

**MAY/JUNE  
2015**

**May Dates To Remember**

5-4 Ladies Bible Study 7 pm

5-7 In The Word 1:30 pm

5-11 Ladies Bible Study 7 pm

**June Dates to Remember**

6-1 Ladies Bible Study 7 pm

6-4 In The Word 1:30 pm

6-22 Ladies Bible Study 7 pm

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**Newsletter Sponsor**

The mailing of this month's newsletter is sponsored by Steve & Sue Oberg in loving memory of their son, Chris. Thank you Steve & Sue, and God's blessings for your generosity which makes it possible for members to continue to receive the newsletters in their homes this month. Your help is greatly appreciated.

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

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**SMASH and Sunday School year are coming to a close.**

**Last Day of SMASH - May 13<sup>th</sup>**

**Last Day of Sunday School - May 24**

# St. Matthew In Action

## *Pastor's Corner*

Friends....Love your neighbor as yourself! Here is a great opportunity to learn even more about how to love your neighbor. I pray that you seriously consider attending this great event the District is hosting!

What if the resurrected Jesus were to appear in your neighborhood? Can you even begin to imagine the commotion and "buzz" it would create? How long until the news crews and paparazzi would overwhelm the neighborhood? On a more positive note, can you even begin to imagine the transformation that would occur in people's lives? What would happen as they experienced firsthand the unconditional love, the laughter and also the truth of Jesus Christ? What love, joy, and peace would begin to flow from their lives as they receive God's forgiveness, life and salvation!

I've got news for you. It's more of a possibility than you think. No, Jesus isn't going to suddenly start walking around your neighborhood. But He is present. And He is at work, desiring to bring everyone to saving faith in Him!

And now He's inviting you to join Him on the adventure of a lifetime! As a baptized child of God you are the presence of Jesus made tangible in your family, neighborhood, workplace or school. But don't worry. This isn't something that depends on you. Jesus does the work. He's inviting you simply to join Him; to simply begin by loving your neighbor as yourself, to allow His love, joy and peace to flow through you to others.

Intrigued? Excited? Petrified? Curious? Let me challenge you to simply take the first step. Plan on attending a "Living on Mission" event to be held in Iowa District West at the end of this month. There's no charge, but pre-registration is encouraged at [www.iowamissions.org](http://www.iowamissions.org). They will be facilitated by Rev. Greg Finke, an LCMS pastor and author of Joining Jesus on His Mission. Here's the schedule:

Wednesday, May 27- Grace, Le Mars (6:30-9pm)

Thursday, May 28- Zion, Denison (6:30-9pm)

Saturday, May 30- Good Shepherd, Fort Dodge (9:30am-12pm)

Sunday, May 31- Shepherd of the Valley, West Des Moines (1:30-4pm)

Living on mission with Jesus Christ is not about changing what we do when we go to church on the weekend. It is about changing what we do when we go out as the Church into our neighborhoods, workplaces and schools on Monday. The invitation to join Jesus on His mission is extended. A great first step would be to attend one of these events.

What if you were to attend? Go to [www.iowamissions.org](http://www.iowamissions.org) to register and prepare for the adventure of a lifetime!

## WEDDING ANNIVERSARY GREETINGS

With joy, we give special recognition to the following couples who are celebrating anniversaries in May & June of 50 years or more!

- ♥ May 5<sup>th</sup> – Wayne & Zola Kafton – 52
- ♥ May 27<sup>th</sup> – John & Joan Fick - 59
- ♥ June 3<sup>rd</sup> – Vernis & Marlene Phillips – 53
- ♥ June 6<sup>th</sup> – Bob & Fern Jacobson – 67
- ♥ June 15<sup>th</sup> – Melvin & Selma Schrader – 54
- ♥ June 21<sup>st</sup> – Keith & Alice Miller – 63
- ♥ June 23<sup>rd</sup> – Richard & Kay Johnson – 53

God's blessings to you! We wish you many more anniversaries and blessings to follow!

## BIRTHDAYS May/June

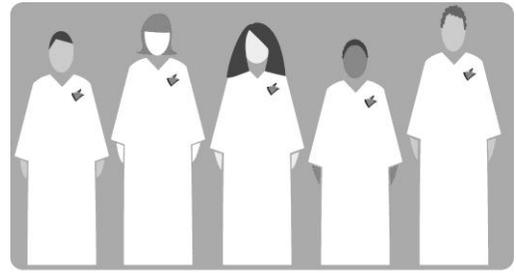
With joy, we give special recognition to those celebrating birthdays of 90 years or more.

- May 21<sup>st</sup> Vonis Reinbold - 93
- May 24<sup>th</sup> – Lillian Wodtke – 99
- May 31<sup>st</sup> – Bob Jacobson – 91
- June 3<sup>rd</sup> – Marcella Glau – 96
- June 7<sup>th</sup> – Elsie Klaus - 101

God's blessings and a very special happy birthday all of you!

## KID'S BIRTHDAYS May/June

- May 11<sup>th</sup> - Tyler Ohlmeier
- May 25<sup>th</sup> – Johannah McKibben
- Jun 7<sup>th</sup> – Charlie Forbes
- Jun 12<sup>th</sup> – Raylyn Kelm
- Jun 16<sup>th</sup> – Courtney Aden
- Jun 20<sup>th</sup> – Liam Lamb
- Jun 20<sup>th</sup> – MaKenna Meseck
- Jun 20<sup>th</sup> – Hudson Bruhn



## Kudos to Our Confirmands

Courtney Lynn Aden  
Shelby Marie Davis  
Aaron Michael Waderich

*Only God holds the future, and when you have found God, you might not know what your future holds, but you will have the blessed security of knowing who holds you now and forever. -R.G. LeTourneau*



Jackie Krusen  
Jordan Trucke  
Alisa Koithan

*Congratulations to our 2015 High School Graduates!!  
God's blessings to you as you enter into this new chapter of your lives!*

**Blessed**  
to Be a  
**Blessing**

**Blessed to Be a Blessing** stories are posted on the St. Matthew website for you to read. Thank you to those who shared how they were able to pass on this blessing. More stories will be added as others share their experience!

## Membership Changes:

**FUNERALS:** (3-6) Harold Bochmann Jr.

We extend our sympathy to family and friends in the loss of their loved one. May God comfort each of you with His promise of life eternal for those who believe that Jesus is their Lord and Savior.

## **BAPTISMS:**

(3-14) Drake Ryan Paulsen, son of Nathaniel Paulsen & Andrea Paska

(3-28) Keneleigh Marie Waderich, daughter of Wendy Waderich

## **Adult Confirmation/Profession of Faith:**

(3-29) Brett Davis & Christina Davis

Marc & Gwen Clemon

Trent Howland

Welcome! We are looking forward to fellowship with you! May your worship & Christian service at St. Matthew be a blessing to all!

## **Transferred Out:**

(4-1) Bonnie Scheer and Carla Johnson to St. Matthew, Lee's Summit, MO

**Music Opportunity:** We are looking for a music director for our Praise Team, a paid position. This individual will be responsible coordinating with the Pastor for the music portion of the 10:30 AM contemporary service, music selection, and rehearsals. Call the church office or email [stmatthewmap@longlines.com](mailto:stmatthewmap@longlines.com) if you are interested in more information.

## NEW Message Series



### **The Daily Grind-** Each. Day. Is. Hard.

Anger-Stress-Trust-Grief- Just to name a few!  
Over the coming weeks we will explore some of the daily difficulties we face in our lives. You are not the first one to deal with these things! Come and join us as we see how God's word and Jesus' love pull us through the daily grind!

## **WALTHER LEAGUE REUNION**

Plan to Attend! 2015 marks the 75<sup>th</sup> year of Camp Okoboji. The Walther League was instrumental in buying the camp, so a Walther League Reunion will be held on Saturday, June 6, 2015 at Camp Okoboji, where it all began. We hope to see you there! For more information call Lois Kuhl 515-432-3593, Janet Askew 641-740-0200 or Lois Hanusa 712-325-4378.

## **MISSION CENTRAL**

**May 14** – The world famous Dr. Dale A. Meyer will be presenting at our ***Annual Ascension Service*** here at Mission Central on May 14 @ 7 p.m. What a Joy and blessing to hear Dr. Meyer present a message on “What we are really doing here” and it's truly a message you will never forget! It's a once in a lifetime event!

**May 30** – Triple Header Event ! \*Missionary Sean Harlow serving the Lord in Taiwan and the Phillippines. \* James and Christel Neuendorf from the Dominican Republic. \*Caitlin Worden from Lima, Peru. Join us at 1:00 for this triple event!!!

**June 14 - 17**

**6 p.m. to 8 p.m.**



Join us at  
Vacation Bible  
School!

At VBS this summer we will visit Jesus' hometown Nazareth. Children going into Kindergarten through 5th

grade are welcome to join us June 14th-17th from 6-8 pm as we see what life was like when Jesus was a kid. Children will visit with Mary, go shopping at the stores in Nazareth, and play games that Jesus played. Please call Kathy Jo at the church office to register. Pre-registration is recommended. If you would be interested in volunteering please let Sarah Schmidt know at 880-2412. Hope to see you all there!

**St Matthew Lutheran Church**  
**504 Walnut Street, Mapleton, IA 51034**

**Church Staff**

**Pastor Scott A. Jensen**  
(712) 881-1163  
(712) 840-1484 cell

**Kathy Jo Hagemann**  
*Church Secretary*  
(712) 881-2243  
[stmatthewmap@longlines.com](mailto:stmatthewmap@longlines.com)

FAX (712) 881-1163

**Website:**  
[stmatthewmapleton.org](http://stmatthewmapleton.org)

**WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES**

*Traditional Worship 8:00 a.m.*  
Contemporary Worship 10:30 a.m.  
MG Sunday School 9:30 a.m



**In mid May** we will be distributing all of the articles that we have been saving all year. Please gather up all of these items and bring them to church. There will be a box in the narthex to place them. **ALSO** be generous in donating new bars of soap. This is a luxury many people around the world do not have. Clean hands/less germs/less disease/less death **Have your recyclables here to church by May 24<sup>th</sup>.**

**CONTINUING LWML PROJECTS: SAVE**

- Pop Tabs
- Used Eyeglasses
- Used Ink Cartridges – no Epson or Canon – cartridges must have a metal print head to be recyclable. Will help fund national convention.
- Boxtops for Education – cereal, etc.
- Labels for Education – Campbell soup labels, etc.
- New Bars of Soap.

## Testimony for Bible Sticks

“First and foremost, I want to thank you so much for your ministry. I've seen these BibleSticks touch and affect people's hearts, lives, and most importantly their souls. I ordered some with my previous unit and they went out fast! People were amazed by the devices and it brought me much joy seeing people working while listening to their BibleStick. We brought 200 with us to Afghanistan. I saw people wearing them before missions and right before they fell asleep. God used this to penetrate the hearts of many soldiers. I can, without a doubt, say that these BibleSticks directly brought about the salvation of many troops that we counseled overseas. You're such a blessing, and to think that you do this absolutely free just humbles me beyond all belief. I thank the Lord for you and what you're doing. It would be an honor if you could bless my new unit as well. Thanks and God Bless!”  
Chaplain's Assistant (SGT), U.S. Army