

ZION PROCLAIMER MAY 2017

"DOSE OF WISDOM"

Stewardship Under the Cross

Do I have to Tithe?

That is an interesting question: do we have to tithe under the New Testament? After all, tithing, that is, giving 10% of our income to God's work in the Church, is a regulation of the Old Testament. We live under Christ in the New Testament so does this apply to us today?

We might approach our answer to this question by asking whether or not we have to keep the Third Commandment – which reads in full from **Exodus 20:8-11**

Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your male servant, or your female servant, or your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates. For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.

So do we have to keep this commandment? Should we cease from all labor on Saturday as the people of the Old Testament did? Of course not! That was one of the Old Testament prophecies of Christ – and since Christ has fulfilled the Sabbath rest by resting in the tomb on Holy Saturday, we are free from the Old Testament Sabbath regulations. Thus St. Paul writes, "Let no one pass judgment on you in questions of food and drink, or with regard to a festival or a new moon or a Sabbath. These are a shadow of the things to come, but the substance belongs to Christ" (**Col. 2:16-17**).

And yet, there the Third Commandment stands in our Small Catechism: Remember the Sabbath Day to keep it holy! What's going on here? Well, look at Luther's explanation of the third commandment: "What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not despise preaching and His Word, but gladly hear and learn it." So the form of the commandment, the letter of the law, has passed away as a shadow: but the spirit still remains. We are to honor God by our worship, by gladly receiving His Word and Sacraments in His Church.

So it is with tithing. The New Testament nowhere lists the precise regulations about giving this tithe and that tithe to the Levites and the Temple and so on. Those precise regulations were to point us to Christ: who represents the fullness of humanity though He is one Man, just as the tithe represented the fullness of the income of the people of Israel though it was only 10% thereof. We are in no way bound to these precise legal regulations of Old Testament Israel.

And yet, just as the fulfilling of the Sabbath Day doesn't mean that going to the Lord's House for worship once a week is obsolete – so also the New Testament does not make faithful financial stewardship obsolete. Rather, the New Testament is full of admonitions on this point: "On the first day of every week, each of you is to put something aside and store it up, as each one of you may prosper." (1 Cor. 16:2); "But just as you excel in everything-- in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in your love for us --see that you also excel in this grace of giving." (2 Cor. 8:7); "The point is this: he who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must do as he has made up his mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that you may always have enough of everything and may provide in abundance for every good work" (2 Cor. 9:6-8).

So just as the Old Testament's once a week worship became the benchmark for New Testament worship, so also the Old Testament's tithe becomes the benchmark for New Testament stewardship. Not in the way of inflexible, minute regulations – but in the way of pattern and fulfillment. If in the New Testament we are called to give proportionally ("as each one may prosper"), weekly ("on the first day"), and "generously" - then surely the Old Testament tithe is the floor level of Christian giving, not the ceiling. As our worship in the New Testament is a greater fulfillment of the Old Testament Sabbath, so also our New Testament stewardship is called to be an even greater sacrificial fulfillment of the Old Testament tithing regulations.

Blessings In Christ,
Pastor Dose

L. W. M. L.

EVENING CIRCLE

The Evening Circle will be meeting at 7:00 pm on Wednesday, May 3rd at the home of home Marilyn Mumm. Co-Hostess is Sandy Hunter.

LADIES AID

The Ladies Aid will be meeting at 1:30 pm on Thursday, May 4th. 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

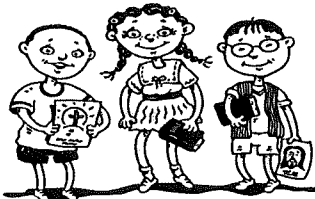


Please join us on Wednesday, May 17th for the A/WV Baccalaureate service to be held at The Presbyterian Church in Vail. Everyone is invited to attend. The Seniors from our congregation include: Olivia Mumm, Derek Schurke, Zack Kraus, Nick Leiting & Brandon Hinners



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

Ecclesiastes 1:13



Sunday School

Our last day of Sunday School for this year will be on Sunday, May 21, 2017

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!!!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2017

Greetings to all students and friends of Zion. This is a reminder that V.B.S. will be held the week of June 5-9. Our theme this year is "Mighty Fortress: In Jesus the Victory is Won" 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 5th 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.

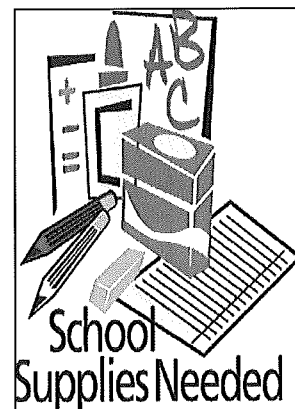
On the first day...come and find your classroom and meet your classmates and teacher. **You will be in the class that you will be in this fall. Whether you are or are NOT attending this year, or are new to the program, it would be appreciated if you could let the church office know as this makes a difference 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
"Mighty Fortress"
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
Zion Lutheran Church, Arcadia
(June 5-9, 2017)



Register @ 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

Name of student'(s)

grade to enter in fall

Please provide Birth date for those in preschool (must be 4 by June 5th)

Parents Name

Phone Number & Or Cell Number

Emergency Contact Person & Phone Number (daycare)

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 2017 who will be graduating on May 21st . 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 Brandon Hinners, Zack Kraus, Nick Leiting, Olivia Mumm, & Derek Schurke

Also on May 17th baccalaureate service will be held at the Presbyterian Church in Vail, starting at 7 pm. Everyone is welcome.

On Sunday, May 21st 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.

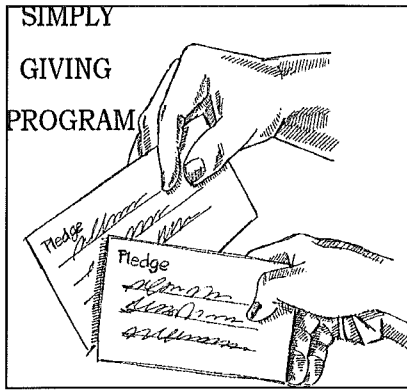
We hope these words, adapted from Phillips Brooks, will serve graduates well as they embark on their journeys:

“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.”

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

¹¹ 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



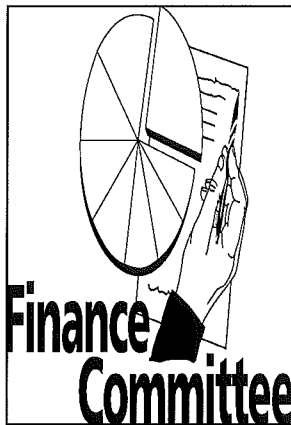
In the busy times we are currently in, handling the finances of our congregation is requiring more and more work. In an effort to save our financial people time we ask that you consider an old idea, that of the Simply Giving Program. To refresh your memory, Simply Giving is a program where once a week, once a month, or twice a month, your offering is automatically deducted from your checking account and automatically deposited into the churches 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

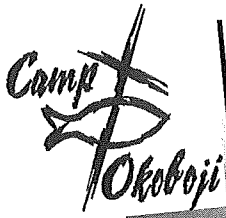
Stewardship Committee



OFFERINGS (Jan-April)	\$45,075.00
Thrivent Choice \$	735.00
SUNDAY SCHOOL OFFERING TO DATE	227.00
FISH BOWL	144.00
Non Budget Income	
TOTAL INCOME	\$46,181.00
 EXPENSES (Jan-April)	 \$48,432.00

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)



May 2017 (Please Copy, Post, and Share)

Camp Okobojo News

What is Happening at Your Camp

1531 Edgewood Dr
Milford, IA 51351
712-337-3325

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



Picture of the Month
Outdoor Worship area gets new bench seating. . . with back rests!

In the Spotlight

Under Construction 2017 Programs and Events

May 4-6: Spring Clean-up Weekend
May 7: 9:45 Worship and Omelet Brunch
May 12-14: Youth Volunteer Weekend



May 22-24:
Continuing Education Workshop
Pastors, DCEs, Teachers, Lay Ministers, Deaconesses, Lay Leaders
Presenter: Dr. Peter Nafzger
Topic: 'Beginning with the End in Mind'

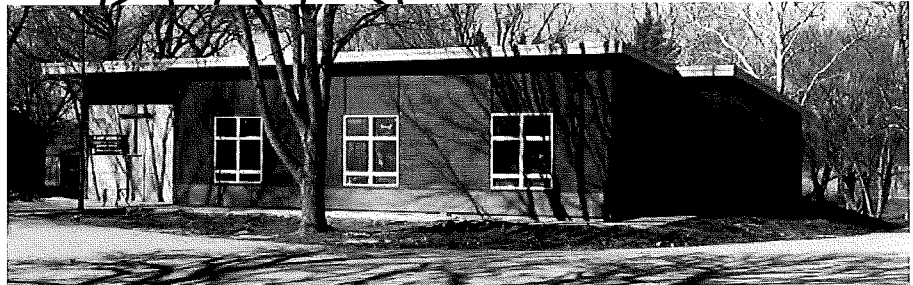
A restructured, expanded, holistic and intergenerational approach to Confirmation.
May 21- Sunday night housing, no supper.

- May 26-29: Veterans Family Retreat
- May 28: **DISCOVER** Center Dedication
- June 2-4: Kids Kamp
- June 5-23: On-Site Day Camp (M-F)
- June 8-11: JOY Camp 1 (Special Needs)
- June 11-14: Adventure Camp
- June 11-17: Girls Sports Camp
- June 17: Minnesota Twins Bus Trip
- June 18-23: Technology Camp
- June 24: Quilt Auction
- June 24: Paul's Bike-A-Thon Challenge
- June 25-July 1: Minneboji Youth Camp
- July 2-7: July 4th Family Retreat
- July 9-15: Junior High Week
- July 13-16: JOY Camp 2 (Special Needs)
- July 16-22: Concordia Cub Week
- July 23-29: High School Youth Week
- July 30-Aug. 4: Family Retreat I
- Aug. 6-11: Family Retreat II
- Aug. 11-13: Hispanic Family Retreat
- Aug. 20: Golf Outing
- Aug. 25-27: Adult Retreat
- Sept. 2: BBQ Cook Off Event
- Sept. 20-22: Outdoor Education
- Sept. 28-Oct. 1: Fall Clean-up Weekend & Volunteer Appreciation Dinner
- Oct. 6-8: Fall Women's Retreat
- Sunday Morning Worship: Memorial Day-Labor Day Weekends

New!

REGISTER NOW

Now Hiring Summer Staff!
Lifeguards, Store, Kitchen, Housekeeping
Call Camp & Go to: nloma.org



DISCOVER Center Update

Getting Ready To Dedicate
Sunday, May 28, 4 pm
Meal and Open House to Follow

Join Us for this Celebratory Event!
Please RSVP in Advance 712-337-3325

The interior is nearly complete!
Cabinets and finish work is underway.
The last item will be the glass entryway (replacing the light colored wood)
Come out for a tour!

Funding Still Needed

- Still on the Table -
\$250,000 Matching Gift Challenge:
We're within \$50,000 of meeting this Challenge! Your Support is Appreciated and Your Gift Will Still Be Matched!



THRIVENT FINANCIAL

Members can make a huge impact with Action Teams & Choice Dollar Designations
Thank You!

For More Info. Flyers & Schedules
www.campokobojo.org

Camp Okobojo Notes

Online Registration process is up and running. A new system has been added. If you have any issues with registering for any camp program, event, or retreat, please contact the office.

Looking for Legos: To help with a Luther's Seal project. Bag up your Legos and drop them off at Camp.



Used Van for Camp

Camp Okobojo is in need of a used van for their Traveling VBS Team. Got one? Call Camp!

Holy Land Tour



Hosted by Doug Kading November 5-15, 2017. Rev. Ken Klaus and his wife will be tour hosts.

Visit the land Jesus walked; places that saw the likes of Abraham, Moses, David, Esther, John the Baptist, and Mary; and sacred sites of the Old and New Testaments.

Contact Doug for a detailed brochure.

Camp Staff Contact Information

Executive Director: Doug Kading	doug@campokobojo.org
Office Director: Kellie Jones	kellie@campokobojo.org
Program Director: Lori Gamble	lori@campokobojo.org
Min. Advance. Dir.: Paul Golke	paul@campokobojo.org
Bookkeeper: Karrie Mullenberg	karrie@campokobojo.org



camperships

Contact Camp or Your Church Office

IDW Support IDW youth Congregations: Many offer support
Camp: Funding available
Camp Currency: A great encouragement and reward
Camp Auxiliary: 6 Cub Week Full Scholarships: **Application Deadline April 18**
Minneboji Youth Camp: Contact Rev. Dave Otten (revdavidotten@gmail.com)

NEW FOR 2017

DAY CAMP

WHO: CAMPERS AGES 5-12



3 Great Weeks!

June 5-9, 2017

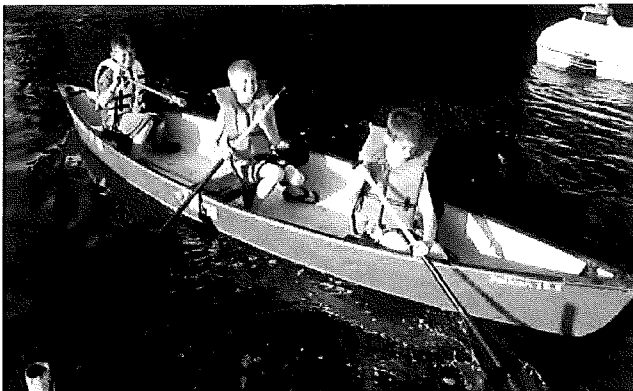
June 12-16, 2017

June 19-23, 2017

Cost per camper: \$35 per day or \$140 for the entire week! Includes breakfast, lunch and program supplies!

Time: 7:30 am—5:30 pm

Activities include: Bible time, crafts, music, swimming, canoeing, camp games, and more!



For more information
www.campokoboji.org
Phone: 712-337-3325

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

Rev. Joel Fritsche & Family
Dominican Republic
Friday, May 5, 2017
1 PM



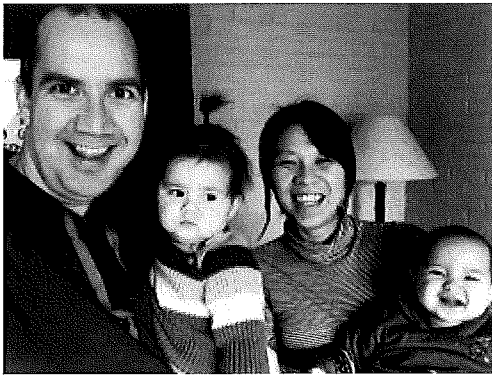
Rev. James Sharp & Family
Uruguay, South America
Saturday, May 20, 2017
1 PM

Rev. Greg Seltz
Speaker of The Lutheran Hour
Thursday, May 25, 2017
7 PM



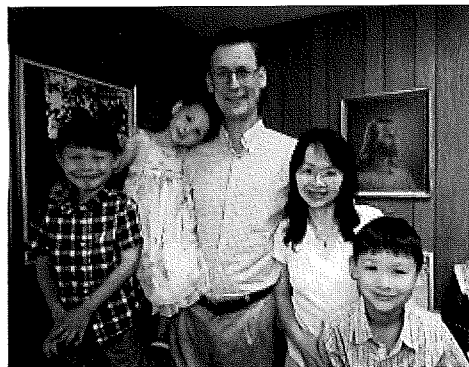
Rev. Matthew Ruesch & Family
Puerto Rico
Saturday, June 17, 2017
1 PM

Gail Grieser
Macau
Saturday, June 24, 2017
1 PM

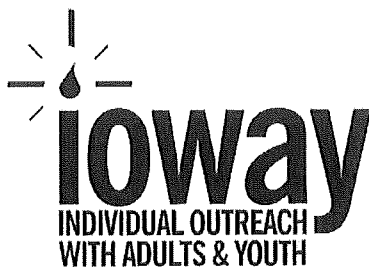


Rev. Chuck Hoffman & Family
Korea
Saturday, June 24, 2017
1:30 PM

Rev. Dr. Steve Oliver & Family
Taiwan
Saturday, July 15, 2017
1 PM



Rev. Carl Hanson & Family
Hong Kong China
Saturday, July 15, 2017
1:30 PM



IOWAY Volunteers Making a Difference

Many of you are aware of, or have been a part of, an exciting IOWAY outreach to hundreds of children and parents at Moulton Elementary School in Des Moines, Iowa, where there are approximately 500 elementary students (K-5). A large majority of these children are refugees or immigrants from many countries. Currently there are 27 languages spoken in the school!

One of the ways that Iowa District West church members responded to the needs of the children was to provide hundreds of quilts, pillows, pillowcases and toys. This is a story in itself. Over 500 beautiful quilts and hundreds of pillows brought smiles of gratitude to the teachers, children and parents. Through IOWAY, two churches provided funding for 250 emergency hand crank flashlights and 250 student first aid kits. These are part of a project teaching the children how to respond to a disaster or emergency. In some cases, it may be a personal emergency if the family

has to leave their home suddenly, etc. Other supplies were included in the kits, but we provided those two items. They were greatly appreciated.



As I learned more about the needs of the families and children, I decided to contact Iowa District West churches in the Des Moines area. I extended an invitation to the pastors and leaders to be part of an “exploratory” meeting with the Moulton principal and some of the teachers to see how we could be of more help to the school.

At the group meeting, we asked how we could help. Various things were discussed and one outreach idea was to host a day camp/sports camp for the children. The wheels started to roll in “uncharted waters.” When could we do a day camp? How many kids would come? Could we expect 50 or 400? What activities will we do? Will we get enough volunteers? What food should we serve? How will we pay for it? Should we do crafts? Will we need permits? How do we get those? And the list got longer as we proceeded.

It took time to work out the details but with each step we saw God’s guidance and direction. As a friend said, “I see God’s fingerprints all over this!” One example is God’s provision for the cost of the event. I received a phone call from a gentleman who said he had heard about this outreach and wanted to pay for the sports equipment and food. Wow!



As I inquired about the number and kinds of balls and equipment the school had to use for the sports camp, I was told they did not have a single ball. That surprise led to a \$600 purchase of balls. (Those balls are stored at the District Office and you are welcome to borrow them for outreaches that you have.)

The request for volunteers went out and you responded. Thank you! All the details for what to serve, where to purchase the food at the best price, and who was purchasing the items were set.

Saturday, March 25, the day selected for our event, arrived in all its glory as an all-day downpour! In spite of the continual rain, 95 volunteers arrived at Moulton Elementary smiling, willing and ready to help.

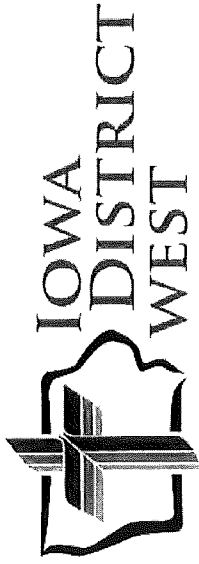
Approximately 100 students and parents braved the rain. All activities were held inside the school. Volunteers not directly involved with the students, helped the teachers in many ways to improve, sort and clean. It was a day for IDW people to help by being the hands and feet of Jesus. God’s fingerprints are on Moulton School. We wait to see where He will lead next. I want to share photos of the activities and children, but I can’t because it wasn’t possible to get written permission from each parent for their child to be photographed.



The teachers are looking for volunteers to help at Moulton. If you have a half hour or an hour a week that you would like to help a student or teacher, please contact me and I will connect you with the school.

Thank you again to all those who made this outreach possible! More events are being planned. Please contact me if you are interested in being part of this IOWAY opportunity.

Ellie Menz, IOWAY Director
ellie.menz@idwlcms.org | 515-370-1159



THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD

Planting Together

May 2017

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

On a Mission to Support Christ's Mission!

Happy Spring!

Spring is such an amazing time. It's time to start over, to start new. We marvel as we watch spring unfold. Everything is new, fresh and exciting as nature wakes up and begins its life cycle again. The frogs are excited to be singing in their little pond, singing their hearts out in praise to God for they survived the cold winter! The trees awake to new life.

On Easter Sunday I took my grandkids, ages 4 and 8, into our backyard. We carefully pulled the dead leaves from our hosta plants and to their surprise they found new green shoots pushing up from the soil. With the dead leaves removed, the shoots were exposed to the sun's life-giving energy. There was excitement as they worked on each hosta to discover if there was new life under the dead leaves. The cycle of life in God's creation is so magnificent!

It reminds me of the wonderful job God does. He takes the old, dead, sinful covering from us when we confess our sins. He renews our lives with His forgiveness and lets us start new. God is faithful to forgive and cleanse us just as He renews His creation each spring. Everything in nature is doing what it was created to do. Birds are singing while trees and flowers are forming leaves and blooming.

Are we, as God's special creations, doing what we were created to do? We are each unique with a special set of skills, interests, and abilities. What has God designed for you to do? Are you growing new shoots during this Easter season? God's Blessings!



Ellie Menz, IOWAY Director
515-370-1159 | ellie@iowadistrictwest.org

Someone hospitalized in Des Moines?

Call Chaplain Jim Brammeier at 515-707-9195 and he will visit and report back to you as an extension of your ministry.

Prison/Jail Ministries

Rev. Glenn Bohmer (Estherville) is the Coordinator of Prison/Jail Ministries in Iowa District West. If you are involved in or aware of an active ministry, we ask that you share that information with Rev. Bohmer (gbohmer@gmail.com). If you are interested in establishing such a ministry please contact him directly for resources that may prove helpful.

Please Note New Email Addresses for District Staff

President Steve Turner steve@iowadistrictwest.org
Rev. Mark Gerken mark@iowadistrictwest.org
Rhonda Mohr rhonda@iowadistrictwest.org
Ellie Menz ellie@iowadistrictwest.org
Jim Schroeder jim@iowadistrictwest.org
Carole White carole@iowadistrictwest.org
Jason Fuller jason@iowadistrictwest.org
Roger Curtis roger@iowadistrictwest.org
Jill Davis jill@iowadistrictwest.org
Sue Light sue@iowadistrictwest.org

LER (Lutheran Early Response Team) Training Opportunities

Iowa District West is forming LERT teams to respond to disasters. Over 550 members of the District are LERT certified to serve and respond after a natural disaster. There is NO COST for the training.

When: **Saturday, June 10, 2017**

Where: Trinity Lutheran Church, 520 N Garfield Street, Algona, IA

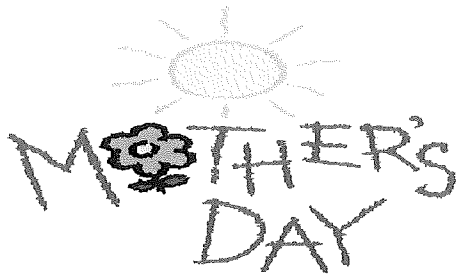
Facilitator: Ellie Menz, Disaster Response Coordinator

Registration begins at 8 am with training 9 am-12 pm. A light breakfast and lunch will be served. Register online at www.idwlcms.org or contact Jill Davis at the District office (515-576-7666).

Calendar of Events

May 1-2...District Pastors Conference, Sioux City
May 5-6...Concordia Retirement Workshop, District Office, Fort Dodge
May 13...Religious Freedom Workshop, District Office, Fort Dodge
May 15...Pastors Golf Day, Ida Grove
May 18...District Board of Directors Meeting, District Office, Fort Dodge
May 22-24...Continuing Education Workshop, Camp Okoboji
May 29...Memorial Day, District Office Closed

For more information on Iowa District West activities, view *The Messenger* at www.idwlcms.org/publications.php.



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.

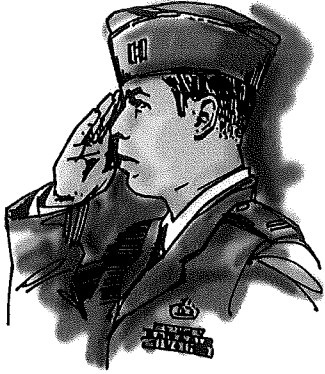
By Melanie Reid

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. But if words aren't backed by actions, they soon fall flat. We can, as

Memorial DAY

May Birthdays & Anniversaries

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

May 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3 7:00 Evening Cir	4 1:30 Ladies Aid	5	6 6:00 DW/HC
7 9:00 Chr. Ed 10:00 DW/HC	8	9	10 9:30 Bible Study	11	12	13
14 9:00 Chr. Ed 10:00 DW	15 1:00 Sewing Cir.	16	17 9:30 Bible Study 7:00 Baccalaureate	18	19	20
21 9:00 Chr. Ed 10:00 DW/HC	22	23	24 9:30 Bible Study	25	26	27
28 9:00 Chr. Ed 10:00 DW	29	30	31			

USHERS

Dale Wittrock
Kurt Branning
Greg Gronau

Gary Lenz
Kyle Lenz
Keith Petersen

Doug Gronau
Jake Wittrock

PARISH CIRCLE

Pat Branning
Karen Grundmeier

CHANCEL CIRCLE

Sandy Hunter
Cindy Brockman

ACOLYTES

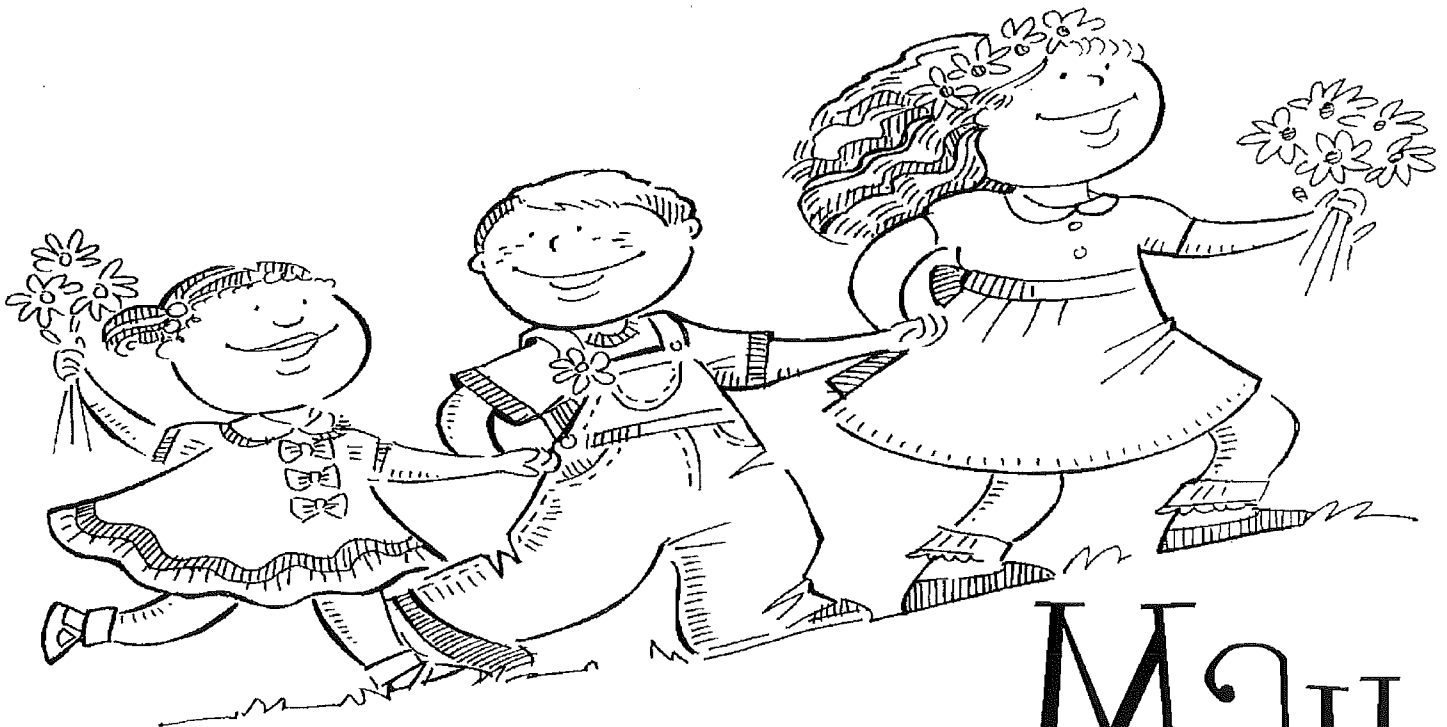
7th: Payton Henningsen & Emmett Neumman
14th: Sammi Hinners & Makayla Schrad
21st: Maggie Ragaller & Delaney Schurke
28th Jonathan Dose & Kyelar Cleveland

Zion Lutheran Church
118 W Tracy St Box 59
Arcadia, IA 51430
Rev. Ben Dose
zionluth@netins.net
712-689-2441

Non Profit Organization
Standard Mail
Arcadia, IA 51430

FRIENDS WHO CARE

Christian Education	9:00 am
Divine Worship	10:00 am



May