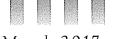


### ZION PROCLAIMER



March 2017

### The Salutary Gift

### GENERAL INTRODUCTION

The chief blessing of the Lord's Supper is made clear by the words of Christ's institution: "Given and shed for you for the *forgiveness of sins*." The forgiveness of sins, won for us on Calvary and offered in the Sacrament of our Lord's body and blood truly makes this blessed Supper a "salutary gift" (Post-Communion Collect). While the chief blessing and benefit of the Lord's Supper is the forgiveness of sins, there are several different images and metaphors used by Holy Scripture to highlight the blessings of the Lord's Supper, many of which are reflected in our hymns.

Consider the following examples: In Stephen Starke's hymn "The Tree of Life," the Lord's crucified body and blood are depicted as a life-giving fruit that flows from the tree of the cross. "For all who trust and will believe, Salvation's living fruit receive. And of this fruit so pure and sweet The Lord invites the world to eat, To find within this cross of wood The tree of life with ev'ry good" (*LSB* 561:4). This fruit is contrasted with the fruit that Adam and Eve ate in the Garden of Eden, bringing the world into sin and ruin. For the sacramentally minded Christian, it is not difficult to connect this "pure and sweet" fruit with what is received, eaten, and drunk in Holy Communion.

Another benefit of the Lord's Supper is its nourishing power. Martin Luther in the Large Catechism calls the Lord's Supper a "food of souls, which nourishes and strengthens the new man" (Part 5, par. 23). For this reason, several hymns appropriately refer to the Lord's Supper as "bread from heaven" or "living bread." Stanza 1 of *LSB* hymn 625 naturally reflects this: "Lord Jesus Christ, life-giving bread, May I in grace possess You. Let me with holy food be fed, In hunger I address You." These words remind the communicant who hungers and thirsts for righteousness (cf. Matthew 5:6) that God has lovingly prepared for him in the Sacrament a nourishing meal to strengthen him in his lifelong journey towards the promised land of heaven.

Drawing upon the scriptural themes of healing, some of our hymns depict the Lord's Supper as a healing balm or medicine. A classic example of this is David W. Rogner's hymn "Jesus Comes Today With Healing" (*LSB* 620). Stanza one emphasizes the healing benefits of Christ's body and blood: "Jesus comes today with healing, Knocking at my door, appealing, Off'ring pardon, grace, and peace. He Himself makes preparation, And I hear His invitation: "Come and taste the blessed feast." Christians who are suffering from bodily ailments may take comfort in considering the Lord's Supper as a healing medicine, seeing that the complete healing of their bodies in the resurrection begins now with the healing of the soul in the Sacrament of the Altar.

More examples will be developed throughout the course of this Lenten series. The goal of this series is to set before our eyes the many blessings and benefits of the Lord's Supper, chief among which is the forgiveness of sins. Our hymns help us in this regard by making connections that we might not otherwise make. They draw upon the themes of Holy Scripture and teach us to appreciate the full range of blessings that are present when the faithful are gathered around the life-giving, nourishing, and salutary gift of our Lord's holy body and precious blood.

### WOMEN IN MINISTRY L.W.M.L.

### LADIES AID:

The Ladies Aid will be meeting on Thursday, March 2nd at 1:30 pm. Hostess will be Phyllis Kuhl. Christian Life will be led by Shirley Wlade



### **EVENING CIRCLE**

The Evening Circle will be meeting on Wednesday, March 1st following the Midweek Lenten Services. We will be working on the confirmation banners



World Day Of Prayer will be held on Friday, March 3rd at Zion, Manning. with fellowship & coffee starting at 9 am and service to follow at 10 am



Daylight Savings time officially begins on March 12th this year. So remember to set your clock AHEAD 1 hour when you retire on Saturday evening, March 11th.



We would like to congratulate the Ar-We-Va Boys and Girls basketball teams on a great season this year.



### It's time for a good old fashioned church cleaning!!

When:

Sunday, March 26th immediately after church

(lunch will be provided)

Who:

Everyone!!! We have lots to do.

There are all kinds of projects that need to be done in and around the church. This is a fantastic service project. If you cannot come on that day, but wish to participate, please indicate on the sign up sheet when you completed your task. (sign up sheet on board by Deb's office)



### Palm Sunday with Rite of Confirmation

Sunday, April 9

10:00 am

### Maunday Thursday with Holy Communion

Thursday, April 13

11:00 am

6:30 pm

### Good Friday

Friday, April 14

11:00 am

6:30 pm

### Easter Vigil

Saturday, April 5

6:30 pm

### Easter Services with Holy Communion

Sunday April 16

7:00 am

(please note there is only 1 service on Easter Morning)

Easter Breakfast following the 7 am worship service.



The LYF will be serving an Easter Breakfast following our 7am worship service. On the menu will be scrambled eggs, sausage, rolls and muffins This is a free-will donation



A reception for our New Confirmads will be held on Wednesday, April 5, following our Midweek Lenten Service. Everyone is invited to attend.



### Midweek Lenten

March 1	11:00 am	Worship	11:30 Lunch
	6:30 pm	Worship	
March 08	11:00 am	Worship	11:30 Lunch
	6:30 pm	Worship	
March 15	11:00 am	Worship	11:30 Lunch
	6:30 pm	Worship	
March 22	11:00 am	Worship	11:30 Lunch
	6:30 pm	Worship	
March 29	11:00 am	Worship	
	6:30 pm	Worship	

# March Birthdays & Anniversaries

	26	Kash Riesberg	9	Keith Kaspersen	12	i	SUNDAY
Keith & Jane Petersen	27		20		3		MONDAY
Heather Cornelius Maggie Ragaller	28	Cat Luetje Steve McCollough Katelyn Wittrock	21	Timothy Dose	4		TUESDAY
Brooke Luetje Scot & Stacie Muhlbauer	29	Derrick Cornelius Edna Hansman Jane Vetter	22		15	1 8 Jeff Luetje Patty Vetter	WEDNESDAY
Tom Hoogestraat	30		23	Kyle Liechti Chad Wittrock Jeff & Cheryl Vetter	16	2 Lydia Dose Alex Gallagher Addison Nelson Nicole Winey Mark & Jolene Stoelk  9 Nick Bender Leta Jensen	THURSDAY
	31	Alyssia Gierman Jill Kasperbauer Gloria Popp Gary & Shelli Lenz	24	Pat Branning Myra Luetje Karlie Muhlbauer Jim Vetter Matt & Lisa McNelly	17		FRIDAY
		Sharil Lawler Steve & Linda Mumm	25	Luetta Meggers Scott Muhlbauer Cheryl Vetter	18	A Norma Luetje Ryan Neumann Irene Stark Dale & Nicky Lenz  11 Kyelar Cleveland Kris Kean Shane Kraus Lajean Shiney Dwight & Melissa Ehlers	SATURDAY

### GIRSTAN EDUGATION



The Sunday School celebrated Friendship Sunday on February 12th with putting together "Valentine Care Packages" for our local nursing homes.

### MIDWEEK SCHEDULE FOR MARCH

March 1	4 pm	Denise Ragaller
March 8	2 pm	Kimi Cleveland
March 15	4 pm	Rebecca Dose
March 22	2 pm	Stacie Muhlbauer
March 29	4 pm	Denise Ragaller





5th Hunter Klink & Sammi Hinners
12th: Hannah Kraus & Maggie Ragaller
19th Riley Neumann & Sara Schurke
25th Kalon Cleveland & Kyelar Cleveland

### **Thrivent Financial Members**

If you have not designated your 2016Thrivent Choice dollars, do it now! The March 31 deadline is fast approaching.



### "Train a Child in the way he should go..." Proverbs 22:6

What better way to train a child than to give them an opportunity to join the fun for Cub Weeks at Camp Okoboji in July! The Camp Okoboi Auxiliary is again giving away scholarships for a week at Camp for children ages 9-13.

The path is so easy. Stop by the church office and pick up an application. Applicants do need to be members of a Missouri Synod Lutheran Church.

They must in their own words—100 or less—tell our selection committee why they would love to go to camp this year. The Auxiliary will pay the child's cost and we will also pay the way for one of their pals to go with them.

Applications must be received in the Camp Office no later than March 29th. The committee will review the applications and make the selections. Please note that preference will be given to campers who have not previously won

The children selected will be announced at the Camp's Annual Meeting that will be held on April 22nd. They will be individually notified later and will receive the necessary information to complete their application for Cub Week

If you have any questions or need help with the application, you can contact Rebecca Dose.

CUB WEEK CAMP FOR 2016

July 16-22, 2017





March 2017 (Please Copy, Post, and Share)

### Camp Okoboji News What is Happening at Your Camp

1531 Edgewood Dr Milford, IA 51351 712-337-3325

Our Promise of Jesus at the Lake A friendly, safe, refreshing and relaxing Christian experience An exceptional value for you and your family

### In the

### **Under Construction** 2017 Programs and Events

April 22: Annual Meeting & Basket Auction State of the Camp Camp Board Elections Time for Congregation Delegate Sign-up

April 27-29: Wittenberg Home School Retreat May 5-7: Spring Clean-up Weekend May 12-14: Youth Volunteer Weekend

May 21-24:

**Continuing Education Workshop** Pastors, DCEs, Teachers, Lay Ministers, Deaconesses, Lay Leaders Presenter: Dr. Peter Nafzger Topic: Beginning with the End in Mind A restructured, expanded, holistic and intergenerational approach to Confirmation.

May 26-29: Veteran's Family Retreat May 28: DISCOVER Center Dedication

June 2-4: Kids Kamp

June 8-11: JOY Camp 1 (Special Needs)

June 11-14: Adventure Camp

June 11-17: Girls Sports Camp

June 18-23: Technology Camp

June 24: Quilt Auction

June 24: Paul's Bike-A-Thon Challenge

June 25-July 1: Minneboji Youth Camp

July 2-7: July 4th Family Retreat

July 9-15: Junior High Week

July 13-16: JOY Camp 2 (Special Needs)

July 16-22: Concordia Cub Week

July 23-29: High School Youth Week

July 30-Aug. 4: Family Retreat I

Aug. 6-11: Family Retreat II

Aug. 11-13: Hispanic Family Retreat

Aug. 20: Golf Outing

Aug. 25-27: Adult Retreat

Sept. 2: BBQ Cook Off Event

Sept. 20-22: Outdoor Education Sept. 28-Oct. 1: Fall Clean-up Weekend &

Volunteer Appreciation Dinner

Oct. 6-8: Fall Women's Retreat

Sunday Morning Worship: Memorial Day-

Labor Day Weekends

Omelet Brunches: 1st Sundays (May-Nov.)

### **YOUR Participation & Support Needed!** We ask our Camp Friends to . . .

- 1. Pray for the success of Camp Okoboji.
- 2. Attend Camp programs and events.
- 3. Support Camp verbally and financially.
- 4. Share Camp with others and invite them.

### Where Would You Rather Be?



Okoboji: Along Hwy 71



Camp Okoboji: Along Little Emerson Bay



Okoboji: Looking over Smiths Bay.



Camp Okoboli: Looking over the lake from the dining hall patio.



18kmm Now!

Camp Okoboji . . . The Lakes without the clutter.

Let's give new meaning to 'Going to the Lakes.'

### Camp Okoboji 2017

Consequently, you are no longer

foreigners and fellow citizens people and



### UNDER CONSTRUCTION

God's household, foundation of the prophets, with himself as the stone. In Him the is joined together become a holy Lord. And in Him,

built on the apostles and Christ Jesus chief comer whole building and rises to temple in the you too are

being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by His Spirit.

Ti



### DISCOVER CAMPaign Okoboji Update

### Campaign Exceeds \$1,400,000 Phase One Goal! Praise God!

### Contractors Descend on Discover Center

Little change has taken place on the outside. However, lots of work continues inside with plumbing, drywall, mechanical, ventilation, roof, Laborers For Christ, and paint contractors all working together (most of the time) to keep construction moving forward.

 Mark Your Calendar -**Dedication Set for Sunday, May 28** 

### - Still on the Table -

\$250,000 Matching Gift Challenge: We're within \$50,000 of meeting this Challenge! Your Support is Appreciated and Your Gift Will Still Be Matched!



### THRIVENT FINANCIAL\*

Members can make a huge Camp impact with **Action Teams and Choice Dollar Designations** 

**Don't Forget:** 

Designations must be made by March 31

For More Info, Flyers & Schedules www.campokoboji.org

### **Camp Staff Contact Information**

Executive Director: Doug Kading doug@campokoboji.org Office Director: Kellie Jones Program Director: Lori Gamble lori@campokoboji.org Min. Advance. Dir.: Paul Golke paul@campokoboji.org Bookkeeper: Karrie Mullenberg karrie@campokoboji.org

kellie@campokoboji.org



THE LUTHERAN CHURCH-MISSOURI SYNOD

# Planting Together March 2017

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

# On a Mission to Support Christ's Mission!

### March Madness



For many individuals the month of March means one thing—"March Madness," the NCAA basketball tournament. To those who don't "understand," it may seem like a lot of foolishness, but to those who embrace the game of college basketball, there's no better time of year! (I must confess that I'm in the latter group!)

There's another "March Madness" that we will observe this year. The first day of March kicks off the

church season of Lent, the 40-day period in which we journey with our Lord to the city of Jerusalem where He will be betrayed, condemned, and crucified. To many it's madness that the King of Kings would be betrayed and beaten. It's madness that the perfect Son of God would be condemned and crucified like a common criminal. It's madness that He would do all of this willingly. As St. Paul writes, *The message of the cross is foolishness* [madness?] to those who are perishing (1 Corinthians 1:18).

However, to those of us who see with the eyes of faith, it's not madness. It's love—God's indescribable, unfailing, undeserved, and perfect love for us that led Him to take our place in death for our sin. It's peace—peace with God because we have received forgiveness for all our sin. And it's victory—victory over sin, death, and Satan!

Enjoy the tournament if you like, but more importantly participate in the "March Madness" of Lent—culminating in Holy Week and Easter. Identify one practical way you can demonstrate that amazing love to one who doesn't understand the Savior. Then pray for an opportunity to explain the reasoning behind your actions!

Rev. Mark Gerken, Executive Assistant mark.gerken@idwlcms.org

# Someone hospitalized in Des Moines?

Call Chaplain Jim Brammeier at 515-707-9195 and he will visit and report back to you as an extension of your ministry.

### Prison/Jail Ministries

Rev. Glenn Bohmer (Estherville) is the Coordinator of Prison/Jail Ministries in lowa District West. If you are involved in or aware of an active ministry, we ask that you share that information with Rev. Bohmer (gsbohmer@gmail.com). If you are interested in establishing such a ministry please contact him directly for resources that may prove helpful.

### Free Resource

Do you have a Japanese friend you'd like to share the Gospel with? The Lutheran Heritage Foundation has a new, free resource that can help: a pocket-sized edition of *Luther's Small Catechism* translated into the Japanese language. To order your copy, email <a href="mailto:info@LHFmissions.org">info@LHFmissions.org</a> or call LHF at 800-554-0723. LHF has translated good Lutheran books into more than 90 languages. To search their database of free resources, go to <a href="http://www.LHFmissions.org/publications">www.LHFmissions.org/publications</a>.

# lowa Lutheran School Tuition Organization (ILSTO)

Thank you again to all who donated to ILSTO this past year. This school year 739 Lutheran students received \$742,000 in tuition assistance to attend a Lutheran elementary or secondary school in lowa. Applications for assistance are now being taken for the 2017-2018 school year. Please contact your Lutheran school for more information or our website: <a href="mailto:iowalutheransto.org">iowalutheransto.org</a>. Donations for 2017 are also being taken. Now is a good time to talk to your tax preparer about the tax credit program and how it can benefit both you and our Lutheran schools. If you have any questions about tuition assistance applications or 2017 donations, feel free to contact Dewey Torkelson at 712-260-2991.

### Calendar of Events



## March 1...Ash Wednesday

March 19...Engaging the Wandering Workshop, Wall Lake April 8...LERT Training, Immanuel, Schleswig April 8...VBS Best Practices Workshop, Zion, Manning

April 14...Good Friday, District Office Closed

April 22...Parish Nurse Convocation, District Office, Fort Dodge

April 22...Men's Network Breakfast, Holy Cross, Carlisle April 29...LERT Training, St. Paul, Hartley

May 1-2...District Pastors Conference, Sioux City

For more information on lowa District West activities, view *The Messenger* at <a href="www.idwlcms.org/publications.php">www.idwlcms.org/publications.php</a>.



### **Christ's Light for All**

John 1:9

News from the Sharp family serving the Lord in Uruguay

www.lcms.org/sharp

### HOME SERVICE UPDATE Sharps are coming back to the USA in May!

It is hard to believe sometimes that we have already been serving in Uruguay for two years. About every 22-25 months, missionaries come back to the United States for Home Service. We will be back in the States for about 8 weeks. We are finalizing the dates for our trip home to reconnect with our friends and supports and visit our families. We will be based out of Angie's hometown of Denison, Iowa, and will make a couple of trips in various directions to try to connect with and talk to and visit with and thank as many of our supports as we can. We will begin to publish a schedule as soon as the we have the information. We look forward to this opportunity to tell you all in person what we have been doing on your behalf as your missionaries in Uruguay.

Preaching dates will fill up fast, but even more important are those great opportunities we get to talk to people in smaller settings like youth groups, Bible studies, LWML meetings, church dinners, or whatever other group we can get together!

If you are interested in a visit, let us know! We are pretty flexible! We will let you know when the dates are firm but we will be in the USA from Mid-May to early August.





What a joy to preach for Confirmation Sunday at San Pablo. God bless these young people as they grow in faith in their Savior.



### Accustomed

As we were coming up to Christmas, it was getting hotter and hotter. I don't know if I'll ever get used to this – hot Christmas. People we don't know ask us a lot if we like Uruguay. We always say yes. People we know, though, we ask us a lot if we are "accustomed" to Uruguay. In Spanish, they don't say it quite the same as we do in English. We say we "get accustomed" as if it's just something that happens. In Spanish, you "accustom yourself" to new things. Some things, we are getting accustomed to. Some things, we are working hard to accustom ourselves to. Some things seem like maybe there will always be part of us that finds this place strange – like hot Christmas.

The kids, of course, are doing better with all of it that we are. After two years, our kids are pretty Uruguayan. Sometimes, if I'm not 100% sure how to say something, I ask Ambrose to make sure I got it right. It's fun to see how naturally our kids do all the little things that we have to work hard to remember.

As you come to the end of Advent, the days are getting longer, not shorter; the weather's getting warmer, not colder. When you go to the store, they are selling Christmas decorations and beach paraphernalia. This was strange to us, but it is still a time of anticipation, of looking forward, of getting ready. Then — Confirmation?? By the time Christmas rolls around, a lot of people have already gone on vacation. Instead of the busiest, most crowded services of the year, Christmas is low-key and sort of... relaxed? Through the end of December and almost all of January, Montevideo is a ghost town. There's much less traffic in the city center, there is plenty of street parking, there are fewer people on the streets. But we have gotten accustomed to it.

On January 29<sup>th</sup>, we celebrated our 2<sup>nd</sup> anniversary in Uruguay. We have been blessed in so many ways we can't count them. We are happy that we have been used to help the Lutheran Church of Uruguay in extending the Kingdom of God in this country. We thank all who are sending us here and we pray God's blessings on his whole Church throughout the world as we proclaim the true Light of Christ in this world that is lost in the darkness of sin.

### **News and Prayer Requests**

- At the City Center Mission, we are still looking for guidance and a blessing to find a new place to carry out our ministry. We have been busy looking for places to rent or to buy and trying to align a church planting strategy with the resources and needs that we have. We have some options and some potential partners. The next few months will be very important. Meanwhile, we have finished adult confirmation and three adults have asked to become members of the church. Praise God for the growth of this mission. Ask him for opportunities to witness and a place to gather. Pray for our team and members here to trust in Him more strongly.
- St Paul School is in the middle of some work both on the campus as well as a reorganization that will help both the school and church grow. This is a very important time and we are blessed to be a part of this ministry going forward. Summer is ending and school will be starting again soon. The Sharp kids will all have new teachers and new classmates (and are kind of anxious that some of their close friends aren't in their class this year). Angie will be spending more time in the classroom at the school and we will continue to work with the school chaplaincy to connect with people who participate in the school community but do not know Jesus. Pray for a good school year for the Sharp kids. Thank God for the growth of our church and school communities. Ask God to be with Angie to help her to use her gifts well as she expands her teaching ministry in the school.
- We have one of our first "nationwide" events, a Sunday School teachers' training retreat coming up in February. Training Sunday School teachers will help our missions reach families and begin making disciples of children. James is presenting on Law and Gospel in the Sunday School and Angie is organizing the whole thing and is teaching a section on classroom management and lesson planning. This is a major part of Angie's task here, putting to work her training and experience as a Lutheran school teacher. Pray for the Lord to guide and bless Angie's work and to raise up faithful people to serve as Sunday School teachers in our missions.
- We are counting down to the 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Reformation and we have been using that to reach out to people who might not know much about it. Uruguayans know Martin Luther and think of him as someone who advocated for personal freedom and freedom of conscience. They do not know much about the background or the doctrines or the Reformation. We have already had some wonderful events that allowed us to share the Gospel with people who were interested in the history of Luther but had never heard the beautiful teachings of salivation by grace alone through faith alone on account of Christ alone. Thank God for the beautiful heritage of the Reformation. Ask Him to use this occasion to open doors to share the Gospel with people who have not heard it proclaimed in its pure beauty.
- Everyone is healthy and feeling good right now. It has allowed us to be energetic and diligent in our work. Pray for the Lord to strengthen and heal us so we can carry out the tasks he gives us.
- The Chapicuy Mission is making decisions about a building on the new plot of land they bought. Thank God for this
  step in the growth of the Church here. Ask Him to provide the resources necessary to support proclamation of
  the Gospel in Northern Uruguay.
- We had a problem with our mail service. If you haven't gotten a newsletter previously, it was our fault. By our fault, I
  mean my fault, James. Thanks to Linda, Duane, and Cindy at Mission Central and Karen at LCMS Mission
  Advancement for their help in getting this straightened out. Thank God for our all helpers back home who are
  sending us here.

We know we would not be doing this important work without your help. For your prayers, support, and encouragement, THANK YOU!

Yours in the True Light, James, Angie, Elias, Ambrose, Callie, & Maggie John 1:9

<u>www.lcms.org/sharp</u> Facebook: <u>www.facebook.com/sharpmission</u> Email: <u>James.Sharp@lcmsintl.org</u> Phone: 443-421-6531 (James) 443-465-9167 (Angie) <u>Angela.Sharp@lcmsintl.org</u>

Please email us if you would like to receive this newsletter via email.

To support the LCMS through the work of the Sharp family, you may send a tax-deductible gift to:

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
P.O. Box 66861 OR
St. Louis, MO 63166-6861

Mission Central 40718 Highway E 16 Mapleton, Iowa 51034

Make checks payable to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod or LCMS. Include "Sharp-Uruguay" in the memo line.

# March 2017

12 <sup>th</sup> CHANCEL CIRCLE 19 <sup>th</sup> Shirley Ehlers & Sandy Hunter 26 <sup>th</sup>
PARISH CIRCLE  Diane Witt & Jolene Stoelk  5th:
30
11:00 Lenten Service 2:00 Midweek 6:30 Lenten Service
22 23 23 23 24 25 25 26 25 26 26 26 26 26 26 26 26 26 26 26 26 26
11:00 Lenten Service 4:00 Midweek 6:30 Lenten Service
9:30 Bible Study 16
9:30 Bible Study 11:00 Lenten Service 2:00 Midweek 6:30 Lenten Service
9
ν α
9:30 Bible Study $\begin{vmatrix} 2 \\ 1:30 \end{vmatrix}$ Ladies Aid
WEDNESDAY THURSDAY

Michael Brockman

REMINDER NO SATURDAY SERVICE ON THE 4th

Zion Lutheran Church 118 W Tracy St Box 59 Arcadia, IA 51430 Rev. Ben Dose 712-689-2441 zionluth@netins.net Non-Profit Organization Arcadia, IA 51430 Standard Mail

### FRIENDS WHO CARE

**Christian Education** 

9:00 am

**Divine Worship** 

10:00 am

