

Sign Post

**July – August
2019**

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Smile

Sign Post is online at
www.iowaeastdeaf.org.
It is the newsletter for:

Word of God Lutheran
Church for the Deaf
1515 29th St. NE
Cedar Rapids, IA 52402

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Then Moses said to the people, “Remember this day—the day when you left Egypt, the land of slavery. The Lord used his mighty hand to bring you out of there.” Exodus 13:3

When I was in school, I didn’t like history class. History was boring. Too many names, dates, and places to remember. And I didn’t understand why it was important for me to know all those things. When I was in the seminary studying to become a pastor, there was a lot of history to study, but then I understood better how history is important.

The Bible is full of a lot of history. Do we really need to remember all that? Yes! For example, you know how God saved Israel from slavery in Egypt. (Think about the 10 Commandments movie.) Moses told the people they should remember that day. Why? Because then they will remember how God saved them. If they forgot their history, then they would also forget how God saved them.

Did Jesus ever tell us to remember anything? Yes! Think about when Jesus gave His disciples the Lord’s Supper. Jesus said, “Do this to remember Me.” Paul explained that when we have the Lord’s Supper, we announce Jesus’ death. In the Lord’s Supper, we remember Jesus, especially that He died for us and that He gives us His true body and blood to forgive our sins. What if we don’t remember that? Then His gifts do us no good.

We want to remember God, His gifts for us, and the history of His work to save us! How can we learn and remember?

First, come to church. In worship and Bible study, we remember together God’s great work to save us.

Second, read and study the Bible on your own. Go to DeafJesus.org to watch videos of Bible stories. Learn and memorize the stories so you will always remember them. Also study the Small Catechism to help you learn how God works through His gifts.

Third, talk together with your brothers and sisters in Christ. You can remind and encourage each other with the good news of Jesus. Always remember!

Pastor Eckert

Dive Into God's Word

There have been conversations recently about the government and our relationship with them. Our federal government, and sometimes our state and local governments, are not as friendly to Christians as they used to be. How much should we try to change the government? How much should we obey them? These are important questions. We will look at several Bible passages to see what God teaches us about government. *Answers are on page 4.*

Where Government Comes From

1. Romans 13:1. Who created governments?
2. Romans 13:2. If you go against the government, then you are also going against who?

Government Responsibilities

3. Romans 13:3-4. If you do good and right, what should the government do?
4. If you do wrong, the government is responsible to do what? (Notice what verse 4 names the government!)

Our Responsibilities

5. Romans 13:5-7 tells us we must do several things for the government and people in authority. What should we do?
6. Can Christians serve in government? Can Christians be politicians?
7. What does 1 Timothy 2:1-2 say is our responsibility to government?

What About Bad Governments?

8. There are many governments around the world that are against Christians. In some countries, the government kills Christians or puts them in jail. In others, it is hard for Christians to find jobs. Or people burn down Christians churches or houses and the government won't help. Or as in the U.S., we see the government moving towards trying to force Christians to accept sinful behavior. Then what? Romans 13:1-7 says we must obey the government. But what if the government tells us to do wrong? Read Acts 5:28-29.

The Great Commission

From www.armoredpenguin.com/wordsearch

Cedar Rapids is beginning a new study about witnessing. God has given us the best news in the world – Jesus died and rose alive to forgive your sins and give you life! We don't want to keep that good news to ourselves. God wants us to tell other people and we want to tell others, also. When we think about witnessing or evangelism, many people think about Matthew 28:16-20. That is where Jesus told the disciples to make more disciples by baptizing and teaching.

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R E S H G E S I C N I T S A O

The eleven disciples went to the mountain in Galilee where Jesus had told them to go. When they saw Him, they bowed down in worship, but some doubted.

When Jesus came near, He spoke to them. He said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. So wherever you go, make disciples of all nations: Baptize them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Teach them to do everything I have commanded you. And remember that I am always with you until the end of time." Matthew 28:16-20

July

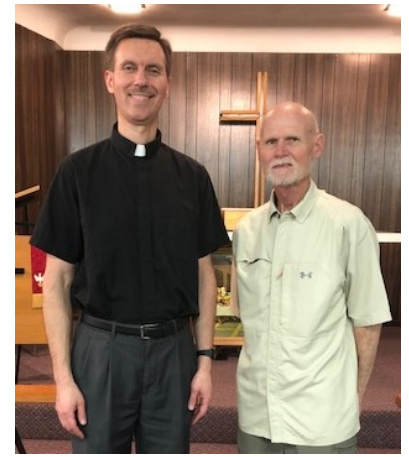
- 2 Ricky Moore
- 13 Barb Zimmerman
- 17 Lorri Green
- 31 Michael Anderson



August

- 14 Jackie Spencer
- 17 Stephen Eckert
- 26 Thomas Eaton Jr.
- 28 Mary Erpelding
- 29 Mike Currier

Congratulations to David Kern! He was confirmed and became a member of Word of God on June 9.



Answers to Dive Into God's Word, p. 2.

Where Government Comes From.

1. God created (established) governments. The Roman government persecuted Christians. The government wasn't always fair. But the Bible still says God established that government. So even if we complain about our government or say they don't do things right, God established our government. We should still obey them.
2. God says if we go against the government, then we also go against God. He put the government there. So we obey the government because we obey God. (But what if the government is against God? We discuss that later.)

Government Responsibilities

3. If you do good and right, the government should praise you.
4. If you do wrong, the government should punish you. They also have the right to put people to death for bad crimes. The Bible names the government, "God's servant." That may surprise some people. God's law is here to protect and help innocent people and punish guilty people. That is the government's main job.

Our Responsibilities

5. First, we must obey the government. Second, we pay taxes. Third, we respect and honor people who work in government. Many politicians have a reputation for being selfish, lying, and not keeping their promises. Sometimes that is true, but sometimes that is just their reputation because many people don't like politicians. No-matter, we should still show respect for all people in authority over us.
6. Yes, Christians can be politicians and serve in government. If a Christian runs for office, he or she should be sure to be honest and always do right. We also have a responsibility to vote for the people who will serve as our leaders in the best God-pleasing way.
7. We pray for our leaders. As Christians, we can come to God and pray about anything. God tells us that we should also pray for everyone in authority. Then we can have a peaceful and quiet life, which means we are free to serve God and live as Christians.

What About Bad Governments?

8. God says we should obey Him, and God says we should obey the government. But God is the higher authority. If God tells us to do something, and the government tries to stop us, we must obey God. Or if the government supports breaking God's law, we must oppose that. Here are two examples:
 - Abortion. The government allow abortion. God says to protect all life, including unborn babies. We will protect life.
 - Homosexuality/Transgenderism. The government is allowing and supporting this more and more. God says it is sinful. We will continue speaking God's truth.

July 2019

| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 Independence Day | 5 | 6 10:00 QC – Worship/Study |
|--|-----------|-----------|---|---|---|--|
| 7 * See below for worship and Bible study times. | 8 | 9 | 10 7:00 WL – Worship | 11 | 12 | 13 10:00 QC – Worship |
| 14 * See below for worship and Bible study times. | 15 | 16 | 17 ILDA – Topeka, Kansas | 18 ILDA – Topeka, Kansas | 19 ILDA – Topeka, Kansas | 20 No QC Worship today. ILDA – Topeka, Kansas |
| 21 ILDA – Topeka, Kansas No worship in CR today | 22 | 23 | 24 7:00 WL – Study | 25 1:00 MU – Worship/Study | 26 | 27 10:00 QC – Worship/Study |
| 28 * See below for worship and Bible study times. | 29 | 30 | 31 | | | |

BR – Burlington. Concordia Lutheran Church, 2901 Cliff Rd., Burlington. 1st Sunday worship at 3:00 p.m.
 CR – Cedar Rapids. Word of God Lutheran Church Deaf, 1515 - 29th St. NE, Cedar Rapids. Every Sunday, Bible Study at 10:00 a.m., Worship at 11:00 a.m. No church July 21st.
 QC – Quad Cities. Trinity Lutheran Church, 1122 W. Central Park Ave., Davenport. Every Saturday, Worship at 10:00 a.m., Study at 11:15 a.m. No church July 20th.
 WL – Waterloo/Cedar Falls. Immanuel Lutheran Church, 4820 Oster Parkway, Cedar Falls. 2nd and 4th Wednesdays worship or Bible study at 7:00 p.m.
 DU – Dubuque. Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, 2145 John F. Kennedy Rd., Dubuque. No meetings during the summer.
 MU – Muscatine. Our Savior Lutheran Church, 2611 Lucas St., Muscatine. Talk to Pastor Eckert to confirm meeting location.

August 2019

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|---|-----------|-----------|-----------------------------------|-----------|------------------------------------|--|
| | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 10:00 QC – Worship/Study |
| 4 * See below for worship and Bible study times. | 5 | 6 | 7 7:00 WL – Worship | 8 | 9 | 10 10:00 QC – Worship/Study |
| 11 * See below for worship and Bible study times. | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 1:00 MU – Worship | 17 10:00 QC – Worship/Study |
| 18 * See below for worship and Bible study times. | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 10:00 QC – Worship/Study |
| 25 * See below for worship and Bible study times. | 26 | 27 | 28 7:00 WL – Study | 29 | 30 | 31 10:00 QC – Worship/Study |

BR – Burlington. Concordia Lutheran Church, 2901 Cliff Rd., Burlington. 4th Sunday worship at 3:00 p.m.
 CR – Cedar Rapids. Word of God Lutheran Church Deaf, 1515 - 29th St. NE, Cedar Rapids. Every Sunday, Bible Study at 10:00 a.m., Worship at 11:00 a.m.
 QC – Quad Cities. Trinity Lutheran Church, 1122 W. Central Park Ave., Davenport. Every Saturday, Worship at 10:00 a.m., Study at 11:15 a.m.
 WL – Waterloo/Cedar Falls. Immanuel Lutheran Church, 4820 Oster Parkway, Cedar Falls. 1st and 4th Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.
 DU – Dubuque. Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, 2145 John F. Kennedy Rd., Dubuque. No meetings during the summer. See you in September!
 MU – Muscatine. Our Savior Lutheran Church, 2611 Lucas St., Muscatine. Talk to Pastor Eckert to confirm meeting location.

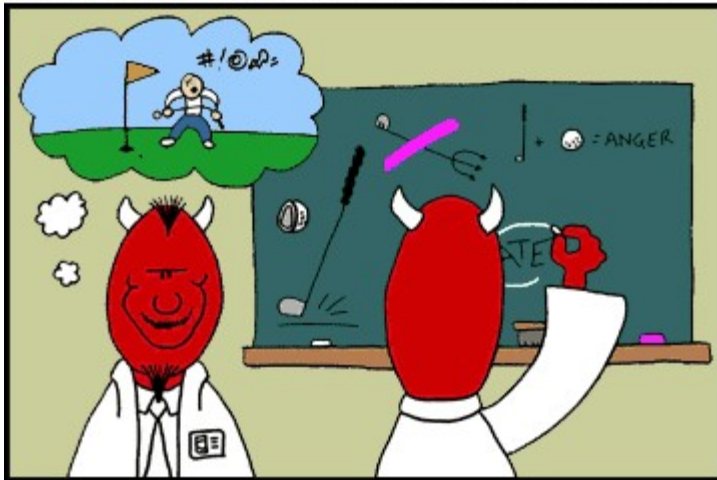
Prayers

Please remember these people in your prayers:

- ✦ Pray for the families of Pam Anderson (Pastor Mark Anderson's wife) and Bob Orr. Bob passed away in May and Pam in June. We thank God for His promise of life in Jesus that He gives to His people, and we look forward to the resurrection on the last day.
- ✦ For all who ask God to give them health: Mollie Schmitz, Doris Harris, Lorri Green, Shirley Green, Pat Monroe's father, Barbara Zimmerman, Janet Weber, Tracey Shepard, Randy Mangrich, Jerry Hanson, Joan Mass, Larry Plumb, Sharon Pope, Gerald Mitchell, Jeanette Kern, Bonnie Lou Huffman, Terry Ann Check, and Paula Slavin.
- ✦ For everyone going to the ILDA convention in Kansas. Pray for safe travel for everyone, for a good convention and encouragement for everyone to continue faithful in Christ and serving in His kingdom.
- ✦ We thank God for the freedoms we have enjoyed for many years in the U.S. It is a blessing to be free to worship God and talk about Jesus. Pray that God will continue to give us that freedom and especially to make us use it to faithfully worship Him and witness about Him.
- ✦ Pray for Andy Petajan as he studies to become a pastor and for Becky Jungklaus as she begins studying to become a deaconess.
- ✦ All shut-ins to keep strong faith in Christ Jesus.



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THE INVENTION OF GOLF

It's summertime, which means time for golf. But why would anyone invent a game that makes so many people mad? Good question...

Word of God, Davenport, is moving! Trinity Lutheran Church needs the room for their youth group. We may move to another room at Trinity or move to a different church by August 1. The next newsletter will announce our new location.

