

ZION PROCLAIMER

April 2021

"Dose of Wisdom"

"Ah, dear Christians, let us not value or treat this unspeakable gift so halfheartedly. For baptism is our only comfort and the doorway to all of God's possessions and to the communion of all the saints. To this end may God help us" writes Luther in his baptismal booklet appended to the second edition of the Small Catechism in 1529. By including his Taufbuechein of 1526 in the catechism, Luther accented not only the liturgical significance of baptism but also the value of this sacrament for the Christian life. Luther identifies baptism as the believer's "only comfort." It is this theme that will be examined in representative pastoral pieces in Luther's writings after the publication of the catechisms. The language of the catechisms on baptism shaped Luther's use of baptism for the consolation of Christians.

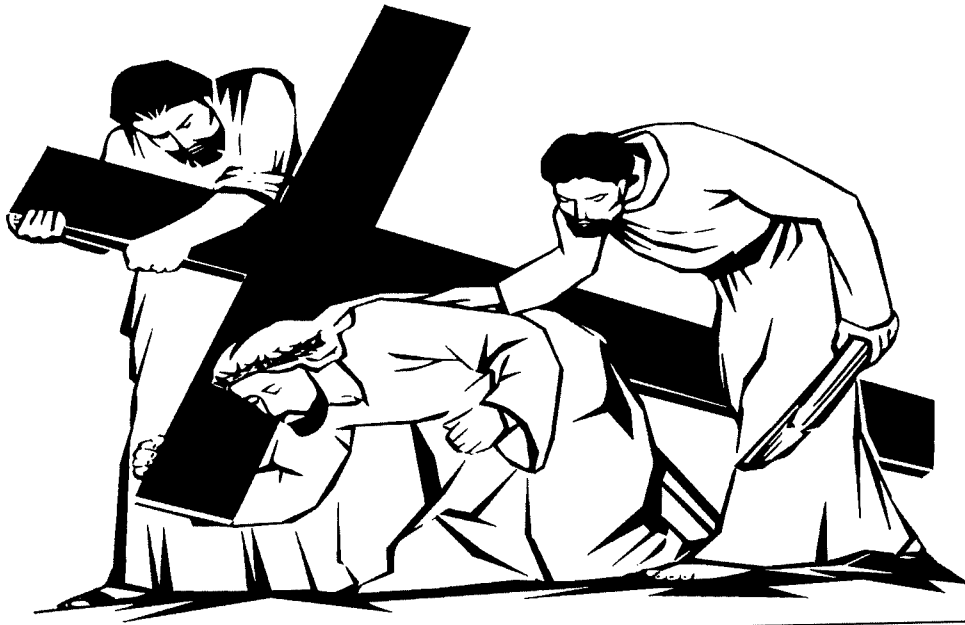
Christ is Risen! He is Risen indeed. It feels weird writing this on Tuesday of Holy Week. But even though we must go through Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday, we know Easter Sunday happens. So we can say anytime those words that give us comfort and hope. They give us comfort because in these words of resurrection, they remind us of our baptism! Baptism and Easter go hand in hand. They remind us of the eternal life Jesus won for us as He rose from the dead. Those benefits Jesus won for us are shared with us through Baptism, the Lord's Supper, and the Word of God, these three things are what we call the Means of Grace. They are the vehicles God uses to give His gifts to His children by faith.

Luther once comforted his mother who was gravely ill with the words of comfort, "you know the real basis and foundation of your salvation, on which you must rest your confidence in this and all troubles, namely Jesus Christ, the cornerstone, who will never waver or fail us, nor allow us to sink and perish, for he is the Saviour and he is called the Saviour of all poor sinners, of all who face tribulation and death, of all who rely on him and call on his name." And again he comforted John Ruehl, chancellor to Count Albert of Mansfeld and a relative of Luther by marriage who was ill with the promises of baptism, "The realization that you have been called by this Man, that you have been blessed by a knowledge, desire, and love for his Word, and that you have been sealed therein by his Baptism and Sacrament should surely make you more cheerful...Dear doctor, behold the good things you possess at his hands rather than what you suffer." Luther wanted to comfort people with assurances of Holy Baptism. I think we miss that today. Even though we all hold baptism near and dear to us, do we use it in our everyday lives like Luther pointed out to his mother and the chancellor. It is something we can continue to comfort us and help us each day of our lives.

We have these great words from Luther when the devil attacks us, Therefore, for Luther, urges those who are troubled by satanic assaults on faith to rely on baptism. Baptism is to be used as weaponry against Satan as he attacks the conscience: "Thus, we must regard baptism and put it to use in such a way that we may draw strength and comfort from it when our sins or conscience oppress us and say: 'But I am baptized! And if I have been baptized, I have the promise that I shall be saved and have eternal life, both in body and soul.'"²⁴ And again "Thus we see what a great and excellent thing baptism is, which snatches us from the jaws of the devil and makes us God's own, overcomes and takes away sin and daily strengthens the new person, and always endures and remains until we pass out of this misery into eternal glory."

So this season of Easter be comforted with words and promises of Christ in Holy Baptism!
Christ is Risen! He is Risen indeed! Alleluia!

Pastor Dose



HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Maunday Thursday

Thursday, April 01

11:00 am & 6:30 pm

Good Friday

Friday, April 02

11:00 am & 6:30 pm

Easter Vigil

Saturday, April 03

6:30 pm

Easter Service

Sunday, April 04

7:00 am

APRIL LIST OF DUTIES

USHERS

Doug Schuette
Dan Wittrock
Paul Ehlers
Merle Witt
Jeremy Ehlers

Ron Cornelius
Derrick Cornelius
Tyler Ehlers
Doug Ehlers

CHANCEL DUTIES

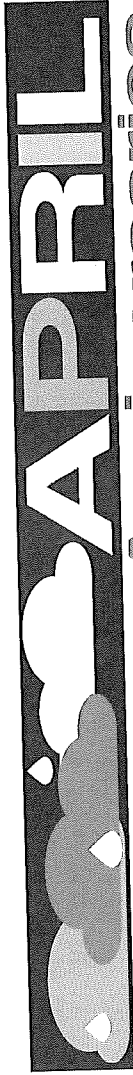
Dawn Luetje
Diane Witt

PARISH DUTIES

Dawn Luetje
Sara Skinner

MARTHA CIRCLE

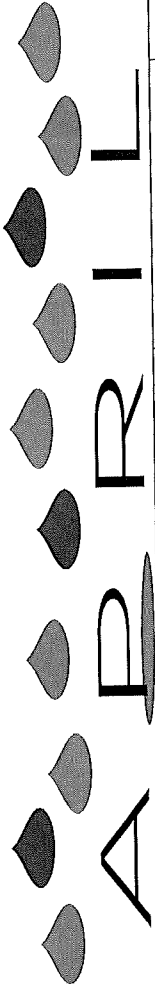
Betty Klink



APRIL

Birthdays & Anniversaries

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 Shirley Walde	2 Cassie Audino Shirley Bald Matt McNelly	3
4 Greg Hansman	5 Brandon Koch	6	7 Kaleb Riesberg	8	9	10 David Letting
11	12	13	14 Jaxson Cleveland Craig Nobiling Dawn Segebar Paul & Susan Ehlers	15 Donald Vetter	16 Jeff Vetter	17 Michael Bair Steve Mumm
18 Lisa McNelly Faith Neumann	19 Hillary Hagge Nicole Liechti Michael Rickers	20 Randy & Monica Neumann	21 Gene Liechti Denny & Sharon Maasen	22 Jacob & Kim Kraus	23 Jaggar Luetje Kendra Schuette	24 Kimberly Bauman Judy Gronau Macie Schrad
25 Kyler Bruch Jeremy & Magen Fineran	26	27 Rich Hanson Beth Wittrock Ron & Bonnie Cornelius Steve & Bonnie Schmitz	28 Makayla Schrad	29 Bob Erps	30 Jessica Gallagher Jeff Schmitz Doug & Alison Ehlers	



APRIL

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 11:00 Holy Thursday/HC 1:30 Ladies Aid 6:30 Holy Thursday/HC	2 11:00 Good Friday 6:30 Good Friday	3 6:30 Easter Vigil
4 7:00 Easter Service/HC	5	6	7 7:00 Evening Circle	8	9	10
11 9:00 Chr Ed 10:00 DW/HC 11:00 Voter's Meeting	12	13	14	15	16	17
18 9:00 Chr Ed 10:00 DW/HC.	19	20	21	22	23	24
25 9:00 Chr Ed 10:00 DW/HC	26	27	28	29	30	

USHERS

Doug Schuette
Ron Cornelius
Merle Witt

Dan Wittrock
Paul Ehlers
Derrick Cornelius

CHANCEL CIRCLE

Dawn Luefje & Diane Witt

PARISH CIRCLE

Dawn Luefje & Sara Skinner

ACOLYTES

4th: Lilly Julin, Abby Klink
Ty Muhlbauer

11th: Lydia Dose & Grant Wilken

18th: Danica Ehlers & Jacob Hanson

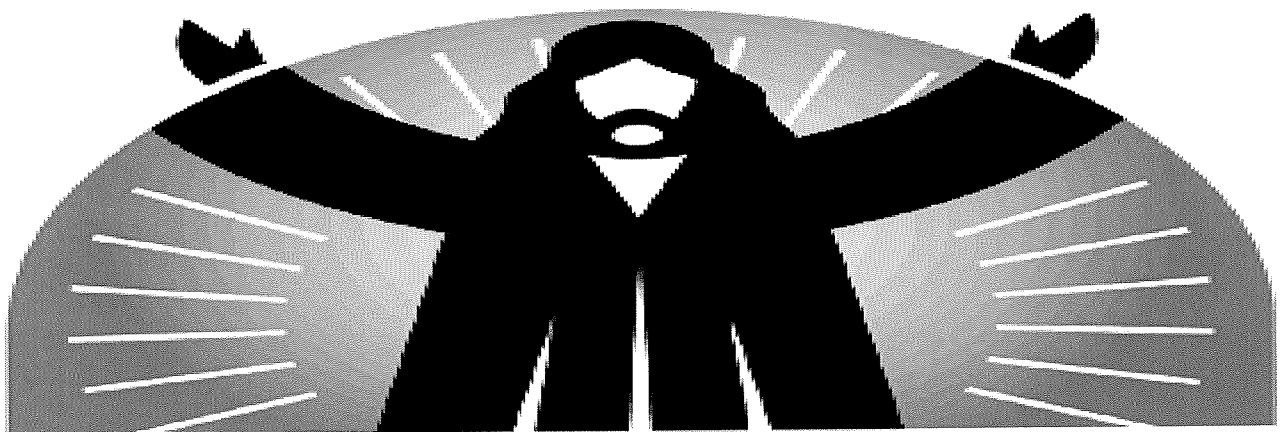
25th: Joey Peplinski & Annalee Wittrock

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

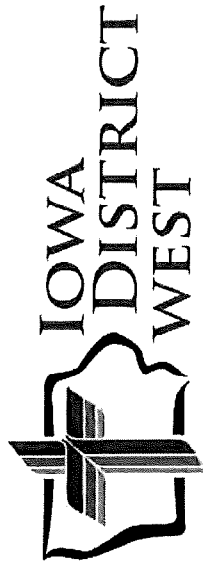
**Non Profit Organization
Arcadia, IA 51430
Standard mail**

FRIENDS WHO CARE

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



ALLELUIA!
He Is Risen!



THE LUTHERAN CHURCH-MISSOURI SYNOD

Partners in the Gospel

April 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!

THERE IS SUCH "JOY" IN GOD'S CALLING!



What a JOY and blessing to see how the Lord is still "calling" HIS people at just the right time. In the past three weeks, we have again seen the Lord's hand of blessing here at Mission Central. God recently "called" two new missionary families to go to lands of darkness. We have had the privilege of interviewing and training these families. The Rev. Christian Tiews Family is going to one of the darkest countries in all of Europe, Germany. The Rev. Paul Nelson Family will be going to the most Muslim country in the world, Indonesia.

Germany now has over 3,000 mosques and over 5 million Muslim people living there and on Sunday less than 2% of the people are in church, and Indonesia is over 90% Muslim. What a great and JOYFUL opportunity to bring the light of Jesus to these dear people!

God does still call people at "just the right time!" We have the privilege of helping to send these new missionaries who will share the message of JOY and hope with these people in total darkness! SO MUCH JOY!

Please pray for these two missionary families, that God will give them the spirit of JOY in their "calling" and that the Lord will bring the right people at just the right time to them! If we can't go to these lands of darkness, we should be filled with JOY in praying for them and supporting them!

Gary Thies, Mission Development Counselor
gary.thies@lcms.org

Iowa Lutheran School Tuition Organization

Through a donation to ILSTO you can 1) Reduce your Iowa tax bill; and 2) Fund Tuition Assistance at our Iowa LCMS schools. In 2020, ILSTO awarded \$467,318 in tuition assistance. In April, we hope to award \$750,000 for 2021-22 school year. With your help, we could reach close to \$1 million for the following year. You may donate cash, appreciated stock, grain, or RMD before December 31. You may also direct Thrivent Choice Dollars with no tax consequences. Now is the time to check with your tax advisor to see how this can affect your taxes and help our Lutheran school families with financial assistance. For more information check out our new webpage at iowalutheranststo.com or call Dewey Torkelson at 712-260-2991.

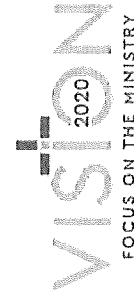
DISTRICT EDUCATION CONFERENCES—2021

Iowa Early Childhood Conference

August 6

Theme: Masterpiece in the Making

Location: Gloria Dei, Urbandale



Iowa Lutheran Teachers Conference

October 21-22

Theme: VISION 2020 Focus on the Ministry

Location: Sheraton, West Des Moines

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

April 2... Good Friday, District Office Closed

April 4... Easter 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 Okoboji



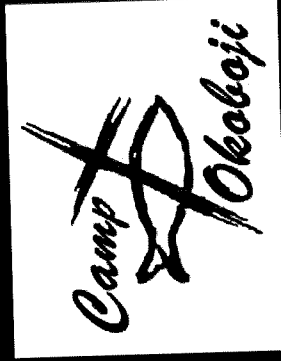
Spring & Summer Events

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
campokoboji.org



GOD IS STILL "CALLING" HIS PEOPLE TO GO AND BRING PEOPLE OUT OF DARKNESS...EVEN IN GERMANY!

What a blessing and a real MIRACLE to have one of our newest missionary families visit the world-famous Mission Central! On March 6, 2021 we completed a full day session of orientation, training and interviews with the Honorable Missionaries Rev. Christian Tiews, his wife Lula, and their daughters Lillian and Mariam.

These NEW missionaries drove all the way from Tulsa, Oklahoma to visit Mission Central! This family has a call to one of the darkest countries in Europe....GERMANY! Yes, this county finds on Sunday morning that less than 2% of their people are attending church services there! Germany now has over 3000 Mosques and over 5 million Muslim people living there.



The Lutheran Church of Germany is actually "begging" our church to send missionaries to help with their outreach to the people in darkness. The Tiews family is fluent in German, as BOTH Christian and Lula were born and raised in Germany.

Now, God is calling these dear folks to their "fatherland." It was a blessing to pray for them and send the off to their calling! The Tiews family is pictured with the NOT NORMAL people who came to pray for them. It was a day we will long remember!

AMAZING "NOT NORMAL" PEOPLE FROM ST. PAUL LUTHERAN IN CARROLL, IOWA VISIT MISSION CENTRAL!

Here we go again! Yes, a lot of NOT NORMAL people come to this place in the middle of nowhere! On Saturday, March 6, 2021 we welcomed a wonderful group of NOT NORMAL people to Mission Central.

The mission minded members of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Carroll, Iowa came for a morning visit to see firsthand the NEW MISSIONARIES that God has called to go to Germany! Rev. Christian Tiews, his wife Lula, and their children Lillian and Miriam were here to give a program on their new calling and tell of their background being born and raised in Germany, which is now a land of great darkness.

A number of these special people had never seen the Lord's Creation Theater! As an added agenda item, these folks had the opportunity to hear what God did on the 6th day of Creation! This NOT NORMAL group gathered for a special showing in the theater! What a blessing to welcome these dear friends!



CIA Mission

Several months ago, I shared an article in The Messenger on how IOWAY had reinvented the Pony Express system. Now, for Pony Express, part 2. The following Pony Express adventure started with a phone call from Rosa Lee Enderton of First English Lutheran Church in Spencer. She asked if I knew a group or individuals who would be interested in lots of yarn. “How much yarn?” I asked.

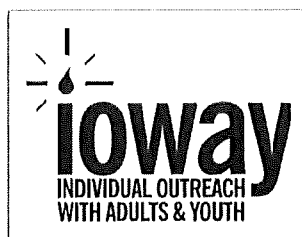
Thirteen large garbage bags full of new yarn was the answer! Rosa shared that her sister in Plainview, Nebraska, had recently gone to heaven at age 62 following a brain tumor surgery. Her sister, Laurie Begay, had a stockpile of yarn since she made hundreds of hats, scarves and mittens and donated them to various organizations. I contacted Jo Reaman, member of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Webster City, and asked if she was interested in thirteen bags of yarn. Jo laughed and said, “Sure, we can use it!”

After several phone calls, the Pony Express journey was set with highway 20 as the route. Rosa Lee Enderton traveled to Plainview, Nebraska, which is on highway 20, to pack and load the yarn into her pickup. The next stop was the Iowa District West office in Fort Dodge. I met her, along with Steve Doering and Rich Seiser, members of St. Paul Lutheran, Webster City. We transferred the yarn to their pick-up and the yarn continued its journey on highway 20 to Webster City where it will be mixed with a lot of love by the CIA and donated to people throughout the state and beyond.



Rich Seiser Rosa Lee Enderton Steve Doering

Wait, how did the CIA get into this story? CIA (Christians In Action) is an amazing group of St. Paul members who make hundreds of items each year for missions. The CIA group is headed by Shirley Bowman and Jo Reaman. This group uses gifts of yarn to knit hats for the homeless and anyone in need. Some yarn is purchased through Thrivent Action Dollars, and some is donated or purchased by St. Paul members. Since January 2021, 541 hats have been donated to the IOWAY outreach for children at Moulton Elementary School in Des Moines.



Additional hats have been given to their local schools in Webster City and to their St. Paul Food Pantry. Three hundred of these hats were a labor of love made by a mission-minded, 93-year-young couple, Dr. E.F. Brown and his wife, Leora. They moved to Webster City in 1955. Dr. Brown was one of the organists for 40 years and the choir director for 50 years. Leora has served at the church in many capacities, and she has always had a heart for the work of the LWML (Lutheran Women's Missionary League).



Dr. E.F. and Leora Brown

In addition to the over 500 hats the CIA knit each year, they made over 50 fleece blankets. Shirley Bowman has personally made 100 pillowcase dresses!



The CIA members also keep the bandages “rolling.” White sheets are torn into strips and rolled for bandages that are donated to Global Health Ministries for use in underdeveloped countries. Rich Seiser has made approximately 140 wooden bandage rollers. I have had the opportunity to distribute many of the bandage rollers to various groups/churches resulting in thousands of rolled bandages.

The CIA had a concern of how to continue this outreach after exhausting the supply of white sheets from members and friends. God always provides! Joe and Charlotte Sherman, St. Paul members, helped supply the need. When traveling, they inquire at each motel as they check-in and ask if they have any discarded white bedsheets. There were times when they returned to Webster City with half a trunk full of sheets. In January and February 2021, the CIA made 2,971 bandages. The group usually meets once a week, but during the past year, many members rolled bandages and made hats in their homes.

If you are interested in receiving free bandage rollers, please contact me.

Ellie Menz
IOWAY Director / Disaster Response Coordinator
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ellie@iowadistrictwest.org 515-370-1159