



THE
LUTHERAN CHURCH
MISSOURI SYNOD

St Matthews Service

Rev. Christopher LaBoube

7th Sunday after the Epiphany

02-20-2022

"Trust in the Lord with all our heart, and lean not on our own understanding. In all you ways, acknowledge him and he will direct your path." (**Proverbs 3:5-6**)

A
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C
HRISTIANS

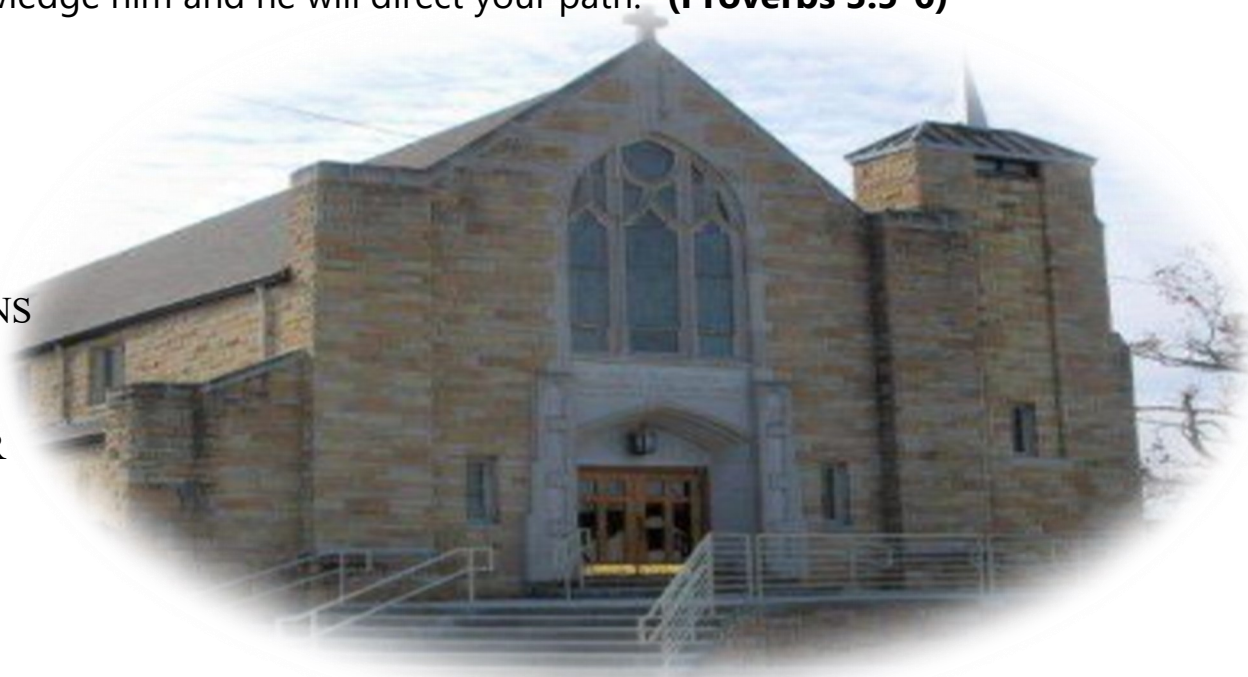
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St. Matthew Lutheran Church

504 Walnut Mapleton, Iowa 51034

Church Office: 881-2243 Fax: 881-1163

Email: office@stmatthewmapleton.org

website: www.stmatthewmapleton.org

Facebook page: St. Matthew Lutheran-Mapleton

Rev. Christopher LaBoube, Pastor

Pastor's Cell: 712-840-1652

Jeff Krusen, Head Elder (712) 840-9821

Mark Witzel, President (760)500-8902

Rev. Christopher LaBoube (Pastor)
(712-840-1652)cell phone

Karen Krusen

Office Administrator Assistant
(volunteer)

(712) 881-2243-office phone

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7th Sunday after the Epiphany
20 February 2022

St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Mapleton, IA

Genesis 45:3–15 / Psalm 103:1–13 / 1 Corinthians 15:21–26, 30–42 / Luke 6:27–38

Sermon Title: Love Your Enemy with the Help of God

Sermon Text: Luke 6:27-38

“Grace, mercy and peace from God the Father, and our LORD Jesus Christ.” (2 Tim. 1:2) Amen.

Our text for today is part of the Sermon on the Mount which Jesus preached to a crowd of people, who wanted to hear what he had to say. This part of the Sermon on the Mount Jesus talks about loving your enemies and judging others. They go hand in hand.

“²⁷ But I say to you who hear, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, ²⁸ bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. ²⁹ To one who strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also, and from one who takes away your cloak do not withhold your tunic² either. ³⁰ Give to everyone who begs from you, and from one who takes away your goods do not demand them back. ³¹ And as you wish that others would do to you, do so to them.” (Luke 6:27-31)

The core of Jesus’ teaching is “love.” Now, in this part of his sermon, Jesus tells his disciples and the rest of the crowd that they are to ramp up their ability to love, and to love their enemies and those, who they want to judge.

This was a radical thing to preach and teach about. In the old Jewish thinking, Jews stayed away from non-Jews. Jews only hung out with other Jews. Jews did NOT show any kind of love to non-Jews. Jews only showed love to their fellow Jews.

So now Jesus, a Jew himself, is teaching that Jews and non-Jews alike need to love one another and to especially love those, who are their enemies. WHAT?!?! This could be a hard thing for us to do, but thanks be to God, with God ALL things are possible—including loving your enemies.

After all, this is the Second Greatest Commandment: love your neighbor as yourself. You can only love your neighbor as yourself when you love God and desire to know him more. You are only able to know God more when you fill up with Jesus by reading or listening to God’s Word. You are only able to fill up with Jesus by studying God’s Word in the adult Bible class—by praying about a particular passage that you read or listened to—by hungering and thirsting for the truth from God’s Word.

“²⁷ But I say to you who hear, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, ²⁸ bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. ²⁹ To one who strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also, and from one who takes away your cloak do not withhold your tunic either. ³⁰ Give to everyone who begs from you, and from one who takes away your goods do not demand them back. ³¹ And as you wish that others would do to you, do so to them.” (Luke 6:27-31) Why would God want you to love your enemies? Because God created us to be in fellowship and communion with him and with everyone around us. How does God want you to love your enemies?

“²⁷ But I say to you who hear, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, ²⁸ bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. ²⁹ To one who strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also, and from one who takes away your cloak do not withhold your tunic either.” Pray for your enemies. Pray and ask God to help you to pray for your enemies. Pray and ask God to bless your enemies with God’s grace and mercy. Of course, if you really hate your enemies, then you need to pray and ask God to forgive you for hating your enemy. Confess your sins and receive God’s gracious forgiveness.

Just because someone has done or said something to you, doesn’t give you the right—or

make it right—when you carry around your anger and hatred towards that person. On the contrary, Jesus tells us: *“If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.”* (Romans 12:18)

Living peaceably with all is possible only by the work of the Holy Spirit in you. When the Holy Spirit lives in you, He teaches you how to love God and to love your neighbor as yourself. The Holy Spirit also reminds you of God’s Word—showing you where you might have sinned against God and against someone else. The Holy Spirit also will remind you of the comforting, wonderful forgiveness of sins that God freely gives to those, who confess their sins.

Then, Luke tells us: *“And as you wish that others would do to you, do so to them.”* (Luke 6:27-31) You’ve heard this before in your life. Treat others the way you want to be treated. If you want other people to treat you badly, then you treat other people badly. If you want other people to treat you kindly, then you treat other people kindly.

When you treat other people kindly—when you love other people—including your enemies—the way God treats you, then you are able to live according to the Second Greatest Commandment: love your neighbor as yourself.

³² *If you love those who love you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them.* ³³ *And if you do good to those who do good to you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners do the same.* ³⁴ *And if you lend to those from whom you expect to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to get back the same amount.* ³⁵ *But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return, and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he is kind to the ungrateful and the evil.* ³⁶ *Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful.”* (Luke 6:32-36)

Jesus continues this part of the Sermon on the Mount talking about loving your enemies, and he points out how people often act. As I said earlier, in the past, Jews only socialized with other Jews. Jews did not show love to non-Jews. In fact, over time, the Second Greatest Commandment: love your neighbor as yourself—got distorted and changed into this: *“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.”* (Matthew 5:43-44)

Love your neighbor and hate your enemy. That was the common thinking among Jews even when Jesus walked on this planet. But Jesus points out the problem with this statement. ³² *If you love those who love you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them.* ³³ *And if you do good to those who do good to you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners do the same.* ³⁴ *And if you lend to those from whom you expect to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to get back the same amount.”* (Luke 6:32-34)

This is human nature at its core. Jews only wanted to socialize with other Jews. Americans only want to socialize with other Americans. Chinese people prefer to socialize with other Chinese people. Jesus is just pointing out how we humans operate. If you only love those people, who love you back, then who cares? Why do you lend only to those people, who you know will pay you back? This is why Jesus tells you how to love your enemies: *“But love your enemies, and do good, Most High, for he is kind to the ungrateful and the evil. Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful.”* (Luke 6:35-36) *and lend, expecting nothing in return, and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the* The first radical key phrase that Jesus taught was “love you enemy.” The second radical key phrase in Jesus’ sermon: “expect nothing in return.” Sometimes we give expecting something in return. Jesus tells us to pray for enemies, and to expect nothing in return. This can also be a hard teaching. *“But when you give a feast, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, and you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you. For you will be repaid at the resurrection of the just.”* (Luke 14:13-14) When you give, do not expect anything in return. This is why it is very possible—with the help of God the Holy Spirit in you—to love your enemies. Pray and ask God to help you to pray for your enemies. It’s really hard to keep being angry at someone when

you are praying for them.

When you pray for your enemy, then you are doing exactly what Jesus is teaching: loving your neighbor as yourself.

Paul points out the importance of praying for your enemy: *“To the contrary, ‘if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head.’ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.”* (Romans 12.20-21)

“Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.” Overcome evil with good. You might not want to overcome evil with good. You might want to pray for terrible things to happen to your enemy, but Jesus tells us that love is the fulfillment of the commandments, and that by the work of the Holy Spirit living in you are you able to pray for your enemy and overcome evil with good.

When you live out the Second Greatest Commandment, and love your neighbor as yourself, then you will be able to *“...live peaceably with all.”* When you are living peaceably with all, with the help of the Holy Spirit in you, then you will know better how to relate to others. You will know how to love your neighbor as yourself, even if your neighbor has become your enemy.

When you are able to love your neighbor as yourself, then you will understand more how much God loves you and how much God cares for you and how much God desires that you live according to His Holy Word. When you understand God’s Holy Word more, then you will understand the importance of NOT judging others.

³⁷ Judge not, and you will not be judged; condemn not, and you will not be condemned; forgive, and you will be forgiven; ³⁸ give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you.” (Luke 6:27–38)

“For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you.” However you treat others, that is how they will treat you. When you hold a ruler in your hand, and you quickly smack people in the head when they do or say something against God and against someone else, then you are judging others.

When you judge others, then you are acting as though you are God. But Jesus points out: *“For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you.”* Whatever standards you hold other people to, God will hold you to the same standards. However you treat other people, that is how those people will treat you.

If you want other people to spit on you and treat you badly, then go ahead and treat them badly. If you want other people to treat you kindly, then show those people kindness and mercy and grace from God Almighty. It is the Holy Spirit, who helps you relate to other people the way God wants you to relate to them—by loving your neighbor as yourself.

The peace of God which transcends all understanding guard and keep your hearts in Christ Jesus. Amen.

To set the mind
on flesh
is death,
but to set
the mind
on the
Spirit
is **life**
and **peace.**

Romans 8.6



<u>Please Give the office a call</u>
Before going to hospital
Private communion
Address or name changes
Death in the family
Birth of your baby
Making wedding plans


<i>Elders</i>	C= communion	
02-20-2022 C	Mark Witzel	760-500-8902
02-27-2022	Duane Hamann	712-870-3450

Walk in Love
Be Kind to
one another,
Be Positive!

<i>Lay Readers</i>	C= communion	
02-20-2022 C	Mark Witzel	760-500-8902
02-27-2022	Ryan Paulsen	712-840-0125

<i>Screens</i>	C= communion	
02-20-2022 C	Joe Hogan	712-420-0775
02-27-2022	Mark Witzel	760-500-8902

February

<i>Altar Guild</i>	
02-06-2022 C	Pam Kovarna 712-840-1662
02-13-2022	Shari Erlemeier 712-880-0354
02-20-2022 C	Janeal Holmes 712-899-8095
02-27-2022	

	<u>Week of Schedule 02-21 to 02-27</u>
Mon 21	Pastors Family Day
Wed 23	Confirmation Class 6:00 pm Helping Hands 1-4 pm
Sun 27	Transfiguration Sun. Services 9:30 am Elder: Duane Haman Reader: Ryan Paulsen Screens: Mark Witzel Sunday School 10:45 a.m.

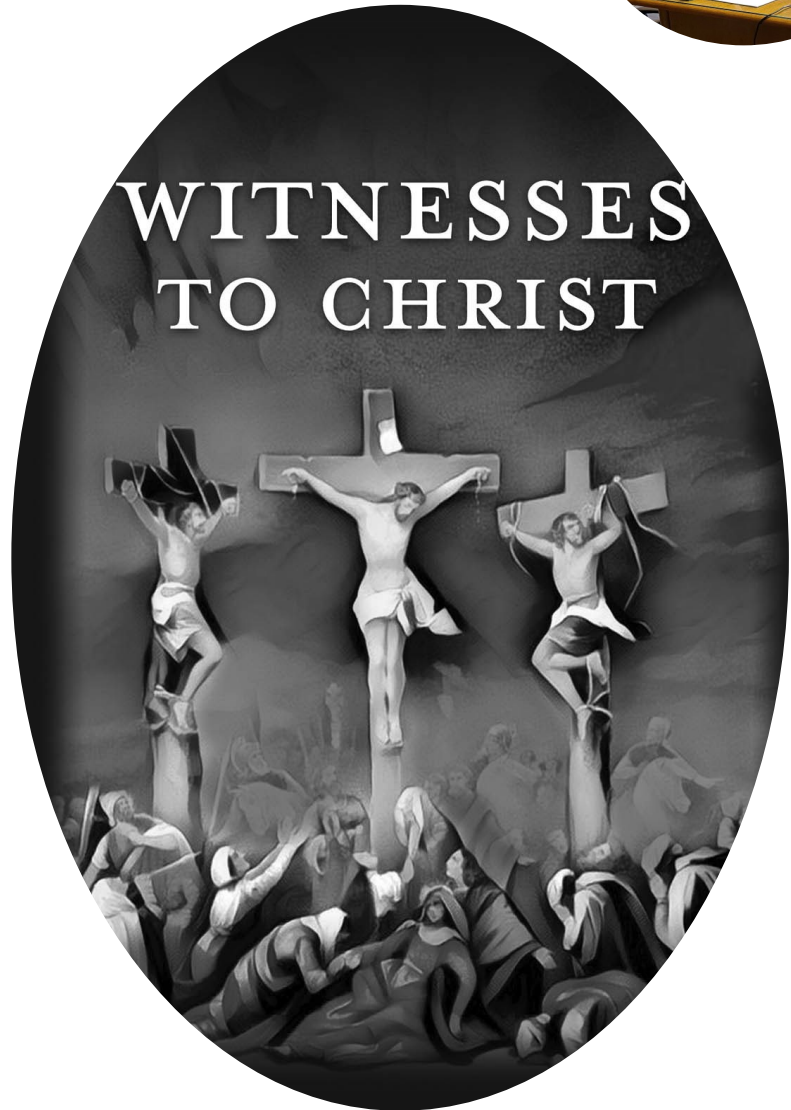
Needed per Week	\$3,225.02
Church offering 02-06-22	\$2,545.00
Confirmation	\$20.00
Church attendance 02-06-22	46
Bible Class 02-06-22	13
Sunday School 02-06-22	4C- 2T
In The Word 03-03-22	



LENTEN 2022
Bible Reading Plan
March 2--April 16



Date	Psalm	John
Wed, 3-2	42	1
3/3/2022	43	2
4/3/2022	44	3
5/3/2022	45	4
Sun, 3-6	FREE	FREE
7/3/2022	46	5
8/3/2022	47	6
Wed, 3-9	48	7
10/3/2022	49	8
11/3/2022	50	9
12/3/2022	51	10
Sun, 3-13	FREE	FREE
03-14-22	52	11
03-15-22	53	12



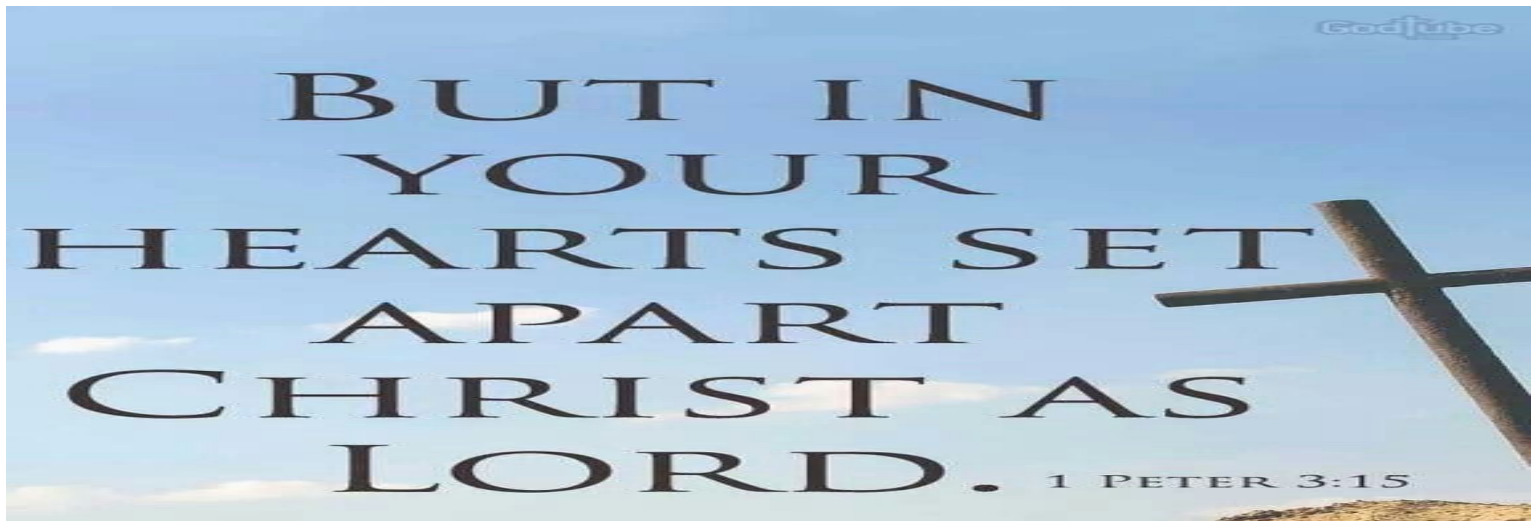
Witnesses to Christ: People from His Passion

John tells us why he wrote his Gospel: *“Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in His name”* (John 20:30–31). Life! When we believe that Jesus is the Christ, God gives us life—abundant life, forgiven life, and eternal life.

This Lent, our life in Christ will be strengthened as we hear the witness of those in John’s Gospel who journeyed to the cross. Along the way, we’ll meet villains, such as Barabbas and Pontius Pilate, as well as sinners, such as Peter (who denied Jesus three times), Mary Magdalene (who was possessed by seven demons), and Judas Iscariot (who betrayed Jesus for thirty pieces of silver).

The Lenten Season runs this year from Ash Wednesday, March 2, 2022 through Holy Saturday, April 16, 2022. Resurrection Sunday is April 17, 2022 this year. Please join us for as many worship service opportunities as you are able.

LCMS Memory Verse for the Week of February 20, 2022 1 Peter 3:15 But in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Information for the bulletin and the weekly mailing must be in the office by Wed. of the week. Please call if you e-mailed the information, because sometimes the e-mail does not come through. The information for the Monthly news letter needs to be in by the 23th of the month

Immanuel Lutheran(5th and Glad Street, Schleswig, IA) **Soup & Sandwich Luncheon Sunday** 2-20-2022 11am-12:30 pm Serving Chili, Potato & Broccoli Cheese Soups Sandwiches and Desserts. Free Will Offering. Dine-In, Carry Outs & Local Delivery Available. Phone: 676-2235. Proceeds will support Immanuel's mission projects.

The Super bowl Subs were a success. Thank you to everyone that worked, furnished, sold tickets and bought tickets to support your church. It was very much appreciated. Most of all, all of you that prayed for this to be a success, we have only our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ to thank, without Him we can do nothing.



We pray for the family of Melvin Schrader who went to be with Jesus on 02-08-2022, may they find comfort in, *John 11:25-26 "I am the resurrection and the life," says the Lord. "He who believes in Me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in Me will never die."* Today prayer service here at 4:45 pm and visitation from 4-5pm. Funeral Services 02-21-22 at 2 p.m. [Melvin Schrader Obituary - Visitation & Funeral Information \(armstrongfuneral.com\)](http://armstrongfuneral.com)

February 25, 2022: The Nominating Committee welcomes any input and recommendations of persons to be considered as potential nominees for the slate of candidates for the election of Board Members at the Annual Meeting. If you would be interested, or you know someone who would be interested, or you believe someone would make a good Board Member, please forward their names to myself. The Nominating Committee will contact any person recommended to discuss their interest and willingness to be a candidate. We would like to receive any recommendations by Friday, February 25.

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

First	Last	Birthday
David	Bartels	Feb 24, 1949
Brayden	Brodersen	Feb 15, 2018
Montana	Brodersen	Feb 26, 2004
Cooper	Bruhn	Feb 11, 2013
Hadley	Bruhn	Feb 11, 2018
Kenneth	Carley	Feb 03, 1954
Robbie	Frahm	Feb 14, 1986
Donald	Fritz	Feb 05, 1972
Bradley	Goslar	Feb 18, 1998
Hunter	Goslar	Feb 26, 2016
Curtis	Hesse	Feb 07, 1962
Bruce	Jacobson	Feb 03, 1949
Dennis	Jahn	Feb 12, 1947
Steve	Johnson	Feb 06, 1947
Pam	Kovarna	Feb 17, 1951
Susan	Kruse	Feb 09, 1957
Christina	LaBoube	Feb 17, 1981
John	Melby	Feb 14, 1972
Kandis	Muhs	Feb 21, 1986
Mindi	Ohlmeier	Feb 10, 1985
Taya	Ohlmeier	Feb 16, 2009
Rodney	Pedersen	Feb 26, 1944
Stephanie	Schauer	Feb 16, 1983
Chelsea	Schrader	Feb 09, 1989
Marley	Scott	Feb 25, 2008
Zakary	Scott	Feb 04, 2001
Ryan	Trucke	Feb 03, 1994
Megan	WEBER	Feb 23, 1991
Nicholas	Wood	Feb 05, 1981
Robert	Wood	Feb 01, 1973
Kiana	Zawodny	Feb 05, 2011



*We are listing
Baptismal
birthdays to
remember and
celebrate the day
we were
adopted into the
family of
God
through the
washing of the
Holy Spirit.*

FEBRUARY BAPTISMS

First	Last	Baptism
Joan	Chandler	Feb 13, 1956
Joshua	Creswell	Feb 12, 1984
Brett	Davis	Feb 18, 1979
Florice	Dose	Feb 03, 1935
Kevin	Goslar	Feb 13, 1972
Marshall	Goslar	Feb 25, 1973
Mary	Greiner	Feb 23, 1958
Harold	Hamann	Feb 11, 1964
Chana	Hinrickson	Feb 05, 1950
Bruce	Jacobson	Feb 03, 1949
Scott	Jacobson	Feb 16, 1975
Eric	Jacoby	Feb 09, 1975
Gene	Kaderabek	Feb 03, 1963
Joyce	Kruse	Feb 10, 1935
Eugene	Means	Feb 23, 1958
Jerry	Means	Feb 23, 1958
Jacob	Miller	Feb 16, 1992
Emma	Pithan	Feb 15, 2009
Sheryl	Schelm	Feb 22, 1961
Jeffrey	Scott	Feb 09, 1969
Ernest	Witzel	Feb 05, 1937

80 + Birthday God's Blessings

Mavis	Skow	Feb 08, 1941	81
Richard	Thoreson	Feb 13, 1940	82

God's Blessings on your Wedding Anniversary

Zachery and Anna Goslar	Feb 24, 2015 7yrs.
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Please continue to pray for our church leaders.
"Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer."

Romans 12:12

Pray without ceasing (1 Thessalonians 5:17)



PRAYER WARRIORS— The prayer warriors desire to hear from you as to how they can pray for you. We have 14 prayer warriors. We welcome more men and women to join us. if you need prayer call **Alice Miller** phone number 712-880-2380

Members of St. Matthew with Special Needs and Concerns

Nazaria Kaderabek
 Alan Bruhn

Carol Dose
 Fred Fletcher

Myrna Gosch
 Fern Jacobsen

Selma Schrader

Family / Friends of Members with Special Needs and Concerns

Ron Kraffle friend of Marla & Joe Hogan; **Lynn Smith** friend of Marla and Joe Hogan; **Jazmin Mauch**, granddaughter of Marla and Joe Hogan; **Jerri Haindfield** daughter of Marilyn & Duane Hamann; **Dis Reitz**, husband of Caroline ; friend of Kay Johnson. **Pam Clausen**, daughter of Fern Jacobsen; **Sharon Kuehl Henning** niece of Judy & Gary Kuehl; **Beth Weber**, cousin of Dean and Ramona Weber;



We pray for the family of Melvin Schrader who went to be with Jesus on 02-08-2022, may they find comfort in, *John 11:25-26 "I am the resurrection and the life," says the Lord. "He who believes in Me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in Me will never die."*

Those who serve in the military:

Triston Twedt (great-grandson of Alice and the late Keith Miller) serving with the Army at Ft. Lewis, WA

Ryan Trucke (son of Beth & Ed Trucke, Grandson of Kay and Richard Johnson) serving with U.S. Air Force at FE Warren AFB in Wyoming (wife and child are here). Ryan is at this address: Prince Sultan AFB, Saudia Arabia 378ECF-CEOIU Unit 61362 APO, AE 09877 (here for only 6 months) *His birthday is Feb 3, send him a card!*

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

Marcus Roupe serving in Cuba (nephew of Marilyn & Duane Hamann) PSC201 Box 6997 APO AE 09522

St. Matthew's Prayer List that are confined to their homes

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

Bonnie Banks 87 yrs. Jun 2, 1934

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

Delores Boysen 82 yrs. Mar. 5, 1939

31153 Juinter Ave.
 Hinton, IA 51024

Delbert Kroll 88 yrs. Jun. 1, 1933

815 Ring Street
 Mapleton IA 51034

Phyllis Fick 93 yrs. Jun 3, 1928

Willow Dale Care—Assisted Living
 404 1st St.
 Battle Creek, IA 51006

Carol Dose 87 yrs. Jan. 22, 1934

Sunrise Ave.
 Maple Heights Nursing Home
 51034

Myrna Gosch 80 yrs. Jan 9, 1941

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

Selma Schrader 92 yrs. Nov. 12, 1929

21 Ohm Drive
 Mapleton, IA 51034

George Koithan 89 yrs. Sept. 2, 1932

Sunrise Ave.
 Maple Heights Nursing Home

Our prayer List

Nazaria Kaderabek

310 S. 6th St.
 Mapleton, IA 51034

Fern Jacobsen

Main Street Apartments
 516 Main Street Apt 3
 Mapleton, IA 51034

Alan Bruhn

14535 Walnut Ave
 Mapleton, IA 51034

Sharon Kuehl Henning

312 Highcroft
 Window MN 56101

Cecil, Fred Fletcher

1225 B Ave.
 Danbury, IA 51019

*Spread the Fruits of the Spirit: Love, Joy, Peace,
 Patience, Gentleness, Kindness, Self-Control,
 Goodness, and Faithfulness. You will be rewarded!*



St Matthew Lutheran Church

504 Walnut Street

Mapleton, IA 51034

Church Office: 881-2243 Fax: 881-1163

Email: office@stmatthewmapleton.org

website: www.stmatthewmapleton.org

Rev. Christopher LaBoube, Pastor

Worship time: Sunday



9:30am Worship Service

10:45 Bible Class

10:45 Sunday School

*In His Footsteps:
Faith is a gift from
God that will sustain
you and give you inner
peace and love and
this is priceless.
Show it 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 Camp
Okoboji – 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 broad-
cast 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 God, You have given us the new birth of your Son in the flesh who has
redeemed us from the old slavery under the yoke of sin, so we may receive
Him with joy as our Redeemer, and that when He comes to judge we may see
Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy
Spirit, forever and ever.
Amen.

