

St Matthews Service

Rev. Christopher LaBoube

November 8, 2020

23rd Sunday after Pentecost

"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)**



St. Matthew Lutheran Church

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23rd Sunday after Pentecost

8 November 2020

St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Mapleton, IA

Amos 5:18–24 / Psalm 70 / 1 Thessalonians 4:13–18 / Matt. 25:1–13

Sermon Title: “Discipling Grace-filled Ambassadors

Sermon Text: 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

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

Our text for our message today is taken from 2 Corinthians 5:16-21. (READ)

“Grace, mercy, and peace.” We often open our sermons with that blessing from God. With those words God affirms the reconciliation He brought us through Jesus. These words are spoken directly to *you*. The words are spoken specifically *for you*. Grace, mercy, peace for *you*.

It is God Himself Who speaks those words to you, even though He does it through an ambassador. Right now, that ambassador is me. Still, they are not my words, but God’s words. They are backed by the full power and authority of God—the same God whose words created all that is—the same God whose hands formed you—the same God, who in love knit you in your mother’s womb—the same God, whose mercy led Him to sacrifice His own Son for you. God’s Words are comforting. I speak them as His ambassador. God is making his appeal through me, but you are also an ambassador of Christ; God makes His appeal also through you!

You see, our text today tells us that we are a new creation in Christ—that we have been reconciled to God through Christ, and that we have been entrusted with this message of reconciliation—this ministry of reconciliation, which is the Gospel. We are told that each of us is an ambassador for Christ, one through whom God makes His appeal to others.

Paul tells us that we have been reconciled to God, through Christ. That is the whole purpose of Christ’s incarnation—the whole focus of Christ’s life here on earth. The reason for Christ’s death and resurrection is so that we will be reconciled to God, because our first parents—Adam and Eve—broke that relationship and at that point sin entered the world forever. Regardless of how some people might try to label you—you are a baptized child of God. You know that Jesus died for your sins.

The faith that God works in you places its trust in Jesus for salvation. Indeed, you are a child of God—beloved by God—redeemed by Christ—and as our text tells us “a new creation.”

But that new creation lives in what is still a fallen world. Not only is there sin all around us that we must see and deal with, but we ourselves continue to sin. Like a stony field that a farmer clears of stones every year, only to have the freezing and thawing of winter produce a new crop of those unwanted stones every spring,

Our fallen flesh continues to produce crop after crop of sin from stone-filled hearts, and that sin would estrange us from God, separate us from the grace, mercy, and peace of God—EXCEPT! Except that God has reconciled us to Himself through Christ. For Christ’s sake, God does not reject us, but he takes those hearts full of stones, and turns them into clay, clay that is molded into hearts that sing for joy—hearts that have been rescued from death and destruction—living clay that can be molded to serve to be stewards of what God gives. And Paul tells us that God gives to us the “ministry of reconciliation,”

That God entrusts to us the “message of reconciliation.” Now the words “give” and “entrust” immediately imply stewardship. What is given to us was not ours to begin with. When something is entrusted to us, we are to care for it as if it was our own—or maybe better stated, we are to care for it in the same way that the one entrusting it to us would care for it. How then, are we to be faithful stewards of this message, this ministry, of reconciliation? Let’s review the title of our sermon series: “Disciples Living as Grace-filled Stewards.” We are “Disciples” because we are God’s children who are being formed to be imitators of Christ. // We are “Grace filled” because God’s boundless grace has led Him to reconcile us to himself. // We are “Stewards” because everything that we have is a gift from God entrusted to us to pass on...to entrust to...the next steward as we await Christ’s return. Each week, we are talking about a different aspect of how we live that out. Last week we looked at how we are taught and equipped—how we grow as disciples as we abide in God’s Word. And there is the key: If we are to be stewards of this message, we must know the message! That message is found in the Bible. If we are to be stewards of the ministry, we must know the ministry, we must practice it! So, how do we do that?

What tremendous blessings our Sunday school, adult Bible class, and VBS are to our church. Through them we teach our children about God reconciling us to Himself through Christ. Through these ministries we teach adults and children about this message of reconciliation.

But it's not only pastors, adult Bible class and Sunday School teachers, who are charged to be stewards of God's message of reconciliation. All Christians—every one of you—are stewards of the message of reconciliation. And as stewards, you should be able to pass that message on.

But how can you pass on what you do not know? Well, that is the point of last week's emphasis. We must learn and grow as disciples if we are to be Godly stewards. An important part of our stewardship is to know as much as we can about God's message of reconciliation, and we learn it by ABIDING in God's Word.

Make daily devotions a part of your life, even if you start at only 5 or 10 minutes. Read or listen to one chapter of the Bible every day. Then gradually increase the amount you read or listen to. Join the adult Bible class or—something that would really make me as the pastor happy—ask me about starting another Bible study at a different time and day!

When you dig into God's Word, you become immersed in the joy that God's message of reconciliation—the Gospel—brings. And let your mind embrace your role as steward of that most precious gift that your hands may be zealous to serve as an ambassador for Christ and your stewardship of this gift be completed.

No matter where you are in your discipleship journey, you have the message of reconciliation in your heart and in your mind: that God made Jesus Christ, who knew no sin, to be sin for us, // so that, in Him, we might become the righteousness of God.

In other words, God cursed Jesus, so that He could bless you. God abandoned Jesus on the cross, so that you would never be forsaken. And for Jesus' sake, God showers you with grace and works faith in your heart.

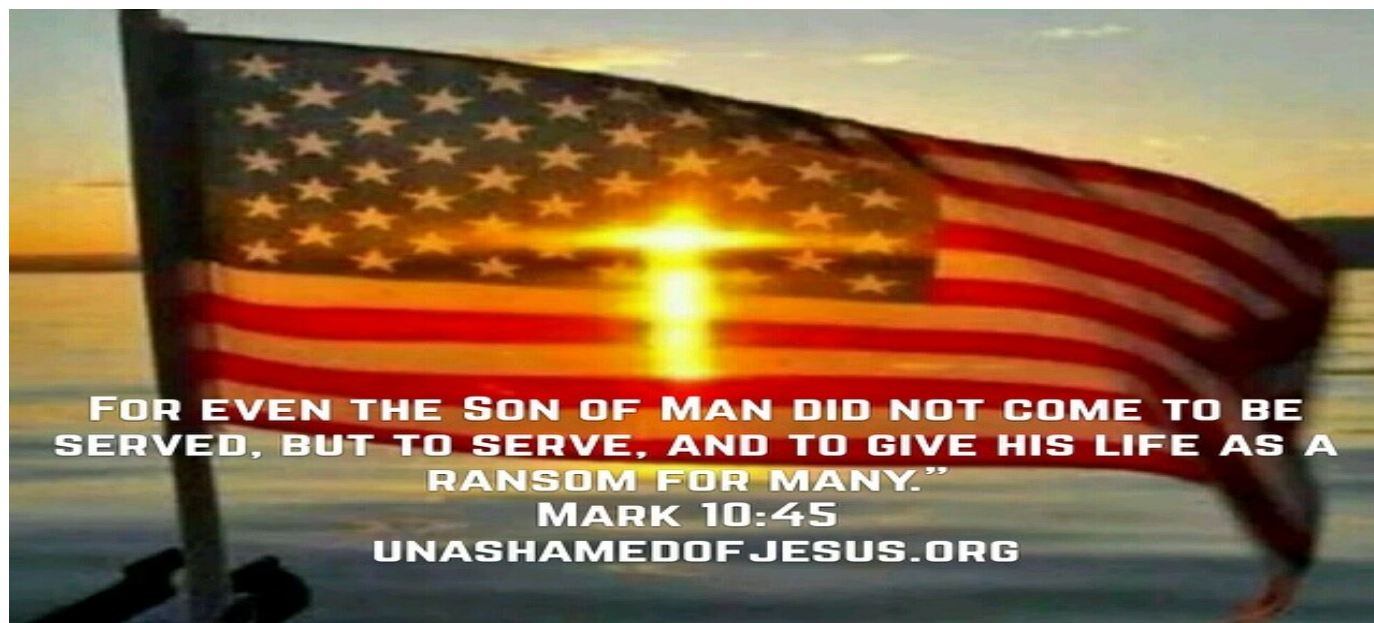
Paul implores to the Christians at Corinth and to you here today to hear the truth from God's Word and to be reconciled to God. This message of reconciliation moves hearts and changes lives. This is how Paul says it in Romans 1:16: *"I am not ashamed of the Gospel, for IT is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes."*

As Christ's ambassador, you can share that power, that Gospel, with anyone who will listen. And it is just as if God Himself were saying it to them. You are both a possessor and a steward of God's most precious gift—the ministry of reconciliation, the Gospel of Jesus Christ. As a possessor and steward of that gift, you have been made an ambassador for Christ. So, lift high the cross! Proclaim the love of Christ! Till all the world adores // His most sacred name. Amen.

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. Amen.

NOVEMBER 11, 2020 IS VETERAN'S DAY
THE DAY WE HONOR OUR VETERAN'S
(PS. 146:3-5)

Put not your trust in princes, in a son of man, in whom there is no salvation. When his breath departs, he returns to the earth; on that very day his plans perish. Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord his God



Announcement (from Mark Witzel, President)

Veteran's Day Observance. November 11th is Veteran's Day, which began as a commemoration of the end of World War One. The armistice signed '...at the 11th hour, of the 11th day, of the 11th month...' in 1919. We honor our many veterans on that day, just as we do every day; we thank them for their service, and honor them for their sacrifice. Early in 2021 we will fully honor veterans of St. Matthew's, as well as the men and women currently serving, and especially those who are deployed. Saint Matthew will once again be sponsoring the Military Bible Stick to bring God's Word to our active duty and veterans alike. You might recall from last year, this small digital audio player is loaded with the New Testament and select chapters from Psalms, and is a convenient, practical way for either 'on the go' active duty members, or for veterans who might have difficulty reading due to eyesight problems, to enjoy and prosper from God's Word. Look for more word to come on a future sponsor challenge drive of the Military Bible Stick.

DISCIPLES LIVING AS GRACE-FILLED STEWARDS

Question: "Why is making disciples important?"

Answer: The making of disciples is our Lord's means for answering the prayer, *"Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name, Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven"* (Matthew 6:9-10).

In His infinite wisdom, Jesus chose to use dedicated followers, His disciples, to carry the message of salvation to all peoples of the world. He included this as a command in His last words before His ascension to heaven: *"All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age"* (Matthew 28:18-20).

Making disciples is important because it is the Lord's chosen method of spreading the Good News of salvation through Jesus Christ. During His public ministry, Jesus spent more than three years making disciples—teaching and training His chosen twelve. He gave them many convincing proofs that He was the Son of God, the promised Messiah; they believed on Him, though imperfectly. He spoke to the crowds, but often He drew the disciples aside privately to teach them the meaning of His parables and miracles.

He sent them out on ministry assignments. He also taught them that soon He would be returning to His Father following His death and resurrection (Matthew 16:21; John 12:23-36, 14:2-4). Though they could not comprehend it, He made the disciples this astonishing promise: *"I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in Me will do what I have been doing. He will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father"* (John 14:12). Jesus also promised to send His Spirit to be with them forever (John 14:16-17).

As promised, on the Day of Pentecost, the Holy Spirit came with power on the believers, who then were emboldened to speak the Good News to everyone. The remainder of the Book of Acts gives the exciting account of all that was accomplished through them. In one city the opposition said, *“These who have turned the world upside down are come hither also”* (Acts 17:6 KJV). Multitudes placed their faith in Jesus Christ, and they also became disciples.

When strong persecution came from the false religious leaders, they dispersed to other areas and continued to obey Christ’s command. Churches were established throughout the Roman Empire, and eventually in other nations.

Later, because of disciples such as Martin Luther and others, Europe was opened to the Gospel of Jesus Christ through the Reformation. Eventually, Christians emigrated to the New World to make Christ known.

Though the world still is not completely evangelized, the challenge is as viable now as ever before. The command of our Lord remains – *“Go and make disciples, baptizing them, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.”* The characteristics of a disciple may be simply stated as one who is assured of his salvation (John 3:16) and is activated by the indwelling Holy Spirit (John 14:26-27);

one who is growing in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior (2 Peter 3:18); and

one who shares Christ’s burden for the lost souls of men and women. Jesus said, *“The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into His harvest field”* (Matthew 9:37-38).

Daily Devotions

for the whole family!

Discipling Grace-filled Servants

Monday, Nov. 9, 2020: Being a Servant

Servant: *"...the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many"* (Matthew 20:28).

Do you wake up in the morning thinking, "Whom can I serve today? Who needs some special time and attention?" The answer for most of us is "no." By ourselves, we aren't capable of changing our focus from ourselves to others. As God's children, we know that we are called to give our time, energy, and effort to serve others. God's Word tells us that Jesus came to serve and not to be served. While on earth, Jesus gave us the perfect example of a giving life full of service and compassion. Jesus spent time with blind, lame, hungry, and spiritually destitute people. Only through the power of the Holy Spirit can we be changed into people who are eager and willing to serve. God is calling us to be His hands, mouths, and feet to help those who are in need. God will lead us where He wants us to serve, and opportunities for service abound. Because of God's calling and our devotion to Him, service becomes our way of life. Service is what emanates from a life filled with love and devotion to Christ.

God loves the world, the whole world. It is God's love working through us that enables us to be servants to others. God's love empowers us to do His work. Our love for Christ is seen in acts of serving. We are either other-oriented or self-oriented. Without God's motivation within us, our focus is always directed inward, always aimed at fulfilling our own needs. He provides the love we need to love others and gives us the desire to serve them. As our relationship with Christ grows, we will be better able to see the world as He sees it, through eyes of love. We live as grace-filled stewards when we choose to live lives of service to the Lord and others. We are saved by grace through faith for service. Paul wrote in Ephesians 2:10, *"For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared before-hand, that we should walk in them."*

God has made it that, when we help others, we end up receiving an equal or greater benefit from our acts of service. We discover that it is a greater blessing to give than to receive (Acts 20:35).

Prayer: Dear Jesus, just as You came to serve, help me to be a servant to others. Amen.

Daily Devotions

for the whole family!

Discipling Grace-filled Servants

Tuesday, Nov. 10, 2020: God Working through You

Scripture: *"Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality"* (Romans 12:13).

Most of us have done some landscaping and gardening projects. Perhaps you have run across a handy device called a tree pruner. It is used to reach up high into a tree to lop off unwanted branches. Working kind of like an arm extension, it's much more convenient than getting on a ladder, which may not reach the branch you want to remove.

In a way, that tree pruner is a picture of what serving is like. Just as it reaches beyond your own arm's length, so do your arms and hands reach out to help others as extensions of Christ's love. Jesus walked this earth for approximately 30 years, and, during that time, His hands were always busy touching, healing, lifting, and comforting. With His ascension into Heaven, that job has been left to all of God's people, including you.

How can you carry out that task? Whom can you touch, lift up, or comfort? You are the most likely person to answer that question. Just by looking around, you can find someone who would benefit from your service. What about the shy person where you work? Could you encourage him or her? What about the lonely person in your church who just seems to want to talk? Could you be a patient listener? What about your neighbors? Maybe there is someone near where you live who would appreciate some help around the house and yard, or just a little time with you!

Jesus was never too rushed to stop and talk to someone in need. Although He had much to accomplish, He never raced from one task to another. Sometimes needs surfaced at inconvenient times (See Matthew 9:18-26.) Sometimes, in order to reach someone, He had to risk offending them (See John 4:1-26.) He always spoke to them in love, carrying out the reason for His coming into this world: *"...the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many"* (Matthew 20:28). God, Who gives you all you need to do whatever He asks you to do (Philippians 4:13), will give you the opportunity and ability.

Prayer: Dear good and gracious Heavenly Father, show me opportunities to assist and serve others. Work through me to bring Your light and comfort to those who are hurting. Amen.

Daily Devotions

for the whole family!

Discipling Grace-filled Servants

Wednesday, Nov. 11, 2020: Tireless Servants for Christ

Scripture: *"You shall love your neighbor as yourself..."* (Mark 12:31).

In our faithful service for others, we are serving the Lord. Jesus said, *"...as you did it to one of the least of these My brothers, you did it to Me"* (Matthew 25:40). When we help others and extend God's kingdom, we become the channels through whom He works. We are His hands, feet, and mouth.

We become faithful and dependable workers because *"His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness..."* (2 Peter 1:3). God has equipped us to do His will. Paul wrote, *"I can do all things through Him Who strengthens me"* (Philippians 4:13).

God has made us for the purpose of doing good and serving others. To the church in Galatia Paul wrote, *"And let us not grow weary of doing good"* (Galatians 6:9). Whether we are working in the church, volunteering in our communities, or helping others, when we toil in the strength of the Lord, we are not to grow weary. *"[God] gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might He increases strength...they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary..."* (Isaiah 40:29, 31).

God gives us both the strength to do good and joy in our service. Solomon tells us, *"Whoever brings blessing will be enriched, and one who waters will himself be watered"* (Proverbs 11:25). Peyton Conway March writes, "There is a wonderful mythical law of nature that the three things we crave most in life—happiness, freedom, and peace of mind—are always attained by giving them to someone else." In his book *Give to Live* Dr. Douglas M. Lawson writes, "But there is one kind of experience that delivers emotional and psychic satisfaction time after time, day after day: helping other people. Volunteer efforts, charitable acts, generosity of spirit, and gestures of compassion all enrich and sustain our lives."

God has equipped us to do what He commands: to serve others in His name. We do not grow weary because, through our serving, we are blessed and empowered to do more.

Prayer: Dear Heavenly Father, grant me an attitude to be willing to serve. Help me to make myself available, and help me, if needed, to roll up my sleeves and get dirty. Use me as your instrument of love and mercy to others. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

Daily Devotions

for the whole family!

Discipling Grace-filled Servants

Thursday, Nov. 12, 2020: Created to Serve

Scripture: *“For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them”* (Ephesians 2:10).

The University of Michigan made a research study for ten years of almost 3,000 people who were tested to learn what results or effects came from serving other people. The group was divided into two parts: those who gave service to other people, and those who did nothing. Those who gave help to other people every week were two-and-one-half times more likely to live longer than those who did no service to others. Those who did nothing, but had interest only in themselves, were two-and-one-half times more likely to die during this time than those who provided some service at least once a week to other people. Those who were interested in themselves and did not care for other people were less healthy than those who helped other people.

There’s a lesson in this research for us: If we want to be healthy and live longer, it is important for us to be helpful to others who are in need, not to be concerned only about ourselves. There is a more important reason, though, to serve others. Each of us is part of a human family and is to be dependent upon each other for services we give to others through our daily work. Others may need the food we raise in our fields, or they may need work we perform or materials that we make or manufacture. We have to give help also in our extended families. Jesus is our model, Who did not come to be served, *“but to serve”* (Matthew 20:28). We are to offer service to others on the basis of gifts given to us by God. The Gospel tells us that Christ gave His life to save us and that this salvation is the power for us to serve God.

God planned His work on earth and in the church on the basis of abilities and gifts He has given to believers. Each member has something needed to accomplish God’s work. God does not want us to be ignorant or unaware of these gifts (1 Corinthians 12:1). He does not want us to neglect our gifts (1 Timothy 4:14). Every gift God has given us is to be a blessing to others. Christians are created for a divine purpose—good works.

Prayer: Our gracious Heavenly Father, thank You for all You’ve given me and for the opportunity to serve You as I serve others. Help me to remember our calling – to love and serve and obey You in all I do as You give me grace to do. Through Jesus I pray. Amen.

Daily Devotions

for the whole family!

Discipling Grace-filled Servants

Friday, Nov. 13, 2020: Loving All People

Scripture: *“For the ministry of this service is not only supplying the needs of the saints but is also overflowing in many thanksgivings to God” (2 Corinthians 9:12).*

Jesus said, *“My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you”* (John 15:12). Jesus showed His tremendous love for us by going to the cross to suffer and die for us so that we can be reconciled with our heavenly Father. Christ’s love is in us, and He asks us to reflect His love to others. As Christ loved all people, we are called to love all people whether or not they like us.

Former President Abraham Lincoln exemplified the ability to reach out in love to an enemy. His staff often criticized him for his positive treatment of his sworn enemies. One of the president’s enemies once stated in print that he thought Lincoln was an obvious incompetent in the White House. The nature of the critic’s attack on Lincoln even degenerated to the level that Lincoln’s physical features were compared to those of a gorilla. Later, when war broke out between the States, Lincoln asked that critic to serve as his secretary of war.

Lincoln’s advisers were appalled with the president’s actions. When they asked him why he would choose his critic for such an important post, he responded that he thought Stanton was the best man for the job. When they advised him that he should seek to destroy his enemies rather than treat them like friends, he reminded them he was destroying his enemies when he made them his friends. When Lincoln died some years later, Stanton was standing by the president’s bed side. As he watched Lincoln breathe his last breath, he uttered the words, *“There dies the greatest ruler of mankind the world has ever seen.”*

We show our spiritual maturity by how we respond to those who have treated us wrongfully. It is easy to show kindness to friends or people who treat us with kindness. God’s love is most evident when we show our love to those who dislike us or mistreat us. It is by God’s grace that we are enabled to show Christian kindness to all people.

Prayer: Dear Heavenly Father, thank You for your unconditional love. May Your love within me overflow to those around me. In Jesus’ precious name I pray. Amen.

Daily Devotions

for the whole family!

Discipling Grace-filled Servants

Saturday, Nov. 14, 2020: Let Us Do Good

Scripture: *“So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith”* (Galatians 6:10).

The Apostle Paul, in the verses preceding this one, was reminding his readers of the “Sowing and Reaping” principle. You might hear his words paraphrased today as, “What goes around, comes around.” If you practice kindness, you are likely to receive kindness, but if you are selfish with your time, effort, or money, you will probably not see those things expended on your behalf. This principle holds true of spiritual things as well. If we seek to please God, He will bless us with eternal life. This is not to say that we earn God’s favor and thus merit salvation. What Paul meant is that our response to God’s love to us, the undeserving, indicates the value we place on His goodness to us.

Since we, His stewards, are truly and humbly thankful for God’s grace to us, our gratitude will be expressed in good deeds toward others. *“As we have opportunity,”* Paul wrote, *“let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.”* Sometimes, just as we forget to acknowledge God as our Giver and Provider, others don’t acknowledge the good deeds we do for them. “Don’t worry about it,” Paul wrote. Not only were Paul’s good deeds often unnoticed, but, when, they were, he was persecuted for them! Yet he wrote, *“And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up”* (verse 9). Through God’s amazing and wonderful grace, He enables us as believers to abound in generous deeds.

What joy will be ours when we reach Heaven and see the “harvest” there to greet us! Let this thought encourage us to be faithful in our work as stewards of the Gospel.

Prayer: Our gracious Heavenly Father, forgive me when I grow weary of doing good. Keep me steadfast in faith and love toward You that I might be energized to serve Your people at every opportunity. Through Christ I pray. Amen.

Daily Devotions

for the whole family!

Discipling Grace-filled Servants

Sunday, Nov. 15, 2020: Follow Jesus' Example

Scripture: *"If anyone serves Me, he must follow Me; and where I am, there will My servant be also. If anyone serves Me, the Father will honor him"* (John 12:26).

Can you remember the last time you helped another person? How did you know the person needed help? How did the person respond after you helped him? How did helping someone else make you feel?

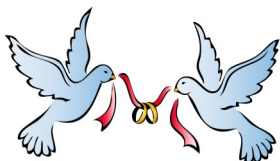
Jesus helped people, too. Sometimes people were not even grateful when he helped them. Remember the story of the Ten Lepers? (See Luke 17:11-19.) They asked Jesus to make them well and Jesus did, but, after they were cured, only one of them came back to thank Jesus. That must have been very disappointing to Jesus, but it did not stop Him from continuing to help others. Jesus also showed Himself to be a friend to people that others did not like. One of them was Zacchaeus (See Luke 19:1-10.) Zacchaeus was not such a nice person. His job was to collect taxes, but he would tell people they owed more than they really did, so he could keep the extra money for himself. Jesus loved him anyway. After Jesus befriended Zacchaeus, he changed. He stopped cheating people and paid them back even more than he had taken from them.

The Apostle Paul tells you that you should follow Jesus' example. He wrote, *"Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus:"* (Philippians 2:5, NIV). You should help others even if they do not say, "Thank you." You should be kind to people who are not the most popular or even those who seem to irritate others. God has given you certain gifts, abilities, and a heart of love, and He wants you to use those gifts in the right way. That is called being a good steward. If you think about how Jesus loves you, even enough to die for you, and if you ask Him to help you to be kind and helpful, you can do it!

Prayer: Lord, You have given me life. You give me everything that is good. Grant me strength and wisdom to use my gifts in ways that benefit others and give You glory. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

BAPTISMAL BIRTHDAYS

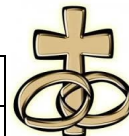
Name	Baptism
Darlene Albers	Nov 16, 1952
Leo Dose	Nov 26, 1932
Delores Gosch	Nov 5, 1939
Kaylee Goslar	Nov 20, 2005
Karen Krusen	Nov 4, 1951
Tari Miller	Nov 23, 1994
Chelsey Paulsen	Nov 11, 2018
Boston Paulsen	Nov 11, 2018
Melvin Schrader	Nov 21, 1926



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.



Robert & Roberta Conyers	65 yrs.	Nov 13, 1955
Gary and Judy Kuehl	54 yrs.	Nov 20, 1966



BIRTHDAY

Name	Birthday
Leo Erlemeier	Nov 7, 1961
Maverik Goslar	Nov 11, 2010
Donna Goslar	Nov 30, 1948
Mary Greiner	Nov 30, 1954
Samantha Kelm	Nov 23, 1986
Betty Kuhlman	Nov 19, 1938 82
Erika McGrain	Nov 23, 1993
Trista Ohlmeier	Nov 28, 2006
Drake Paulsen	Nov 2, 2014
Selma Schrader	Nov 12, 1929 91
Carolyn Sexton	Nov. 2, 1939 81
Ramona Weber	Nov 4, 1961

NEEDED /WEEK	\$3,225.02
TOTAL GIVING (SUNDAY, (11-01-20)	\$2,585.00
Thank offering (SUNDAY, (11-01-20)	\$2,040.00
Chicken dinner fund raiser	\$1,866.00
SUNDAY ATTENDANCE (11-01-20)	40
VISITORS (11-01-20)	1
SUNDAY COMMUNED (11-01-20)	34
SUNDAY CHILDREN IN CHURCH	6
BIBLE CLASS	NA
SUNDAY SCHOOL	3

Faith Step: Ask Jesus to help you refrain from language that will affect your witness to others.

	<u>Week of Schedule 11-09- to 11-15</u>
Mon	Pastor's Family Day
Tue	Board of Directors 6 pm Circuit Pastor Meeting 8 am to 12 noon
Wed	Confirmation Class 6 pm—7 pm Helping Hands 1 pm to 4 pm
Sun.	9:30 am Worship Service with Holy Communion Bible Learning 10:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am

<u>Give the office a call or the Pastor...</u>	Need a ride to a Dr's appt	Need of a visit
Before going to hospital	Address or name changes	Birth of your baby
Private communion	Entering armed services	Making wedding plans
Desire to serve your Lord through the Church	Death in the family	



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

Bud Dose

Carol Dose

Selma Schrader

Elnora Dose

Jerry Albers

Myrna Gosch

Delores Gosch

Paige Schmidt :who has COVID-19 and both her and her family are isolating at home.

Sheri Heilman— Sue Oberg's sister; **Ron Kraffle** friend of Marla & Joe Hogan; **Richard Swain**, neighbor of Karen and Jeff Krusen; **Lynette Dobrovolsky** neighbor of Karen and Jeff Krusen **Jim Kueny**, Karen's husband **Lynne Smith** friend of Marla and Joe Hogan; **Jazmin Mauch**, granddaughter of Marla and Joe Hogan

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

Bonnie Banks 86 yrs. Jun 2, 1934
Main Street Apartments
516 Main Street Apt 2
Mapleton, IA 51034

George Koithan 88 yrs. Sept. 2, 1932
1726 Marcella Heights
Carroll, IA 51040

Elnora Dose 85 yrs. May 11, 1935
Embassy Rehab & Care Center
206 Port Neal Rd
Sergeant Bluff, IA 51054

Delbert Kroll 87 yrs. Jun. 1, 1933
Ring Street
Mapleton IA 51034

Myrna Gosch 79 yrs. Jan 9, 1941
Pleasant View Care Center
200 Shannon Dr. Rm #108
Whiting, IA 51063

Delores Boysen 81 yrs. Mar. 5, 1939
31153 Juinter Ave
Hinton, IA 51024

Phyllis Fick 92 yrs. Jun 3, 1928
Willow Dale Care—Assisted Living
404 1st St.
Battle Creek, IA 51006

Evelyn Christiansen 100 yrs. Jul 4, 1920
4204 SE. 29th Ave.
Amarillo, TX 79103 % Joan Valdez

Carol Dose 86 yrs. Jan. 22, 1934
Sunrise Ave.
Maple Heights Nursing Home

** indicates a new address

Spread the Fruits of the Spirit:

Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Gentleness, Kindness, Self-Control, Goodness, and Faithfulness. You will be rewarded

**ADDRESSES FOR OUR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS NEEDING PRAYERS: BE A KIND CHRISTIAN
AND SEND THEM A CARD I'M SURE THEY WOULD ENJOY!**

Nazaria Kaderabek
310 S. 6th St.
Mapleton, IA 51034

Selma Schrader
21 Ohm Drive
Mapleton, IA 51034

Delores Gosch
202 S. 2nd St.
Mapleton, IA 51034

Charles (Bud) Dose
302 N. 2nd Ave.
Anthon, IA 51004

Sheri Heilman
(Sue Oberg's sister)
1721 Lincoln Street
Great Bend, KS 67530

Elnora Dose
Embassy Rehab & Care Center
206 Port Neal Rd
Sergeant Bluff, IA 51054

Jerry Albers
1313 Maple Street
Onawa, IA 51040

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

Myrna Gosch
Pleasant Care Center
200 Shannon Dr.
Whiting, IA 51063

Paige Schmidt
405 South 5th Street
Mapleton, IA 51034

Carsten Phillips
2827 Stoddard Lane
Dillon, MT. 59725

Richard Swain
407 S. 5th Street
Mapleton, IA 51034

Jim Kueny
707 Oak St.
Mapleton, IA 51034

Lynette Dobrovolsky
410 S. 4th St.
Mapleton, IA 51034

Lynne Smith: chose to not publish

Jazmin Mauch: chose to not publish

Ron Kraffle: chose to not publish

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Helping Hands We will begin again on Wednesday, November 11. See you then. Happy hands are Helping Hand quilters.

Craft Show: Lake Riders Saddle Club, Nov. 8 from 10-3 pm @ Ida Grove Comm. Hall. Free Admission Lunch stand. Free Door Prizes. (need to be present to win) Chance Table \$1. Masks encouraged.

Mapleton Food Pantry is in need of paper products for November and soup item for December please.

Mapleton Hometown Variety will be having Poinsettias and Christmas Cactus for sale this year. Poinsettia 6" is @9.99; 8" is \$24.99; 10" is \$29.99 and 6" Christmas Cactus \$9.99 plants will start coming Nov. 25. Contact Carol Koenigs 712-882-1081.

Thanksgiving post cards located at the back of the church. You may pick them up and send to a friend or relative to invite them to our services. You may pick up as many as you like. If we run out we will make more.



St Matthew Lutheran Church
504 Walnut Street
Mapleton, IA 51034

OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOU TO CONTINUE TO FILL UP WITH JESUS BY READING AND LISTENING TO THE BIBLE:

LET'S STAY CONNECTED: St. Matthew Lutheran Church Service at 9:30 am every Sunday am at the church.

Facebook page-.St. Matthew Lutheran-Mapleton- Our services at 9 am every Sunday website:

www.stmatthewmapleton.org – Our services posted weekly 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 **Main Street 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 God,
 Thank you for being our endless hope. We need you, Lord, help us. Our lives are in chaos, create something beautiful out of it. May your will happen, Lord. bring healing to the world, give us a miraculous breakthrough in creating a vaccine against the Coronavirus. We turn to you and cast all our burdens to you. Help us as we are adjusting to the new normal. Guide, inspire, lead, empower and use us for your glory. In Jesus' name, Amen