

News of Grace

Monthly Newsletter ♦ May 2017

Grace Lutheran's Purpose Statement

"We share God's love by welcoming all and making a Christ-like difference in our community and world."



Alan Freel, Darlene Freel, Gar Nicholls, Bunny Lyon, Judy Kautz, Debbie Anderson,

Marilyn Whitscell, Erv Simi, Jeanette Grove, Elfie Jahnke, Lorraine Leathead, Gloria

Moore, Dave Chroninger, Harold & Jean Kissau, Jim Malaski, Karen & Walter Spigelmyre, Dorothy Gentry, Emma Nelson, Julie Troy, Alice, Brad Grove, Mimi, Dick Sanders, Herb Schiller, Trapp Truman, Kevin Salesman, Jeff Lee, David Schaedig, Bishop Craig Satterlee, Cody Gustin, Eric Carlson, Martin Suszek, Larry Beaudoin, Shirley Johnson, Mike Knoblett, Dennis Diamond, and Richard G.

Our prayer list is redone each month. If you, or a family member, would like to continue on the prayer list, please call the office (354-2640).



Parking at Grace in May

Parking at Grace continues to be interesting as Third Avenue from Washington to Lewis is being rebuilt. I am asking all that are able to walk a little bit, to park further from the church. Even if you arrive early and find spaces on Dunbar or in the parking lot, would you leave those spaces for any guests or those who might find distance difficult. A bit of hospitality for each other and the stranger in our midst.

Thank you,
Pastor Tom



SUNDAY SCHOOL

Our last day for Sunday School, until Fall, will be May 7.

The Sixth Community Celebrating and Sharing Dinner

Thank you to all who helped in making the Celebrating and Sharing Community Dinner a success! It is always amazing how volunteers give of their time and efforts, along with those who attend who enjoy the fellowship, food and bidding. Jon Benson and his crew surely put on a wonderful meal and we are so blessed. The benefits of this event are countless and we want to thank everyone who participated! More details to follow.

A special thank you from the Auction Committee for the many wonderful donations received for the Chinese raffle and silent auction. Your generosity was greatly appreciated and truly helped make this a successful event!





This is a big pain. (Or words to that effect!!!)

That came to mind a couple of times recently. When our phone and internet service was cut. And as we live with the Third Avenue reconstruction project.

At least for the phone and internet service, it was restored in only a few days. You can function, if not as you are used to or wish. And as for Third Avenue, well it has been a bit inconvenient (but not as much as those living on those 2 blocks of Third).

Both were or are going to be relatively short in the scheme of things, even in just the scheme of this year.

We need to be getting on with getting on. We need to look at the big picture, keeping in mind where we are going. That keeps in perspective the little things of the day to day or the week to week or even the month to month.

I often think about God and God's plan. And how long God has been waiting to see what God wants for humankind and creation. I am more than glad that God can bear with a bit of this is a big pain.

As I work on some of the projects I am involved with, can we have a long enough view to be part of the solution without knowing what the ultimate solution will be, let alone seeing the change completely implemented and living in it? Or have we come to see immediate solutions as the norm and only thing worthwhile, not even bothering with something that goes beyond us and our time?

There are many ways that Christians do see beyond ourselves. We see it in life eternal, without knowing or even being able to truly envision what that means. We make our best imaginings with the answer to come, always trusting in God. We do it in the promises that the Kingdom of God has come near and is at hand. And want to believe that and live that with all our hearts, yet we can not quite comprehend how that would be.

Ultimately I think we are people of the future. Not just the distant future of life eternal. Rather also of the future just around the corner. After we get beyond this big pain. And the next big pain. And maybe a few after that. Each big thing, and each little one, gives us the chance to grow toward that future. We live them in God's promises to us and for us. In God's gifts to us and for all the world.

May we each not be put off by pains of the moment, or of not seeing God's end to Kingdom building. Rather may we sense God at work and knowing and trusting God's work is happening.

Thanks be to God

Pastor Tom

GRACE EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH

Staff & Leadership Telephone Numbers

CHURCH OFFICE	354-2640
Rev. Tom Orth.....	Home.....	356-8729
.....	Cell.....	916-8759
Office Manager.....	Peggy Tomaszewski.....	255-8850
Music Director	Berniece Lyon.....	464-7064

ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD

President.....	Tom Lappan.....	356-3718
Vice-President	Rick Engstrom	916-5963
Exec. Secretary	Sandy Malaski.....	356-6248
Treasurer	Don Barnard	340-1055

WORK GROUP LEADERS/COUNCIL

Education.....	Elsa Phillips	884-1809
Worship	Sharon Engstrom	354-5133
Discipleship	Joelyn Rich	340-0592
Property	Jeff Welch.....	595-2195
Fellowship.....	Jeanne Pankey	354-2416
.....	Pat Schultz	356-2781
Finance.....	Dennis Werblow.....	354-5560

OTHER V.I.P.s

Stewardship... ..	Wayne Christopherson....	356-0430
Youth Director	Vicki Denstaedt	916-9258
WELCA	Darleen Freel.....	354-8866
.....	Dorothy Hansen.....	354-3563
Samaritas.....	Kay Grove	727-2054
Quilters.....	Caroline Weise.....	354-8060
.....	Dorothy Hansen.....	354-3563
LARCC	Eleanor Coddington.....	354-8766
.....	Sandy Welch	916-5006

Exploring Lutheranism &

Grace Lutheran

For New Members and
"Old" (yet young at heart) Members

Interested in learning more about Lutheran tradition and Grace Lutheran in particular? Join us on two Thursday evenings, May 18 and 25 at 6:30 p.m. The evenings are geared toward people considering joining Grace. Yet everyone is invited to learn more about Lutheran history in this the year of the 500th commemoration of the Reformation.

See Pastor Tom for more info.

Spring Clean-Up

May 6, 2017

9 a.m. to Noonish

(Church will be open at 8 a.m.
for those who can begin earlier)



- Interior cleaning as usual (rain or shine).
- Garden(s) clean up and raking.
- Parking lot fence repair.
- Clean up behind the parish education building. The side facing the neighbors behind our church.

--No driveway brick work this year.--

We need as many hands as possible.
Many hands make light work!

Worship Work Group Survey

Time and Talent survey sheets are included in this newsletter and available on the information table in the Narthex. Please fill one out if you are willing to help in any of the areas. (Training will be provided.) **Please note that only those completing a survey will be included on the new schedules, so if you are willing to help in any of the areas listed, please complete the form to help us with scheduling.** Be sure to check any areas in which you are already involved along with any new areas in which you are willing to serve. Surveys may be turned in to the church office or placed in the offering plate. If you have any questions please contact Sharon Engstrom or the church office.



Graduating?

Are you, or is someone you know, graduating? Please drop the information off at the church office (or email the office at officemanager@gracelutheran-

alpena.org) including the name, graduation date, institution of learning, and future plans of the graduate. We would like to publish this information in our June newsletter.



Thank you so much for your support, care and kindness and your cards, thoughts and prayers during this time of my surgery and recovery. Your thoughtfulness is greatly appreciated.

Elsa Phillips

Outreach and Mission - Local

Discipleship



Items Needed:

- * Tuna & Tuna Helper
- * Peanut Butter & Jelly
- * Pancake Mix & Syrup
(Just add water kind)
- * Elbow Macaroni

The collection basket is located outside the church office. All items collected will be donated to Trinity Episcopal's food pantry.

Walk Me Home Event

Saturday, June 10 at 9:00 a.m. at the Duck Park

We will again need workers and walkers/runners. This year we will have a prize also for the funniest hat worn. Mark your calendars for June 10th!!!

See the full page insert in this newsletter for more information.

Loving Care Members

Please continue to remember our Loving Care Members with a call, visit or card!!! Thanks to all who participated in the Flurry of Cards for Easter.



Samaritas project for April - June. The Samaritas large wicker basket is by the door in the Narthex. We are collecting underwear and socks for 2 year olds through age 13. **This project is for the Foster Children of Samaritas.**

Bread Weekend returns the weekend of May 20-21. All members are encouraged to bake and buy bread. Thanks for your support of this ministry!

Noisy Offering continues to be the 4th weekend of the month. One of our projects we support with this money is our World Vision sponsored child, Ishimwe.

April 2017

Finances

GENERAL FUND	\$ 18,733.50
BUILDING FUND	1,488.67
CHRISTIAN GROWTH	13.00
OTHER	3,903.46
TOTAL	\$ 24,138.63

Attendance

SATURDAY WORSHIP (4)	141
SUNDAY WORSHIP (4)	320
EASTER SATURDAY	40
EASTER SUNDAY	136
TOTAL	637



Saturday, June 10th - 9 a.m.

Duck Park., Chisholm and Long Rapids Rd., Alpena,

**4th Annual
5K Walk/Run**

1st, 2nd & 3rd place medals male & female for each group

- ◆ 12 and under
- ◆ 13-19
- ◆ 20-39
- ◆ 40+

Prizes for First & Second place overall
winner for Walkers and Runners

Walk Me Home is about raising awareness of the needs of foster children in Northeast Michigan. Walk Me Home Northeast Michigan will raise funds to support the life changing programs and activities for foster children provided by

Child & Family Services of Northeast Michigan.

**To register or donate to this walk, go to the
Walk Me Home site at:**

www.firstgiving.com/walkmehome/nemichigan2017

**where you can create a team of family members, classmates,
friends, or business associates, join a team or donate.**

**Walk Me Home
Northeast Michigan
Partner**

Grace Lutheran Church

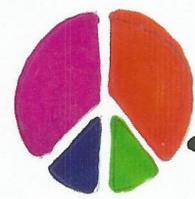
119 W. Dunbar Street Alpena, MI 49707

Call Child & Family Services NEMI 989-356-4567 for more information

We are looking for workers and for people to sign up and walk/run!!!
Sign up sheets for workers and walkers/runners are available in the Narthex.



BUILDING



peace · tolerance ·
Community



✓ FREE EVENT

✓ FOOD, BEVERAGES for purchase

- MUSIC
- POETRY
- SPEAKERS
- ACTIVITIES FOR YOUTH AND THE YOUNG AT HEART.....

PLACE : 124 FLETCHER STREET

DATE : JUNE 3, 2017

TIME : 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM

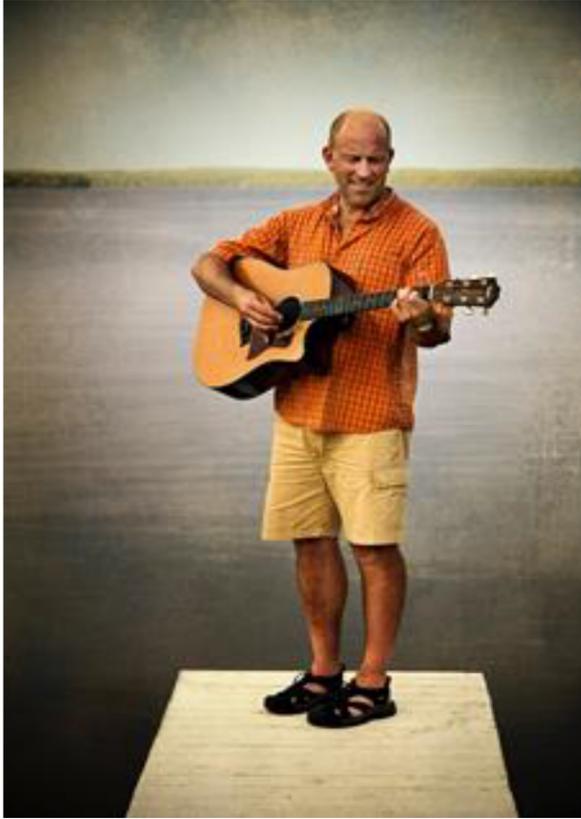
for more information

989-464-6211 OR 989-255-9541

CHAD J. SZATKOWSKI ©

“An Evening of Story & Song”

Friday, May 19, at 7:30 pm @
First Congregational UCC in Alpena



Toby Jones, the minister of the U.C.C. church in Gaylord, shown here with his guitar near his home in Harbor Springs, together with his talented keyboardist **Rokko** & bass-guitarist **Joanna**, will present a concert, open to the public at no cost on **Friday, May 19** from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. at the First Congregational U.C.C. (201 S. Second Ave., Alpena, MI 49707).

They will tell stories related to the songs they perform such as by: the Beatles, James Taylor, Jackson Browne, Bob Dylan, Don Henley, Dan Fogelberg, and Crosby, Stills, Nash, & Young.

Plan to attend and please invite your friends and neighbors.

Toby Jones, a minister by day and a rock-n-roller by night, wrote the book **“The Gospel According to Rock”** in 2007. Not only is Toby Jones a Princeton-trained theologian, but he’s also been performing rock music professionally for over 30 years. Toby is uniquely qualified to explore popular secular rock’s surprising connections with the Christian gospel.

Toby Jones will also lead a Saturday morning seminar on May 20 (9:00 am to Noon): **“Challenges Facing Christian Churches Today”** The first 90 minutes will focus on **“Understanding Islam in Relation to Christianity”** followed by 90 minutes about *becoming a “spiritual movement”* based on Brian D. McLaren’s book **“The Great Spiritual Migration.”** Register at (989) 356-1795.

You may also enjoy reading Toby Jones’s (2010) book: **“The Way of Jesus: Re-forming Spiritual Communities in a Post-Church Age.”**

The public is invited. There is no charge to attend either event.
Costs are underwritten by a grant from the Comstock Fund of the First Congregational UCC of Alpena.



Pedal for a Purpose Michigan 2017

A Hunger Ride in the Mitten Synod

**You are invited to ride and
support**

Pedal for a Purpose Michigan 2017 is a 4-day bicycling tour to deepen awareness of World Hunger, challenge giving to ELCA World Hunger, and enhance physical fitness. The ride will begin and end at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Mt. Pleasant and will visit 10 churches in the Bay Conference.

May 18—Mt. Pleasant to Gladwin to Rhodes

May 19—Rhodes to Bay City to Vassar

May 20—Vassar to Bridgeport to Saginaw to Freeland to Midland

May 21—Midland to Mt. Pleasant, ending at the Synod Assembly

May 21—Pedal for a Purpose Fitness Ride (7 miles)

A small group of riders will be riding the entire route (about 225 miles) and other riders may join for a day or just a few hours. Cyclists of all abilities are welcome. **A 7-mile Fitness Ride** will ride from the Comfort Inn to Immanuel Lutheran and ride back with the Tour Riders.

To register or for more information, contact Rev. Erick Johnson:
erickj74@gmail.com, (517-474-1877)

Contributions are welcome:

Online: ELCA.org/TeamELCA (Find "Pedal for a Purpose Michigan") or make checks payable to "ELCA World Hunger," and mail to Linn Kracht, c/o St. Peter Lutheran Church, 1079 Riverside Drive, Battle Creek, MI 49015.

Alpena Community Ecumenical Vacation Bible School (ACE VBS)



First United Methodist
First Congregational
First Presbyterian
Grace Lutheran
St Paul Lutheran
Trinity Episcopal

is hosting...

“Branching Out: Connecting Through Christ” VBS DAY CAMP

July 10-14, 2017

Each day from 9 AM to 3 PM

at:

First United Methodist Church

167 S. Ripley Blvd, Alpena

989-354-2490

*This is a free event for children Ages 5-12.
Lunch and snacks will be provided.
Activities include Bible Adventures,
Arts & Crafts, Nature Activities, & Games!*

Registrations can be mailed/dropped off at

First United Methodist Church

Go to www.alpenafumc.org to print registration.

ACE- VBS Day Camp Registration Form

(One Per Child)

Child's name: _____ Child's Gender: _____

T-Shirt size _____ Child's age: _____ Date of birth: _____

Last school grade completed: _____

Name of parent(s): _____

Street address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home telephone: (____) _____ E-mail address: _____

Cell phone: (____) _____ Work phone: _____

Home Congregation (church & city) _____

Parent location while child is at camp (work, home, etc.) _____

Name of special friend your child would like to be with: _____

Name of persons other than parents to whom child may be released.

1. _____ 2. _____

Name of individuals child CANNOT be released to.

1. _____ 2. _____

Family Permission to Photograph/Videotape- Release to Utilize

We grant permission for any photographs or videotapes of our child as he/she is involved in VBS activities during the week of July 10-14, 2017, to be used in "telling the story" of ACE- VBS, in participating church websites, newsletters and other media releases.

Parent/guardian signature

PRE-REGISTRATION IS ENCOURAGED.

.....

Allergies (food, medications or other include insect stings, hay fever, asthma):

Other medical conditions (behavioral, emotional or mental health problems):



Emergency contact person if unable to contact parents:

Name _____ Phone: _____

Relationship to child: _____

Any activity restrictions? _____

Any recent illness, injury, or infectious disease? _____

Additional information _____

Insurance Carrier/Plan name & Group # _____

Has participant had the necessary immunizations to attend school? _____

Date of last tetanus shot _____

Medications to be given while at camp:

<u>Medication</u>	<u>Dose</u>	<u>Frequency</u>	<u>Reason for taking medication</u>
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All medications must be in original containers with participant name on label.

THE FOLLOWING MUST BE COMPLETED FOR ATTENDANCE.

This health history is correct and complete as far as I know. _____ has permission to engage in all camp activities except as noted. The Church leader has permission to provide routine health care & administer prescribed medications. In the event I cannot be reached in an emergency, I give permission to the Church leader to seek emergency medical treatment. I give permission to the physician selected by the Church leader, to secure and administer treatment for the person named above.

Parent Signature

Worship Services at Grace 2017

Please check the following activities you are willing to participate in at Grace Lutheran Church including any in which you already participate:

Lector (reading the lessons) _____	Counter _____	
Altar Guild (set up and clean up for communion) _____	Participate on a work group _____	Indicate group _____
Communion Assistant (during communion) _____	***** Name _____	
Usher (at worship services) _____	Address _____	
Greeter (prior to worship services) _____	Phone _____	
Coffee Hour (prepare & clean up) _____	Email _____	
Choir Member _____	If you will be away for an extended period of time during the year, please list dates: _____	
Acolyte _____	*****	
Bell Choir _____	Such service is a blessing to others and those that serve find they are blessed in doing so. A BIG THANK YOU!	

Please return completed forms to the church office or place in the offering plate during worship.

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Please return completed forms to the church office or place in the offering plate during worship.

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE THE LORD

MAY 2017

ACOLYTES

07
14
21
28

HOSPITAL

JANET CHRONINGER

LECTORS

07 CHERYL WERBLOW
14 CORINNE FRALEY
21 SHARON ENGSTROM
28 RUBY HASKE

USHERS

WAYNE & CHRIS CHRISTOPHERSON
JOEL & CORINNE FRALEY
CORKY GATES
PHRAN LUDINGTON
NIC TIMMRECK

GREETERS

07 JACK & PATTI TUCKER
14 JEFF & SANDY WELCH
21 DENNIS & CHERYL WERBLOW
28 PHIL & PAM AGIUS FAMILY

COUNTERS

DALE & PAT SCHULTZ

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

PAUL & VICKI DENSTAEDT
KAREN SLAGHT

ALTAR GUILD

PAT SCHULTZ
VERNA FURZE
TAMMY FURZE

FLOWERS

07 BARNARD
14
21 J. GOHLKE
28 LAPPAN

COFFEE HOUR

07 RUBY & OLIVIA HASKE
14 JOE & DAWN GENTRY
21 ROGER & JEANNE PANKEY
28 DON & VERA FURZE, TAMMY FURZE

PLEASE, please, please try to find a replacement or someone to switch with if you are unable to fulfill your Sunday scheduled duty AND share the change with Peggy. Thank you!

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE THE LORD

JUNE 2017

ACOLYTES

04
11
18
25

HOSPITAL

JANET CHRONINGER

LECTORS

04 ASHLEY TIMMRECK
11 SANDY WELCH
18 BEVERLY ATTWELL
25 PATTI TUCKER

USHERS

DALE SCHULTZ CHARLES SNYDER
STEVE GARANT LINDA BATCHELOR
VICKI, TREVOR, ISABELLE, MIRIAM DENSTAEDT

GREETERS

04 DUSTIN & ANGIE CRITTENDEN FAMILY
11 BARB WERLE, ELLIE WALKER
18 ROGER & JEANNE PANKEY
25 POLLY COOK, TAMMY FURZE

COUNTERS

CHRIS CHRISTOPHERSON
MARGE WEBER

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

JOELYN RICH
BEVERLY ATTWELL

ALTAR GUILD

JOANNE NICHOLLS
KATHY PIONTKOWSKI

FLOWERS

04
11
18 FURZE
25 LAPPAN

COFFEE HOUR

04 TUFFY & BONNIE CROSS
11 VICKI, ISABELLE & MIRIAM DENSTAEDT
18 CORKY GATES, PATTI MAC NEILL,
PHRAN LUDINGTON
25 RICK & SHARON ENGSTROM

*PLEASE, please, please try to find a replacement or someone
to switch with if you are unable to fulfill your Sunday
scheduled duty AND share the change with Peggy. Thank you!*



Anniversaries of Baptism

May 1

Ashley Brodziak

May 2

Alec Schaefer

May 4

Gordon Hansen

May 5

Kody Bertrand

May 6

Michael Lang

May 7

Jeanne Pankey

Ella Sandula

Kady Sandula

May 9

Sheri Smith

May 10

Taylor Denstaedt

Trevor Denstaedt

May 11

Christopher Piontkowski

Stacey Piontkowski

May 12

Marjorie Weber

May 13

Joshua Engstrom

May 14

Derek Hibner

Jorden Seck

Logan Suszek

May 17

Wesley Garant

Hannah Kamyszek

Hope Kamyszek

Savannah Kamyszek

Kathryn Reynolds

May 25

Lori Graham

May 27

Erica Wilson

May 28

Darlene Dekett

May 29

Jeffrey Welch

May 30

Terry Bertrand

May 1

Linda Batchelor

Lorraine Leathead

Ethan McIntosh

James (J.J.) Timrick

May 2

Grace Kuligowski

Scott Lancaster

Harper Suszek

May 3

Chad Lewis

Beth Matzke

Craig Weise

May 4

Thomas (T.J.) Lappan

Mya Styra

May 6

Dawn Anderson

Bunny Lyon

Olivia Viegelaahn

May 7

Dorothy Gentry

Robert Lang

Kimberly Poirier

May 8

Matthew Anderson

May 10

Julie Townsend

May 11

Michele Amelotte

May 12

Rachel Chroninger

Taylor Chroninger

Peggy Tomaszewski

May 15

Laurie Hansen

Alena Poirier

May 17

Audrey Garant

May 18

Jacob Gapske

Karen Suszek

May 19

Michael McCourt

Rebecca Trelfa

Brett Werblow

May 22

Pamela Kirchoff

Roger Pankey

Barbara Szczesniak

May 23

Scott Coddington

May 24

Betty Bedford

Joanne Kindt

May 25

Polly Cook

May 26

Darlene Dekett

Stacey Townsend

May 29

Miriam Denstaedt

May 30

Gary Graham



Wedding Anniversaries

3rd Jeff & Sandy Welch

8th Jon & Mari Crow

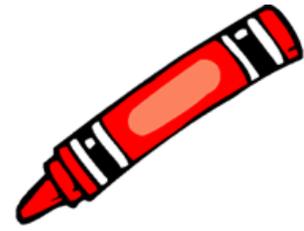
10th Bob & Rosa Greene

17th Paul & Vicki Denstaedt

22nd Gordon & Dorothy Hansen

30th Eric & Emma Barber

Kid's Page



Make this craft to display a bit of springtime year-round!

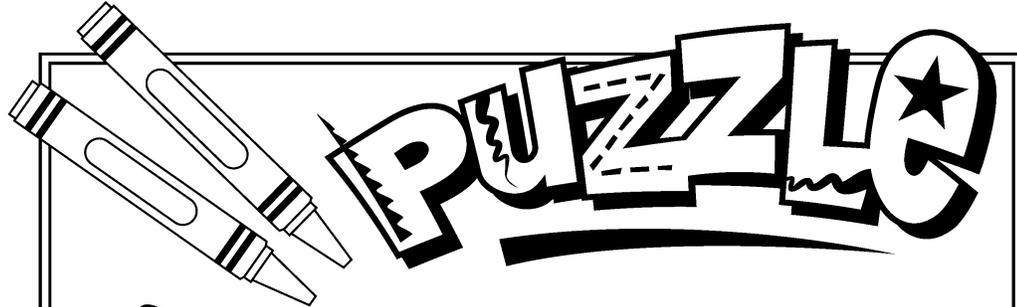
What you need:

- An old shirt
- Tempura paint (brown, dark pink, light pink and white)
- Paintbrush
- Light blue or white construction paper
- A paper plate
- Q-tips
- Paper towels



What you do:

1. Roll up one sleeve and paint your arm and the palm of your hand brown.
2. Lengthwise on the paper, carefully place your painted arm and hand, with fingers spread apart. (This is the tree trunk and branches.)
3. Place the other paint colors on the plate.
4. Using Q-tips, place dots of paint (blossoms!) all over the branches.
5. When dry, display your tree — or give it as a Mother's Day gift.

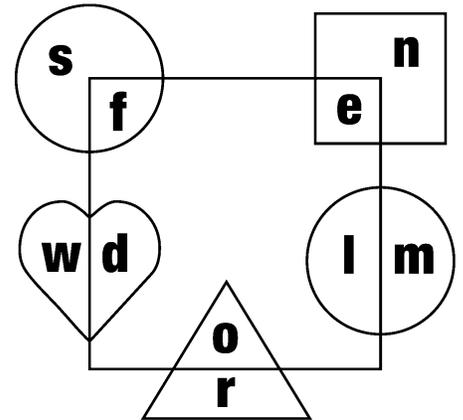


GOD CARES FOR YOU!

Jesus tells his followers not to worry about their daily needs. What example does he give of God's care for his creation?

Directions:

To complete Luke 12:27 (NIV), match the shapes under each blank with the letter shapes shown to the right.



“Consider how the wild _____
grow. They do not labor or spin.

Yet I tell you, not even _____
in all his splendor was _____
like one of these.” Luke 12:27, NIV

Answer: “Consider how the wild flowers grow. They do not labor or spin. Yet I tell you, not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these.” Luke 12:27, NIV