

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

Return Service Requested
Dated Material

Email: graceluth@graceluth.com
Web Site: www.graceluth.com

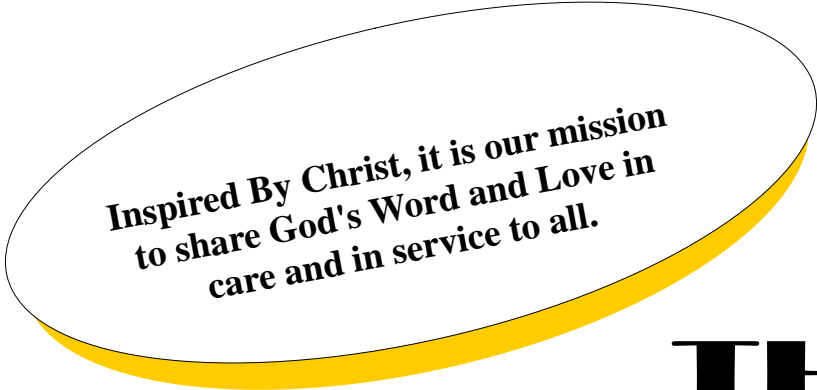
REGULAR SUNDAY EVENTS

9:00 A.M. Christian Education

10:30 A.M. Worship Service

Pastor - Rev. Dr. Damon D. Laaker
Editor/Church Secretary – Pam Reents
Youth Ministries - Brenda Spahr
Organist - Cody Talarico
Sexton - Ambros Lado/Brian Sutej
Interfaith Health Ministries - Virginia McGill
Faith in Action - Julie Chytil

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



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

October 2007

THE GRACE MESSENGER

2007 Council Members



Ron Adrian
June Hilmer
Ernest Olson

Andrew Edwards
David Hufford
Brenda Spahr
Pastor Laaker

Sarah Emery
Greg Hula

Officers Serving the Congregation but not on Council:

Financial Secretary: Janet Hula

Treasurer: Margie Sutej

The regular meeting of the Council was held September 11. The Council members shared their prayer concerns: Care for those in need of healing – Kathryn Reichert, Bernard Jacobs, Darlene Spahr, Luke the grandson of Cheryl Brown, family of Connie Chandler, care for those within the Grace family that they continue to heal, direction in becoming a multi-racial congregation, where is God moving us in this issue, all of the unrest and conflict in the world and for safety of all of our military personnel, we pray for all the families on this the anniversary of September 11th, we pray for SCHIP, State Children's Health Initiative Program and that congress does the moral thing with this bill, also to pass a Safe Haven Law, we pray in praise for Brenda Anzalone who is expecting and for Micah & Carrie Laaker for the upcoming birth of their baby, we pray for Ambros Lado for his continued strength and healing . Pastor led devotions from Psalm 16:2 and Matthew 26:33, 34; which lead to discussions that even after denial comes redemption in Christ.

Visions for Ministry: Council continued sharing in discussion of "One Body One Spirit", chapters 7 & 8, Diverse Leadership and Overarching Goal.

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

Christian Education: 22 youth are participating in the joint confirmation classes with First Lutheran and Cristo Rey. It was reported that new children attending Sunday School and that Grace is teaching with material from Augsburg.

Evangelism/Outreach: The After School Program has now started.

Finance: Four new banners are now in the church sanctuary; they look very nice. David Hufford will soon be on a mission trip to Tanzania.

Property: The new air conditioning units have all been installed.

Service/Social Ministry: ELCA advocacy site to stay current with government issues.

Support/Stewardship: No new report.

Worship: Pastor is looking into new communion ware, and a Processional Cross.

Unfinished Business: No new report.

New Business: David Hufford is working and the schedule for this year's On Being Lutheran classes, books and materials. (*Editors note: See schedule in this newsletter*)

Announcements: Grace hosted the tri-council meeting on Thursday, September 20th.

Fall has arrived. It is at this time of the year that I begin to reflect on the produce that I have received from my garden. I have planted much the same over the last ten years. Each year it is an adventure to see how well my little garden does.

This is also a wonderful time to reflect on the principles of stewardship. How well have I done in being responsible and responsive to the growth God has given to me. There is a wonderful principle called the 80-10-10 principle.



The 80-10-10 principle says that God provides everything I need. I can learn to live on 80 percent of the income that I receive. I can save 10 percent for my future needs. I can be generous with 10 percent.

Mary and I have practiced this principle now for many years. It requires that I learn to live within the resources that God gives to us. As I look back, I am amazed at God's faithfulness. I have lacked nothing. Oh sure, I would like a number of other things, but I have not lacked the things I needed.



It reminds me of a true story that I read recently about potato farming in Northern China many years ago. I want to tell you the story because I think it illustrates my point.

It seems that they always planted their potatoes, not from seed, but from their leftover potatoes from the previous year. They would cut up the previous year's leftovers and plant them in the soil for the new year's crop. They did this year after year, until someone got the bright idea of sorting out all of the biggest and best for eating and putting aside of the very smallest potatoes and using them for the next year's planting. Of course, they didn't know anything about genetics, but the problem as you might guess, is that after several years of doing this, the crop that they raised was only small potatoes.

I sometimes wonder if we are like those potato farmers. Do we simply keep the biggest and best for ourselves and plant only the smallest of our gifts for others?

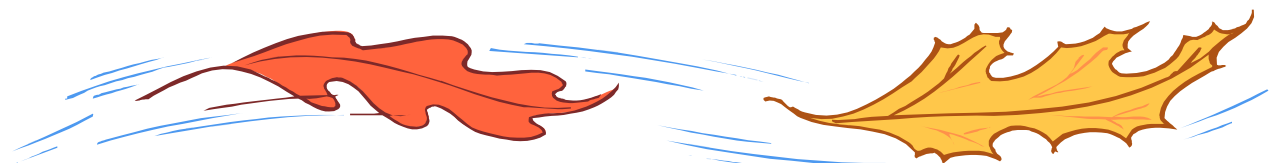
May we consider the 80-10-10 principle as a beginning of our fall stewardship.

Pastor Laaker

"The world asks, 'What does a man own?'"

Christ asks, 'How does he use it?'"

Andrew Murray (1828-1917), South African evangelist and writer





ELCA
River City Renewal
October 10 - 12, 2007
"It's For You"!!

Has your life become stale over the past months? Are you going here and there, with no purpose? Do you have too many appointments, and too little time? Are you ready to just throw up your hands in despair?

Jesus said, "I have come that you may have life, and have it abundantly." What more could we hope for? What more could we ask for? Abundant Life!

River City Renewal is Jesus' special invitation to be refreshed and renewed in your faith. Join your friends from St Timothy's, Morning Star and First Lutheran for inspirational music, an encouraging message from a guest ELCA pastor, and a time of prayer designed just for you. There will be a special focus for children to help them grow in their faith walk.

Three Evenings of Renewal and Worship
Three Unique Events!
One Purpose, One Spirit!

Wednesday, October 10 at St Timothy's Lutheran (93rd and Dodge)
5:30 p.m. Meal
6:30 p.m. Renewal Worship

Thursday, October 11 at Morning Star Lutheran (331 South 85th Ave)
5:30 p.m. Meal
6:30 p.m. Renewal Worship

Friday, October 12 at First Lutheran (542 South 31 Street)
5:30 p.m. Block Party
7:00 p.m. Renewal Worship

River City Renewal will renew you through the Sacrament and the Word.

Affirming your Covenant will renew you.
The Sacrament of Communion will refresh you.
The Word will equip you for Spirit-filled living.

Refreshing Spirit, Let it Flow!!

W/ELCA Board Meeting

Monday October 1, 2007

1:00 p.m.

Hostess: Gertrude Hufford

Circle Meeting

October

Bible Study - Barb Narducci

Hostess - Barb Nelson



*Women of the Evangelical
Lutheran Church in America*

Quilting on Mondays! at 9:00 a.m. for Lutheran World Relief.

If you have the morning free, drop by and help cut squares and tie quilt tops on to the backs. Coffee break is at 10:00 a.m.

You Don't Know What You're Missing!



Lutheran Women of Omaha Luncheon

October 9th

12 Noon

\$6.00 per person

at

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

6430 North 30th Street

Good Food and a Musical Program

The Offuttaires

(group of singing active duty and retired military wives)

The offering will go to Lutheran World Relief

Reservations by Sunday, October 7th to

Lorraine Palma (455-4342) or Mardelle Gocek (292-1328)



There are two theories about arguing with women.
Neither one works.





Prayer Requests

for Family and Friends

- ♦ Frances Campsey - Pray for strength. as her wrist continues to heal from an accident. (member)
- ♦ Ambros Lado - **Praise Item!** Ambros is living at home after being in rehab for his stroke for almost 10 months. Ambros continues to work at the church for an hour or two a week , doing some light cleaning. (member)
- ♦ Kathryn Reichert - Healing for her cancer. (Granddaughter of Don and Norma Olson)
- ♦ Andrew Edwards - Doing dialysis a couple times a week until a kidney can be found. (member)
- ♦ Rex Olson - for healing as he deals with cancer. (relative of members, Don and Norma Olson)
- ♦ Rose Hamilton - Healing for her cancer. (Aunt of members, Andrew and Christi Edwards)
- ♦ Linda Whitney - Struggling with on-going cancer. (Friend of LaVonne Moss)
- ♦ Ernie Olson - On-going therapy after his stroke. Pray for help as he is trying to find another job that will enable him to continue gaining strength. (member)
- ♦ (member)
- ♦ Family of Darlene Spahr - Darlene went home to the Lord on September 19th. (member, Brenda Spahr's mother-in-law.)
- ♦ Betty Coniglio - Continued recovery from heart issues. (member)
- ♦ Seth Goodman -**Praise Item!** Seth is enrolled in a medical treatment center for his addictions. (Nephew of Pam Reents.)
- John Springborg - For treatment of serious viral infection. (Nephew of Don and Pam Reents)
- Pauline Cooper - For treatment after a fall and stroke. (Relative of Don and Pam Reents)
- Teri Briley - Recently diagnosed with cancer. (member and daughter of Gloria and Richard Moore)

Pray for our Shut - ins and Nursing Home residents:

Alice Friedlander - Pray for healing. Alice fell in mid-August and is recovering at the Good Samaritan Home.

Harlan Morter

Evelyn Reimer

Lola Harsin

Mae Lane

Thelma Harrahill - (In Kansas with her children)

Richard Moore - **Praise item!** Richard is out of the hospital and back at the St Joe Villa ..



Remember These Shut-Ins

Pray for wisdom for your Church Council here at Grace Church.

Pray for strength and spiritual wisdom for the leaders in the local church and the Nebraska Synod:

Pastor Laaker

Bishop David deFreese, Nebraska Synod

Bishop Mark Hanson, ELCA Bishop, United States

- ♦ Pray for the Sudanese community in general. Pray that the elders in the church community will have wisdom in their counsel. Titus Duli, David Nange and Silas Tuw are the elders for the Sudanese Worshipping Community.

We Need Updates! Please Contact the church office.

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

News from the Families of Grace Lutheran Church



October 28th is Pastor Appreciation Sunday!

A Card Shower
is planned after worship
during the coffee fellowship.

Use this opportunity to share an encouraging word with
Pastor Damon and Mary.

Dearest Friends and Saints of God at Grace Lutheran,

Thank you for the outpouring of love and best wishes at my 50th birthday party. The kind words and gifts were but a small sampling of the love God has given me through the people of Grace Church and my extended family. I was humbled and then reminded that God has a plan for every one of us. He brought me here to serve Him and to serve you. Though my life may be a little more than half over, God showed me that He will always be with me, both intimately and through the love of His people...That's you !

Thanks you for celebrating with my family and I. God has blessed us all!

Your Sister in Christ,
Pam Reents, Church Secretary

Joint Thanksgiving Service



On November 23rd, Grace Lutheran Church will be participating in combined Thanksgiving worship at 7:00 p.m. at Wheeler Memorial Presbyterian Church 4501 South 23rd Street.

Several South Omaha churches will come together on Thanksgiving Eve to pray, sing and lift up their corporate thanks to God for the manifold blessings showered upon us all.

The speakers for the evening will be Pastors John and Johanna Pook who are corps officers, pastors and captains for the Salvation Army

Come Celebrate!

Halloween Party
October 26, 2007
7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Grace Lutheran Church
1326 South 26 St.
Omaha, NE



Admission is \$2.00 per person.
Includes refreshments and 10 game tickets

Ring Toss
Mummy Wrap
Bingo
Cake Walk
Candy Dash
and more!

Use your tickets to play games.
Additional game tickets
are 10 cents each
Win Prizes.



Prizes for Best Costume

- Scariest
- Funniest
- Prettiest
- Most Creative



Plans are underway for this year's Halloween Party.

Your help is needed. Please look over the list below and help where you can.

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

Items needed for the Halloween Party . . .

Costume Contest Prizes

Prizes are needed in each of the categories below.

- Prettiest
- Scariest
- Funniest
- Most Creative

Prizes should cost around \$2.00 to \$5.00 each, and be something that can be used for Halloween, or have a Halloween theme. Suggestions: Flashlights, creepy toys like spiders, ghouls, etc., pumpkin carving kits, decorations, pumpkins.

Game Prizes

Approximate TOTAL Cost is in parentheses for those who would rather donate money.

Feel free to donate any amount!

Hundreds of trinkets (penny-nickel-dime stuff) for carnival games (approx. value \$50.00)

Dum-dum suckers for the "Lollipop Tree"

Bottles of pop (2 liter or smaller) for "Ring Toss"

Cakes for the "Cake Walk"

White Elephants or desirable give-always for "Bingo"

Miscellaneous

Toilet Paper for the "Mummy Wrap"

Cellophane treat bags for popcorn and candy

Cash. A donation container will be placed in the back of the church each Sunday beginning Oct. 1st.

Look for an announcement
in the church bulletin for the
party planning meeting
in the coming weeks.

Please contact Janet Hula
with questions, 733-1142.

Refreshments

3 large bags of Vic's Popcorn (approx. value \$10.00 per bag)

8 gallons of Punch or Apple Cider (approx. value \$20.00)

20+ bags of wrapped Halloween candies for "Candy Dash" and treat bags (approx. value \$60.00)

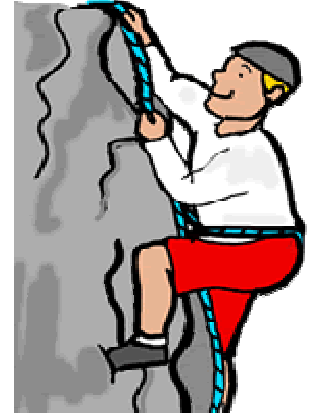
Cookies!! Homemade or store bought, they all seem to get eaten.

Volunteers

Most importantly, your **time** is needed in planning and participating the night of the party.

Last year, we had nearly 150 folks in attendance. As you can imagine, lots of volunteers are needed to ensure that the party runs smoothly and will be fun for all (approx. value – *priceless!*). A sign up sheet is posted on the bulletin board. All are welcome!

Grace Church Summer Reading Club "Climb to New Heights" Sweet Treat Social



Congratulations to our readers!

Here are list of names of all the youth and adults that participated
in the reading club this summer .

Winners!

(Feet = Pages)

- No One participated in the Read to Me Club
- 1st grade - 3rd grade category - Andrea Spahr (461 ft.)
- 4th grade - 6th grade category - Donovan Halfhill (493 ft.)
- 7th grade - 12th grade - Julia Traynor (968 ft.)
- Adult - Eva Martin (3,321 ft.)

Other Participants

Marissa Halfhill
Shaban Lado
Shedu Lado
Diana Ortiz
Jesus Ortiz
Don Olson

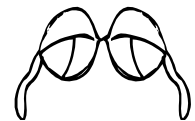
Pam Reents
Brenda Spahr
Gertrude Hufford
Janet Hula
Margie Sutej

The Sweet Treat Social and Library Award Celebration was held on September 23rd after church. Everyone in the categories listed were awarded certificates and a bookmark. The winners in each category received extra prizes. All the children and adults who read the minimum number of pages required received free ice cream.

WELL DONE, EVERYONE!
Keep Reading and your "adventures" will continue!

My grandson, Chris, has worn glasses since the age of three. When he was in the first grade he came home one day very distressed. Wanting to find out what was the matter his mother asked, "Chris, what happened today to upset you so?"

He answered, "It's not fair that I'm not allowed to go to the library."



His mother became very concerned and asked, "Why aren't you allowed to go to the library?"

With a tearful reply he said, "Because, in order to go to the library you have to have super-vision, and I wear glasses!"

<http://www.gcfl.net>

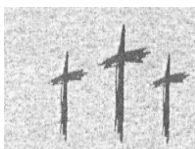
ONE MORE CHANCE!

Because of so many requests, the Library Board offering one more chance order shirts.

T-shirts
Sweatshirts
Polos
Sizes - S-XXXL



is
to



**All Orders are
Due October 30th.**

*Sponsored by the
Grace Lutheran Library Board.*

Contact Barb Nelson or Marsha Moyer for pricing information or other information. An order sheet is posted outside the Library.

English as a Second Language Partners Needed!



Grace Lutheran Church is changing the ESL program this year from a formal classroom setting to a one-on-one format.

We are looking for people who are willing to:

- partner with immigrants from the Sudanese and Hispanic Communities in learning English.
- help acclimate them to American life.

As a partner, you will be paired with one person. The meeting time and hours spent are determined by you and the student.

You do not need any experience! If you completed grade school, you have more than enough skills to help our friends learn basic English and life skills..

For more information, contact either the church office at graceluth@graceluth.com (341-7730,) Mary Laaker at mary@laaker.com (342-2610) or Vicki Cox at vcox48@cox.net (333-5980.)

Back by Popular Demand! Supplies are Limited. Order Today!

Buy Your 2007 God's Creation Calendar Today!
Fundraiser for the Grace Lutheran Church Library

Each calendar contains beautiful scenic photography enhanced with inspiring Scriptures from the Holy Bible.

Some features of our popular 12-month, 28 page calendar include:

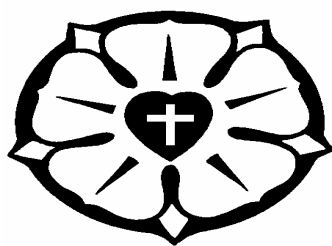
- 12"x9" pages
- high-quality, heavy-weight stock
- gloss-coated photo pages
- matte-finished calendar grid pages
- a superb writing surface
- ample space to write appointments
- a special page for important phone numbers
- 2005 - 2007 year-at-a-glance calendars



Only \$5.00!

A sign up sheet has been posted to take your order!

Our Calendars are here and ready for pick up!



Join Us for “ON BEING LUTHERAN” SECOND YEAR 2007-2008

Dave Hufford would like to welcome any and all persons who would like to participate in the second year of the “On Being Lutheran” class. It is not necessary to have been in the class the first year, since every chapter is self-contained and on a single topic. Last year we had several drop-ins. Please sign up on the list in the hall by the office, because we will need to know how many new books to buy. We are using the book by Timothy Lull: *On Being Lutheran: Reflections on Church, Theology, and Faith*, Augsburg Fortress, 2006.

The class meets 7:00-8:00PM on selected Tuesday evenings throughout the school year, avoiding conflicts with other scheduled events.

See David Hufford for further information.

(tentative syllabus)

Unit II: Lutheran and Evangelical

<u>September 18, 2007</u>	<u>Organizational Meeting and Recapitulation of last year</u>
October 2, 2007	Chapter 15: Rebuilding Lutheran Piety
	Chapter 16: Ready for your Lutheran Checkup (On Your Own)
October 30, 2007	Chapter 17: Lutheran Thinkers: What's It All About, Martin?
November 27, 2007	Chapter 18: The Gospel Truth about Being Evangelical

Unit III: The ELCA at Five (and beyond)

<u>December 4, 2007</u>	<u>Chapter 19: Reason to Believe</u>
December 18, 2007	Chapter 20: Ten Signs of Hope
January 15, 2008	Chapter 21: The Church That Bounces Back
February 19, 2008	Chapter 22: A Large House, a Larger Attic
March 4, 2008	Chapter 23: Keys That Unlock the Bible
March 18, 2008	Chapter 24: God's Radical Work
April 1, 2008	Chapter 25: Luther's Great Discovery
April 15, 2008	Chapter 26: Holy Extravagance
May 6, 2008	Chapter 27: Freedom and Vocation
May 20, 2008	Chapter 28: Servant or Lord?
June 3, 2008	Chapter 29: To Confess

Very Encouraging thought...

There are three billion women who don't look like super models and ONLY eight who do.





"Helping Hands"

Working Together in God's service

Pantry Needs

Project Hope
4205 Boyd St
Omaha, NE 68111

Project Hope
The Theme for October is
Canned Fruit, Fresh squash & Pumpkins.

Project Hope always needs boxes of zip lock bags in quart or gallon size, soup, peanut butter, macaroni, pasta, rice, diapers, bathroom tissue and feminine hygiene items.

We Need Empty Ice Cream Buckets!

Project Hope puts baby items in them when they fill pantry orders.



Annual Church Women United Nut & Candy Sale
Benefit for Uta Halle Girls Home

Just in time for Holiday Baking...or snacking! ☺

Place your order by October 7 for delivery in late October.

Payment for your order will be due upon delivery.

(Another order will go in on November 11 for delivery before Christmas.)

A sign up sheet has been placed on the bulletin board in the UFH.

Contact LaVonne Moss at 556-4131 for more information.



**Nebraska Lutheran
World Relief Ingathering
November 5-7, 2007**

What to donate:

- ◆ Quilts and blankets
- ◆ Light and medium weight clothing for men and children.
- ◆ Sweaters of all kinds for men, women and children.
- ◆ Pieces of woven or synthetic blend fabric large enough to make a dress.
- ◆ Soap in ORIGINAL wrapper.

Please make sure all items donated are clean and in good shape. Bring your donations to the church and put them by the pantry shelves.

We are asking that all donations be at the church by 9:00 a.m. Monday, November 6th so that the boxes can be packed, labeled and taken out to Brown Transfer. If you wish to volunteer to help get the items ready for shipment, contact Marilyn and Jerry Van Ormer through the church office at 341-7730.

25th Annual Omaha Crop Walk

Sunday, October 14, 2007 Beginning at 1:30 p.m.

Starting from First Christian Church

6630 Dodge Street Omaha, NE

Sponsor a Walker! Several people from Grace Church including our Confirmation Kids are waling this year. Their pledge forms are located in the sanctuary on the back table. 25% of the money raised will go to the pantry system here in Omaha! The rest goes out to feed the world!



Day

Saturday

November 10th. 2007

For every
50 booklets sold,
the Lutheran Pantry
receives \$250.00!

It's that easy to raise
money to fight hunger
in the Metro!

Younkers Community Day Saturday, November 10th

Buy a \$5.00 Booklet and get a \$10.00 Coupon!
Your \$5.00 will go to the Lutheran Pantry.

Each booklet contains a \$10 coupon good on almost any merchandise item priced at \$10 or more (customers spend \$5 for the booklet and get \$10 back on their first purchase!), plus eight 20% off coupons and offers for three great bonus items, available on Community Day only. All coupons are valid on top of the already low One Day Sale prices.

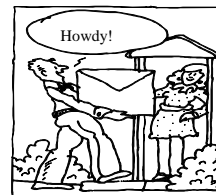
You are encouraged to purchase multiple Community Day Event packets! A coupon is required for each item selected to receive the \$10.00 off or the extra 20%.

Presale Event

This year, you can pre-select your merchandise during the week preceding the Community Day Event. From November 3rd through November 9th, all community day packet holders may go "shopping" and pre-select merchandise for pick up on November 10th as early as 6:00 a.m. Why a pre-sale? So that you can be completely satisfied with your purchase i.e. the right size, color, gift wrapped, sent etc.

Contact the Church office or Pastor Laaker
for Coupon Booklets!

Community News



Columbus Park Neighborhood Association

October 18, 2007
7:00 p.m.
Grace Lutheran Church
1326 S 26 St.



**Membership dues are only
\$5.00 a year per household!**

CPNA
1326 S 26 Street
Omaha, NE 68105

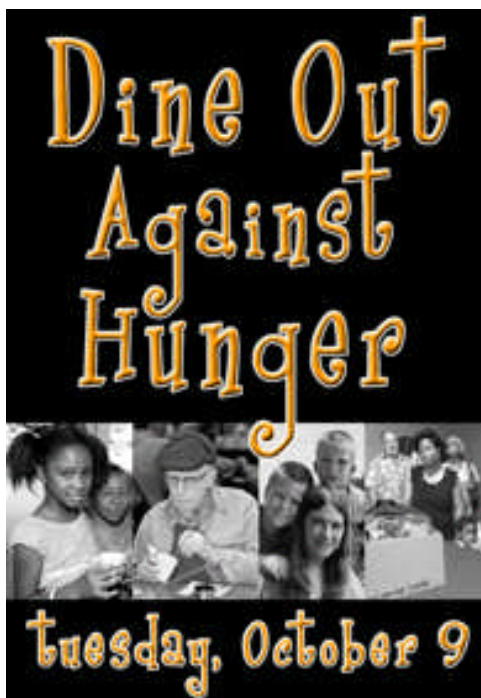
Call 341-7730 for more information.

**4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Monday thru Thursday**

**Kindergarten through 6th grade kids!
Games, Crafts, and Fun
Free!**

Director, Brenda Spahr
A Safe Haven & A Safe Place to Play!

**Note: If there is no OPS school,
there is no After School Program.**



Over 100 restaurants pledged to donate 10% of the day's proceeds on Tuesday, October 9th, to The Food Bank. Be sure to mention that you applaud the restaurant's support of Dine Out Against Hunger.

Here is a partial list of restaurants participating:

All area Runzas, all Scooters, Petrows, Lums, Lanskys, CiCi's Pizza, Lo Sole Mio, Culvers, Spaghetti Works, Valentino's, Zio's Pizza, Bohemian Café, Ethnic Sandwich Shop, Big Horn Mountain BBQ, Joe Tess, Dundee Dell, Dinkers Bar and Grill, Johnnys Café, Old Chicago and Julio's.

A **complete list** of all the participating restaurants is posted on the bulletin board.

or

Go to <http://www.omahafoodbank.org> and click on the Dine Out link for a complete updated list.

Stress Free Christmas Gift Giving



Having trouble deciding what to get that loved one who has “everything” they need?

How about donating to Global Health Ministries in the name of your recipient?

Perhaps this year, you and those special people on your gift list could “Help bring peace, healing and hope” to people around the world with a gift to Global Health Ministries.

Christmas Card Packets are available on the back table in the Sanctuary.

The gift card packet includes:

- A folded card (8” x 5.15” in color) with an envelope to mail to the person you are honoring.
- A donation form with options for gift allocation and envelope to mail to GHM.

Your Christmas donation helps cover the cost of:

- Facilities for patient care
- Mosquito netting to protect a family from malaria
- Monthly subsidy for a remote clinic
- Drilling a village well
- Training cost for nurses, technicians and other health care personnel
- Combating the spread of HIV/AIDS and supporting those already affected

Did you know?

Grace Church gets newsletters from many of the ELCA Church in the metro and from several other non profit organizations.

These Newsletters are available to read on the table in the UFH by the comfy chairs in the corner. It’s a great way to find out how our sister churches are doing around the city!



When?

A boy, frustrated with all the rules he had to follow, asked his father, "Dad, how soon will I be old enough to do as I please?"

The father answered immediately, "I don't know. Nobody has lived that long yet."

<http://www.oneliners-and-proverbs.com/>

**A dream is just a dream.
A goal is a dream with a plan and a deadline.**

(Harvey Mackay) <http://www.oneliners-and-proverbs.com/>



FAITH
IN ACTION

"A neighbor's independence
depends on you"

Call to Action!! What Will You Do?

Faith In Action is an interdenominational organization committed to helping neighbors in need. Do you have a skill to share with someone?: Reaching out to your neighbor is the first step to being blessed by giving and then receiving blessings from those you serve.

Do you like to cook? Or when you cook, do your recipes make too much and you would like to share instead of eating the same leftovers all week? The *Faith in Action* program has several care receivers who are in need of home cooked meals. If this is a service you would be interested in providing, please let me know. This can be something done once a week, once a month or even just once!

God Bless!

Julie Chytil, Program Coordinator
faithinaction2005@hotmail.com (English)

Olga Jaimes, Outreach Worker
faithinactionofih@hotmail.com (Spanish)

www.fiavolunteers.org

Spiced

Pumpkin Seeds

- 1 1/2 tablespoons margarine, melted
 - 1/2 teaspoon salt
 - 1/8 teaspoon garlic salt
 - 2 teaspoons Worcestershire sauce
 - 2 cups raw whole pumpkin seeds
1. Preheat oven to 275 degrees F (135 degrees C).
 2. Combine the margarine, salt, garlic salt, Worcestershire sauce and pumpkin seeds. Mix thoroughly and place in shallow baking dish.
 3. Bake for 1 hour, stirring occasionally.



<http://allrecipes.com/Recipe/Spiced-Pumpkin-Seeds>

Window Seats

At the airport check-in counter I overheard a woman ask for window seats for both she and her husband.

The clerk pointed out that this would prevent them from sitting together.

"Sweetie," the woman replied, "I've just spent 10 days of quality time in a compact rental car with this man. I know what I'm requesting!"



An Apple a day keeps
the doctor away.

But . . .
an onion a day keeps
everyone away.



Interfaith Summer Program Reaches 133 Youth in the South Omaha Area

This summer marked the second Super Kids Club Program, hosted by Interfaith Health Service and Douglas County Health Department. The program, designed to promote physical activity and nutritional education in children from ages 6 to 16, was attended by 133 children from South and North Omaha, Bellevue and Council Bluffs.

Activities included soccer, parachute games, water balloon tosses, food pyramid bingo, arts and crafts, learning systems of the body, dental hygiene day taught by a certified Dental Assistant, sampling of rice cakes, string cheese and other healthy snacks that participants had not tasted, and outings to the swimming pool, bowling alley and Columbus Park.

Again this year, the program was a success in terms of participation and evaluations by youth and parents. We had 37 additional participants this year. To accommodate this increase in participation we were assisted in program design and implementation by 2 interns, Alicia and Michelle, from the Omaha Health Education Center. Alicia is a Junior at the University of Nebraska at Omaha, and Michelle is a pre-med student at the University of Alabama.

Program evaluations by youth participants stated:

"Do you know we came back every night to the program? Because we had fun!"

"There were fun activities and we could run alot."

--"I would not recommend changing a thing in the program. Just do all the things we did all over again."

100% of the children surveyed said that they would like to participate in the program again next year.

Parent evaluations included the following information:

"My children enjoyed the program."

"My son learned about nutrition."

"My daughter only came to exercise class with me to go to the Kids Club."

"Thank you, Interfaith, for helping my children this summer."

100% of the parents surveyed said that they found the program useful for their children.

I found it a gift and grace to have spent the summer with such a tremendous group of young men and women during the evenings. I will miss seeing them. I got to see the special gifts and strengths in each participant.

Since the program finished up with the on-set of school, every single Kids Club participant has stopped by our adult evening classes at least once to chat and check in and talk about the high and lows of starting back to school. A special thanks to Patty Falcone for all her work in planning for the morning Kids Club Programs. Without her dedication, skill and hard work, the program would not have been possible.

Virginia McGill,
Interfaith Director, (402) 660-6689

From the Editor

I deserve what I want so I have the right to:

- cut you off on the highway.
- push in front of you at the store.
- make you wait until it suits me.
- threaten you and bully you into submission.
- make you miserable so that I can get what's mine or what I want!



I know as you read this, you are thinking, “That’s not me! I am a very considerate person” but the truth is all of us have, at one time or another, thrown a “hissy fit.” We have demanded that our needs be met or complained to anyone listening when we didn’t get our way. Most often we expect this behavior in children. Lately, I have been aware of the prevalence of the arrogant, “me first” attitudes among the adult world as well. Just try to go down the street and you will encounter someone whose life must be far more important than yours based on the fact that he/she is unashamed to put your life at risk to get ahead of you. Listen to the news. Some celebrity or politician has decided that because they are so important the law does not apply to them. They lie, cheat, drink and drive, do drugs, hurt their children, steal, use a gun and then act surprised when the police and the court system arrest and punish them.

I have been reading a book written by Max Lucado called, “Facing Your Giants.” Lucado gives insight into the life of King David. Chapter after chapter deals with the different parts of David’s ascension to the throne of Israel. The boy/man who fought a giant, respected King Saul even though Saul was trying to kill him, kept his promise to the king’s son Jonathan, to care for a disabled son, Mephiboseth, and shared the spoils from a battle with soldiers who were too discouraged to fight even risking disfavor with the faithful soldiers who did fight. But most of the good things King David did were overshadowed by his horrific sin...adultery and murder. David’s lust for Bathsheba and his plotting to cover their act show a very different picture of the good king we have been reading about. What happened? David started to believe that the rules didn’t apply to him. David rose too high for his own good. Pride took over. He saw the woman bathing on the roof. He knew she was married. He knew what God said about adultery...but it didn’t matter. He was the king. He felt he deserved to have what he wanted. He slept with Bathsheba, got her pregnant and then had to cover his sin. Too arrogant to obey, too prideful to confess and own his sin before the people, David chose to murder her husband by sending him to the front of the battle and ordering the generals to withdraw and leave him.

God hates pride. He hates arrogance, too. Proverbs 8:13 and Proverbs 16:5 both say so! Why? Because pride, entitlement and arrogance rob God of the credit for the bounties and blessings He has given. Pride says, “I get what I want because I am **SO** important.” True humility is described in Romans 12:3, “Don’t cherish exaggerated ideas of yourself or your importance, but try to have a sane estimate of your capabilities by the light of the faith that God has given you.” (Phillips translation). Humility is the ability to know what to do, know how to do it and realize that God gave you the ability to see it through. It’s His glory not mine! My gifts and talents are given to me. There is no cause for arrogance. What would we be without what God has given? Lost in the world of sin.

It is good to be proud of what God has given you. It is acceptable to enjoy the ability to use your talent to serve God but when it becomes something you hold over people, not looking for their talents or their needs, and only looking at your own, it is sin. I like how Max Lucado said it:

“Humility doesn’t mean you think less of yourself but that you think of yourself less.”

Pam Reents, Editor

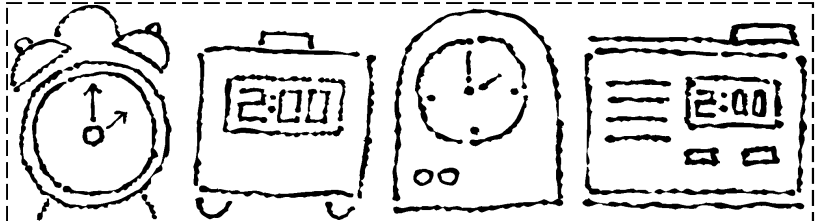


October

October Trivia

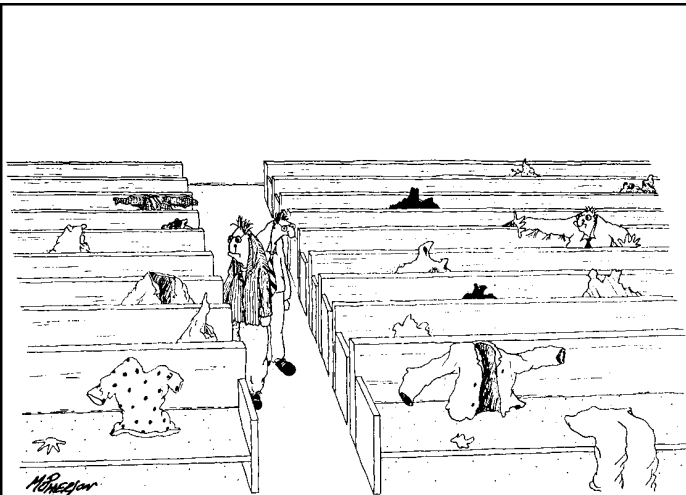
- ☼ has 31 days.
- ☼ 10th month of the year.
- ☼ In the Roman calendar, October was the 8th month and got its name from the word "Octo," meaning eight.
- ☼ Flower - Calendula. (Marigold)
- ☼ Birthstone - Opal or pink tourmaline

Why do they
leave out the
letter b
on
"Garage Sale"
Signs?



DAYLIGHT-SAVING TIME ENDS

**Early Sunday Morning
November 4, 2007**

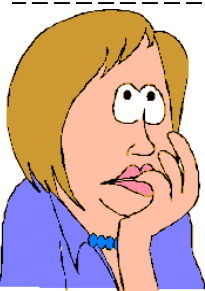


Scandal rocked the Maple Valley Church when it was discovered that the choir had been lip-synching for the last six years.



Life is a roller coaster.

You can either scream every time you hit a bump or you can throw your hands up in the air and enjoy it.



Most of us have a bad habit we are constantly trying to break. For me, it's biting my fingernails. One day I told my husband about my latest solution: press-on nails.

"Great idea, honey," he smiled. "You can eat them straight out of the box."

SYMBOLS & MEANINGS

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

ANTICHRIST	LIFE
ANTS	LIGHT
APOSTATE	OIL
ASHES	PEACE
BEAST	PURITY
BELIEVERS	RAINBOW
BIBLE	REWARD
BODY	ROCK
BONDAGE	SACKCLOTH
BREAD	SALT
CHRIST	SERPENT
CHURCH	SHEEP
CROWN	SICKLE
DEVIL	SIN
DOGS	SORROW
DOVE	SWINE
DRAGON	TREE
FIRE	TRUMPET
GOAT	UNCLEAN
HOLY SPIRIT	WAR
JUDGMENT	WATER
LAMB	WHITE
LAMP	WIND
LEAVEN	WISDOM
WOMAN	

WOMAN

Psalm 89

Psalm 89

COPYRIGHT 2007 PEACEFULL PUBLICATIONS

Answer to Word Search Hidden Sentence: "Father, my God, the Rock my Savior"

October

- 2 & 30 - *On Being Lutheran* Bible Study
- 9 - Dine out against Hunger.
- 10 - Prayer Service for Healing.
- 14 - Crop Walk.
- 26 - Church Halloween Party.
- 28 - Pastor Appreciation Sunday and Reformation Sunday.



Remember, worth and value are
not wrapped up in what you do.
You are not a human doing.
You are a human being.

<http://www.oneliners-and-proverbs.com/>

Some people attend church three times
in their lives:

**when they're hatched,
when they're matched,
and when they're dispatched.**