

News of Grace

Monthly Newsletter ♦ August 2015



Linda Batchelor, Erv Simi,
Jeanette Grove, Marge
Weber, Carolynne
Wegmeyer, Elfie Jahnke,

Lorraine Leathead, Gloria
Moore, Dave Chroninger,

Harold & Jean Kissau, Donna Powell, Jim
Malaski, Karen & Walter Spigelymyre, Dorothy
Gentry, Emma Nelson, Iris Snyder, Harold
Wegner, Michele Amelotte, Rev. Doug
McCormick, Cody Gustin, Shirley Johnson, Mike
Knoblett, Dennis Diamond, Stuart Grenkowitz,
Carrie Wiseley, Sam Brown, and Victoria Stoltz.

Relay for Life

Alpena's Relay For Life will be held August 15. Once again, Team Triple Threat (Beth Matzke and the Denstaedt girls) will have luminary bags for sale- \$10 each. You can purchase a bag in honor of, or in memory of, a loved one who has/is battling cancer. You can decorate, or we will happily do it for you. We will have them available at church, or can also deliver/pick up. If we don't see you at church, Contact Beth 590-0970, or Vicki 916-9258. Team Triple Threat is thankful for your support!



Loving Care and Rebirthday Party Brunch ~ Sunday, August 23

Our loving care members will join us in worship followed by a potluck brunch. We will also be celebrating our REBIRTHDAYS (Baptism day) at this brunch. We are asking you to bring along your baptism certificates, pictures of your baptism day, and any mementos/bulletin/baptism gown you want to share with one another. Prizes will be given for some of these. We will sit at tables according to your baptism month.

We also ask that between now and August 23 you bring a baby picture of yourself and give to Jeanne Pankey or Joelyn Rich. The pictures will be displayed for a contest of who can recognize the most babies. The pictures will be returned to you.

Baptism is an event to celebrate and remember throughout our lives as Christians! Join us in this Baptism celebration and let's make this a memorable day for our loving care members. Sign-up sheet will be on the Narthex table.

Large Print Worship Folder

A large print worship folder, hymns and weekly bulletin are available for any one who would like one. Please ask the ushers for it.

From the Pastor



Some just see the world differently. Earlier this summer there was a family (first hint) walking home from church (bigger hint). The eldest daughter (give away) read our sign and burst out laughing.

The message I wrote for the sign was: Enjoy July 4
Give Thanks
No Saturday service.

Do you see it? No. Well try reading from the bottom up.

Some people just see things differently! After it was pointed out, I'm surprised I didn't see it. But then again I wrote it and know what I meant it to say, not how others might read it. (Communication lesson in there!)

Sometimes, often times, it takes the person with the different vision to really see what is out there. In humor or irony or seriousness. Then to even imagine what could be, out of the elements that are there.

As Christians, we are called to see the world in a different way. To see the reality of pain, hurt, sin, injustice and lack of God's peace in the world, but not accept that is the way it has to be. Rather we are called to see the potential for the Kingdom of God in the world. See that, because that is God's promise to us. And we trust God to bring it about. Also to see the in-breaking of the Kingdom that is already happening in the events and people actions around us.

God's Grace. That is what we have to share. God first loved us. We are loveable in all our frailty. We are forgiven in all our sins. We can be better, do better than we are doing. We are children of God, each and everyone one of us, made in the image of God. And capable of so much more peace and love.

The world separates and divides. Builds walls. Says good and bad on different sides. And those with vision to see, get some glimpses of God's vision, seeing one family of God. The great shalom.

I invite you into God's ways of seeing. New dreams and visions.

Thanks be to God.

Pastor Tom



Noisy Offering - 2nd Weekend of the Month

We have begun collecting a noisy offering of loose change on the second weekend of each month. Folding money accepted too!!!! Our talented ushers can make folding money noisy. The collection will go toward a mission project, special community project or Noella, the Sunday School's sponsored child through World Vision. July's collection of \$190 went toward the ELCA Walk for Water (clean water resources for the world) and went with the Youth to the National Youth Gathering for the special collection of that event.





Fundraiser for



5K Walk/Run

Saturday, August 15th - 9 a.m.
Duck Park., Chisholm and Long Rapids Rd., Alpena,

Walk Me Home....to the place I belong is the signature fund-raising and awareness event for foster care in America. We know not everyone can be a foster parent, but Walk Me Home is a great way to support the over 13,000 children in foster care in 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/nemichigan2015

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

Call 989-356-4567 for more information

GRACE LUTHERAN POTLUCK & MINI-GOLF WAS A HUGE SUCCESS!

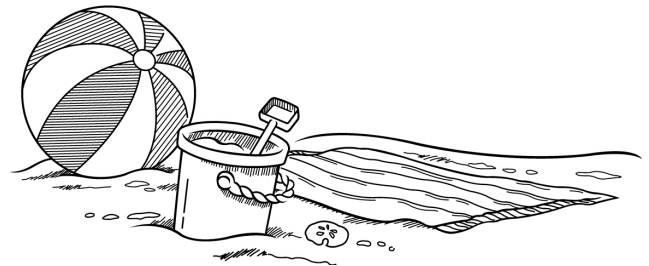
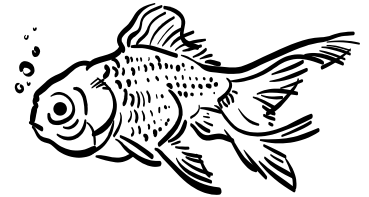
A big thank you to all who helped to make the Potluck and Mini-Golf event such a great success!! We had a wonderful crowd for our potluck brunch. Thank you to all who brought such delicious food, helped with setup and cleanup, and to those who joined us for our 3rd Annual Mini-Golf Competition. We had 39 golfers and a beautiful day for golfing! Caleigh Nitchman, a brand new mini-golfer, won with a score of 52!! She also had 3 holes-in-one!! Please see the rest of the results posted on the Fellowship Bulletin Board. The ice cream rewards at Dairy Queen were a delicious end to a fun day! It was wonderful to spend time with our prayer partners and to get to know others in our church family a little better. Thank you all!!!

We Need Your Help for this WALK ME HOME event!

- * 15 volunteers to help man 3 stations (check walkers in, hand out water, etc.)
- * Be a walker - ask your friends and neighbors
- * Registration fee \$15.00 (includes t-shirt if you register by July 15th); kids under 12 free. **Pledge forms are now available on the Narthex table if you want to get some pledges in addition to the registration fee of \$15.00)**
- * Can form teams or walk as individual. Consider asking your prayer partner to walk with you. It's a great opportunity to have conversation together! **We are still looking for walkers and teams...if you would like to walk, or you have a team for this event, please sign the sheet in the Narthex.**
- * Help recruit sponsors
- * See or call Joelyn Rich for further info and volunteering - 340-0592

Grace Got a Fish

Have you noticed? Grace got a fish. This year as a community wide art initiative, Thunder Bay Arts Council distributed fish silhouettes for painting and decoration, then placement around town. Thanks to Phran Ludington's artistic expression, we have our own unique fish. Can you find it?



Weekly Bulletin Deadline

Wednesdays at 10 AM is the deadline for submitting information for the following weekend's bulletin. Please have everything into the office so that the bulletin can be produced in a timely fashion.

Outreach and Mission

Local

Discipleship



Items Needed:

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

All items collected will be donated to Trinity Episcopal's food pantry.

Grace Partners with Child & Family Services Foster Care Program for 5k Walk/Run Event

Grace Lutheran will partner with Child & Family Services Foster Care Program in the 2nd Annual Walk Me Home 5k walk/run event on Saturday, August 15, 2015. See page 3 of this newsletter for specifics and information on how you can help!

Statewide

LSSM Foster Children Program

The program continues to have a great need for underwear (boys and girls) ages potty-trained through age 13. Also socks and toiletries. A collection basket is located in the Narthex.

Keeping in Touch with Our Loving Care Members

There is a new bulletin board in the dining hall with addresses, phone numbers and birth dates. Take time to send them a card, give them a call, or visit them. Let them know we do care about them and they are loved!

Prayer Partners

There are 27 prayer partner teams, so their bulletin board (also in the dining hall) is a work in progress.

Global

World Vision "Sponsor a Child" Program

Our "noisy offering", collected the 2nd Sunday of the month by our Sunday School students, helps us sponsor Noella.

Our Sunday School students have sponsored Noella since 2007!

Read all about her on the bulletin board in the dining hall.

Lutheran World Relief School Kit Program

This is a summer project with a goal of collecting enough items for 10 bags. A list of the needed items is on the bulletin board in the Narthex entry - help yourself to a list. Items purchased can be placed in the labeled bin outside Pastor's office. Any additional bags will be donated locally.

Upcoming Event

**Mark your calendars for
God's Work, Our Hands
Sunday, September 13th!!!!!!**





Dear Wonderful Grace Quilters, Thank you so much for the beautiful quilt. I will remember the gift for my graduation for many years to come. Thanks again,

Rachel Chroninger

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Dear Grace Lutheran Church Quilters, Thank you very much for the amazing quilt! I will treasure that for many years to come and no matter where I am I will always remember who it came from!

Taylor Chroninger

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Thank you to the 61 members of the congregation who took the time to fill out the recent Worship Services survey. Your willingness to assist in the worship services at Grace Lutheran is appreciated.

Worship Work Group

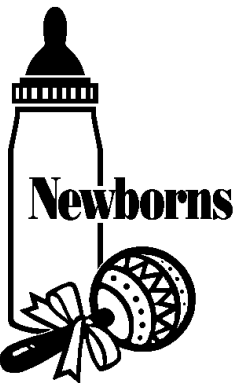
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Thank You!!!! Dirty Copper (& some clean copper too) made \$594.36 and more with some donations from people whom recycled some of the donated items for the team going to the ELCA National Youth Gathering

We're going to continue collecting copper - Clean or Dirty - for upcoming mission trips

So if you have old copper pipes, pieces of copper, household wiring, extension cords gone bad, power cords, appliance cords cut off from the device or lamps, anything with copper, we'll gather it up throughout this coming year and recycle them for funds for 2016 Mission Trip.

THANK YOU CHURCH for your generous donations to help the Team going to the 2015 National Youth Gathering .



Congratulations to...

Caitlin Palmer & Steve Wade on the birth of twin boys, Marco and Owen, born on big brother Lucas' birthday, June 30th.

Paul & Jamie Gohlke on the birth of a daughter, Riley Faith, born on July 4th.



Please send in your items for the September (already!!!!) newsletter. It works best if you can email them in. Though they will be taken on paper, too.



July 2015

Finances

GENERAL FUND	\$ 12,999.00
BUILDING FUND	295.00
CHRISTIAN GROWTH.....	5.00
OTHER.....	3700.90
TOTAL	\$ 16,999.90

Attendance

SATURDAY WORSHIP (3)	79
SUNDAY WORSHIP (4)	313
TOTAL	392
(No worship service July 4)	

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.....	Harry Kautz.....	595-3568
Exec. Secretary.....	Sandy Malaski	356-6248
Treasurer.....	Dennis Werblow.....	354-5560

WORK GROUP LEADERS/COUNCIL

Education	Jim & Kristin Berles.....	358-2768
Worship.....	Sharon Engstrom.....	354-5133
Discipleship	Joelyn Rich.....	340-0592
Property.....	Jeff & Sandy Welch	595-2195
Fellowship.....	Thelma Stevens.....	340-0599
Finance	Rick Engstrom.....	354-5133

OTHER V.I.P.s

Stewardship... ..	Wayne Christopherson.....	356-0430
Youth Director	Vicki Denstaedt	354-2270
WELCA.....	Darleen Freel.....	354-8866
.....	Dorothy Hansen.....	354-3563
L.S.S.M.	Kay Grove.....	727-2054
Quilters.....	Caroline Weise.....	354-8060
.....	Dorothy Hansen.....	354-3563
LARCC	Eleanor Coddington.....	354-8766
.....	Kay Grove.....	727-2054

Society of St. Vincent de Paul

DISTRICT COUNCIL OF ALPENA

805 W. CHISHOLM
ALPENA, MICHIGAN 49707

PHONE: (989) 354-3671

July 8, 2015

Dear Members of Grace Lutheran and St. Paul Congregations,

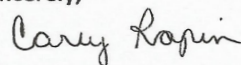
Thank you for your kind donation of \$2,244.12. Your contribution will enable us to continue providing emergency services to those in need of assistance with utilities. It comes at a perfect time as the other area Agencies no longer have grant money to assist with utilities.

During the past year, we supplied food to 13,000 people for a cost of \$64,000. Ninety-four thousand was used to assist families with housing, utilities, medications and transportation. Our Society is served entirely by dedicated volunteers except for our Store employees.

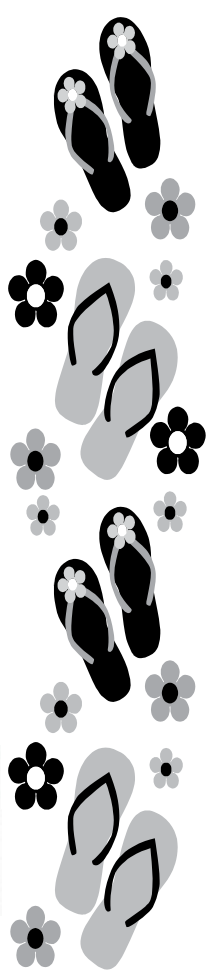
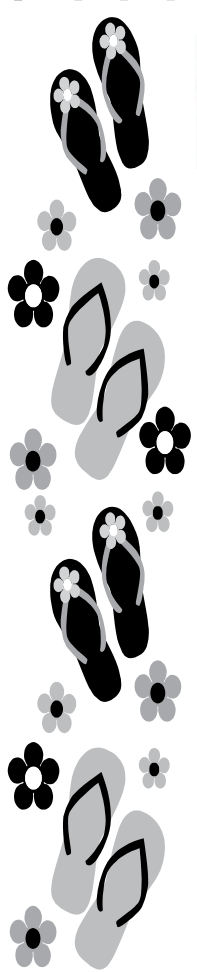
We appreciate that we were one of your choices for the contribution.

May God bless all of you.

Sincerely,



Carey Rapin, Secretary
Alpena District Council





Update of National Youth Gathering in Detroit July 2015

Thanks to both congregations for the wonderful support of this amazing group of youth and adults who attended ELCA National Youth Gathering in Detroit (July 15-19). We all came home with an intense sense of service and awareness of social justice issues – including racism, poverty, homelessness, and gender inequalities. It will be our mission to keep caring conversations going and take an active role in helping with awareness on many fronts for our Youth Ministry Year 2015-16.

Many of the artists and speakers were inspirational, shocking, and “real” – sharing small portions of their stories in order to shake us up and realize that we are all called by God to do many special things in this world. Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton said it best, “We do not have to save the world. It has already been done for us in Jesus Christ.” We are not to sit with complacency anymore and avoid discussing or sharing the hard issues in life. We are called to be light and salt for the earth – so, please consider coming along side us this year as we talk, share, and learn how we fit in to these areas.

I am blessed to see these youth take on and speak of things they are very passionate about. At the ELCA Gathering we saw many responses and pro-active efforts to care for our hurting world. Here is some of the current statistics and efforts that happened during our time in Detroit:

- Estimated \$28-\$30 million was filtered into the economy of Detroit
- 100 blocks were transformed (through Proclaim Justice/service efforts)
- 500 tires removed
- 1,000 lots cleared
- 100 homes boarded up
- 20 acres mowed
- 180 partnering organizations continuing the work in Detroit
- 72 newly installed Urban Gardens
- Hygiene kits put together
- Fleece hats made
- 607 pints (78.8 gallons) of blood donated
- Hair donations (650 people donated at least 8" of hair. That's a minimum of 433 feet!) to children with hair-loss (2 of our youth donated over 18 inches)
- Over \$400,000 raised in Walk for Water campaign
- More than 591,917 diapers collected

Our Alpena group was blessed to work on our Proclaim Justice Day with Rippling Hope. Here are some statistics the pastor shared with us on what was accomplished in 3 days of service work with them:

- 1530 ELCA youth worked on their sites, 13 Methodists, & 25 First United Church of Christ

youth

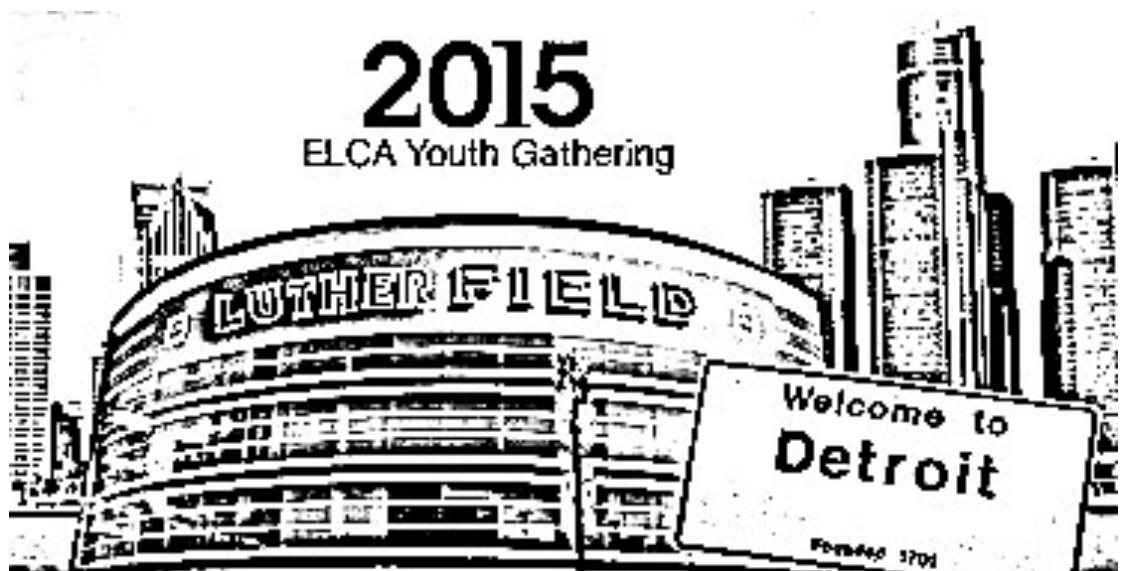
- Youth from 22 different states
- Transformed 12 of their neighborhoods via clearing walkways for youth headed to school, cleared around abandoned homes, piled trash, piled lawn debris, and helped many of the neighborhoods come together for a common purpose of HOPE

Please check out any of the days of the presentations to our youth at Ford Field or many highlights by going to YouTube and search: ELCA Youth Gathering 2015 and you can watch from short clips to the complete program (if you were unable to stream it live).

We all are forever changed by taking time to think about Our Story, The World's Story and God's Story. We proclaimed Story (with our NWLM Synod Family), we Proclaimed Community (at COBO Hall activities), and we Proclaimed Justice (out in the neighborhoods of Detroit). We look forward to bringing what we learned with us into our church family & our community this year.

We Thank-you All!

Vicki Denstaedt
Bethany Barnard Popour
Karen Slaght
Becky Hawks
Jan Boboltz
Marty Cantleberry
Carol Kindt
Rachel & Taylor Chroninger
Valerie Slaght
Isabelle & Miriam Denstaedt
Caileigh Nitchman
Kayla & Kody Bertrand
Olivia Haske
Maddy Boyd
Brooke Schiller
Zach & Garrett
Chrzan



OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE THE LORD

AUGUST 2015

ACOLYTES

02 JADE GRAY
09 PAIGE TIMMRECK
16 BROOKE SCHILLER
23
30 KODY BERTRAND

HOSPITAL

JANET CHRONINGER

LECTORS

02 ASHLEY TIMMRECK
09 VERNA FURZE
16 PAUL DENSTAEDT
23 ERWIN SIMI
30 BOB GREENE

USHERS

DALE SCHULTZ
STEVE, RILEY & WES GARANT
PAUL, VICKI, ISABELLE & MIRIAM DENSTAEDT

GREETERS

02 CORKY GATES & PATTI MACNEILL
09 JOE & DAWN GENTRY
16 ED & ELFIE JAHNKE
23 GARY & KAY GROVE
30 WAYNE & ANNA LEWIS

COUNTERS

CHRIS CHRISTOPHERSON
MARGE WEBER
BETHANY BERTRAND

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

WAYNE & CHRIS CHRISTOPHERSON

ALTAR GUILD

ELFIE JAHNKE
JOANNE KINDT
JOANN REINHOLZ

FLOWERS

02 GROVE
09
16
23
30 CZARNECKI/CLEMENS

COFFEE HOUR

02 DON & VERNA FURZE
09 HARRY & JUDY KAUTZ
16 DALE & PAT SCHULTZ
23 PAUL & VICKI DENSTAEDT & FAMILY
30 CORKY GATES & PATTI MACNEILL

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

SEPTEMBER 2015

ACOLYTES

06 TAYLOR AGIUS
13 JAKE SCHILLER
20
27 CHASE SCHILLER

HOSPITAL

JANET CHRONINGER

LECTORS

06 ANNA LEWIS
13 JOE GENTRY
20 VICKI DENSTAEDT
27 CAROLYNNE WEGMEYER

USHERS

JOEL & LOGAN SUSZEK
GARY & KAY GROVE
JO ANN SMITH
TOM BRENNAN

GREETERS

06 RICH & SHERIE MCTAGGART
13 ROGER & JEANNE PANKEY
20 ELSA PHILLIPS, LINDA GAPSKE
27 SHELLY OLSEN & FAMILY

COUNTERS

CHERYL LANG
CINDY SUSZEK

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

PAUL & VICKI DENSTAEDT

ALTAR GUILD

SHERIE MCTAGGART
SANDY MALASKI
BONNIE CROSS

FLOWERS

06
13
20
27

COFFEE HOUR

06 RICK & SHARON ENGSTROM
13 JOEL & CINDY SUSZEK
20 WAYNE & ANNA LEWIS
27 RICH & SHERIE MCTAGGART

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

August 1

Vicki Denstaedt
Kiowa Kirchoff

August 4

Jeremy Jacobs
Margaret O'Connor

August 5

Grace Hoeft
Ryan Reynolds
Anthony Thompson

August 6

Margaret Clemens
Myra Cross
Anna Lewis

August 7

Sandra Weise-DeAngelis

August 8

Terri Brower

August 10

Shelly Olsen

August 13

Trey Garant
James Malaski

August 14

Brett Werblow

August 19

Alan Brilinski
Nathan Engstrom
Corinne Fraley

August 20

Dorothy Hansen
Isaac Matzke

August 21

William Matzke

August 22

Pam Gohlke

August 23

Raymond Reynolds

August 26

Fred Kindt

August 29

Anne Gentry

August 31

Joelyn Rich

August Birthdays



August 4

Alan Brilinski
Angela Crittenden
Dawn Gentry
Caitlin Kieliszewski

August 5

Norman Schillerstrom

August 6

Amelia Berles
Corinne Fraley
Aaron Nowak

August 7

Don Furze
Fred Kindt

August 8

Mark Freel

August 9

Joel Gillard
Philip Jordan
Michael Urlaub

August 10

Sandra Malaski
Anne Wilson

August 11

Mackenzie Linton
Joann Smith

August 12

Kristina Wilson

August 13

Jamie Gentry
Grace Hoeft

August 15

Colt Gray

August 18

Charles Attwell
Ed Czarnecki

August 19

Charity Corwin

August 20

Drew Gentry
Wayne Lewis

August 21

Brody Nowak

August 22

Rachel Engstrom
Jeffrey Welch

August 23

Ruby Haske
Travis Konarzewski

August 24

Justin Gluesing

August 29

Jade Gray

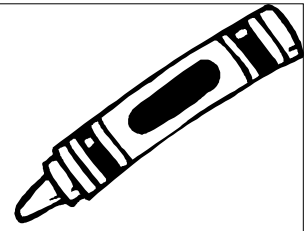
August 31

Beverly Suszek
Jerry Timm

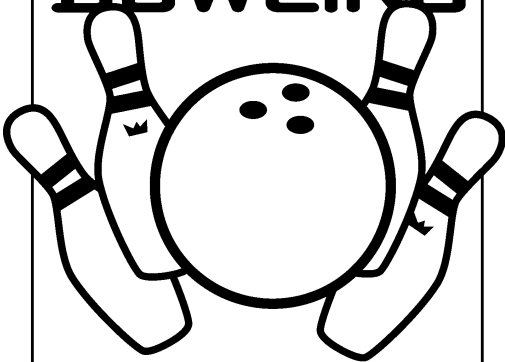
Wedding Anniversaries

3rd James & Sandra Malaski	21st Richard & Sharon Engstrom
5th Allen & Judith Douglas	24th Whitney & Pamela Barrow
Gary & Kay Grove	Randy & Kenda Yochum
7th Jordan & Heather Seck	25th James & Darlene Dekett
14th Larry & Connie Suszek	26th Ed & Donna Czarnecki
Daniel & Lois Westergard	27th Jason & Jessica Slominski
15th Randall & Gloria Moore	30th James & Margaret Clemens
16th Tyler & Stephanie Suszek	
19th Phil & Pamela Agius	
Lee & Barbara Szczesniak	

Kid's Page



GLOW- IN-THE- DARK BOWLING



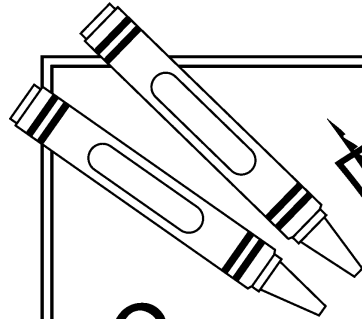
Make this fun summer game to play at the beach, a park or in your yard.

What you need:

- 10 empty plastic bottles (same size)
- 10 or more glow sticks
- Water (optional)
- Star stickers (optional)
- Hamster ball (or regular ball)
- Tape

What you do:

1. Place one or two activated glow sticks in each bottle. Fill bottles with water and decorate with star stickers, if desired. Screw on lids.
2. Put some glow sticks inside the hamster ball. Screw the halves together, and secure sides and lid with tape.
3. Challenge someone to a game of bowling. For the best glowing effect, play after dark.




PUZZLE

Summer's gifts

Summer brings longer days, warmer nights and – for many people – time spent near water. Complete this puzzle to find out who's behind all those summertime joys.



Directions: Read Jeremiah 31:35 (NIV) below. Draw a around words describing God's actions. Draw an around words that describe day. Underline words that describe evening. Draw  under words that describe the ocean.

He who appoints the sun to shine by day,
who decrees the moon and stars to shine by night,
who stirs up the sea so that its waves roar ...



Directions: Circle the capital letters. Then write them from left to right on the lines below to reveal God's name in this Bible verse.

i t T w H s p j E k e m a b L f g O h b c R d

e D q r s t c e a t o n a h f z z v u A w y L

a v n M q z l s k y z G u w H h m o T k j k Y



