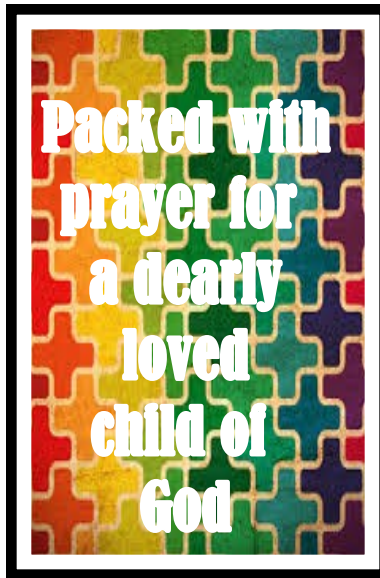


Dear Faith Shapers,

Happy Fall! I love the beauty and also the newness that fall brings. New programs, new school year, and a new year of ministries. I love getting back to a routine after a fun filled summer. The fall is a perfect time to add a new routine or refine what you are doing. Try adding one or more of these: mealtime grace, blessing your kids, family gratitude journal, attending worship together, praying each night, write a weekly bible verse, have family devotions, attend a bible study or read a book together. Pick one thing and make it your priority this year. We become what we repeatedly do. If we want our family to be faithful Christ followers then we need to be faithful followers and make following Christ our #1 priority. Creating a new habit takes hard work, lots of reminders, grace when you forget, and perseverance to start again. God's blessings on your new habits,

Lisa Kammerer
Associate in Ministry



Packed with Prayer

Throughout the year we collect many things: school supplies, food pantry items, health kits, baby layettes, quilts, sewing kits, Christmas presents and more. What if we blessed them? What if we prayed for the people receiving them? How cool would it be to receive an item you need and see a note that says the person who packed it prayed for you and that you are a dearly loved child of God!

You can use the clipart in the corner and attach it to your items or you write your own note.

Here is an example prayer:

Holy God, bless these _____ and the people who will use them. Let these physical gifts be symbols of the love and support we give. We pray that all who receive these items experience your love and joy.

You can bless your items at home with your family and you can ask your Pastor to add a blessing of the items to your church's worship service.



This information is prepared for you by the Northeastern Iowa Synod-Home Life Network for use by families and local congregations.

Like our page on Facebook and our posted resources will appear in your newsfeed. Our page is [Northeastern Iowa Synod Home Life Network ELCA](#)

 Find us on Facebook



Technology Corner Living Our Faith Online

We have the opportunity to retell God's story each day. We tell of God's story when we talk about what God is doing and has done in our lives. Social media has created new platforms for us to connect to the world. How are you connecting? Here are some helpful tips to living your faith online.

Ways We Can Serve Others Online

1. Ask the Holy Spirit to open your heart and mind to the needs of others.
2. Share resources and sites to help others.
3. Recommend people who have expertise for a specific problem.
4. Pray for others problems and needs and let them know you are praying for them.
5. Spread the word digitally about local community needs, charities, or relief efforts.
6. Connect with people when you can personally relate to their struggle. Listen, pray, and give encouragement.
7. Keep a prayer journal. There are apps for this. Pray for others and be sure to follow up with them.

Did you know?

Did you know, our synod has a **YouTube** channel?

We do! It's called the
Northeastern Iowa Synod Channel.

There are some great new videos produced by our synod. Check out the Flat Jesus video which is about the Flat Jesus activity featured in last month's Living Faith @ Home newsletter!



Creative Ways To Invite People To Your Church

- Have a church float in your local parade.
- Hand out hot chocolate or coffee at community events.
- Take breakfast to school teachers.
- Hand out candy and a church invite on the busiest street on Halloween.
- Volunteer at nursing homes and schools.
- Have a free garage sale. Give stuff away and invite people to church.
- Host a neighborhood block party.
- Cook team meals before local sporting events.
- Have a free car wash.
- Set up a lemonade stand for a cause that your church supports.
- Hand out helium balloons at special events.
- Take treats to people who serve your community (police, fire fighters, hospital workers, librarians, etc.). Let them know you appreciate them and invite them to church.
- Salt driveways in the winter.
- Volunteer at community events and races.
- Dress up like Super Heroes or Star Wars characters and let people take pictures with you.

BEST IDEA EVER.... Come up with your own idea that you are excited about, get your friends involved and make it happen!!!

*People go where they are invited.
Let us welcome and invite!*