

Children ages 4 and up are invited and encouraged to learn through stories, discussions, crafts, games and fun.

Curriculum is shared from Spark House. Spark House has been supplying the little devotional booklets that have been available on the back table in the sanctuary.

We look forward to sharing Sunday adventures.

Faithfully in Adventure!
Brenda, Mary and Sandy

“Working Together — Celebrating God’s Good Gifts”



We are currently involved in our annual stewardship emphasis, “Working Together — Celebrating God’s Good Gifts.”

Stewardship has been likened to a three-legged stool. Total stewardship consists of the “three Ts” — time, talents and treasure. Remove any one of the three, and stewardship in an individual life, in a family and in a church like ours is severely weakened and undermined.

Underlying this analogy and our use of time, talents and treasure is the clear teaching of Scripture: God owns it all! Repeatedly the Bible emphasizes God’s ownership of everything and our role as managers and stewards of what God has entrusted to us.

A children’s musical, “Treasure Island,” by David and Celeste Clydesdale, contains this important message:

Tick-tock, tick-tock, twenty-four hours in each day.
Tick-tock, tick-tock, sixty minutes in each hour.
What we do and what we say, time will tell what our hearts treasure.

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“Time” is an important subject to God. There are over 230 references to “time” in the Bible. Those who walk in a wise manner are described in one translation as people who are “redeeming the time” (Eph. 5:16).

Redeeming the time means that we are to make the most of every opportunity to invest our time — and our talents — in things that really count, mainly in the lives of people and in service to Christ. On the one hand, we can fritter away the time and talents that God has given to us in trivial pursuits or selfish interests. Or we can take to heart what Christ said and seek first His kingdom and His righteousness. We can put first things first in the use of our time and talents here at Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church.

When it comes to our finances, we have a choice. We can squander them on things that do not matter in “the long run,” things that do not count for eternity. We can hoard them, putting our total emphasis on the “rainy day” that is yet to

come. We can refuse to share with others who are in need. We can be stingy when it comes to giving back to the Lord that which is rightfully His. Certainly we have the ability to treat our finances in any of these ways. But do we have the right?

When we take any of these approaches, we act as though the money is really ours. We fail to recognize the truth of Deuteronomy 8:18: “But remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you power to get wealth.” And when we act as though the money is ours, we fail to glorify God in its use and fail to “seek first the kingdom of God” in our giving and in our living.

One day a lady called the Butterball Turkey Company and said that she found a frozen turkey in her freezer with a expiration date 15 years old. She wanted to know whether it was safe to cook and eat. The Butterball representative said the company highly recommended that she throw it away. “Oh, that’s okay,” she said. “I’ll just give it to my church.”

Leftovers are such humble things,
We would not serve them to a guest,
And yet we serve them to our Lord
Who deserves the very best.
We give to Him leftover time,
Stray minutes here and there,
Leftover cash we give to Him,
Such few coins as we can spare.
We give our youth unto the world,
To hatred, lust and strife;
Then in declining years we give
To Him the remnant of our life.

As you consider the time, talents and treasure God has given to you, please remember that we are “working Together — Celebrating God’s good gifts.” You might want to pray this prayer: “Lord, as you provide, by faith, this is how I intend to give.” As we step out by faith, working together and trusting God to provide, it will be absolutely amazing to watch God bless our efforts more than we might ask or even think (Ephesians 3:20).

Thank you for your faithfulness to the Lord and to the ministry of Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church. Thank you for your consistency in giving of your time, talents and treasure to the work of the Lord here. And thank you for what you are going to do in the future in celebration of God’s good gifts!

“ . . . we are God’s servants, working together.”

Continued.....

December 2017



- 3 - Mary Laaker
- 10 - Margie Sutej
- 17 - Arlone Farber
- 24 - St. Luke's Service.
- 24 - Brenda Spahr (4:30pm)
- 31 - Greg Hula
- Jan. 7 - Terry Nielsen



- 1 - Nowa Keita
- 3 - Barb Nelson
- 9 - Sharon Irwin
- 15 - Izabella Perales
- 16 - Frankie Costanzo Jr.
- 18 - Marilyn Van Ormer
- 19 - Lee Costanzo
- 22 - Sherif Lado
- 24 - Lola Harsin
- 31 - Joseph Narducci

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



December Alcolytes

- 3 - Brenda Spahr
- 10 - Donna Adrian
- 17 - Vicki Cox
- 24 - St. Luke's Service.
- 24 - Damien Rodriguez & Greg Hula
- 31 - Andrea Spahr
- Jan. 7 - Janet Hula



December Ushers

- Mary Laaker
- Andrew Edwards

Ushers & Greeters



December Greeters

- 3 - Sarah and Madison Emery
- 10 - Vicki Cox and Gloria Moore
- 17 - Donna and Ron Adrian
- 24 - St. Luke's 10:00 am Service.
- 24 - Loren and Marsha Moyer
- 31 - Ralph Fitle and Andrew Edwards
- Jan. 7 - Mary Laaker and Bobby Stechenfinger

Responsibility List

Altar Flowers



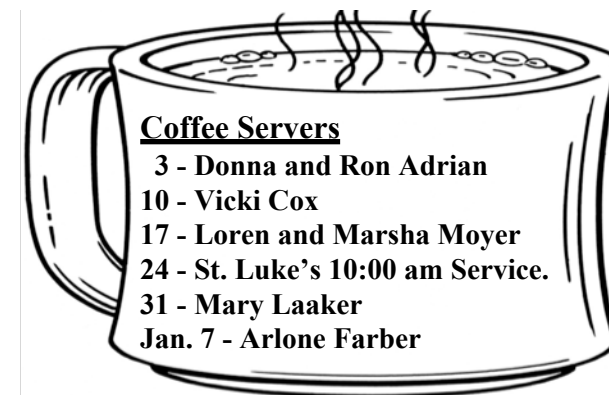
- 3 - LaVonne Moss in loving memory of her husband, Bob.
- 10 - Andrew, Christi and Clay Edwards and Tracy Petrini in loving memory of their parents, Albion and Charlotte Edwards.
- 17 - Marilyn Van Ormer in celebration of both her and Bob Moss' birthdays.
- 24 - St. Luke's 10:00 am worship.
- 31 - Marilyn Van Ormer and Charlotte & Ed Palczynski in loving memory of Kirk Petersen.
- Jan. 7 - OPEN.

Flower Pick-Up for December: Janet and Greg Hula



Backpack Program

- 3 - Jean Johnson.
- 10 - Jean Johnson.
- 17 - LaVonne Moss.
- 24 - Jean Johnson.
- 31 - Brenda Spahr.
- Jan. 7 - Brenda Spahr.



Coffee Servers

- 3 - Donna and Ron Adrian
- 10 - Vicki Cox
- 17 - Loren and Marsha Moyer
- 24 - St. Luke's 10:00 am Service.
- 31 - Mary Laaker
- Jan. 7 - Arlone Farber



Have You Included
Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
Endowment Fund
in Your Will?



A current, Remember the Church in Your Will, brochure has been placed on the back table in the sanctuary. Please pick up a free copy during your next worship time and consider Grace Lutheran a place for remembrance.

Buy Your 2018 God's Creation Calendar!



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

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

Same Great Price ~ Only \$5.00

**Are you caring for a loved one
with special needs?
Do you feel you could benefit
from a short break from caregiving?**



If so, **RESPIRE IS FOR YOU!** You are probably wondering what respite is. It is temporary, short-term care for families/parents caring for adults and children with disabilities or other special health care needs such as Alzheimer's and Parkinson's diseases. The respite care providers come to your home to provide you a break. **Respite Across the Lifespan** is here to assist you in locating someone to come and provide that short-term break and to help you in securing potential funding to pay for respite care. Please contact our office at **402-559-5732** for details or write Ellen Bennett at edbennett@unmc.edu.



**Order Your Poinsettias
Cost is \$8.00**

A Sign-Up Sheet has been posted on the Bulletin Board, please order before December 4th

Be sure to designate whether you would like a red or white plant and whether you plan to take your flowers home after the Christmas holiday or leave them at the church to be shared with shut-ins. For your convenience, you can call the church office at 402-341-7730 to place a poinsettia order.

**Sunday Morning
Christmas Eve Service**



Sunday, December 24th Grace Lutheran has been invited to St. Luke's Lutheran the worship service will begin at 10:00 a.m. located at 2315 I Street. If you have any questions, please contact the church office at 402-341-7730.

**Christmas Eve
Candlelight Service Schedule:**

**Grace Lutheran Church
1326 South 26th Street
4:30 pm**

And

**St. Luke's Lutheran Church
2315 "I" Street
6:30 pm.**



Green Your Holiday Gatherings



Hosting a Hanukkah, Christmas, or New Years Eve party can be a daunting undertaking for you - it can also be hard on the environment. If you are playing host this year consider these tips to help make your festivities earth-friendly.

Party prep. We all go a little crazy with the housecleaning when we are anticipating a crowd of guests in our home. Keep in mind that using certain household cleaners can greatly increase the air pollution in your house or apartment, making the air you breathe irritating and even unsafe for your family and guests. Consider using safe, non-toxic cleaning methods and products.

Serving food? Of course you are. Use your regular dishes and flatware instead of buying paper or plastic. This can dramatically reduce your waste. If you have to use disposables, try biodegradable paper plates and compost them along with your leaves, produce scraps, and coffee grounds. As you are planning the menu, consider basing it around local and seasonally-available food. Foods that travel across states or around the globe to get to you have high carbon footprints.

During the party. Saving energy on home lighting isn't just for regular use overhead lights and floor lamps anymore. There's even environmentally-friendly holiday lights! LEDs, are available for both indoor and outdoor decorative lighting. LED lights are cooler, last 10 times longer (some come with a guaranteed 50,000 hour bulb or a lifetime warranty), and they use 80% less energy than your standard string lights. Consider LED flickering lights to inspire a cozier feel.

Help your guests contribute to the green effort by providing clearly marked trash receptacles for different types of party waste - paper, plastic, glass, aluminum, food scraps, liquids, etc.

Clean up. After the guests have left, you are faced with the daunting task of throwing out food scraps, packaging up leftovers, and cleaning up piles of dishes. Even this part of the day can be environmentally-friendly! Much of your food waste can be composted in an indoor composting bin - just combine your veggie scraps, produce peels, coffee grounds, teabags and more with some of the autumn leaves you have been raking up, and you will have an excellent foundation for nutrient-rich soil. Be careful not to put any meat or bones in your compost pile.

And finally, relax - you don't have to worry about hand washing your dishes! Using a dishwasher is actually more environmentally-friendly than washing each dish by hand. You will use much less soap and about 80% less water. If you rented the linens or plates for a formal party, send them back dirty. Rental companies are required to wash the items upon return, so there's no need to wash them before you send them back.

green tips from earthshare.org



Home Dedication

Saturday, December 16, 2017

11:00 am

3905 N. 22nd Street

Join us as we celebrate with the new homeowner, Elva and her family as they make the happy transition into their new home!

Become a Member of the Columbus Park Neighborhood Association:

Monthly Meetings are held the third Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at Grace Lutheran Church. If you have any questions, please call the church office, 402-341-7730.



Grace Lutheran Church has three additional ways that you could contribute without spending any out of pocket funds. Only a few moments of your time to download apps for TAGG - Together A Greater Good and when you shop at smile.amazon.com Amazon will donate - Grace's unique link is: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/47-0667089>. Register your Bakers Plus card with Kroger and choose Grace Lutheran as your charitable choice! All of these opportunities will match a certain percentage of your purchases and direct those funds to Grace.

PEACE LOVE HOPE JESUS PEACE LOVE HOPE JESUS



**Visit the Southeast Precinct
on Sunday, December 17, 2017**

at
South High School, 4519 S. 24th Street
from 1:00 to 4:00 pm
Parking: 23rd & J Street

Johnny Justice
Information on safety & crime prevention
Fire prevention
Emergency preparedness & health
Santa Photo
Refreshments
Fun and treats for the children
"Santa will arrive on his sleigh"



Donate Gloves & Scarves

Christmas Mitten Tree



It is that special time of year! The Christmas Mitten Tree will be displayed in the upper fellowship hall during the month of December.

As in past years, during the sales of this Christmas Season, consider adding a pair of mittens, gloves, scarf or any additional warm apparel to place on the mitten tree. Your gift will go to benefit shelters and pantries in the area.

Signs and Wonders (*JoyfulNoiseletter.com*)

Christmas sign outside Lititz (PA) Moravian Congregation:
"Christmas is God showing His terms of endearment."
~via Rev. Dean R. Jurgens

Sign outside St. Malachy's Catholic Church, Madrid, IA:
"If you want God to close and open doors for you, just get your hands off the doorknob."

and

Sign outside Emmanuel United Methodist Church, Granger, IA:
"Cross-eyed people have the best vision."
~ via Pastor Dale A. Schoening



A woman takes her 16-year-old daughter to the doctor. The doctor says, "Okay, Mrs. Smith, what's the problem?"

The mother says, "It's my daughter Lynda. She keeps getting these cravings, she's putting on weight, and is sick most mornings."

The doctor gives Lynda a good examination, then turns to the mother and says, "Well, I don't know how to tell you this, but your Lynda is pregnant - about 4 months, would be my guess."

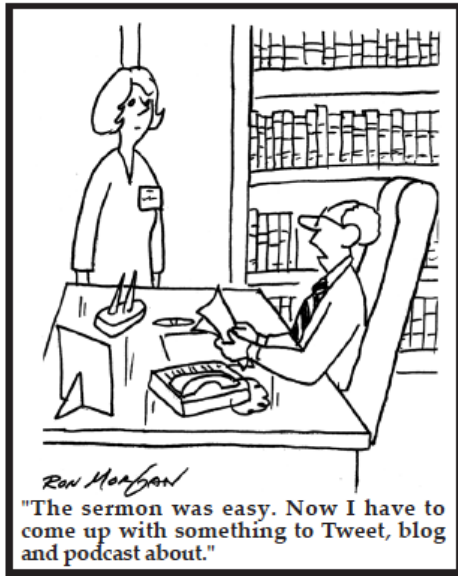
The mother says, "Pregnant?! She can't be, she has never ever been left alone with a man! Have you, Lynda?"

Lynda says, "No mother! I've never even kissed a man!"

The doctor walks over to the window and stares out it. Several minutes pass and finally, the mother says, "Is there something wrong out there doctor?"

The doctor replies, "No, not really, it's just that the last time anything like this happened, a star appeared in the east and three wise men came over the hill. I'm not going to miss it this time!"

—via Rev. Harry Mahoney, Dedham, MA
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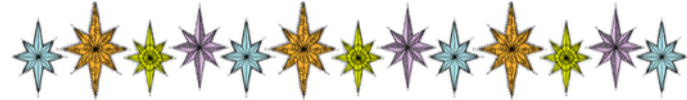


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Christmas Word Search

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



- | | | |
|--------------|--------------|--------|
| JESUS | HAY | MARY |
| ANGEL | JOSEPH | FAITH |
| WISEMEN | HOPE | MANGER |
| FRANKINCENSE | NATIVITY | MYRRH |
| BETHLEHEM | SILENT NIGHT | CAMEL |
| LORD | DONKEY | SAVIOR |
| STAR | CHRISTMAS | |



Christmas

Husbands with ladders hang lights on their home,
As all who have no one feel sad and alone.
The churches are full of the faithful that sing,
For the birth of our Lord, is a spiritual thing.

The sound of Christmas sweetly fills the air,
While frantic shoppers hustle from here to there.
The windows of storefronts at this time of year,
Reflect all their wonders as Christmas draws near.

Little ones stand looking with their nose pressed to glass,
As model trains on display come speeding past.
The path to Santa is lined with girls and boys,
With a list in their heart of their favorite toys.

The store shelves are crammed with dolls that crawl or walk,
Games, cars, trucks, planes and stuffed toys that sing or talk.
The miracle of Christmas comes once a year,
When all that we love seems more precious and dear.

Tom Zart, Skywriting.net