

# ZION PROCLAIMER

MAY 2016

## "DOSE OF WISDOM"

In this month of May things are starting to wind down a bit. School is nearly out, not yet. Sunday school is winding down, although this year we are going until the first Sunday in June. That's right we are going until the first Sunday in June. The reason for this is we've noticed once the Sunday school year is over the attendance for Church goes down dramatically. We want to encourage those who come to Sunday school to continue coming even into June and July and August. We don't need to take the summer off from Church although this has and does happen. We want to encourage everyone to make it here to receive God's gifts in the Divine Service. In Word and Sacrament God gives us the gifts of the forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation. These gifts strengthen us to go out into the world to carry out the vocations God has called us to do in the week. We are given the gifts on Sunday or Saturday night so that we can go and give the gifts away in serving our neighbors with good works. We can only go out to serve after we have been given the gifts in the Divine Service. So come this summer and receive Jesus, the Life of the World. This is a quote from the book, *by Rev. Klem Preus. "If the Divine Service is viewed primarily as our praising God, then you can do that just as well from home. In fact, once we have looked at the topic of vocation, you will see that we can serve God better in the world than in the church building. But if the service is understood as God giving us the forgiveness of sins, then you've got to be there. It is very possible that the low attendance at Sunday services seen in so many churches today is a reflection of how we define the service. If I am acting, then I can do it another time. If God is acting, I better be there."* -- in "The Fire and the Staff" God comes to us in the Divine Service. We aren't the lead role in acting at the Divine Service. God acts at the Divine Service so God is there giving His gifts and blessings. Come and receive these good gifts.

*Blessings in Christ,  
Pastor Dose*

# Zion Lutheran Church

Box 59

Arcadia, IA 51430

712-689-2441

712-790-0716 (cell)

Women's Bible Study...6:30 pm on 2nd & 4th Mondays of the Month

Wednesday Morning Bible Study.....9:30-11:00

On the 3rd Tuesday of the month Pastor Dose is out of the office due to Carroll Circuit Pastor's Meeting.

*The Board of Elders meets monthly at the Church. Please feel free to contact any member of the Elder Board about any aspect of our ministry here at Zion.*

**Mark Rickers:** Home 663-4538, Cell 712-790-2933

email: mdrickers@gmail.com

**Doug Ehlers** Home 663-4449, Cell 712-830-0062

email: daehlers@westianet.net

**Kelly Riesberg** Cell 515-460-3733

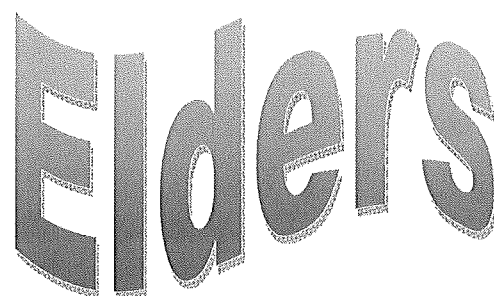
email: deereman450@gmail.com

**Gene Thiedeman:** Home 663-4429, Cell 712-790-9180

email: thiegene@win-4-u.net

**Merle Witt** Home 689-2233, Cell 515-231-7310

Email: merle@iabeesf.org



## CHURCH COUNCIL

President: Kevin Skinner

Vice President Al Hunter

Secretary Shelli Lenz

Treasurer Cindy Brockman

Bd Evangelism Mary Bruhn

Bd Education Denise Ragaller

Bd Stewardship Dan Wittrock

Trustees: Dwight Ehlers, Curtis Ehlers

Jarod Greene

Financial Sec. Randy Bruhn



# L.W.M.L.

## EVENING CIRCLE

The Evening Circle will be meeting at 7:00 pm on Wednesday, May 4th at the home of home Carm Thiedeman. Co-Hostess is Paulette Von Glan

## LADIES AID

The Ladies Aid will be meeting at 1:30 pm on Thursday, May 5th. Hostess for the day will be Betty Nobiling

**MOTHER**

You're the answer to and the symbol of what is marriage and what is love! In all this world, through all of time, there could not be another who could

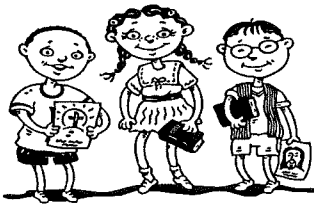


*Please join us on Wednesday, May 11th for the A/WV Baccalaureate service to be held at The United Church in Westside. Everyone is invited to attend. The Seniors from our congregation include: Tyler Brunner, Jenna Hausman & Katelyn Wittrock*



I devoted myself to study and to explore... all that is done under heaven.

*Ecclesiastes 1:13*



Our last day of Sunday School for this year will be on Sunday, June 5th

*Sunday School*

**MOTHER**

You're the answer to and the symbol of what is marriage and what is love! In all this world, through all of time, there could not be another who could fulfill God's purpose as completely as a mother!



The members of the LYF would like to thank everyone who supported us and attended the Easter Breakfast. The turn out for the breakfast was great and we appreciate you taking time to attend. We had a lot of help from the youth and also from the parents. Thanks again to you the members of Zion and our friends for all of your support!!!

This is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, ...



Philippians 1:9

We offer our congratulations and best wishes to the Ar-We-Va class of 2016 who will be graduating on May 15th . We would especially pray that God would continue to shower His grace and blessings upon our fellow members of Zion who will be graduating, they are Tyler Brunner, Jenna Hausman & Katelyn Wittrock Also on May 11<sup>th</sup> baccalaureate service will be held at the United Church in Westside, starting at 7 pm. Everyone is welcome.

On Sunday, May 15th we will remember and honor these members of Zion in our worship service and announcing the Violetta M. Anderson and the Zion Memorial Scholarship winners.



## A Word For Graduates

Congratulations to the young members of our congregation who are graduating! No doubt they look forward to the next phase of their lives with excitement, anticipation and perhaps a little apprehension.

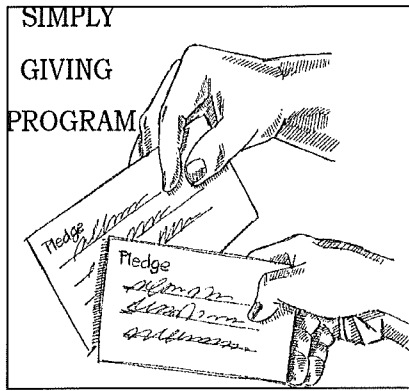
We hope these words, adapted from Phillips Brooks, will serve graduates well as they embark on their journeys:

“Do not pray for an easy life; pray to be a stronger person. Do not pray for tasks equal to your powers but for powers equal to your tasks. Then the doing of your work shall be no miracle, but you will be the miracle. Every day you shall wonder at yourself and the richness of life which has come to you by the grace of God.”

<sup>21</sup> *My son, do not let wisdom and understanding out of your sight, preserve sound judgment and discretion;* <sup>22</sup> *they will be life for you, an ornament to grace your neck* (Proverbs 3:21-22)

<sup>11</sup> *For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.*

Jeremiah 29:11



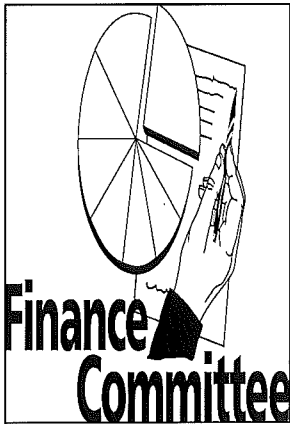
In the busy times we are currently in, handling the finances of our congregation is requiring more and more work. In an effort to save our financial people time we ask that you consider an old idea, that of the Simply Giving Program. To refresh your memory, Simply Giving is a program where once a week, once a month, or twice a month, your offering is automatically deducted from your checking account and automatically deposited into the church's account. All you will need to do is once a week (or whatever you choose) is to record the amount in your check register. That is all there is to it. The amount is set by you and doesn't change unless you request it to be changed or discontinued. Special services like Advent, Lent, Christmas, etc are **NOT** automatically deducted

and we would encourage you to use your offering envelopes for those services just like in the past. For each person our Financial Secretary has to handle 52 envelopes and bookkeeping entries per year, and when you multiply that by approximately 275 envelope numbers, that is a significant amount of work that could be avoided by using the Simply Giving Program. An additional bonus would be that our giving throughout the year would be more consistent. We prayerfully ask that you consider making this small change that would be of big help.

To learn more about this program, please contact the church office

Thank you for your help

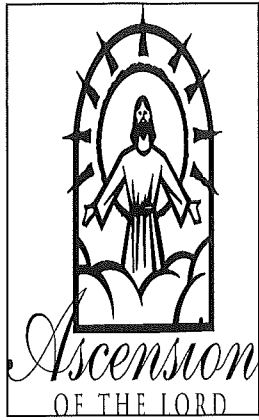
*Stewardship Committee*



<b>OFFERINGS (Jan-April)</b>	<b>\$41,544.00</b>
<b>Thrivent Choice \$</b>	<b>1,410.00</b>
<b>SUNDAY SCHOOL OFFERING TO DATE</b>	<b>235.00</b>
<b>FISH BOWL</b>	<b>215.00</b>
<b>Non Budget Income</b>	<b>7,366.00</b>
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$50,770.00</b>
<b>EXPENSES (Jan-April)</b>	<b>\$51,684.00</b>

**STEWARDSHIP CORNER:**

Jesus said we are to love our neighbors, and we are to serve and support them. We violate Scripture's principles when we ignore the interests and needs of others. We were not created for the purpose of spending all our time looking out for our self-interests. If we ignore God and others, we may hear Him saying to us, "You fool" as Jesus said to the Rich Fool in the Parable (Luke 12:13-21)



## Ascension Day

Forty days after each Easter, many Christians around the world celebrate the Ascension. It's the day when the resurrected Jesus was raised up from the earth into heaven. The Ascension is the prelude to Pentecost, when the Holy Spirit came upon a gathering of people, including the apostles, in Jerusalem.

The Ascension is more important than many Christians realize. In his human body, Christ could be in only one place at a time. The risen Christ, however, can be spiritually present in any place at any time.

### ***Easter isn't over***

During your preparations for Easter, you may have heard someone say, "All this work and it'll all be over so soon." Sorry, but they're wrong.

Easter as a celebration of the return of spring, the Easter of the Easter Bunny and colored eggs and candy, fancy hats and new spring clothes may be over by Easter Monday, not to come around again until next year.

But the true Easter, the celebration of Christ's resurrection, is never over. Easter is the reminder and the celebration of a continuing fact: Christ, who was raised from death, is alive today, tomorrow and forever. Daily he offers us and the whole world power to begin new life now. East-



Here are some happenings at Camp Okoboji this summer. They include:

**GIRLS BASKETBALL or VOLLYBALL CAMP:** (4th-8th grade). For more details go to: [www.campokoboji.org](http://www.campokoboji.org).

**KIDS KAMP** designed as an entry level camp for kindergarten-2nd graders who are accompanied by a loving parent or care-giver. ([www.campokoboji.org](http://www.campokoboji.org))

**IOWA DISTRICT WEST JUNIOR HIGH WEEK:** ([www.campokoboji.org](http://www.campokoboji.org)) for those students who have completed 6th-8th grades.

**YOUTH WEEK:** For students who have completed the 8th-12th grades.

**CUB WEEK:** (the church will pay 1/2 of the registration fee)

There are also several other Camps available. They include: **Family Retreat I ; Family Retreat II** For more information and registration forms, please contact the office or go to the website of camp Okoboji [www.campokoboji.org](http://www.campokoboji.org).

## **When a house is a home**

A house is a home when it is infused with love, when there is acceptance that never wavers, and where there is always food for the mind, for the spirit, for the body and for those in need.

Is your abode a house or a home?

# VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2016

Greetings to all students and friends of Zion. This is a reminder that V.B.S. will be held the week of June 6-10. Our theme this year is "Barnyard Roundup" Our classes will begin with opening devotions at 8:30 am (so plan your arrival accordingly) and will end with closing devotions at 11:30 am. All children ages 4 (By June 6th through the 8th grade are invited and encouraged to attend.

**REMINDERS:** 1) Students are reminded that "good" clothes should **NOT** be worn as some craft projects can be kind of messy. 2) Daily offerings will be taken and given for a special mission project. 3) There will be sign up sheets for the moms (or dads) to bring treats. 5) To aid in having extra supplies, perhaps your student could bring their used school supplies and those that they won't be using again to VBS...colors, scissors, glue, markers.

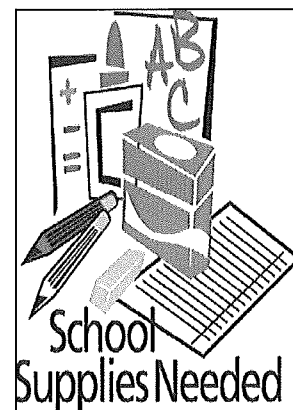
On the first day...come and find your classroom and meet your classmates and teacher. **You will be in the class that you will be in this fall. Whether you are or are NOT attending this year, or are new to the program, it would be appreciated if you could let the church office know as this makes a difference in the number of materials that we order.** (689-2441)

**QUILTS:** The 5th-8th Graders will be tying quilts with anticipation of out doing the number from last year. If you have any sheets, lightweight blankets, etc, please bring them to the church as this will help with the project.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:** If you would be willing to help out with VBS this year, teaching, crafts, snacks, etc please contact the church office.

This year we will also be collecting bars of soap and school supplies for the Ladies Mission Projects.

- 70 sheet notebooks of wide or college-ruled paper;
- 30 centimeter ruler (can have inches on the other side)
- pencil sharpener
- blunt scissors
- unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers;
- black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink)
- box of 16 or 24 crayons
- 2 1/2" eraser



Register Me For  
"Barnyard Roundup"  
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL  
Zion Lutheran Church, Arcadia  
(June 6-10, 2016)



Register @ [vbsmate.org/events/zionarcadia](http://vbsmate.org/events/zionarcadia)

For more information please contact the office at 712-689-2441. Please mail the registration form to Zion Lutheran Church, Box 59, Arcadia, IA 51430 or email it to [zionluth@netins.net](mailto:zionluth@netins.net)

Name of student'(s)

grade to enter in fall

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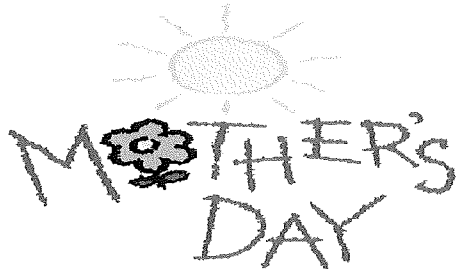
Please provide Birth date for those in preschool (must be 4 by June 6th)

Parents Name

Phone Number & Or Cell Number

Emergency Contact Person & Phone Number (daycare)





### The Best mother that I LOVE

When God set the world in place,  
when He hung the stars up in space,  
when He made the land and the sea,  
then He made you and me.

He sat back and saw all that was good,  
He saw things to be as they should.

Just one more blessing He had in store;  
He created a mother, but whatever for?

He knew a mother would have a special place  
to shine His reflection on her child's face.

A mother will walk the extra mile  
just to see her children smile.

She'll work her fingers to the bone  
to make a house into a home.

A mother is there to teach and guide,  
a mother will stay right by your side.

She'll be there through your pain and strife,  
she'll stay constant in your life.

A mother will lend a helping hand  
until you have the strength to stand.

She'll pick you up when you are down,  
when you need a friend she'll stick around.

A mother is one who listens well,  
will keep her word; will never tell.

A mother never pokes or pries  
but stands quietly by your side,  
giving you the strength you need,  
encouraging you to succeed.

A mother is one who can be strong  
when you need someone to lean on.

You're more than a mother to me;  
a reflection of Him in your face I see,  
a love that knows no boundaries.

I'm glad that you chose to be  
all this and more to me.

You share a love that knows no end,  
you're more than my mother,  
you are my friend.

Susan Jordan

## Keys to a successful marriage

Husbands and wives focus often on God, who holds them together. When two become one in a Christian marriage, they vow to remain one until death parts them. Oneness takes thoughtfulness, constant communication and daily deeds of kindness.

Words are extremely important to sustain a marriage. Words hotly spoken can kill love, while words tenderly spoken can enhance love. Husbands and wives need constant assurance by hearing words of love and by deeds done to show love in action.

### GOD'S GIFT

My Mother is a special gift,  
A special gift that God gave to me.  
I'd be lost and lonely without her,  
If God took her away you see.

I love her so very much,  
That I couldn't bear to live without her healing  
touch.

Thank-you God for giving me such a loving  
Mother,

For I wouldn't want to be a part of no other.

By Melanie Reid

## A mother's prayer

Dear Lord, thank you for the blessings of my children. Help me rely on you for guidance, patience and even-temperedness throughout my days.

I want my children to love you, worship you and serve you as best they can. Grant me the wisdom to know how to influence them to live godly lives. Prevent me from provoking my children to anger and from manipulating or nagging them.

Fill our household with abiding love and respect, and help us all be united in purpose to do your will. In the name of Christ our Lord. Amen.



Over the years, Memorial Day has become a big holiday weekend. It's now the unofficial start of summer, rather than a day of tribute to the departed it was originally meant to be.

Even if we plan fun events for Memorial Day weekend, it's important to stop long enough to bow our heads and pay respect to our departed loved ones — especially those who fell in battle while helping preserve America's liberties.

Let us take time to make the pilgrimage to various cemeteries and pause long enough to say, "Thank you, Father, for these special lives, for sacrifices made and for friendships we have shared."

## The price of freedom

In the song "What Did He Die For?" Twila Paris reminds us why we observe Memorial Day — and why we worship Jesus as our Savior. The first verse tells of a 21-year-old soldier fighting for America's freedom during World War II. The second verse recalls another young man, many centuries prior, sent by his Father to win eternal freedom from sin for the entire world.

The chorus offers this challenge:

"What did he die for when he died for you and me,  
Made the sacrifice so that we could all be free?  
I believe we will answer each to heaven  
For the way we spend a priceless liberty.  
Look inside and ask the question, What did he die for?"

Memorial Day challenges us to live so as to honor the sacrifices made by members of the military. We value our freedom because of the heavy price people have paid for it. Likewise, every day we're challenged to live so as to honor Jesus' supreme sacrifice. He calls us to spend our "priceless liberty" using our blessings to bless others.

## How will they know?

A well-known 1960s song by Peter Scholtes answers an implied question: How will others know we're Jesus' disciples? Not by how we understand family values. Not by our politics or theology. Not by how many Bible verses we've memorized, how often we attend church or how much offering we give.

Rather, the song's title and refrain say it all: "They'll know we are Christians by our love." Jesus put it this way: "Everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another" (John 13:35, NIV).

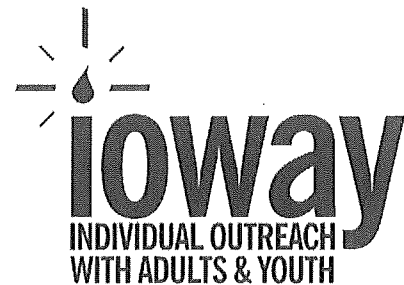
Sometimes love involves words — teaching, proclaiming, bearing witness to God's presence.

# Memorial DAY

## Great Group Efforts

### Sixteen Suitcases for Haiti

Sharri and Darwyn Hansen of Schaller collected a room full of items. A truckload of items hauled by Nancy and Dale Bruns of Jolley went to the Beacon of Hope homeless shelter in Fort Dodge.



Nine suitcases of much-needed items will be going to Haiti along with the five suitcases of flip flops that were given to Patti Anderson of Gowrie and two suitcases of children's clothes donated by Trinity Lutheran Church in Jefferson. I will be taking the sixteen suitcases to Concordia, Seward, Nebraska and then they will be on their way to Haiti with Concordia University students, led by Spencer Owen from Arcadia. There is no postal system in Haiti so we can get items there only by individuals who go to serve in Haiti.

### New ETCH Coordinators

Cheryl and Larry Olofson of Boone are the new coordinators for ETCH (Education To Change Haiti), the sponsoring of a child in Haiti. I'd like to extend a big thank you to Patti Anderson of Gowrie for all the work she did as the coordinator for the past four years. To sponsor or renew the sponsorship of a child, please go to IOWAY at [www.idwlcms.org](http://www.idwlcms.org). Now 140 children in Haiti are going to school because of the love of Iowa sponsors.

### Quilts for Children in Inner City Los Angeles

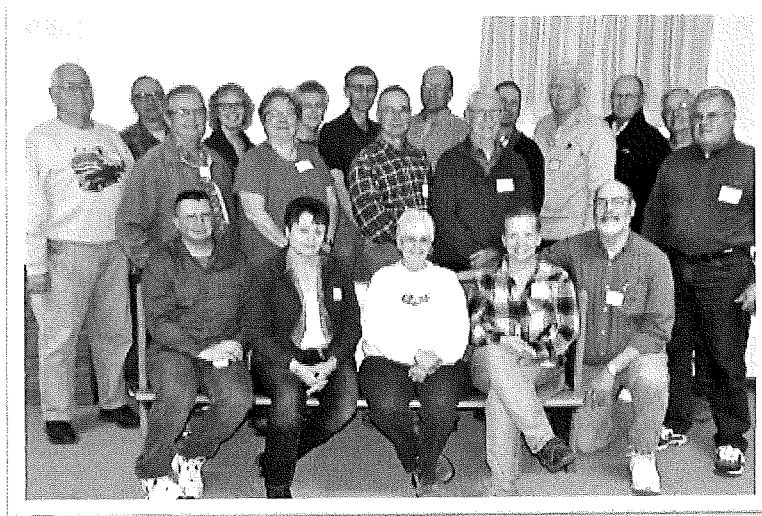
Karen Segebarth, Lone Rock, and two friends made over 60 quilt tops. Karen met Kimberley, a teacher in Compton, California, which is an area of extreme poverty, when she was on the mission trip to Pasadena, California. These quilts will be given to the youth that Kimberley works with and will be a great blessing to those who receive them.

Karen donated the tops, backing and batting. She asked for help to have them tied and bound. I asked for volunteers at the Spring Fling at Trinity, Boone and wonderful volunteers from Trinity-Perry, St. Paul-Boone, Trinity-Boone, and Zion-Ogden have offered to tie and bind the quilts.

When the quilts are finished, I will send them to California so they can give comfort and joy to the children who will receive them.

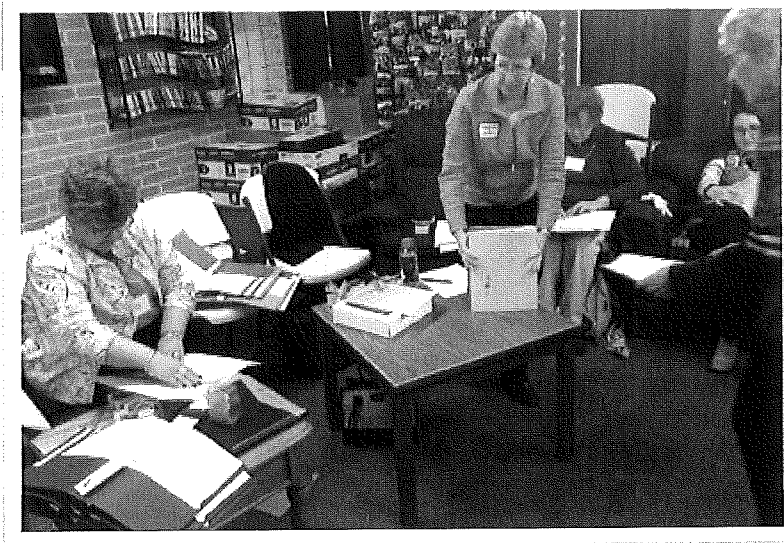


## LERT Training in Shenandoah



Trinity Lutheran Church in Shenandoah was the site for a LERT (Lutheran Early Response Team) training on April 9. Twenty-two participated in the training for family and church disaster preparedness. This brings the total to over 600 people in Iowa District West who are LERT certified.

## Pastors Wives Service Event for Children



IOWAY and LCEF organized a service event for the wives at the Spring Pastors Conference. Participants received a clay pot and each shared the ways in which God has shaped them to serve. The group of 28 then visited as they assembled 800 15-page coloring books that will be distributed along with a box of crayons at the state fair and county fairs.

Join IOWAY on Facebook! Like our page and stay updated on IOWAY  
<https://www.facebook.com/iowaymissions>

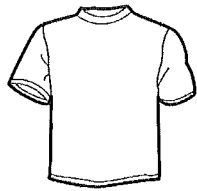
Ellie Menz – IOWAY  
[ellie.menz@idwlcms.org](mailto:ellie.menz@idwlcms.org)

515-370-1159

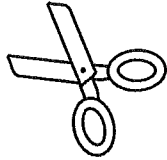
807 W. South Street, Jefferson IA 50129

# In-Gatherings & Servant Activities

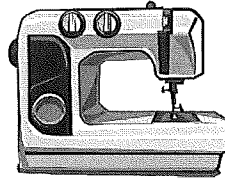
2016 LWML Iowa West District Convention



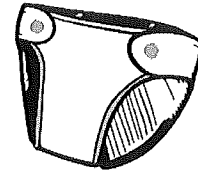
T-shirt



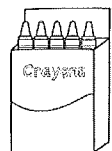
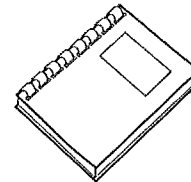
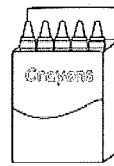
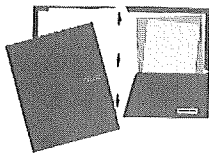
scissors



sewing machine



= Diapers for children in Haiti



3-hole punched coloring book pages of Jesus' life, birth to resurrection

+ 3-hole portfolio

+ Sticker

+

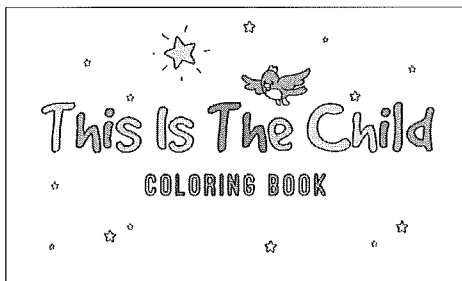
Crayons

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**Jesus Coloring Book and Crayons**

Distribution at the State Fair and county fairs through Lutheran Hour Ministries and local churches

\* We will also be assembling Christmas card story books.



## Items needed for the in-gatherings:

- T-shirts (Adult large & x-large—50%-100% cotton—can have logos and can be any color)
- Boxes of crayons (8 ct., 16 ct., or 24 ct. but NOT 48 ct.)
- Portfolios (3-prong – any color)
- Sharp scissors for making diapers.

## Items that will be provided by IDW LCMS:

- 3-hole punched coloring book pages
- Stickers

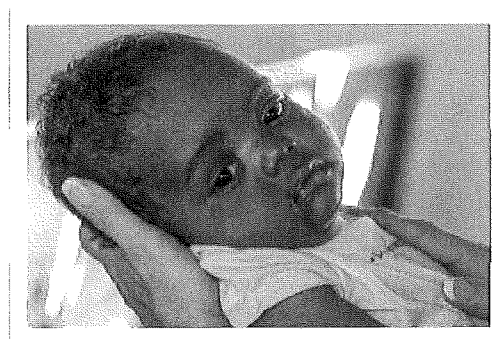
## Questions? Please contact:

Jane Morris 712-303-7142 or [cjemorris@mchsi.com](mailto:cjemorris@mchsi.com)

Kim Meyer 515-440-4959 or [KMeyer@hy-vee.com](mailto:KMeyer@hy-vee.com)

Julie Carstens 712-262-4309 or [jcarstens@smunet.net](mailto:jcarstens@smunet.net)

Ellie Menz 515-370-1159 or [ellie.menz@idwlcms.org](mailto:ellie.menz@idwlcms.org)





## Veterans and Military Family Retreat

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### MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND – MAY 27-30, 2016

This retreat is FREE for all Veterans and those who are Active Duty Military and the members of their household. Funds are being provided by the Operation Barnabas Task Force of Iowa District West, money received from the Iowa District West LWML mission grant, and other generous gifts.

Chaplain Mike Moreno will be our Bible Study leader. He will also be available to meet with individuals during the weekend.

There will be a special Memorial Day Ceremony on Monday, May 30 around the flag pole by the Refuge Chapel.

There will be planned activities as well as free time for recreation and relaxation!

Check-in begins at 3:30 p.m. on Friday, May 27.

For more information and to register go to [www.campokoboj.org](http://www.campokoboj.org).

Housing will be in Joppa Hall, Shiloh, and Weber.



Camp Okoboji

Camp Okoboji

1531 Edgewood Drive  
Milford, IA 51351

Phone: 712-337-3325

Fax: 712-337-3318

E-mail: [camp@campokoboji.org](mailto:camp@campokoboji.org)





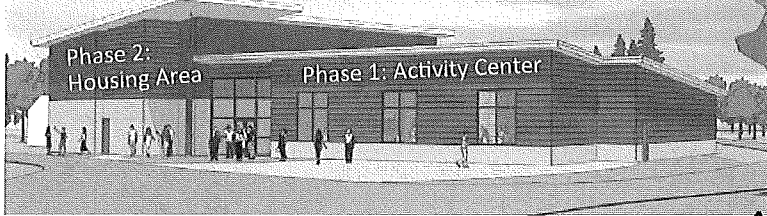
# Special Report!

## Camp Okoboji Top 10

Our Promise of Jesus at the Lake  
A friendly, safe, refreshing and relaxing Christian experience  
An exceptional value for you and your family

- Headlines-**
- \$250,000 Matching Gift Challenge
  - DISCOVER Ground Breaking
  - Crafts Removal Ideas
  - Make a Gift/Pledge to DISCOVER
  - Time to Sign Up For Camp
  - Friends Grow Camp
  - Annual Meeting
  - Thrivent Action Teams
  - Support Request
  - What's Up Next
  - YouTube

### Discover CAMPAign Okoboji Updates



#### 1. Announcing a New \$250,000 Matching Gift Challenge! Phase 1 Countdown Begins!

At Camp Okoboji's Annual Meeting on April 2, the Camp Board of Directors announced this exciting new challenge.

Meeting the challenge would take the campaign over the Phase 1 goal of \$1,400,000. Praise the Lord!

\$970,000 Funds raised as of April 1  
 \$250,000 Challenge Gift Amount  
 \$250,000 Matching Funds Needed  
 \$1,470,000 First Phase Funded!

**Note:** Gifts & pledges from individuals, congregations, and organizations all qualify to meet this challenge.

Meeting this challenge is critical as Camp Okoboji continues to make plans and move forward with blueprints and the bidding process.

#### Let's Meet the Challenge By July 4!

*(Then we can truly celebrate!)*

#### 2. DISCOVER Groundbreaking Celebration Saturday, September 3!

Camp Okoboji is also planning a People's Choice BBQ Cook-off over Labor Day Weekend.

Want to Participate? Contact the Camp office for details and sign-up forms.

Reminder: Omelet Brunch Sun. Sept. 4

### \$250,000 Matching Gift Challenge!



#### 3. "Crafts" Removal Ideas

Have an idea on how we can make the most of removing the Crafts building?

i.e. Mementos,  
 Making crafts out of Crafts  
 "Crafts" Sale/Auction:  
 windows, work tables,  
 screens, pine walls, & doors  
**Other ideas? Let us know!**



#### 4. Now is the Perfect Time to make a Gift and/or Pledge!

#### DISCOVER Your Opportunity to Give

This campaign seeks to enhance the comforts and experiences of every guest. DISCOVER has two distinct functions:

- Phase 1: Build and complete the activity center
- Phase 2: Build and complete the housing area

We are excited for the many ways DISCOVER will impact Camp Okoboji.

Now is the time to support this cause. As we constantly witness at Camp, when we pull together, amazing things happen!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_  
 State / Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone (best): \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Home Church: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Church City: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**Yes!** Please accept my gift in support of **DISCOVER** Gift Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

#### Pledge Amount:

Total Pledge Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Paid over \_\_\_\_\_ years  
 Payment Frequency (please check):  
 Annually  Quarterly  Monthly  Other \_\_\_\_\_

Please make gifts payable to:  
**DISCOVER CAMPAign OKOBOJI**  
 Mail to: 1531 Edgewood Dr. Milford, IA 51351

**Your involvement sends a strong message in support of "Jesus at the Lake." Thank You!**

1531 Edgewood Dr. E-mail: [camp@campokoboji.org](mailto:camp@campokoboji.org)  
 Milford, IA 51351 Website: [www.campokoboji.org](http://www.campokoboji.org)  
 Phone: 712-337-3325 Facebook: [CampOkoboji-LCMS](https://www.facebook.com/CampOkoboji-LCMS)

## 5. Time To Sign Up for Camp!

[www.campokoboji.org](http://www.campokoboji.org)

Register Online!

The Camp website has more information on the many program offerings.

Don't delay, register today!



Take time to spend time at Camp Okoboji Programs, retreats, and special events offer many opportunities to experience "Jesus at the Lake."

Camp Okoboji has much to offer

### Family Opportunities

- ◆ **Family Ministry Cabins:** Enjoy time with your family at your own pace. Several families have been coming for decades and have included 5 generations. Start your family tradition this summer!
- ◆ **Family Retreat Weeks (3):** Gathering with other families creates its own family atmosphere. Programed by special speakers and summer staff, these week-long camps bring out the most in the camp and the families that attend.

**Youth Camps:** There are several weeks for youth to enjoy camp, make friends, and grow closer in their walk with Jesus Christ.

- ◆ **Kids Kamp**  
Grades: K-2 Date: June 3-5
- ◆ **Concordia Cub Week**  
Grades: 3-6 Date: July 17-23
- ◆ **Girls Sports Camp**  
Grades: 4-8 Date: June 12-18
- ◆ **Minneboji Youth Camp**  
Grades: 4-9 Date: June 26-July 2
- ◆ **Adventure Camp**  
Grades: 7-12 Date: June 12-15
- ◆ **Junior High Week**  
Grades: 6-8 Date: July 10-16
- ◆ **High School Youth Week**  
Grades: 8-12 Date: July 24-30

### Don't Forget:

Sunday Morning Worship: Memorial Day-Labor Day Weekends  
Omelet Brunches: 1st Sundays (May-Nov.)

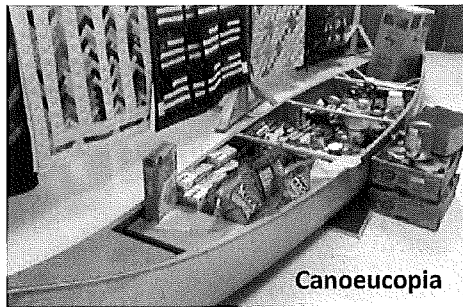
## 6. Friends Grow Camp

A slogan encouraging our campers to invite others to join them in experiencing Camp.

Recent Facebook posts have been sharing stories of the friendships created by their time at Camp Okoboji. **Check them out!**

We thank those sharing their friendships. It sheds light on another key benefit and blessing of Camp . . .

**Camps Grow Friends**



## 7. Annual Meeting

Delegates from 55 congregations along with 60 other guests attended this years "State of the Camp" event. Reports indicated an amazing year of increases in program attendance, Annual Fund giving, and gifts towards the **DISCOVER** Campaign.

This year's "Friend of Camp" honor went to Connie Ohlhausen of Hartley for her work on the Camp Auxiliary and **DISCOVER**.

Fifty baskets were auctioned off and raised nearly \$3,900 for much needed cabin furniture. Food donations filled the canoe with many needed items.



**THRIVENT FINANCIAL**

Connecting faith & finances for good.™

## 8. Impact: Thrivent Action Teams

Projects can range from:

- ◆ Sponsoring Omelet Brunch events
- ◆ Host a fundraising meal for **DISCOVER**
- ◆ Buying needed Camp clean-up items
- ◆ Providing support to Camp programs
- ◆ Helping with special mailings and projects

**Please consider a Thrivent Action Team project at Camp Okoboji**

Camp Okoboji is willing to help with every phase of an Action Team project. Please contact the Camp office and share your willingness to support a needed area.

## 9. YOUR Participation & Support Needed!

We ask everyone for four things:

1. **Pray** for the success of Camp Okoboji.
2. **Attend** Camp programs and events.
3. **Support** Camp projects verbally and financially.
4. **Share** Camp with others and invite their involvement.

Look for campaign and other updates on the Camp website: [campokoboji.org](http://campokoboji.org)  
Consider Making An Online Gift



## 10. What's Up Next?

### Youth Volunteer Weekend May 13-15

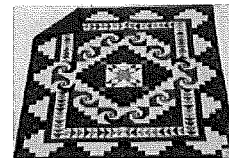
Join with other youth for a great weekend of projects, programs and fellowship.

### Veterans Family Retreat May 27-30

Operation Barnabas provides complete funding for this outreach to active duty veterans and their families. **Spread the word!**

### Quilt Auction and Craft Sale June 18

Quilts are still being accepted. Funds raised will support the picnic shelter project.

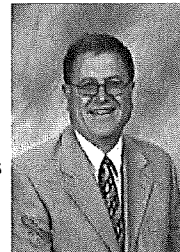


### All Church Workers Conference June 19-21

**Featured Speaker:**  
Rev. Roger Sonnenberg

Join fellow church workers from across the district and region for this inspirational and educational event.

Rev. Sonnenberg will speak on current issues involving churches, schools, and families. This will be a great chance to meet and network with others.  
Cost: \$150



### Paul's Bike-a-thon Challenge June 25

This is a fun ride. Grab your bike and join him for either the 25, 50 or 100 mile portions. Sponsor him! Pledges and gifts will go towards **DISCOVER**.

**JOIN US!**



### Check It Out!

These wonderful videos on Camp Okoboji can be shared with your church and Sunday schools.

- ◆ Timeless
- ◆ Putting it into Perspective
- ◆ Discover Building Campaign
- ◆ Minneboji Promo 2016 HD
- ◆ Mission Moment – Camp Okoboji
- ◆ Kids Kamp – 2014 Camp Okoboji
- ◆ Camp Okoboji Girls Basketball and Volleyball Week

## Spring Calendar

May 13-15: Youth Volunteer Weekend

May 27-30: Veterans Family Retreat

July 27: Minnesota Twins Bus Trip

**YOUR Event: Make Your Reservation!**

### Camp Staff Contact Information!

Executive Director: Doug Kading [doug@campokoboji.org](mailto:doug@campokoboji.org)

Office Director: Kellie Jones [kellie@campokoboji.org](mailto:kellie@campokoboji.org)

Program Director: Lori Gamble [lori@campokoboji.org](mailto:lori@campokoboji.org)

Ministry Advancement Director: Paul Golke [paul@campokoboji.org](mailto:paul@campokoboji.org)

Bookkeeper: Karrie Mullenberg [karrie@campokoboji.org](mailto:karrie@campokoboji.org)



# AROUND THE DISTRICT

Iowa District West

May 2016

The following events are hosted by District congregations/circuits.  
Contact information is provided.  
To include your church's event, send information to [sue.light@idwlcms.org](mailto:sue.light@idwlcms.org).

## Denison and Mapleton Circuits invite you to ASCENSION SERVICE AT MISSION CENTRAL

If your congregation or circuit does not have an Ascension service, the Denison and Mapleton Circuits invite you to join them to celebrate the Ascension of our Lord on Thursday, May 5 at Mission Central. District President Steve Turner will be the preacher for the 7 p.m. service. The offering will be given to the support of a new LCMS missionary family: Pastor Brian, Amanda, and Ezra Gauthier, missionaries to Panama. A grilled hamburger supper will be served in the Mission Central Fellowship Hall beginning at 5:30. For more information contact Pastor Merle Mahnken at 712-676-2235 or [immansch@iowatelecom.net](mailto:immansch@iowatelecom.net).



**Pastors**, if you would like to sing in the Pastors Chorus for this service, please contact Pastor Timothy Frank at 712-679-2487 or [frank1685@yahoo.com](mailto:frank1685@yahoo.com) and let him know which part you would like (Tenor 1, Tenor 2, Bass 1, Bass 2). He will send you the music and an MP3 recording of that part by which you can practice. The Pastors Chorus will rehearse at 6:30 p.m. prior to the May 5 service.

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THE LUTHERAN CHURCH-MISSOURI SYNOD

## Planting Together

May 2016

409 Kenyon Road, Suite B — Fort Dodge, Iowa 50501  
515-576-7666 Fax 515-576-2323 [www.idwlcms.org](http://www.idwlcms.org)  
Contact email: [sue.light@idwlcms.org](mailto:sue.light@idwlcms.org)

### On a Mission to Support Christ's Mission!

#### It's planting time!



Farmers are in the fields and gardeners are busy in their gardens. Ask any farmer and they will tell you it's an exhilarating time filled with anticipation and the thrill of being back in the field.

Hopefully we have that same thrill and anticipation as we share God's Word with others. We plant the seed of God's Word that the Holy Spirit grows. That is the mission of each church to share the Good News with their neighbors.

Through the dollars invested by more than 50,000 individuals, congregations, schools, organizations and businesses, Lutheran Church Extension Fund assists LCMS ministries with customized loans and ministry support services as they fulfill their mission of sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Support services such as demographics, ministry planning, Architectural Advisory Committee and Laborers for Christ are just a few of the services available. To find out more, contact Carole White or visit [www.lcef.org](http://www.lcef.org).

Carole White

LCEF Vice President Iowa East & West  
[carole.white@lcef.org](mailto:carole.white@lcef.org) | 515-240-2229

#### Someone hospitalized in Sioux City or Des Moines?

Call 712-212-5482 (Sioux City) or 515-707-9195 (Des Moines, Chaplain Jim Brammeier) and a pastor will visit and report back to you as an extension of your ministry.

#### Iowa Lutheran School Tuition Organization

An opportunity to assist Lutheran education AND receive a state of Iowa tax credit is now in its eleventh year of operation. The Iowa Lutheran School Tuition Organization (ILSTO) assists families who meet certain income guidelines. In 2015, almost 700 Lutheran students received \$761,000 in tuition assistance to attend a Lutheran elementary or secondary school in Iowa. Call STO program manager Dewey Torkelson (712-260-2991) or visit the STO website ([www.iowalutheransto.org](http://www.iowalutheransto.org)) for more information. This year our contribution limit rises to over \$822,000 so your help is very much needed. Now is a good time to talk to your tax preparer about the tax credits for 2016. ILSTO is now eligible to receive your CHOICE dollars from Thrivent as an additional gift with no tax consequences.

#### Joy in Ministry

The Iowa District West "Joy in Ministry" initiative celebrates ministry careers and encourages financial assistance for students preparing to be pastors, directors of Christian education, deaconesses, and other ministry professionals. The annual Joy in Ministry Banquet is scheduled for Sunday evening, June 5 at Boulders Conference Center in Denison. The event is open to everyone. More information will be shared soon.

#### Student Financial Aid

Graduation time is fast approaching. Graduates entering a synodical university or seminary and pursuing a career in fulltime ministry are eligible for District student assistance. Scholarships are also available for non-church work students. Financial Aid applications are available on the District website and are due by June 1. For more information contact Student Financial Aid Director Rev. David Loesch at 712-263-3282 or [osluhf@monarctech.net](mailto:osluhf@monarctech.net).

#### Around the District


Did you notice the "new" page in *The Messenger*? Titled "Around the District," this page will include information from congregations/circuits regarding guest speakers, events, or special occasions. If you'd like to invite others in the District, let us know and we will share it "Around the District." Send information to Sue ([sue.light@idwlcms.org](mailto:sue.light@idwlcms.org)) at the District office.

#### Calendar of Events

May 16... Pastors Golf Day, Ida Grove County Club  
May 19... District Board of Directors, Fort Dodge  
May 30... Memorial Day, District Office Closed  
June 5... Joy in Ministry Banquet, Denison  
June 22... Lutheran Day at Adventureland  
June 23-25... District LWML Convention, Camp Okboji

For more information on Iowa District West activities, view *The Messenger* at [www.idwlcms.org/publications.php](http://www.idwlcms.org/publications.php).

# May 2016

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>1</b> 9:00 Chr. Ed 10:00 DW/HC	<b>2</b> Shut in visits Carroll	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 9:30 Bible Study 7:00 Evening Cir	<b>5</b> 1:30 Ladies Aid	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> NO WORSHIP
<b>8</b> 9:00 Chr. Ed 10:00 DW	<b>9</b> Shut in visits Westside/Manning	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> 9:30 Bible Study 7:00 Baccalaureate	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> 9:00 Chr. Ed 10:00 DW/HC	<b>16</b> Shut in visits Arcadia 1:00 Sewing	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 9:30 Bible Study 7:30 Church Council	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> 9:00 Chr. Ed 10:00 DW	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> 9:30 Bible Study	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> 9:00 Chr. Ed 10:00 DW	<b>30</b> 	<b>31</b>				

## USHERS

Dale Wittrock  
Kurt Branning  
Greg Gronau  
Kelly Riesberg  
John Yetter

Gary Lenz  
Kyle Lenz  
Keith Petersen  
Doug Gronau  
Jake Wittrock

## CHANCEL CIRCLE

Sandy Hunter & Cindy Brockman

## PARISH CIRCLE

Pat Branning & Karen Grundmeier

## ACOLYTES

1<sup>st</sup>: Jaggar Luetje & Hunter Klink  
8<sup>th</sup>: Will Ragaller & Maggie Ragaller  
15<sup>th</sup>: Hannah Kraus & Sara Schurke  
22<sup>nd</sup>: Riley Neumann & Damon Ehlers  
29<sup>th</sup>: Kalon Cleveland & Kyelar Cleveland

V.B.S.

JUNE 6-10, 2016

REGISTER @

[vbamate.org/events/zionarcadia](http://vbamate.org/events/zionarcadia)

# May 2016

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>1</b> Eric Wiese Annalee Wittrock	<b>2</b> Dee Luetje Joel Mumm Kelly Riesberg	<b>3</b> Katie Riesberg	<b>4</b> Shirley Ehlers	<b>5</b> Lori Grundmeier Michael & Ashley Eggers	<b>6</b> Rob & Julie Klink	<b>7</b> Beth Hansman
<b>8</b> Shelby Dirks	<b>9</b> Doug Bender	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> Jenny Kuhl Jeff Meyer	<b>12</b> Terry Strathman	<b>13</b> Marissa Schrad	<b>14</b> Merlin Brockman Mark Rickers Michelle Schurke
<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> Jerry Thiedeman	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> John Vetter	<b>20</b> Steve Hoogestraat Paul Wiese	<b>21</b> Brian Kraus
<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> Connie McCollough Linda Mumm Pam Wiese	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> Jeff & Cathy Meyer	<b>26</b> Jacob Hanson Jackie Petersen	<b>27</b> Caitly Kraus	<b>28</b> Emmett Neumann Rich & Janet Rose (55 yrs)
<b>29</b> Pastor & Rebecca Dose	<b>30</b> Paul & Pam Wiese	<b>31</b> Ron Cornelius Nick & Jessica Gallagher				

## Birthdays & Anniversaries