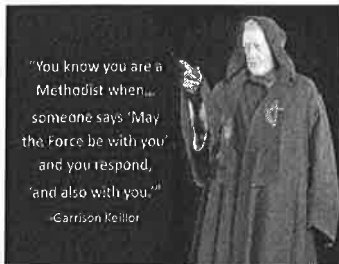




VOICE OF WESLEY

Wesley United Methodist Church
Bradley, Illinois
May 2016

Growing in Faith, Transforming Lives, and Creating Disciples for Jesus Christ



How Do You Know You are a Methodist?

If it is Saturday and we are home, you will find my Joe in the Living Room of the Parsonage listening to Garrison Keillor on the Prairie Home Companion as he reports from Lake Wobegon. I don't often listen in; but I hear Joe laughing out loud quite often. I also don't listen too often to stand-up comedians like Jeff Foxworthy. It is not that I don't have a sense of humor, I just think mine is a little more nuanced. But, and I mean this,

if I hear, you might be a Methodist if...I start listening and start laughing. I really believe that one of the greatest gifts God gave humankind is the ability to laugh—both at a good joke and at ourselves. One of the disappointing things about English translations of the Bible, both the Hebrew and Christian scriptures, is the loss of humor from the original Hebrew, Greek or Aramaic. Particularly, in the Hebrew scriptures there are plays on words and puns, many of the Psalms are written in such a way that each line begins with a letter from the Hebrew. But I digress...the humor of Keillor and Foxworthy. Enjoy with your God given gift of laughter.

Keillor: "I do believe this: People, these Methodists, who love to sing in four-part harmony are the sort of people you can call up when you're deep in distress.

If your dying, they will comfort you.
If you are lonely, they'll talk to you.
And if you are hungry, they'll give you a tuna salad."

Methodist believe in prayer, but would practically die if asked to pray out loud.

Methodist like to sing, except when confronted with a new hymn or a hymn with more than four verses.

Methodists believe their pastors will visit them in the hospital, even if they don't notify the pastor that they are in the hospital.

And finally, You know you are a Methodist when: It's 100 degrees, with 90% humidity, and you still have coffee after the service.

Foxworthy: You might be a Methodist —If you have been in the same church all your life but have gone through 27 new pastors.

If You hear something really funny during the sermon and smile as loudly as you can.

Pastor Julie :)

WESLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
500 N. Cleveland Ave.
Bradley IL 60915
815-933-7932
e-mail – www.bradleywesley.org
Website—www.bradleywesley.com
Pastor Julie Smith
April 2016

label



**KNOWN—
LEADERSHIP TEAM
& COMMITTEE
MEETINGS**

**Finance Team, Tuesday,
May 3 @ 6:30**

**Worship Team,
Thursday, May 5 @ 6:30**

**ADMINISTRATIVE
COUNCIL**

**Tuesday, May 10 @
7:00 p.m.**

**Trustees, Wednesday,
May 18 @ 7:30 p.m.**



Laity voice

THE PROMISE OF THE RESURRECTION

EXODUS, a time of preparation. **LENT**, still a time of preparation. **PALM SUNDAY** excitement and time of anticipation and hope. Suddenly, the night of Passover, the atmosphere changes to fear at the mention of a traitor. A time of fear and an unknown future goes through the minds of the disciples when Jesus is arrested and crucified. On the third day, the Son rose and the tomb was empty! After being with Jesus for three years and hearing and seeing all that Jesus had done...they still did not understand what had happened or what they should do next. They were frightened and hiding in the Upper Room when Jesus came to them—even through a door that was locked. It wasn't until then they finally showed some promise of realizing the Promise of Resurrection.

So!! What now? Congregations tend to grow during this time of Easter. Does our faith become stronger when the season of Lent pops up on our calendars? Probably not, but it does become more of a priority in our lives more than any other time except for Advent and Christmas. It concerns me when we seem to allow it to just drift away when our everyday activities once again become more important.

All Christians of all faiths must not take God's grace or his presence in our lives for granted. We reach out for His Love and grace at our **CONVENIENCE** on **OUR TIME!** He's there, **ALWAYS**, for us. Why is it so hard for his children to be there to do his will. We have been taught over and over and over to make disciples and provide for those who are less fortunate. The more we read and study the scriptures, we hear His words and those of the disciples more clearly.

An invitation to Bible study, Sunday school, Christian education, any term you wish to use, is to gain knowledge from the scriptures passages. We are all God's children no matter our age. I am here to encourage you to become part of any class and to make Sunday Worship Service once again a priority in your lives and your family's.

I love attending Wesley church. There's no place I would rather be on Sunday morning, than with my church family.

God bless you in Jesus name. Let us resurrect and strengthen our faith.

Dave Haskins. April 14, 2016

A new Column/Addition to the Voice of Wesley—Articles by the Laity of Wesley. If you have something, an article, poetry, story, etc. that you would like to have in the monthly newsletter, please contact Pastor Julie and/or Jo. Editorial discretion allowed.

Bradley Wesley United Methodist Church, 500 N Cleveland Ave, Bradley IL 60915
May 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>1 9:00 AM Worship 10:10 AM Children's Choir Practice Christian Education: 10:15 AM Adult 10:30 AM Children and Youth</p>	<p>2 12:30 PM Prayer Shawl Ministry</p>	<p>3 6:30 PM Finance Meeting</p>	<p>4 6:00 PM Youth Group 6:00 PM Bell Practice 7:15 PM Choir Practice</p>	<p>5 1:00 PM Prayer/Patchwork Angels 6:30 PM Worship Team meeting</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7 1:00 pm UMMW Annual Ladies Tea</p>
<p>8 9:00 AM Worship 10:15 AM Adult, Children and Youth Christian Education</p>	<p>9 10:30 AM Staff meeting</p>	<p>10 7:00 PM Admin Council Meeting</p>	<p>11 6:00 PM Bell Practice 6:30 PM Girl Scouts 7:15 PM Choir Practice</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>15 9:00 AM Anointing Nurse Recognition 9:00 AM Worship 10:15 AM Adult, Children and Youth Christian Education 12:30 PM Food Pantry/ Dedication</p>	<p>16 12:30 PM Prayer Shawl Ministry 6:00 PM Parish Nurse Network (conference room)</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18 6:00 PM Youth Group 6:00 PM Bell Practice 7:15 PM Choir Practice 7:30 PM Trustees meeting</p>	<p>19 5:30 PM 3rd Thursday Supper Club at Noodles & Co. on Rt.50</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>22 9:00 AM Chaddock Presentation Guest Speaker 9:00 AM Worship 10:15 AM Adult, Children and Youth Christian Education</p>	<p>23 10:30 AM Staff meeting 6:30 PM Women's Book Club</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25 Newsletter Article Due 6:00 PM Bell Practice 6:30 PM Girl Scouts 7:15 PM Choir Practice</p>	<p>26 6:30 PM Food Pantry Meeting</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29 9:00 AM Worship 10:15 AM Adult, Children and Youth Christian Education</p>	<p>30 Memorial Day Office Closed 6:30PM Prayer Shawl Ministry</p>	<p>31 10:00 AM Newsletter Mailing</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>



If you would like to be a Lay Liturgist during 2016, please contact Pat Farman or the Church Office, at 815-933-7932. Everyone is welcome to read the Scripture, including Children and Youth.

Sunday, May 1

**Sue Muhlstadt
Pastor Tim**



APPLYING BIBLICAL PRINCIPLES

Money is a neutral commodity, a means of exchange. It is neither inherently good nor evil. In 1 Timothy 6:9-10, *We are warned about the dangers of a determination to get rich:* “But those who want to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil; and in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains.”

It is this determination that becomes an obsession that is a problem. The determination becomes the focus of our time and attention. The same can be said of a determination to never be poor or without—remember Scarlett from *Gone with the Wind*? Money cannot buy security; money cannot buy happiness; it cannot guarantee peace or joy, contentment nor health.

Our faith tells us to put God first, to make God’s will the focus of our attention and our desires. God desires that we put God first, and then that we care for our neighbors as we would want to be cared for and that is where our focus should be at all times.

How do you view money? How do you use money? Are you using any portion of your income for the betterment of the world—God’s creation and of the human beings in the world created in God’s image just as you were? Are you giving any portion of your income, even a dollar, as an offering in church? Where are your priorities?



LITURGISTS

- May 1 Cheryl Enright
- May 8 Teresa Girot
- May 15 Tim Rhodes
- May 22 Pastor Julie
- May 29 Gabe Marsh

USHERS:

- Brenda and Don McCabe
- Karen and Bill Warburton

GREETERS:

- May 1
- May 8
- May 15
- May 22 Hazel and Bob Chinski
- May 29

- May 1 Andrew Mann
- May 8 Avery Mann
- May 15 Abby Prendergast
- May 22 Hope & Izzie Prendergast
- May 29 Lyndsay S. & Natalie P.



WHY GREETERS ARE IMPORTANT: You might notice that we have several empty spots for Greeters in May. Few things say as much about a congregation as a warm smile and a friendly welcome for folks as they come to church on Sunday morning.

It can be intimidating for a visitor who doesn’t know where the Sanctuary is or where bathrooms can be located. Or that they are welcome to join us for Coffee or Sunday School. Greeters are important, please consider this ministry.



Remember SUNDAY SCHOOL begins at 10:30 for our Children and Youth and 10:15 for Adults.

Children and Youth attend Choir at 10:10 until 10:25 with Joe Schripsema in the Chapel for Children and with Sandra Lutz in the Choir Room for Youth.

SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHEDULE NOTICE

Sunday School activities will be suspended during the months of June, July and August. This time away from the responsibilities of Sunday School will give our Teachers and Substitutes the time to renew and regenerate for the coming year.

We will resume our normal activities with Rally Day Sunday on Sunday, September 11.



SUMMER CHILDREN & YOUTH MUSIC SCHEDULE NOTICE

The MUSIC for Children and Youth will be suspended for the summer beginning on May 8. BEGINNING May 8, Children and Youth will go to Sunday School at 10:15. Choirs will resume after Sunday, September 11.

Third Thursday Dinner

The 3rd Thursday Supper Club will meet at Noodles & Company on Rt.50 on May 19th at 5:30pm.

All adults are welcome to join. Reservations are needed to ensure enough seating is available.

Contact Kay Fisher at 814-549-0199 or send an e-mail to Kay@bradleywesley.org to make your reservation.

NEWS FROM



The UMW met on April 5, 2016.

Pastor Tim and Regina Rhodes gave a very interesting and informative presentation on their Honduras Mission.

Helen DuFour, representative from Cunningham Children's Home presented the group with the Spiritual Servant Award. A certificate was also presented.

Hostesses for the evening were Gloria Milligan and Carole Chappell. There were 14 members present.

There will be no general meeting in May due to the Ladies Day Tea on May 7.

Cindy Clemans
Secretary





ANNUAL LADIES DAY TEA
MAY 7 AT 1:00 P.M.

 All the women of the church, including the younger girls, are invited and encouraged to attend the Annual Ladies Day Tea on May 7 at 1:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

TICKETS
Adult Women—\$5.00
Young Ladies under 12—\$3.00
Tickets on sale—NOW

 This is a great way to enjoy fellowship with each other and invite friends and loved ones to a 'church' event. Hope you can join us... It is always a wonderful time!



PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Shut ins:

Mildred Grimes	Pat Wolf
Augie Walker	Hayward Smith
Vera Bell	Frances Schlondorf
Francis Pemberton	Patty Overright
...and those in the military—Dylan Cote	

Family and friends: Joy & Concerns

Continued prayers of recuperation for Anne-Marie Devoisin and Pat Wolf.

"with all prayer (Eph. 6:18)" All sorts of prayer- public, private, mental, vocal. Do not be diligent in one kind of prayer and negligent in others... let us use all."

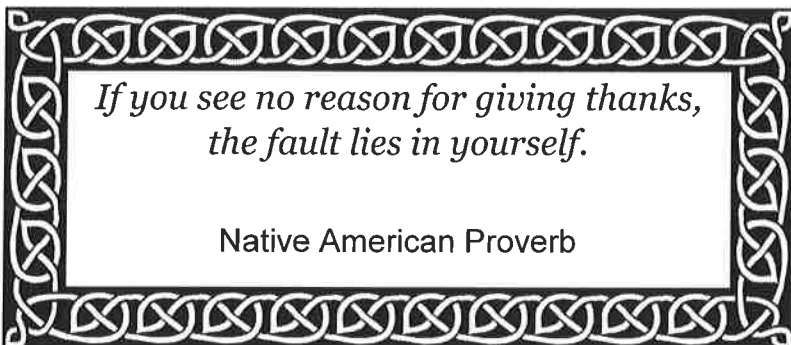
— John Wesley, How To Pray: The Best of John Wesley on Prayer



Special thank you to Sandra Lutz for the donation of the Red Noses for the Children's Time on April 17, 2016. The kids loved them and it was a good way for them to think about how a little fun can help other children who are living in poverty in the U.S. and around the world. If

anyone took a picture of the group with your phone, please send it to me at donnapangle206@yahoo.com. I would love to have a group picture, so if the kids would wear or bring their red noses to church on May 1, 2016, we can take a group picture at that time. The kids LOVED it!

Donna Pangle



MAY BIRTHDAYS



- 05/01 Steve Willett
- 05/04 Valerie Schweitzer
- 05/06 Bill Warburton
- 05/17 Dave Haskins
- 05/21 Kathy Huber
- 05/23 Jo Dubree
- 05/23 Mae Morris
- 05/25 Mark & Luke Grotevant
- 05/29 Alan Rich



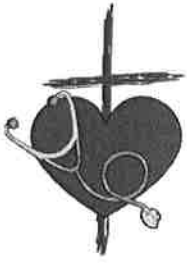
Thank you so much Wesley-

For all the support you have given us over the last several months. All our prayers have been answered and Gene is feeling much better. We are truly blessed to have a wonderful church family to help us through difficult times. God bless you all.

Gene and Bonnie Conroy

PARISH NURSING NEWS

Relda Kelly



PERSONAL CONTACT INFORMATION

Personal Contact Information forms were handed out with bulletins on April 17. Members were asked to provide names of family or close friends to contact in case of an emergency. We have had several situations where we had no idea who to contact when we had an illness or injury occur at church. As your church family, we would like to be able to reach your own family (or close friend) in an emergency. The information will be kept in the church office and will only be accessible by the Pastor, Administrative Assistant and Parish Nurses. If you have not filled out one of these forms, please call the church office.

SHINGLES

Recently, one of our members developed shingles. Anyone who has had this disease will tell you it is painful and can have serious consequences. This is caused by the same virus that causes chickenpox in children. If you had chickenpox as a child, the virus lies dormant in your body and can be triggered later in life. As we age our immune system is less efficient and may allow this virus to activate as shingles.



Fortunately, getting the shingles vaccine can prevent or lessen the severity of the outbreak. Many insurance plans will cover this inoculation. You need to check with whoever is giving you the shot to see if Medicare will pay under Part B plans. There may be a co-pay with the Medicare Part B plan. Check first. It costs about \$250 if you pay out of pocket. This seems like a lot of money, but if you contract the disease, the cost for treatment will likely be more than the cost of the vaccine. In addition, the discomfort caused by the virus can be debilitating and long term. I urge you to get the vaccine if you had chickenpox as a child and are over the age of 50. Even if you have already had shingles, you can contract it again, so it is recommended that you receive the vaccine. Check with your doctor for guidance in getting the vaccine. It is available at local drugstores and does not need a doctor's prescription.



**A heartfelt
thanks
for all you do**

National Nurses week

MAY 6-12

Every year, Nurses Week is celebrated worldwide May 6-12 to honor nurses. May 12 is the birthday of Florence Nightingale, the Founder of modern nursing. She is well known for her role in developing nursing, but what is not often noted that she was a very spiritual person. She began having visions as a young girl and continued to develop in faith and

spirituality throughout her lifetime. Florence Nightingale incorporated her spiritual beliefs in developing the practice of nursing. She always felt led by God. Late in life she said, "... you would see how God has done all, and I nothing. I have worked hard, very hard, that is all; and I have never refused God anything." Our profession has begun to recognize that caring for the spirit is an integral part of nursing care. When the American Nurses Association made Faith Community Nursing (Parish Nursing) a specialty they identified that what makes this practice unique is the "intentional" care of the spirit. Florence Nightingale knew this 175 years ago! Those of us in Faith Community Nursing know that Florence would BE a Faith Community Nurse today!

Please thank the nurses who touch your lives as we celebrate nurses everywhere!



**2016
Illinois Great Rivers
Annual Conference**

Donna Pangle, Lay Leader,
Frankie Ann Schripsema,

Youth Delegate, and I will be heading to Peoria, June 8-11, for Annual Conference. This year we would like to take the following supplies from Wesley to support the Midwest Distribution Center. This will be our **Mission of the Month for May.**

Personal Dignity Kit

- * hand towel
- * wash cloth
- * comb
- * nail clippers
- * toothbrush
- * shampoo w/ conditioner
- * deodorant
- * bar soap
- * razor- individually wrapped
- * toothpaste-2.5 oz or larger

• **School Kit**

- * 3 spiral, 1 subject notebooks (8" x 10 1/2")
- * 3 pens (blue or black)
- * 3 unsharpened pencils
- * 1 pencil sharpener
- * 1 pencil eraser-2" or larger
- * 1 ruler 12" long with metric
- * 1 protractor 6" long with metric
- * 1 box of 24 crayons
- * 1 pair of round tip scissors
(no plastic scissors)

Those wishing to help with the cost of shipping and/or the purchase of supplies in bulk can make their checks payable to Wesley UMC and Wesley will write a check to **MMDC** and take it with us in June.

**Deadline for Supplies and/or Monetary Donations
SUNDAY, JUNE 5**

**ANNUAL CONFERENCE
SPECIAL OFFERINGS—2016**

John Kofi Asmah School, West Point,
Liberia -- Laity Session (Wednesday)

Africa University Making Dreams Possible
Scholarship Campaign —WESLEY has donated
approximately \$3,500 to Africa University and
will not be donating additional funds at Annual
Conference.

Ordinands' Holy Land Pilgrimage -- Friday
night (Service of Ordination and
Commissioning)

Tom Brown Scholarship, Wiley College --
Saturday morning.

If you would like to donate any monies toward
these offerings please talk to Pastor Julie or
Donna.



Worship—CDs —CHANGES

In the past Steve Overright (Patti's son) has made copies of CDs for use by members who missed Worship. Steve has made changes to how he provides copies of the services. He now puts them on a flash drive. We have these available in the Church Office for your use. IF there is someone in the Congregation who would like to create CDs from the flash drives, please contact me. The Worship service is available on Wesley's home page (www.bradleywesley.com or www.bradleywesley.net) so it may be that this service of CDs or Flash Drives is no longer necessary. The Worship Team will evaluate the process at our next meeting.

Pastor Julie

"It cannot be that the people should grow in grace unless they give themselves to reading. A reading people will always be a knowing people."

— John Wesley

NOW Team — Relda Kelly and Lisa Mann, Co-Chairs

Many topics were discussed at the NOW meeting on April 14. Here are some of the highlights.

HOLY WEEK ACTIVITIES



The Seder dinner on Maundy Thursday was attended by about 40 people. Those who participated felt it was meaningful and gave us a better understanding of this Jewish observance. We discussed whether to repeat this event alternating with the Living Last Supper. It was suggested we find another event to have so that the Living Last Supper is done every other year, then the Seder Dinner and another event could alternate in the other years.

Kay Fisher reported that the Good Friday Prayer Vigil was attended by many people during The day, but there were a number of empty spots on the schedule. We discussed whether having this meditation would be better attended if it was offered on Easter Saturday when those who work might be better able to participate.



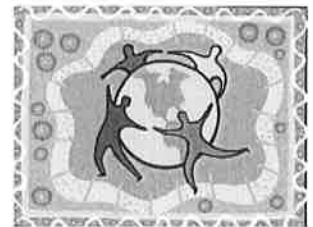
The Team decided to donate \$200 to the BBCHS Robotics Team, Ironclad. This is the first year BBCHS has had a Robotics Team and they made it all the way to the Championship. Teams compete with their robots as family and friends cheer from the stands at over 120 multi-day events worldwide – all leading up to the

2016 FIRST Championship at the Edward Jones Dome, April

27-30 in St. Louis. The registration fee alone is \$5,000 to attend. There will be 20,000 Youth, 900 Teams, 1,300 Volunteers, 40,000+ attendees, from 39 different countries at the Championship meet. Our own Frankie Ann Schripsema is a member of the Team. She is the Captain of the Programing Team.

WE ARE EXTREMELY PROUD OF OUR BBCHS TEAM!!!

Asbury UM Church has formed a nonprofit organization called ACOM—Asbury Community Outreach Ministry that will function much like the former Gateway Coalition functioned as a clearinghouse for providing services via the faith community to those in need. We will partner with Asbury and direct any requests for assistance to them. Several months ago we decided to have gas cards available on a limited basis for those in need of help. In lieu of the gas cards, we will give ACOM financial support to perform similar outreach to those needing help. Having a central agency handling this for several churches will be more efficient and may reach more people.



Upcoming Events:

Anointing will be offered to the congregation on Mother's Day, May 8 by the Parish Nurses.

Lisa Mann reported that she believes those who wanted Wesley tee shirts have purchased them. Pastor Julie asked that everyone wear the shirts on Pentecost Sunday, May 15.

Relay for Life will be held June 11. Various fund raisers are being used to support this cause.

Contact Gerri Cote for more information.

The next NOW meeting will be July 21



YOUTH GROUP SCHEDULE

The Youth Group (kids in 6th thru Sr. High) is only as strong as the kids and parents who show up and support the group.

Remaining Weds nights: May 4 and May 18.

Check with Lisa Mann, Shelleigh Skopik or Kristen Ehrenfeld for more

MISSION TRIP OPPORTUNITY Jr. Hi thru Adult August 6 thru August 12

SPIRIT LAKE NATION NATIVE
AMERICAN RESERVATION
Spirit Lake Nation North Dakota

The cost is \$300 per person which includes meals, room and building supplies. There will be additional cost for food on the trip to North Dakota and back.

The trip will be led by Rev. Mary McQuilkin and you are invited to be a part of that mission trip.

Deadline for the payment of \$300 is May 27. Please send checks to the District Office made out to VRD.

Please check out the website about the Spirit Lake Ministry Center: <http://spiritlakeministrycenter.org>

The projects that will be done on the trip are renovation, construction, Vacation Bible School, Food Pantry and other ministries.

Kay Fisher went on this mission trip last year. If you are interested in this mission opportunity, please contact Pastor Julie or a member of the NOW Team. Financial assistance may be available.



IGRC CAMPING 2016



We have 3 young people who are signed up for IGRC camps and there is still time to register. Take a look at the brochures entitled QUEST on the table in the Narthex.



The camps range in price between \$140 and \$525, and because of the generous contributions by members of Wesley, we can send more Wesley youth to camp.



Your continued contributions are very helpful to the families sending their campers. If we had funds to pay up to 1/2 of the fee for their camp, along with a small amount of spending money for the week long camps, it would make IGRC camps even more inviting.



If you are able, please put your contribution in one of the pew envelopes and mark it "CAMP FUND". Any donation would be greatly appreciated.



As a side thought, I am taking 2 of my grandkids to Grandparent & Me Camp from 7/22/2016 to 7/24/2016, and I have room in my car for 4 more people, so if you are interested in taking a child or grandchild to this camp, let me know and I would be glad to introduce you to East Bay Camp.



In August, we will be having the kids who went to camp tell you all about their camping experience.



Donna Pangle
IGRC Camp Coordinator



Hannah Word Search

D G P N W Y A L E G A V E S N
K E R R B O I N T K R H A P M
N G S A A S R E S R O M H E H
A Z B S T Y H S D W U P F E O
H T A E E P N I H E E P S L N
T D N Y O L R M L I B R U I E
T E S R T O B O N O P I E B S
D L P R A H T R U S T E D D T
N R A E L D L P K H V S N R L
B G N I P E E L S Z A T R Y Y

answered
baby
blessed
Eli
gave
honestly
learn
listened
pray
promise

priest
prophet
sad
Samuel
sleeping
spoke
thank
trusted
worship

