



St Matthew In Action



ACTIVE
CHRISTIANS
TOGETHER
IN
OUTREACH
&
NURTURE

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Rev. Nathan Peitsch,
Vacancy Pastor

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

February is most notably known for Valentine's Day. This, as we all know, is a day set aside to celebrate love. We are all familiar with that famous "love chapter" of the Bible, found in 1 Corinthians 13. There, St Paul tells us all about love: how it is patient and kind, not self-seeking or rude, believing, hoping, and enduring all things. What a beautiful picture of love St Paul gives us in this passage! These verses do more than just tell us about love, they tell us about God's love for us. As we consider love this month, it seems fitting that we also consider the other important holiday we find happening this month.

February is also known for the beginning of the season of Lent, marked with the celebration of Ash Wednesday. Ash Wednesday is a day set aside to focus our attention on our sinfulness and our need for a savior. On this day, we are reminded, "we are dust and to dust we shall return." But even as we have this reminder, we remember the love God has shown us. St John writes in 1 John,

"See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him." - 1 John 3:1

Despite being dust, despite the ashen stain of sin upon us, God calls us His children.

Just a little further along in his epistle, St John assures us,

"In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins." - 1 John 4:10

Jesus was sent to be the propitiation, or sacrifice, that pays the price for our sins. God has truly shown us His love. For even as we consider how utterly undeserving we are on Ash Wednesday, even as we begin the Lenten season of contrition and repentance for those sins, we also remember the love of God shown to us in Christ Jesus. John even goes so far as to remind us that it isn't because of our love for God. Our love for God falls short, our love is insufficient, but His love for us is all sufficient.

Therefore, St John calls on us, because we are so loved by God, to also love one another: "Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God." - 1 John 4:7

As we repent of all the sins we have committed and turn to God for His love and forgiveness, we also remember that He has called us to love one another. In our world today there seems to be so much love lost. Anger, hate, violence, these things seem to rule the day. Love for God, love for our neighbor, these seem harder and harder to find in our world today.

As we remember the love God has shown us, we are reminded of another passage that tells us of God's love, John 3:16. There Jesus tells us,

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life." - John 3:16

Holding fast to this faith in our loving savior, we hear the words of Hebrews 10:

"Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works," - Hebrews 10:23-24

As we confess our faith in a world where hate seems to rule over love, let us be the ones to show love to the loveless. Let us be the ones to show God's compassion. Let us consider how we can encourage that love in others, rather than stirring up more anger and hate. This after all is what we have been called to. Though we are dust and to dust we shall return, God has shown us His love. For He doesn't call us dust, but His own beloved children.

May we be reflections of His great love,

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.

Black is seen very seldom during the year. The calendar calls for its use only twice; on Good Friday and Ash Wednesday. There's no mistaking the message that this sober color gives. Black is the absence of light. Good Friday, or Black Friday in combination with Ash Wednesday, calls for sober reflection on the cost of our redemption. Without Christ's sacrifice on the day the sky turned dark and hid the light of the sun, there would be no bright Light of Christ to live in, nor new life in Christ to enjoy.

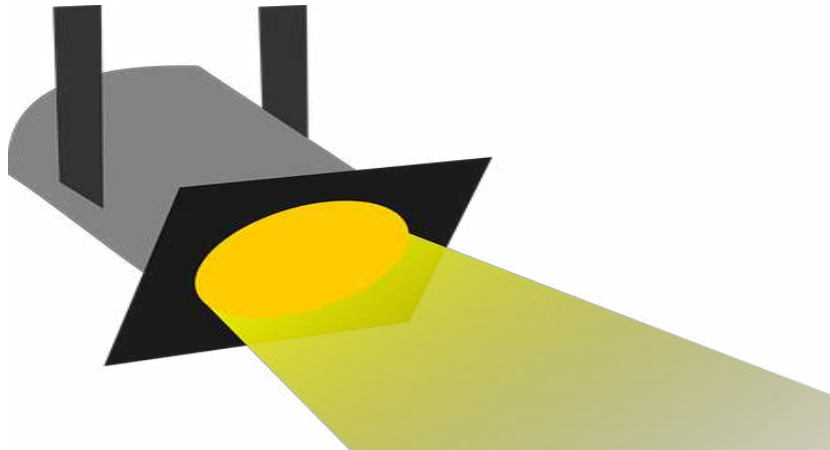
Purple, like black, is a penitential color, in contrast to a festive one. It is appropriately used during Lent and, still in many parishes, during the season of Advent. The forty days of Lent, including the six Sundays that fall during this season, use this deep, rich color which has come to represent somberness and solemnity, penitence, and prayer.

Violet or purple was a very cherished and expensive color in the world Jesus lived. The dye used to make the color was painstakingly acquired by massaging the neck of a Mediterranean shell fish that secreted a special fluid. It was therefore afforded only by the rich and worn most exclusively by the royalty.

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!



| | | | | | | |
|---------------|---------|---------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| EPIPHANY | Feb. 5 | Fifth S. a. the Epiphany | Isaiah 58:3–9a | Psalm 112:1–9 | 1 Cor. 2:1–12 (13–16) | Matt. 5:13–20 |
| | Feb. 12 | Sixth S. a. the Epiphany | Deut. 30:15–20 | Psalm 119:1–8 | 1 Cor. 3:1–9 | Matt. 5:21–37 |
| | Feb. 19 | The Transfiguration of Our Lord | Ex. 24:8–18 | Psalm 2:6–12 | 2 Peter 1:16–21 | Matt. 17:1–9 |
| ASH WEDNESDAY | Feb. 22 | Ash Wednesday | Joel 2:12–19 | Psalm 51:1–13 (14–19) | 2 Cor. 5:20b–6:10 | Matt. 6:1–6, 16–21 |
| LENT | Feb. 26 | First S. in Lent | Gen. 3:1–21 | Psalm 32:1–7 | Rom. 5:12–19 | Matt. 4:1–11 |



**Children's messages
with Pastor in church.**



**SS children made crowns for
Epiphany.**

Sunday School has been going great! We have 4-11 kids present. Since the birth of Jesus, we have talked about him in the temple, Epiphany, the baptism of Jesus and many events in His life. In Sunday School, we send out Christian coloring pages colored by this class to members who are sick, in the military, alone, or just over 70 years old. The kids absolutely love sending them out to people and hearing back from them about how much they enjoyed receiving them and how it made their day. Some write their names on them so they know who colored their picture. If you receive one, let them know.

PLEASE— We need more Uber drivers to step up and volunteer. Call the church office at 881-2243 or Marilyn Hamann at 870-1947 we only have a few that are doing this and it is very hard to make out a schedule when we do not have people to fill it. Pastor would appreciate it if he knew ahead of time who was picking him up.

To **ALL Ubers**: Sunday pickup time is 7 am and Tuesdays time is 8 am. Unless otherwise stated or notified. Thank you. Questions call the church office. 712-881-2243. Please when you arrive at Pastor's home go to his door and make him aware that you are there or text/call him on your phone. Thank you.



MY FAVORITE RECIPE

SUBMITTED BY:

Megan Peitsch



Please share your favorite recipe so it can be enjoyed by all of us. Thank you.

CRANBERRY FETA PINWHEELS | Yield: 4 tortillas (approx. 45 pinwheels) Total Time: 20 min. +1 hr. optional chill time

INGREDIENTS

12 oz. (1.5 pkg) softened cream cheese

1 C crumbled feta cheese

1/2-1/2 C chopped green onion

1 pkg (approx. 12 oz) dried sweetened cranberries

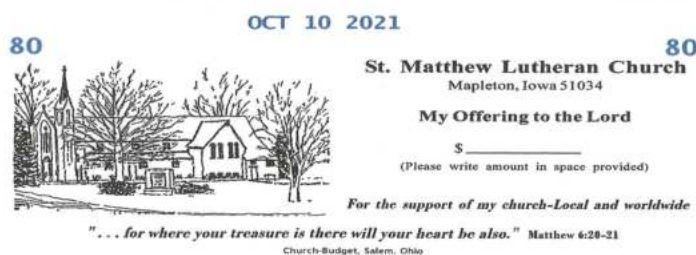
4 spinach tortillas (I used Mission brand garden spinach & herb)

DIRECTIONS

Combine all ingredients except tortillas. Mix well. Divide and spread cream cheese mixture evenly between four spinach tortillas. Roll tightly, wrap in clear plastic wrap, and refrigerate for one hour. *To serve, cut into approximately 12 slices.

NOTE If you don't have time to chill before slicing, never fear, these will be fine without the additional hour of chilling.

Church envelopes: The offering envelopes I have checked on them many times. I was told they couldn't be delivered by the first of Jan. I am still trying to get a delivery date. They will be ready as soon as they arrive. Thank you for your patients. As of 01-31-2023 The envelopes have still not arrived. Stewardship, Joan Chandler.



A Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday, 5 February, after service. We will wrap up the Board Reports for 2022, and cover important, vital Church issues for 2023. If you are a Member of the Congregation, please plan to attend. Any questions, please feel free to contact Mark Witzel, President, (760) 500-8902, markwitzel6@gmail.com. Thank you."



St. Matthews Youth Group

Valentine's Day

Spaghetti Dinner

Saturday, February 11th
from 5:30-8:00 p.m. at
St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Mapleton

Cost is \$20 per person

Reservations Recommended
with all reservations being due by **Feb. 5th**.
Take-outs will be available

Meal includes spaghetti with choice of marinara or alfredo sauce, salad, garlic bread, and a special dessert

To make a reservation or order a take-out please contact
Sarah Schmidt
880-2412.

Proceeds go to
St. Matthew Youth Group

It's Back- St. Matthew Youth Valentines Dinner. This year we have enough youth/parents interested to hold our Valentine's fundraiser once again! It is Saturday, February 11th from 5:30-8:00. Serving spaghetti with marinara/meatballs or alfredo sauce/chicken, garlic bread, drink, and a cupcake for dessert. The cost is \$20/person. Reservations are highly recommended, but not required. To make a reservation call Sarah Schmidt- 712-880-2412. All profits will be used towards youth activities and sending our youth to gatherings.

February Birthdays



| | |
|-------------------|--------------|
| 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 |
| 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



| | |
|------------------|--------------|
| 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 |
| Duane 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 | 82 |
| Richard Thoreson | Feb 13, 1940 | 83 |

God's Blessings on your Wedding Anniversary

| | | |
|-------------------------|--------------|--------|
| Zachery and Anna Goslar | Feb 24, 2015 | 8 yrs. |
|-------------------------|--------------|--------|



Service cancellations due to bad weather:

You will be notified by:

1. KTIV Channel 4
2. Facebook page: St. Matthew Lutheran-Mapleton
3. Our website: www.stmatthewmapleton.org
4. Email: office@stmatthewmapleton.org A mass e-mail will be sent to your email. If you do not get one, please make sure we have the correct e-mail on file. PLEASE NOTE: if you have an e-mail through longlines they do not support e-mails any longer.
5. You may also call the church office and it will be on the answering machine.
6. Feel free to call my number: 712-840-9059 Karen Krusen



Confirmation group pictures these are the years that we do not have. If you know of someone that was confirmed in that year please let us know how we can get a copy. We would like our wall directory to be complete. Thank you.

1955; 1962; 1970; 1971; 1973; 1984; 1985; 1989; 1991; 1992; 2004; 2005; 2006; 2007; 2008;

New members welcome

There will be a brunch in the basement February 12, everyone is welcome to attend and show a Big St. Matthew welcome to our new members

FYI: The Board of Directors decided to change the rent of the basement to \$50.00 which includes the facilities of the kitchen. No charge will be issued to non profit entities especially youth groups.



Helping Hands Back in full swing

All are welcome to come. From 1pm to 4 pm or any time that you chose. Come and try it.

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.

Next Study:

Feb. 21 , 2023



Bible study for all
ENLIGHTENED IN THE LIGHT



Our Church Library

Our church has a small library. It is located in the Ed Unit across from the Pastor's office. You will find informative book, CD and Bible studies to help you know and understand our Bible. Also there are movies and books for family, youth and children. Please come and check it out. Just sign out the items and enjoy. Return it at your leisure. Enjoy our library it is there for you.

ARE YOU THANKFUL?

The response to our thank offering was \$4,490. Also many member told us of other things they were thankful for. They were:

HEALTH

CHURCH

SUCCESSFUL MOVE

GOOD WEATHER

FAMILY

CHURCH WORKERS

ALL NEEDS BEING MET

FAITH

JESUS' SACRIFICE

FRIENDS

LIVING IN THE USA

GOD'S LOVE

May God continue to bless us in the year to come.



Q:What river was Jesus baptized in:

A: Matthew 3:13

A: found on page 10

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



Members of St. Matthew with Special Needs and Concerns

| | | | |
|-------------------|-------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Nazaria Kaderabek | Myrna Gosch | Selma Schrader | Marlene Phillip |
| Mavis Skow | Anna Goslar | Hunter Goslar | Harper Goslar |
| Fred Fletcher | Mike Wood | Leo Dose | |

Family / Friends of Members with Special Needs and Concerns

Ron Kraffle (friend of Marla & Joe Hogan); **Jazmin Mauch**, (granddaughter of Marla and Joe Hogan); **Pam Clausen**, (daughter of the late Fern Jacobsen); **Sharon Kuehl Henning** (niece of Judy & Gary Kuehl); **Beth Weber**, cousin of Dean and Ramona Weber; **Ellen Weber**, mother of Dean Weber; **Alexis Christensen**, (daughter of Donnie (former member) friend of Kay Johnson). **Randy Colshan**, (friend of Marla & Joe Hogan); **Suzie Jacapello**, (sister of Nazaria Kaderabek); **Scott Pierce**, (friends of the Hamann's); **Tim Sanderson** friend of Dennis Muckey; **Candy Dusek** friend of Sarah Schmidt; Anne Livermore, friend of Dennis Muckey; **Morgan Bailey** (new born baby of Sharell and Dillon Bailey, neighbors of Kay Johnson, born weighing only 2-lb 10-oz on a respiratory in Omaha.

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)

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

Mike Wood

308 South 6th St
Mapleton, IA 51034

Mavis Skow

102 North 6th Apt #1
Mapleton, IA 51034

(Sharon Kuehl Henning

312 Highcroft
Window MN 56101

Bonnie Banks

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

Delores Boysen

31153 Juinter Ave.
Hinton, IA 51024

Delbert Kroll

815 Ring Street
Mapleton IA 51034

Anna Goslar

22585 Orange Ave
Castana, IA 51010
(Harper) (Hunter)

Phyllis Fick

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

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

Leo Dose

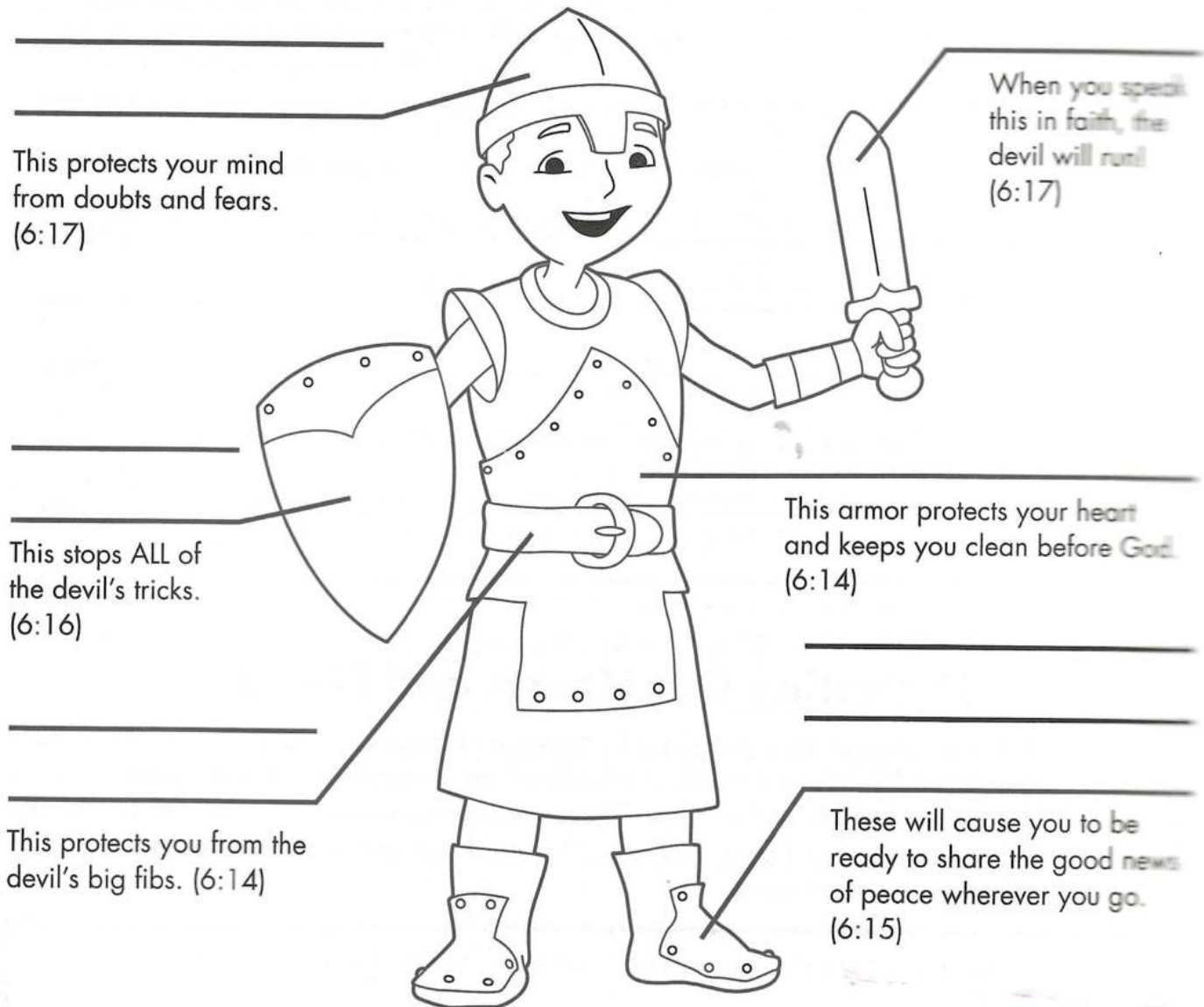
1 Ohm St
Mapleton, IA 51034



Ephesians

Name _____

In Ephesians 6:10–18, Paul describes “the armor of God” that protects us in the spiritual battles we fight—battles against fear, discouragement, and the temptation to sin. Read the Scriptures for yourself. Then, label the armor in the picture below.



Describe some of the spiritual battles you face. How can “the armor of God” equip you to handle some of the battles in your life?

FEBRUARY 2023 ST MATTHEW CALENDAR

| SUN: Pick up 7am Take home after service | MON | TUES: Pick up 8am Take home: 3:30 pm | WED | THUR | FRI | SAT |
|---|-----|---|---|--|-----|-----|
| Altar Guild: Shari Erlemeier 881-1661 Pam Kovarna 882-2314 Janeal Homes 899-8095 | | | | | | |
| 5 Fifth Sun. a. the Epiphany services w/HC 8 a.m. Uber: Jeff Krusen Elder: Jeff Krusen Reader: Karen Kueny Screens: Joe Hogan Sun. Sch. after services Bible Cl. after services | 6 | 7 Rev. Nathan Peitsch in office 8:30am-3:30pm Uber: Brian Brown | 1 Helping Hands 1 pm to 4 pm Confirmation classes in Ute 4:30-6pm | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 12 Sixth Sun. a. the Epiphany 8 a.m. Uber: Jeff Krusen Elder: Duane Hamann Reader: Karen Kueny Screens: Mark Witzel Sun. Sch. after services Bible Cl. after services | 13 | 14 Rev. N. Peitsch in office 8:30 am to 3:30 pm Uber: Kay Johnson | 15 Helping Hands 1 pm to 4 pm Confirmation classes in Ute 4:30-6pm | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 19 The Transfiguration of Our Lord Sun. w/HC 8am Uber: Sue Kruse Elder: Jeff Krusen Reader: Mark Witzel Screens: Joe Hogan Sun. Sch. after services Bible Cl. after services | 20 | 21 Rev. Nathan Peitsch in office 8:30am-3:30pm Uber: Brian Brown In the Word 10 am Board of Elders 7 pm Uber: Mark Witzel | 22 Ash Wednesday service in Ute. Helping Hands 1 pm to 4 pm Confirmation classes in Ute 4:30-6pm | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 26 First Sun. in Lent services 8 a.m. Uber: Leo Erlemeier Elder: Joe Hogan Reader: Joe Hogan Screens: Joe Hogan Sun. Sch. after services Bible Cl. after services Board of Directors 1pm Uber Mark Witzel | 27 | 28 Rev. N. Peitsch in office 8:30 am to 3:30 pm Uber: Ernie Witzel |  | | | |
| | | | | Church Office (712) 881-2243 Fax (712) 881-1163 Email: office@stmatthewmapleton.org Rev. Nathan Peitsch, Vacancy Pastor Pastor's Cell: (515) 570-8078 Ryan Paulsen, Head Elder (712) 840-0125 Mark Witzel, President (760) 500-8902 | | |



St Matthew Lutheran Church
504 Walnut Street
Mapleton, IA 51034

In His Footsteps: Meet
each new day knowing
that God is by your side
and will lead you every
step of the way.

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 eve-
ry 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 Liv-
ing**— is a Television Program that is endorsed by the Iowa West District of the LCMS This pro-
gram 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, I know that others are watching the way that I live my life. Help me to be an en-
thusiastic Christian with a faith that is contagious. Amen.