

Sign Post

July - Aug. 2016

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Sign Post is online at
www.iowaeastdeaf.org.
It is the newsletter for:

Word of God Lutheran
Church for the Deaf
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A Life of Love

Jesus said, “I’m giving you a new commandment: Love each other in the same way that I have loved you. Everyone will know that you are my disciples because of your love for each other.” John 13:35 (God’s Word)

Jesus gave a summary one time of the commandments: Love God and love your neighbor (all other people). Pretty simple, right?

Well, not really. Simple to understand, yes. But it is hard to do. We are born as selfish, self-centered sinners. We want what is good for us first. That is not the way God wants, so His law says we are guilty. We have not loved as God wants.

The good news is that God still loves us! He showed love for us sinners when He sent Jesus to die for us. That is true love, that Jesus gave up His life for His enemies. He forgives our sins and He puts His love into us. Now we can live with true love. That means we want what God wants and what is good for other people.

Then why aren’t we showing love? There are many people who feel like no one loves them or cares about them. Sometimes you see a story about a person who has a birthday party, they invite many people but no one comes. Every week I see people who feel lonely. No friends or very few friends visit them. People go to church or a social gathering and they sit alone. No one talks with them. These are people you know! Maybe even you yourself feel that way. How can we say we are the people of God if we do not love each other?

As I prepared to go to Kenya, I had to read several books about African culture. Again and again, the authors of these books talked about how people in Africa value community, and people in America value things. That is a very general statement, because of course Africans also value things, and Americans also value people. But the books make a good point. Too often we value things and what we want. We do not show interest in other people or show love for them.

It is time for us to repent of our selfishness and ask God to forgive us. The woman who poured perfume on Jesus’ feet loved much because God forgave all her sins (Luke 7:36-50). God has forgiven all our sins. Let us also love much and learn to pay attention to other people, take time to visit them, encourage them, talk with them. In doing that, you will put God’s love in action in your life and theirs.

Pastor Eckert

Dive Into God's Word

A Story

Once upon a time, a father was going on a trip. He was leaving very early in the morning before his family woke up. Before he left, he wrote a note for his 3 children and left it on the kitchen table. The note said something like this.

My Dear Child,

My work is taking me away on a long trip. I am not sure when I will return, but it could be many months from now. While I am away, I want you to do several things. Listen to your mother. Love your siblings. Take care of the house. Do your best on your schoolwork. Be faithful in going to church, reading your Bible, and continue to grow in God's grace. Remember I always love you and I can't wait to come home to see you!

Love,
Dad

One child read the letter and set it aside. He said, "The letter means nothing. If Dad really loved me, he would not have left. I will not listen to the letter."

The second child read it and said, "This letter is nice, but I don't think Dad wrote it. I found another letter outside the house. I think he wrote that letter, so I will listen to the letter from outside. I will not listen to this letter on the table."

The third child said, "This letter tells us that Dad loves us and what we should do while he is gone. I will gladly do what the letter says and look forward to him coming home."

God's Word is True!

That story is not very realistic. If children get a letter from Dad, they will read it, believe it is from Dad, and they know they should listen to it. Children will not read a letter from Dad and ignore it.

BUT... People do that to God's word! Some people say the Bible is not God's word and they choose to ignore it. What does God say about that? 2 Peter 1:19-21

What happens to God's word when people ignore it or don't understand it? Matthew 13:19

Other people say they have another message from God. Mormons say the Bible is not enough and they use their other books. Muslims say the Bible has some of God's word, but say their Quran is better. Other religions also have their own books. What is the only book of God's word that we should listen to? 2 Timothy 3:14-17

We want to be like the third child. God gave us His word in the Bible. We want to read it, study it, believe it, and follow it. God has given us no other message.

Luke 24:27, John 5:39. All of the Bible is about who?

Acts 17:11. When we hear new teachings, how do we know if they are true or not? What did the people in Berea do?

John 20:31. What is the purpose of the Bible? Why was it written?

MidWest ILDA

Remember to send in your registration forms for MidWest ILDA! The beginning of August will come very quickly! You don't want to miss out on the studies, fellowship, Ox Yoke Inn dinner, or Pastor Eckert's presentation on Kenya. Register today!

July

- 2 Ricky Moore
- 13 Barb Zimmerman
- 15 Bill Zimmerman
- 17 Lorri Green
- 25 Bob Orr
- 31 Michael Anderson



August

- 14 Jackie Spencer
- 17 Stephen Eckert
- 26 Thomas Eaton Jr.
- 28 Mary Erpelding
- 29 Mike Currier

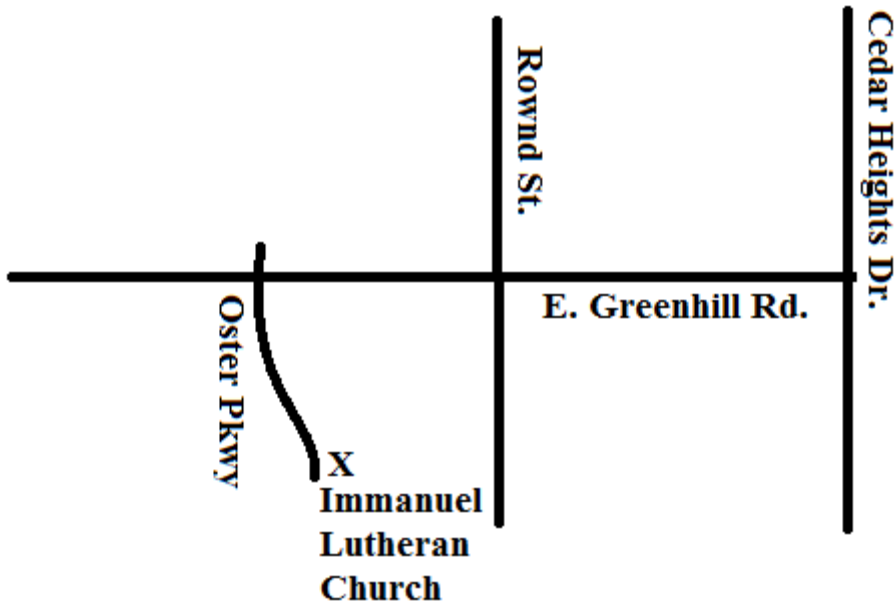
Prayers

Please remember these people in your prayers:

- ✦ Mollie Schmitz, Lorri Green, Shirley Green, Bill and Barbara Zimmerman, Mae Hanson, Joan Mass, Gerald Mitchell, Rosie Glime, Kathy Anderson's friend Donna, Neita Dommer, Harold Kinkade, Jeanette Kern, Bonnie Lou Huffman, Henry Daggett, Janet Weber, Vicki Hoover's daughter Clea, Terry Ann Check, Paula Slavin, Ricky Moore and Chris Moore with their ongoing physical difficulties.
- ✦ Pray for Christians around the world who are suffering for their faith.
- ✦ Pray for more pastors to serve the deaf. In 2016, there will be one new DIT student who is studying to become a pastor. We thank God for him, but we need many more! Pray that God will lead more students to join DIT, especially men to become pastors.
- ✦ All shut-ins to keep strong faith in Christ Jesus.
- ✦ Thank God for safe travel to Kenya for Pastor Tim and his family. Ask God to bless the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Kenya as they begin working with the deaf to teach them sign language and then teach them about Jesus.
- ✦ Pray for our LCMS convention in Milwaukee, July 9-14. As always, the convention will discuss and make decisions about some important topics. We pray that all of their discussions and decisions will be pleasing to God and good for the church.



New Meeting Location in Waterloo



The Waterloo group is meeting in a new location! Christ Lutheran Church closed in June, so we had no choice. Immanuel Lutheran Church just moved into a new building and invited us to move with them. The address is 4820 Oster Parkway, Cedar Falls. Oster Parkway will probably be lengthened, but for now, the church is all the way at the end of the street on the east side.

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06-10-2013

MY PROGRESS TOWARDS BEING A BETTER PERSON IS SLOW, BUT THIS VISUAL AID SEEMS TO BE HELPING WITH MY PUBLIC IMAGE

What did Jesus say about this? In Matthew 6:1, He said, "Be careful not to do good deeds in front of other people. Don't do those deeds to be seen by others. If you do, your Father in heaven will not reward you."

The Prodigal Son

The following words and phrases are from the story of the Prodigal Son. (The puzzle is from <http://christianbiblereference.org/wordsearch.htm>.) You can read the story in Luke 15:11-32, plus you can read other parables about “lost” things in Luke 15:1-10. God doesn’t want us to be lost. He wants a close relationship with us. That is why He sent Jesus to die for us and forgive us, so that we can have a new relationship with Him. No matter how far away you strayed away from God, don’t give up hope! He already paid for your sins so you can be close to Him again.

N O S T S E D L E F A H D Y G
 B E S T R O B E A R E E A R F
 R E G N U H H T I W K N E T E
 W A S L O S T S A U O A D N L
 J E S U S E E S L S T M S U L
 D H S O D A A F L W O N A O Y
 N A N C N N O A A I F I W C E
 U R A D G K G Y T N E A N R N
 O L G R O I O W N E E T O A R
 F O Y O D F O U E D D R S F U
 S T B O F S G E P I S E E I O
 I S R I O T O U S D W C O L J
 D P G N I C N A D E I A H L S
 N H S I R E P R A A N Y S E I
 A Y L L E B S I H T E O N D H

A certain man, And is found, Arise and
 go, Best robe, Book of Luke, Dancing,
 Eldest son, Far country, Fatted calf, Fell,
 Filled, Great way off, Had spent all,
 Harlots, He was angry, His belly, His
 journey, Jesus, Perish, Prodigal Son,
 Riotous, Shoes, Son was dead, Swine
 did eat, To feed swine, Two sons, Was
 lost, With hunger

This cartoon is in honor of the new Ark Encounter opening in Williamstown, Kentucky. The boat is built the same size as God told Noah to make. See arkencounter.com to learn more.



Thanks to Steven Willis (See Genesis 6-8) 01-14-2011

July 2016

					1 10:30 QC – Bible study	2
3 * See below for worship and Bible study times.	4 Independence Day	5	6 7:00 WL – Worship	7	8	9
10 * See below for worship and Bible study times.	11	12	13	14	15 10:30 QC – Bible study 1:00 MU-Worship	16
17 * See below for worship and Bible study times.	18	19	20 7:00 WL – Study	21	22 10:30 QC – Bible study	23
24/31 * See below for worship and Bible study times.	25	26	27	28	29 10:30 QC – Bible study	30

BR – Burlington. Concordia Lutheran Church, 2901 Cliff Rd., Burlington. 4th Sunday worship at 4:00 p.m.
 CR – Cedar Rapids. Word of God Lutheran Church Deaf, 1515 29th St. NE, Cedar Rapids. Every Sunday, Bible Study at 9:00 a.m., Worship at 10:00 a.m.
 QC – Quad Cities. Trinity Lutheran Church, 1122 W. Central Park Ave., Davenport. Every Sunday, Worship at 1:00 p.m.
 WL – Waterloo. Immanuel Lutheran Church, 4820 Oster Parkway, Cedar Falls.
 DU – Dubuque. Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, 2145 John F. Kennedy Rd., Dubuque.
 MC – Mason City. Meeting in Charles City. Talk to Pastor Northwick for details
 MU – Muscatine. Our Savior Lutheran Church, 2611 Lucas St., Muscatine.

August 2016

	1	2	3 7:00 WL – Worship	4	5 Midwest ILDA	6 Midwest ILDA
7 Midwest ILDA Worship at Camp 8:30 Bible Study 9:30 Worship	8	9	10	11	12 10:30 QC – Bible study	13
14 * See below for worship and Bible study times. CR-Potluck	15	16	17 7:00 WL – Study	18	19 10:30 QC – Bible study 1:00 MU – Worship/Study	20
21 * See below for worship and Bible study times.	22	23	24	25	26 10:30 QC – Bible study	27
28 * See below for worship and Bible study times.	29	30	31			

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