

Sign Post

May - June 2016

In This Issue...

- 1 – Pastor’s Article
- 2-3 – Bible Readings and Bible Study Birthdays
- 4 – Word Search Prayers
- 5 – Smile
- 6 – May Calendar
- 7 – June Calendar

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

Rev. Tim Eckert
DeafLutheran@q.com
Home: 563-424-7141 VP
or 563-359-7105 V/TTY

Memorial Day

Memorial Day is coming soon! For many people, Memorial Day weekend is the beginning of summer. The weather is warmer, school will be out soon, people are planning their vacations. Memorial weekend means picnics, outdoor activities, and a trip to the park. But it really means much more than that. Memorial Day is, of course, when we remember all the people who died for our country. Many men and women died protecting our freedom and the freedom of people in other countries. We celebrate our freedom and take time to remember the people who fought so we can have it.



All of the people involved in war gave up much. Some gave up their lives. Even many people who did not die still experienced terrible things. Many people who fought in a war don't like to talk about it because they don't like the memories. There is a saying that tries to say just how terrible war really is; 'War is hell.'

For Jesus, that was really true. His war on Good Friday was against the devil, death and hell. He didn't only fight against them; He also experienced the terror of hell, separation from His Father. Jesus didn't fight with guns and missiles, but with His blood in His sacrifice on the cross. His experience in war was much worse than any soldier could experience here, but He wanted to do it. Soldiers fight in a war because our freedom is so precious. Jesus fought His war because He loves us so much and because He wants us to have freedom from sin and death.

The right way to honor someone who fought for our freedom is to thank them, remember them, and live enjoying and protecting the freedom we have. While we enjoy Memorial Day and remember people fought to give us freedom for this life, we can remember and thank God every day of our life that Jesus fought and died to give us freedom now and forever!

Pastor Eckert

Dive Into God's Word

Pentecost is a Jewish holiday that celebrated the first part of the Spring harvest. God told the Jews to count 50 days after Passover (Deuteronomy 16:9-10). They offered the first fruits of their harvest in thanks to God (Numbers 28:26-31). This was called the Feast of Weeks, or Harvest Feast, or Feast of First-Fruits. Later, Jews named this festival "Pentecost." Pentecost was special because it thanked God for bringing in the first part of the harvest.

We also celebrate Pentecost. Our reason is like the Jews' reason, but a little different. The Jews harvested some grain and thanked God for that. The early Christians saw God "harvest" some people for Jesus and they thanked God for that. God sent the Holy Spirit on Pentecost so people can believe in Jesus and have life in Him. These questions are all about the Holy Spirit coming to the church. Read the following verses and answer the questions.

Read Acts 2:1-4.

1. The Holy Spirit came down from heaven to the disciples. Three things happened that showed the Holy Spirit was there.
 - A noise like...
 - Little "tongues" (flames) of...
 - The disciples began speaking...

Read Acts 2:5-13.

1. The sound of wind was very loud and many Jews came to see what was happening. Where were all those Jews from?
2. What did the Jews hear the disciples saying?

Read Acts 2:14-36.

1. Who stood up to preach?
2. The sermon was about Jesus. We will focus on verse 36. What did Peter say the Jews did to Jesus?
3. What does it mean for us that Jesus is both Lord and Christ.

Read Acts 2:37-41.

1. After the sermon, the people felt very guilty and asked Peter what they should do. What did Peter tell them to do?
2. What do verses 38-39 teach us about baptism?
3. How many people got baptized and joined the church that day?

Read Acts 2:42-47.

1. This is a wonderful description of the early church. The people were faithful doing what things?
2. How did the believers take care of each other (verses 44-45)?
3. How did they worship and live together as God's people (verses 46-47)?
4. Do verse 42-47 describe the church today? Why or why not?

Kenya!

Kenya is a country on the equator in East Africa. It is known for wildlife – lions, leopards, buffalo, elephants, rhinos, giraffes, and many others. Kenya is also known for long-distance runners, some of the best in the world.

In 2015, Rev. Joseph Omolo, a bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Kenya (ELCK), visited the U.S. and made stops in Iowa. Pastor Eckert met with him and discussed starting Deaf ministry in Kenya. When Rev. Omolo returned home, he identified a pastor there who was eager to work with the Deaf.



At the same time, two of the Eckert children were busy collecting robotics kits to send to schools in Kenya. An opportunity came up for their robotics team to go to Kenya this summer and visit schools to teach them. God put a great opportunity together! Pastor Eckert's whole family decided to go to Kenya. While Pastor Eckert's family teaches robotics, he will meet with the church and some Deaf to learn about the Deaf and their life and culture and talk with the church about how they can teach the Deaf about Jesus and train Deaf leaders.

It is estimated there are about 600,000 Deaf in Kenya and about 340,000 of them use Kenyan Sign Language (KSL), which is very much like ASL. KSL varies a lot, though, depending on where you are in Kenya. The educational system is similar in some ways to the U.S., with many Deaf schools but also a lot of mainstreaming. Not many children are able to go to school, though. The lack of education, lack of services, and discrimination means that most of the Deaf in Kenya are very poor and face many difficulties.

Our plan is to be in Kenya the last two weeks of June. Because I am still planning for the trip and learning more about Kenya, I am still finding out what our needs will be and what I will be able to take. If you are interested in donating to support this mission to Kenya, please contact me at LDMS@DeafJesus.org and soon I should know more about what we will need.

We are excited and eager to go and visit Kenya and the ELCK! Our prayer is that we can help the church understand the needs of the Deaf and learn how to bring the good news of Jesus to them. We want to see the Deaf in Kenya learn and grow and serve Jesus the same as we want that for the Deaf here in the U.S. Please join us in praying for that to happen!

Pastor Eckert

May

- 9 Janet Weber
- 11 Robbie Yotter
- 13 Norman Wilson
Curtis Sparks
- 20 Richard Parkin
- 24 Barbara Saeugling
- 28 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

Prayers

Please remember these people in your prayers:

- ✦ Mollie Schmitz, Lorri Green, Shirley Green, Bill and Barbara Zimmerman, Mae Hanson, Gerald Mitchell, Joan Mass, Rosie Glime, Kathy Anderson's friend Donna, Neita Dommer, Harold Kinkade, Jeanette Kern, Henry Daggett, Vicki Hoover's daughter Cleta, Terry Ann Check, Paula Slavin, and Ricky Moore with their ongoing physical difficulties.
- ✦ Christians around the world who are suffering for their faith.
- ✦ Pray for more pastors for the Deaf and for all Christians to eagerly tell other people the good news about Jesus.
- ✦ Our country as people become more and more confused about what is right and wrong. More people in the U.S. don't want God's way and that will make life more difficult.
- ✦ Pray for Evelyn Powell and her family as her mother passed away in April.
- ✦ All shut-ins to keep strong faith in Christ Jesus.
- ✦ Thank God for the men and women who have given much to defend our country and freedom. Ask God to continue to protect us, especially our freedom to worship and serve Him.



REVERENDFUN.COM COPYRIGHT **BIBLE GATEWAY**



(See Psalm 100)

04-21-2014

YOU WANNA MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE TO THE LORD? THESE ARE YOUR GUYS!

Bible Word Search: Golden Rule

In Matthew 7:12, Jesus said, “Do for others what you would want them to do for you.” People call that the Golden Rule. God loves us and He wants us to love other people. That is how we show we are Christians (see John 13:34-35). In Matthew chapters 5-7, Jesus talked about how we live in faith and love. These words and ideas are from those chapters.

<p>T P P E R F E C T R I H S F D M E I S P E C K E V I G R O F E O H G S E V I E C E R G L B R P S S O E T H A N K F U L P C L D T T L N C R O O P E O R Y E N P H E D D U S M S T W A O T E L E I M E N R S U U E Y E S I A R P G O N I S S C R N O G R N S L S H N R K E E S N V N F K U M O G G E U J S R F I I N K U M S N T O Y L R E A R N E W C O M M A N D M E N T T R E W A R D O O G O D P N H U A D S E L P I C S I D R I E E W Y M A R K N U M B E R S R</p>	<p>Blessings, Coat, Commandment, Community, Curses, Disciples, Do Good, Father, Followers, Forgive, Friendship, Golden Rule, Jesus, Kindness, Luke, Mark, Mercy, Money, Most High God, Needy, New Command, Numbers, Others, People, Perfect, Persecute, Plank, Poor, Praise, Pray, Receive, Reward, Shirt, Sinners, Sons of God, Speck, Thankful, Virtue, Warnings</p>
--	--



May 2016

1 * See below for worship and Bible study times	2	3	4	5	6	7
8 * See below for worship and Bible study times. Mother's Day	9	10	11 10:00 CR Senior Citizen 7:00 WL – Worship	12	13 10:30 QC – Bible study 1:00 MU-Worship	14 10:00 DU – Bible Study
15 * See below for worship and Bible study times.	16	17	18 7:00 WL – Study	19	20 LDMS Annual Meeting, St. Louis	21 LDMS Annual Meeting, St. Louis
22 * See below for worship and Bible study times.	23	24	25	26	27 10:30 QC – Bible study	28
29 * See below for worship and Bible study times.	30 Memorial Day	31				

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. 1st and 3rd Wednesdays.
 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 2016

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

BR – Burlington. Concordia Lutheran Church, 2901 Cliff Rd., Burlington. 2nd 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. 1st and 3rd Wednesdays.
 DU – Dubuque. Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, 2145 John F. Kennedy Rd., Dubuque. No meetings during the summer.
 MC – Mason City. Meeting in Charles City. Talk to Pastor Northwick for details
 MU – Muscatine. Our Savior Lutheran Church, 2611 Lucas St., Muscatine.