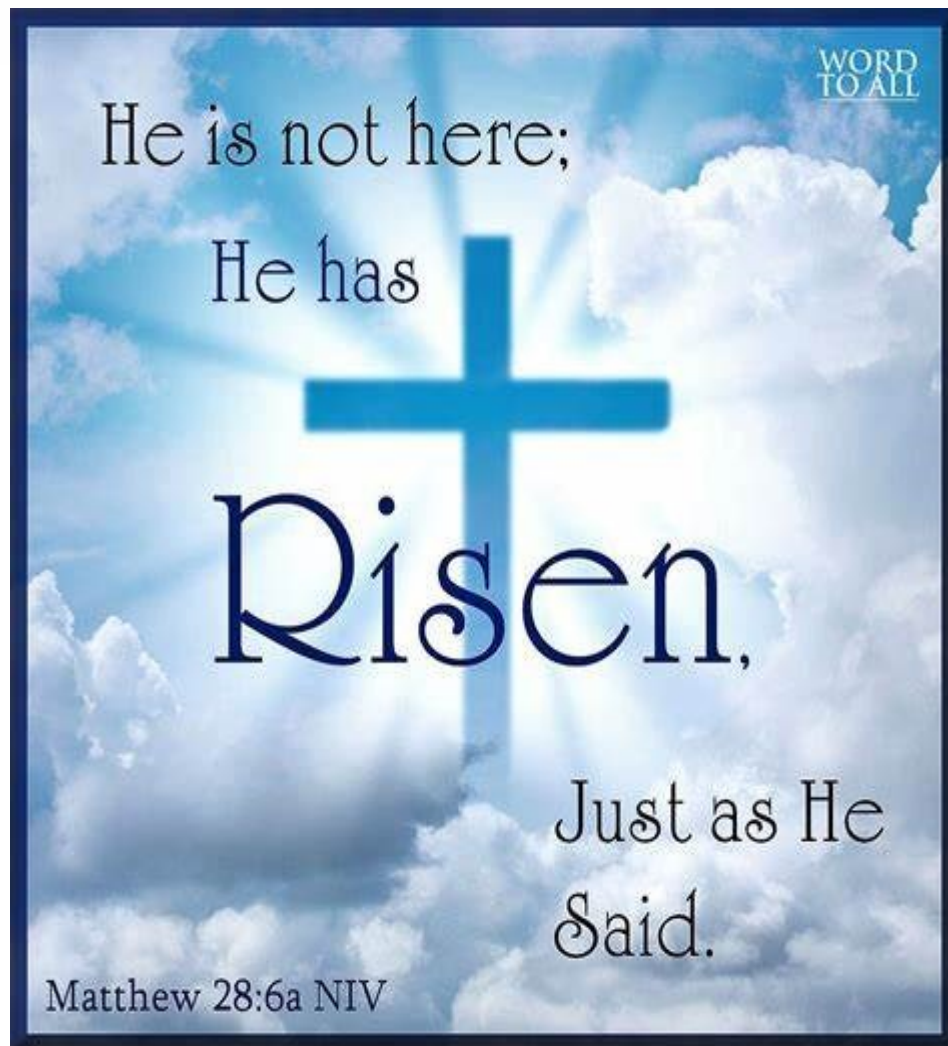




St Matthew In Action

A
P
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2024



ACTIVE
CHRISTIANS
TOGETHER
IN
OUTREACH
&

NURTURE

Pastor: Rev Nathan Peitsch Vacancy Pastor
(515) 570-8078

Joan Chandler (Publisher & Editor)
(712-)882-2560 (712) 880-1449

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website: www.stmatthewmapleton.org
Facebook page: St. Matthew Lutheran-Mapleton
Rev. Nathan Peitsch, Vacancy Pastor
Pastor's Cell: (515)570-8078
Ryan Paulsen, Head Elder (712)840-0125
Mark Witzel, President (760)500-8902

Karen Krusen

Office Administrator Assistant
(volunteer)
(712) 881-2243-office phone
(712) 840-9059 cell phone



APRIL 2024

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

As we enter the Easter season this month we have the joy of remembering the Resurrection of Christ. St Paul emphasizes for us the importance of the resurrection in 1 Corinthians. There he writes,

“And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins.” - 1 Cor. 15:17

If it weren't for the resurrection of Christ, our faith in Him would be meaningless. After all our faith is founded on the one who innocently suffered and died for our sins. We celebrate this on Good Friday (not to be confused with Black Friday, although even I am guilty of mixing up these two). The sinless Son of God suffering for the sins of the whole world, that we might have peace with God.

His suffering and death was the sacrifice made once for all. The writer of Hebrews affirms this when he writes,

“But as it is, he has appeared once for all at the end of the ages to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself.” - Heb 9:26b

Jesus put away all our sins when He gave Himself as the sacrifice for us. Later the writer of Hebrews connects Jesus to the ancient priesthood calling Jesus the High Priest who offered up the perfect sacrifice. This is why Good Friday is such an important holiday. It focuses our attention on the sacrifice made to make atonement, or pay for, our sins.

However, all Christ suffered on Good Friday would have meant nothing if not for Easter Sunday. Returning to St Paul's words from 1 Corinthians 15, Christ rose as the first fruits of those who are raised. But if even He was not raised then we are all lost. But Jesus tells us Himself that He came to give His life as a ransom for many in both Matthew 20 and Mark 10. And His resurrection serves as proof to all of us that that ransom was sufficient payment.

Easter Sunday gives us hope. It assures us of the hope of eternal life. The hope that those who die in the faith will rise again. Easter

gives us the comfort of knowing that though death may seem to have a temporary victory, Christ has the final victory as He emerges triumphant from the grave.

We celebrate Easter because His victory is our victory. By faith in Christ we have the hope of eternal life with Him. And together we look forward to the day when God raises us and all believers in Christ. St Paul states,

“For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his.” - Rom. 6:5

In baptism we have been united with Him in His death. That we might also be united with Him in His resurrection. Our sins died with Christ as they were drowned in the baptismal waters that together we might look forward to being raised with Christ, just as He was.

Easter is a time for celebration because Christ who was slain for us is raised to life. Our faith is not in the dead, but in the living Christ. Lent and Easter offer such beautiful contrasts. Throughout the season of Lent we consider our sinfulness and just how unworthy we are to receive any of God's gifts. We set aside much of the praise and joy for penitence and reflection. Then on Easter, the joy breaks forth in shouts of “Alleluia!” and “Christ is risen!” And this is all because we know that His resurrection proves, as St Paul states, that our faith is not in vain.

The Early Church moved the day of worship to Sunday as a way to remember and celebrate the resurrection of Christ regularly because they knew the hope, comfort, and joy that Jesus resurrection brings to us all. May God fill us with this joy and comfort this joyful Eastertide and throughout our lives.

In Christ,
Pastor Nathan Peitsch

From the Vicar John Stacy

April 4, 2024

Greetings in Christ:

It was just about a year ago that District President Steven Turner phoned me at my home in Des Moines and told me that he had three congregations in Iowa District West that may be interested in having me as a Specific Ministry Pastor. The congregations were in Corning, Newell and Mapleton. After a brief discussion he said: "I think Mapleton would be the best fit for you. If it's ok with you, I will contact their Circuit Counselor Pastor Salcedo and have him meet with their Elders and Boards and arrange a meeting."

On a Sunday in early April, I came to Mapleton for the first time and met with a group of members. After two hours of questions and answers, Elder Chair, Ryan Paulson told me we will have a congregational meeting putting you forth with our endorsement to serve as our SMP Pastor, with the intent that once you are ordained you will become our permanent pastor. I heard back from Ryan over a week later that the congregation had approved their recommendation.

There is much more to the story above. Above all else this has been a 6 year journey for me. The Fall of 2017 I had decided to pursue Pastoral Ministry once I had retired from Drake University. This left me a good three years to think through my decision and to begin the Concordia enrollment requirements.

During this time, I met with Pastor Eugene Krueger, from Shepherd of the Valley, in West Des Moines who had went through the SMP Program late in his life. He said something to me that has remained with me to this day. "When God wants you, He will call, and you will know."

It is my hope throughout this Easter season that you too will recall Pastor Krueger's words. God wants all of us for Himself. That was accomplished by his son's death and resurrection. Our faith in Jesus Christ as our savior assures us that God has indeed brought all of us to himself.

Our mantra throughout the Easter Season is: "Christ is Risen, He is Risen indeed! Alleluia!"

Each night I thank God for this opportunity, and for the congregation, that has brought and accepted me into their community. As most of you know by now, beginning April 7, I will no longer be doing services at St. Paul, Ute. I will be at Saint Matthews each Sunday. Pastor Peitsch will be here for communion Sundays working by my side.

Yours in Christ, Vicar Stacy



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.

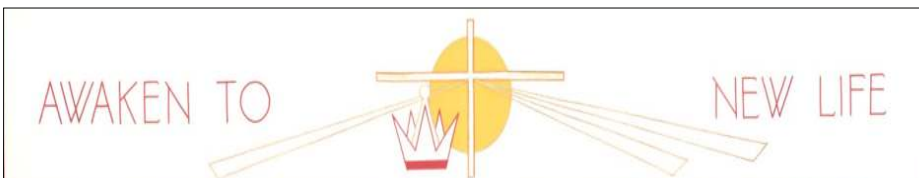
In addition to its use during Eastertide, white is the appointed color for such festive Sundays as Christmas and its twelve days; Epiphany (Jan. 6) and the first Sunday following it, observed as the Baptism of Our Lord; the Last Sunday after the Epiphany, also known as Transfiguration Sunday; Holy Trinity 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.

Color's Purpose

However, color and its bright message can easily be taken for granted or mistaken in its purpose. The paraments, vestments, altar clothes, banners, traditionally employed each Sunday, must be seen as more than an attempt to decorate, or give accent to the chancel. That is, no doubt, the view of some. It's true; interior design and decoration are important. But a greater service is demanded of our liturgical colors than merely making the surroundings “pretty.”

Furthermore, when altar paraments are used year after year without much attention given to their message, as well as their care, the pastor, along with his faithful altar guild would do well to throw away the key to the sacristy and refrain from using those altar cloth “decorations.”

Frequent instruction about the church year and its corresponding colors must go hand in hand with its weekly use.



Season	Date	Festival	First Reading	Psalms	Epistle	Gospel
Easter	Apr. 7	Second S. of Easter	Acts 4:32–35	Psalms 148	1 John 1:1–2:2	John 20:19–31
	Apr. 14	Third S. of Easter	Acts 3:11–21	Psalms 4	1 John 3:1–7	Luke 24:36–49
	Apr. 21	Fourth S. of Easter	Acts 4:1–12	Psalms 23	1 John 3:16–24	John 10:11–18
	Apr. 28	Fifth S. of Easter	Acts 8:26–40	Psalms 150	1 John 4:1–11 (12–21)	John 15:1–8

Month of April

Altar Guild Kay Johnson 881-2247

Altar Guild Carolyn Sexton 883-2312

Altar Guild Janeal Holmes 1-712-899-8095

LWML SPRING RALLY

April 20, 2024 – 9 AM Brunch
St Paul Hanover Charter Oak, Iowa

“TO GOD ALL PRAISE and GLORY”
Teaching the Faith through Music

Speaker – Pastor Timothy Frank
St. Paul Lutheran Council Bluffs, IA

All are welcome to come and enjoy the brunch
plus hear an inspirational message about music
being a gift from God.

“Sing to the Lord, bless his name; tell of his
salvation from day to day.” Psalm 96:2

LWML

4 little
letters
used
across the
world!



INK spot
(I Never Knew)

BY SHARI MILLER

WHAT IS LWML SUNDAY?

Traditionally, the first Sunday in October is set aside for the observation of LWML Sunday, but it may be celebrated at any time. Here are some interesting facts according to the LWML history book, *Women IN God's Service, WINGS**.

- During the 12th Biennial Convention in Washington, D.C., July 18–20, 1967 (Eula Hankel, President), a resolution was passed designating the first Sunday in October as LWML Sunday. On Sunday, October 1, 1967, the first LWML Sunday was held. A letter to all pastors and societies was released to explain that “LWML Sunday was to be a window through which could be seen the marvelous opportunities the Lord gives the women of the church to be in mission and serve in His Name.” Pastors were asked to have a prayer for LWML, and some prayer thoughts were included.
- In 1968, an informational brochure, *Serve the Lord with Gladness*, was produced as part of LWML Sunday.
- In 1973, three-fourths of all societies observed LWML Sunday.
- Beginning in 1975, bulletin covers were distributed for LWML Sunday and in 1976, a children’s activity page was added to LWML Sunday resources.
- Past LWML Sunday materials are archived on the LWML website, beginning with 2008, and can be found at lwml.org/lwml-sunday-archives.

If you would like to participate in our Mite Box program, there are small mite boxes on the back table for you to take home and put your small change in. Bring it to church (empty it into the large mite box) anytime or on the 4th Sunday of the month (Mission Sunday). Then take it home and fill it again. These mites will join with mites from Mapleton Zone and then on to district to meet our Mission Grant goal.

Zola Kafton



EASTER BREAKFAST

Once again our Elders with the help from others got up early and prepared an Easter breakfast for all that chose to come. They served about 35 people. They do this every year to serve us in the love of God. So if you see or know an elder let them know how much we appreciate them. Thank you Elders.

ELDERS OF OUR CHURCH: Ryan Paulsen, Alan Dale, Mark Griener, Brian Brown, Joseph Hogan, Mark Witzel

Just a few of the people that chose to get up early. We also want to thank the people that came for the breakfast enjoyed by all.

WE PRAY EVERYONE HAD
A BLESSED EASTER.

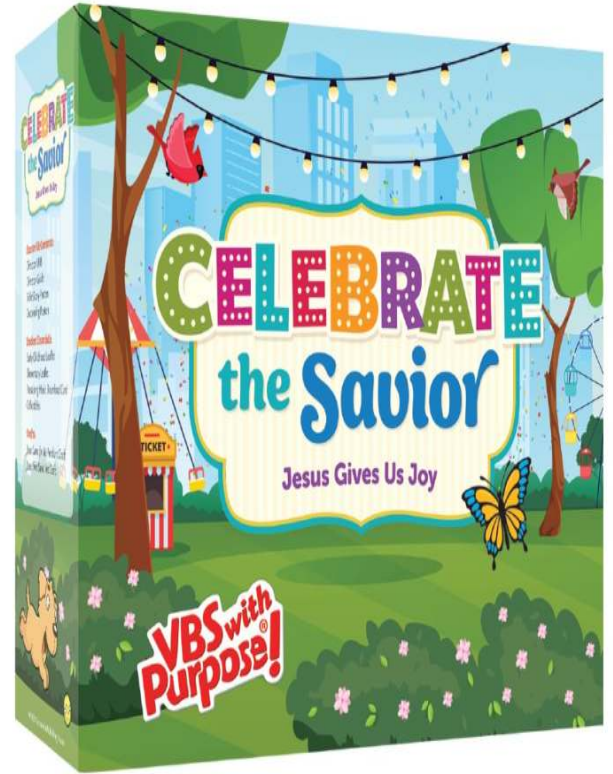


CHURCH LIBRARY

Need family devotion ideas? Check out the devotions for families and individuals in our church library. Do your kids need some books to read during worship? The church library has lots of children's books to keep them busy. Want to watch a family-friendly movie this evening? Our church library offers these, too! Pop into our library (in the Education Wing across from Pastor's office) where we have lots of great books and other resources! Talk with Joan Chandler or Karen Krusen if you have a book or resource suggestion to add to our library.

VBS 2024

Our theme this year for VBS at St. Matthew Lutheran Church is "Celebrate The Savior"! It will be July 23, 24, 25th from 5- 7 pm. Ages invited are 3-13. We will be spending the 3 days Celebrating the Savior. We will be learning about Jesus, doing crafts, singing and praising Jesus, and having a light supper each day. Please join us for a fun time Celebrating The Savior!! Your help or donations would be appreciated. **Please** if there is anyone that would like to help please contact Marla Hogan at (712)-420-5621 or Dawn Paulsen (712)-880-2941.



Our Lenten Meals

Our church had six Lenten meals. They were done by our Elders and different boards. Six very delicious meals were enjoyed by an average of 25 people. That isn't only enjoying the meals but lots of good fellowship. Please come join us and receive the many blessings of God. We miss you and would love to see you.

Shelter house reserved for 06/09/24 with rain date of 06-23-24 for Sunday Service in the Park.

SERVICE at 4:30 pm
IN THE PARK

MENU

BRATS
HOT DOGS
BURGERS

ACTIVITIES

kids games maybe balloons
like bean bag toss sack races

Ryan Paulsen doing music



Flyers to go out the Month prior to all local businesses and churches.

CANDIDATES FOR ELECTION

- For President -----Joe Hogan
- For Vice President -----None
- For Christian Education ----- None
- For Head Elder ----- Ryan Paulsen
- For Property -----Janeal Holmes, Lin Scott,
Ken Krueger as co-chairmen
- Youth Ministry ----- Sarah Schmidt

The board will also be asking the congregation to consider a resolution to extend term limits so that present directors may continue to serve if no other candidates are secured.

There will be a congregational meeting following church services on Sunday, April 21.

This will be a voters’ meeting to elect new leaders for the boards of directors as indicated above.

If you are interested in serving as a candidate for office of any of the above boards, please contact Joe Hogan at 712-420-0775

OR MARK WITZEL 760-500-8902

Recipe: Vegetable Pizza

- 2 pkgs cresant rolls
- 1– 8 oz ranch dip
- 1/2 c. chopped broccoli
- 1/2 c. chopped cauliflower
- 1/2 c. grated carrots
- 1/2 c. Chopped tomato



Place rolls on pan and bake cool spread with dip, top with veggie sprinkle with cheese. Cut and enjoy May use any veggie of your choice.

MEMORY VERSE

Matthew 6:21 For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

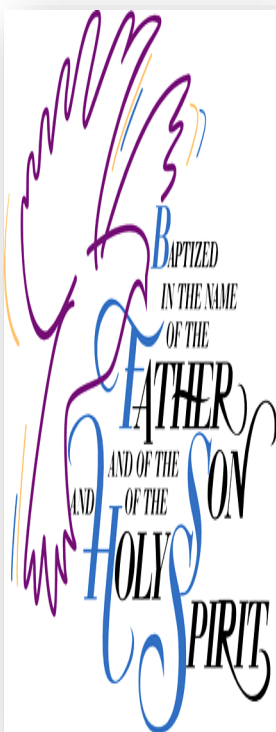


Q: What was God’s first command to man? Genesis 1:28

A: found on page 11

April Birthdays

Harper Schrader	2018-04-06
Jersey Divis	2006-04-17
Colton Davis	2008-04-25
Emily Boggs	1992-04-17
Brian Brown	1962-04-05
Tanner Broyhill	1998-04-19
Joan Chandler	1944-04-30
Shane Erlemeier	1988-04-06
Sue Flanigan	1961-04-24
Lexi Frehse	2010-04-11
Darren Goslar	1983-04-27
Jennifer Goslar	1975-04-17
Lester Goslar	1948-04-18
Brittney Gray	1987-04-13
Daniel Greiner	1991-04-27
Brittany Hesse	1992-04-15
Mark Jensen	1969-04-08
Julie Joy	1980-04-09
Daniel Koithan	1961-04-06
Kyle Krueger	1983-04-18
Brent Kuehl	1974-04-17
Clint Lamb	1978-04-01
Curt Larson	1971-04-24
Sharon Melby	1946-04-21
Nate Paulsen	1987-04-17
Weston Scheer	2015-04-22
Matthew Schrader	1988-04-08
Darrell Scott	1945-04-16
Jodi Scott	1971-04-09
Cassidy Walker	1993-04-15
Kathy Wunschel	1958-04-27



April Baptisms

Cooper Bruhn	2013-04-14
Hadley Bruhn	2018-04-08
Lennox Fox	2016-04-16
Hunter Goslar	2016-04-10
Maverick Goslar	2011-04-10
Kolby Scott	2005-04-03
Ashton Lichtenberg	2001-04-29
Wanda Andre	1950-04-02
Diane Brahms	1989-04-16
Pat Brodersen	1966-04-24
Samantha Burkhart	1994-04-02
Alicia Burns	1980-04-13
Susan Creswell	1973-04-22
Kay Elmquist	1938-04-03
Jennifer Engelke	1975-04-20
Shane Erlemeier	1988-04-24
Megan Frehse	1982-04-18
Patricia Gill	1986-04-13
Anna Goslar	1995-04-09
Mark Jensen	2000-04-19
Christopher Jochims	1977-04-24
Steve Johnson	1947-04-27
Daniel Koithan	1961-04-16
Dan Kovarna	1952-04-13
Jeff Krusen	1958-04-06
Rita Lafrentz	1945-04-15
Dennis Muckey	1950-04-16
Gavin Nevins	1956-04-01
Tyler Paulsen	1994-04-02
Rodney Pedersen	1944-04-04
Marlene Phillips	1936-04-05
Gage Rotnicke	2000-04-30
Patty Sanderson	1969-04-15
Matthew Schrader	1988-04-23
Darrell Scott	1946-04-21
Lin Scott	1946-04-21
Megan Weber	1991-04-07
Russell Wray	1968-04-28



April 80+ Birthdays

Robert Conyers	87	1936-04-24
Darlene Dose	89	1934-04-24
Wayne Kafton	81	1942-04-27
Zola Kafton	81	1943-04-02
Freda Means	97	1927-04-03
Maxine Thies	86	1937-04-28


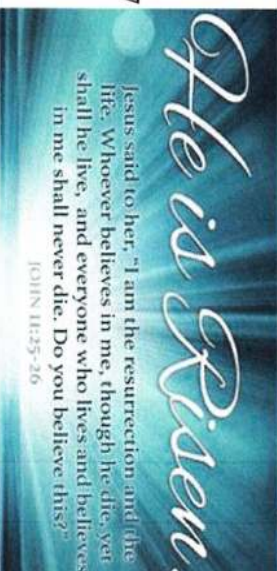


April Anniversaries

Pat and Monica Brodersen	24 years	2000-04-22
Jeff and Karen Krusen	45 years	1979-04-06
Clint and Emily Lamb	24 years	2000-04-08
Gary and Maxine Thies	44 years	1980-04-18
Richard and JoAnn Thoreson	63 years	1961-04-09

APRIL 2024

ST MATTHEW CALENDAR

SUN: Pick up 8am Take home after service	MON	TUES: Pick up 8am Take home: 3:30 pm	WED Catechism class held in Ute	THUR	FRI	SAT
Altar Guild: Kay Johnson Carolyn Sexton Janeal Holmes 	1	2 Rev. N. Peitsch in office 8:30 am to 3:30 pm <u>Uber:</u> Kay Johnson	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
7 2nd Sun of Easter services 9am Elder: Mark Witzel Reader: Mark Witzel Screens: Joe Hogan Sun. Sch & Bible Cl. after services	8	9 Rev. N. Peitsch in office 12N to 3:30 pm Winkle Conference <u>Uber:</u> Joan Chandler	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 3rd Sun of Easter services 9am w/HC Uber: Mark Griener Elder: Mark Griener Reader: Karen Kueny Screens: Mark Witzel Sun. Sch & Bible Cl. after services	15	16 Rev. N. Peitsch in office 8:30 am to 3:30 pm <u>Uber:</u> Rita Lafrentz pick up take home 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 The Ascension of Our Lord service at Mission Central 6pm Pastor Daniel McMillen Meal at 5pm	19 Pastors Family Day	20
21 4th Sun of Easter services 9am Elder: Joe Hogan Reader: Joe Hogan Screens: Dennis Muckey Sun. Sch & Bible Cl. after services LWML bring mite boxes next Sunday	22	23 Rev. N. Peitsch in office 8:30 am to 3:30 pm <u>Uber:</u> Kris Dale pick up take home Board of Directors 7 pm	24 Helping Hands 1 pm to 4 pm Catechism Class 6 pm Catechism 7-8	25 Pastors Family Day	26 Pastors Family Day	27
28 5th Sun of Easter services 9am w/HC Uber: Karla Uhl Elder: Mark Griener Reader: Karen Kueny Screens: Mark Witzel Sun. Sch & Bible Cl. after services LWML MISSON Sunday	29	30 Rev. N. Peitsch in office 8:30 am to 3:30 pm <u>Uber:</u> Janeal Holmes pick up take home	31 Helping Hands 1 pm to 4 pm Catechism Class 6 pm Catechism 7-8			



BIBLE WORD SQUARES

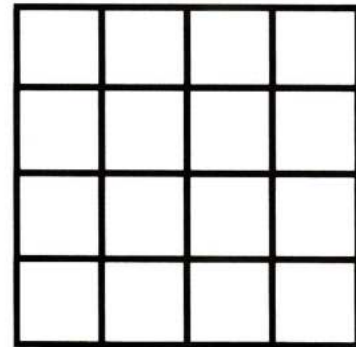


A word square, or acrostic, is a group of words arranged in a square that reads the same vertically and horizontally.

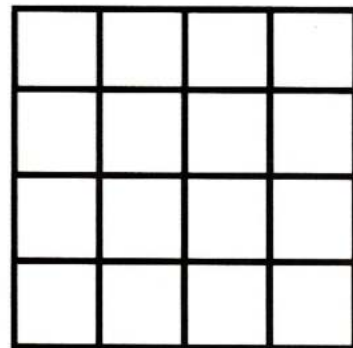
Example: C R A B
R A R E
A R T S
B E S T

Solve the clues below, then arrange the answers to form word squares.

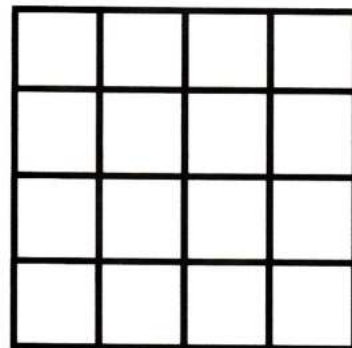
1. a. Wise men from the _____ visited the baby Jesus. (Matthew 2:1)
- b. The wise men were guided to baby Jesus by the _____. (Matthew 2:9)
- c. Jesus could calm the _____. (plural) (Matthew 8:26)
- d. Roman province in Revelation 1:4



2. a. Jehosheba was Joash's _____. (II Kings 11:2)
- b. The Golden Rule says, "Do _____ others. . . ."
- c. Jacob's brother, _____ (Genesis 25:26)
- d. _____ profane and vain babblings (II Timothy 2:16)



3. a. Cain's brother, _____ (Genesis 4:2)
- b. Seth's son, _____ (Genesis 4:26)
- c. Jaaziah's son, _____ (I Chronicles 24:26)
- d. The Prodigal Son's father said his son was _____, but now is found. (Luke 15:24)



The prayer of a righteous man 
is powerful and effective."

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.

Help us keep this prayer list up to date! Call the church to add or remove people.

Members of St. Matthew with Special Needs and Concerns

Nazaria Kaderabek	Selma Schrader	Myrna Gosch
Fred Fletcher	Marlene Phillip	Alice Miller
Deloris Boysen	Maxine Thies	Larry Kuczler
Ernie Witzel	Delbert Kroll	Sue Kruse
Joyce Kruse		

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); Hiedi Zimmer; P.O. Box 272 Early, IA 50535 (Joan Chander's daughter); **Sandy Donovan**, (Nazaria Kaderabek's mother.) **Jerri Haindfield** (daughter of Marilyn & Duane Hamann); **Annie Greiner** (sister-in-law of Mark Greiner) **Paul Lind**, (nephew of Joyce Kruse)

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)

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

Deloris Boysen

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

Delbert Kroll

4401 South Dubuque Ave
Sioux Falls 57110
(new address)

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

Marlene Phillips

101 A North 6th 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, help me choose an attitude of cheerfulness. Let me be a joyful Christian, quick to smile and slow to anger. And let me share Your goodness with all whom I meet so that Your love might shine in me and through me. Amen. ✝