

St. Luke's Lutheran Church  
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Omaha, NE 68107-1814  
402-733-5881

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SEPTEMBER SUNDAY EVENTS  
9:30 am. Worship Service  
Grace Lutheran, 1326 S 26th Street

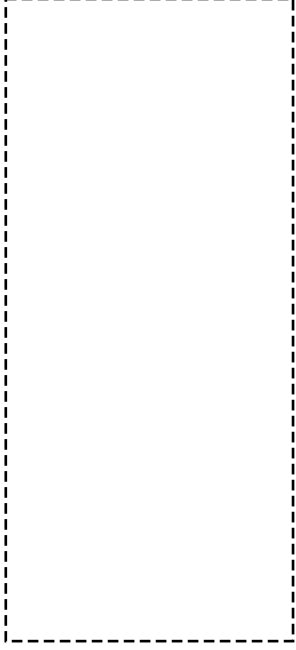
Pastor - Rev. Dr. Damon D. Laaker  
Editor/Church Secretary St. Luke's - Nancy Klusaw  
Editor/Church Secretary Grace - Brenda Spahr  
Sexton - Alma Lopez

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St. Luke's  
**Echo**

1905 - 2025

THE GRACE  
MESSENGER

1889 - 2025



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

Grow, Love, Serve

Connect with us on the web: [stlukesomaha.org](http://stlukesomaha.org)  
[graceluth.com](http://graceluth.com)



These days are marked by proclamations suggesting that all would be well for our lives if we simply would follow the rules and regulations offered by one in power. Jesus seeks to offer a different perspective.

T. Denise Anderson wrote these words for Sojourners some time ago. They seem appropriate even for this time.

“In her book *Plan B: Further Thoughts on Faith*, writer Anne Lamott wrote, “The opposite of faith is not doubt, but certainty.” She added, “Faith includes noticing the mess, the emptiness and discomfort, and letting it be there until some light returns.” We may arrive at certainty by empirical evidence or pure stubbornness, but our need for certainty is often at odds with our call to have and exercise faith. Faith dies when there are no longer questions we must ask of God or ourselves. It is through our questions that we grope for (and eventually find) God. Jeremiah’s call story shows a young man who is certain that God could *not* be calling him—a young, inexperienced person—to be the mouthpiece of God to the land of Judah. Most people might have agreed. God, however, did not.

“In Luke 13, Jesus takes to task the synagogue leader over his doctrinal certainty about the Sabbath, a certainty that would rather have a woman remain injured and quiet than whole and praising aloud about her healing. Even the writer of Hebrews seeks to manage the reader’s expectations, acknowledging the signs and wonders that were already familiar to the community but inviting them to embrace new ones and to not rebuff the message simply because it is not as familiar. The one warning from heaven carries even more gravitas than the one warning from Earth (see Hebrews 12:25).”

These reflections illumine the words of Scripture we heard on Sunday, August 24. May they continue to illumine our life of faith.

Pastor Laaker

## Stewardship

There have been some questions raised about the financial stability of each of our congregations. This reflection, shared by a member of the Transition/Council Team, seeks to address some of the questions with transparency.

The combined St. Luke and Grace Lutheran Church Council and Transition Team have been meeting since March of 2025. God willing and with diligent work we will try to yield valuable recommendations.

We have been discussing many aspects of joining into one church / one location. We have discussed where each church is located, both properties/buildings, name, outreach, fiscal responsibility and most importantly we are learning to open our hearts and listen so we may follow where God is leading us.

As of July 2025, this is information about each church meeting their financial needs this year. Like each in our family, the churches are presently having to pay, insurance, MUD, OPPD, phone, internet, facility maintenance etc... and are finding it difficult to manage on limited income.

Each congregation adopted a minimal budget for 2025. The following table shows the budget for seven months and the income received.

St. Luke’s budget: \$75,381.25	St. Luke’s income: \$61,754.63
Grace’s budget: \$75,985.00	Grace’s income: \$60,295.14

Hopefully, this gives you a bit of insight into some of the considerations the Transition/Council team seeks to address.

### JoyfulNoiseletter Quotes

They asked: “Why is it important to be kind?”  
I said: Because we walk past hundreds of people every day, and none of them wear signs that say, “I’m grieving,” “I’m exhausted.” or “I’m barely holding it together.”

But they’re everywhere. Kindness might be the only softness they receive today. ~ *Spiritual Ericka*

*Kindness*



### 2025 Transition Team

Vicki Cox	Frank Durham	Sarah Emery
Vicki Hall	Janet Hula	Nancy Klusaw
John Kolb	Andrea Spahr	Brenda Spahr
Connie Tefft	Pastor Laaker	

\*\*\*\*\*  
 Officers Serving the Congregation:  
 Financial Secretary: Janet Hula    Treasurer: Nancy Klusaw

**St. Luke's/Grace Lutheran  
 Transition Team Notes - August 12, 2025**

The meeting opened at 5:30 p.m. with a gathering of prayers for individuals and communities. Teachers, students, parents, and administrators. Some personal requests, ongoing struggles in the world and folks dealing with fear and uncertainty.

Devotions were shared from the Daily Texts.

From the "I Am A Follower" book – discussions were shared around two questions: What holds us back from bearing fruit? What can we do to improve fruit development? It's not enough to simply talk about things, but we need to take action! Walk the talk. Have we bought into systems and ideas that fail to allow us to grow, share and bear fruit? How does our engagement and experience extend outside of the walls of the church building? **Please continue to reflect.** Read pages 105-125 for next month. Where have you experienced the gift of fruitfulness?

Financial Secretary and Treasurer reports were received.

Shared future considerations:

Thoughts on transparency around budget & financial viability of both buildings. Do folks know the current state? Do we share with goals outside of increased contributions? Or does any conversation make money feel like the sole motivator? Would meeting the budgets even change any of these conversations?

Reports:

- The AC unit at St. Luke's has been repaired.
- Tree trimming might be needed at both.
- Church renovation near St. Lukes, looking to borrow space.
- Workforce Solutions willing to share so that we can eliminate dumpster.

*Continued...*

Grow – Would a Bible Study in the fall be something to offer? Confirmation classes will begin once again in next month.

Love – Endowment Boards met and made decisions.

Serve –

1. To date 126 boxes of Cereal were gathered for the Loaves and Fishes pantry.
2. Think of a new program to submit for a grant through the Immanuel Vision Foundation.
3. Reading programs will continue at Liberty and Spring Lake this school year.
4. Crossroads Prison Ministry will be at Grace on August 24.
5. Youth group from First Lutheran Church in North Platte stayed at St. Luke's July 20-22. They were in town for a mission trip and helping at Open Door Mission. Nancy and friends provided breakfast on the 22<sup>nd</sup> before they returned home.
6. God's Work Our Hands upcoming next month.

Meeting was closed in prayer at 7:05 p.m.

Grace and St. Luke's will reach out "God's Work Our Hands" to Omaha Nursing and Rehabilitation Center at 4835 S. 49th Street on Sunday, September 14, 2025.

We will be visiting with the residents and offering them a small package of homemade cookies!

Bake your favorite cookies and bring them to Grace on Sunday, September 14. All are welcome to package the cookies during fellowship hour and go to the center at 11:15am. (Lunch is served at Noon)





*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*

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

Marcia Beck  
June Hilmer  
Samuel Mantzaris  
Ed Nodean  
Marilyn Van Ormer



Vicki Cox  
Richard Krambeck  
Carolyn Matson  
Pam Reents



**Pray for wisdom for your Church Transition Team at St. Luke's and 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  
Bishop elect, Rev. Yehiel Curry

Pray for the Sudanese community in general. Charles Tuw, Moses Loda, John Boato, Barnaba Dyedi and Nenchi Ilka 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:**

Vicki Cox - Home  
Richard Krambeck - Trinity Villiage, Papillion  
Dee Nielsen - Peyton, CO  
Rev. Terry Nielsen - Echo Hills  
Marilyn Van Ormer - Home



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 Cindy and Chris for taking care of the altar, and preparing communion.

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

Thank you Connie, Sara, Shirley and Karen for reading during worship services in August. It is greatly appreciated.

Thank you Sara for your dedication in preparing the Bible Study and sharing your ministry every month in the Newsletter.

Thank you Bob for greeting everyone who enters the door before worship services every Sunday morning during the month of August. It is a welcoming way to begin each Sunday morning.

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

Thank you Connie, Donna, Rose Marie, Ron, and Bob, for your faithful dedication in helping assemble the monthly 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!



**BIBLE STUDY** This month, let's focus our Scripture study around prayer. Prayer is much like faith in some ways. Faith is more than assent to a set of beliefs and/or knowing the answers to many religious questions. It's a way of living, based in a relationship with a real, live person: Jesus, God. In the same way, prayer is more than reciting sets of words or phrases. It's the communication in the relationship, sometimes alone, sometimes in groups, as when we worship. And prayer is true action, though not physical action.

Scripture tells us much about praying. For instance, in a letter to his beloved church at Philippi, Paul wrote (Ph. 4:6) "There is no need to worry, but if there is anything you need, pray for it, asking God for it with prayer and thanksgiving." (Gratitude, thanks, is a big theme in Scriptures on prayer.) Conventionally, themes of prayer include praise, thanks, intercession (or asking), and regrets. Unconventionally, since prayer is conversation, it may include anything and everything that we want to tell God, and anything and everything that God wants to tell us. (Effective prayer may mean attentive listening, not just talking!)

What is prayer like? If we ask that of one hundred people, we will likely hear over one hundred different answers. And prayer is not the same every day, because we are not the same every day. Sometimes it means reciting comfortable, familiar words, but on other occasions, it may be urgent pleas, embarrassed admissions, even spellbound attention to a flower or an animal met in the woods. I tend to be scared of anything bigger than me, and the spiritual world, even more than the open sky or the wide, wide sea, is very, very big. So, sometimes when I go to meet Jesus in prayer, it's like jumping in the water. It's a little bit scary every time, but I know from experience that, if I can relax, I float!

Scripture tells us "Be Holy, for I the Lord your God, am Holy." And we are never alone, for Mt. 18:20 reminds us, "Where ever two or three gather in my Name, there I am in the midst of them." What did Jesus say to his followers about praying? Well, he told us not to show off with our prayers, but to pray quietly and alone. Mt. 6:5-6 Jesus taught us by example, too, as the gospels often note that he got up early and went off by himself to pray. Mk. 1:35 And sometimes the gospels point out that Jesus went off to pray in the evening after doing ministry. Mk. 6:47 When asked to by his disciples, Jesus gave us a sample prayer, the "Our Father". We can pray this in any language we know, in any version, and even alter it slightly, For instance, after "...our daily bread", I sometimes add "and cookies!".

*Continued.....*

One gentleman at church raised the question, "How are prayers answered?" During his military service, he often prayed at night the old, familiar "...Now I lay me down to sleep..." Ready to leave at the end of his tour, he waited with others for the helicopters to pick them up, and he knew that he was slated to ride chopper #1 of two choppers. When he went to board, though, the pilot told him, "No, you'll have to wait for #2." Later, he learned that chopper #1 had been hit by gunfire. Chopper #2 flew safe, and that was an answer to his prayers. Then a lady at the next table over at church commented, "and "No" is an answer!"

What Scripture verses about prayer are meaningful to you? Please feel free to share those with us at coffee after worship.

Sara welcomes comments and questions at: 402-686-1693.

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St. Luke's Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Endowment Fund Scholarship Program  
For the 2025-2026 School Year

The Endowment Fund's Scholarship Program assists in achieving educational goals by providing scholarships. If you will be attending college during the 2025-2026 school year, now is the time to apply!



In an email to [stlukes@stlukesomaha.org](mailto:stlukes@stlukesomaha.org) please provide the following information:

1. Your Name
2. University, College, Conservatory, or other institution you will be attending
3. Evidence that you have been accepted for enrollment by that school (i.e. upload a picture of your acceptance letter, or college schedule)
4. What your degree or study program you are pursuing
5. Short paragraph about your previous schooling (previous college year or senior year of high school year)

Please send your email by September 28, 2025. We look forward to hearing from you!

We will continue collecting items throughout September in support of the **Lutheran World Relief: Personal Care Kits**. Offering comfort and care to those who need it most.



Often, when natural disasters strike or when war drives families from their homes, our hearts ache with compassion, but we don't know how to help. Making Lutheran World Relief Kits is a simple, fun and tangible way to offer comfort to those suffering and express love to our neighbors in need. LWR Kits provide dignity and hope in the direst situations.

Each Personal Care Kit will include 2 Bars of soap, Bath towel (no bigger than 52" x 27"), adult size toothbrush in its original package, a comb and metal nail clippers. Personal Care Kits will be assembled on a date yet to be determined.

Whether you make one or a few Lutheran World Relief Personal Care Kits as a solo kit-maker, or hundreds as part of a kit assembly with your congregation, every kit you make will be cherished by the person who receives it in their time of need.

Lutheran World Relief Organization distributed guidelines to follow in our assembly process. All items that do not meet the LWR guidelines will be given to a local pantry where they will be distributed to those in need. Thank you to all who gave donations, time and monetary gifts, all are greatly appreciated.

If you have any questions, please speak with Brenda.

Mary's



St. Luke's Mary Circle will meet on Thursday, September 11, 2025 at 9:30 am in the Educational Unit for fellowship and Bible Study. Wanda Rhode will have devotions, Deb Ludwig will give the lesson and serve as hostess. Everyone is welcome to come join in the learning, conversation and refreshments.



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.
- Visit their website at: [tablegracecafe.com](http://tablegracecafe.com) for additional information and to learn the many different ways you can donate.
- Help us Give more than a Meal.
- Meals that Matter
- The power of 77 resembles our drive to nourish hungry bodies and sould, and in honor of this, we are raising \$77,000 around the 3 key areas of Table Grace.
- Our goal is to raise \$231,000 total for meals, food truck, and 10 day training scholarships.

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](http://www.path-assist.com/gethelp) or call 402-265-6551.



**JoyfulNoiseletter Quotes**

Just start thanking God in advance because no matter what is about to happen, you already know that God is in charge. You are not adrift in a sea of chaos. ~ Elisabeth Elliot



Yehiel Curry was elected July 30 to serve a six-year term as presiding bishop of the ELCA. The election took place during the 2025 ELCA Churchwide Assembly held July 28–Aug. 2 at the Phoenix Convention Center.

Curry was elected on the fifth ballot. There were 799 votes cast, with 400 votes needed for an election. Curry received 562 votes, and Kevin Strickland, bishop of the ELCA Southeastern Synod, received 237 votes. Curry will be the first Black presiding bishop of the ELCA.

Speaking to the assembly after his election, Curry reflected on his membership at Shekinah Chapel in Riverdale, Ill., where he eventually became a lay mission developer. During that time he participated in the Theological Education for Emerging Ministries program, which prepares individuals for ordained ministry in the ELCA, with a focus on emerging ministry contexts like ethnic-specific, multicultural, and both rural and urban settings. He spoke to the assembly about his initial hesitation in accepting that first ministry role.

“I’m what a return on your investment looks like,” he said. “Perhaps I’m out there in one of you. I never saw myself as good enough, so for two years, I said no. I finally said yes. When I said yes, your support, this church’s support, of that ministry meant everything. So if you want to know what your benevolence dollars look like, it looks like me. And I want to say thank you. Thank you for your investment.”

Curry has served as bishop of the ELCA Metropolitan Chicago Synod since 2019. He previously served as mission developer (2009-2012) and pastor (2012-2019) of Shekinah.

He received a Bachelor of Arts from Lewis University in Romeoville, Ill., in 1995 and a Master of Divinity from the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago (LSTC) in 2013. LSTC is one of seven ELCA seminaries.

Curry will be installed on Saturday, October 4, 2025 at Central Lutheran Church in Minneapolis.

*nebraskasynod.org*

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*Lord, we pray that you would strengthen our Bishop elect Rev. Yehiel Curry, enabling him to overcome any obstacles or opposition he may face. May he lead with boldness and courage, knowing that you are with him. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.*



27416 Ranch Road  
 Ashland, NE 68003

Greetings, partners in ministry! We are grateful to have had the opportunity to share the love of Christ and discuss the unexpected ways God appears in our lives with 1,365 campers at Carol Joy Holling and Sullivans Hills Camps this summer.

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. We have listed opportunities to get back to camp this fall and winter.

**Family Campout; September 12-14.** You’ll enjoy a weekend of quality time together, classic camp activities and nights under the stars—there is something for everyone. Whether you bring your own tent or RV, or borrow one of ours, you’ll reconnect, relax, and make lasting memories. (Cost varies, please check website for cost.)

There are two new family programs this fall:

**Fall Festival; October 4.** Soar down the zipline, share a meal together, and close the evening with a campfire worship. Whether you’re here for family fun or a trip down memory lane, it’s the perfect way to celebrate fall at camp! (Cost varies, please check website for cost.)

**Fall KINnect; November 1-2,** is a great opportunity for campers age 5 through 4th grade to spend time at camp in the fall with Mom, Dad, Grandparent, Godparent, a favorite Aunt or Uncle, or any special adult in their life. Come spend time having fun and worshipping together.

**Middle School Retreat; October 17-19 or November 7-9.** Join us for a weekend filled with adventure, faith, and fun! Through outdoor challenges, creative projects, and moments of reflection, this retreat is a chance to unplug, recharge, and experience God in a new way. (Grades 6th - 8th; Cost \$100.)

**Mother Daughter Retreat; November 15-16.** Strengthen the special bond between mother and daughter. Together, you’ll enjoy hands-on activities, outdoor adventures, and reflective devotionals that celebrate your unique relationship while deepening your faith. (Ages 10-13; Cost \$160 per pair)

For questions and program cost checks, please contact Laura, Youth Programs Specialist at LStalder@NLOM.org or call 402-944-2544.

**Sunday, September 25, 2025**  
**5:30 - 8:00 p.m.**

**7th Annual**  
**Bread for Life Event**



This year's event will be held at The Palazzo, 5110 N 132nd Street, Omaha, NE 68164.

Food, Fundraising, Fellowship and Music.  
7:00 PM - Concert featuring Local Jazz & Pop Artist,  
*Camille Metoyer Moten*

Project Hope is a food and clothing pantry registeed as a non-profit organization in 1985. 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.

Reservations are due by September 5, 2025  
Please visit: [projecthopeomaha.org](http://projecthopeomaha.org) to reserve your spot and learn more about the mission of Project Hope, Inc. or call 402-453-7649.

**Why are we having a Bread for Life Fundraiser?**

Our Bread for Life event helps us raise funds to provide our services at our main location in northeast Omaha and our two satellite pantries located at Lutheran Church of the Master called the One14 Center Pantry and at St. Matthew Lutheran Church called the Loaves & Fishes Pantry.

The Lutheran Message is a small magazine with good stories, poems and messages to enjoy. There is a compelling story titled "Anna's Card Ministry" that is worth the quick 5 minutes to read. The small but mighty magazine can be found on the table in the back of the sanctuary.



Join Carol Joy Holling Camp  
24th annual Ashland Camp Classic,  
October 3, 2025  
Four-Person Scramble  
Ashland Golf Course  
16119 Highway 6, Ashland, NE 68003



11:00 am Registration  
Noon Shotgun Start

The Camp Classic Golf Tournament is important to raise funds for our Campership program, which helps us keep a promise that's close to our hearts: no camper is turned away due to financial need. Whether golfing, sponsoring, or helping spread the word - every bit of support makes a difference.

To sponsor or register visit [NLOM.org/ashland-golf](http://NLOM.org/ashland-golf)

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**Enjoying the Art of Retirement**

- ~ Look them right in the eye, grin big, and ask for the senior discount.
- ~ Surround yourself with what you love most.
- ~ Love your grandkids. Then send them home.
- ~ Forget the mistakes of your youth. Make new ones.
- ~ Exercise your right to sit down.
- ~ You're finally your own boss. Now only your spouse can tell you what to do.
- ~ Write love letters to your sweetheart. Hand-deliver them.
- ~ Experience counts. Know the value of your own videos.
- ~ If a good book invites you in, stay as long as you want.
- ~ "Doing Nothing" is hard work. Be proud of your accomplishment.
- ~ Think of all the time you wasted as a kid. There's finally time to do it again.
- ~ When you miss the hustle and bustle, find new ways to hustle and new places that bustle.
- ~ Find a Gym; there's usually a donut shop nearby.
- ~ It's not where you are in life. It's what you do with where you are.
- ~ When your mind plays tricks on you, at least try to enjoy the show.
- ~ Don't forget to be childish sometimes.
- ~ You finally have time to figure out what life's all about; it's about not having to figure anything out.

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

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? Please give your old eye glasses to Janice Fulmer. They will be given to the Lion's Club to be used for individuals in need.



"988" The Nation's Mental Health Hotline

"988" has been activated as the new three-digit mental health program hotline. Anyone who needs help with their mental health, particularly people in crisis or those struggling with mental health issues, should call this number. Operators speak both English and Spanish and have access to interpreters with over 150 languages.

When people call, text, or chat 988, they will be connected to trained counselors that are part of the existing National Suicide Prevention Lifeline network. These trained counselors will listen, understand how their problems are affecting them, provide support, and connect them to resources if necessary.

The current Lifeline phone number (1-800-273-8255) will always remain available to people in emotional distress or suicidal crisis, even after 988 is launched nationally.

Website: [suicidepreventionlifeline.org](http://suicidepreventionlifeline.org) and [988lifeline.org](http://988lifeline.org)



## 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, paper grocery sacks and egg cartons!** 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.



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](http://www.projecthopeomaha.org) for suggested items in need. If you have any questions, please call Project Hope's office at 402-453-7649. Clothing Pantry Hours are Tuesday and Thursday, 11:00 am - 2:00 pm.

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.



**Quotes and Thoughts**

A man who was completely innocent, offered himself as a sacrifice for the good of others, including his enemies, and became the ransom of the world. It was a perfect act.

~ Mahatma Gandhi

**1 - Liners**

I've always wondered if songbirds get mad at hummingbirds for not knowing the words.

My neighbor suggested I put cow manure on my strawberries. Tried it. I'm going back to whipped cream.

Ninety percent of bald men still own a comb. They just can't part with it.

I went to the paint store to get thinner. It didn't work.

My wife told me to put ketchup on the shopping list. Now I can't read anything.

I've always wondered why lemonade is made from artificial flavors but furniture polish is made from real lemons.

My neighbor couldn't afford his water bill, so I got him a get well soon card.

I was addicted to the hokey-pokey, but I turned myself around.

*Jokes and poems reprinted with permission from JoyfulNoiseletter.com*



September's here, and so is a word search packed with seasonal fun! Can you find all the hidden words scattered in every direction—forward, backward, up, down, and diagonal? Circle each word as you find it and cross it off the list.

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

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|----------|-----------|-----------|
| ACORNS   | FALLING   | ORCHARDS  |
| APPLES   | FARMERS   | PUMPKINS  |
| AUTUMN   | FOLIAGE   | RAKE      |
| BACKPACK | FOOTBALL  | SCARECROW |
| BONFIRE  | GOURDS    | SCHOOL    |
| BREEZY   | GRAPES    | SEPTEMBER |
| CIDER    | HARVEST   | SQUIRREL  |
| COOLER   | HAYRIDE   | SWEATER   |
| CORN     | LABOR DAY |           |
| CRISP    | LEAVES    |           |
| EQUINOX  | MIGRATION |           |

