



St Matthew In Action

2024

February



No man hath seen God
at any time. If we love one
another, God dwelleth in us,
and his love is perfected in us.
1 John 4:12 KJV

ACTIVE
CHRISTIANS
TOGETHER
IN
OUTREACH
&

NURTURE

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Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Coming up this February 14, we have a rather odd pairing of holidays. As I'm sure you're all aware, February 14 is traditionally Valentine's Day. And of course, we all know this as a day set aside to celebrate love. People give flowers, and hearts are the common symbol for the day.

What makes this year unique is that February 14 is also Ash Wednesday. Ash Wednesday is a day set aside to remember our sinfulness, our guilt over sin, our shame. Instead of flowers, we are given ashes. Instead of the symbol of a heart we have the symbol of a cross placed upon our foreheads. Instead of "be my valentine", we are told, "you are dust and to dust you shall return."

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the season of Lent, a time usually designated for repentance and reflection as we consider our sinfulness and our need for the savior God sent to the cross for us. These 40 days of Lent are a time for us to consider how as St Paul tells us, "for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus," - Rom. 3:23-24

We remember our unworthiness before God as we consider His commands and our failure to keep them all, that we might be driven back to the cross. Sent to the one place where we can find God's grace and mercy held out to us lovingly and freely.

It may be odd from a symbols and statements point of view to share Ash Wednesday with Valentine's Day, But from God's perspective it makes perfect sense. We are reminded that we are dust, we are reminded of our sinful state, and we are reminded of our need for the savior. However, each one of these reminders drives us back to the love of God shown for us in Christ Jesus. St Paul reminds us of this love in his epistle to the romans:

"but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us." - Rom. 5:8

While we were still sinners Christ died for us. He didn't die for us because we were the perfect children, but because of His love for us and our need for His salvation.

The Bible gives us so many examples of God's great love for us. Many of them are centered around our need for His salvation. The most familiar being one I may not even need to cite here for you, John 3:16, "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life." God loves His world. He loves you, His children, whom He created from dust. He loves you and I, sinful though we are. And so throughout this lenten season, as we remember our sinfulness, our shame, our guilt, may we also remember that it was for these very reasons that Christ came, suffered, and died. And through His resurrection we have the promise of His eternal love. Though we will return to dust He will raise us at the last that we may live in His love forevermore. So may your February 14 be filled with reminders of God's love, even as we remember our need for that love in Christ.

Blessed Lent to you all,

Pastor Nathan Peitsch

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

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

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



SEASON	DATE	FESTIVAL	FIRST READING	PSALM	EPISTLE	GOSPEL
	Feb. 11	The Transfiguration of Our Lord	2 Kings 2:1–12 or Ex. 34:29–35	Psalms 50:1–6	2 Cor. 3:12–13 (14–18); 4:1–6	Mark 9:2–9
ASH WEDNESDAY	Feb. 14	Ash Wednesday	Joel 2:12–19	Psalms 51:1–13 (14–19)	2 Cor. 5:20b–6:10	Matt. 6:1–6, 16–21
LENT	Feb. 18	First S. in Lent	Gen. 22:1–18	Psalms 25:1–10	James 1:12–18	Mark 1:9–15
	Feb. 25	Second S. in Lent	Gen. 17:1–7, 15–16	Psalms 22:23–31	Rom. 5:1–11	Mark 8:27–38

Altar Guild Shari Erlemeier712-880-0354
Altar Guild Pam Kovarna712-840-1662
Altar Guild Janeal Holmes1-712-899-8095

Altar Guild February

NEW CHURCH BANNERS



Have you ever wondered where the three new banners towards the front of the church and most recently at the back of the church came from? Well, here's the story. In the Fall of 2022, I was talking to Leo Dose one afternoon about how I would really like the church to come up with a new banner stand for the church and Leo piped up and said "I can make you one" so he and I did some measurements and off he went to his shop. About that same time is when Leo started having more back pain problems. He did manage to get the banner stand made and got it to church but from there on he was not able to finish it so with his supervision I finished it as best I could and so we were blessed with probably the last project that Leo Dose was able to do for St Matthews Church. He was always so willing to help the property board, and myself, with projects around our church. We were so blessed to have him for so many years.

The three banners that we have rotated monthly were my part of this project. I found the fabric banner prints online and put them together in quilt form. I had Teri Kay Miller machine quilt 2 of the banners for me and then I completed them as the 3 banners. I chose to gift them to St Matthews at the beginning of the year 2023. I'm hoping that everyone has enjoyed them because I had fun creating them.

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE AND SUPPER



On Ash Wednesday the 14th of February the Elders are planning a meal in the basement. They will have a choice of toppings for the spaghetti. Everyone is encouraged to come.

The weeks that follow our Lenten Season will be planned and they will let us know prior to the day what we will be serving. As I hear I will inform you.

 **Lutheran Women in Mission**
2023-2025 MISSION GRANTS

1. Orphan Grain Train Servant Center Orphan Grain Train, U.S.	\$100,000
2. A Healing Space for At-Risk Children Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch, ND	\$100,000
3. Serving God's Children with Special Needs Journeys Lutheran School, Milwaukee, WI	\$100,000
4. Fortifying Faith in Those with Vision Impairment Lutheran Braille Workers.....	\$100,000
5. Disaster Response Team Trinity Lutheran Church, Tyler, TX	\$50,000
6. Mobile Kitchen Forged by Fire Services, Gulf Coast Region, U.S.	\$85,000
7. Upheld by God's Hand, Mental Health Outreach LCMS Life Ministry	\$96,500
8. Expanding Gospel Proclamation Worldwide Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, MO	\$100,000
9. Equipping Young Leaders — LCMS Youth Ministry	\$50,000
10. Set Apart To Serve — LCMS Office of Pastoral Education.....	\$100,000
11. Lutheran Women in Mission Finish the Job Ministry in Mission, Haiti	\$85,000
12. Sharing Christ Crucified with High School Youth Lutheran High School of Greater New Orleans, LA	\$35,000
13. Water and the Word Evangelical Lutheran Church in Kenya	\$80,000
14. Enhancement of Deaf Ministry and Outreach Ephphatha Lutheran Mission Society, U.S.	\$47,000
15. Feeding Haitian Children Through Gospel and Meals Trinity HOPE.....	\$58,082
16. Care for Street Children of Western Kenya Capstone Ministries	\$50,000
17. Nurturing Faith for the Aging Lutheran Ministries Media (Worship Anew)	\$100,000
18. Zoe's Home Support Zoe's Home, Trinity Lutheran Church, Clinton, MO	\$75,000
19. Tanzania Children's Homes Evangelical Lutheran Church of Tanzania, Africa	\$74,500
20. Sharing Christ with Women and Children in Kazakhstan Lutheran Hour Ministries	\$100,000
21. Healthy Together: Healthy Workers, Healthy Church Lutheran Family Services, U.S.	\$106,000
22. Expanding Gospel Outreach to Hispanics in the U.S. Lutheran Hour Ministries	\$100,000
23. A Legacy of Love for Special Needs Children Lutheran Special Education Ministries, U.S.	\$100,000
24. God's Word for Central and South American Missions Lutheran Heritage Foundation.....	\$100,000
25. Bringing God's Word to India India Bible Translation Project	\$100,000
26. Life Connection Events and Kits — Lutherans for Life.....	\$70,000
27. Siouxland Lutheran Hispanic Ministry Hope Lutheran, South Sioux City, NE.....	\$50,000
28. Growing Our Place: Care for Special Needs Students Our Place After School Care, Inc., NE	\$20,000
29. Repairs for St. Paul's Lutheran School St. Paul's Lutheran School, Cullman, AL	\$50,000
30. Showering Love on the Least of These Mercy Holistic Ministry, CA	\$100,000
31. Breaking Generational Poverty in Detroit Camp Restore Detroit, MI	\$58,988

MISSION PAGE

In order to fulfill God's command to us as a church and as His individual people, we are going to focus on missions, starting with the LWML. (Lutheran Women's Missionary League) We have not been meeting as a group for several years.

Other churches in our zone share the work of LWML with the congregation. It promotes many mission opportunities from which you could choose to serve. **Starting in February on the fourth Sunday** of each month we will have a mite box collection. We save small change, bills and checks to put in a special "mite" box. In the Word Bible Study already takes a collection of "mites". This offering joins with that of other churches in our circuit /zone. It is then sent to District which keeps 25% for their mission projects and sends 75% to the national treasurer to support their missions. In June of 2023 we voted to set our national MISSION GOAL at \$2,350,000, It was then divided between 31 projects around the world. This is a 2023-2025 project. The list of national grants are listed in the left column of this page. So far grants 2, 5, 21 and 24 have been fully funded.

In the future there will be mite boxes to take home for your own use and to return the contents of this box on the 4th Sunday of the month: "LWML MISSION SUNDAY". More will be shared in future newsletters.





If you would like to help plan **Services In The Park** please contact:
Joe Hogan at (712)-420-0775.

VBS is in the planning stages, so if there is anyone that would like to help please contact Marla Hogan at (712)-420-5621.



Sunday Morning Bible Study actively participating in the light of the world bible study enjoyed by all. There is always room for more people.

Copycat Panera Broccoli Cheese Soup

Ingredients

- 1/4 cup unsalted butter
- 1/2 cup dices onions yellow or white
- 1 cup shredded carrots
- 2 1/2-3 cups broccoli florets chopped small
- 1 1/2 cups chicken broth
- 1 cup milk I use skim/ fat free
- 1 cup heavy whipping cream
- 1/4 cup all-purpose flour
- 1 1/2 teaspoons kosher salt
- 1/2 teaspoon black pepper
- Pinch of crushed red pepper flakes or more as desired
- 2 cups shredded cheddar cheese

Submitted by Marla Hogan

Instructions

1. In a large pot over medium high heat, melt butter. Add in onions, carrots and broccoli. Cook to soften about 5 minutes (may be more or less depending on the size vegetables you cut.)
2. Slowly add in broth, milk, and cream. Sprinkle with flour and add salt, pepper and red pepper flakes. Continue stirring and heating over medium, heat until thickened. This will take about 10-15 minutes
3. Once thick, add cheese and stir until melted and smooth. Serve soup and enjoy!

SMP, CHS students celebrate vicarage, internship assignments



19 students recognized SMP students receiving calls: From left, first row: SMP Director Dr. W. Mart Thompson, Jonathan Christopher, Alan Boezi, Jonah Schutte, Matthew Emery, Director of Vicarage and Deaconess Internships Rev. Joel P. Fritsche and Dean of Ministerial Formation Dr. Timothy Saleska; second row: President Dr. Thomas J. Egger, Jacob Sitze, John Stacy, Donald Edie, John Schultz, Andrew Wise and Kory Walstad.

The SMP Program is a four-year distance-education program in which men receive theological education in the setting in which they will continue to serve — as pastors of congregations or in other ministries of the LCMS — following certification, call and ordination. Local pastor-mentors work with SMP students to provide day-to-day guidance, encouragement and prayer.

JOHN STACY'S INTALLATION AT ST MATTHEW LUTHERAN CHURCH

On February 18th Pastor Peitsch will install John Stacy as our Student Vicarage Pastor. We will celebrate with a Breakfast Bruch in the church basement. Please cone and join us.

CHANGES IN THE SERVICE

Change in the Service The offerings will be taken up to the altar after the sermon to be blessed.

MEMORY VERSE

1 John 4:10 Here is Love, not that we loved God, but he loved us, and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins.



What is the name of the gnarled, rough barked, thorny tree that was used to fashion the Ark of the Covenant? Exodus 25:10 and Isaiah 41:19 Answer found on page

February Birthdays

David Bartels	1949-02-24
Brayden Brodersen	2018-02-15
Montana Brodersen	2004-02-26
Cooper Bruhn	2013-02-11
Hadley Bruhn	2018-02-11
Kenneth Carley	1954-02-03
Robbie Frahm	1986-02-14
Donald Fritz	1972-02-05
Bradley Goslar	1998-02-18
Hunter Goslar	2016-02-26
Curtis Hesse	1962-02-07
Bruce Jacobson	1949-02-03
Dennis Jahn	1947-02-12
Steve Johnson	1947-02-06
Pam Kovarna	1951-02-17
Susan Kruse	1957-02-09
John Melby	1972-02-14
Kandis Muhs	1986-02-21
Mindi Ohlmeier	1985-02-10
Taya Ohlmeier	2009-02-16
Rodney Pedersen	1944-02-26
Stephanie Schauer	1983-02-16
Chelsea Schrader	1989-02-09
Marley Scott	2008-02-25
Zakary Scott	2001-02-04
Ryan Trucke	1994-02-03
Inez Voss	1951-02-10
Megan Weber	1991-02-23
Nicholas Wood	1981-02-05
Robert Wood	1973-02-01
Kiana Zawodny	2011-02-05



February Baptisms

Joan Chandler	1956-02-13
Joshua Creswell	1984-02-12
Brett Davis	1979-02-18
Florice Dose	1935-02-03
Kevin Goslar	1972-02-13
Marshall Goslar	1973-02-25
Mary Greiner	1958-02-23
Duane Hamann	1964-02-11
Erie Hicks	2023-02-12
Sharon Hicks	2023-02-12
Chana Hinrickson	1950-02-05
Bruce Jacobson	1949-02-03
Scott Jacobson	1975-02-16
Eric Jacoby	1975-02-09
Gene Kaderabek	1963-02-03
Joyce Kruse	1935-02-10
Eugene Means	1958-02-23
Jerry Means	1958-02-23
Jacob Miller	1992-02-16
Emma Pithan	2009-02-15
Sheryl Schelm	1961-02-22
Jeffrey Scott	1969-02-09
Ernest Witzel	1937-02-05
Kohen Wunschel	2021-02-21

February Anniversary

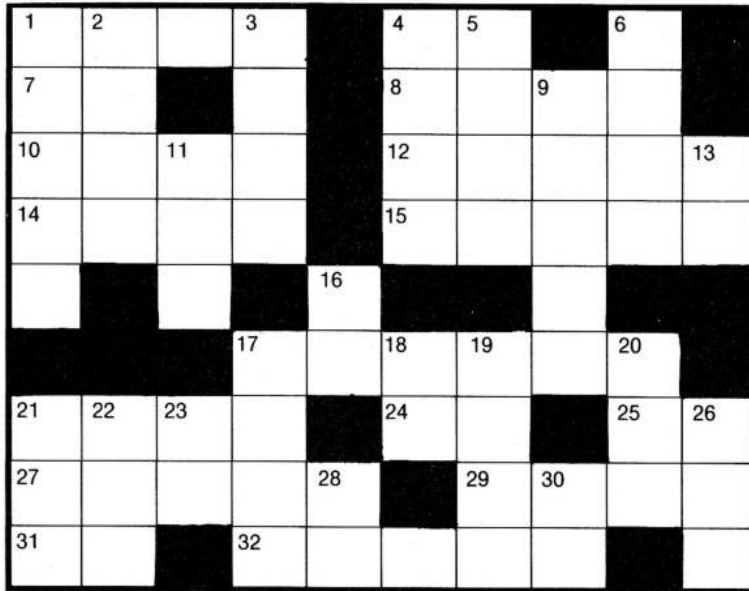


Zachery and Anna Goslar	9years	2015-02-24
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February 80+ Birthdays

Mavis Skow	82	1941-02-08
Richard Thoreson	83	1940-02-13

BIBLE BROTHERS



Across

1. James' brother (Matthew 10:2)
4. Onan's brother (Genesis 38:3-4)
7. "... ___ eye for an eye," (Matthew 5:38)
8. Cain's other brother (Genesis 4:25)
10. Who said, "... Am I my brother's keeper?" (Genesis 4:9)
12. Moses' brother (Numbers 26:59)
14. "God hath spoken _____;" (Psalm 62:11)
15. Abijah's grandfather (II Chronicles 13:1-2)
17. Simon Peter's brother (Luke 6:14)
21. Jezebel's husband, whose name means "father's brother" (I Kings 16:29-31)
24. Abbreviation for Old English
25. "... the same ___ my brother," (Matthew 12:50)
27. Miriam's brother (Numbers 26:59)
29. "... _____ the Gadite," (II Samuel 23:36)
31. Short for identification
32. Rebekah's brother (Genesis 24:29)

Down

1. #4 down's brother (Genesis 25:26)
2. #4 across' brother (Genesis 38:4)
3. How many older brothers John the Baptist had (Luke 1:7, 13)
4. Hairy twin brother (Genesis 25:25)
5. "... wilt thou _____ it up in three days?" (John 2:20)
6. God told Aaron's brother to take each one off. (Exodus 3:5)
9. Each _____ of Israel was named for one of twelve brothers. (Genesis 49:28)
11. "He casteth forth his _____ like morsels:" (Psalm 147:17)
13. Abbreviation for New Latin
16. The Prodigal Son's brother was angry and would not go _____. (Luke 15:28)
17. Cain's brother (Genesis 4:2)
18. "... this _____, and thou shalt live." (Luke 10:28)
19. A king of Midian (Numbers 31:8)
20. "... that I may _____ Christ," (Phillipians 3:8)
21. His children were assistant priests (Ezra 2:57)
22. He and his brothers are listed in I Chronicles 7:37.
23. "... _____ we forgive our debtors." (Matthew 6:12)
26. Forgive your brother's _____. (Luke 17:3 NIV)
28. South America, abbreviation
30. Joseph's brothers said _____ evil beast ate him. (Genesis 37:33)

FEBRUARY 2024 ST MATTHEW CALENDAR



SUN: Pick up 7am 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: Shari Erlemeier 712-880-0354 Pam Kovarna 712-840-1662 Janeal Holmes1-712-899-8095				1	2 Pastors Family Day	3
4 5th Sun. a. the Epiphany Service 9am Elder: Mark Witzel Reader: Mark Witzel Screens: Joe Hogan Sun. Sch &Bible Cl. after services	5	6 Rev. N. Peitsch in office 8:30 am to 3:30 pm Uber: Erie Witzel	7 Helping Hands 1 pm to 4 pm Catechism Class 4:30 PM 5-6 6 pm Catechism 7-8	8	9 Pastors Family Day	10
11 The Transfiguration of our Lord Sun. Service 9am w/HC Uber: Jeff Krusen Elder: Mark Griener Reader: Karen Kueny Screens: Dennis Muckey Sun. Sch &Bible Cl. after services	12 Cleaning Day at church 9-11 am	13 Rev. N. Peitsch in office 12N to 3:30 pm Winkle Conference Uber: Sue Kruse Rev. N. Peitsch in office 12N am to 3:30 pm	14 Helping Hands 1 pm to 4 pm Catechism Class 4:30 PM 5-6 6 pm Catechism 7-8 Ash Wednesday Elder: Ryan Paulsen Reader: Ryan Paulsen Screens: Mark Witzel	15	16 Pastors Family Day	17
18 1st Sun. in Lenten Service 9am Elder: Joe Hogan Reader: Joe Hogan Screens: Dennis Muckey Sun. Sch &Bible Cl. after services	19	20 Rev. N. Peitsch in office 8:30 am to 3:30 pm Uber: Janeal Holmes In the Word 10 am Board of Elders 7pm Uber: Mark Witzel	21 Helping Hands 1 pm to 4 pm Catechism Class 4:30 PM 5-6 6 pm Catechism 7-8 Lenten Service 6:30 pm Elder: Mark Witzel Reader: Mark Witzel Screens: Joe Hogan	22	23 Pastors Family Day	24
25 2nd Sun. in Lenten Service 9am w/HC Uber: Mark Griener Elder: Ryan Paulsen Reader: Ryan Paulsen Screens: Mark Witzel Sun. Sch &Bible Cl. after services LWML MISSION Sunday	26	27 Rev. N. Peitsch in office 8:30 am to 3:30 pm Uber: Janeal Holmes Board of Directors 7pm Uber: Mark Witzel	28 Helping Hands 1 pm to 4 pm Catechism Class 4:30 PM 5-6 6 pm Catechism 7-8 Lenten Service 6:30 pm Elder: Joe Hogan Reader: Joe Hogan Screens: Dennis Muckey	29	30 Pastors Family Day	

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



Members of St. Matthew with Special Needs and Concerns

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

Family / Friends of Members with Special Needs and Concerns

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Selma Schrader

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

Nazaria Kaderabek

310 S. 6th St.
Mapleton, IA 51034

Cecil, Fred Fletcher

1225 B Ave.
Danbury, IA 51019

Marlene Phillips

101 A North 6th St.
Mapleton, IA 51034

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Mapleton, IA 51034

Deloris Boysen

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

Delbert Kroll

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Mapleton IA 51034

George Koithan

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Maple Heights Nursing Home
Mapleton, IA 51034

Myrna Gosch

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

Roberta Conyers

306 S. 9th St
Mapleton, IA 51034



St Matthew Lutheran Church
504 Walnut Street
Mapleton, IA 51034

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

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



Dear Lord, 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. ✝