

Dose of Wisdom

This was written by a pastor friend and colleague from Illinois. It serves us as we prepare ourselves for The Holy Week and Triduum. God bless our preparations this month of March and into Holy Week. Come and join us as we walk with Jesus through this most important time of the Church Year. God's Blessings, Pastor Dose

Mark's thoughts: A Preview of What's Ahead: The Chief Services of Holy Week and Easter

During Lent we prepare to observe our Lord's death and celebrate his resurrection. It is a time of spiritual discipline as we contemplate His sacrifice on the cross. We repent of our sin and seek to grow in the faith. During the season of Lent we are preparing. The season and its mid-week services are moving to a crescendo. They are moving towards **Holy Week**. During Holy Week we will focus with renewed intensity on the death of Christ for us. The eastern part of Christianity has called Holy Week, "the Great Week," because of the great things accomplished by the events we celebrate then.

Holy Week begins with **Palm Sunday**. Following a tradition that began in the fourth century A.D. in Jerusalem, we will process into the church bearing palms as we remember our Lord's entrance into Jerusalem in the week of His passion. Palm Sunday is also called the Sunday of the Passion since on that day we will read the passion account of our Lord. This will provide a "roadmap" of the events we will be observing in the coming week.

Holy Week provides us with the highpoint of the Christian year. The highpoint of Holy Week itself is the Triduum. **Triduum** means "three days." It refers to the last three days before Easter Sunday: Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and the Vigil of Easter on Holy Saturday. The services that occur on these days are in fact considered to be one service that takes place over the course of three days.

Maundy Thursday derives its name from the Latin word for "commandment," *mandatum*. This word is a reference to our Lord's statement at the Last Supper, "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you" (John 13:34). At this service we will again contemplate Christ's gift of the Sacrament of the Altar which He instituted at the Last Supper. We are reminded that through this miraculous meal our Lord gives us the benefits of Good Friday.

The service consists of four parts: the Service of Corporate Confession and Absolution, the Service of the Word, the Service of the Sacrament and the Stripping of the Altar. The Service of Corporate Confession and Absolution signals the end of the Lenten preparations with the absolution and peace of Christ that stand at the center of the Triduum. The Service of the Word focuses on Christ's humble service demonstrated in His washing of His disciples' feet. This servanthood was enacted on the Cross and its benefits are bestowed in the Lord's Supper. The Divine Service culminates with the Lord's ministry to His people through the Sacrament of the Altar.

The depth of Christ's servanthood is demonstrated as the altar is reverently stripped in preparation for the Church's observance of Jesus' death. In this service, the Church and her catechumens begin the journey through the three days of Christ's Passover as she passes from death to life and from captivity to freedom. The Divine Service does not conclude with a Benediction, since the service of the Triduum continues the next day.

On **Good Friday** we pause and consider our Lord's death on the cross. Crucified between two criminals He took our sins upon Himself and died in our place. The darkness and earthquake that accompanied

that event (Matthew 27:45, 51) demonstrate the cosmic significance of Christ's death as part of God's end-time action. The Good Friday service includes the Bidding Prayer (a prayer in which the topics for prayer are introduced and then the prayer itself is offered) which is one of the most ancient prayers in the liturgy of the Western Church. It also contains the Reproaches which are the words of the Lord directed against his people, the Church. To this the congregation responds with a plea for mercy. The Passion of Our Lord according to St. John is read.

The **Vigil of Easter** on Holy Saturday is a celebration of the Resurrection of Our Lord and of our Baptism. The Vigil of Easter on Holy Saturday marks the final service of the Triduum – the three day service that leads up to Easter Sunday. Jesus remained buried in the tomb on Holy Saturday. The apostle Paul says in Romans 6:3-4 that when we were baptized, we were buried with Christ into death. Because of the connection between Holy Baptism and Christ's death, the early Church began the practice of baptizing new Christians on Holy Saturday. On this day when Christ was buried in the tomb, Christians were buried with Christ into His death through the waters of Holy Baptism. By at least the early third century A.D. Christians began observing the Vigil of Easter in connection with these baptisms (for more background on this see the post "The surprising history of Romans 6 and baptism in the early Church").

At the same time Holy Saturday stands on the verge of Easter Sunday and is celebrated as the first service of the resurrection. In the Jewish reckoning of time used in Jesus' day, a new day began at sunset. The church in its liturgy has adopted this as well, and therefore Saturday evening begins the celebration of Easter. Baptism on the evening of Holy Saturday reminded Christians that as Paul says in Romans 6:5, their own baptism provided the guarantee that they would also share in Christ's resurrection when He returns in glory on the Last Day.

The Vigil of Easter falls into six parts. In the Service of Light the Paschal Candle is lit and processes into the nave of the darkened church. Individual candles are then lit from the Paschal Candle. The light that pierces the darkness and emanates out among the people represents the resurrection of Jesus Christ that has pierced the darkness of death and brought the hope of resurrection and everlasting life to all who believe in Him.

In the Service of Readings we hear recounted God's saving acts in the Old Testament that prefigured and pointed forward to Christ's great victory that he shares with us through Holy Baptism. In the Service of Holy Baptism we hear Romans 6 read and then renew our baptismal vows. In the Service of Prayer we pray the Litany of the Resurrection which recounts our Lord's death and resurrection. In the Service of the Word the Easter Gospel is read and we hear the first news of our Lord's resurrection, which points us forward to the full and joyous celebration that will follow in the morning on Easter. Finally, in the Service of the Sacrament the risen Lord comes to us in His true body and blood as He gives us a share in His death and resurrection for the forgiveness of our sins.

Then, on Easter Sunday we will celebrate the Feast of the Resurrection of Our Lord. After observing His death *for us* and the means through which Christ gives us a share in that death, we will then rejoice in His resurrection from the dead and celebrate the fact that through His resurrection we have the assurance that He will raise us up on the Last Day.

Sometimes Christians want to focus on Easter and ignore those services leading up to Easter Sunday. However, we are only prepared to celebrate our Lord's resurrection if we have walked the way that led to Easter Sunday. Congregation members are encouraged to view the Triduum – Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday – as one service and attend it accordingly. The services on these three days will deepen our appreciation of our Lord's sacrifice during Holy Week and will strengthen us in the faith. Then, after observing these great events of the Great Week, we will celebrate the victory of our Lord's resurrection on Easter Sunday.

WOMEN IN MINISTRY L.W.M.L.

LADIES AID:
NO MEETING
See you in April



EVENING CIRCLE

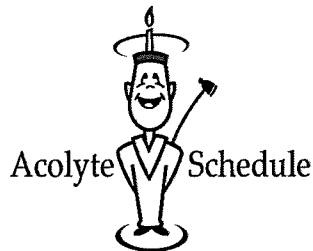
The Evening Circle will be meeting on Wednesday, March 3rd following the Midweek Lenten Services. We will be working on the confirmation banners



Daylight Savings time officially begins on March 14th this year. So remember to set your clock **AHEAD 1** hour when you retire on Saturday evening, March 13th

Thrivent Financial Members

If you have not designated your 2020 Thrivent Choice dollars, do it now! The March 31 deadline is fast approaching.



- 3rd; Danica Ehlers & Annalee Wittrock (Wed)
- 7th: Joey Peplinski & Jaxx Cleveland
- 10th: Alex Gallagher & Peyton Gallagher (Wed)
- 14th: Wade Ragaller & Hannah Dose
- 17th: Kendra Schuette & Anna Schuette (Wed)
- 21st Cody Bair & Cara Schuette
- 24th ???
- 28th: Devon Ehlers, Wyatt Ragaller & Ty Muhlbauer



Midweek Snack List

March 3	4 pm	Lydia Dose
March 10	4 pm	Alex Gallagher
March 17	4 pm	Connor Julin
March 24	4 pm	Jax Cleveland



A reception for our New Confirmads will be held on Wednesday, March 24th, following our Midweek Lenten Service. Everyone is invited to attend.



Midweek Lenten SCHEDULE

March 03	6:30 pm	Worship
March 10	6:30 pm	Worship
March 17	6:30 pm	Worship
March 24	6:30 pm	Worship
April 04	10:00 am	Palm Sunday/Rite of Confirmation
April 08	11:00 am	Maunday Thursday/HC
	6:30 pm	Maunday Thursday/HC
April 09	11:00 am	Good Friday Service
	6:30 pm	Good Friday Service
April 10	6:30 pm	Easter Vigil
April 11	7:00 am	Easter Service/HC

MARCH LIST OF DUTIES

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USHERS

Keith Vetter	Rick Vetter
Jeff Luetje	Kim Brockman
Gene Thiedeman	Michael Brockman
Mark Rickers	Rob Klink

CHANCEL DUTIES

PARISH DUTIES

Diane Witt-Jolene Stoelk

MARTHA CIRCLE

Cathy Meyer & Paulette Von Glan



Concordia Nebraska, A University with Values

Since 1894, Concordia University, located in Seward, Nebraska, has carried out its mission as an excellent academic and Christ-centered community equipping men and women for lives of learning, service and leadership in the church and world. It does this by delivering its *Promises of a Lutheran Education* – Community, Inquiry, Purpose, Wisdom – to every student, whether on the residential undergraduate campus, in graduate programs online, or in a dual credit course at Lutheran high schools throughout the nation and world.

What are these distinctly Lutheran *Promises*?

Community – An environment of grace freely given and received and guidance from Christ-centered mentors

Inquiry – An exploration of Biblical perspectives to bring meaning and understanding to the varied perspectives of the world, its inhabitants, and cultures

Purpose – A calling to fully develop God-given gifts and talents and gratefully utilize those talents in service to others

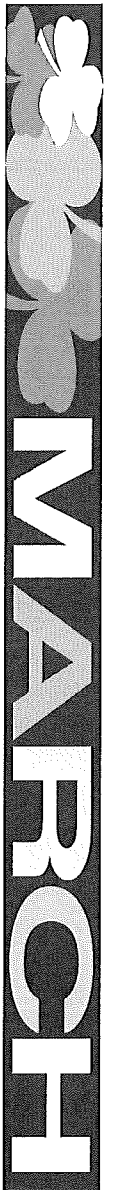
Wisdom – The capacity to apply skills and knowledge in harmony with faith and character and to navigate the intersection of faith and culture

With nearly 100 academic programs, Concordia is a highly regarded, comprehensive Midwest university that compares favorably to other public and private institutions. Long known for its education program, Concordia's largest majors today include that signature major as well as business administration, biology, and psychology. Its undergraduates are equipped to succeed, with 98% employed or enrolled in graduate school within six months of graduation. Its cost is competitive with public universities in the Midwest, with an average annual difference of less than \$2,250.

But it is the differences, starting with the *Promises*, that set Concordia apart. It is a campus of involvement, with nearly 90 percent of students participating in music ensembles, speech and drama, intercollegiate athletics, and student service organizations. It annually provides more full-time workers to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod than any other institution. It is one of a handful of Christian institutions in the nation that offers a bachelor's degree in agriculture. Firmly committed to its Christ-centered mission, 100% of faculty and staff are Christian and 90% of full-time faculty are Lutheran.

We believe these differences matter – to our students, to your family, to our congregations, to the world. We invite you to learn more at www.cune.edu.





MARCH

Birthdays & Anniversaries

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2 Lydia Dose Alex Gallagher Nicole Winey Mark & Jolene Stoelk	3 Susan Ehlers	4 Ryan Neumann Irene Stark Dale & Nicki Lenz	5 Kurt Branning	6 Megan Gehling Wyatt Neumann
7 Garrett Cleveland Merle Witt	8 Jeff Luetje Patty Vetter	9 Nick Bender	10 Jeff & Hollie Schmitz	11 Kvelar Cleveland Kris Kean Shane Kraus Dwight & Melissa Ehlers	12 Keith Kaspersen	13 Morgan Furrer
14 Timothy Dose	15	16 Kyle Liechti Chad Wittrock Jeff & Cheryl Vetter	17 Pat Branning Myra Luetje Karlie Muhlbauer Jim Vetter Matt & Lisa McNelly	18 Scott Muhlbauer Cheryl Vetter	19 Kash Riesberg Lee & Lajean Shiny	20
21 Cat Luetje Katelyn Wittrock Randy & Lisa Stoelk	22 Derrick Cornelius Edna Hansman Jane Vetter	23	24 Alyssia Giermann Jill Kasparbauer Andrew Skinner Gary & Shelli Lenz	25 Sharril Lawler Steve & Linda Mumm	26	27 Braydon Lay Danielle Nelson Keith & Jane Petersen
28 Heather Cornelius Maggie Ragaller Aaron & Sarah Petersen	29 Brooke Bass Connor Julin Scott & Stacie Muhlbauer	30 Tom Hoogestraat				



THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD

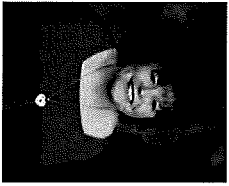
Partners in the Gospel

March 2021

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!

Encourage One Another



"Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing" (1 Thessalonians 5:11 NIV). Johann Wolfgang von Goethe is quoted, "Correction does much, but encouragement does more." Too often we look for reasons to criticize others instead of encourage them. St. Paul makes several references in his letters in the New Testament about the importance of encouraging one another. These God inspired words are important for us to be reminded of regularly. Not only do we recognize we need encouragement but we also need to remember to encourage others. People respond to encouragement! Take some time to reflect on who you could encourage. Who could you encourage **today**? How can you make giving encouragement to others a regular part of your week? In these challenging days, we especially should encourage one another with God's Word — where strength and encouragement abounds. When our focus is on what's not going right in our life, church, community, or our nation, it's easy to become discouraged and critical. On the contrary, our attitudes change when we are thankful, look for what is going right, and speak about it.

We pray. Dear God, forgive me when I favor criticism over encouragement. I need Your discernment to see how and when I can encourage others in a way that helps them grow. In Christ I pray. Amen.

Rhonda Mohr, Assistant to the President
rhonda@iowadistrictwest.org

Iowa Lutheran School Tuition Organization

Thank you again to all who donated to ILSTO this past year as we received \$715,265. While this is most wonderful it does fall short of our goal as well as short of the total need of students in our Lutheran schools. Now is the time to talk to your tax advisor about the advantages of an ILSTO donation. You will feel much better about writing a check to support students than one to the Department of Revenue. This year the STO program has the opportunity to increase the 15 million in tax credits by 10% for 2022 due to a new tax law, but all STOs must reach 90% of goal in 2021. Please help us add another \$100,000 to available funds so that more students may benefit from our program. For additional information, call Dewey Torkelson at 712-260-2991.

LCMS Life Conference

LCMS Life Ministry will host its first-ever virtual life conference March 19-20, under the theme "Making Disciples: Valuing Life." Registration is open now at www.lcms-life.org.

Join us!

- Be equipped to speak up for the sanctity of life within your community and our society
- Gain ideas on how to care for all human life
- Interact with fellow Lutherans on Life Ministry topics
- Be a part of the LCMS Life Ministry community

Dozens of experts in Life Ministry will present throughout the conference with multiple video presentations available for immediate on-demand viewing as soon as you login. Engage in live Question and Answer sessions with experts in Life Ministry.

Lutheran Heritage Foundation

Free Spanish Resources for Sharing the Gospel

Great news! The Lutheran Heritage Foundation (a recognized service organization of the LCMS) has a variety of FREE new resources available in the Spanish language, including *Luther's Small Catechism*, *The Bible with Small Catechism* (combined volume), *A Child's Garden of Bible Stories*, and "Jesus Never Fails" devotional tract. These materials are available to any LCMS church, mission or individual who wants to share the Good News with their Spanish-speaking neighbors. To order, send an email to info@LHFmissions.org or call the LHF office at (800) 554-0723.

Calendar of Events

March 28...Palm Sunday
April 10...Prayer Breakfast & Bible Study



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

Camp Okobojo



Spring & Summer Events

Discipleship Programs

- June 4-6.....Kids' Kamp
- June 10-13.....JOY Camp #1
- June 13-19.....Cub Week #1
- July 8-11.....JOY Camp #2
- July 11-17.....Junior High Week
- July 18-24.....Cub Week #2
- July 25-31.....Youth Week
- August 1-6.....Family Retreat #1
- August 8-13...Family Retreat #2

Other Events

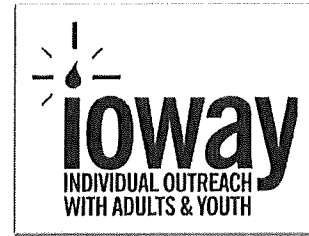
- April 10.....Annual Meeting
- April 16-17.....Higher Things Retreat
- April 30-May 2.....Volunteer Work Weekend
- June 13-19.....Girls' Sports Camp
- June 19.....Annual Quilt Auction
- June 20-26.....Camp Minneboji
- May 30-Sept. 5.....Sunday Morning Worship
- 1st Sundays Of The Month...Omelet Brunches!



For more information
and to register, visit
campokobojo.org

WHAT WOULD GOD HAVE ME DO?

As I write this, my thermometer registers -20 degrees as the actual temperature! Winter is in full force! I certainly do not like it, but I am warm and comfy in my home. However, I cannot help thinking about the homeless. How can they survive in these temperatures without a home? Truthfully, they cannot! Homeless shelters throughout the state must be stretched to the max both physically and financially as they offer assistance to those in need.



You cannot help everyone, but everyone can help someone! From the comfort of your warm home, there are many opportunities to help others. Three options in Iowa District West are:



Beacon of Hope Shelter for men at 1021 1st Avenue North, Fort Dodge www.beaconofhopeshelter.com They provide a Christ-centered shelter that specializes in mental health and addiction recovery, and in integrating men who were recently released from prison, but anyone is welcome. One way to help their 25 residents is to provide their evening meal at 5 PM. Meals can be very simple (maid rites, pizza, casseroles) or more involved, if you like. Coffeecake and baked goodies are welcome at any time. Meals can be dropped off at 5 PM, or anytime during the day. Contact Annette Howard at 515-302-4128 to discuss details. Current needs at the shelter include paper towels, Kleenex, toilet paper, paper cups and plates, coffee, hot chocolate and tea. Gift cards from Fareway, HyVee or Walmart are welcomed so the shelter can purchase needed items.

Lotus Community Project is a shelter for women at 2980 170th Street, Vincent, Iowa.



www.lotuscommunityproject.org Lotus is an emergency shelter and transitional housing outreach for women and children. They serve a six-county area. Last November, a thrift store was opened on Second Street in Webster City, Iowa to help raise funds to support the shelter. Consider donating items to this store to benefit the women and children at the shelter. Store hours are 11 AM-6 PM Monday through Friday, and 10 AM-4 PM on Saturday. Donations of furniture, home décor, men's clothes, bath towels, kitchen items and other housekeeping items are needed. Currently they have enough women's clothes. Please contact Ashley Vaala at 515-832-1026 with questions.



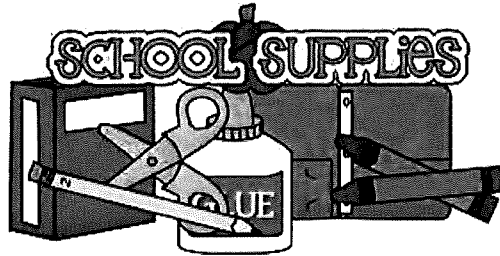
Hope Ministries in Des Moines

The following items are always needed to help Hope Ministries: toothpaste, high-efficiency laundry soap, toilet paper, paper towels, new washcloths, travel size shampoo, razors, deodorant, new underwear and socks for men. For additional information, please contact Terri Simmons at 515-265-7272 or www.hopeiowa.org

THANK YOU! Moulton Elementary School, Des Moines expressed their thanks for the 500+ beautiful quilts, pillows, hats, clothes, boots and over 500 new coats! I would love to share photos of the happy students, but it is best to not share on social media.

Moulton has 25 Classrooms, 6 Interventionists, 4 ELL Teachers, and 5 SPED Teachers. Currently, there is a need for the following school supplies at Moulton Elementary.

2500 notebooks single subject – wide ruled
2500 2-pocket folders – paper
2500 2-pocket folders – plastic
550 boxes of 24 Crayola crayons
550 boxes of Crayola markers
550 boxes of Crayola colored pencils
550 24 pack #2 pencils – Ticonderoga
550 packs glue sticks – Elmer’s preferred
550 packs of pink erasers
550 pencil pouches
550 pencil boxes
550 Composition notebooks – wide ruled
550 1.5” binders



Teacher Supplies

60 packs 5 Expo Dry Erase board markers
120 bottles of Expo Dry Erase board cleaner
550 mini erasers (Amazon)
550 mini dry erase boards (Amazon)
125 boxes gallon size Ziploc bags
125 boxes quart size Ziploc bags

Easel paper
Clear sheet protectors
Index cards
Post It notes
Kleenex
Hand sanitizer

Other

Student Backpacks and pens

Amazon: 550 Rockpapa Comfort+ Adjustable over ear headphones earphones with microphone in-line \$13.99



Items can be delivered or sent to: Moulton Elementary School
Attention: Audri Lu-Uhlken
1548 8th Street
Des Moines, IA 50314

OR Iowa District West, LCMS
409 Kenyon Road, Suite B
Fort Dodge, IA 50501

For additional information or options, please contact:

Ellie Menz
IOWAY Director / Disaster Response Coordinator
807 W. South, Jefferson IA 50129
ellie@iowadistrictwest.org 515-370-1159



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3 4:00 <i>Midweek</i> 6:30 <i>Lenten Serv</i> 7:00 <i>Evening Circ</i>	4	5	6
7 9:00 <i>Chr Ed</i> 10:00 <i>DW/HC</i>	8	9	10 4:00 <i>Midweek</i> 6:30 <i>Lenten Serv</i>	11	12	13
14 9:00 <i>Chr Ed</i> 10:00 <i>DW/HC</i> 11:00 <i>Council Meeting</i>	15	16 <i>Noon: Senior Meal</i>	17 4:00 <i>Midweek</i> 6:30 <i>Lenten Serv</i>	18	19	20
21 9:00 <i>Chr Ed</i> 10:00 <i>DW/HC</i>	22	23	24 4:00 <i>Midweek</i> 6:30 <i>Lenten Ser</i>	25	26	27
28 9:00 <i>Chr Ed</i> 10:00 <i>Palm Sunday</i> Rite of Confirmation	29	30	31	1 11:00 <i>MT/HC</i> 6:30 <i>MT/HC</i>	2 11:00 <i>Good Friday</i> 6:30 <i>Good Friday</i>	3 6:30 <i>Holy Saturday</i>

USHERS

Keith Vetter Rick Vetter
 Jeff Luetje Kim Brockman
 Mark Rickers Gene Thiedeman
 Rob Klink Michael Brockman

ACOLYTES

3/3 Danica Ehlers & Annalee Wittrock (Wed)
 3/7 Joey Peplinski & Jaxx Cleveland
 3/10 Alex Gallagher & Peyton Gallagher (Wed)
 3/14 Wade Ragaller & Hannah Dose

CHANCEL CIRCLE

PARISH CIRCLE
 Jolene Stoelk & Diane Witt

3/17 Kendra Schuette & Anna Schuette (Wed)
 3/21 Cody Bair & Cara Schuette
 3/24 ???
 3/28 (Palm Sunday) Devon Ehlers, Wyatt Ragaller & Ty Muhlbauer

MIDWEEK SNACK

3rd: Lydia Dose
 10th: Alex Gallagher
 17th: Conner Julin
 24th: Jax Cleveland

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

Non-Profit Organization
Arcadia, IA 51430
Standard Mail

FRIENDS WHO CARE

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

