

Living Faith @



Dear Friends,

September is a month of changes ... in seasons, as we start Fall programs, the leaves are turning colors or falling off the trees, the daylight hours are getting shorter, the heat and humidity have decreased, the excitement of anticipated Reformation Sunday, Advent, and Christmas planning. There is a lot to do and hopefully, you have plenty of volunteers to pitch in and help.

We, who write these articles to help folks with faith formation at home, are seeing changes as well. Our group began when the Synod made the change from committees to Networks. Those who believed that faith formation begins at home, met and determined ideas to pass along through articles written and delivered with the Star every month. Our numbers have become less throughout the years, so with two left, we have made the decision to take a break. We know and understand the number of you readers who utilized our newsletter will now be without; however, you can still find past newsletters on the synod website at www.neiasynod.org/download-category/home-life. With that in mind, I will include a few ideas for fall and the upcoming holiday seasons.

May the peace of the Lord be with you all in your planning and teaching the faith to the "littles" in your house, your congregations, and your communities.

God Bless You,

Pastor Sue Cira and Deacon Lisa Kammerer - Home Life Network, NEIA Synod

here is the link to our Facebook page: [Northeastern Iowa Synod Home Life Network ELCA](https://www.facebook.com/NortheasternIowaSynodHomeLifeNetworkELCA)



**Playing in the leaves is a
fun activity!!**

(Always make sure there are
adults to supervise)



There are many fall activities to do with leaves ... or leaf shaped paper cut-outs. Here's one idea of thankfulness:



A D V E N T

Advent - means arrival or coming. We often use an Advent Calendar to help count the days of Advent. Advent is a four-week period intended to be a time of preparation for the arrival of Jesus Christ.

Advent begins on Advent Sunday, which is the fourth Sunday before Christmas. Many calendars are made of paper with little doors that contain a prize of candy, puzzle pieces, or a scripture reading.

The First Sunday of Advent this year is on December 1st — it ends on December 25th with Christmas.

If you find a picture you like that you can make into a window cling decoration ... here is an example for Halloween:



Put your image into a ziplock bag. Trace around the image with puffy paint & let dry. Peel them off and stick to your window.



Winter brings snowflakes.

Pipe-cleaners and beads make a fun snowflake ... just remember to bend the ends over to keep the beads from falling off.

We leave you with the following reminder: Be like Jesus and use your voice, ears, arms, hands, mind & heart accordingly.

