



Monthly Messenger

February 2012

Rev. Donald King, Pastor

Sunday Worship Services at 9:30 a.m.

Christian Ed at 11:00 a.m.

*Our Mission: In response to God's grace in Christ,
we embrace the diversity of our*

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FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

When I was at Muhlenberg College, an English professor stopped me one day. He thought that, as Chaplain, I ought to know the following story. One day, when he was teaching writing to the current crop of freshmen, he used Jesus' parable of the Good Samaritan as an excellent example of narrative. When he began to describe it, students' eyes glassed over. Finally he asked them to raise their hand if they knew the story: two hands out of thirty were raised. And this, at a Lutheran-affiliated school.

In January, I joined the NEO Synod at its annual Rostered Leaders' Retreat. Our keynote was Luther Seminary (St. Paul, MN) Professor of Biblical Preaching, David Lose. He would agree that the Muhlenberg professor's experience is the norm, rather than the exception, for the 21st Century.

He offered the most poignant word of grace, at least professionally speaking, that I have heard in ten years. He admitted that church attendance is down, across the country; across the world. It doesn't matter if we're talking a mainline denomination (e.g., the ELCA), "non-denominational" churches, the Roman church, or evangelicals: it's down across the board. And (here is that word of grace) **IT IS NOT OUR FAULT.** Between Facebook, My Space, the internet, texting, tweeting, 599 cable channels at our fingertips, computer games, religious pluralism, and every product and corporation known to humanity vying hard for our attention; we are far from the only game in town.

Couple that with a few sociological shifts. He suggests that communications are defined by three eras, and each has shaken the entire world to its core. First was the creation of the written word: it meant communication

could span distances and remain durable. Second was the invention of moveable type: now we could actually spread the written word to the masses. Third, and finally, is digital communication: now every person can be an author, cast their word across the world, and not only receive messages, but be the creator of worldwide messages. We're only beginning to understand the value of this #3.

Other shifts include moving from an age that values duty, obligation, and tradition (think "the Greatest Generation"). Now, like it or not, we live in an age that instead values discretion (I have so much money and so little free-time that I have to decide carefully on how to spend what I've got). People are continually asking, 'is this worth my time?' Other values include experience above doing the right thing; and an increased suspicion of institutions (think Viet Nam, Watergate, the clergy sex abuse scandals), and we can begin to see how people are not particularly obligated to fill our pews.

He says that the only way out is to actually learn and know our story; a story that is found in the 66 books of the bible. When he has given an offhand test, he's found that most *church-goers* cannot name five, six, or seven biblical stories. He's listed Abraham, Peter, and David, and learned that most Christians cannot put them in order and say why. Yikes!

The task before us, and myself as your pastor, is to continually re-discover WHY congregational involvement, and Christian commitment, are important in our lives. If we don't know why, neither will anyone we want to invite in. It's formidable, but I believe in our mission and I trust you do, too. Let's see what we can find together... and as always,

See you in church!

**NEW ICON FOR HOPE:
MARTIN LUTHER KING**



This icon that we placed at the entrance of our Fellowship Room on January 15th, depicts Martin Luther King, one of the martyrs of the Twentieth Century. He was an ordained minister of the Baptist Church.

From 1955 until his death, he led a campaign of nonviolent resistance in the United States against racial oppression and injustice.

The number he wears around his neck is from a “mug shot” taken one of the many times he was arrested by American police for resisting unjust laws.

The prison bars behind him represent the occasions he was placed in jail, and also the oppression and slavery of African Americans in the United States.

The text on his scroll is from his speech in Albany, Georgia, on December 14, 1961. The Greek inscription by his head reads, “Holy Martin.” Since the eighteenth century, the faith of African American Christians in America has been tied to the struggle for freedom.

Martin Luther King renewed the bond between faith and political action like the Old Testament prophets. Although his life was threatened many times, he continued to expose himself to danger.

He was shot on April 4, 1968, in Memphis, Tennessee. This artwork comes from Seraphic Icons, Br. Robert Lentz, OFM, and artist.

**SEMI-ANNUAL
CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

On Sunday, February 5th, after worship and classes, at 12:00 noon, we will hold our semi-annual Congregational meeting.

On the agenda are the following:

- Approval of minutes for last February and last June semi-annual meetings
- Pastor’s report and annual statistics of the congregation
- Ministry reports for each ministry of our council and congregation
- 2011 Year-end and budget summary
- 2012 Proposed budget
- Voting members to June 1 & 2, 2012 NEO Synod Assembly

All confirmed Hope members have voice and vote, and we hope that every one of you can attend this important meeting!

‘THANK YOU’ FROM OUR PASTOR

Dear members of Hope,

Each year you surprise me and touch me with your thoughtfulness at Christmas time. On Christmas Eve a member of the council presents me with a monetary gift from you, and each year I find myself a bit speechless. It always feels like an anniversary time for me, since I began shortly before Christmas of 1999, so this year your gift helped me celebrate 12 years as your pastor.

They have been good years in the course of my life, and I want all of you to know that I am grateful for your gift, and for the chance to serve you, from the bottom of my heart.

+ Pastor



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Office of the President

January 23, 2012.

Pastor Sherman Bishop and People of Prince of Peace Lutheran Church
Pastor Donald King and People of Hope Lutheran Church
Pastor Laura Barbins and the People of Celebration Lutheran Church
Pastor Paula Maeder Conner and People of Trinity Lutheran Church
Pastor Jimmy Madsen, Pastor Woody Chamberlain and people of First Lutheran Church,

Dear friends,

Each of you with your congregations gifted us this weekend. Thank you for the vision to invite this kind of participation with Trinity Lutheran Seminary in the *formation of leaders for Christ's church at work in the world*. Each of us has our own story to tell. Each of us was immersed with the people of God in the mission of God by the sharing with and in your congregation.

This weekend will be remembered as one that helped Trinity Lutheran Seminary to be more focused about who we are and what we might offer as a community in formation. I hope the witness is that at Trinity we seek to articulate a vision of doing more than serving our own interests, or even the interests of our students, but rather may our witness be that of giving the church what it needs: a new generation of leaders. Our focus in these days need be not just on what we want, or what our students want, but on what the mission of God requires. Each of you with your congregations helped us this weekend to focus that mission--a mission to congregations in the world.

It was a great model of collaboration. Thank you for hospitality, for rich conversation, and for worship.

The Lord be with you in the sustaining of ministry in your place.

Sincerely,

Mark R. Ramseth
with
Inge Williams
Elizabeth (Libby) Buuck
Dan and Kim Forehand

Trinity Lutheran Seminary forms leaders for Christ's church at work in the world.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH
Adult Forum Speaker and Project
February 12th



On February 12th Hope teens, confirmation class, adult forum, guests, and those who often gather in the adult lounge will instead all gather in the sanctuary for a treat! Our Black History speaker this

year is Joan Southgate who will tell us about the Underground Railroad, her walk and the Cuyahoga County historic home which was a stop on the Underground Railroad. After her inspiring and instructive talk, Joan will join us for our ethnic food tasting. We hope all our wonderful cooks will bring their creations before worship with appropriate containers to keep those creations hot or cold as appropriate. We will set up the eating areas on Saturday to avoid disturbing the children's Godly Play room.

In April 2002, Joan Southgate, a retired Social Worker and Cleveland-area activist, stepped off from the small town of Ripley, Ohio, with a simple goal: She wanted to highlight the courage and resourcefulness of the American slave and conductor families who risked so much for freedom on the Underground Railroad. She called her journey IN THEIR PATH! And set out to increase awareness of a moment in history when people came together across color, creed and class to do freedom's work. Her journey has taken her on a 519 mile walk across Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York and Canada. Her inspiring story and message of unity has resonated over the miles. Her walk has ended, but her mission continues.

And... remember last year for Black History Month we wore T-shirts recognizing someone famous – even if only to you – or some-

one important, but not well known, that you would like us to know about. I wore a picture and information about Garrett Morgan who developed the gas mask and the traffic signal. And Pr. King had a beautiful Diana Ross t-shirt.

The Peace and Justice Ministry would like all of us celebrate Black History Month also as a Black History T-shirt Sunday as we wear t-shirts depicting the vast multitude of famous- inventors, singers/actors, news reporters and anchors, teachers, and those who were successful in so many businesses and careers

GODLY PLAY
SUNDAY MORNINGS



Children's Ministry

Our holiday season is over and that means that we will be changing the stories for Godly Play. This fall we started with stories from the Old Testament. During the Christmas Holiday, we told the stories of Advent and the birth of our Lord, Jesus. In January, we wrapped up the Old Testament stories and beginning about the time of Lent, we will be telling stories about Jesus' ministries. Most of these stories include parables, and the parables are told in a different format that the previous stories were told.

The room continues to grow and new stories are added each week to the decorum. If you haven't had the chance yet to do so, please visit our class room.

While the Godly Play stories are geared toward elementary aged children, the program is one for the entire church community to be part of and share. Please continue your support by inviting children you may know to attend and offering prayer for this program to succeed.

GODLY PLAY OPEN HOUSE



Hope Lutheran Church is sponsoring an Open House on **Saturday, February 18th**. We want to present this fun and exciting way teaching the Bible to the community.

We recognize that others who are not involved in the church might be apprehensive to attend a Sunday School program without first understanding the curriculum. It is hoped that by introducing Godly Play in this way will encourage neighbors of the church to attend our Sunday morning program.

The festival will include the lesson of the Ten Commandments. There will be snacks and crafts. This will be followed up by questions for those attending may have.

Please invite neighbors and family members to attend this fun filled afternoon. The festival **begins at 1:00** and will **end at 3:00**. Parents are encouraged to attend along with their elementary aged school children.

Godly Play is a Montessori based Sunday School program.

HOPE COUNCIL RETREAT



As the ELCA has moved into a ***L.I.F.T.*** – *Living Into the Future Together* – initiative, congregations around the country will soon be asked to identify who their neighbors really are (do we actually know that many people on Greyton and Helmsdale?), what our

neighbors would ask of us, what our neighbors would miss if we didn't exist in five years (or, worse yet, would they know we went out of existence?), and what our plans might be to reach out directly to our community.

It's a daunting task, and our council, as it looks for 2011=12 retreat plans, has invited Pastor Ron Zoesch from our NEOSynod, to lead us in our initial discussions around these questions. Our retreat will be in the "Martin Luther Hall" of Bethlehem Lutheran on Saturday, February 25th, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Continental breakfast will be served. All council members are invited, and expected, to attend.

PARISH LIFE



The Parish Life Ministry will be meeting on February 26th at 12 noon in order to make a recommendation on the purchase of the new refrigerator and its location.

Other items for discussion:

- Increasing the number of volunteers for the After Church Coffee Fellowship
- Ethnic Food Tasting Event: Feb 12th
- Maundy Thursday
- Continued interaction with Lutheran High School East.
- Updating the Nursery Room

Everyone is welcomed. Your ideas for the projects within our Church are needed as we move further into this new decade.

We look forward to seeing you there.
Submitted by Muriel Craig

PRAYER MINISTRY



As most of you know, we have an active Prayer Ministry that prays daily for names that are on the Prayer List. Names can be added to the list by filling out a Prayer Request Form on the table in the back of the Sanctuary or by giving the name to a member of our Prayer Ministry. The names of members of the Prayer Ministry are at the top of the Prayer List located on the lectern at the back of the church. Prayers of Thanksgiving can also be added to the Prayer List. All of the names submitted will remain on the list for six weeks and will then be removed unless a new request is made. To continue the prayer request, please submit a new form or talk to a member of the Prayer Group. Thank You, Jim Fox



lutheran
metropolitan
ministry
listening, serving, empowering

LMM's ANNUAL EVENING OF FAITH & FRIENDSHIP

We are invited to Lutheran Metropolitan Ministry's annual evening of Faith & Friendship on Friday, March 2nd, from 6:00 to 10:00 p.m. at Windows on the River, 2000 Sycamore, in the Power House building on the west side of the Flats. Through the years, many Hope members have attended this evening of learning more of LMM's mission, meeting old LMM friends, and making new ones. It has energized our ministry at Hope and given us a clearer vision for what the Lutherans are doing in our name. This year's 2012 award recipient is Councilman Joe Cimperman. Once again, our Peace & Justice Ministry will underwrite \$35 for each \$65 ticket purchased.

This is the portion that could be deducted to determine our charitable contribution. Of course, we may purchase our tickets for \$65 and obtain that contribution on record, as well. We ask that checks be made out to "Hope Lutheran Church". Please sign up on our bulletin board, indicating a meal preference for chicken or eggplant, and give your check to pastor on any Sunday. RSVP deadline is February 6th.

PROTECT HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Every four years, Cuyahoga County voters are asked to approve one of two Health and Human Services levies that ensure children, seniors and families across the county continue to receive the vital services available to all of us, whenever we may need them. The renewal issue on the March 6th primary ballot provides the largest share of local support for the services county government and local agencies (and here we're talking **Lutheran Metropolitan Ministry**) provide to address the needs of our most vulnerable residents. Here are just a few of the community services dependent on the renewal of this levy:

- Services that help senior citizens continue to live independently in their own homes with home health care services
- Critical emergency services, such as our region's only Level One Trauma and Burn Center at Metro Hospital
- LMM's outreach at the Men's Homeless Shelter at 2100 Lakeside, and LMM's Support to At-Risk Teens ministry
- Renewing the Health and Human Services levy does not increase current taxes

We are asking your support on election day to help pass this important and vital levy, so that all of our neighbors can live in greater safety, knowing that all of God's people are joining in for their welfare.

THE FASTS OF THE RICH ARE THE FASTS OF THE POOR

Lent is a time of fasting and prayer and spiritual growth as we prepare for Easter, the most sacred time of the church year. The traditional “Lenten discipline” has always been: fasting, prayer and acts of charity (the old term was “almsgiving”). All these things are part of the ongoing life of the Christian but during Lent we are asked to intensify our prayer life along with our fasting and our almsgiving.

Some of us who grew up in a heavily Roman Catholic community with a strong representation of Protestants who also observed Lent may still remember the school yard discussions of “What did you give up for Lent?” The usual answer was desserts or candy sometimes even specifically chocolate candy. There was always one kid who said that he tried to give up homework or broccoli for Lent. What the kids were discussing was their own version of the Lenten fast.

But fasting is not just about food nor is it just for Lent. There are other ways of fasting especially if we consider fasting to be intentional, examined, living. Thus we can fast from compulsive consumerism. We can fast from selfishness and stinginess. We can fast from immediate gratification. Then fasting can become questions like: “is this a need or a want?” and “are the total costs, social, environmental and economic worth it?”



We invite families to make a Lenten offering box to set on the table. Label it: “The Fasts of the Rich are the Feasts of the Poor”. Eating sparingly, not dining out, cheaper cuts of meat, movies not seen, miles not driven, nonessentials not bought, all add pennies and even dollars to the offering

box. Pennies and dollars that actually can literally translate the fasts of the rich, you and me, into the feasts of the poor.

Malaria is a disease of the poor. Every 45 seconds a child dies from malaria. Malaria is preventable. Malaria is treatable. Last year the ELCA started the ELCA Malaria Campaign to contain malaria-related deaths in Africa by the year 2015. The Northeastern Ohio Synod has pledged \$250,000 over three years. Last year Hope’s Peace and Justice Committee took on this challenge as an appropriate use for our Lenten almsgiving, raising over \$1000. This year we continue the challenge.

Beginning on Ash Wednesday we will have a large congregational offering box (actually a 3-gallon water jug) with a sign “The Fasts of the Rich are the Feasts of the Poor,” for the money you save during your Lenten fast. All the money in received in our congregational mite box will go to the ELCA Malaria Campaign.

Thank You, Pastor Bob Pindell



SIGN-UP SHEETS ARE HERE!

If you would like to sign-up to provide Altar Flowers (at \$20 per bouquet this year) or host Coffee Fellowship, please sign the sheets on our hallway bulletin boards, quite near where you shake pastor’s hand on Sunday mornings. This is your opportunity to remember a loved one, celebrate a special occasion, or just to help out. Sign up now to get the special dates you’re interested in!

LENT SCHEDULE

The Lenten Schedule for Bethlehem Lutheran, Grace Lutheran, Hope Lutheran, and Noble Road Presbyterian churches for midweek Lenten services are on Wednesdays starting with Ash Wednesday on February 22. As in past years, participants will meet for a light soup supper and program, then conclude the evenings with a brief worship service.

The **dinners and programs will start at 6pm** with the worship service following.

The schedule is as follows:



Ash Wednesday, February 22, **7pm** @Noble Road Presbyterian
(NO DINNER tonight)

Feb. 29 @ Bethlehem Lutheran

March 7 @ Grace Lutheran

March 14 @ Hope Lutheran

March 21 @ Noble Road Presbyterian

March 28 @ St. Alban's

Bethlehem Lutheran
3740 Mayfield Road
(216) 382-4545
Pastor Jessica Shields

Noble Road Presbyterian
2780 Noble Road
(216) 382-0660
Pastor Francis Miller

Grace Lutheran
13001 Cedar Road
(216) 321-2790
Pastor David J. Ernat

St. Alban's
2555 Euclid Heights Blvd.
(216) 932- 38080
Rev. Joe Kovitch

Hope Lutheran
2222 N. Taylor Road
(216) 371-5252
Pastor Don King

LOMO 2012

KEEP THOSE CALENDARS MARKED!



LOMO CAMP

Our 12th annual Lutheran Outdoor Ministries of Ohio – LOMO – Outreach Day Camp will be earlier than usual! Please mark your family calendars now for June 24 to 29 for this week of LOMO Camp. This will be offered to all children completing Kindergarten through Grade 6 this 2011-12 school year.

CONVERGE: A NEW KIND OF WORSHIP FOR THIS GENERATION



“Converge” is a modern worship service that meets monthly on the second Sunday of each month at 7:00 p.m. Converge is a collaborative effort of many mainline, protestant churches in the Cleveland Heights, Shaker Heights, and surrounding areas (churches with whom we in the ELCA are in full communion). The monthly worship services are geared for teens with a full band (drums, electric guitar, keys) and a relevant message for our youths.

Converge typically meets again on the second Sunday of each month. Due to Lenten and Easter schedules, the date has been tweaked for some months. Please expect it on **February 12, March 11, April 15, May 20, and June 10**. Converge takes off at First Baptist Church in Shaker Heights (3630 Fairmount Blvd.) For more info, visit us at www.facebook.com/convergeworship. See Karolynn Tom if you have any questions, or would like to request one of the rides she’s so graciously offered to our youth members!

THANKSGIVINGS

Gerald Creel for organizing his crew to keep our building safe and looking good.

Jim Fox who keeps our building tenants (especially our pre-school) such happy renters.

Linda Frank who stays after worship each week to organize our weekly offering.

(and to **Ila Berry** who did this for 25 years!)

Anne Dalzell who keeps our finances in order and our choir sounding good.

Lenora Johnson for volunteering in our office every Friday.

Bill Ishler for helping all people in our building stay warm enough.

John Haselow and **Bill Nebel** for keeping our website up to date and beautiful.

(have you visited us recently?)

Denise Leslie for her tireless efforts in Peace & Justice.

Robert McKeller who helps our Godly Play each week.

Muriel Craig who secures our Coffee Fellowship goodies each week.

COUPON DONATIONS: THANK YOU!



Please continue to donate your unwanted Sunday and Midweek coupon flyers. (Smart Source, Red Plum and Proctor and Gamble)

The Peace and Justice Committee has used the coupons to defray the cost of purchasing toiletries for health care kits. The remaining coupons are available to members and passed on to families in our hope child care center.

It is my hope that we can continue this ministry. Thank You, Melanie Plummer

DID YOU KNOW...

Ira Hemingway was one of the finalists at Chambers Elementary School's annual Martin Luther King essay contest. This was held in conjunction with the King holiday in January. Of all the students in the school who entered, Ira placed second. Congratulations...

Rev. Jane Denison, faithful Hope member since 2009, has needed to transfer her congregational membership to the much closer Parma Lutheran Church. Jane has been managing chronic pain, and has not been able to be active at Hope as she would like. Godspeed, Pastor Jane!...

Brianna Monroe completed her 1st semester at Cleveland State University. She made the Dean's List with a 3.57 GPA and has been awarded a GEON Scholars scholarship for spring semester by the College of Business.

Jenny Hansler has been selected as one of the Young Adult Volunteers who will be working with the ELCA Youth Gathering in New Orleans this summer. Our pastor and three youths will be in attendance, joining ten people from Trinity, Lakewood, at this triennial event...

Kenn Smith has a new phone number: 440.684.6468...

SPECIAL DATES THIS MONTH

- African-American History Month
- Boy Scout Sunday, February 5, 2012
- Valentine's Day, February 14, 2012
- Transfiguration of Our Lord, February 19, 2012
- Presidents Day, February 20, 2012
- Ash Wednesday, February 22, 2012
- First Sunday in Lent, February 26, 2012

IN YOUR PRAYERS, PLEASE REMEMBER



Elmo Brewer, husband of Charlena

Marilyn Chitison in Columbus

Hanna Dannley at home

Rev. Jane Denison undergoing tests

Bernita Ewing undergoing tests

Terry James' family

Eunice Mayo at Eliza Bryant Center

Esaw Johnson, husband of Lenora

Smith Monroe at home

Vincent Penman at home

Kenn Smith at home

Annette Tashjian at Diplomat in N. Royalton

Walt Tomford at the Cleveland Clinic

Marilyn Wank

St. Valentine's sacrifice

Every February 14, we celebrate the loved ones in our lives with cards, flowers and chocolate. But Valentine's Day has another meaning that's been lost.

First declared a holiday by King Henry VIII of England in 1537, it commemorates the beheading of St. Valentine on February 14, 270 A.D. His crime? Performing wedding ceremonies after Roman Emperor Claudius II had outlawed marriage.

Valentine was martyred for faithfully doing the work God had given him. Although it's good to celebrate love and marriage, let's also remember the courage of a man who gave his life following his convictions.



PEACE AND JUSTICE MINISTRY



Our next Peace and Justice Ministry Meetings will be Tuesday, March 20th at 700 pm. Also our next Equal Exchange Coffee Club opportunity will be advertised after the first days of February when the sale flavor of the month option is announced and available. Orders and payment will be due February 26th with distribution expected March 11th. As usual checks are made out to Hope Lutheran.

A big thank you from P & J to those who wrote cards and/or notes for Amnesty International Write-a-thon, donated cards and/or postage money for the Lutheran Metropolitan Ministry "jail cards", contributed items and/or shopping money for the 75 Homeless stand Down kits, contributed personal items for Women's Re-entry, donated to Holiday Angels, volunteered Sunday afternoon January 22nd at the Homeless Stand down; completed (or will be completing) the survey on preference and availability for Interfaith Hospitality Network, helped with and/or attended our Black History Month program, - Ethnic Food Tasting - Black History T-Shirt Sunday event.

We hope you will join us at the March 2nd LMM Faith and Friendship at either the full rate or reduced rate with P & J picking up the non-meal cost portion of your cost; and we hope you will save the Saturdays in May for the Hunger Walk on 5/12, Diversity Walk on 5/5, and the Restore Hope House walk on 5/19.

The large jug for the ELCA Stamp-out Malaria campaign will again be appearing with newslet-

ter articles for our Lenten discipline. This will be in place of the household goods collection for youth reentry/Next Step. As our bishop said as she presented our synods' initial offering for this campaign "in tough times, it is important to turn outward and not in on ourselves. The ELCA Malaria Campaign reminds us we are part of something greater than ourselves, and we are neither helpless nor poor." Please join us to meet or exceed our goal to prevent this deadly, but preventable disease.

Walking with God

The essence of the Christian life is knowing God and walking with him. It's about sticking with him when the sky is blue and also when it's filled with clouds or choked with smoke. It's about walking with the Lord through thick and thin, and pressing on through every heartache and trial that happens to come our way.

Greg Laurie

Pack Well



During Lent, as we focus on Christ's journey to the cross, let's also examine the journey of our lives. The first task when leaving on any adventure is packing.

What have you placed in your bag? Are you weighed down with temptations, self-doubt, money worries, relationship troubles? Have you overlooked any important items? Maybe your bag feels too empty for the challenges ahead. Remember to pack mercy, grace and forgiveness.

Thanks to Easter, we know that our journey in Christ continues, even when the road becomes difficult. So as you prepare for Lent, carry with you the hope made possible by Jesus' sacrifice on our behalf.

—Based on the "Journey to Hope"

ser-

FORGIVENESS Game

Try this twist on musical chairs.

What you need:

- 28 large index cards
- Black marker
- Two teams of people
- Radio or CD player

What you do:

1. On index cards, write out *forgiveness*, one letter per card. Make two sets (two F's, two O's, etc.).
2. Mix up the cards and form them face up in a circle on the floor. (You'll have six blanks mixed in.)
3. Have teams mix themselves up and stand in a circle around the cards. Ask an extra person to turn the music on and off.
4. As the music plays, teams walk around the circle. When the music stops, players each pick up the card nearest them.
5. Team members take their cards to a designated area and try to spell forgiveness. Any double letters or blanks go back to the "music person," who reorganizes remaining cards, spacing them evenly into a fresh circle.
6. Play continues until one team spells *forgiveness*.

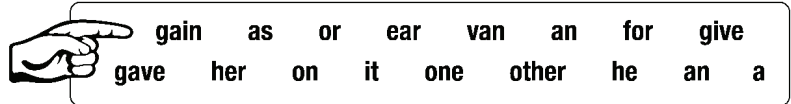


FOLLOW GOD'S EXAMPLE

In a letter to the church in Colossae, the apostle Paul wrote about the importance of forgiveness.

•••• DIRECTIONS ••••

To complete Colossians 3:13 (NIV), use the smaller words to fill in the larger words.



B _____ w _____ h each
 ot _____ d _____ give
 _____ e an _____ if _____ y
 of you h _____ grie _____ ce
 a _____ st some _____ .
 For _____ as t _____ L _____ d
 for _____ you." COLOSSIANS 3:13, NIV

Answers: "Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you." Colossians 3:13, NIV


















February

◀ January

March ▶

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2  7p.m. Choir Linda Frank Carol Fredrich Bill Ishler	3 8p.m. AA	4 Joel Wolnik
5 9:30a.m. Worship 11a.m. Christian Ed & Godly Play 12p.m. Semi-Annual Meeting 	6 8:30 p.m. AA	7  7p.m. Council	8 7p.m. Godly Play Meeting Ashleigh Carr	9 9a.m. Rostered Leaders Meeting 7p.m. Choir	10  12 Noon Women of Hope 8p.m. AA	11  9-11a.m. Men's Breakfast 4p.m. NA Jessica Lee
12 9:30a.m. Worship 11a.m. Christian Ed & Godly Play 11-1:30p.m. Black History 7p.m. Converge Louise Moss	13 6:00p.m. Marketing 8:30 p.m. AA Ian Vandyburg	14  4p.m. Heights InterFaith	15 9:30a.m. Outreach 6p.m. Finance Walt Tomford	16 7p.m. Choir	17 Newsletter Deadline 8p.m. AA	18 9-12p.m. Workday  1-3p.m. Godly Play Festival Dick Wills
19 9:30a.m. Worship 11a.m. Christian Ed & Godly Play	20 6p.m. Foyer Group 8:30 p.m. AA Gerald Creel	21	22  7:00p.m. Ash Wednesday at Noble Road Andre Craig Rosa Sanders	23 7p.m. Choir	24 8p.m. AA Kenn Smith Marilyn Brandt Jonathan Wills	25 9-1p.m. Council Retreat 
26 9:30a.m. Worship 11a.m. Christian Ed & Godly Play 12 noon Parish Life Meeting	27 8:30 p.m. AA	28  7p.m. Music & Worship Quentin Craig	29  6-8p.m. Lent at Bethlehem	 		



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