



ZION PROCLAIMER

December 2021

"DOSE OF WISDOM"

Can you believe it? We are to Advent and Christmas already! It's this time of year that explodes with joyful anticipation and waiting for the Messiah to be born in Bethlehem. With all the busyness of the season, it is good we take some time to reflect listening to our Lord's word and receiving His gifts. This year our midweek Advent and Christmas Service theme is *Symbols of Salvation: Foretelling Christ's Birth*. We'll focus a lot of the time in the Old Testament—see below. Come and join us for Midweek Advent Services at 6:30 on Wednesdays in December the 1st, 8th, 15th, but *not the 22nd*. Also join us for the Sunday School Christmas **SERVICE** (not program) at 5:00 on Christmas Eve, the late service at 10:00 pm, then Christmas morning at 9:00 and December 26th and January 2nd at 10:00 but no Sunday school or Bible class either Sunday morning prior. Come and join us in the celebration this Advent and Christmas season.

God's Blessings,
Pastor Dose

SYMBOLS OF SALVATION: FORETELLING CHRIST'S BIRTH

Ordinarily, when we think of Old Testament prophecies of the birth of Christ, we have in mind specific verses such as, "The virgin shall conceive and bear a son" (Isaiah 7:14); "Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given" (Isaiah 9:6); and "From you [O Bethlehem] shall come forth for Me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose coming forth is from of old, from ancient days" (Micah 5:2). These direct prophecies point clearly to the coming of Jesus as the Savior Messiah.

But in addition to these wonderful verses, Jesus teaches us that, in fact, the entire Old Testament prophecies about Him—"And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, [Jesus] interpreted to them *in all the Scriptures* the things concerning *Himself*" (Luke 24:27, emphasis added). "For to this day, when they read the old covenant, that same veil remains unlifted, *because only through Christ is it taken away*" (2 Corinthians 3:14, emphasis added). "You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; *and it is they that bear witness about Me*" (John 5:39, emphasis added). All of the Bible is about Jesus. From the very beginning of creation, the ways God interacts with His people give us living symbols that foreshadow and foretell Jesus' advent among us in the flesh. As the hymn puts it,

For deep in prophets' sacred page,
And grand in poets' winged word,
Slowly in type, from age to age
The nations saw their coming Lord. (*LSB* 810:2)

The various "types" in the Old Testament point to a complete fulfillment in Jesus. He is the perfect Israel and the culmination of its divinely given institutions. He is the embodiment of the Scriptures, for "the Word became flesh and dwelt among us" (John 1:14). The Old Testament is not just a historical record; it was and continues to be the active, Spirit-filled Word of God that proclaims Christ to us.

The Advent sermons in this series focus on three particular Old Testament narratives that serve as symbols of Jesus' coming to share in our humanity: the burning bush, the cloud in the tabernacle, and the call of Gideon. The Christmas sermon then focuses on how the narrative of Jesus' birth is no fairy tale but a true story that

also foretells the purpose of Jesus' incarnation. Jesus takes on our flesh so that He might die in the flesh for our sins and be raised bodily for our justification (Romans 4:25). All of Scripture finds its culmination and fulfillment in Him. May God the Father, by the power of the Holy Spirit, bless our meditation this season on Him who is the Word made flesh!



Wednesday	Dec 01	6:30	Midweek Advent Service
Wednesday	Dec 08	6:30	Midweek Advent Service
Wednesday	Dec 15	6:30	Midweek Advent Service
Friday	Dec 24	5:00:	Sunday School Children's Service
	Dec 24	10:00	Candlelight Service/HC
Saturday	Dec 25	9:00	Christmas Day Worship/HC
Sunday	Dec 26	10:00	Divine Worship/HC
Sunday	Jan 02	10:00	Divine Worship/HC

(No Sunday School or Bible Classes on 12/26 & 1/2)

December Duties

USHERS

Doug Schuette	Ron Cornelius
Dan Wittrock	Doug Ehlers
Jeremy Ehlers	Paul Ehlers
Merle Witt	Derrick Cornelius

CHANCEL CIRCLE

Carm Thiedeman & Melissa Ehlers & Diane Witt

MIDWEEK SERVERS

1st: Abby Klink
8th Madison Stork
15th Wyatt Ragaller
22nd Watching the Nativity

ACOLYTES

5th: Lilly Julin & Connor Julin
12th: Payton Gallagher & Lynn Hensel
19th: Jacob Hansen & Laynie Muhlbauer
26th: Annalee Wittrock & Marissa Schrad

Movie snack provided



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Wednesday	Dec 08	6:30	Midweek Advent Service
Wednesday	Dec 15	6:30	Midweek Advent Service
Friday	Dec 24	5:00 pm	Children's Service
		10:00 pm	Candlelight Service/HC
Saturday	Dec 25	9:00 am	Christmas Day Service/HC

Christmas Worship Schedule

At 11 am daily, Pastor will have Advent Devotions that will be live streamed. All of the Advent and Christmas Services will also be live streamed.



Decorating Party

On Wednesday, December 1st we will be decorating the church for the Christmas season. We will start at 3:45 pm. You can come at any time to help



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION



*Sunday
School
Program*

Our Sunday School will again be sharing the joyous message of our Lord's birth through a special Worship Service on Christmas Eve at 5:00 pm.

Christmas program practices will be held on Sunday mornings from 9:00-9:45 am (during our Sunday School Time) The Christmas Eve service will be at 5:00 pm. We are requesting all children to be at church by 4:45 pm.

The Sunday School staff would like to wish all our students and there families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year as be celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ.



THANKS FOR GIVING

We would like to say Thank You to everyone who helped in any way with the Annual Harvest Supper on October 30th Without everyone's help with donating food, money, time and work, we would not be able to pull off such an event.

In looking back our first Harvest Supper was held on October 19, 1991. After expenses we profited \$5,500

Also thanks for all the donations for the Food ingathering that was held on November 14-21st All items were taken to New Opportunities in Carroll.

HOPE
PEACE
Love Joy



Remember My Birthday?

As you well know, we are getting closer to my birthday. Every year there is a celebration in my honor and I think that this year the celebration will be repeated. During this time there are many people shopping for gifts, there are many radio announcements, TV commercials, and in every part of the world everyone is talking that my birthday is getting closer and closer. It is really very nice to know, that at least once a year, some people think of me

As you know, the celebration of my birthday began many years ago. At first people seemed to understand and be thankful of all that I did for them, but in these times, no one seems to know the reason for the celebration. Family and friends get together and have a lot of fun, but they don't know the meaning of the celebration.

I remember that last year there was a great feast in my honor. The dinner table was full of delicious foods, pastries, fruits, assorted nuts and chocolates. The decorations were exquisite and there were many, many beautifully wrapped gifts. But, do you want to know something? I wasn't invited. I was the guest of honor and they didn't remember to send me an invitation.

The party was for me, but when that great day came, I was left outside, they closed the door in my face..... and I wanted to be with them and share their table. In truth, that didn't surprise me because in the last few years all close their doors to me.

Since I was not invited, I decided to enter the party without making any noise. I went in and stood in a corner. They were all drinking; there were some who were drunk and telling jokes and laughing at everything. They were having a great time.

To top it all, this big fat man all dressed in red wearing a long white beard entered the room yelling Ho-Ho-Ho! He seemed drunk. He sat on the sofa and all the children ran to him, saying : "Santa Claus, Santa Claus"... as if the party were in his honor ! At 12 midnight all the people began to hug each other; I extended my arms waiting for someone to hug me and do you know no one hugged me.

Suddenly they all began to share gifts. They opened them one by one with great expectation. When all had been opened, I looked to see if, maybe, there was one for me. What would you feel if on your birthday everybody shared gifts and you did not get one ? I then understood that I was unwanted at that party and quietly left. Every year it gets worse. People only remember to eat and drink, the gifts, the parties and nobody remembers me.

I would like this Christmas that you allow me to enter into your life. I would like that you recognize the fact that almost two thousand years ago I came to this world to give my life for you, on the cross, to save you. Today I only want that you believe this with all you heart. I want to



share something with you. As many didn't invite me to their party, I will have my own celebration, a grandiose party that no one has ever imagined, a spectacular party.

I'm still making the final arrangements. Today I am sending out many invitations and there is an invitation for you. I want to know if you wish to attend and I will make a reservation for you and write your name with golden letters in my great guest book. Only those on the guest list will be invited to the party. Those who don't answer the invitation, will be left outside.

Do you know how you can answer this invitation? it is by extending it to others whom you care for... I'll be waiting for all of you to attend my party this year... See you soonI love you !

- Jesus

DON'T
FORGET
THE



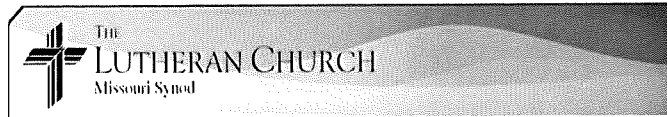
There will NOT be a January newsletter due to the Annual report.

The Annual Voters Meeting will be held on Sunday January 9th following worship service

Offering Envelopes



The 2022 Offering Envelopes will be available for pickup during the later part of the month of December. Please stop by the table in the entry way to pick yours up. If you cannot locate yours, please let the office know.



The Lutheran Hour may be heard on Sundays on the following radio stations in our area: KAYL, 990 AM, Storm Lake, 10 am; KDSN, 107.1 FM, Denison, 6:30 am; KDSN, 1530 AM, Denison, 10:30 am; WHO 1040 AM, Des Moines, 7:30 a.m. Also available 24 hours/day on the Internet @ www.lutheranhour.org

December 5 "Because We Belong"

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

The world tells us we must be useful in order to belong, but that's now how God sees us. (Luke 1:5-25)

December 12 "When You're Expecting"

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

The season of Advent is about living in the middle of a story that is still unfolding, between what is already and what is yet to come. (Luke 1:20-80)

December 19 "Charlie Brown Christmas Tree"

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

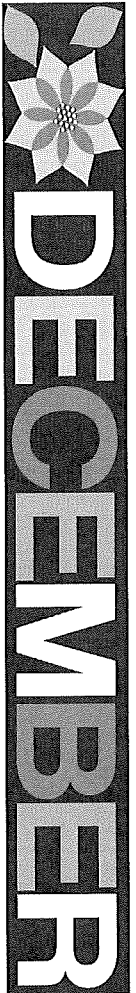
The drama surrounding the first airing of "The Charlie Brown Christmas Special" 56 years ago, against all odds, it gave viewers the true story of Christmas and doomed aluminum Christmas trees to near extinction. (Luke 2:1-15)

December 26 "Rite of Passage"

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

(Luke 2:21-40)





DECEMBER

Birthdays & Anniversaries

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 <i>Tammy Leiting</i>	2 <i>Doug Hansman Brooks Ruhland Diane Schroeder</i>	3	4 <i>Pam Kock</i>
5 <i>Joey Peplinski Mark & Kristi Hoffman</i>	6 <i>Abby Klink Randy Neumann Katie Schurke Rachel Winey</i>	7	8 <i>Landon Kraus</i>	9 <i>Bret Himmers Madison Stork</i>	10 <i>Bonnie Cornelius</i>	11 <i>Bernice Vetter</i>
12 <i>Melissa Ehlers</i>	13 <i>Andrew Gallagher Eliza Wittrock Sutton Wittrock</i>	14 <i>Cameron Schmitz Jeff Segebart</i>	15 <i>Rylee Kramer Marjean Lipton</i>	16 <i>Jordan Hanson Danielle Schrad</i>	17	18 <i>Ron Cleveland</i>
19 <i>Hensley Hagee Gene Thiedeman</i>	20 <i>Wade Ragaller Chad & Shawna Wittrock</i>	21	22	23 <i>Cale Dirks</i>	24 <i>Kyle Lenz Janet Rose</i>	25 <i>Cooper Anderson</i>
26 <i>Gary Vetter</i>	27	28 <i>Brynlee Bass Keely Kramer Mark & Denise Ragaller</i>	29 <i>Justin Hunter Terry Koch Al Mumm</i>	30	31 <i>Leigh Thiedeman</i>	



1531 Edgewood Drive
Milford, IA 51351
712-337-3325
info@campokoboji.org

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

VISION: Refreshing Body & Spirit

VALUES: Gospel, Safety, Excellence, Wellness, Stewardship, Legacy

GIVING TUESDAY

NOVEMBER 29 & 30, 2021

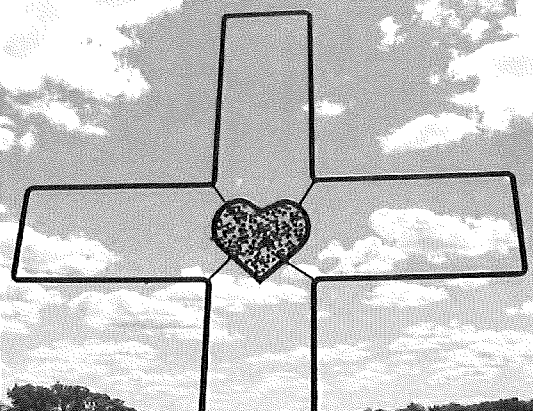
Camp Okoboji has been blessed with a \$12,000 matching donation by a friend of Camp! This November 29 & 30, every \$2 donated to Camp Okoboji will receive a \$1 match, up to \$12,000.

Help support Camp Okoboji's goal in building up youth & household discipleship – plan to donate to Camp Okoboji this Giving Tuesday!

To learn more, visit campokoboji.org/giving-tuesday.php

DAY OF LEGACY GIVING TUESDAY

NOVEMBER 29 & 30



WINTER EVENTS

Family Ice Fishing Retreat

January 28-30, 2022

This Ice Fishing Retreat is for all families of all ages and is for anyone who loves to fish or wants to learn! Expect good food, good fellowship, and good fishing for this weekend retreat.

Pastor Ben Dose of Zion – Arcadia & Pastor Jim Stogdill of Messiah – Johnston will be our Bible Study leaders. Looking forward to seeing you at the (FROZEN) lake!





Winter Games Family Funfest Saturday, January 29, 2022

Join us for some Family Winter Fun during the University of Okoboji Winter Games. More details will be coming soon, so be sure to be watching our website, Facebook Page & Instagram Profile! See you for some fun in the snow!

CAMP OKOBOJI SUMMER 2022

Discipleship Programs

June 3-5.....Kids' Kamp
June 9-12.....JOY Camp 40th Anniversary
June 12-15.....Cub Week #1
June 30.....Open House / VBS
July 3-8.....July 4 Family Retreat
July 10-16.....Junior High Week
July 17-23.....Cub Week #2
July 24-30.....Youth Week (High School)
July 31-Aug. 5...Family Retreat #1
August 7-12.....Family Retreat #2

Other Events

January 28-30.....Family Ice Fishing Retreat
Weekends Of Jan.-March....Traveling Lock-In!
May 6-8.....Volunteer Work Weekend
June 16-18.....LWML IWD Convention
June 19-25.....Minneboji Lutheran Camp
June 26-28.....Iowa District West Convention
August 5-7.....Hispanic Family Retreat
May 30-Sept. 5.....Sunday Morning Worship
1st Sundays of the Month...Omelet Brunches!

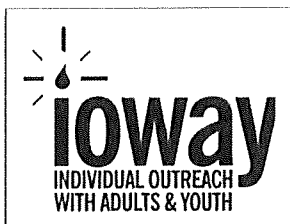


For more information
and to register, visit
campokoboji.org

REGISTRATION OPENS DECEMBER 15!

Give the Gift of Camp!

From December 15 (12:00am) -January 15 (11:59pm), all summer registrations have the 20% Christmas Rate Discount!



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

Praising God for IOWAY

Happy smiles, renewed friendships, and delicious food were on the menu for the 2021 IOWAY Banquet. It was a night of celebrating the great things God has and is doing through IOWAY.



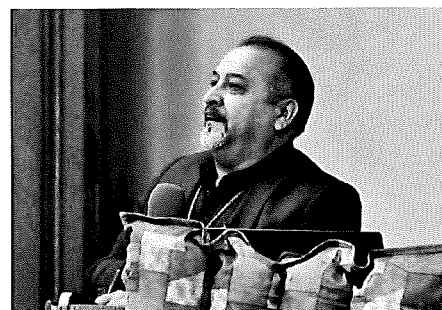
Eighty-five people enjoyed a delicious meal by Feed Shed Catering from Moorland, Iowa, compliments of Carole White, LCEF (Lutheran Church Extension Fund). Following the meal, there were three presenters and numerous thank yous to the many volunteers who honor God by serving others.

Audri LuUhlken thanked Iowa District West members for all the amazing donations received for the 530 students at Moulton Elementary School in Des Moines.



Ashley Vaala, director of Lotus Community Project (women's shelter) north of Fort Dodge in the former St. John Lutheran Church of Vincent, shared her journey of drug addiction and homelessness which led her to start the Lotus Project to house homeless women and children.

Pastor Pedro Lopez, Hispanic Ministry for Iowa District West in the Storm Lake and Denison areas, shared the need for the Gospel of Christ to reach our Hispanic population.



Pastor Aaron Zimmermann, Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Farnhamville and Immanuel Lutheran Church, Pomeroy, shared an outreach called *Swaddling Clothes* they recently started. It provides diapers, clothes, and items needed for infants.

Through IOWAY, we were able to help meet some of the needs of the following: Moulton Elementary School, Des Moines; Capitol View Elementary School, Des Moines; Takin' It To The Streets homeless outreach in Council Bluffs; Beacon of Hope Men's Shelter in Fort Dodge; Lotus Community Project Women's Shelter near Fort Dodge; Crossroads of Crawford County/prolife center; Haiti earthquake relief; and Hurricane Ida relief efforts in Metairie, Louisiana.

Making knit hats may not seem like a big deal, but the Farnhamville "Hat Makers" Frank Morgan made over 1,000 hats and Larry Hicks made 1,400 infant hats in a year, that is a big deal to the 2,400 people who receive them! Members of Emmanuel Lutheran, Lake View made over 400 hats. The CIA (Christians in Action) from St. Paul Lutheran Church in Webster City made over 2,000. Betty Nobiling, Carroll, made 900 in the past two years. And the list goes on and on as many more people were involved in making beautiful hats.

There is a need for many infant/newborn hats for Global Health Ministries in Minneapolis. They in turn send the infant hats throughout the world along with other items.

Something seemingly unimportant, like worn-out bedsheets, become very important when many people rip them into strips and roll them into bandages. Over 10,000 bandages have been made and given to Global Health Ministries to distribute to many impoverished areas where there is a need. The majority of the bandages were made by the CIA group from Webster City.

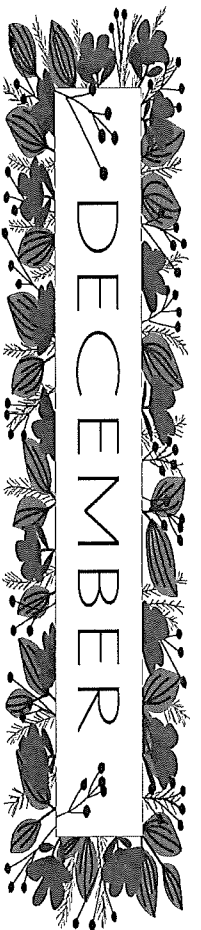
Scraps of material have become part of over 900 quilts that have been made and distributed through IOWAY in Iowa District West. The TLC Quilters of Trinity Lutheran Church in Algona made 600 quilts. If you have and/or wish to collect bedsheets for the TLC Quilters, they are in need of flat, any size, any color bedsheets. Contact me for Barb Bitterman's phone number if you have sheets to donate. Roy Hutchison of Algona has made 70 body pillows for homeless and near homeless youth in Des Moines!

What can a colored plastic bead do to share the love of Jesus? Seven colored beads on a leather strip and a card explaining what Jesus did for our salvation is very simple but powerful. Mary Reed, St. Paul Lutheran Church, Boone has made 140,000 witness bracelets in the past 15 years that have been distributed throughout Iowa District West and beyond.

In the past 20 years, IOWAY has become like a huge oak tree with lots of branches. At the banquet, we were able to celebrate some of the branches. Time did not allow to highlight many of the things each of you have done. Thank you to everyone who has been involved in donating time and/or money.

At this writing, members and churches of Iowa District West have donated \$9,000 for Haiti relief and over \$13,000 for Hurricane Ida relief! God uses the gifts, talents, skills, and enthusiasm of many volunteers to make a difference in their lives and in the lives of others.

Please contact me for additional information on any of the above listed outreaches. Also, please request an amazing booklet stuffed with 100 outreach ideas for your family and/or church groups.



DECEMBER

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 4:00 Midweek 6:30 midweek <i>Advent Service</i>	2 12:00 Ladies Aid Christmas Dinner	3	4
5 9:00 Chr Ed 10:00 DW/HC	6 6:00 Evening Circle Christmas Party	7	8 4:00 Midweek 6:30 Midweek <i>Advent Worship</i> 7:00 Council	9	10	11
12 9:00 Chr Ed 10:00 DW/HC	13	14	15 4:00 Midweek 6:30 Midweek <i>Advent Worship</i>	16	17	18
19 9:00 Chr Ed 10:00 DW/HC	20	21	22 4:00 Midweek	23	24 5:00 Children's Service 10:00 Candlelight Service/HC	25 9:00 Christmas Day Service/HC
26 10:00 DW/HC	27	28	29	29	31	

USHERS

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 Doug Ehlers Jeremy Ehlers
 Paul Ehlers Merle Witt
 Ron Cornelius

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Carm Thiedeman
 Diane Witt & Melissa Ehlers

PARISH CIRCLE

Deb Owen

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12/1/ Abby Klink
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ACOLYTES:

5th: Lilly Julin & Connor Julin
 12th Payton Gallagher & Lynn Hensel

19th Jacob Hanson & Laynie Muhlbauer
 26th: Annalee Wittrock & Jax Cleveland

Zion Lutheran Church
118 W Tracy St
Box 59
Arcadia, IA 51430
712/689/2441
Zionluth@netins.net

Non-Profit Organization
Arcadia, IA 51430
Standard mail

FRIENDS WHO CARE

<i>Christian Education</i>	<i>9:00 am</i>
<i>Divine Worship</i>	<i>10:00 am</i>
<i>Christmas Eve—Sunday School Program</i>	
	<i>3:00 pm & 5:00 pm</i>
<i>Christmas Eve Candle Light /HC</i>	<i>9:00 pm</i>
<i>Christmas Day</i>	<i>9:00 am</i>

