

"A Noble Note"

The Season of Lent: A Season of Focus

By the time you read this article, we will have already entered into the season of Lent. And even though the season has already started, it's never too late to join in. The purpose of Lent is to prepare our hearts and minds for the holy sufferings and death of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. This strong focus leads us from the guilt of our sins to the hope and joy of Jesus' accomplishments on the cross. This season's main purpose is to keep the focus of our lives of faith on Jesus, and to learn more of who He is and what He has done for us, for our salvation, and for our lives.

There is a very simple, yet powerful hymn that perfectly sums this up, "On My Heart Imprint Your Image" LSB 422). Included is the whole hymn:

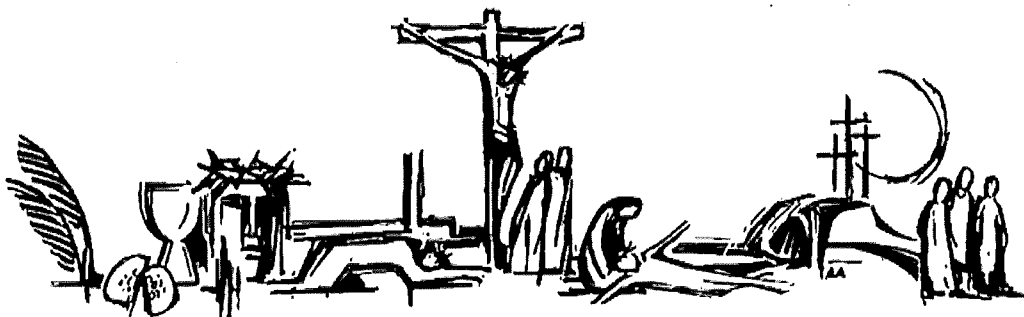
*On my heart imprint Your image,
Blessed Jesus, King of grace,
That life's riches, cares, and pleasures
Never may Your work erase;
Let the clear inscription be:
Jesus, crucified for me,
Is my life, my hope's foundation,
And my glory and salvation!*

That is our goal during this Lenten season and that is why we increase our time in God's word, in prayer, and in worship. We strive for Jesus' image to be imprinted upon our hearts! We long to never forget the clear Gospel message that Jesus was crucified, died, and rose again for us. The goal of this season is to mimic John the Baptist's declaration that Jesus must increase within us (John 3:30).

The observance of Lent has a sacred purpose and it can be of great benefit for us all. As we use this time to keep our focus on Jesus, on His Word and life and death and resurrection, we are reminded of the great depth of God's love revealed for us in Jesus.

May God richly bless you this Lenten season, so that together we may come to Easter Sunday with glad hearts and continue to keep our focus on Christ.

In His Service,
Pastor Andy Noble



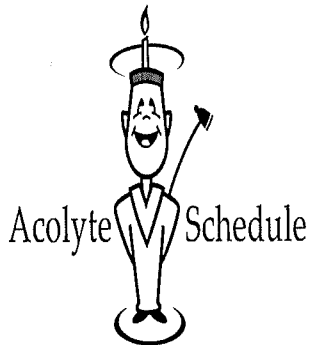


EVENING CIRCLE

The Evening Circle will be meeting on Wednesday, March 4th at 4 pm prior to our Midweek Lenten Service



Daylight Savings time officially begins on March 8th this year. So remember to set your clock **AHEAD** 1 hour when you retire on Saturday evening, March 7th



Sunday	1st	Malachi Noble
Wednesday	4th	Collin Koch
Sunday	8th	Audi Koster
Wednesday	11th	Audrey Hill
Sunday	15th	Kash Riesberg
Wednesday	18th	Amelia Schmitz
Sunday	22nd	Macie Schrad
Wednesday	25th	Lane Kraus
Sunday	29th	Eliza & Sutton Wittrock

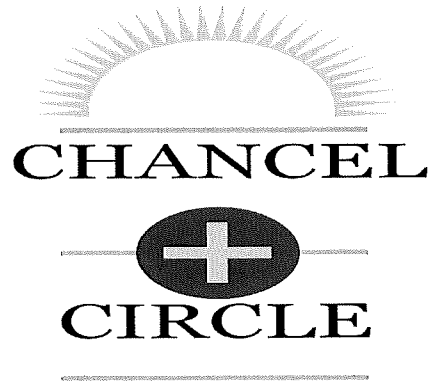


The Evening Circle will be having their Senior Meals on Tuesday, Marcy 17th. Please contact Diane Witt or call the church office if you would like a Senior Meal delivered. (712-689-2441)

MARCH LIST OF DUTIES

USHERS

Rob Klink Rick Vetter
Jeff Luetje Kim Brockman
Gene Thiedeman Michael Brockman



CHANCEL DUTIES

Dawn Luetje, Allison Ehlers

PARISH DUTIES

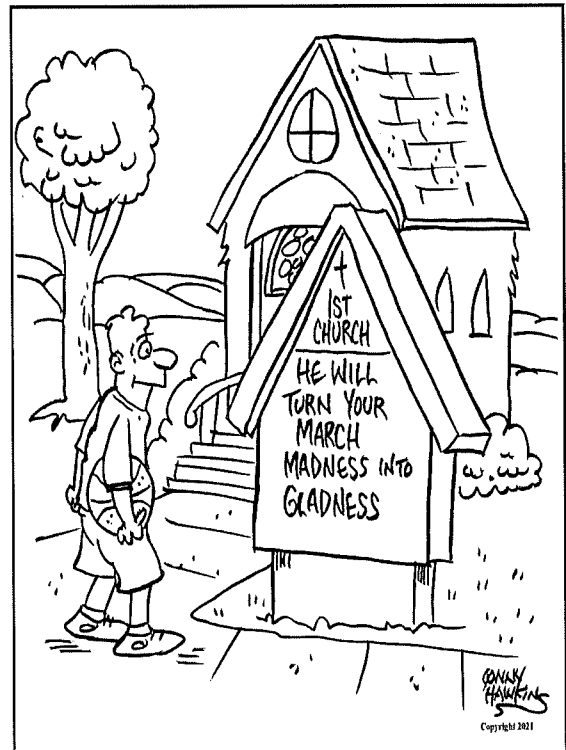
Deb Owen, Kathy Kraus

MARTHA CIRCLE

Marilyn Mumm

ACOLYTES

Sunday	1st	Malachi Noble
Wednesday	4th	Collin Koch
Sunday	8th	Audi Koster
Wednesday	11th	Audrey Hill
Sunday	15th	Kash Riesberg
Wednesday	18th	Amelia Schmitz
Sunday	22nd	Macie Schrad
Wednesday	25th	Lane Kraus
Sunday	29th	Eliza & Sutton Wittrock (Palm Sunday)



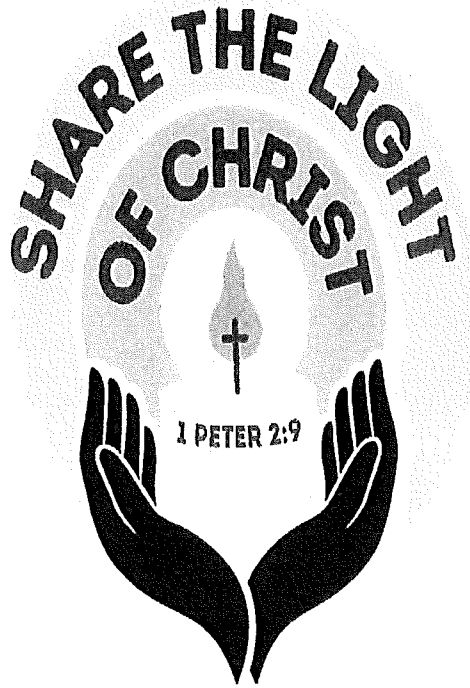
FOR US



Midweek Lenten SCHEDULE

March 04	6:30 pm	Midweek Lenten Worship
March 11	6:30 pm	Midweek Lenten Worship
March 18	6:30 pm	Midweek Lenten Worship
March 25	6:30 pm	Midweek Lenten Worship
March 29	10:00 am	Palm Sunday/HC
April 02	6:30 pm	Maunday Thursday/HC
April 03	6:30 pm	Good Friday Service
April 05	7:00 am	Easter Sunrise Service/HC
	8:00 am	Congregational Breakfast

CARROLL ZONE LWML SPRING RALLY



**"SHARE THE LIGHT OF CHRIST
"1 Peter 2:9**

SPEAKER

Rev. Robert Riggert

*From Manning, a retired minister, now serving as vacancy Pastor for
Trinity/Peace and for Guthrie/Panora.*

Ladies Of The Light

Saturday April 18, 2026

HOSTED BY

***Trinity Lutheran Church
2174 B Ave, Coon Rapids, IA***

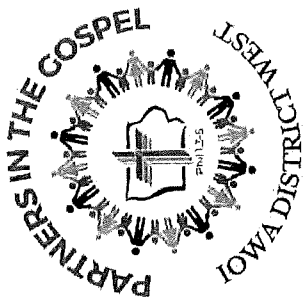
Registration 8:30 am

Brunch 9:00 am



**March
BIRTHDAYS
& ANNIVERSARIES**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Jeff Luetje Patty Vetter	2 Alex Gallagher Nicole Winey	3 Susan Ehlers	4 Ryan Neumann Dale & Nikki Lenz	5 Kurt Branning	6 Megan Gehling Wyatt Neumann	7 Garrett Cleveland
8 Jeff Luetje Patty Vetter	9	10 Jeff & Hollie Schmitz	11 Kyelear Cleveland Kris Kean Shane Kraus Riley Sterk Dwight & Melissa Ehlers	12 Keith Kaspersen	13	14
15	16 Kyle Liechti Chad Wittrock Jeff & Cheryl Vetter	17 Karlie Muhlbauer Jim Vetter Matt & Lisa McNelly	18 Scot Muhlbauer Cheryl Vetter	19 Kash Riesberg Lee & Lajean Shiney	20	21 Kathy Luetje Randy & Lisa Stoelk
22 Derrick Cornelius Edna Hansman Jane Vetter	23	24 Andrew Skinner Gary & Shelli Lenz	25 Steve & Linda Mumm	26	27	28 Presley Audino Maggie Ragaller Aaron & Sarah Peterson
29 Brooke Bass Scot & Stacie Muhlbauer	30	31				



On a Mission
to Support
Christ's Mission!

March 2026

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

Reflecting on Christ's Work

Lent is a season the Church sets aside for reflection—a time to slow down, to look honestly at ourselves, and to look even more intently at Christ.

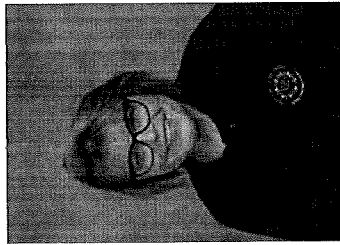
Lent is not about self-improvement or earning God's favor. Instead, it is about remembering with humility and gratitude what our Savior has already accomplished for us through His suffering, death, and resurrection.

Reflection during Lent begins by recognizing our need for a Savior. On Ash Wednesday, when we heard the words, "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return," we were reminded of both our mortality and our helplessness apart from God. Our hearts are moved to fully appreciate all that God has done for us through the giving of His Son to take our place on the cross.

As we journey toward Holy Week, our reflection leads us to the cross—where Christ willingly took our place, bore our sin, and reconciled us to the Father. By meditating on His sacrifice, we are reminded that our salvation rests entirely on His completed work: "It is finished." In this, Lent becomes not a season of despair, but of deepening faith, renewed hope, and profound comfort.

May this Lenten season be one filled with reflection on Christ's work.

Rhonda Mohr, Assistant to the President for Education, Youth and Family Life
rhonda@iowadistrictwest.org



Need help planning for retirement?

Concordia Plans is hosting a pre-retirement workshop for workers in Iowa on Monday, May 18, from 9 am – 12:30 pm at Grace Lutheran Church in Le Mars. Workers enrolled in the Concordia Retirement Plan pension, especially those age 50 or older who are thinking about retirement, are encouraged to attend. Spouses are also welcome to attend. Topics covered include basic retirement finances, sources of retirement income, health care in retirement, tools and resources, and more.



CONCORDIA PLANS

Scholarship Opportunities

Iowa District West offers financial aid for students preparing for church work at any Concordia University or one of our seminaries. Grants may also be available for non-church-work Concordia students as funds allow. Requirements are as follows:

- Member in good standing of an Iowa West LCMS congregation
- Enrolled at a Concordia University System school or LCMS seminary
- Submit application **and** pastor's recommendation by **June 1**

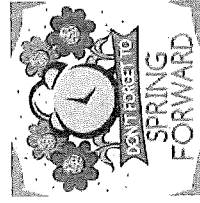
Applications are available on the district website www.idwlcms.org (Resources → Forms and Links Tab).
Questions? Email Pastor Joseph Pierson at revpierson@gmail.com

The LCMS Youth Ministry Office in partnership with IDW Youth Services committee is hosting a **YouthLead Workshop** at Hidden Acres in Dayton, Iowa April 24-April 26. This event is not for entire youth groups, but for students who have shown leadership and want to grow in their leadership skills. Cost \$130. Covers two nights of lodging and all meals. The event will begin on Friday evening with arrival at 6pm and the program start at 7pm. The weekend will end on Sunday morning at 11:45. Registration and additional information will be sent to congregations via email. Space is limited.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- March 8....**Daylight Savings Time—Spring Forward!
- March 24-27....**Tanner Olson Tour Stops (Ankeny, West Des Moines, Sioux City, Carroll)
- March 29.....**Palm Sunday
- April 24-26....**YouthLead Workshop—Hidden Acres, Dayton



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

PRESIDENT'S PAGE

The Rev. Paul Egger

Iowa District West, LCMS

paul@iowadistrictwest.org / 515-576-7666

Shall we Feast?!

I appreciate meeting my wife at Plaza Mexico in Storm Lake and ordering the Seafood Chimichanga. It is SO GOOD! The **food** is so good, and the **company** is so good. My wife **sits** at the table with me. Eating together and talking together and caring for each other benefits my brain and my heart and my soul.

Congregations in Iowa West continue to discuss Holy Communion frequency. How often would Jesus like to meet you at His table and feed you with His very body and blood and sit with you and care for your brain and your heart and your soul?

A few months ago I prepared some thoughts concerning Holy Communion frequency and shared these with our circuit visitors, asking them to discuss these in circuit meetings with their pastors. Since then, more of our congregations have returned to celebrating this Holy Meal each Lord's Day. But why? And what do I mean by "returned"?

Returned. Early Christian writings from 100 AD (Didache) and 150 AD (Justin Martyr) and 215 AD (Hippolytus) all report celebrating the Lord's Supper at least each Lord's Day. As history continues: Basil the Great (329–379 AD): "We commune four times a week." Augustine (354–430 AD): "Some receive the body and blood of the Lord daily, others on certain days only; at some places the Sacrament is administered every day, at other places on the Sabbath (Saturday) and Sunday, at other places on Sundays only."

What do our kids read in their catechisms? Q.295: In Reformation times our churches celebrated the Sacrament "every Sunday and on other festivals." What do our adults read in their Large Catechisms and their Confessions (to which our pastors and congregations ascribe)? Large Catechism: "The Lord's Supper is given as a daily food and sustenance so that our faith may refresh and strengthen itself and not weaken in the struggle but grow continually stronger." Augsburg Confession, Apology: "In the churches, the Lord's Supper is celebrated every Sunday and on other festivals."

But why?! Matthew 26:26–28: Jesus took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to His disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is My body." Then He took the cup, gave thanks and offered it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you. This is My blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins." 1 Corinthians 10:16: "Is not the cup of thanksgiving for which we give thanks a participation in the blood of Christ? And is not the bread that we break a participation in the body of Christ?"

What Synod resolutions have we passed concerning Lord's Supper frequency? Resolution 2-08A: "Resolved, that the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod... encourage its pastors and congregations to study the Scriptural, confessional, and historical witness to every-Sunday communion with a view to recovering the opportunity to receive the Lord's Supper each Lord's Day." ('95 Synod Convention)

My encouragement: Do what the apostles did. Do what Luther and the early Lutherans did. Listen to the encouragement of Scripture. Attend to our own LCMS in convention. Follow the example of more and more LCMS congregations who have returned to the church's historic practice of the Lord's Supper for the Lord's people each Lord's Day.

*Thy Body, giv'n for me, O Savior, Thy Blood which Thou for me didst shed,
These are my life and strength forever, by them my hungry soul is fed.
Lord, may Thy body and Thy blood be for my soul the highest good. LSB 619.*

Tanner Olson Tours Iowa District West

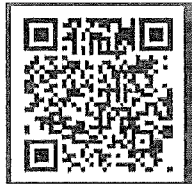
March 24-27, 2026

Find a location closest to you that works for your group to attend. All our welcome.

An Evening of Music and Poetry with Blake Flattley and Tanner Olson An Evening of Music and Poetry with Blake Flattley and Tanner Olson is a simple night to slow down and breathe. Tanner shares poetry that feels more like a good conversation than something from a textbook—honest, thoughtful, and often funny—while Blake brings songs full of faith and hope that stick with you. It's a chance to step away from the noise, rest your heart, laugh a little, and leave reminded that hope is close and God is still good.

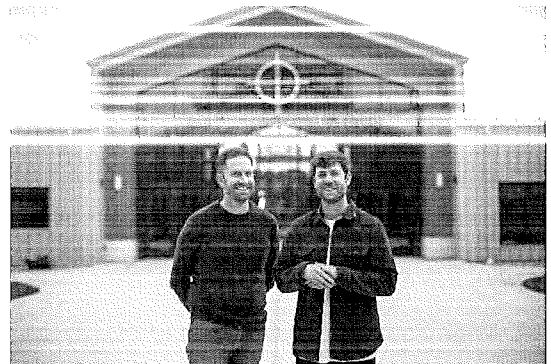
March 24, Tuesday

Evening event: St. Paul Ankeny (Tanner Olson and Blake Flattley)
Main Contact: Director of Youth Ministry – Laura Nelson at St. Paul
Meal: 5:45pm
Show: 6:30pm
RSVP to this event with QR

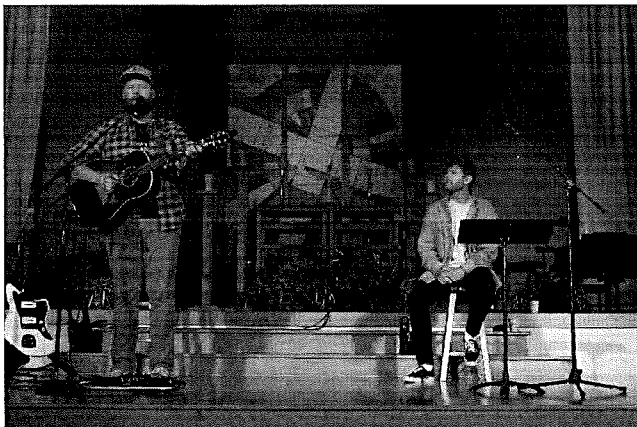


March 25, Wednesday

Evening Event: Shepherd of the Valley West Des Moines (Tanner Olson and Blake Flattley)
Service: 6:30pm



The Slow Down with Tanner Olson and Matt Doering THE SLOW DOWN is a night created to help you pause, be still, and remember that hope isn't far off—it's right here. Hosted by spoken word poet and author Tanner Olson alongside singer-songwriter Matt Doering, the evening weaves together honest poetry, meaningful stories, and music that settles the soul. Tanner's poetry isn't the kind you learned in school—it's conversational, reflective, and often laugh-out-loud honest—while Matt's inviting, hopeful songs will linger in your head long after the night ends. Come step away from the noise, slow your pace, and be gently reminded of God's goodness.



March 26, Thursday

Evening Event: Redeemer Lutheran, Sioux City (Tanner Olson and Matt Doering)
Main Contact: DCE Jonathan Bailey at Redeemer
Meal: 5:45pm
Show: 6:30

March 27, Friday

Evening Event: St. Paul Lutheran, Carroll (Tanner Olson and Matt Doering)
Main Contact: Pastor Ryan Roehrig at St. Paul
Meal: 5:45pm
Show: 6:30pm



Update

Register Now!

Visit campokoboji.org
to register for youth
and family camps.
Early bird discount
until March 1st.

CAMP OKOBOJI 2026

Discipleship Programs

May 29-31	Kid's Kamp
June 4-7	Joy Camp 1
June 14-18	Cub Week 1
June 28-July 3	July 4 th Family Retreat
July 5-11	Jr High Week
July 9-12	Joy Camp 2
July 12-18	Cub Week 2
July 19-25	Youth Week
July 26-31	Family Retreat #1
August 2-7	Family Retreat #2

Other Events

January 23-25...Family Ice Fishing Retreat
May 1-2...Spring Volunteer Work Weekend
June 10-13...Iowa West District LWML Convention
June 20...Camp Okoboji Auxiliary Quilt Auction
June 21-27...Minneboji Lutheran Camp
May 24-September 6...Sunday Worship
1st Sundays of the Month (May-October)...Brunch
October 9-10...Fall Volunteer Work Weekend

For more information and to
register, visit
campokoboji.org



Summer Staff Needed!

We need 2026 Summer Staff! Please encourage youth (at least 16 years of age) and college students to consider serving with us. Those interested in serving at Camp Okoboji, or any LCMS camp in 2026 should complete a NLOMA profile. That is the first step in being considered for a summer position. Visit NLOMA.org for the profile link.

The Annual Meeting of Camp Okoboji is coming up, Saturday, April 11. We look forward to sharing Camp Okoboji with the congregations and members of Iowa District West and all our ministry partners! We encourage each congregation to be involved, send a delegate to hear from Camp, and report it back to their congregation and members. **Please note: The delegate post cards are due back to Camp by March 23rd! Thank you!**

NEEDS/WANTS:

- Outdoor Rocking Chairs
- Laundry soap, bleach and hand soap
- Queen size mattress pads
- New commercial grade vacuums, coffee pots, toasters, crock pots
- Thrivent Action Team Cards (contact Kellie Jones for potential projects; 712-337-3325)
- Also, ask us about our Amazon Wish List!

MARCH

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
9:00 Chr Ed						
1 9:00 Chr Ed 10:00 DW/HC 11:00 Council Meeting	2	3	4 4:00 Evening Circle 5:15 Meal 6:30 Midweek Lenten Service	5	6	7
8 9:00 Chr Ed 10:00 DW/HC	9	10	11 5:15 Meal 6:30 Midweek Lenten Service	12	13	14
15 9:00 Chr Ed 10:00 DW/HC	16	17	18 5:15 Meal 6:30 Midweek Lenten Service	19	20	21
22 9:00 Chr Ed 10:00 DW/HC	23	24	25 5:15 Meal 6:30 Midweek Lenten Service	26	27	28

USHERS	ACOLYTES
Jeff Luetje	3/1 Malachi
Rob Klink	3/4 Collin
Gene Thiedeman	3/8 Audi
	3/11 Audrey
	3/18 Kash
	3/22 Macie
	3/25 Lane
	3/29 Eliza & Sutton (Palm Sunday)

Zion Lutheran Church
118 W Tracy St
Box 59
Arcadia, IA 51430
Rev Andy Noble
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

