



St Matthew In Action

2024



**ACTIVE
CHRISTIANS
TOGETHER
IN
OUTREACH**

&

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Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

As we look to the beginning of a new year, I find myself remembering the days when we would use B.C. or A.D. to mark the times. As many of you probably know, these have been replaced in our history books with C.E. and B.C.E.

What do all these abbreviations mean? As far as the new designations are concerned, C.E. and B.C.E. stand for “Common Era” and “Before Common Era” respectively. But what about the old usages? Many are familiar with B.C. as referring to the time “before Christ”. Some mistakenly take A.D. to mean “after death.” When in fact, A.D. refers to the Latin “Ano Domini” which translates to “The Year of the Lord.”

This way of thinking of time is quite appropriate. God is ultimately in charge of time. What happens to us, what is coming down the line, and when our time will end, these are all things that are left up to God. The psalmist writes:

“My times are in your hand; rescue me from the hand of my enemies and from my persecutors!” Ps 31.15

He understands whose hands his time is in. And we should too. And so as we begin a new year, we begin it recognizing God is the one in charge of the times and seasons. God is the one who will determine what will happen this new year.

It is tempting for us to try to rush things along as far as God is concerned. We think we know best when things should happen, and how those things should take place. It is for this reason that the writer of Habakkuk writes to encourage us:

“For still the vision awaits its appointed time; it hastens to the end—it will not lie. If it seems slow, wait for it; it will surely come; it will not delay.” Hab. 2:3

If it seems slow, wait for it. Many read the book of Revelation and try to determine when the end will come. They will look at some of the signs of the end that St John warns about and draw correlations between these and current events. With that in mind, these signs should remind us of Jesus’ warning to be ready. We should take to heart the words from Habakkuk, “wait for it, it shall surely come.”

Sure, we don’t know when it is going to come. It could be centuries down the line. Jesus himself warned us that we do not know when it will come. Before He left His disciples, He spoke to them:

“[Jesus] said to them, “It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority.” -Acts 1:7

It is not for us to know. We don’t know when, but we have God’s assurance it will happen. We simply have to wait.

While you wait though, God gives us a few things you can be doing.

“And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up.” Gal. 6:9

First, do not grow weary of doing good. Keep at it. Stay strong in doing the good works God has prepared in advance that you should walk in (Eph. 2:10). What sustains us in doing these good works? Knowing that in due season we will reap. When the proper time comes, we will receive our reward. So do not give up. Stand firm. Your time is in God’s hands.

Second, St. Paul encourages us to share the word. No matter the time, no matter the place, we should be ready to proclaim the good news God has given us.

“Preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching.” 2 Tim. 4:2

Third, Paul says to have patience, speak the word, and be ready no matter the time or the season. You never know when you may be called on to share God’s Good News.

I recall running through an airport to catch a plane because the people I was traveling with were late getting there. We missed the flight, but ended up talking with a gentleman about how we, myself and two friends, were preparing to go to seminary. We talked about our faith, the Bible, and what this person believed. Who knew that God would give us this opportunity? Our time was in God’s hands. He knew what He was preparing us for. He knew how He could use that time for His Kingdom. We just had to be ready.

So, whether it’s A.D. or C.E. doesn’t really make that big of a difference. The time is still God’s time. We are still in His hands. God bless the new year, and keep us ready.

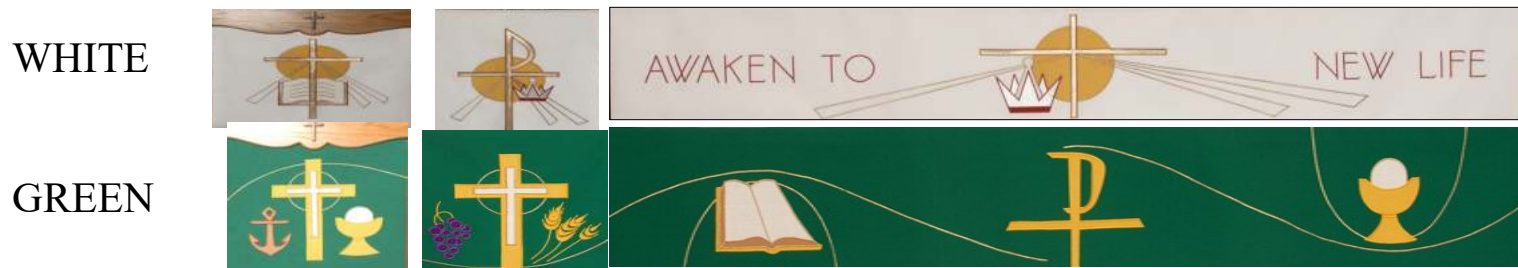
In Christ, Pastor Nathan Peitsch

White is the color of purity and completeness. The theme for the “great fifty days” of Easter is supported by the use of white. This color, used primarily during these Sundays, assists in bearing the message that “though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be white as snow.” Christ's triumph from the grave on Resurrection day is the cause for our rejoicing. His purity before his Father becomes our purity. White reinforces that message of joy.

In addition to its use during Eastertide, white is the appointed color for such festive Sundays as Christmas and its twelve days; Epiphany (Jan. 6) and the first Sunday following it, observed as the Baptism of Our Lord; the Last Sunday after the Epiphany, also known as Transfiguration Sunday; Holy Trinity Sunday; and twenty-one minor festivals and occasions listed on the church year calendar in *Lutheran Service Book*. In all, white serves as the best festive color for the church year.

Green, comes next in the acronym and is by far the most common color seen during the year.

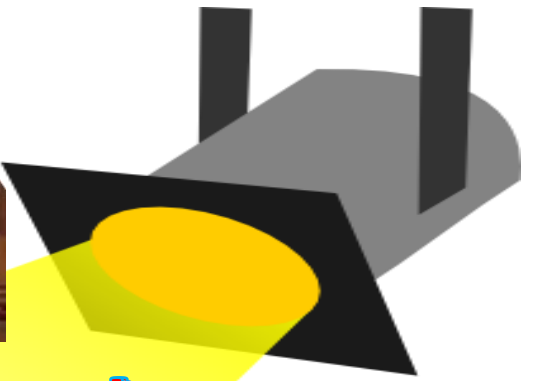
Lutheran Service Book calls for its use during the seasons of Epiphany and Pentecost. The first Sunday following the first full moon after the vernal equinox (March 21), also known as Easter Sunday, determines the length of these two seasons. The days of Epiphany may entail a total of, but not more than, eight Sundays. The season of Pentecost, on the other hand, can last from 22 to 28 Sundays. Green is the appointed color for all but a few of the Sundays during these seasons. Consequently, green may be used an average of six to eight months of any given liturgical year!



SEASON	DATE	FESTIVAL	FIRST READING	PSALM	EPISTLE	GOSPEL
EPIPHANY	Jan. 6	Epiphany	Is. 60:1–6	Psalm 72:1–11 (12–15)	Eph. 3:1–12	Matt. 2:1–12
	Jan. 7	The Baptism of Our Lord	Gen. 1:1–5	Psalm 29	Rom. 6:1–11	Mark 1:4–11
	Jan. 14	Second S. a. the Epiphany	1 Sam. 3:1–10 (11–20)	Psalm 139:1–10	1 Cor. 6:12–20	John 1:43–51
	Jan. 21	Third S. a. the Epiphany	Jonah 3:1–5, 10	Psalm 62	1 Cor. 7:29–31 (32–35)	Mark 1:14–20
	Jan. 28	Fourth S. a. the Epiphany	Deut. 18:15–20	Psalm 111	1 Cor. 8:1–13	Mark 1:21–28

Brenda Brown 712-880-1502
Janeal Holmes 712-899-8095

Altar Guild for January



Christmas By The Book

Christmas Program



Our Sunday School Christmas program was held at 9am on Dec.24th. Our theme was “Christmas by the book” We had 3 narrators, Mark Witzel, Sarah Schmidt and Paige Schmidt. We had a total of 7 kids this year. Paige also played her trumpet to Joy to the World. The kids got t-shirts at the end of the program. We handed out candy bags from the elders and Santa bags filled with candy and a mini “new testament” book. Children in the program and in the congregation received a bag! We were blessed to have Ryan play his guitar and Karen play the piano to our songs! Thank you to everyone who came and especially all who helped!!

STEWARDSHIP PANTRY DONATION

Recently our stewardship board and other St. Matthew members took a \$500.00 donation to help the American Legion pantry with their Christmas expenses. May it be a blessing too many.

ADVENT SUPPERS

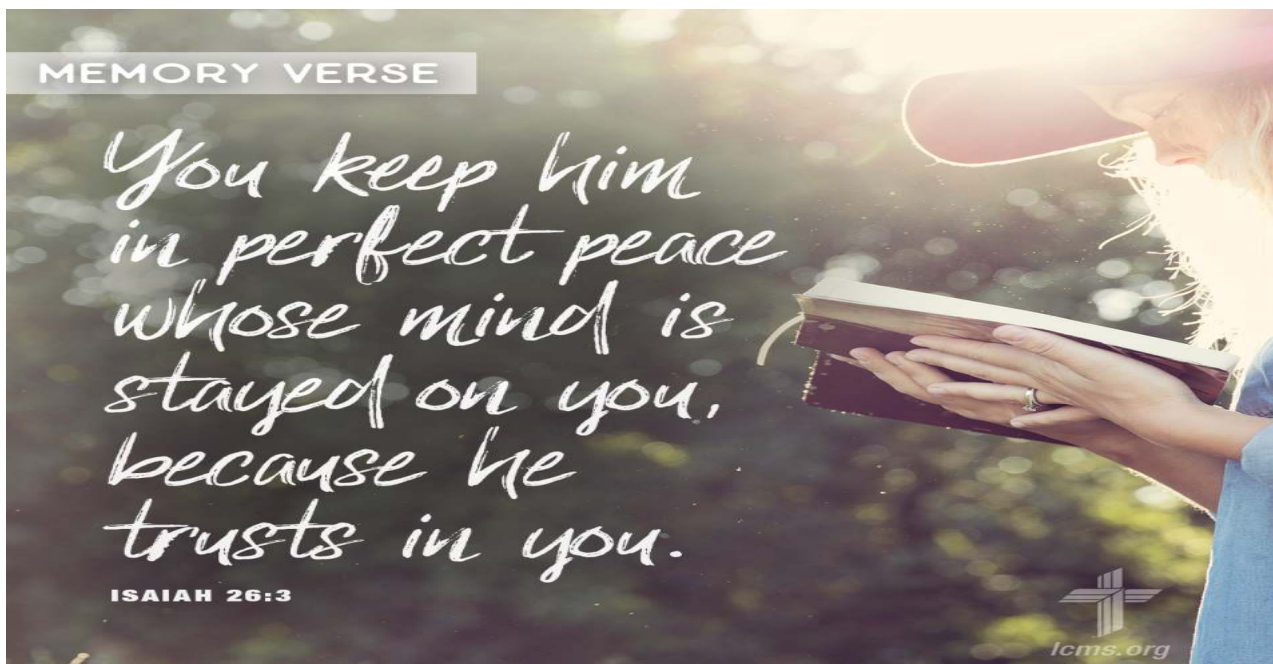


Our first advent supper was canceled, but 2 suppers were served by our Elders and Property board.

Some very good soups and sandwiches were served. Along with many treats and desserts. We had from 15-20 people that came to enjoy the suppers and fellowship.

A Big Thank You to our Cooks.

LCMS MEMORY VERSE CHALLENGE



CLEANING DAY

The second Monday of every month is cleaning day. We start at 9:00 am and work about 3 hrs. If you can only come an hour that is fine. If you are unable to help physically a monetary donation would be greatly appreciated. Any help would be great. Thank you the Property



"The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective." (James 5:16)

If you desire a prayer for yourself or someone else, or if you'd like to join the **Prayer Warriors**, please call, **Alice Miller** at 880-2380.



PROPERTY BOARD

Our property board made apple pie last fall. Apples were donated by Lin Scott. A bid thanks to all that peeled and made the filling. Lin and Janeal made all the pie and sold them. What a great job. Many thanks for all their hard work. Profits of \$464.00.



Lasagna Soup

- 1 lb. Hamburger browned—drain fat
- 1/4 c. chopped onion
- 1 tsp. dried parsley flakes
- 1 tsp. minced garlic
- 1 pkg Au Ju
- 4 cups hot water with Au Ju
- 1—14 oz blended stewed tomatoes
- 1/4 tsp. dry Italian seasoning
- 3 tsp. sugar
- 1 1/2 cups cork screw pasta and drain



Submitted by Lin Scott

Mix beef, onion, garlic, parsley—heat. Add water and Au Ju. Add tomatoes, seasoning and sugar. Heat to boiling. Add drained pasta.



We would like to thank everyone who generously donated to the Hat, mitten, sock, scarf tree and food items. St. Matthew, you should be proud of what we've accomplished to help make Christmas a bit brighter for others. Thanks again, Out Reach Committee.

Join us for our monthly Bible study "In The Word", led by Pastor. We meet on the **THIRD Tuesday** of each month at **10 a.m.** in the church basement. **Every one is welcome** We have some good discussions, and then enjoy some great food and fellowship.



Bible study for all
ENLIGHTENED IN THE LIGHT

Please Give the office a call or the Pastor...

- | |
|--------------------------|
| Before going to hospital |
| Private communion |
| Address or name changes |
| Death in the family |
| Birth of your baby |
| Making wedding plans |

I asked God to grant me patience. God said, No. Patience is a byproduct of tribulations; it isn't granted, it is learned.



How many times is it recorded in the bible that Jesus wept and why? Answer found on page 11.

January Birthdays

Robert Andre	76	1947-01-17
Zachary Arndt	33	1990-01-17
Kaylee Brodersen	18	2005-01-31
Jessica Bruhn	37	1986-01-14
Joshua Creswell	39	1984-01-04
Shelby Davis	21	2002-01-27
Derek Frahm	35	1988-01-28
Kevin Goslar	51	1972-01-22
Marshall Goslar	50	1973-01-31
Virgil Gronwoldt	63	1961-01-03
Katelynn Hamann	32	1992-01-01
Misty Hinrickson	51	1973-01-02
Scott Jacobson	48	1975-01-19
Eric Jacoby	49	1975-01-02
Berdina Jochims	70	1953-01-14
Christopher Jochims	47	1976-01-12
Sharon Kruse	69	1954-01-11
Aaron Krusen	51	1972-01-22
Judy Kuehl	78	1945-01-23
Eugene Means	76	1947-01-09
Tari Miller	29	1994-01-07
Melinda Namanny	65	1958-01-25
Gavin Nevins	79	1944-01-23
Jonathan Pickel	27	1996-01-04
Derek Pithan	10	2013-01-14
Emma Pithan	14	2009-01-08
Gage Rotnicke	23	2000-01-23
Scout Rotnicke	26	1998-01-01
DeRae Schauer	37	1986-01-15
Paige Schmidt	17	2006-01-11
Troy Schmidt	14	2009-01-27
Jeffrey Scott	55	1969-01-03
Adreana Wunschel	17	2006-01-17



January Baptisms

Robert Andre	1947-01-17
Eva Bridgeman	2021-01-10
Hudson Bruhn	2012-01-22
Presley Bruhn	2010-01-10
Brenda Davis	1972-01-15
Shane Davis	1974-01-27
James Else	1954-01-01
Robbie Frahm	1988-01-31
Donald Fritz	1973-01-21
Janeal Holmes	1952-01-20
Caitlyn Jacobson	2006-01-01
Natalie Jacobson	2006-01-01
Ryan Jacobson	1983-01-09
Berdina Jochims	1954-01-31
Cindy Jochims	1972-01-20
Erika McGrain	1994-01-29
Melinda Namanny	1989-01-22
Steve Pickel	1973-01-07
Kurt Schmidt	1981-01-04
Paige Schmidt	2006-01-22
Selma Schrader	1930-01-26
Nicholas Wood	1988-01-03
Terrance Wood	1988-01-03



January Anniversary

Kevin and Jennifer Goslar	31 years	1993-01-30
Dennis and Pam Jahn	49 years	1975-01-05



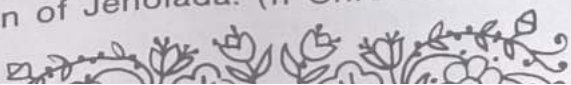
January 80+ Birthdays

Roberta Conyers	87 yrs.	1/25/1936
Florice Dose	88 yrs.	1/9/1935
Myrna Gosch	82 yrs.	1/9/1941
Marlene Phillips	87 yrs.	1/17/1936

BIBLICAL NAMES ALPHABET

Biblical parents named their children names with meanings. Using the clues below, fill in the Bible names and words from A to Z. X has been done for you.

- | | | |
|---|---|-----------|
| A. Means "breath." Cain killed him. (Genesis 4:8) | A | _____ |
| B. Means "son of the South (right)." Youngest son of Jacob. (Genesis 35:18) | B | _____ |
| C. Means "smith." Son of Enos. (Genesis 5:9) | C | _____ |
| D. "Beloved." Son of Jesse who fought Goliath. (Ruth 4:22) | D | _____ |
| E. "Hairy." Twin of Jacob. (Malachi 1:2) | E | _____ |
| F. "Happy." Governor of Judea Paul was sent to. (Acts 23:24) | F | _____ |
| G. "A troop, good fortune." A son of Jacob. (Genesis 30:11) | G | _____ |
| H. "Black hot." A son of Noah. (Genesis 9:18) | H | _____ |
| I. "Inglorious." Eli's grandson. (I Samuel 4:21) | I | _____ |
| J. "God of salvation." Mary's son. (Luke 2:21) | J | _____ |
| K. "Incense." A wife for Abraham. (Genesis 25:1) | K | _____ |
| L. "God has helped." Brother of Mary and Martha. (John 11:11) | L | _____ |
| M. "Who is like God?" A great prince. (Daniel 12:1) | M | _____ |
| N. "Snoring." Abram's brother (Genesis 11:26) | N | _____ |
| O. "Worshipper." Son of Ruth and Boaz. (Ruth 4:21) | O | _____ |
| P. "Lover of horses." Herod's brother. (Luke 3:1) | P | _____ |
| Q. "Fourth." "A brother" in Romans 16:23 | Q | _____ |
| R. "Ewe." Laban's daughter. (Genesis 29:10) | R | _____ |
| S. "Peaceful." David's son. (II Samuel 12:24) | S | _____ |
| T. "Twin." A disciple of Jesus. (Acts 1:13) | T | _____ |
| U. "Enlightened, light, fiery." The son of Hur. (Exodus 31:2) | U | _____ |
| V. "Gift." A son of Samuel. (I Chronicles 6:28) | V | _____ |
| W. Also called "The Magi." Visited young Jesus. (Matthew 2:1) | W | _____ |
| X. Another name for Ahasuerus. King in Esther. | X | E R X E S |
| Y. A Bible word meaning "yes." (Matthew 5:37) | Y | _____ |
| Z. "God remembers." Son of Jehoiada. (II Chronicles 24:20) | Z | _____ |



JANUARY 2024 ST MATTHEW CALENDAR

PLEASE NOTE: Janeal Holmes is willing to fill in if needed for Tues any time. Sue Kruse is willing to fill in Sunday's and Tues if needed any time

SUN: Pick up 7am Take home after service	MON	TUES: Pick up 8am Take home: 3:30 pm	WED Catechism class held in Ute	TH UR	FRI	SAT
Altar Guild: Brenda Brown: 712-880-1502 Janeal Holmes 712-899-8095	1	2 Rev. N. Peitsch in office 8:30 am to 3:30 pm Uber: Ernie Witzel	3 Helping Hands 1 pm to 4 pm Catechism Class 4:30 PM 5-6 6 pm Catechism 7-8	4	5 Pastors Family Day	6 Epiphany
7 The Baptism of Our Lord services 9am Elder: Mark Witzel Reader: Mark Witzel Screens: Joe Hogan Sun. Sch & Bible Cl. after services	8 Cleaning at the church 9-11 am 	9 Rev. N. Peitsch in office 12N to 3:30 pm Winkle Conference AM Uber: Sue Kruse	10 Helping Hands 1 pm to 4 pm Catechism Class 4:30 PM 5-6 6 pm Catechism 7-8	11	12 Pastors Family Day	13
14 2nd Sun. a. the Epiphany Service 9am w/HC Uber: Jeff Krusen Elder: Ryan Paulsen Reader: Ryan Paulsen Screens: Dennis Muckey Sun. Sch & Bible Cl. after services	15	16 Rev. N. Peitsch in office 8:30 am to 3:30 pm Uber: Sue Kruse In the Word 10 am Uber for the Board of Elders 7 pm (Mark Witzel)	17 Helping Hands 1 pm to 4 pm Catechism Class 4:30 PM 5-6 6 pm Catechism 7-8	18	19 Pastors Family Day	20
21 3rd Sun. a. the Epiphany Service 9am Elder: Mark Witzel Reader: Mark Witzel Screens: Joe Hogan Sun. Sch & Bible Cl. after services	22	23 Rev. N. Peitsch in office 8:30 am to 3:30 pm Uber: Janeal Holmes Board of Directors 7 pm Uber: (Mark Witzel)	24 Helping Hands 1 pm to 4 pm Catechism Class 4:30 PM 5-6 6 pm Catechism 7-8	25R	26 Pastors Family Day	27
28 4th Sun. a. the Epiphany Service 9am w/HC Uber: Mark Griener Elder: Joe Hogan Reader: Joe Hogan Screens: Dennis Muckey Sun. Sch & Bible Cl. after services	29	30 Rev. N. Peitsch in office 8:30 am to 3:30 pm Uber: Janeal Holmes	31 Helping Hands 1 pm to 4 pm Catechism Class 4:30 PM 5-6 6 pm Catechism 7-8			

*The prayer of a righteous man
is powerful and effective.”*



Members of St. Matthew with Special Needs and Concerns

Nazaria Kaderabek Selma Schrader Myrna Gosch Fred Fletcher Marlene Phillips
Roberta Conyers Deloris Boysen Maxine Thies Mark Greiner

Family / Friends of Members with Special Needs and Concerns

Ron Kraffle (friend of Marla & Joe Hogan); **Beth Weber**, (cousin of Dean and Ramona Weber); **Tammy Tollfuson**, in 3rd stage heart failure (relative to Dean and Ramona Weber); **Suzie Jacapello**, (sister of Nazaria Kaderabek); **Tim Sanderson** (friend of Dennis Muckey); **Kristin Webb** (Sarah Schmidt's best friend's sister) diagnosed with the rarest form of leukemia AML, she is only 39; Hiedi Zimmer; P.O. Box 272 Early, IA 50535 (Joan Chander's daughter); **Sandy Donovan**, (Nazaria Kaderabek's mother.) **Jerri Hainfield** (daughter of Marilyn & Duane Hamann); **Annie Greiner** (sister-in-law of Mark Greiner) **Doug Von Weihe** (uncle to Sarah Schmidt) Military

Ryan Trucke serving with U.S. Air Force at FE Warren AFB in Wyoming son of Beth & Ed Trucke, Grandson of Kay and Richard Johnson)

Jackie Cardwell serving U.S. Airforce at 17728 Margo S. Omaha, NE 68136 (niece of Jeff & Karen Krusen)

Marcus Roupe serving in USA (nephew of Marilyn & Duane Hamann)

Ryan Trucke serving with U.S. Air Force at FE Warren AFB in Wyoming son of Beth & Ed Trucke, Grandson of Kay and Richard Johnson)

Marcus Roupe serving in USA (nephew of Marilyn & Duane Hamann)

Please drop them a line or two, they love getting mail and they would love hearing from their church family.

Selma Schrader

1 Sunrise Ave.
Maple Heights Nursing Home
Mapleton, IA 51034

Nazaria Kaderabek

310 S. 6th St.
Mapleton, IA 51034

Cecil, Fred Fletcher

1225 B Ave.
Danbury, IA 51019

Marlene Phillips

101 A North 6th St.
Mapleton, IA 51034

Bonnie Banks

Main Street Apartments
516 Main Street Apt 2
Mapleton, IA 51034

Deloris Boysen

Accura Skilled Care
954 7th Ave South East
Le Mars, IA 51031

Delbert Kroll

815 Ring Street
Mapleton IA 51034

George Koithan

1 Sunrise Ave.
Maple Heights Nursing Home
Mapleton, IA 51034

Myrna Gosch

Pleasant View Care Center
200 Shannon Dr. Rm #108
Whiting, IA 51063

Roberta Conyers

306 S. 9th St
Mapleton, IA 51034



St Matthew Lutheran Church
504 Walnut Street
Mapleton, IA 51034

In His Footsteps: A cheerful smile, a friendly word, a sympathetic nod, all gifts God has put in our hearts to be given to others.

LET'S STAY CONNECTED OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOU TO CONTINUE TO FILL UP WITH JESUS By READING AND LISTENING TO THE BIBLE **Mission Central...** www.missioncentral.us **Lutheran Family Service:** www.lfsiowa.org **WEB SITES:** [Iowa District West—www.idwlcms.org](http://www.idwlcms.org) [Camp Okoboji – www.campokoboji.org](http://www.campokoboji.org) **“THY STRONG WORD”** is a daily devotion airing at 6:25 am Monday through Saturday on KDSN (104.9 FM) **“THE LUTHERAN HOUR”** can be heard every Sunday on radio station—KDSN-FM (104.9) at 6:30 am and 1530 at 10:30 am. It is available 24 hours a day on the internet in Real Audio. Visit www.lhm.org and click on the Lutheran Hour on the left side of the page **“THE GOOD SHEPHEARD HOUR** airs on the following stations every Sunday: 8 am Fort Dodge-KVFD 1400 AM; 8 am Sioux City—KSCJ 1360 AM; 10:30 am Storm Lake—KAYL 101.5 FM **Lutheran Family Services:** www.lofsiowa.org **MainStreet Living**— is a Television Program that is endorsed by the Iowa West District of the LCMS This program is broadcast on KCAU, the ABC network affiliate in Sioux City on Sunday morning, starting at 10:00 AM. The first 30 minutes are remastered episode of “This is the Life” The second half of the program is a modified Lutheran worship service that features a different Pastor each week, from the area.



Dear Lord, You have given me the gift of love; let me share that gift with others. And keep me mindful that the essence of love is not to receive it, but to give it, today and forever. Amen. ✝