

NOVEMBER  
2014

# "Dose of Wisdom"

**"And we pray this in order that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and please Him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God" (Colossians 1:10).**

This month of November I would like to write a little bit on Christian Stewardship. Now when most people either here or see the word Stewardship, there thoughts go directly toward *money*, but I want to talk about the basis for stewardship today.

The basis for Christian stewardship is first and foremost, the Gospel. It is the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins. It is the gracious outpouring of God's grace into our lives. We can live joyous and free, knowing that Jesus took all of our sins upon the cross. There is nothing we have to pay for with regards to our salvation. Jesus paid the price once and for all with his blood that was shed on the cross. So to know that we are free and have forgiveness it gives us to joy to live our everyday lives.

We have been called by God's grace in Jesus Christ to be forgiven. This calling is a gift, but it is also an identity which can never be taken away. This gift is the forgiveness of sins. We are called in life to our various vocations. Vocation is our calling in life. Vocation is our station in life where God calls us and places us to serve our neighbor with good works.

One of the good works to serve our neighbor is to be faithful stewards or managers of all that God has given to us. This includes our finances. God calls us to use our finances as a good work to help and serve our neighbor.

So in this month of November as we think about our church's budget, and knowing we are coming to the close of the fiscal year for the church, let us think about how God has blessed us. Then let us think about if can give more to the church help with the budget and help and serve our neighbors.

This summer we did have to take out a note of \$5,000 at the Westside State Bank, but thanks be to God by His grace we were able to pay it off. Our church has been blessed financially and spiritually for so many years. Let us continue to use the blessings that God has given to us to use it for His glory and his purposes for the good of the Kingdom here at Zion Lutheran Church.

Blessings in Christ,  
Pastor Dose

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

ZION PROCLAIMER

# LUTHERAN WOMEN'S MISSIONARY LEAGUE

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## LADIES AID:

The Ladies Aid will be meeting on Thursday, November 6th at 1:30 pm. Hostess will be Dee Lutje. Christian Life will be led by Diane Schroeder. Election of officers will be held (Vice-President & Secretary)

## EVENING CIRCLE

The Evening Circle will be having their monthly meeting at 7:00 pm on Wednesday, November 5th at the home of Betty Nobile with Carm Thiedeman as Co-Hostess. Bring cornucopia items for church; election of officers (President & Treasurer) and also have the 2015 sign up sheets for circles and hostesses.

## CHANCEL & PARISH HELP NEEDED

In November the calendar for 2015 circles will be set up. Because of declining numbers in the Ladies Aid and the Evening Circle it has become necessary for additional help filling these circles.

This is a great opportunity for you to help out. You would be serving with at least 1 other person for one month. services. If you would be willing to help out, please contact Darleen Linde or Carm Thiedeman, Presidents of our circles or the church office.

**CHANCEL DUTIES:** Clean communion ware after each com-

munion service; provide or place flowers on the altar for services; change altar paraments as necessary.

**PARISCH CIRCLE:** Fold bulletins for each service ;



## Ready, Set, Recycle!"

The Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) of Iowa will host the 2015 National Convention in Des Moines! You can help our Guild earn funds to cover expenses by being a part of our "Ready, Set, Recycle" campaign. Bring the following recyclable items to church and place them in the box in the cloakroom off the Narthex or call Barb Brockelsby at 790-9592:

- Empty inkjet printer cartridges
- Empty laser printer cartridges
- Used cell phones
- Laptops, including power cords
- Palm Pilots (PDAs)

Please place in plastic zip-lock bags. Thank you for your help.

Unacceptable items: Toner tubes/cartridges, Ep-son printer cartridges, Cannon BCI cartridges, Remanufactured cartridges, refilled cartridges or new unopened cartridges. Any cartridge that DOES NOT have a metal print head is unacceptable.

Please do not leave Laserjet or inkjet cartridges

## 36th Biennial LWML Convention

**Bountiful Thanksgiving!!** Be nurtured with the Lord's blessings. Give God the glory with praise and thanksgiving for the bountiful harvest, for family and friends, food and nourishment. It is a good time to collaborate and plan for your trip to Des Moines, IA for the 36th Biennial LWML Convention, June 25-28, 2015. Schedule your vacation early and begin a "Bountiful! Sow \* Nourish \* Reap" fund. More details can be found on your district LWML website [www.idwlcms.org/lwmlnews.php](http://www.idwlcms.org/lwmlnews.php) or

[www.lwml-ied.org](http://www.lwml-ied.org) Download the Call for Workers and Convention Shirt order forms and share them with others.

Psalm 107:1 "Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever."



## SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

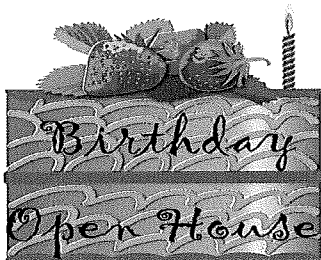
### SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Christmas is fast approaching. If your child is planning on participating in the Christmas program please have them let their teacher or the church office know as soon as possible as we are preparing for the program. During December our practices will be held on Sunday mornings during the Sunday School time. Please watch the December newsletter for more information

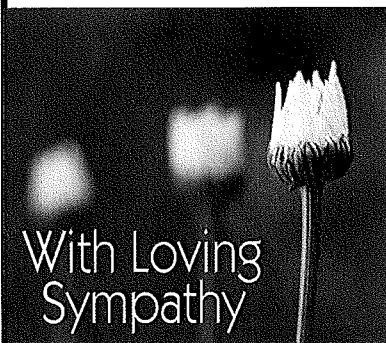
**Iowa District Sr Youth Gathering --- November 21st-Nov 23rd,  
Papillion, NE**



On Saturday, November 1st, Daylight Saving Times ends, so remember to set your clocks **BACK** 1 hour before retiring on Saturday evening.



An open house will be held here at the church on Saturday, November 8th from 1-4 pm. to help Gladys Rickers celebrate her 90th birthday.



We offer our Christian sympathies to the family of Opal Hargens. Our sister in faith was called home on Saturday, October 4th. Her mortal remains were committed to the hands of the Lord on Saturday, October 25th to await the Day of Resurrection.



*On November 1 & 2, 2014, All Saints' Day, we will remember those who have gone before us.*

*This year in our prayers, we remember those who have died in the Lord during the last year:*

+Dave Miller+

+Mildred Robson+

+Vernon Ehlers+

+Laurel Vetter+

+Opal Hargens+

#### “Ring In” 2015 in California

You are Invited—December 28, 2014-January 5, 2015 to decorate the Lutheran Hour float in Pasadena, the only Christian float, for the famous Rose Parade. For anyone 18 years old and over. Activities: Decorate Lutheran Hour and other floats for the Rose Parade; Enjoy a week of serving God and others in sunny California; Enjoy the Rose Parade in person on Colorado Blvd.; Serve the homeless on Skid Row. Cost: \$1495, includes air fare, 7 days lodging (4-5/room at Residence Inn, El Segundo, CA), ground transportation and some meals.

Complete registration form at [www.idwlcms.org/ioway.php](http://www.idwlcms.org/ioway.php) \$100 deposit required. Registration deadline is November 8, 2014. For questions, email Ellie Menz @idwlcms.org or call her at 515-370-1159

## LUTHERAN HOUR MINISTRIES

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](http://www.lutheranhour.org) Speaker: Rev. Gregory Seltz

**November 2—“Blessed in Hard Times”** During hard times, God is still with you and at work for you. (Matthew 5:1-12)

**November 9—“God is Not Against You”** Christ's work on the cross shows that God is really on our side and wants what is eternally best for us. (1Thessalonians 4:13-18)

**November 16—“S.O.S... Call Upon Jesus”** God's SOS brings real lasting hope and rescue, an SOS that shows us our Savior. (1 Thessalonians 5:9-11)

**November 23—“Clean - And Thankful”** Thanksgiving is not just a made-up holiday; it's an attitude that is the key to life. (Luke 17:11-19)

**November 30—“Watching and Waiting”** Speaker Emeritus of The Lutheran Hour: Rev. Ken Klaus Christians serve God and their neighbors as they watch and wait for Christ's return. (Mark 13:33)



The following members were elected to serve on the 2015 Church Council:

PRESIDENT:	Jeff Luetje
VICE-PRESIDENT	Al Hunter
SECRETARY:	Paulette Von Glan
TREASURER	Cindy Brockman
TRUSTEE:	Curtis Ehlers
ELDERS	Mark Rickers
	Doug Ehlers

BD STEWARDSHIP	Dan Wittrock
BD EDUCATION;	Denise Ragaller
FINANCIAL SECRETARY	Randy Bruhn

## THANKSGIVING EVE SERVICE

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*Prayer &  
Thanksgiving*



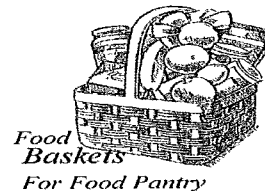
You are cordially invited to join us on Wednesday, November 26th at 6:30 pm for a special worship service of Thanksgiving and praise to God for the many blessings He has given us throughout the year. We will be celebrating Holy Communion.

What  
ARE ..... You  
Thankful  
for?

## FOOD PANTRY IN-GATHERING

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We will be having a food in-gathering for the Food Pantry's in Carroll, on Sunday, November 16th during our Worship service. Items needed are: canned fruit, soup, crackers, cereal, canned tomatoes, tomato sauce, canned spaghetti sauce, spaghetti, egg noodles, pancake mix, pancake syrup, tuna, peanut butter, jelly, pork & beans, chili beans, and non food items such as: bath soap, toothpaste, shampoo, toilet tissue and laundry soap. Cash donations are always welcome so that we might provide milk, eggs, meat, oleo, cheese, potatoes, and fresh fruits and vegetables.



## HARVEST ACCOUNT

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For the past several years many members of Zion have offered their thanks to the Lord of the Harvest by presenting a portion of their harvest to the Lord. If you would like to offer a gift to the LORD, you can do so by letting the Arcadia Co-Op know how many bushels of corn or beans you wish to have placed in Zion's Harvest Account.



*A Time to Say  
Thank You*

### **What we have**

When we look at what we want, and then compare that with what we have, we shall be unhappy.

When we think about what we really deserve, and then compare that with what we actually have, we shall thank God.

# Harvest Supper

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*The annual harvest Supper will be held on Sunday, November 2nd at the Arcadia American Legion Hall. Serving will be from 4:00-7:00 pm. The menu consists of Turkey with all of the trimmings.*

*The cost of the dinner is: \$9.00 for adults; children 5-12 yrs of age \$5 and preschool is free. Take outs are also available.*



## Honor our veterans

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Veterans Day, which is November 11 each year, is a holiday to honor America's veterans for their patriotism and willingness to serve and sacrifice for our nation's common good.

Christians follow the Prince of Peace, so war is a dilemma that often challenges people of faith. Some Christians are pacifists, while others believe in a "just war." Many believe that the goals of freedom, justice, equality and democracy are worth the cost required.

Whatever individual Christians decide about any given conflict, most Christians believe that men and women who strive to make this world free of tyrants are to be respected. As Winston Churchill said, "Never in the field of human conflict was so much owed by so many to so few."

Thank you to all the men and women who served or are now serving our country.

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### COUNT YOUR BLESSINGS

Count your blessings instead of your crosses;  
Count your gains instead of your losses.

Count your joys instead of your woes;  
Count your friends instead of your foes.

Count your smiles instead of your tears;  
Count your courage instead of your fears.

Count your full years instead of your lean;  
Count your kind deeds instead of your mean.

Count your health instead of your wealth;  
Count on God instead of yourself.



# **VETERAN'S DAY LUNCH**

**WHAT: A FREE Soup and Sandwich lunch for all Veterans and their families**

**WHEN: Veteran's Day (Tuesday, November 11) at NOON**

**WHERE: Arcadia Legion Hall**

**Your service and sacrifice has not gone unnoticed or forgotten.**

**Lunch provided by members of the community with supplemental funds from Thrivent Financial.**

**NOTE: Monthly senior lunch participants are also welcome.**

## Have we forgotten God?

We have been the recipients of the choicest bounties of heaven; we have been preserved these many years in peace and prosperity; we have grown in numbers, wealth and power as no other nation has grown.

But we have forgotten God. We have forgotten the gracious hand which preserved us in peace and multiplied and enriched and strengthened us, and we have vainly imagined, in the deceitfulness of our hearts, that all these blessings were produced by some superior wisdom and virtue of our own.

Intoxicated with unbroken success we have become too self-sufficient to feel the necessity of redeeming and preserving grace, too proud to pray to the God that made us.

It has seemed to me fit and proper that God should be solemnly, reverently and gratefully acknowledged, as with one heart and one voice, by the whole of the American people. I do therefore invite my fellow citizens in every part of the United States, and also those who are at sea and those who are sojourning in foreign lands, to set apart and observe the last Thursday of November as a day of Thanksgiving and praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the heavens.

—Abraham Lincoln,  
1863 Thanksgiving Proclamation

## Control

Things we **CANNOT** control:

- Someone else's faults
- How long we will live
- Another person's opportunities

Things we **CAN** control:

- Our attitude
- The kind of life we live
- What we do with our opportunities

## Three kinds of giving

"There are three kinds of giving: grudge giving, duty giving and thanksgiving. Grudge giving says, 'I have to'; duty giving says, 'I ought to'; and thanksgiving says, 'I want to.' The latter comes from a full heart. Thanksgiving is an open gate into the love of God."

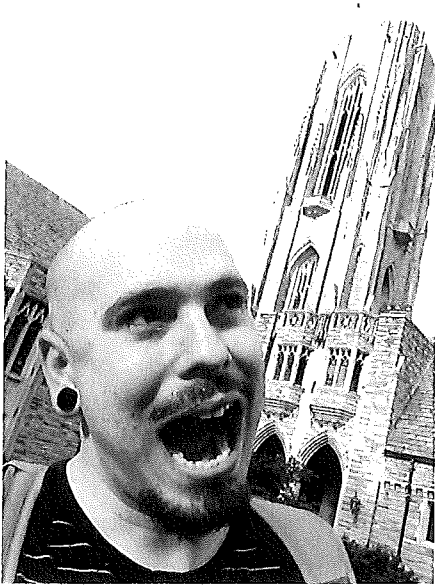
—Robert N. Rodenmayer





Zion Lutheran Church,

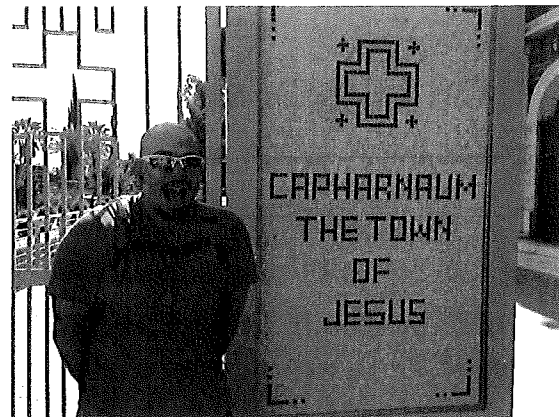
Thank you, thank you, thank you, and thank you! God has truly blessed Anna and me in many ways, and one of those blessings is you.



The first quarter to my final year at the seminary has officially started, and boy it has been busy! It's kind of strange being back in the classroom after a year out "in the real world." Vicarage was an amazing experience and I truly can say that I am looking forward to serving God in His church! I still have much to learn and I plan on soaking up all I can from my professors. Yet, I just can't wait to get back out there!

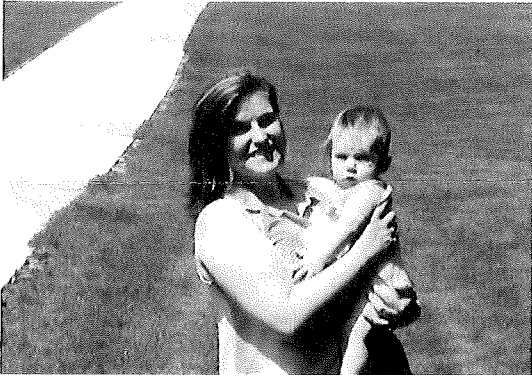
I can already tell that this year is going to go fast because Anna and I are already starting our certification and call process. We have meetings preparing us for my first call every month and interviews with faculty members as well as essays to write and applications to complete. It's hard not to get excited for Call Day, but I know I still have a lot to do until then. Please pray for my family and I as we go through this process and as God prepares a church for us.

Thank you again for your prayers while I was in Israel. That was a once in a lifetime experience and I am very glad that I went. I learned so much and I am sure that my wife has heard me talk about everything at least three times by now. We literally went everywhere. We went as far south to



Beersheba and up north to Dan. We had the chance to play in the waters of the Dead Sea, Sea of Galilee, and the Mediterranean. We visited the cities of Galilee and were even able to go up to the Western Wall of the Temple Mount.

As you might have heard, I was over there when the cease-fire ended. But we never felt as if we were in danger or in a war zone. We had to go through a lot of security checkpoints and we kept a safe distance from the bad areas. I thank God for keeping us safe and allowing us to visit the land where His people and His Son once walked. I cannot wait for the opportunity to teach what I have learned and experienced.



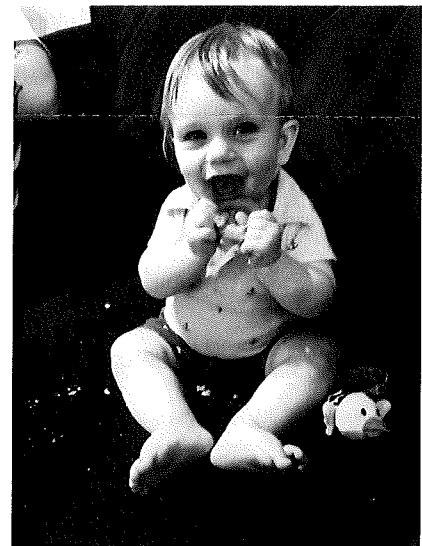
Anna and Malachi are doing great. Anna is working this year at a dancewear shop as well as teaching a dance class for inner city youth at an after school program in South St. Louis. She's been busy. Malachi is growing like a weed and is now 8 months old! He's looking more like daddy every day! I get to spend a lot of time with him after class while Anna works. I love this time with him since we didn't have a chance to really bond during vicarage. Yet, by the time mommy gets home from work, he cries with joy (he's a mama's boy ☺).

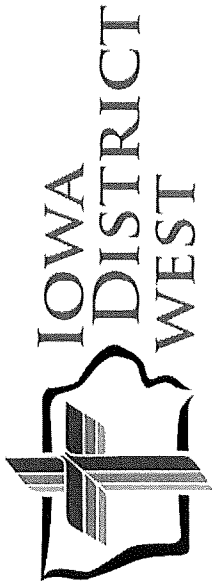
Having a baby at home makes studying a little more difficult. I knew it was going to be hard to find time to study, but I never thought life would be this hectic. It's a joyous confusion, I say. I spend my night studying after Malachi goes to bed, which is okay because I'm a "night owl" anyways. He's just the motivation I need to get this work done.

Thank you once again for everything you do for my family! Your prayers and support mean the world to us! We would not be able to have come this far in our journey without your help. You are a wonderful example of what it means to be part of the Church of Christ. Thank you!

With Christ,

Andrew, Anna, and Malachi Noble





THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD

## Planting Together

### November 2014

409 Kenyon Road, Suite B — Fort Dodge, Iowa 50501  
515-576-7666 Fax 515-576-2323 [www.idwlcms.org](http://www.idwlcms.org)

Contact email: [sue.fight@idwlcms.org](mailto:sue.fight@idwlcms.org)

The mission of Iowa District West is **Connecting, Resourcing, Optimizing, Partnering and Serving** with the member congregations for the extension of the Gospel within our communities, throughout the District, and into all the world.

#### Peacemaking



Over the past few weeks, we have been hearing the names of this year's class of Nobel Prize winners. This prestigious prize was created in November 1895, when Alfred Nobel signed his will, setting up a series of prizes in Physics, Chemistry, Medicine, Literature and Peace. Later, an additional prize was created in Economics. Each year the prize is "distributed annually to those who during the preceding year have conferred the greatest benefit on mankind." But there may also be years when the prize is not awarded because "if none of the works under consideration is found to be of the importance indicated in the first paragraph, the prize money shall be reserved until the following year."

Of the different categories of the Nobel Prize, the one for peace has often been viewed as the most prestigious, but has been awarded the least. It seems that the world has an abundance of scientists and writers, but not many peacemakers. Few qualify. It is hard to find peacemakers in our world.

The Prince of Peace, Jesus, declares that peacemaking carries the greatest award of all—to be called the children of God. "**Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God**" (Matthew 5:9). But here, we all qualify. Peacemaking is a mark of a disciple of Christ, calming the storms in homes, congregations or wherever we may be found. Having been given peace with God through Christ, you and I are called to reflect that peace to others. May God bless you as He uses you as a peacemaker today!

Rev. Steve Hayden, Executive Assistant for Youth  
[Steve.Hayden@idwlcms.org](mailto:Steve.Hayden@idwlcms.org)

#### Mission Thoughts:

- ◆ **"Making a Difference in Your Community"** – Go to [www.lhm.org/mission](http://www.lhm.org/mission), click on "Monthly Webinars" and you'll discover a list of archived webinars on a variety of topics. The one from September, or any of the others, might provide a good resource for Bible class.
- ◆ **Joining Jesus on His Mission** – Written by an LCMS pastor, this is an excellent resource for helping your members understand what it means to live on mission in their everyday life! Copies are available from the District office for \$10 and a discussion guide is available on the District website.
- ◆ **\$250 available from Thrivent for EACH Thrivent member** – go to [www.thrivent.com/actionteam](http://www.thrivent.com/actionteam) for more information. Basically each Thrivent member can receive a grant twice a year for a project impacting your local community! Imagine the possibilities!
- ◆ **District mission grants** will be available again in 2015. Go to [www.iowamissions.org](http://www.iowamissions.org) to download an application and read examples of what others have done. Deadline is March 1.

#### LERT (Lutheran Early Response Team) Training—November 22, 2014

Where: Trinity Lutheran Church, 800 North Sumner Avenue, Creston  
When: Saturday, November 22, 2014

Registration begins at 8 am with training 9am - 12pm

Facilitator: Ellie Menz, Disaster Response Coordinator

Register online at [www.idwlcms.org](http://www.idwlcms.org) (under "Calendar") or contact Jill Davis at the District office (515-576-7666).

#### News from Camp Okoboji

- ◇ Camp Okoboji is preparing for its **75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2015**. Watch for the schedule of special events from April 11–October 4, 2015.
- ◇ Camp Okoboji has almost 300 beds in heated facilities and is open all year. If you are looking for a location for a **winter retreat, snowmobiling, snowshoeing, cross country skiing, or a gathering with family or friends**, Camp Okoboji can accommodate most groups. All Camp roads and sidewalks to heated facilities have the snow removed on a regular basis. Call 866-449-3326 to make a reservation.

#### District Calendar

November 1...IOWAY Banquet, Carroll  
November 8...Treasurer Workshop, Carroll  
November 15...LERT Chainsaw Training, Jefferson  
November 22...LERT Training, Creston  
November 21-23...Youth Gathering, LaVista, NE  
November 27-28...Thanksgiving, District Office Closed

For more information on Iowa District West activities, view *The Monthly* at <http://www.idwlcms.org/publications.php>.



## What is Happening At Your Camp?

1531 Edgewood Drive  
Millford, IA 51351  
712-337-3325  
Email: [camp@campokoboji.org](mailto:camp@campokoboji.org)  
Web site: [www.campokoboji.org](http://www.campokoboji.org)

### Our Promise of Jesus at the Lake

A friendly, safe, refreshing and relaxing Christian experience.  
An excellent value for you and your family.

### Calendar:

November 2 Omelet Brunch in Support of J.O.Y. Camp

**SAINT PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH OF HARTLEY** is holding their **ANNUAL GEM AND JUNQUE SALE on Saturday, November 1 from 9 AM to 3 PM.** The "Gem and Junque Sale" is held in conjunction with the Hartley Craft Show. A huge variety of household items (no clothing) will be for sale, as well as fresh baked goods, all for a free will offering. All proceeds are designated for Camp Okoboji. **Lunch will be served from 11 AM-1 PM in the church fellowship hall.** Menu consists of a hot sandwich, mashed potatoes and gravy, salad bar, dessert and beverage for \$7.50.

**THE FALL SEASON** brings some of the best days to be at Camp Okoboji. One can see the colorful leaves, listen to the geese and ducks as they migrate south, and enjoy the quiet solitude of water lapping against the shore. *You may schedule for any length of time with Office Director Kellie Jones by calling 712-337-3325 or toll free at 866-449-3326.*

**75 Years of God's Grace:** Camp Okoboji is preparing for its **75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2015.** Watch for the schedule of special events from April 11–October 4, 2015.

**GINNY DEWALL DINING HALL READY FOR WINTER USE.** New restrooms, new doors and windows, updated electrical and plumbing, central heating and cooling make this dining facility most pleasant. Additional funds are needed for exterior soffit and siding.

**CAMP OKOBOJI WEBSITE:** Go to [www.campokoboji.org](http://www.campokoboji.org) and check out the opportunities available to you and your family for recreation and spiritual growth, as well as rest and relaxation. Camp Okoboji offers "A friendly, safe, refreshing and relaxing Christian experience – an exceptional value for you and your family." Family reunion facilities, family ministry cabins, and recreational facilities can be found there. Camp Okoboji is for the entire family. *From Labor Day through the Thursday before Memorial Day special rates are in place to make it possible for everyone to visit Camp at an affordable price.* Give a "two night/three day" stay as a gift to friends or family members for a special occasion. Call Office Director Kellie Jones at 866-449-3326.

**CAMP OKOBOJI CHRISTMAS INTERIOR DECORATING:** Monday, December 1 from 9 A.M. - 4 P.M. Six artificial trees will be set up and decorated in four buildings. If you enjoy decorating please come and help. Two of the trees are pre-lit. Please call Office Director Kellie Jones at 866-449-3326 in advance as a **light lunch will be served at noon. Additional decorations are needed.** *Should you or your friends have decorations you are no longer using and would like to donate them to Camp, please bring them to Camp by December 1, 2014.*

**WINTER LODGING AT CAMP OKOBOJI:** Camp Okoboji has almost 300 beds in heated facilities and is open all year. If you are looking for a location for a **winter retreat, snowmobiling, snowshoeing, cross country skiing, or a gathering of family or friends,** Camp Okoboji can accommodate most groups. All Camp roads and sidewalks to heated facilities have the snow removed on a regular basis. Call 866-449-3326 to make a reservation.

### Camp Staff Contact Information

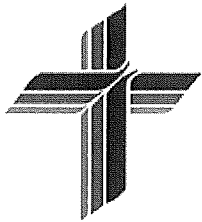
Executive Director: Doug Kading - [doug@campokoboji.org](mailto:doug@campokoboji.org)

Office Director: Kellie Jones - [kellie@campokoboji.org](mailto:kellie@campokoboji.org)

Program Director: Lori Gamble - [lori@campokoboji.org](mailto:lori@campokoboji.org)

Ministry Advancement Director: Paul Golke - [paul@campokoboji.org](mailto:paul@campokoboji.org)

Financial Director: Karrie Mullenburg - [karrie@campokoboji.org](mailto:karrie@campokoboji.org)

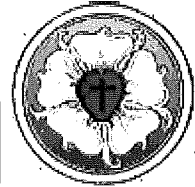


# !AMIGOS EN CRISTO!

News from the *La Iglesia Evangelical Luterana Amigos en Cristo*: Pastor Daniel Vogel, Denison, Iowa

Iowa District  
West, LCMS

Year 10, Issue 11  
NOV. 2014



## THE INSTALLATION OF THE TEACHERS OF ZION

As the new school year started Zion School Principal Tammy Langfield asked if the teachers could also be installed in our Spanish service. They were earlier installed in the Zion services in English. I was more than happy to invite them to a bilingual worship service to celebrate with our Hispanic congregation. On Sunday, September 7, the teachers and staff together with our Hispanic congregation worshipped together (picture at left). This special school has been such a blessing to our ministry among Spanish families. This year we have 10 Hispanic children in the school and 6 from the African country of Sudan. God is bringing the world to Denison and to Zion Lutheran Church and School. It takes special teachers to adjust to these students and their families. We thank the teachers and the staff at Zion School as they teach and minister to all the children of this special school.

## THE FUTURE OF OUR MINISTRY AMONG HISPANICS IN DENISON

Last month we saw the completion of the first step in our mission goal to become an independent Lutheran congregation affiliated with Iowa District West of the LCMS. We received our certificate of incorporation from the State of Iowa. We thank Zion member and lawyer Rick Franck for donating his time and expertise in preparing this legal document. The name of our new church will be: **LA IGLESIA EVANGELICA LUTERANA AMIGOS EN CRISTO**. In English that is translated: *Friends in Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church*. We have also written and translated our Constitution and By-Laws and sent it to the Iowa District West's President's office for approval. On Sunday, October 12 we met with our voters to begin studying the Constitution (see picture at right) and to make plans for the future. It's an exciting time. It's also a historic time. Our ministry is celebrating its 15th year of outreach and so it's time to become more organized and structured. But none of our Hispanic members have been through a process like this with lay leadership leading a Christian congregation. Please pray for this historic step in Jesus' church.



Jasmin and her family gathering with the members of our church for a fellowship meal and a special meeting to discuss the meaning of our newly written Constitution and By-Laws.



## THANK YOU LWML

Last month I had the honor of speaking to the Carroll Zone of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League. They met at Trinity, Coon Rapids. While Trinity is a bit hard to find in the country, it was worth the trip. We had a great gathering of very supportive and interested sisters in Christ! They asked many questions regarding our Hispanic ministry in Denison as well as our three other Hispanic missions around the District. The local leaders with their pastoral counselor, Rev. Alan Miller, gathered with Paula and I for a final picture. God bless our missionary sisters!

## MY TYSON CHAPLAINCY AT THE PLANT IN DENISON

### "Tyson's Annual Chaplains Conference"

The first week of October I went to Springdale, Arkansas for the annual Tyson Chaplains Conference at the international headquarters. In the picture at the right I am with the two other LCMS pastors who also serve as Tyson chaplains: Rev. Eric Moeller of Storm Lake and Rev. Eddie Mekasha of Omaha. Together we gathered with about 80 other Chaplains from the Tyson plants around this country, Mexico and Canada. We participated in the four day conference on how to better serve the workers of Tyson. It was a conference with presentations about the details of the Tyson business side as well as sessions on meeting the spiritual and emotional needs of all plant workers, from management to those who work by the hour. We even prepared meals for the needy of Arkansas. Our group packaged 20,000 bags of food in one hour! It was interesting to visit with the various chaplains of different denominations and to hear about their work situations in the different plants, whether they are pork, chicken or beef plants. The work is much the same at each plant. It's about the people and helping them to use their spiritual faith every day and even at work. We pray that God will continue to open doors to share the Gospel with those in the work place, those in crisis and those searching for the Truth.



### TO CONTACT ME

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\* Please forward this  
newsletter to a friend from  
[www.idwlcms.org](http://www.idwlcms.org)



**PLEASE PRAY:** + In thanksgiving for mission presentations at Trinity, Coon Rapids, and St. John's, Kiron. + For the process of affiliating with Iowa District West-LCMS and for our mission leadership and church ownership. + For my work as a Chaplain at Tyson and for our upcoming annual clergy visitation day. + In thanksgiving for our Pro-Life Walk for Life and our efforts to organize a Hispanic group. + For our upcoming annual Unity/Thanksgiving joint worship service with our four District Hispanic churches. + *In thanksgiving for the mission hearts of the many individuals and congregations of Iowa District West who monthly support the Lord's work among Hispanic immigrants in Denison and in our other three Hispanic missions.*



# Mission Opportunities

A newsletter of resources, events, and ideas to help God's people passionately, intentionally, and faithfully extend the Gospel within our communities, throughout the District, and into all the world!

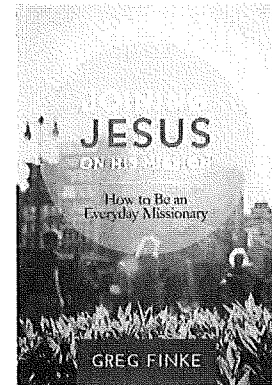
**November 2014**



**The harvest** – This time of year in the state of Iowa means a lot of activity centered around bringing in the harvest. May these ideas, resources and events assist you in leading your congregation to be passionate, intentional and faithful in gathering the spiritual harvest year-round. Just remember, before harvest time there's a lot of work in cultivating, planting, caring, and preparing before the harvest can be gathered! If I can help, pray, listen or encourage – just give me a call (or text, e-mail, etc.).

## Ideas or Discussion Starters

- **Seeing the mission field** – They say a picture is worth a thousand words. How about blowing up a picture of your community from google earth and hanging it on a conspicuous wall in your church? You could even put a cross over those households for whom you're praying!
- **"Making a Difference in Your Community"** – Go to [www.lhm.org/missionu](http://www.lhm.org/missionu), click on "Monthly Webinars" and you'll discover a list of archived webinars on a variety of topics. The one above from September, or any of the others, might provide a good resource for Bible class.
- **Joining Jesus on His Mission** – Written by an LCMS pastor, this is an excellent resource for helping your members understand what it means to live on mission in their everyday life! Copies are available from the District office for \$10 and a discussion guide is available on the District website.
- **Worker-Priest?** – More of our congregations and workers will be exploring this model in the future. Go to [www.lcms.org/rstm](http://www.lcms.org/rstm) and view a recent webinar, "Transitioning to a Worker-Priest Model" that might generate good discussion in your home or among your leadership!
- **Links to intriguing articles** - great discussion starters!
  - <https://www.barna.org/barna-update/> - "Five Trends Among the Unchurched" & "Five Ways to Connect with Millennials"
  - <http://us4.campaign-archive1.com/?u=e900691004213b8049094abdb&id=8f73f9dca6&e=bd604c3c22> – "Eight Trends Among Church Members on Social Media"
  - <http://www.centerforusmissions.com/Blog/tabid/240/EntryId/48/Do-Your-Best-and-Take-a-Nap.aspx> - "Do Your Best and Take a Nap"



- **Christmas is fast approaching** and with it the opportunity to share the joyous message with all people, beginning in your home and community. Here are just a few ideas to get the brainstorming started about ways to reach out to those in your community in the same way God did to us at Christmas:



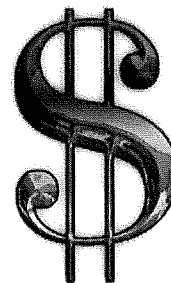
- Go to [www.lhm.org](http://www.lhm.org) and create customized Advent devotional booklets;
- Create business cards for your members to hand out inviting their friends to special events and activities sponsored by your congregation;
- Encourage your members to include unchurched friends in their celebrations and be prepared to share the meaning of Christmas in simple terminology;
- Offer free childcare for community parents, allowing them to go shopping, while you share Christ's love and the message of Christmas with their children;
- Offer free gift wrapping at a prominent location in your town's shopping area;
- Check out the archived webinar at [www.lcms.org/rstm](http://www.lcms.org/rstm) under "Rural and Small Town Mission" for more ideas presented by the Rev. Dr. Mark Larson, Director of United States Ministries for Lutheran Hour Ministries.

## Events

- **Best Practices for Ministry Conference**, February 26-28, 2015, Phoenix, AZ, a free conference for those who love the local church, the unchurched and the LCMS. It's a compendium of just what the title says. Go to [www.bestpracticesforministry.net](http://www.bestpracticesforministry.net). District scholarships available!
- **Orientation to Church Planting** – DON'T assume we're talking about planting a daughter congregation! It might mean a mercy ministry, an organized presence of members in a nearby community or something similar. Church Planting has been proven to be the most effective means for reaching the unchurched. One-day introductory workshops for pastors are scheduled on January 29 and 30 in IDW at locations to be determined. Be watching for more information!

## Funding Resources

- **\$250 available from Thrivent for EACH Thrivent member** – go to [www.thrivent.com/actionteam](http://www.thrivent.com/actionteam) for more information. Basically each Thrivent member can receive a grant twice a year for a project impacting your local community! Imagine the possibilities!
- **District mission grants** will be available again in 2015. Go to [www.iowamissions.org](http://www.iowamissions.org) to download an application and read examples of what others have done. Deadline is March 1.
- **Be Well/Serve Well** – This program for all Concordia health Plan members ends November 30. You and your congregation can each receive up to \$250 for simple activities undertaken to improve your overall health. Go to [www.mycps.org](http://www.mycps.org) for more information.

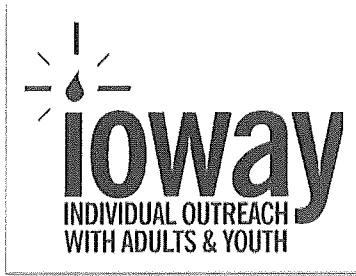


God's richest blessings and, remember, you're living in His mercy and grace!

Rev. Mark Gerken, Executive Assistant for Missions and Human Care  
[mark.gerken@idwlcms.org](mailto:mark.gerken@idwlcms.org) or 515-570-2331



## I Thank God for You



“I thank my God every time I remember you” (Philippians 1:3).

As another year comes to a close, I am humbled and thankful to each of you who continue to be generous to God’s people through IOWAY! You and your gifts continue to be a great blessing to others. Many people have been blessed by the generosity of the people of Iowa District West through mission trips and service projects.

IOWAY’s mission statement of “Serving God by Serving Others” was evident in the many IOWAY outreaches. Following are the current outreaches where we, as people who love God, are able to serve others. All of these outreaches continue to be a way that we will serve the ongoing needs.

If you listen carefully, you may hear the snipping of scissors and the buzzing of sewing machines across Iowa District West as towel kits, quilts, pillowcase dresses and T-shirt shorts are being made. You may also hear young people say, “Wow, this is fun!” as they learn how to use a sewing machine.

Young and old are working together to serve others through many projects.

HATS, crocheted or knitted, for children in Mexico and for the homeless in Iowa and California.

DRESSES made from pillowcases and SHORTS made from T-shirts for children in Haiti.

ETCH (Education To Change Haiti): for \$250 a year, you can sponsor a Haitian child’s education. It provides a child’s tuition, shoes, books, uniform, backpack and daily meal (if available at the child’s school).



TOYS for children in inner city Los Angeles, CA. Along with a toy, the children will hear about God’s greatest gift to them—Jesus. Gifts need to be unwrapped, new, for ages 0-14 with a \$5-\$10 value.

BACKPACKS and school supplies for Lewisburg, WV. IOWAY is reaching out to help Christ Our Savior of the Valley Lutheran Church. It is one of only four LCMS churches in the state of West Virginia. Needed are spiral notebooks, erasers, crayons (8, 16 or 24 count), protractors, 6” and 12” rulers, #2 lead pencils, small calculators (new or used), magic markers, scissors, colored pencils.

UNDERWEAR for homeless in Iowa and California. All sizes for men, women and children are needed. The majority of homeless are men. Have an “Undie Sunday” at your church.

MEN'S CLOTHES for the Fort Dodge Correctional Facility. Jeans and shirts, dress slacks and dress shirts, underwear, socks, shoes and T-shirts are needed by the men when they leave the prison. Please deliver to: St. Olaf Lutheran Church  
239 North 11<sup>th</sup> St  
Fort Dodge, IA 50501  
515-955-3583

QUILTS for homeless veterans. There is a great need for quilts for homeless veterans in Iowa. Any quilts that you or your church group can make or if you have some that you could donate, it would be greatly appreciated. Contact Cathy Hammel at 515-465-3272.

TOWEL KITS for personal hygiene items for the homeless. This is a great opportunity for those who sew to teach youth how to sew and to have fun supporting the ministry to the homeless.

HYGIENE items include small size shampoo, comb, deodorant, washcloth, razor, toothbrush, toothpaste and bar of soap. Empty kits and/or kits with hygiene items are needed.



Used SHOES, PURSES and BELTS for Hope Ministries in Des Moines. Over 43,000 pairs of used shoes and over 11,000 used belts and purses have been collected and given to Hope Ministries. Clean out those closets! Keep collecting!


Patterns, forms and/or additional information is available at [www.idwlcms.org](http://www.idwlcms.org) under IOWAY. Gift cards and checks are welcome for any of the above listed outreaches (saves postage). Make checks payable to IOWAY and indicate toys, health items, underwear, or school supplies.

Thank you and God bless you for your generosity.

Join IOWAY on Facebook!

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807 W. South St.  
Jefferson IA 50129  
515-370-1159

# November

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 6:00 DW/HC
2 9:00 Chr. Ed 10:00 DW/HC 4:00 Harvest Supper	3	4	5 9:30 Bible Study 4:00 Midweek 7:00 Evening Cir	6 1:30 Ladies Aid	7	8 1:00-4:00 Open house for Gladys Rickers 90 <sup>th</sup> birthday
9 9:00 Chr. Ed 10:00 DW	10	11	12 9:30 Bible Study 2:00 Midweek	13	14	15
16 9:00 Chr. Ed 10:00 DW/HC	17	18	19 9:30 Bible Study 4:00 Midweek 7:30 Council	20	21	22
23 9:00 Chr. Ed 10:00 DW	24	25	26 9:30 Bible Study 6:30 Thanksgiving Eve worship/HC	27 	28	29
30 9:00 Chr. Ed 10:00 DW						

## USHERS

Kim Brockman  
 Jeff Luetje  
 Mark Rickers  
 Roger Liechti

Jim Luetje  
 Rick Vetter  
 Gene Thiedeman

## CHANCEL CIRCLE

Diane Witt & Carn Thiedeman

## PARISH CIRCLE

Cathy Meyer & Caroline Niehaus

## ACOLYTES

11/2 Shelby Dirks & Jagger Luetje  
 11/9 Madison Owen & Kalon Cleveland  
 11/16 Drew Schurke & Hunter Klink  
 11/23 Henry Segebart & Hannah Kraus  
 11/30 Dalton Ehlers & Riley Neumann

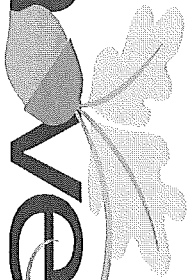
## MIDWEEK SERVERS

11/5 Diane Schurke  
 11/12 Melissa Ehlers (2 pm)  
 11/19 Melissa Ehlers  
 11/26 No class---Thanksgiving

## MARTHA CIRCLE

Phyllis Kuhl & Darleen Linde

*Birthdays*

*n*  *vember*

*Anniversaries*

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2	3 Greg Gronau Peg Himmers Amanda Hoffman Matt & Janice Witken	4 Lucas Hansman Jacob Kraus Joyce Lee Gladys Rickers	5 Mitchell Hoffman	6 Keith Vetter	7 Rahn Eischeid	8
9 Sara Schurke	10 Eddie Holdsworth Cory Wittrock	11 Caroline Dieter Curtis Ehlers	12	13	14 Stacie Muhlbauer Brian & Jean Hausman	15 Steve & Connie McCollough
16 Alison Ehlers	17 Dave Peters	18 Jean Hausman Deb Wittrock	19 Christy Hanson Dave & Lisa Gallagher	20 Tom Lipton Dan Segebart	21 Blake Hanson Evan Nelson	22 Stan Grundmeier Sharon Maasen Betty Nobiling Ryan Schurke
23 Jolene Stoelk JoAnn Wernimont	24 Jered Greene Gail Mumm	25 Deb Owen Dalaney Teske	26 Becky Vetter	27 Brayden Schmitz Elmer & Linda Irbeck	28 Jerald Luetje	29 Stacey Maasen
30 Allen Grundmeier						