

Newsletter Article 6 Stewardship Under the Cross Putting It All Together

Over the past several months we have set out as a congregation to learn what God's Word has to say about stewardship. One thing we learned is that faithful stewardship is a lifestyle. So here is a review of God's Word for you to study with the year ahead in mind. No matter where you are at in your stewardship – tithing, going beyond a tithe, or still considering the concept of tithing – let this study lead you to think about pray about stewardship based on the Word.

Your heart will always go where you put God's money. Jesus said that where your treasure is, there your heart will be also and as we sing each Sunday morning at the Offering: We give Thee but Thine own. God is the ultimate giver of our incomes: all these gifts come from Him. To acknowledge this gift and our dependence on the Lord, God calls us to give a portion of our income back to Him for the maintenance of His Church. Indeed, the Scriptures are very clear: God calls His people to give at least a tithe of their income (10% of whatever “comes in”) back to Him at their place of worship.

This calls for faith. Do we trust God's Word? Do we trust that what He says is for our benefit, not our harm? **If you have never tithed before, it can be a scary proposition.** *Give 10% of my income away!?* *You've got to be kidding.* But God doesn't ever kid us in His Word. Instead, He tells us how to live holy and blessed lives full of peace and contentment. Consider these Scriptures:

Jesus said, "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. 20 But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also (Matthew 6:19-21).

"Will a man rob God? Yet you rob me. But you ask, 'How do we rob you?' "In tithes and offerings. 9 You are under a curse-- the whole nation of you-- because you are robbing me. 10 Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the LORD Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it" (Malachi 3:8-10).

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 Corinthians 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 Corinthians 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).

We do not make God poor when we fail to give money to Him properly, but we *do* make ourselves poor if we do not give according to the standards He sets for us in His Word, the Bible. God does not need our money, but we need to give the way the Bible tells us to in order to overcome the negative influence money and the things of this world can have on us.

God will never tell us to do something that will be to our harm – He loves us too much for that. Jesus gave

His life on the cross for me. He loves me and knows what is best for me – so I can know that what He says about stewardship is meant for my benefit. He wants my heart to be with Him – and my heart will always follow where I put God's money. **Tithing is not easy; it is godly. It will change your life.** Stepping out in faith always does. You may have to change your lifestyle to accommodate following God's Word in this matter. But tithing will change your life in other ways too: it will give you a peace and contentment that can only come from actually putting yourself in the hands of the Lord. So read through those Scriptures again. Pray through the following questions and step out in faith this year with giving that is in accord with God's Word. And just see if you are not blessed in it.

The Lord loves me and gave Himself for me on the cross.	Y	N
All that I have comes from the Lord.	Y	N
The Lord blessed me to live in the richest land in the world.	Y	N
If I had to start living on 90% of my current income tomorrow, I or someone in my family would starve.	Y	N

I / We have been making first-fruit, regular, proportionate and generous (at least 10%, a tithe) money offerings to the Lord from the heart.

If “Yes”, the Lord gets all the glory for that.	Y	N
If “No”, the Lord wants me to change the way I make money offerings to him.	Y	N
If the Lord wants me to change, I should change now, not later.	Y	N
It is the power of the Holy Spirit and the love of Jesus Christ that changes me for the better.		

BLESSINGS
PASTOR DOSE

Luther film to air on PBS Sept. 12

“Martin Luther: The Idea that Changed the World,” the full-length feature film that premiered in selected theaters in February, is set to air nationally on PBS on Tuesday, Sept. 12, at 7 p.m. Central time.

Congregations still may arrange screenings of the film at their local theaters.

Visit NewLutherMovie.com for information on how to host and promote a screening, as well as resources including a sample bulletin insert, poster, artwork, and the movie trailer.

Funded by Thrivent Financial, the film dramatizes the events that shaped Luther and examines the questions he wrestled with, such as “Who am I?,” “What is my purpose?” and “How do I get right with God?”

Included are insights and commentary from LCMS theologians and historians.



SINGING

The Sunday School students will be singing on the 2nd Sunday of the month with the exception of December, when we will NOT sing.

**Ages 3 to 8th
grade**

RALLY SUNDAY: We are ready for another exciting year here at Zion Lutheran Church's Sunday School. Classes got started on August 27th. Our Rally Sunday will be September 10th. We will be meeting for devotions starting at 9 am. We will be singing and praising God. We will be dismissing our students at 9:50 am each Sunday Morning. Once again we gave out attendance awards at the beginning of the school year. Each student is allowed to have 3 unexcused absences. If the child is sick, please send a note for the superintendent the following week and they will be excused. Two year olds may enter the month that they will turn 3. We also request that parents give prayerful thought when sending young children. They must be able to be away from their parents for at least once hour. All parents are welcome to visit Sunday School at any time. God Bless you all.

SUNDAY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE POLICY

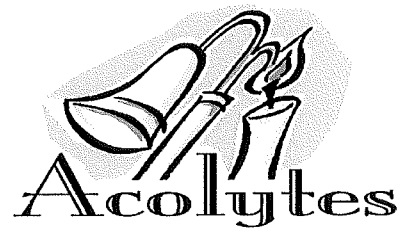
Once again Sunday School students will have the opportunity to earn attendance awards by regularly attending Sunday School. As in the past, each child is allowed 3 unexcused absences in obtaining their "pin" for attendance at the end of the school year. We do not want students to come to Sunday School if they are sick and really need to be at home. If your child is sick, please keep them home and send a note the next Sunday to be given to their teacher so that the Sunday School Superintendent can be informed that your child was sick and will count the absence as an excused absence. Sickness will NOT affect the child's attendance. If you are out of town and attend a church where you are visiting, bring the bulletin from that church and it will be credited to the student's attendance.



SNACK SERVERS FOR SEPTEMBER

6th: Rebecca Dose
13th Stacie Muhlbauer (2 pm)
20th Danielle Schrad
27th Steph Henningsen

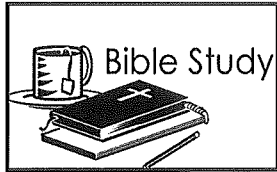
There are 223 students and 2 teachers.



3rd: Damon Ehlers & Cody Bair
10th: Jordan Hansen & Danica Ehlers
18th: Riley Neumann & Jamie Hausman
25th: Sara Schurke & Maggie Ragaller

Remember it is **YOUR** responsibility to find a substitute if you are unable to be here on your assigned Sunday.

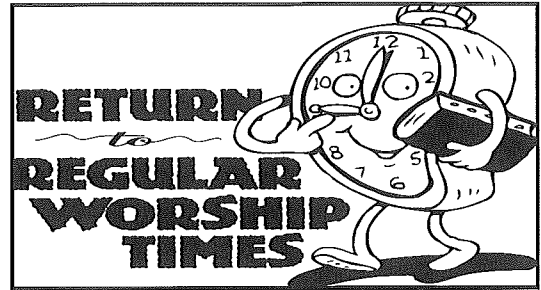
Please be ready to acolyte by 9:45



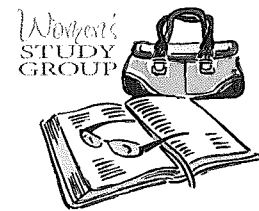
ADULT BIBLE CLASS & WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS

Our Adult Bible Class is held on Sunday mornings at 9 am. This year we will be having an all Bible class/Sunday school Opening in the nave (sanctuary) to show the importance of both youth and adults coming together to grow in the faith. The Bible narratives are going to be the same lessons so that youth and adults can speak this faith to each other outside of classes. Catechesis is a lifelong process beginning at infant baptism until entering into eternal glory. We will have coffee & refreshments before and during the 9:00 Bible class time. Come and join us!

We also offer a Wednesday Morning Bible Class as well. This class meets at 9:30 in the Fellowship Hall. Please join us as we study God's word, and share coffee and fellowship.



Please note that we are in our Fall Worship Schedule
Christian Education and Adult Bible Class at 9 am
Divine Worship at 10 am



Let' get into the WORD! Women's Bible Study 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month. First meeting is Tuesday, September 12th at 6:30 pm. Contact Rebecca Dose for more details.

ATTENTION HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS ---

High school students in grades 9-12 and their adult leaders are invited to join others from Iowa District West Congregations and Nebraska Districts for the Senior High Gathering to be held at Embassy Suites, LaVista, NE on November 17-19. Please contact the church office if you are interested in going. Registration is due by October 17th.

Iowa District West Jr. High Youth Gathering The Iowa District West Junior Youth Gathering will be held October 21-22 at the Sheraton Hotel in West Des Moines. Students in 6th-8th grade are invited to attend this gathering.

The Keynote speaker will be Rev. Geoff Boyle. The cost for attending is \$150. The student pays the registration fee of \$75 and the church will pay the other \$75. Registration deadline is September 10th. Contact the office for further information.

L.W.M.L

LADIES AID

The Ladies Aid will be meeting on Thursday, September 6 at 1:30 pm. Hostess will be Lila Thiedeman. Christian Life will be led by Lila Thiedeman.

EVENING CIRCLE:

Will meet at 7 pm on Wednesday, September 6th at the home of Lajeane Shiny. Carol Segbart, a registered nurse from the Manning Regional Healthcare Center working with Senior Life Solutions will be a guest speaker. Senior Life Solutions is a program at the Manning Hospital dedicated to addressing the emotional and behavioral health of adults over the age of 65. The services are designed to provide assistance to individuals suffering after a loss, going through life transitions, having crying spells, isolation, etc. It consists of group and individual sessions led by a licensed therapist and the patients are seen by a psychiatrist every 30 days.

This meeting is open to all members of the congregation. If you plan to join the Evening Circle that evening, please let Lajeane or the office know beforehand, so Evening Circle can plan accordingly.

PARISH CIRCLE:

Shirley Ehlers; Lola Ehlers

CHANCEL CIRCLE

Marilyn Mumm & Janet Rose

MARTHA CIRCLE

Darleen Linde & Diane Schroeder



Time to start thinking about the Annual Turkey Supper coming up. If you would like to help with organizing, please contact the office as soon as possible. **The supper is scheduled for Sunday, November 5, 2017 at the Arcadia Legion Hall**

What if we began to treat our Bibles the way we treat our cell phones?

What if we...

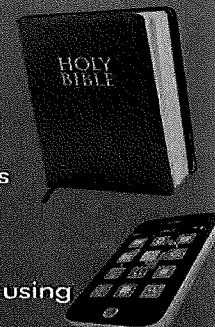
...carried it with us everywhere?

...turned back to get it if we forgot it?

...checked it for messages throughout the day?

...used it in case of an emergency?

...spent an hour or more using it each day?



©MYBIBLE.COM

Chicken Supper



The AWW Staff is hosting a Staley's Chicken Supper on Wednesday - September 13 serving from 5-8 at the Westside Community Building - - Adults \$10.00 and children 4-12 \$7.00 -3 and under free. - Tickets available at the door and in advance at the school office or with any AWW Staff Member and at the following businesses: The Observer Office / Robin's Salon and Tanning in Arcadia / and the Westside Bank in Vail and Westside.



SCHOOL KITS: The VBS kids decorate a cloth bag and into it goes: Paper, pencils, sharpener, ruler, scissors, and crayons. Again so many things we take for granted that are a "God-Send" to students in countries who lack these simple supplies. Keep these things in mind when you are shopping and possibly include some of these items to bring to church for these projects of the Ladies Aid and Evening Circles.

The "Back to School" sales have started and this is a great time to help the Ladies Aid with their "School Kit" Mission Project.

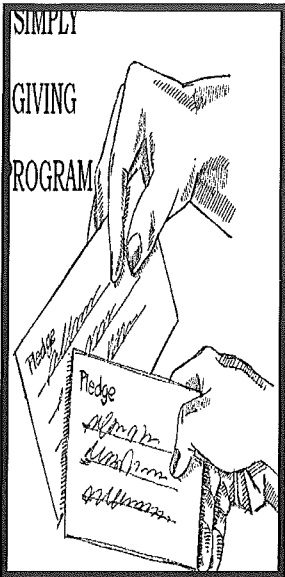
- 70 count notebooks (wide or college ruled)
- 30 centimeter ruler (can have inches on other side)
- Pencil sharpener
- Blunt scissors
- Unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers
- Black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel)
- Box of 16 or 24 crayons
- 2 1/2" eraser

Thank you for your help with our
"School Kit" Mission Project.



This reminder goes out endlessly, but sewing circle is **ALWAYS** in need of sheets, lightweight blankets, and **NEW** material for making quilt tops, middles and backs. A small group of ladies are the core of this worthwhile project. Quilt tops/backs are made at home and the quilts are tied at church. The large pieces of material (especially sheets) speed up the job!

The Sewing Circle meets on the 3rd Monday of every month. Help is always needed .



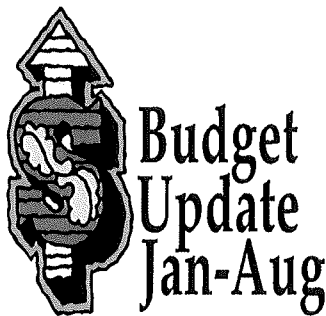
In the busy times we are currently in, handling the finances of our congregation is requiring more and more work. In an effort to save our financial people time we ask that you consider an old idea, that of the Simply Giving Program. To refresh your memory, Simply Giving is a program where once a week, 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.

Also, if you like, you can sign up for Simply Giving and designate it for the Building Fund

**SIMPLY GIVING
CAN ALSO BE
USED FOR THE
BUILDING FUND**

**FROM A FAMILY WHO USES THE "SIMPLY GIVING
PROGRAM"**

"Simply Giving" is simply easy! If you are hesitant about starting the "Simply Giving" program...don't be! Just decide how much you normally give to church each week (or month) and have it transferred from **your** banking account to the **church's** account. It is shown on your bank statement and you decide when you want to give each month. It frees your mind as you go to church in that you have given your share and don't have to write a check or look for money each time you go to church. You are REALLY putting the **Lord's** work **first**. You will still have the envelopes and can give more throughout the year. If you are gone the church still receives your contribution. Give it some thought. The more who participate gives the church board the financial support in a more orderly fashion as they will know how much to anticipate each month.



INCOME (year to date)	\$100,290.18
EXPENSES (year to date)	\$101,057.26
BUDGETED INCOME (year to date)	\$113,287.68
EXPENSE BUDGET (year to date)	\$115,270.32
BUILDING FUND	
BALANCE 8/28	\$ 4,996.19
MEMORIAL ACCT Balance	\$ 14,104.22
REPAIR ACCT Balance	\$ 10,134.79

ENDOWMENT PROJECT SUGGESTIONS

Once again the council is asking the congregation for suggestions on how to spend the money made available from the endowment fund. The endowment fund was started approximately 25 years ago when the Mildred Kasperson estate gave Zion approximately \$100,000 in cash and 160 acres of farmland. At that time it was decided to only spend the interest generated from that cash, and the farm rental income, and to never invade the principle of those funds. **The spending of those funds is not to be used for normal budgeted items.** Over the years this has been a wonderful blessing to our congregation and the council wants all our members to know that anyone may donate to the endowment fund and any time. This year we will have approximately \$53,000 to spend from the endowment fund. Your input is welcomed and encouraged!

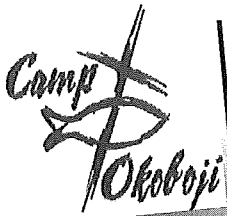
SUGGESTION

AMOUNT REQUESTED

NAME _____

(not required, but helpful in case the Council has questions)

Please return to church office by Sunday, September 24, 2017



September 2017 (Please Copy, Post, and Share)

Camp Okoboji News

What is Happening at Your Camp

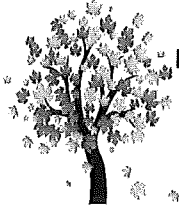


For More Info / Fliers / Schedules
And to Register Online
www.campokoboji.org

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

In the Spotlight



**Fall Offers Many
Retreat Opportunities!
Info & Register Online!
campokoboji.org**

Take time to enjoy the fall atmosphere at Camp Okoboji! Fall programs, retreats, and special events offer many opportunities to experience... "Jesus at the Lake."

Call for more info on Camp availability and programs.

Aug. 25-27: Adult Retreat

Leader: Rev. Paul Egger
St. John Galva, 2nd VP IDW

Topic: **Here, There Be Monsters!**

A perspective of God's revelation to John

Sept. 3: Worship & Omelet Brunch

Sept. 9: Lutheran Early Response Team

Chainsaw Training Workshop- 9am sharp

Sept. 20-22: Lutheran Schools Outdoor Ed.

Educational, Relational and Spiritual all rolled up in one. A great program for schools.

Sept. 28-30: Volunteer Clean-up Weekend

Help prepare Camp for winter and enjoy fun and fellowship at the same time.

Sept. 30: Volunteer Appreciation Dinner

Our chance to thank all those who help.

Sept. 30: U of O Oktoberfest Bike Ride

Contact Paul at Camp for more info.

Oct. 1: Worship and Omelet Brunch

Oct. 6-8: Women's SPA Retreat

Spiritual & Physical Alignment

Leader: DCE Audrey Duesing-Werner

YOUR Participation & Support Needed!

We ask our Camp Friends for the following:

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

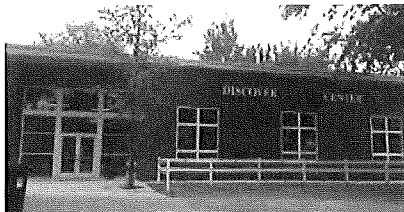
Camp Okoboji Amazing Meeting Spaces!

Most guests focus on the variety of housing options at Camp. Lost in all those beds are the amazing meeting spaces that are also available for groups to use. They include quality audio and video systems, A/C, and flexibility to handle nearly any group size.

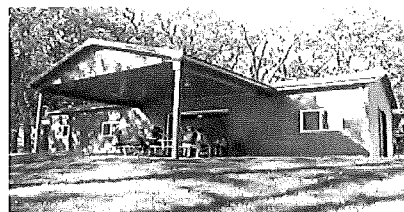
Need room for a reception, meeting, performance? Consider Camp Okoboji.



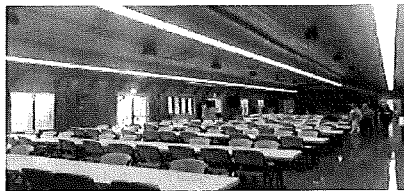
Christian Life Center: Huge!



Discover Center: Many rooms, very flexible.



Family Center Shelter: What a view!



Ginny DeWall Dining Hall: The main floor and lower level can handle any size group/event.



Vision & Mission:

For the past several months, Camp leadership has been reviewing and analyzing Camp's direction and purpose. The process begins with identifying Vision & Mission statements.

Vision: Refreshing Body & Spirit

Camp Okoboji is committed to providing both physical refreshment along with the refreshment that comes through God's grace in Jesus Christ.

Mission: We provide Sanctuary which connects guests with God and His Creation.

Camp Okoboji provides sanctuary as guests are connected with God's grace in Christ. Seeking places of refuge from a busy, distracting, and hurting world, Camp Okoboji is a sanctuary for all.

This fall, Camp Okoboji will begin introducing their other findings. If Camp is to remain viable and sustainable in the years ahead, it must meet the changing needs and habits of those it hopes to serve.

Discover CAMPAign Okoboji

Matching Challenge - Almost There!

We're within \$20,000 of meeting the \$250,000 Matching Gift Challenge!

Your Support is Appreciated and Your Gift Will Still Be Matched!



'Summer of Impact' Impacts Camp Okoboji

Many Thrivent members recently noticed an extra \$50 in their ChoiceDollar accounts. We thank those who remembered us with their designations. We were truly blessed and humbled by the response. **Thank You!**

Your Future and Camp Okoboji:

Charitable Gifts, whether a Remainder Trust, Gift Annuity, Bequest, or Endowment Fund can make a huge impact on the future ministry of Camp Okoboji. Please consider Camp Okoboji in your charitable plan.

JOIN US

Camp Staff Contact Information

Executive Director: Doug Kading doug@campokoboji.org
Program Director: Lori Gamble lori@campokoboji.org
Bookkeeper: Karrie Mullenberg karrie@campokoboji.org

Office Director: Kellie Jones kellie@campokoboji.org
Min. Advance. Dir.: Paul Golke paul@campokoboji.org



Planting Together September 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!

Bound Together in Christ's Love



The 40th convention of Iowa District West will be June 24-26, 2018 at Camp Okoboji. The theme for this convention is based on Colossians 3:12-17: *"Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity. Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts. And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him."*

The logo has the Cross at the center. This is to remind us of verse 13...*"Forgive as the Lord forgave you."* We live our lives in the forgiveness won for us on the Cross. The rope on the cross represents you and me. We are on the cross with Jesus as He suffers and dies for us. The rope is not just a bunch of single strands but a rope joined together in Christ. Christ's love is the knot, vs. 14: *"And*



over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity." As the people of God we are bound together in Christ's love. For more information about our upcoming convention, go to the District website <http://idwlcms.org/> and click the Convention button on the top of the page. Please keep our convention in your prayers for we are "Bound Together in Christ's Love."

Rev. Dr. Steve Turner, President

Donate to District by shopping online!

Check out www.heartfeltgiving.net/np24 before making your next online purchase. There is no additional cost to you to make a purchase on this unique shopping and travel website. The HEARTFELT GIVING website features over 1,000 brand name stores such as Macy's, Kohl's, Nordstrom, Bloomingdales, Walmart, Bass Pro Shops, Target, Best Buy, AutoZone, JC Penney, Stein Mart, Guess, Walgreens, GNC, Barnes and Noble, FTD, Office Depot, Staples, Office Warehouse and more.

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.

Around the District

The "new" page in *The Messenger* titled "Around the District" 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@iowadistrictwest.org) at the District office.

Calendar of Events

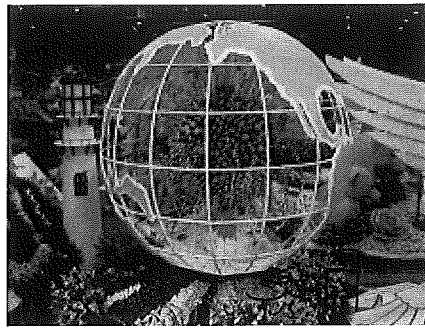
- September 4...Labor Day, District Office Closed
- September 9...LERT Chainsaw Training, Camp Okoboji
- September 9...LWML Fall Retreat, Mission Central
- September 11...Pastors Golf Day, Ida Grove
- September 11...Stewardship Workshop, Zion, Paulina
- September 12...Stewardship Workshop, Zion, Humboldt
- September 19...Church Secretarial Conference, Denison
- September 25-26...District Pastors Conference, Gloria Dei, Urbandale
- September 30...Parish Nurse Conference
- September 30...LOWAY Moulton Elementary School, Des Moines

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

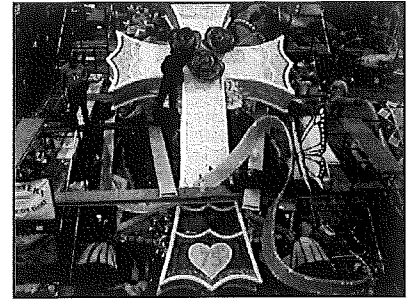
“Ring In” 2018 in California



Make Music unto the Lord-2004



Family of God-2005



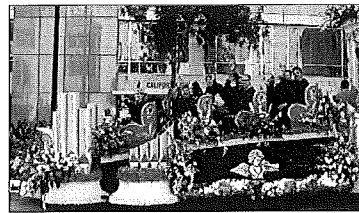
Miracle of Faith-2006



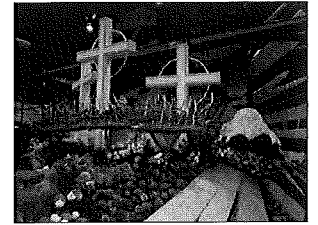
God's Great Nature-2007



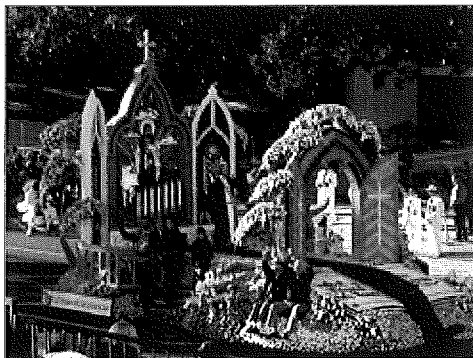
Passport to Celebrations-2008



Alleluia Chorus-2009



10 Commandments-2010



Lutheran Hour Float-2011

YOU ARE INVITED!
December 28, 2017-
January 4, 2018



Lutheran Hour Float-2012

WHY go on this mission trip?

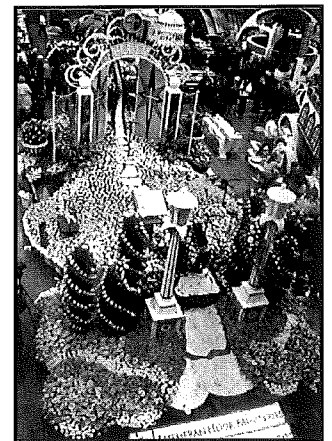
- Puts faith into action
- Life changing and faith building
- Decorate the only Christian float for the famous Rose Parade

WHO can participate?

- 18 years old and over (Call and inquire about possible exceptions)
- Suggestion: Make it a family affair and create memories. Invite your parents and/or grandparents

PURPOSE of trip? (Activities will vary)

- Decorate Lutheran Hour and other floats for the Rose Parade.
- Enjoy a week of serving God and others in sunny California
- Enjoy the Rose Parade 'in person' on Colorado Boulevard
- Serve the homeless on Skid Row



2013

Over~~~~~

WHEN is the trip?

- December 28, 2017– January 4, 2018

WHAT is the cost?

- \$1,550-- Includes air fare, 7 days lodging, ground transportation and some meals. (For a more private room, inquire immediately and we will try to accommodate.)

HOW do you register?

- Complete the registration form
- Pay \$100 deposit. (if positions are filled, \$100 will be returned)



2017

Welcome 2018 in Sunny California



Name (as it appears on your driver's license) _____

Male/Female _____ Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Birth date (airline requirement) _____

Cell phone _____ Current grade _____ (Adult) _____

E-Mail _____ (please print clearly)

Home congregation and city _____

Sweat shirt size (indicate one size larger than normal) _____

Consent: I agree to participate and cooperate with group activities on this IOWAY mission trip.

SIGNATURE _____

Date _____

Send this registration form and \$100 payable to "IOWAY-Pasadena Trip" to:

Ellie Menz
 807 W. South
 Jefferson, IA 50129
 (515)370-1159

IOWAY team 2017



September 2017

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

USHERS

Dale Wittrock
Kurt Branning
Greg Gronau
Kelly Riesberg
John Vetter

Gary Lenz
Kyle Lenz
Keith Petersen
Doug Gronau
Jake Wittrock

CHANCEL CIRCLE

Marilyn Mumm & Janet Rose

PARISH CIRCLE

Shirley Ehlers & Lola Ehlers

ACOLYTES:

9/3 Damon Ehlers & Cody Bair
9/10 Jordan Hansen & Danica Ehlers
9/17 Bret Hinners & Jaxson Henningsen
9/24 Jaggar Luetje & Kendra Schuette

MIDWEEK SERVERS

9/6 Jonathan Dose
9/13 Karlie Muhlbauer
9/20 Makayla Schrad
9/27 Jaxson Henningsen

September Birthdays & Anniversaries

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 Sandy Humer	2 Clayton Nobiling
3 Zack Kraus Roger & Beth Liechti	4 Ryan Ehlers Keith Petersen	5 Jonathan Dose Paul & Peggy Himmers	6 Dalton Ehlers Jenni Middleton Laynie Muhlbauer Isabelle Vetter	7	8 Conner Hansman Jenna Hausman Brynn Koch Cara Kraus	9
10 Magen Fineran Mandy Heithoff	11 Todd Gronau Blake Liechti Kevin & Sara Skinner	12 Laurie Anderson Kevin Skinner	13 Delby Bruhn Hunter Klink Doug & Doreen Bender Dan & Misty Spoonier	14	15	16 Matthew Dirks Amanda Kraus
17 Michael Brockman Katelyn Himmers	18 Lisa Gallagher Tanner Hagge Linda Irbeck	19 Heather Hansman Jannie Hausman Al Hunter	20	21 Dale Lenz Gail & Marilyn Mumm	22 Matt & Kelli Dirks	23 Phyllis Kuhl
24	25 Kristi Hoffman	26 Kalon Cleveland Gary Lenz Misty Spooner Jace & Kelsea Hawley	27 Rich & Christy Hanson	28 Chris Ehlers Neil Liechti	29 Darin Schurke Eric Vetter	30 Dwight Ehlers

L.I.F.E. - Living in Faith Everyday

By Kay L. Meyer, Director of Development

How do we live in faith every day? **Living In Faith Everyday** means we keep our eyes on Jesus, the author and preserver of our faith. It means knowing our Savior, Jesus Christ and what He has done for us. He is perfect. **We are not!**

Thankfully, we have a Savior who forgives us for **all** our sins. He gives us physical **life**, an abundant **life**, and eternal **life** as gifts. We recognize that the forgiveness that Christ offers us didn't come easily. Jesus suffered and died for our sins. Soldiers spit on Him, mocked Him, beat Him, and stripped Him of His clothes. His disciples and friends deserted Him. Peter denied Him three times. Even His Father turned away as Jesus cried from the cross, **"My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"** (Mark 15:34) Jesus suffered in our place. His blood covers our sins. He died. His body was placed in the tomb. It was sealed and guarded. Thankfully, three days later, as He had promised, He rose from the dead. He showed His glorified risen body to the disciples, the women, and to 500 believers at once during the 40 days He remained on earth after His resurrection. Because He rose from the dead, we can be confident that we will also rise and live with Him forever.

Living In Faith Everyday means we understand that we are saved by faith alone (Ephesians 2:8-9), not by our works. But, we also understand that Ephesians 2:10 tells us that God has prepared works for us to do in advance. What work God has prepared for you? Is it helping a woman who is pregnant and alone? Is it ministering to someone who has had an abortion and can't believe that God would forgive her? Is it feeding the hungry? Is it ministering to the sick? Is it helping those who have lost their home in a tornado? Is it sharing God's Word with someone who doesn't know the Lord? Is it offering encouragement and help to those who are Christians, but struggle with drugs, alcohol, pornography, or a myriad of other issues of life? Whatever God has called you to do, do it with joy.

Living In Faith Everyday means we attend worship services, partake of communion, study God's Word,

and pray. We grow spiritually and learn to discern truth from error. With God's help, we grow into the person God wants us to be.

Living In Faith Everyday means learning to say, "I'm sorry, will you forgive me" to the Lord, and to our family and friends. We also learn to say "I'm sorry" in the workplace, to neighbors, and those we meet in the community

Living In Faith Everyday means we are confident that He is risen! He is risen indeed! And it means we know that when we die, because of our faith in Christ, we will go to live with Him forever.

Living In Faith Everyday means we are shining lights for Christ and tell others about the great things that the Lord has done. We tell them about His forgiveness and the grace that He gives us every day.

Living In Faith Everyday means we share the Law and Gospel with those within the Church and those outside of it and speak up for Life! And we remember that it is God who gives us life as a gift.

"You are my witnesses," declares the Lord, "and my servant whom I have chosen, that you may know and believe me and understand that I am he. Before me no god was formed, nor shall there be any after me. I, I am the Lord, and besides me there is no savior" (Isaiah 43:10-11).

For
by
GRACE
you
have
been
**saved
through faith.**

EPHESIANS 2:8, NRSV

GOD'S CAKE

This is about the best thing I've ever read for an explanation:

Sometimes we wonder,

**'What did I do to deserve this?' or
'Why did God have to do this to me?'**

Here is a wonderful explanation!

A daughter is telling her Mother how **everything
Is going wrong**, she's failing algebra, her boyfriend
Broke up with her and her best friend is moving away.

Meanwhile, her Mother is baking a cake and
Asks her daughter if she would like a snack, and the
Daughter says, 'Absolutely Mom, I love your cake.'

'Here, have some cooking oil,' her Mother offers.

'Yuck' says her daughter.

'How about a couple raw eggs?' 'Gross, Mom!'

'Would you like some flour then?

Or maybe baking soda?'

'Mom, those are all yucky!'

To which the mother replies :

'Yes, all those things seem bad all by themselves.

But when they are put together in the

Right way, they make a wonderfully delicious cake! '

God works the same way. Many times we wonder why

He would let us go through such **bad and difficult
Times**. But God knows that when He puts these things

All in His order, they always work for good! We just

Have to trust Him and, eventually, they will all

Make **something wonderful!**

God is crazy about you.

He sends you flowers every spring and

A sunrise every morning.

Whenever you want to talk, He'll listen.

He can live anywhere in the universe,

And He chose your **heart**.

If you like this, send this on

To the **people you really care about**.

Life may not be the party we hoped for, but while we are

Here we might as well dance!