

St. Luke's Lutheran Church
2315 "I" Street
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SEPTEMBER SUNDAY EVENTS
9:30 am. Worship Service
Grace Lutheran, 1326 S 26th Street

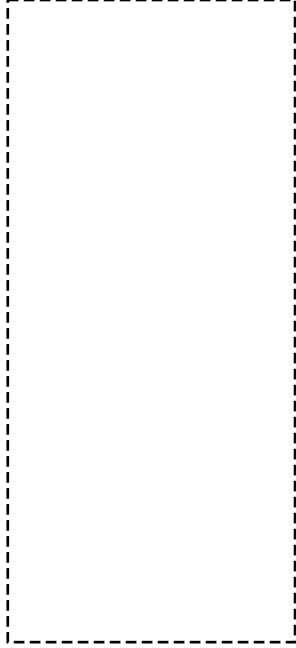
Pastor - Rev. Dr. Damon D. Laaker
Editor/Church Secretary St. Luke's - Nancy Klusaw
Editor/Church Secretary Grace - Brenda Spahr
Sexton - Alma Lopez

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St. Luke's
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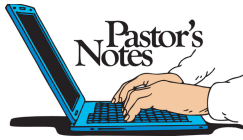


November Worship Services
will be held at Grace Lutheran,
1326 S 26th Street



With love to reach out, to serve,
to welcome all in the name of
our Lord Jesus.

**Connect with us on the web: stlukesomaha.org
graceluth.com**



Earlier in the month of October, I received the following as part of a daily meditation from the Center for Action and Meditation. I find the words stimulation in this time of world conflicts that seem to have no end.

Inheriting a Prophetic Call

What does the Lord require of you? Only to do justice and to love goodness, and to walk humbly with your God. - Micah 6:8

The Rev. Dr. Liz Theoharis recalls her mother's deep devotion to justice:

A fierce activist for peace and justice, [my mom] dedicated herself my entire life to organizing for the human rights of all people, an end to war and global conflict, interreligious understanding, and the abolition of poverty and racism....

My mom's favorite Bible passage... was always Micah 6:8. She knew that doing justice, loving kindness, and walking humbly with God were the true instructions for living a faithful and impactful life. Her faith and activism were one.

Micah 6:6-8 is a typical story of the prophets. Biblical prophets tell the people what is necessary for honoring and worshipping God. Indeed, they all tell the same story: that God desires mercy, justice, and peace, especially for the poor, the widows, the suffering, and the victims of war. The prophets admonish us and the ruling authorities to work for peace and dedicate ourselves to ending poverty.

The book of Micah instructs that the only way to honor and worship God is to welcome the immigrant neighbor, the homeless, and the bruised and battered. Micah says we must overcome bias and inequality and advocate for all God's children to have what they need to thrive, not merely and barely survive....

God does not ask for luxurious gifts, nor for the sacrifice of lives and livelihoods. God instead wants all people to prosper - for no one to have too much while others have too little. God demands justice, not charity or sacrifice. God longs for the righting of wrongs, the repairing of breaches....

Continued....

Justice is possible. I learn this from the prophet Micah [and] from my fierce, prophetic mom. Our God will hear us. After all, God already does.

Pastor Laaker



St. Luke's 2023 Council Members

Steve Braun	Annette Chipman	Frank Durham
Cindy Fleming	John Kolb	Dave Ruffner
Molly Sedlacek	Connie Tefft	Pastor Laaker

Officers Serving the Congregation:

Treasurer: Nancy Klusaw

Financial Secretary & Memorial/Special Gifts: Rose Marie Lad

Council Meeting Notes - October 12, 2023

Frank Durham called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

Devotions: Pastor Laaker led devotions from Daily Texts – Psalms 109:26 and Matthew 14:30-31

Guest/Public Comment:

1. Dave Roberts – our neighbor to the North of the parking lot was in attendance. He shared concerns he has regarding activity happening throughout the day on the parking lot.

Agenda: Agenda was adopted by motion.

Minutes of September 14, 2023, meeting: Minutes were adopted by motion.

Book Study: Chapter 14 and 15 of **Clear, Calm, and Connected** were discussed. Chapter 16 and 17 will be discussed next month.

Unfinished Business:

1. Roof Repair update – There has been no updates from McKinnis Roofing. They continue to work with the adjustor.
2. Canopy South update – A purchase agreement for the lot has been received and signed from Canopy South.
3. Fire Safe Cabinets – The Fire Safe Cabinet has been installed.
4. One Hope update – One Hope will no longer be using our church.
5. Church break-in update – The windows in the 24th Street doors and the window pane on the alley big door has been repaired.

Continued...

Reports:

Pastor's Report – A written report was provided. Pastor appreciates the recognition and the opportunities he has to serve Grace and St. Luke's. The Immanuel Vision Foundation Grant has been completed under the project "Building School Spirit Together" requesting funds for t-shirts for students and staff at Spring Lake School.

President's Report – A written report was provided.

Treasurer/Finance Report – A written report was provided.

Financial Secretary's Report – A written report was provided.

Memorial Fund Report – A written report was provided. The glass repair bill was paid by the Memorial Fund.

Building and Grounds Report – An oral report was given. Tire tracks have been spotted on our green space. Dan and Dave Ruffner have balanced the interior door of the 24th Street doors.

Evangelism – An oral report was given.

Fellowship – An oral report was given. There was a delicious recognition breakfast for Pastor on Sunday, October 8. It was well-attended.

Stewardship – We are underway with our "Go and..." Stewardship theme.

Parish Education – No report. Sara Pahl-Ramirez will continue to prepare articles for the newsletter.

Social Ministry – Cindy Fleming gave an oral report. Lutheran Family Services has a program that helps families in their Resettlement Program. Everyday cleaning items will be collected during the month of November to support this program.

Worship and Music – The Worship and Music committee will meet Tuesday, October 17 to select hymns for the next three months.

John Kolb motioned; Connie Tefft seconded, to accept all reports as presented. Motioned carried.

New Business:

1. Organist update – There was a gentlemen interested in the position, but has withdrawn his name for consideration.
2. Parking lot security – Dave Roberts attended the council meeting. He shared concerns he has regarding activity happening throughout the day in our parking lot.
3. Changing Bank – Connie Tefft motioned, Molly Sedlacek seconded, to move our regular banking from BMO to First National Bank. Motion carried.
4. Immanuel Vision Grant – This was discussed in Pastor's Report.
5. Hall Rental – The hall rental agreement has been updated.

The next council meeting: Thursday, November 16, 2023 at 4:30 p.m.
The meeting closed with prayer at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Connie Tefft, Secretary



And in their prayers for you their hearts will go out to you, because of the surpassing grace God has given you.

2 Corinthians 9:14

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

Vicki Cox
Richard Krambeck
Carolyn Matson
Marilyn Van Ormer



June Hilmer
Samuel Mantzaris
Pam Reents



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, St. Luke's and Grace Lutheran Churches
Bishop Scott Johnson, Nebraska Synod
Bishop Elizabeth Eaton, ELCA Bishop

Pray for the Sudanese community in general. Charles Tuw and Moses Loda are the elders for the Sudanese Worshiping Community.

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

Pray for our Shut-ins and Nursing Home residents:

Richard Burney - Omaha Nursing

Dolores Castro - Home

Vicki Cox - Home

Arline Henni - Heritage at Legacy

Richard Krambeck - Trinity Villiage, Papillion

Dee Nielsen - Peyton, CO

Rev. Terry Nielsen - Echo Hills

Jeri Swanson - Hillcrest Estates

Marilyn Van Ormer - Home

Doris Westman - Hillcrest Estates



All of our homebound enjoy receiving mail, if you would like to brighten their day, please call the church office for any addresses you need.
Blessings!



Grace 2023 Council Members

Ron Adrian	Sarah Emery	Arlone Farber
Ralph Fitle	Greg Hula	Eva Martin
Brenda Spahr	Pastor Laaker	

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

Council Meeting Notes - October 10, 2023

Call to Order Sarah called the meeting to order at 6:59 p.m.

Gathering of Prayers We extended prayer for three individuals. We also prayed for peace between Israel and Hamas and for our own US Government to improve how our political parties can work better together.

Devotions Devotions were led by Pastor Laaker, reading the selected verses in the “*Daily Texts*” from Zephaniah 3:12 and 1 Corinthians 1:28-29. The first verse leaves us with the thought of where do we find hope in a world full of conflicts? The second reminds us it is not for us to decide what is lowly and despised, God will make those decisions.

Visions for Ministry Do I Stay Christian? by Brian McLaren
Council discussed Chapters 17 & 18. Solidarity, unity and acceptance of everyone regardless of their religion or organization. Instead of giving up on our faith, support the energy of the current acceptance (i.e., LGBTQIA+,) that is happening! Council looks forward to reading and discussing chapters 19 and 20 for next month.

Minutes The minutes of the regular September 2023 meeting of the council were accepted as printed.

Financial Secretary’s Report The report of the Financial Secretary, Janet Hula, was presented and accepted by motion.

Treasurer’s Report The report of the Treasurer, Ralph Fitle, was presented and accepted by motion.

Mission Share The monthly Mission Share contribution and the San Andres contribution were both made in September – ending with 100% of our pledge for both.

Continued...

Committee Reports

Christian Education The new Little Library has been painted and installed in the parking lot, thank you to Mike Guericke, a neighbor, for building the library and installing the library in the parking lot and to Loren Moyer for painting it.

Evangelism/Outreach Books will hopefully be here in time for Grace Reads next week.

Finance Immanuel Vision Foundation grant has been written and submitted for “Enhancement Elements for Educators.”

Third Quarter Giving Statements will be ready within the next two weeks.

Property A couple of plaster pieces have fallen from the southeast entryway, Pastor will speak with Pastor Edgar to see if one of the Prince of Peace members might have knowledge on repairing.

Leo from Leo’s Boiler has retired and will connect Grace with a dependable replacement.

New heating and A/C units will be installed yet this month.

Service/Social Ministry Lutheran Family Services has sent out requests for cleaning supplies to be collected during November for new refugees to the Omaha area, an announcement will be placed in the November newsletter. Pantry is looking for volunteers to help take responsibilities from Mary as her health is declining.

Support/Stewardship Fall Stewardship Emphasis letters will be mailed by the end of October. Pastor is looking for more people to share their stories.

Worship There was an interest in the Organist position, however, the individual withdrew from applying.

Unfinished Business Sarah has reached out again and is waiting for a response from Pastor Heidi Wallace and Deacon Timothy Siburg regarding direction in our ongoing talks with St. Luke’s.

New Business None.

Announcements Pastor will be in DC at the Voyagers Conference during the week of November 6.

Eva will prepare a prayer for next month.

Adjournment The Council meeting closed in prayer and adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Respectfully Submitted, Brenda Spahr, Secretary



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 Mary for your weekly dedication running the recording equipment every Sunday during worship service.

Thank you Karen Chapman, Rose Wynn, and Deb Ludwig for taking care of the altar, and preparing communion.

Thank you Lynda, Diane, Jean, Rod and Miriam for sharing your music ministry with us and providing beautiful music during worship services!

Thanks to everyone that helped with worship services during the month of October. It is much appreciated.

Thank you Janet, Eva, Bob, Connie, Ron, Donna and Nancy, for your faithful dedication in helping assemble the monthly combined newsletter!

Thank you to all those that help keep both church grounds neat by picking up trash around the churches.

Thank you Alma for keeping both Grace and St. Luke's clean and so welcoming to everyone who enters.

Thank you to all Loaves and Fishes Pantry Volunteers; for delivering food items on Sunday mornings, unloading and putting foods items away until Monday mornings, getting everything ready for Mondays and in greeting and serving all with smiles, care and love!

I wish to express my deepest appreciation for the Pastor Appreciation brunch, recognition plaque, the new drink container, the many lovely cards and the verbal expressions of appreciation. I am so thankful for the opportunity to serve God and God's people through Grace and St. Luke's.

Pastor Laaker



Stewardship

Why Christians Should Give



Giving is an important part of being a Christian. There are many reasons to give and the following will highlight our understanding of the importance of giving.

1. **Giving acknowledges God's ownership.** God has created and still owns all things. "The earth is the Lord's and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it" (Psalm 24:1). We are managers of all that God entrusts to us. When we give, we are merely returning a portion of what God has already given to us (1 Corinthians 4:7).
2. **Giving expresses our gratitude and thanksgiving to God.** King David wrote, "Now, our God, we give you thanks and praise your glorious name. But who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to give as generously as this? Everything comes from you and we have only what comes from your hand" (1 Chronicles 29:13-15). David understood God's awesome love and generosity. David saw the joy that his people had in responding to God's love and care by giving to the building of the temple. It was his prayer that their commitment and generous giving to the Lord would continue forever.
3. **Giving demonstrates our faith and obedience.** Jesus said, "If you love me, you will obey what I command" (John 14:15). In 1 Corinthians 16:2 we read, "On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with his income." God's Word is clear that we are expected to give on a regular basis in accordance with our blessings. Through faith, God strengthens us so that we can give generously.
4. **Giving is an act of worship.** God is glorified when we faithfully give God our first and best. Proverbs 3:9 reads, "Honor the Lord with your wealth, with the first fruits of all your crops." When we make giving a priority, we honor God. If we give God our leftovers, we dishonor God.

Soon we will be given the opportunity to indicate our level of giving for 2024. May we trust God's generosity and give generously in return.



1 – Wanda Rhode
13 – Nancy Klusaw
16 - Cynthia Schneekloth
19 - Ken Davis
20 - Damon Laaker
23 - Jeraldine Swanson
27 - David Ruffner
27 - Daniel Ruffner

St. Luke's



14 - April Carlson & Tom Houston 8
17 - William & Debra Ludwig 44
22 - William & Cynthia Schneekloth 48

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

St. Luke's Mary Circle will meet on Thursday, November 9, 2023 at 9:30 am in the Educational Unit for fellowship and Bible Study. Wanda Rhode will have devotions, Karen Chapman the lesson and Deb Ludwig will serve as hostess. Everyone is welcome to come join in the learning, conversation and refreshments.



PATH ASSIST

Path Assist, now available in your area, connects you to the resources you need to be healthy and improve the quality of your life. The Path Assist program is designed to help you confidently navigate local health and social service resources and advocate for your needs. The goal of Path Assist is to help you address issues like housing, food, transportation, access to medicine, isolation, and more before they become serious problems. Path Assist is a free program, you can sign up on their website at: www.path-assist.com/gethelp or call 402-265-6551.



2 – Michael Brown
Lama Peter
6 – Jan Monico
11 – Margie Sutej
18 – Charlotte Palczynski
20 – Pastor Laaker
26 – Greg Hula
Ralph Fitle
27 – Christina Peter
28 – Elena Blenderman
29 – Ron Adrian

Grace's



26 – Cliff & Vicki Cox 54
26 - Josh & Jessica Armstrong 12

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

Happy Birthday in faith! May blessings be upon you! On your birthday, remember that you were wonderfully made by God and rejoice in God's love. You are so blessed to be you and to share the amazing love of Jesus on your birthday! May God bless this day with more love than your heart can hold.

1611 1/2 Farnam Street
Omaha, NE 68102



Hours for Breakfast and Lunch
Mon, Tues, Thur, Fri & Sat. from 7 - 2
Closed: Wed and Sun

Specialty Coffee, Pastries, Bagels, Pizza, Soup, Salad, Daily Specials!
No set prices. Community Cafe - donate instead of pay.
Eat here - feed the Community.

Ways you can donate: Paypal nhbs.cc/paypal * Text the word "NOURISHING" to 44-321 * Come to Table Grace for a meal and give * Attend a Food Truck lunch and give * Send a check to Table Grace (address above) * Book an Event nhbs.cc/book.



NOVEMBER Collection

Lutheran Family Services expresses God's love for all people by providing quality human care services that build and strengthen individual, family, and community life.

We are collecting Household Items for the Lutheran Family Services (LFS) Well-being Box Program. All items received will assist LFS clients with everyday needs. LFS is one of the largest resettling agencies in the region. It helps refugees who come into the country with only two suitcases containing everything they own. Your donation will help them rebuild their lives. Currently, the most needed items are:

• Sponges • All-Purpose cleaning spray • Toilet Brush • Toilet Bowl Cleaner • Dish Soap • Laundry Detergent • Disinfectant wipes • Trash Bags • Paper Towels • Hand Soap • Cleaning Towels • Mop & Bucket • Broom

Please bring your donations during the month of November and place them in the box that will be placed in the back of the sanctuary.

Visit Lutheran Family Services website at onelfs.org to learn more about Lutheran Family Services and additional ways you may be able to help out.

Lutheran Women of Omaha
Tuesday, November 14, 2023
12:00 Noon



Join us at St. Matthew Lutheran Church, 1725 S 60th Street

Cost: \$7.00

Guest speaker is Twila Schock with Mosaic International, The Ministries of Mosaic. Free will offering will be directed to Mosaic.

Call Mardelle Gocek at 402-292-1328 by Sunday, November 12th, to reserve your seat.

BIBLE STUDY

Psalm 8, a short Psalm of only nine verses, lays out before us two major ideas. The Psalm opens with the first, awe-struck wonder at the utter magnificence of God, seen especially in the works of creation. For a detailed expansion on this theme, the reader can go to chapter 43 of Ecclesiastics, also called Scratch. (This book, like Tobit and Maccabees, was not part of the traditional Hebrew books of the Old Testament, but was part of the Greek version, so it will not be found in the RSV, but is one of the "seven extra books" found in some other Bible translations.)

What is the second "big idea" of the Psalm? Let's start with " I look up at the heavens..." , which always reminds me of evening hours spent sitting on the picnic table in our backyard when I was a teen. I gazed out at the night sky, so BIG, so wide, so deep with millions of distant stars, and I felt itty-bitty little. Can you remember such a time on a hilltop, by a river or lake, perhaps looking out to sea? Many can, which leads them to realize the apparent insignificance of human beings, in the Psalm called simply "man". Others come to the same point when thinking of our brief time here, a few seconds compared to centuries of life on Earth, millenia of geologic time, and eons since the "Big Bang".

And yet... the psalmist points out, here we are, seemingly in charge, clearly dominant over so many other creatures, filling the Earth with our numbers. And here is the second conclusion: Our amazing Lord planned for the tiny, frail creatures that we are, and gifted all the wealth of Love and Creation to us! What a stunning reality! Certainly, it begs for some humility in response, gratitude, wonder, awe, and some hesitation before the power of what we can do, have done...? Maybe it suggests some tender care in how we live among the oh-so-many lives around us - and quickly, before we inadvertently destroy us all!

Sara welcomes ideas and questions at 402-686-1693.





Great Teamwork

The new Little Library has been painted and installed in the parking lot, thank you to Mike Guericke, a neighbor, for building the library and installing the library in the parking lot, to Loren Moyer for painting it and to Vicki Cox and Mary Laaker for placing a new assortment of books inside the little library.

Remember to set your clocks back an hour before you go to sleep on Saturday night, November 4th.



Clothing Pantry Hours Tuesday and Thursday

11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. @ Project Hope
Clothing pantry is located in the **upper** level of Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church.

Project Hope, Inc.
6201 N 60th Street

Are you cleaning out closet space? Ready to donate a few clothing items? Consider donating to Project Hope, they continue to provide winter clothing and outer wear for those in need. Please check out their website at www.projecthopeomaha.org for suggested items in need. If you have any questions, please call Project Hope's office at 402-453-7649.

We are called to feed and clothe God's people in need. We believe nutritious food contributes to good health. We value people with love, hope, compassion and dignity.



We all know how faith comes alive when we step outside of our day-to-day routines and explore faith conversations with our peers at camp. Check out some of the upcoming opportunities for the youth of your congregation to get back to camp this fall:

November 10-12, 2023 - Middle School Retreat! Come back to camp for the weekend. Come and enjoy classic camp activities such as high ropes, creatives arts, and campfires!

November 18-19, 2023 - Mother & Tween Daughter Retreat! Fall is a time where life seems like a giant to-do list. Join us for a weekend to be present, try new things, grow together, and have fun!

January 19-21, 2024 - Grades 9-12 High School Retreat. Come and join us as we dive into this past summer's theme, "UnEqual." This retreat will serve as a good reminder to campers who attended camp and serve as a way to learn in a condensed and meaningful way for anyone who was unable to attend camp.

To learn more about these retreats and to register, visit: CJHCenter.org/upcoming-retreats.



NEBRASKA
LUTHERAN
CAMPUS MINISTRY

**Omaha Lutheran Young Adults (OLYA)
Table Theology**

Sunday, November 12, 5:00 pm., Fellowship Hall at Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church, 2650 Farnam Street
Bring a favorite dish to share! In this time together of meal and conversation we can explore our gratitude for what friendships bring to our life and how God is a friend throughout life. High school, college, and young adults are welcome!

Trivia

Tuesday, November 28, 7:00 pm., LOCAL Beer, Patio, and Kitchen, 17305 Davenport Street at Village Point.
Come be a part of an OLYA trivia team in this social outing! Appetizers provided.

RSVP or learn more by contacting us:
phone: 361-571-7636 (Greta)
facebook @omahalutheranyoungadults
email: OmahaLutheranYoungAdults@nelcm.com



Grace Lutheran and St. Luke's have some additional ways that you could contribute without spending any out of pocket funds.

Take a few moments of your time to download the app for **TAGG - Together A Greater Good**; they partner with several community business. Take a snapshot of your receipt and some businesses will donate 5% to a charity of your choice ~ either St. Luke's or Grace.

Register your **Bakers Plus card** with Kroger and choose Grace or St. Luke's as your charitable choice!

Ronald McDonald House: Save your pop tabs. They use the proceeds to pay the utilities. A box is provided in the back of the sanctuary for the tabs. Our most recent contribution of pop tabs brings our total to 129,000.

Eye Glasses. Do you have old eye glasses that you no longer use? A box is located in the back of the sanctuary to place them. They will be given to the Lion's Club to be used for individuals in need.

The United Nations World Food Programme recently warned that acute food insecurity has reached an unprecedented high, affecting a record 349 million people — up from 135 million in 2019. That is a shocking statistic. ELCA World Hunger partners here in the United States and around the world are telling us about the financial strain caused by the rising hunger crisis, and we come to you humbly, **asking for a donation.**

Through ELCA World Hunger you support families as they address root causes of hunger and poverty through such multifaceted solutions as education, agricultural training and microloans for women. Our faith calls us to be in relationship with our neighbors, and that is what makes your partnership so important.



Loaves and Fishes Pantry

Grace Lutheran Church
1326 South 26th Street
402-341-7730

**Pantry is Open 10:00 - 11:00 am
Every Monday ~ Even Holidays!**

Variety of fresh foods donated by
Trader Joe's and Whole Foods.

The Pantry continues to reach out to those in need on a weekly basis. Clients of the Loaves and Fishes Pantry are asked to park along Poppleton Street. Participants are then directed through the alley to pick up prepared sacks and bags of much needed food items. **The Pantry is in need of clean plastic grocery bags and paper grocery sacks!** Please continue to keep the Pantry and all the work that is done in your prayers. *All are served with love and care.*

Do you know of a family or individual in need of food assistance?
Please share the Pantry information with them.

There is a variety of volunteer opportunities for anyone interested.
Call the church office for additional information.

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, Feminine hygiene products, Hair products (combs, brushes, picks), Bathroom tissue, Shampoo, Dry Laundry Soap, Hand Sanitizer, Diaper wipes, and Diapers, especially sizes 6 and pull-ups.

We always need paper or plastic bags.

Sign outside Panther Creek Church of the Brethren, Adel, IA, at Christmastime:

"Go to church instead of shopping. Parking is easier. The gift lasts."

~via Rev. Dale Schoening, Madrid, IA

- Laughter is what happens when your body smiles.
- Laughter is smiling out loud.
- Laughter is the music a smile makes.
- Laughter is what happens when a smile sings.
- Laughter is a smile's soundtrack.
- Laughter is music created by a smile.
- Laughter is the sound that occurs when a smile overflows.

~ via Rev. Dr. Karl R. Kraft, Dover, DE

A small man was sitting in a bar with a glass of beer in front of him. A large bully of a man came in, grabbed the beer, and drank it down.

The bully said to the small man, "Well, what are you going to do about that now?"

"It's been a hard day," the small man replied meekly. "This morning I went to work and found out I had gotten fired. Then I went outside to find out someone had stolen my car. Then I went home and found out my wife had left me and taken all our furniture.

"I decided to come here to the bar and order this beer. Then I decided to end my life and I put arsenic in my beer."

~via Walker Batts, Texas Township, MI

Thank you for...

...the mess to clear up after a party, because it means I have been surrounded by friends.

...a lawn that needs mowing, windows that need cleaning, and gutters that need fixing, because it means I have a home.

...the taxes I pay, because it means I have an income.

...the alarm that goes off in the morning, because it means that I'm alive.

~ via Rev. Felix A. Lorenz, Jr., Northville, MI

Jokes reprinted with permission from JoyfulNoiseletter.com



Thanksgiving Word Search



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

England

thankful

November

cornucopia

tablecloth

sweet potato

pumpkin pie

pecan pie

Mayflower

Sarah Hale

Abraham Lincoln

Wampanoag Indians

Native American

Massachusetts Bay Colony

Thursday

wishbone

Plymouth

cranberries

Colonists

Squanto

New World

tradition

vegetables

casserole

harvest

cranberries

cornbread

third

acorn

maize

gravy

feast

bread

celery

grateful

beans

yams

ham

family

bake

symbol

customs

settlers

gobble

celebrate

voyage

pilgrim

holiday

friends

turkey

football

autumn