



# St Matthew In Action



ACTIVE  
CHRISTIANS  
TOGETHER  
IN  
OUTREACH  
&  
NURTURE

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Rev. Nathan Peitsch,  
Vacancy Pastor

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Recently we've had some warmer days and it's had me thinking a little about the idea of spring cleaning. Spring cleaning is a great time to reduce clutter, to get ready for an upcoming junk day, or maybe just to straighten up some things that you've let go for too long. Maybe you rearrange your furniture for a fresh look. Maybe you pull out the junk drawer to declutter it. Maybe you like to take this as a time to go through the closet and donate some of the outfits you haven't worn in a while. Whatever the case the goal seems to be the same: Clean up!

We have just begun the season of Lent and the message of this season is actually quite similar. Lent is a time for us to do some spiritual spring cleaning. The Psalmist recognizes this need for some house cleaning in Psalm 51 we hear, "Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me." Psalm 51:10 Here we read as the psalmist asks God to clean up his heart. And in the season of Lent we are encouraged to take some time to consider our own need for heart cleaning.

This season is set aside for penitence and reflection. Penitence comes from the sorrow we feel over the sins we have committed. We develop this penitential heart as we reflect on God's Word. Recently I was asked about the time of reflection we have in our worship services. There comes a point early in the service where I saw something to the effect of, "We pause to reflect on God's Word." What is this reflection all about? What should we be thinking about during this time?

To answer these questions, I like to go to Martin Luther's Small Catechism. As Luther addresses the topic of confession and absolution one of the questions he asks is which sins are these that we ought to confess. To which he answers, "Consider your place in life according to the Ten Commandments: Are you a father, mother, son, daughter, husband, wife, or worker? Have you been disobedient, unfaithful, or lazy? Have you been hot-tempered, rude, or quarrelsome? Have you hurt someone by your words or deeds? Have you stolen, been negligent, wasted anything, or done any harm?"

Luther gives us a lot to consider here and this is just part of it. Not only ought we to consider what sins we ought to clean up in regard to our vocations but in general how have we sinned? What personal secret sins do we hide. What cobwebs lurk in the corners of our hearts that we should really be dealing with rather than sweeping them under the rug.

Any cleaning task can seem pretty daunting when you consider it this way though. Looking at the whole of the ten commandments, we've got a lot of cleaning up to do. We've put plenty of other things before God. I'd venture to guess there's places where our language can be cleaned up rather than taking the Lord's name in vain as often as we do. And who among us can truly say we have honored father and mother as we ought or never hurt or harmed our neighbor in some way.

Every cleaning job needs to start somewhere. So perhaps this lent you may choose to focus on your language, or your church attendance, or your tithing, perhaps you'll take some time to tackle one of your bad habits. Whatever the case, recognize that in all of this as the psalmist himself recognized, we need God to be the one to create the clean heart in us. We cannot do it ourselves. It is God who cleans us up. He has washed us with the waters of holy baptism. He has given us His Holy Spirit that we might be led

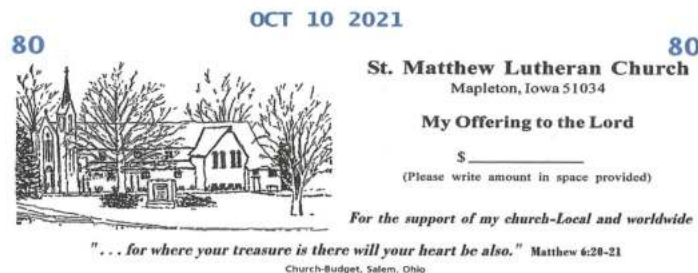
by Him. He has given us His Word that we might not sin against Him. But most importantly He has given us His Son. This is where our lenten penitence and reflection should always drive us, back to the cross, back to Christ. There we find forgiveness. There we receive His grace. There we get clean hearts.

God bless you this Lententide,

Pastor Nathan Peitsch

## CHURCH ENVELOPE UPDATE

**Church envelopes:** The envelopes are finally ready. They are on the back of the church ready to be pick up. If you would like envelopes and didn't get them please contact, Joan Chandler. At 882-2560. I will try to get them as soon as possible. Thanks for your patience. Stewardship Board.



**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.



PURPLE



LENT	Mar. 5	Second S. in Lent	Gen. 12:1-9	Psalm 121	Rom. 4:1-8, 13-17	John 3:1-17
	Mar. 12	Third S. in Lent	Ex. 17:1-7	Psalm 95:1-9	Rom. 5:1-8	John 4:5-26 (27-30, 39-42)
	Mar. 19	Fourth S. in Lent	Isaiah 42:14-21	Psalm 142	Eph. 5:8-14	John 9:1-41 or John 9:1-7, 13-17, 34-39
	Mar. 26	Fifth S. in Lent	Ezek. 37:1-14	Psalm 130	Rom. 8:1-11	John 11:1-45, (46-53) or John 11:17-27, 38-53



## New members welcome

At St. Matthew, we've had thirteen new members join Saint Matthew Lutheran Church starting with people that came before Covid hit us. We sent out 11 invitations, with 9 at Church to be recognized. On Feb 12th was our New Members welcome, after church. We had twenty six members in attendance, including Marla's Sunday School children. After introductions and a little something about the new members, everyone was Breakfast Pizza, Cinnamon Rolls, Coffee and juice with 26 to eat. We would like to thank everyone who came and all who donated towards this event. A big thank you to Joan it was appreciated. Marla and her The Sunday School joined us handing out Valentines, which was so nice. , thank you so much for thinking of everyone, it was such a nice thought. Also want to have a big thank you to Melinda Namanny for the beautifully decorated tables. We had a fun Morning.  
Outreach board: Ramona and Marilyn



### God's Child

Inez Voss  
Trish Gill  
Anna Goslar  
Sharon Pope  
Joe & Marla Hogan  
Phil McGrain  
Mardelle Vandevanter  
Mark Witzel  
Ernie & Sharon Hicks  
Kirk Bridgeman  
Tosha Bridgeman  
Adreana Wunschel

### Received into membership on:

06-17-2022  
01-17-2023  
02-26-2018  
11-01-2017  
11-01-2017  
09-22-2019  
03-23-2021  
02-09-2020  
02-12-2023  
09-30-2018  
09-30-2018  
11-22-2022





*St. Matthew Youth*



*Valentines Dinner*



The youth would like to thank everyone that attended the dinner. They had a fun time and can't wait to do it again next year! Special thanks goes to the parents for helping in the kitchen, and Melinda Namanny for the decorating the tables. Sarah Schmidt.

**Lenten Services:** At St. Paul at Ute, Feb. 22, March 8, March 22 at 7 pm. At St. Matthew March 1, 15, and 29 at 7:15 pm. If anyone needs or wants a ride to St. Paul in Ute, please call the church office at 881-2243 and it will be arranged for you. Thank you.

St. Matthew will be serving a meal before the services on Wednesday from 6-7 on the evenings we have church. St. Paul will be serving meals from 6– 6:45 in Ute, before their service at 7pm.

## MY FAVORITE RECIPE

7 UP Biscuits

SUBMITTED BY:

**Joan Chandler**



5 cups Bisquick

1 1/2 cups sour cream

1 cup 7 up (then you can drink the rest! lol)

1 stick butter– melted

Mix sour cream and Bisquick add 7up. Mix well. It will be a loose dough. Roll out 1 in thick. Cut biscuits. Don't twist cutter.

Place melted butter in pan, place about 15 biscuits in pan. There will be extra dough. It will make about 20 biscuits. Bake at 450 \* for 12 min.

**Please share your favorite**

**recipe so it can be enjoyed**

**by all of us. Thank you.**

9 x 13 pan

Bake 450\* for 12 min.

## Upcoming Elections of Board Officers

Elections will be held at the next Congregational 'Voters' Meeting in April. Officer terms of service are two years. Officers currently serving their first term can run for a second term, if desired. If you desire to run for election to one of the open positions, please see Congregational President, Mark Witzel. God's blessings to all who currently serve and to those who desire to serve as a Church Board Officer.

Positions up for election in April are:

Congregational Vice President (Positioned is currently open)

Treasurer

Board of Discipleship, 'Elder' (One of the seven seats is currently open)

Board of Outreach Director

Board of Property Director

## UPDATE ON CALL COMMITTEE

We started off the year learning of a surprise visit of Pastor LaBoube to a church in Illinois with him eventually taking that call and leaving mid May.

First we had a congregational meeting to see where we were with Pastor Salcedo and Pastor Turner. We decided due to the lack of funds to support a full time pastor to start in the direction of reaching out to surrounding churches to see about partnering. We formed an exploratory committee consisting of Mark Witzel, Ryan Paulsen, Karen Kueny, Jeff Krusen and Sarah Schmidt. Which we were to draft a letter to send to the churches from that meeting our committee decided to reach out to the church in Correctionville and begin the partnering adventure. Their elders sent a letter to decline then we had another meeting with Salcedo and Turner to keep all options open. Which consist of calling a pastor, a vicar, an intermediate, which was all a slim chance. So we decided to send out 10 letters to surrounding churches and eventually were all declined. Pending a meeting with St. Paul in Ute.

On Friday I called Pastor Salcedo to see if Pastor Turner had news and the news was not good. Our likelihood of getting a graduate from seminary or an interim or retired pastor is very slim. As of right now we will continue to use Pastor Peitsch as our vacancy Pastor.

I commend and thank all who are serving now and the work they have put in in the last year. I also want to thank everyone who has served in the past and the people doing things now without wanting to be recognized.

I pray the Lord will guide us in everything we do. Ryan Paulsen Head Elder.



# March Birthdays



Kirk Bridgeman	Mar 07, 1980
Alicia Burns	Mar 07, 1980
Christopher Creswell	Mar 30, 1989
Michael Creswell	Mar 16, 1984
Jennifer Engelke	Mar 02, 1975
Megan Frehse	Mar 31, 1982
Randy Gosch	Mar 18, 1961
Terrance Gray	Mar 23, 1999
Kerensa Hamann	Mar 10, 2014
Brandon Jacobson	Mar 10, 1980
Brandon Krusen	Mar 20, 2000
Rita Lafrentz	Mar 17, 1945
Ashton Lichtenberg	Mar 22, 2001
Mark Livermore	Mar 03, 1964
Amy Meseck	Mar 28, 1973
Daniel Miller	Mar 22, 1958
Dennis Muckey	Mar 31, 1950
Steve Oberg	Mar 09, 1961
Caleb Rickert	Mar 26, 2009
Patty Sanderson	Mar 15, 1969
Kathryn Schiltz	Mar 28, 1967
Lin Scott	Mar 27, 1946
Michael Smith	Mar 16, 1984
Jolene Uhl	Mar 27, 1959



# March Baptisms

David Bartels	Mar 27, 1949
Brayden Brodersen	Mar 24, 2018
Montana Brodersen	Mar 21, 2004
Adam Chandler	Mar 30, 1980
Joan Fick	Mar 27, 1945
Randy Gosch	Mar 30, 1961
Bradley Goslar	Mar 15, 1998
Curtis Hesse	Mar 04, 1962
Roger Ingram	Mar 18, 1960
Brandon Jacobson	Mar 30, 1980
Dennis Jahn	Mar 09, 1947
Pam Kovarna	Mar 25, 1951
Sharon Kruse	Mar 28, 1954
Susan Kruse	Mar 24, 1957
Emily Lamb	Mar 24, 1980
Barb Lyon	Mar 29, 1952
Mindi Ohlmeier	Mar 24, 1985
Drake Paulsen	Mar 14, 2015
Derek Pithan	Mar 17, 2013
DeRae Schauer	Mar 30, 1986
Stephanie Schauer	Mar 06, 1985
Troy Schmidt	Mar 01, 2009
Chelsea Schrader	Mar 19, 1989
Ryan Trucke	Mar 12, 1994
Robert Wood	Mar 13, 1977
Shawn Wood	Mar 13, 1977

## 80 + Birthday God's Blessings

Delores Boysen	Mar 05, 1939	<b>84</b>
Joan Fick	Mar 27, 1935	<b>88</b>



## God's Blessings on your Wedding Anniversary

Alan & Kris Dale	Mar 21, 1997	26 yrs.,
Toni & Krista Elmquist	Mar 05, 1988	35 yrs.
Les & Donna Goslar	Mar 21, 1970	<b>53 yrs.</b>
Bryan & Betsy Scheer	Mar 08, 2014	9 yrs.

# Ute Community Building 313 South Monona Ave. Ute, IA



**A benefit concert for Saint Paul Lutheran's  
125th Anniversary. Featuring Root Beer  
Floats and a silent auction!**

## *Grateful Heart*

Saturday April 1st at 7 PM

Tickets \$20 at the door or call Tammy at 712-265-1199

Please join us for this  
Ute area community celebration!

[stpaulsute.org](http://stpaulsute.org)    **Facebook: stpaulsute**

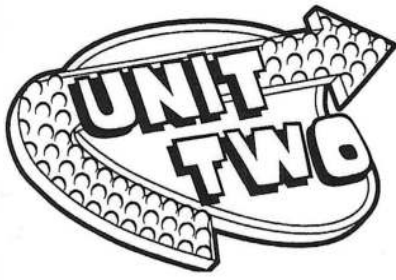


Q: The fear of the Lord is the beginning of \_\_\_\_\_; all those who practice it have a good understanding.

A: Psalm 111:110

A: found on page 11





Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Review

### Remember Where We've Been?

We've made 39 stops on our *Route 66* road trip. We're more than halfway there! See what you can remember from our journey. Write the correct letter in each blank to match the descriptions on the left with the books of the Bible on the right.

### Matching

- |  |                                |
|--|--------------------------------|
| 1. ____ the weeping prophet and his sad songs                      | a. Ecclesiastes, Song of Songs |
| 2. ____ the man who was swallowed by a great fish                  | b. Job                         |
| 3. ____ the man who spent the night in the lion's den              | c. Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi  |
| 4. ____ Solomon's words of wisdom and love songs                   | d. Psalms, Proverbs            |
| 5. ____ the prophet who said, "Send me!"                           | e. Jonah                       |
| 6. ____ a man who trusted God even in his suffering                | f. Isaiah                      |
| 7. ____ the farmer prophet   | g. Hosea                       |
| 8. ____ the man who saw a valley of dead bones come to life        | h. Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah  |
| 9. ____ David's songs of praise; Solomon's wisdom                  | i. Joel                        |
| 10. ____ three prophets who warned of God's judgment               | j. Micah                       |
| 11. ____ the man who said God's Spirit would come in the last days | k. Jeremiah, Lamentations      |
| 12. ____ the man who married an unfaithful wife                    | l. Ezekiel                     |
| 13. ____ the man who told us what God requires of us               | m. Daniel                      |
| 14. ____ the last three prophets in the Old Testament              | n. Obadiah                     |
| 15. ____ the shortest book in the Old Testament                    | o. Amos                        |

### Souvenir Scrapbook

1. In your *Souvenir Scrapbook* or on another sheet of paper, share at least one thing that you've learned on our road trip in the last few weeks. Have you learned a lot? Make a list!
2. Which is your favorite "stop"—your favorite book of the Bible or favorite Bible story—so far? Why?



# ST MATTHEW LUTHERAN CHURCH

## MARCH 2023 CALENDAR

SUN: Pick up 7am Take home after service	MON	TUES: Pick up 8am Take home: 3:30 pm	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
Church Office (712) 881-2243 Fax (712) 881-1163 Email: <a href="mailto:office@stmatthewmapleton.org">office@stmatthewmapleton.org</a> Rev. Nathan Peitsch, Vacancy Pastor Pastor's Cell: (515) 570-8078 Ryan Paulsen, Head Elder (712) 840-0125 Mark Witzel, President (760) 500-8902			<b>1 Lenten Service (Mapleton) 7:15 pm</b> Helping Hands 1 pm to 4 pm Confirmation classes in Ute 4:30-6pm	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>5 Second Sun.</b> in Lent services 8 a.m. w/HC Uber: Brian Brown Elder: Ryan Paulsen Reader: Ryan Paulsen Screens: Mark Witzel Sun. Sch. & Bible Cl. after services	<b>6</b>	<b>7 Rev. Nathan Peitsch</b> in office 8:30am-3:30pm Uber: Rita Lafrentz	<b>8 Lenten Service (Ute) 7:00pm</b> Helping Hands 1 pm to 4 pm Confirmation classes in Ute 4:30-6pm	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>12 Third Sun.</b> in Lent services 8 a.m. Uber: Kay Johnson Elder: Jeff Krusen Reader: Karen Kueny Screens: Dennis Muckey Sun. Sch. & Bible Cl. after services	<b>13</b>	<b>14 Rev. N. Peitsch</b> in office 12N am to 3:30 pm Pastor out of town am Pastor's conference Uber: Marilyn Hamann	<b>15 Lenten Service (Mapleton) 7:15 pm</b> Helping Hands 1 pm to 4 pm Confirmation classes in Ute 4:30-6pm	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>19 Fourth Sun.</b> in Lent services 8 a.m. w/HC Uber: Brian Brown Elder: Mark Witzel Reader: Mark Witzel Screens: Joe Hogan Sun. Sch. & Bible Cl. after services	<b>20</b>	<b>21 Rev. Nathan Peitsch</b> in office 8:30am-3:30pm Uber: Janeal Holmes In the Word 10 am Uber for the Board of Elders 7 pm Mark Witzel	<b>22 Lenten Service (Ute) 7:00pm</b> Helping Hands 1 pm to 4 pm Confirmation classes in Ute 4:30-6pm	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>26 Fifth Sun.</b> in Lent services 8 a.m. Uber: Sue Kruse Elder: Joe Hogan Reader: Joe Hogan Screens: Mark Witzel Sun. Sch. & Bible Cl. after services Uber for the Board of Directors 1 pm Mark Witzel	<b>27</b>	<b>28 Rev. N. Peitsch</b> in office 8:30 am to 3:30 pm Uber: Sue Kruse	<b>29 Lenten Service (Mapleton) 7:15 pm</b> Helping Hands 1 pm to 4 pm Confirmation classes in Ute 4:30-6pm	<b>30 Altar Guild</b> Sarah Schmidt 880-2412 Mardella Vandervanter 515-890-2226 Janeal Holmes 712-870-1947 / 712-899-8095	<b>31</b>	



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



## 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	Freda Means
Roberta Conyers			

## 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





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](http://www.missioncentral.us) **Lutheran Family Service:** [www.lfsiowa.org](http://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](http://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](http://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, I know that others are watching the way that I live my life. Help me to be an enthusiastic Christian with a faith that is contagious. Amen.