



St Matthew In Action

2024

M A R C H



ACTIVE
CHRISTIANS
TOGETHER
IN
OUTREACH
&
NURTURE

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Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

This letter finds us nearly halfway through the season of Lent. Our upcoming calendar already lists our worship services for Palm Sunday, Holy Week, and Easter. Already we look forward to celebrating the resurrection. And in that celebration we give thanks to God for the gift of life with which He has blessed us, the promise of eternal life through His crucified and risen Son, Jesus Christ.

In the midst of this time, we find ourselves in the middle. We recall the purpose and aim of Lent, a time for penitent reflection on our own sinfulness and need for a savior. This season serves as a time for us to focus on God's Law, the things He requires of us, and the ways we have fallen short of that requirement. It serves to drive us to our observances of Holy Week, as we see Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem, His institution of the Lord's Supper on Maundy Thursday, and His death for the sins of the world on Good Friday.

It can be tempting to gloss over this time. After all, we know we are sinners. We know the bad things that we have done and we regret those things. We've confessed them privately before God and publicly with the rest of the congregation at our weekend worship. We know where we've fallen short of God's will for us. So, why dwell on them? Why spend the time pondering God's Law in detail. After all, all it seems to do is multiply our sins. But that's just the point: the more we know of God's Law, the more we realize our sin, and the more we realize our need for the Savior.

This, after all, is the reason for the season of Lent, just as it is the reason for the Law. The Law shows us our sin so that we truly understand our need for the Gospel and the salvation that can only come from Christ Jesus. This meditation on God's Law is even encouraged by the psalmist.

“I will meditate on your precepts and fix my eyes on your ways.” Ps. 119:15

We meditate on God's precepts that we might know His will for us. But it's not just that. Just a few verses earlier the psalmist says,

“I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you.” Ps. 119:11

We spend this time in Lent, focused on God's Law and our own sinfulness so that we might not sin further.

And the beauty of this season is that it culminates with Holy Week and Easter. All the meditation, the self-reflection, the penitence, and the repentance push toward Easter and they help to make our celebration that much more joyous. St Paul points this out as well:

“And if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain.” 1 Cor. 15:14

Without the resurrection none of the things we do matter, our observance of Lent, knowing God's Law, guilt, repentance, these are empty without the good news of the resurrection and the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

We may spend some time in the sorrow and repentance of Lent, but not to beat ourselves down. Instead we spend the time we do in Lent to add to our joy at Easter. And so this Lent we spend some time pondering Psalm 41 and Christ's fulfillment of all His Word. We spend some time singing more somber songs, setting a tone of penitential reflections. I encourage you to consider picking up a Large Catechism this Lent and reading through Luther's explanations of the Ten Commandments as a reminder to each of us of our need for Christ. You could also simply pick up a book of the Bible and study a chapter with a friend or loved one. Whatever the case, use the time we have in Lent to meditate on His precepts, to hide His Word in your heart, and to lead us all to a full appreciation of the joys of Easter. In Christ, ~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.

Red completes the acronym, “Bg-Bgs-Pwr.” Red is a power color and is appropriate for use on Pentecost Sunday. On this day we remember the power and fire of “the Lord and Giver of Life,” who revealed himself as the promised one. The color red communicates the motif of strength-strength and power the Holy Spirit gives in order for God's people to call on the name of Jesus Christ and share that powerful name with others. There is no question that red is a compelling festive color. Consequently, it serves well as the traditional color for the heroic martyrs of the church

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.

SEASON	DATE	FESTIVAL	FIRST READING	PSALM	EPISTLE	GOSPEL
LENT	Mar. 3	Third S. in Lent	Ex. 20:1–17	Psalm 19	1 Cor. 1:18–31	John 2:13–22 (23–25)
LENT	Mar. 10	Fourth S. in Lent	Num. 21:4–9	Psalm 107:1–9	Eph. 2:1–10	John 3:14–21
LENT	Mar. 17	Fifth S. in Lent	Jer. 31:31–34	Psalm 119:9–16	Heb. 5:1–10	Mark 10:(32–34) 35–45
HOLY WEEK	Mar. 24	Palm Sunday /	Zech. 9:9–12	Psalm 118:19–29 <i>or</i>	Phil. 2:5–11	Mark 14:1–15:47 <i>or</i> Mark
PALM SUNDAY		Sunday of the Passion		Ps. 31:9–16		15:1–47 <i>or</i> John 12:20–43
MAUNDAY THURSDAY	Mar. 28	Holy (Maundy) Thursday	Ex. 24:3–11	Psalm 116:12–19	1 Cor. 10:16–17	Mark 14:12–26
GOOD FRIDAY	Mar. 29	Good Friday	Is. 52:13–53:12	Psalm 22 <i>or</i> Psalm 31	Heb. 4:14–16; 5:7–9	John 18:1–19:42 <i>or</i> John 19:17–30
EASTER	Mar. 31	The Resurrection of Our Lord <i>Easter Sunrise</i>	Ex. 15:1–11	Psalm 118: 15–29	1 Cor. 5:6b–8	John 20:1–18
EASTER	Mar. 31	The Resurrection of Our Lord <i>Easter Day</i>	Is. 25:6–9	Psalm 16	1 Cor. 15:1–11	Mark 16:1–8

INSTALLATION OF VICAR JOHN STACY

BY REV. NATHAN PEITSCH IN CHURCH



BRUNCH TO FOLLOW IN THE BASEMENT TO FOLLOW WITH
FELLOWSHIP AND FUN



On February 18th Pastor Peitsch will install John Stacy as our Student Vicarage Pastor. Today Pastor Peitsch officially installed him into St. Matthew as our Vicar. Thirty plus members came to help him celebrate this event including his sister and youngest son both of Des Moines. We wish him God's richest blessing in the years to follow. May we all show him how we appreciate his service to us.

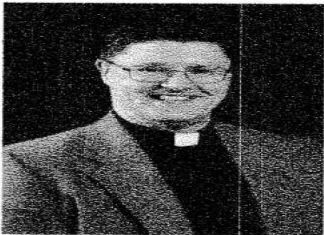


On a Mission
to Support
Christ's Mission!

February 2024

409 Kenyon Road, Suite B — Fort Dodge, Iowa 50501
515-576-7666 Fax 515-576-2323 www.idwlcms.org
Contact email: sue@iowadistrictwest.org

Sharing Christ with our Neighbor and with the World



I'm the "new" guy, and I extend greetings to you from Mission Central, where I have the joy of serving alongside Gary Thies in the important work of raising mission awareness among our congregations. As we share the exciting news about what the Lord is doing in His mission fields, it is always our intention to:

1. Encourage God's people to a deeper appreciation for the gifts that Jesus brings to them each week in Word and Sacrament.

2. Provide God's people with opportunities to support our missionaries who bring these same Means of Grace to lost souls around the world.

3. Deliver a Christ-centered and cross-focused presentation that will encourage our young people to prayerfully consider a vocation as full-time church professionals and career missionaries.

It would be a great privilege for us to visit your congregation and share with you stories and pictures from around the world, as our missionaries tell others the Good News about Jesus. Let us rejoice that we have a Savior who lived a perfect life in our place, as our Substitute, who died on the cross to take the punishment that we deserve, and who rose again from the dead to give us a new life with Him that will last forever.

This joy and peace — this hope and certainty — is ours! That's why we share Christ with our neighbors and with the world, so they can have what we have and rejoice together with us in the blessed assurance of sins forgiven and eternal life with Jesus.

Rev. Steve Schulz, Pastoral Advisor & Assistant to the Director-Mission Central
steve.schulz@lcms.org

**MISSION CENTRAL EVENTS
PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

Erin Mackenzie

Latin America

Saturday, March 16, 2024

1:30 PM



LENTEN SUPPERS 3 MORE TO BE SERVED PLEASE COME. 5:15-6:15 PM

Wednesday supper schedule:

March 6th Stewardship board

March 13th Board of Education

March 20th Board of Directors

With help for all boards to serve or where they need it.

SCHEDULING FOR SERVICES: HOLY WEEK

Maundy Thursday– St. Matthew: 6:30 pm service

Maundy Thursday– St Paul Ute: 7 pm service with Communion; All are welcome to come

Good Friday St. Matthew: 6:30 pm service

Easter Sunrise 7 am service No Communion St. Matthew

Easter Breakfast– after Service, served by the Board of Elders.

Easter Service 10 am w/ Holy Communion St. Matthew

BEST CHOICE COUPONS

Notice: We are NOT collecting Best Choice coupons at this time. We will be checking out the program. Thank you for your help. There will be more information later. Your Outreach Board.

Easy Apple Dumplings

Ingredients

- 1/2cup butter
- 3/4 cup sugar
- 2 med apples cut in fourths
- 1 tsp cinnamon
- 1- 8 count cresant rolls
- 1 cup lemon lime soda

Submitted by Joann Nielson

Instructions

Preheat oven to 350* use 9x13 pan

1. Melt butter, stir sugar and cinnamon set aside
2. Wrap cresant roll around apple. Place in greased pan. Spoon sugar butter mix over apples.
3. Pour soda around pan.
4. Bake 40 minutes

PLEASE HELP US WITH YOUR NEWS LETTER

It would be very much appreciated if you have something for the news letter to write it down and give that information to Joan Chander or submit it to the church to keep everyone updated as to what is happening in your church. Thank you.

JOKE!!!!

How many Lutherans does it take to change a light bulb?

Answer. 6

3 to have a committee to talk about it

1 to change it

2 to complain about how the old bulb was better

But **OH DEAR !!!** The light bulb is still out for no one came forward to help.

ATTRIBUTES OF GOD

OMNIPOTENT– All Powerful

OMNIPRESENT– Always with us

OMNISCIENT– All Knowing

IMMUTABLE –Unchanging

MEMORY VERSE

Psalm 133:1 Behold, how good and how pleasant it is For brethren to dwell together in unity!



Which of the Old Testament biblical characters was not allowed to enter the Promised Land and was buried on Mt. Horb? Numbers 20:25

March Birthdays

Delores Boysen	1939-03-05
Kirk Bridgeman	1980-03-07
Alicia Burns	1980-03-07
Christopher Creswell	1989-03-30
Michael Creswell	1984-03-16
Jennifer Engelke	1975-03-02
Megan Frehse	1982-03-31
Randy Gosch	1961-03-18
Terrance Gray	1999-03-23
Kerensa Hamann	2014-03-10
Brandon Krusen	2000-03-20
Rita Lafrentz	1945-03-17
Ashton Lichtenberg	2001-03-22
Mark Livermore	1964-03-03
Amy Meseck	1973-03-28
Daniel Miller	1958-03-22
Dennis Muckey	1950-03-31
Caleb Rickert	2009-03-26
Patty Sanderson	1969-03-15
Kathryn Schiltz	1967-03-28
Lin Scott	1946-03-27
Michael Smith	1984-03-16
Jolene Uhl	1959-03-27



March Baptisms

David Bartels	1949-02-24
Brayden Brodersen	2018-02-15
Montana Brodersen	2004-02-26
Adam Chandler	1978-05-25
Randy Gosch	1961-03-18
Bradley Goslar	1998-02-18
Curtis Hesse	1962-02-07
Roger Ingram	1935-06-12
Dennis Jahn	1947-02-12
Pam Kovarna	1951-02-17
Sharon Kruse	1954-01-11
Susan Kruse	1957-02-09
Emily Lamb	1979-11-13
Barbara Lyon	1943-08-04
Mindi Ohlmeier	1985-02-10
Drake Paulsen	2014-11-02
Derek Pithan	2013-01-14
DeRae Schauer	1986-01-15
Stephanie Schauer	1983-02-16
Troy Schmidt	2009-01-27
Chelsea Schrader	1989-02-09
Ryan Trucke	1994-02-03
Robert Wood	1973-02-01
Shawn Wood	1971-05-05



March Anniversary



Toni and Krista Elmquist	36 yrs.	1988-03-05
Lester and Donna Goslar	54 yrs.	1970-03-21
Bryan and Betsy Scheer	10 yrs.	2014-03-08
Alan and Kris Dale	27 yrs.	1997-03-21

March 80+ Birthdays

Delores	Boysen	85	1939-03-05
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MARCH 2024 ST MATTHEW CALENDAR



SUN: Pick up 7am Take home after service	MON	TUES: Pick up 8am Take home:	WED Catechism class held	THUR	FRI	SAT
<p>3 3rd Sun. in Lent services 9am Elder: Joe Hogan Reader: Joe Hogan Screens: Dennis Muckey Sun. Sch & Bible Cl. after services</p>	4	<p>5 Rev. N. Peitsch in office 8:30 am to 3:30 pm Uber: Jeff Krusen</p>	<p>6 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</p>	7	8 Pastors Family Day	9
<p>10 3rd Sun. in Lent services 9am w/HC Uber: Russ Wray Elder: Ryan Paulsen Reader: Ryan Paulsen Screens: Mark Witzel Sun. Sch & Bible Cl. after services</p>	11 Cleaning at the church 9-11 am	<p>12 Rev. N. Peitsch in office 12N to 3:30 pm Winkle Conference Uber: Sue Kruse</p>	<p>13 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: Brian Brown Reader: Karen Kueny Screens: Dennis Muckey</p>	14	15 Pastors Family Day	16
<p>17 4th Sun. in Lent services 9am Elder: Brian Brown Reader: Karen Kueny Screens: Mark Witzel Sun. Sch & Bible Cl. after services LWML bring mite boxes next Sunday</p>	18	<p>19 Rev. Nathan Peitsch in office 8:30am-3:30pm Uber: Rita Lafrentz In the Word 10 am Uber for the Board of Elders 7 pm (Mark Witzel)</p>	<p>20 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</p>	21	22 Pastors Family Day	23

MARCH 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
<p>24 Palm Sunday services 9am w/HC Uber: Mark Griener Elder: Mark Griener Reader: Karen Kueny Screens: Mark Witzel Sun. Sch & Bible Cl. after services LWML MISSION Sunday</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26 Rev. N. Peitsch in office 8:30 am to 3:30 pm Uber: Janeal Holmes Board of Directors 6pm Uber: Mark Witzel</p>	<p>27 Helping Hands 1 pm to 4 pm Catechism Class 4:30 PM 5-6 6 pm Catechism 7-8</p>	<p>28 Holy (Maundy) Thursday Elder Joe Hogan Reader Joe Hogan Screens: Dennis Muckey</p>	<p>29 Good Friday Elder Ryan Paulsen Reader Ryan Paulsen Screens: Joe Hogan</p>	<p>30</p>
<p>31 The Resurrection of Our Lord services 9am w/HC Uber: Elder: Alan Dale Reader: Karen Kueny Screens: Mark Witzel Sun. Sch & Bible Cl. after services</p>						

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	Maxine Thies
Fred Fletcher	Marlene Phillip	Roberta Conyers	Deloris Boysen

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) **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)

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

Deloris Boysen

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

Delbert Kroll

815 Ring Street
Mapleton IA 51034

Roberta Conyers

306 S. 9th St
Mapleton, IA 51034

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. ✝