

Sign Post

May - June 2015

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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
1515 29th St. NE
Cedar Rapids, IA 52402

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Springtime and Growth

Rain and snow come down from the sky. They do not go back again until they water the earth. They make it sprout and grow so that it produces seed for farmers and food for people to eat. My word, which comes from my mouth, is like the rain and snow. It will not come back to me without results. It will accomplish whatever I want and achieve whatever I send it to do.”
Isaiah 55:10-11 (God’s Word)

After a long cold winter, some plants don’t survive. The plants weren’t strong enough, or the winter was too cold or too dry. When the weather warms up and the spring rains come, it is easy to see which plants survived and which ones died. The ones that are still alive begin to grow new leaves and flowers. If a plant doesn’t grow any leaves and looks dead, it is dead.

Very simple, but very true! Things that are alive will grow and have signs of life. Things that are dead have no signs of life.

We know that some things will kill plants. Salt, a harsh winter, or chemicals will kill a plant. But water, fertilizer, the right temperatures and sunshine will help plants grow.

What do we need for life? God’s word. He says His like rain or snow that waters us and makes us grow. Without His word, we dry up and die.

Maybe you know someone who used to be a Christian. You saw them often in church. But now they gave up church and they don’t follow God’s way anymore. Why? Because they gave up God’s word. They chose to follow something else, or follow their own ideas.

Don’t give up God’s word of life! Summer is coming with lots of activities and other things to do. Continue reading God’s word at home and coming to church. Encourage each other to continue meeting together in worship (Hebrews 10:25), and share the good news of Jesus with others, so God’s gift of life can grow in them, too.

Pastor Eckert

Dive Into God's Word

Our readings for May and June continue in the book of Romans. These are some of the hardest chapters in the Bible! But they are good chapters, because they are full of God's promises and grace. Remember, the answers are all online at www.iowaeastdeaf.org. Click on Daily Study on the left.

May 3-9, read Romans 6

1. Baptism connects us to two things Jesus did. What two things? (6:1-4)
2. What does it mean that we died to sin? (6:2, 6-7, 11-14)
3. What does it mean that we have a new life? (6:4-5, 8, 13)
4. The Bible uses the word slave (or servant) to describe us. How are we slaves to sin? (6:15-21)
5. How are we slaves to righteousness (or God)? (6:15-22)
6. What does sin earn? What does God give (and we can't earn)? (6:23)

May 10-16, read Romans 7

1. Who must obey laws, living people or dead people? (7:1)
2. In chapter 6, Paul said we "died to sin." What else did we die to, and what does that mean? (7:4-6)
3. What does God's law show us? (7:7)
4. How does our sin use the law? (7:9, 11, 13)
5. This can be a confusing part of Romans. Inside our Christian heart, what do we want to do? (7:15-23)
6. Do we always do good and right? (7:15-24)
7. Who will save us from this fight inside us. this fight between God and our sinful life? (7:24-25)

May 17-23, read Romans 8

1. In chapter 8 we see two different ways of life. What are they? (8:1-5, especially vs. 5)
2. God says we live in flesh (sin) or the Holy Spirit? (8:9-11)
3. Paul writes that we suffer in this world (8:17-22). What kind of suffering does Paul mean?
4. We are not strong to make it through this world alone. Who helps us, and how? (8:26-30)
5. What can stop God's love for us? (8:31-39)

May 24-30, read Romans 9

1. Why was Paul sad? What did he really want? (9:1-5)
2. Some people think God saves Jews because they are from Abraham's family. Is that true? (9:8)
3. This is a very hard chapter to understand. One important lesson to get from this chapter is in 9:15-16. What do these verses say about God's attitude toward us?
4. What gives us God's righteousness (clean life)? Faith, or the law? (9:30-32)

May 31-June 6, read Romans 10

1. Some religions are very eager to work hard and serve God. Is that enough for God to save them? (10:1-4)
2. What leads us to believe in Jesus? What gives us faith? (10:8,17)
3. People all around us don't know Jesus. How can they hear about Jesus and believe in Him? (10:14-17)

June 7-13, read Romans 11

1. Many Jews don't believe in Jesus. Does that mean God rejected the Jews? (11:1-6)
2. Why did God let the Jews fall away from Him? (11:11)
3. Paul used an example of an olive tree. The olive tree means God's kingdom. Who are the natural branches, who are the wild branches, and what do they mean? (11:17-24)
4. God includes us in His kingdom. What should be our attitude? (11:19-22)

June 14-20, read Romans 12

1. The Jews killed sheep and other animals as sacrifices. What kind of sacrifice are we? (12:1-2)
2. People in the world tell us to follow them. God tells us to follow Him. What does this verse say? (12:2)
3. Most of the time, Christians will not compete with each other. But here, Paul suggests we should compete in one thing. What? (12:10)
4. What should we do with people who hurt us or persecute us? (12:14-21)

June 21-27, read Romans 13

1. Who created governments? (13:1-2)
2. How is the government a servant of God? (13:3-5)
3. April 15 was tax day. Does God want us to pay taxes? (13:6-7)
4. We owe taxes to the government. What do we owe to other Christians? (13:8-10)

June 28-July 4, read Romans 14

1. Some people said eating meat is fine. Other people said eating only vegetables obeys God better. Who was right? (14:1-4)
2. Some people thought some days were important religious days. Other people said all days are the same. Who was right? (14:5-8)
3. If someone thinks I am sinning, and I know I am not sinning, what should I do? (14:20-21)
4. On July 4, we think a lot about freedom. Yes, we have much freedom to do what we want (but not freedom to sin). What limits our freedom? (14:19-20)

Prayers

Please remember these people in your prayers:

- ✦ Congratulations to Harold and Mabel Kinkade, married 70 years on May 27th! We thank God with them for all those years of blessings and pray that God will continue to watch over them and pour out His blessings on them.
- ✦ Larry Plumb is moving to Missouri in May. His friends in the Quad Cities will miss him. We pray God's blessings for him and hope one of the Lutheran churches near him will learn how to serve the deaf!
- ✦ Mollie Schmitz, Bill and Barbara Zimmerman, Mae Hanson, Pastor Anderson, Joan Mass, Darlene Twatchtmann, Sharon Pope, Curtis Ketelsen, Harold and Mabel Kinkade, Jeanette Kern, and Ricky Moore with their ongoing physical difficulties.
- ✦ All shut-ins to keep strong faith in Christ Jesus.
- ✦ Pray for the Lutheran Deaf Mission Society meeting in St. Louis, May 1-2. Ask God to guide the meetings and show us how He wants us to do deaf ministry in the future and bring the good news of Jesus to more deaf people.
- ✦ Pray for Christian families. There are many temptations that can hurt parents and children. Ask God to protect His people and keep them faithful. Don't let them follow the world, but keep them strong in faith to be a powerful witness to the world.



May

- 9 Janet Weber
- 11 Robbie Yotter
- 13 Norman Wilson
Curtis Sparks
- 20 Richard Parkin
- 24 Barbara Saeugling
- 26 Becky Eiben



June

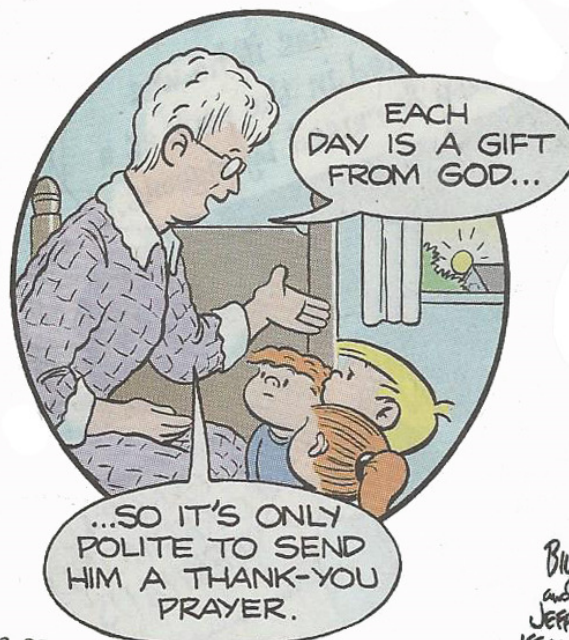
- 8 Matthew Brown
- 8 Linda Jackson
- 12 Beverly Brown
- 13 Tom Eaton, Sr.
- 14 Joan Mass
- 17 Marguerite Leister
- 29 Jonah Legg
- 30 Robert Gruhn

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

- almonds
- apple
- beans
- butter
- cheese
- corn
- cows
- curds
- figs
- fish
- flour
- goats
- grapes
- honey
- lamb
- leeks
- lemon
- lentils
- melons
- milk
- mint
- mustard
- nuts
- olive oil
- olives
- onions
- pomegranate
- spices
- wine

12 REASONS TO PRAY

1. It encourages others.
2. It reminds you of spiritual values.
3. It gives hope.
4. It helps you feel better.
5. It allows you let go of situations.
6. It provides comfort.
7. It relaxes you and reduces anxiety.
8. It builds faith.
9. It deepens character.
10. It broadens your perspective.
11. It brings you closer to God.
12. It works.



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May 2015

					1	2
3 * See below for worship and Bible study times.	4	5	6 7:00 WL – Worship	7 4:30 MC – Worship and Bible study	8 10:30 QC – Bible study	9 10:00 DU – Bible Study
10 * See below for worship and Bible study times. CR-Potluck Mother’s Day	11	12	13 10:00 CR – Senior Citizens	14	15	16
17 * See below for worship and Bible study times.	18	19	20 7:00 WL – Study	21 4:30 MC – Worship and Bible study	22 10:30 QC – Bible study 1:00 MU-Worship	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. Christ Lutheran Church, 234 S Hackett Rd., Waterloo.
 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.

June 2015

	1	2	3 7:00 WL – Worship	4	5 10:30 QC – Bible study	6
7 * See below for worship and Bible study times.	8	9	10	11 4:30 MC – Worship and Bible study	12 10:30 QC – Bible study	13
14 * See below for worship and Bible study times.	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. Father's Day	22	23	24	25 4:30 MC – Worship and Bible study	26 District Convention	27 District Convention
28 * See below for worship and Bible study times.	29	30				

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