

New lesson plans each Sunday

GRACE UNITED METHODIST VIRTUAL SUNDAY SCHOOL

WELCOME TO
CELEBRATE WUNDER™

February 14, 2021

Happy Valentine's Day!!

MEET YOU AT OUR GRACE WEBSITE

GRACESIOUXCITY.ORG

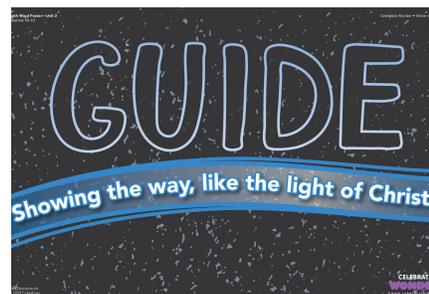
Jesus Calms the Storm

In this story, Jesus has been teaching large crowds and decides to take some time away with the disciples. Jesus and the disciples take a boat on the Sea of Galilee. Jesus, tired from teaching and ministering, falls asleep. Soon, a storm hits, the boat shakes, and the disciples are afraid. They go to Jesus for help and are surprised to find him sleeping. How can anyone sleep when there is a chance the boat might be overtaken by water and they all might drown? But Jesus remains calm. He gets up and calms the storm. He then asks the disciples why they are scared, as if their feelings of fear are unnecessary.

This might leave us confused. It also creates a sense of awe and wonder. After Jesus awoke and addressed the storm, the disciples were amazed. The Scripture says: "Overcome with awe, they said to each other, 'Who then is this?' " We, too, might feel this way about this story. What amazing power Jesus has! We also might wonder how he could stop such a powerful storm. There is so much mystery in this story. Yet, there is calmness in the midst of the storm.

There are so many elements for you to latch onto. However, what a gift it is to know there is someone like Jesus who can be present with us in the midst of life's storms! I don't think this story truly dismisses our feelings of fear or anxiety. Rather, it reminds us that there is always something bigger to rely on when we are overwhelmed. Our faith can ground us and be a guide in helping us know we are loved and safe.

Faith Word



Spiritual Practice

The disciples were afraid of the storm. Sometimes we are afraid too. When our life gets scary and we are afraid, we can call on Jesus to calm us down.

Close your eyes. Take a breath in.

Imagine Jesus is standing beside you. As you breath out, say, "I am not afraid. Jesus will keep me safe."

Repeat.



Wonder Question

What are you afraid of?



Instagram

gracesiouxcity



Grace UMC Sioux City, Iowa

@gracesiouxcity

*Although we can't gather together we can still
gather with Christ.*

*We do miss our church family but the church is
WHERE WE ARE!*

Jesus Calms the Storm

Clouds

Clouds are made from billions of tiny droplets of water.

Clouds begin as water from a lake, stream, or ocean. The sun warms up the water, and the liquid evaporates into the atmosphere to form clouds. The wind helps the clouds travel across the sky to gather more water. The clouds get heavy and fill up with water. When that happens, they release moisture back to the earth in the form of rain or other precipitation. There are various kinds of clouds and each cloud looks different.

Below are a few common clouds:

Cirrus clouds are thin, and are the highest clouds in the sky.

Cumulus clouds have a flat base, and sometimes form in a line.

Stratus clouds are dark and gray, and are lowest clouds in the sky.

Cumulonimbus clouds are giant in size and very tall, and often fill the whole sky.

Various clouds mean different types of weather:
rain, thunderstorms, snow, and more!



I wonder: Have you ever looked at clouds and seen a shape of something familiar?

Draw your own clouds and sky.

Jesus Calms the Storm

Storm Puzzle

CELEBRATE
WONDER

Session 11a • Ages 3-5



Instructions

1. Cut out the puzzle pieces.
2. Put together the puzzle of the stormy side.
3. Take the puzzle apart and put it together to show the calm side.
4. Store the pieces in an envelope.



Jesus Calms the Storm

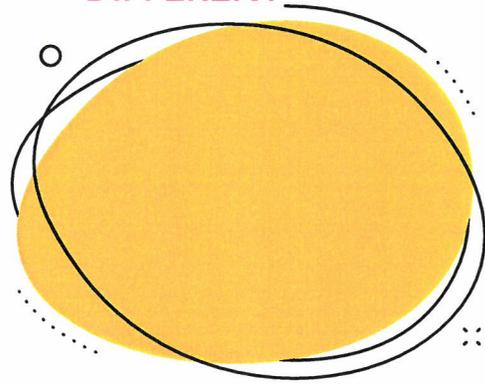
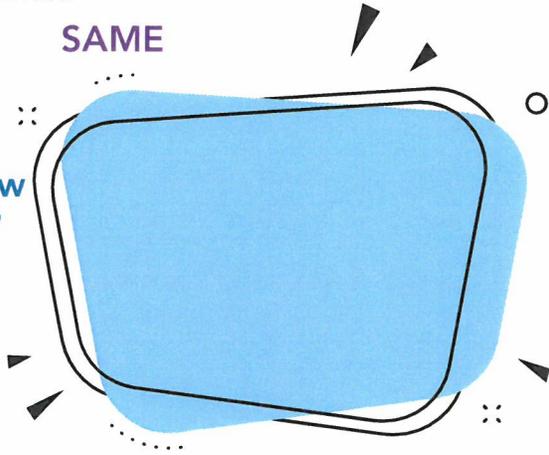
More than One Story

Did you know that today's Bible story is found in three Books of the Bible? Look up these Bible stories. Use the chart below to compare and contrast the stories.

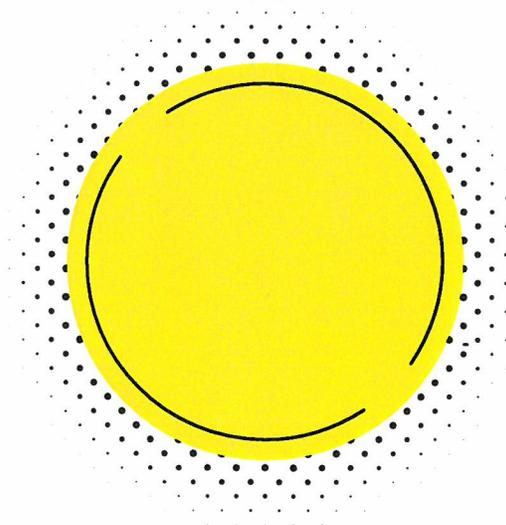
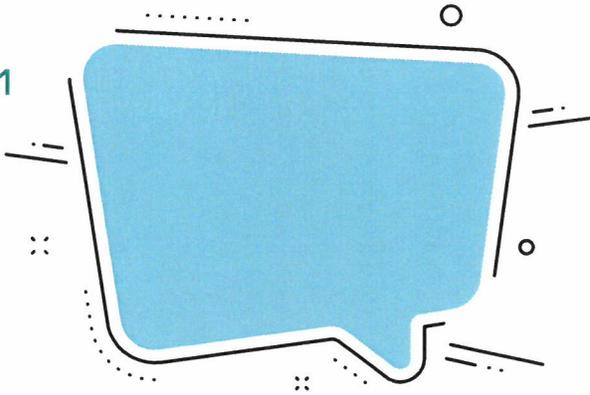
SAME

DIFFERENT

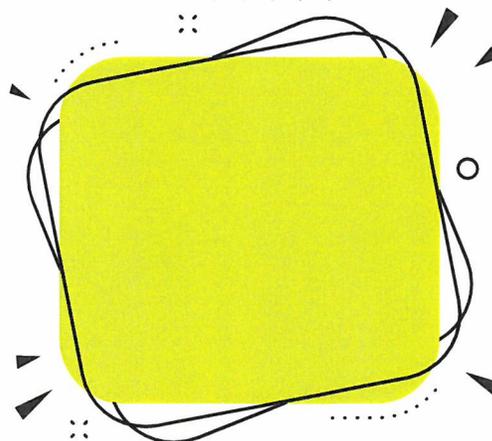
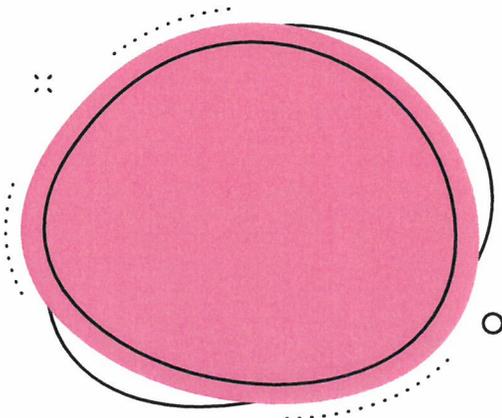
Matthew
8:23-27



Mark
4:35-41



Luke
8:22-25



Jesus Calms the Storm

The Story of the Storm

Instructions

Assign roles and retell the story.

Narrator: Jesus had been teaching crowds of people about God's kingdom all day. He was with his disciples near a lake when evening came.

Jesus: Let's cross over to the other side of the lake.

Narrator: The disciples and Jesus left the crowd and got into a boat. Other boats followed along after them. High winds arose, and waves crashed against the boat and swamped it.

Wind: *(Make a sound like forceful wind, and pantomime moving like the wind.)*

Waves: *(Pantomime moving like waves.)*

Narrator: While this was happening, Jesus was sleeping on a pillow at the back of the boat.

Jesus: *(Pantomime sleeping peacefully on a pillow.)*

Disciples: *(Pantomime shaking Jesus awake.)* Teacher, don't you care that we're drowning?

Narrator: Jesus got up and gave orders to the wind and the waves.

Jesus: Silence! Be still!

Narrator: The wind and the waves settled down, and there was calm.

Wind and Waves: *(Pantomime calm.)*

Jesus: Disciples, why are you frightened? Don't you have faith yet?

Disciples: *(Pantomime looking amazed.)* Who is this? Even the wind and the water obey him!



Jesus Calms the Storm

Storm Story Words

Instructions

Use the word bank to help you complete the puzzle.

Across

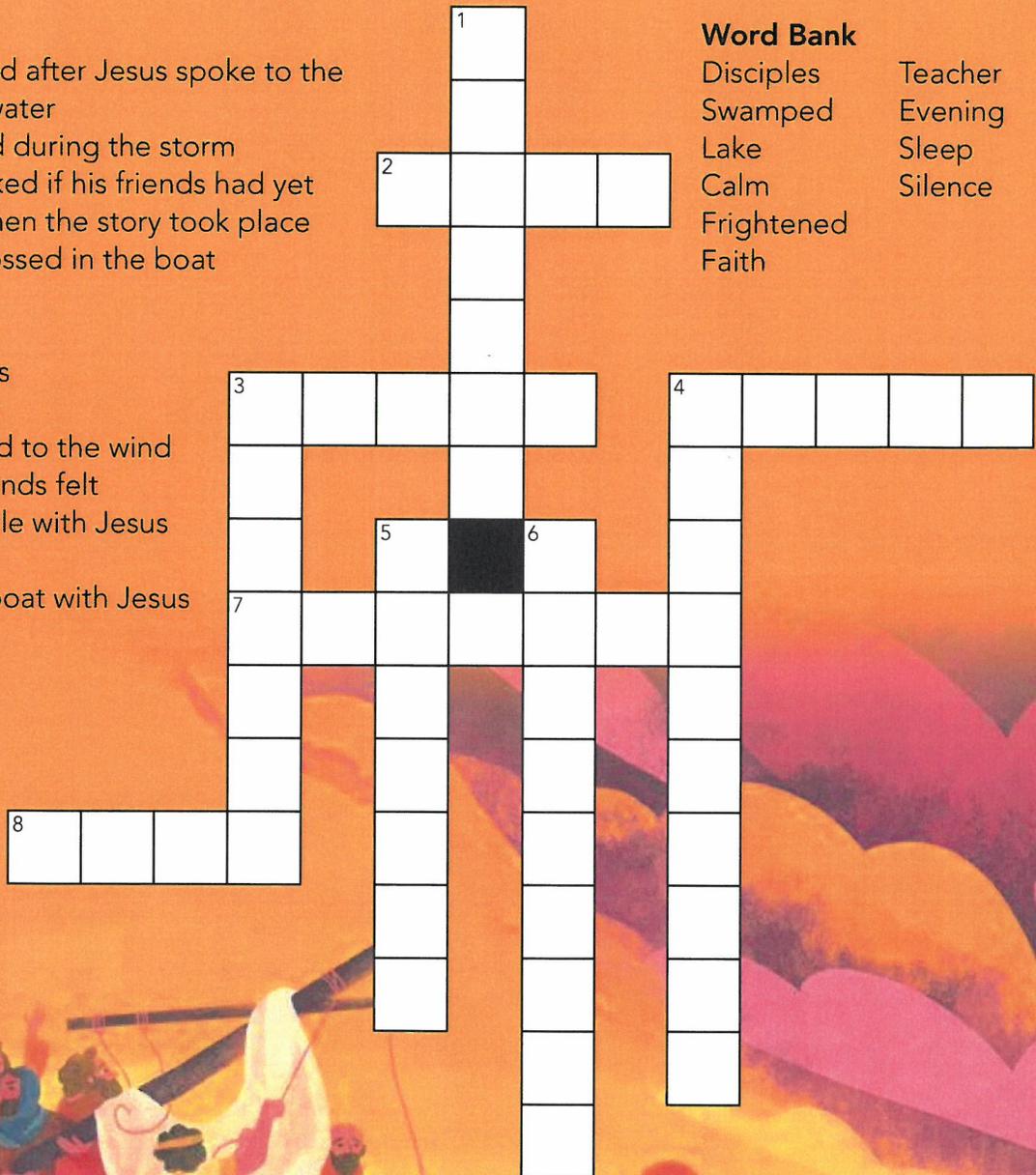
2. What happened after Jesus spoke to the wind and the water
3. What Jesus did during the storm
4. What Jesus asked if his friends had yet
7. Time of day when the story took place
8. What Jesus crossed in the boat

Down

1. What the waves did to the boat
3. What Jesus said to the wind
4. How Jesus' friends felt
5. What the people with Jesus called him
6. People in the boat with Jesus

Word Bank

Disciples Teacher
Swamped Evening
Lake Sleep
Calm Silence
Frightened
Faith



JESUS CALMS THE STORM

Spot 8 differences between the two pictures.



Easter



Lent

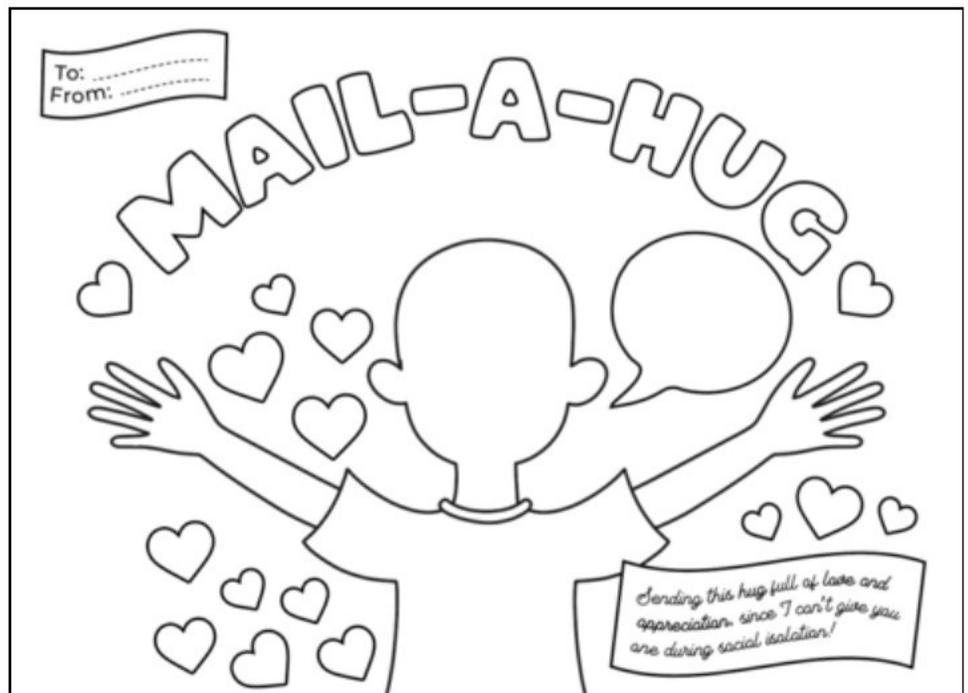
2021

You can use this stained glass picture for your spiritual journey as a simple, daily, and playful but serious practice for praying your way through the 46 days of Lent. Each day can be a section for you to choose a word to ponder or a person to pray for. Write the word or name in any allotted space with a pen and draw or doodle around it with the last day being EASTER (day 47). Add color with colored pencils or markers; let the word or name speak to you. If words come to you as you draw, say them as a prayer. If not, just continue to draw, stay quiet, and let the word or name enter into your mind and heart. Returning to the calendar each day for a special time to be present to God and to listen. **Save this page to do this activity for the next 40+ Days**

OUT IN THE COMMUNITY: MAIL-A-HUG

Life looks so different right now. If you asked your kids what's the one thing they miss the most right now, what would they say? The park, play dates, family, friends...

We all miss our people and can't wait to give them a big squeeze once this need for social distancing softens. And until that time, we'll continue to get creative on how to stay connected and make each other feel love from a distance. We will be providing a larger copy in the weekly Sunday School News letters each week in February.



So you will have the opportunity to send multiple hugs in an adorable way to whomever they're missing. We will also have a downloadable PDF that you can print off as many as you like on our children's ministry page at gracesiouxcity.org.

Parents, grandparents, friends, cousins, teachers... who doesn't want to get a hug in the mail? There's something extra special about getting something in the real mail - the extra effort to find a stamp, go to the post box, let alone write the letter to someone who might be lonely... it shows some extra effort and care, especially in today's oh-so digital world full of screens and e-learning. This little something different can make our people feel that much more special. And be sure to thank your mail carrier for their essential service too in helping to deliver your letter!

Just have your little one customize the image to their likeness, color, and add a personalized message. Fold the hug 3 ways and mail in a legal sized envelope. When your special someone opens the letter, they're be sure to feel the love and the hug coming straight for them!

FAITH FAMILY CLUB FUN

Attention to our Community of Faith. Its time for some fellowship and sharing of your talents.

Grace welcomes all families, of any size or age to be part of Faith Family Club.

On February 14th, we will be hosting an online Grace Variety Hour!

If you have a talent you'd like to share, contact Brock Bourek, at Brock@gracesiouxcity.org with the completed details listed by February 8th!

ANYONE is Welcome!!

GRACE VARIETY HOUR

Do you have a Talent you'd like to share with Grace UMC?

ANYTHING FROM DANCING, SINGING, INSTRUMENTS, JOKES, JUGGLING, AND MORE!

How to Participate:

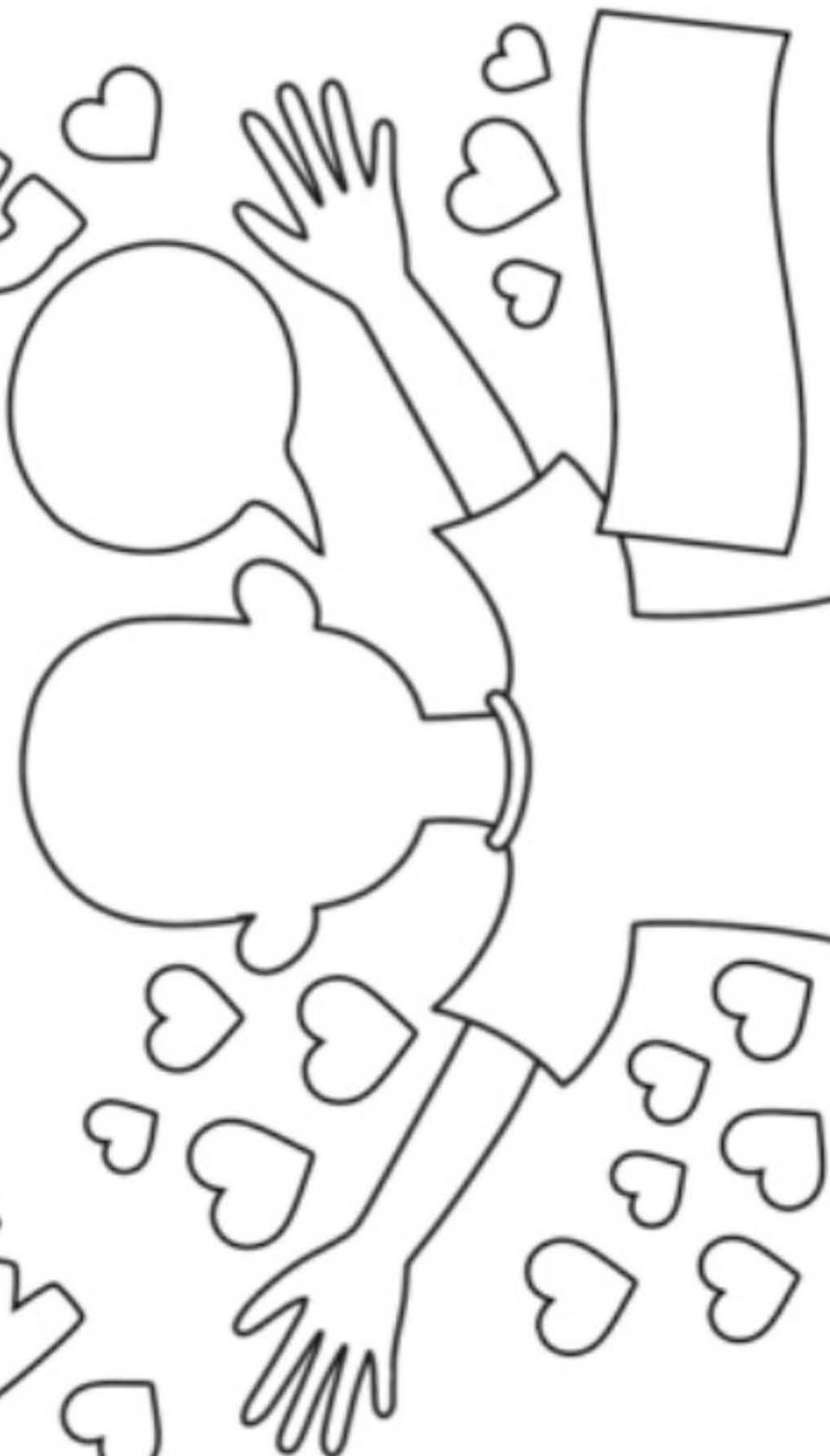
Talent Acts must be 4 Minutes or Less

Recordings of each Talent Act must be submitted by Monday, February 8th to brock@gracesiouxcity.org

PLEASE EMAIL BROCK BEFORE THE 8TH IF YOU ARE INTERESTED

The Final Product will be available Feb. 14th on our Youtube, Facebook & Grace Website.

WAAII-A-HUG



To:
From:



WELCOME TO FAITH FAMILY CLUB!

Combining Spirituality, Community and Fun

You are welcome to be part of Faith Family Club. Children will learn about God's love for them and about the Bible, and they'll have fun experiences with their families.

February Spiritual Activities & Practices

The purpose is to enjoy spending quality time together through creative & intellectual projects, while sparking family & faith based discussions. These activities are just suggestions. We encourage your family to do at least two within a month's time span.



Outdoor: Ice Globes— A fun & easy family activity for limited Supplies such as: Balloons, & Colored Dye or a Tea Light. Fill your balloon with water and then add a colored dye to it (if you want something other than clear). Then either take them outside to freeze or place them in the freezer. Once they are frozen solid, cut the balloon off of the ice sphere and place the now frozen globe outside where you can enjoy it while the weather lasts. For extended fun, place a tea light in the snow first, then place your ice globe over it for illuminating fun.

Outdoor spiritual connection: As you do this, think & talk about the complexity of mankind and how although we may all look similar (Balloons) on the outside, on the inside (frozen water) we are all made the same, yet we're different from each other. Our "frozen water" doesn't look the exact same as everyone else, because we all have unique personalities that make us each special individuals.

Artistic: Family Valentines— Everyone in your family writes a heartfelt valentine/note for each other member in your household. You should receive one for each member you wrote one for. Have a different bag or location for each member's valentine notes to be placed.



Artistic spiritual connection: The goal is to remind your loved ones what you love and appreciate most about them. It is encouraged to read these aloud in front of your family, but you can certainly do this in private too.



Movie: Zootopia— This animated 2016 to-be-classic Disney movie, is all about a society of animals overcoming stereotypes and coming together despite their differences.

Movie spiritual connection: In honor of February being Black History Month, talk with your family about the various forms of Diversity & overt racism portrayed in the film. Reflect and compare the society of Zootopia to our American society. What differences and similarities do you notice?

Innovative: Hello Kitchen— Each member of your family will be responsible for providing a part of dinner for a family potluck. This meal will certainly be a variety of food, creating a smorgasbord as each person must cook/prepare something "on their own" and provide it for the whole family as part of the meal that night. This includes appetizers, entrees & desserts if desired, and this can be as easy as someone buying a bag of chips that they like and sharing it with everyone. The catch is... you can't communicate with one another which foods you'll each be providing. **Note—Obviously small children should have guidance from one person.



Innovative spiritual connection: The objective is to create a fun experience and atmosphere for the whole family as you (hopefully) learn how to cook/create new foods for one another. Make sure to pray before your meal and think about how thankful and grateful you are to have your loved ones provide a meal for you. **Suggestion—regardless if you cook or buy something from the store, everyone should do their best to be actively present during the preparation of this dinner meal. This example of "too many cooks in the kitchen" is highly recommended as it encourages

Please send our Christian Education Team (christianed@gracesiouxcity.org) pictures of your family doing any of the Monthly Faith Family Club Spiritual Activities.
Faith Family Club; Where Our Strength is United

AT HOME WEEKLY CHILDRENS MINISTRY

Parents Page

Grace United Methodist Church

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION CONTACTS

OFFICE: 712-276-3452

CHRISTIANED@GRACESIOUXCITY.ORG



**Brock
Bourek**



**Tamera
Albert**

Your Children watch you when you pray.
Thank you for teaching them that God
Loves them too.



CELEBRATE WONDER WINTER EDITION



As you make space for God in your home this winter season, Grace will provide you with the resources you need to foster your child's spiritual formation. Each week we provide a children's newsletter with lesson activities from December 2020 - February 2021 to share God's truths with your child at your pace.

February 7

The Lords Prayer
Matthew 6:5-15

February 21

Mary & Martha
Luke 10: 38-42

February 14

Jesus Calms the Storm
Mark 4:35-41

February 28

Zacchaeus
Luke 19:1-10

Dear VBS Volunteers!

Grace UMC would like to invite you to play an important role in our summer Christian Ministry from June 6 through June 10th. We were so grateful for your time and talents, that we would love for you to participate in the 2021 Session of Knights of North Castle.

At this time we are planning to meet in person in a small group setting, but are making preparations for a similar program virtually if needed. The students will enjoy an interactive, energizing, Bible-based good time as they go on a quest in search of the King's Armor. They will become Knights and discover how to serve God and God's Mission for their lives.

We are so excited to have this time to make VBS meaningful with you and bring the Faith to the Next Generation. Please let us know if you would be interested in being a volunteer and if there are any specific areas you would assist with. Thank you and looking forward to visiting with you soon.

Brock Bourek & Tamera Albert
Co Directors of Christian Education.

