

Sign Post

**May – June,
2022**

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

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Life Together

Jesus said, “I give you a new command. Love one another. You must love one another, just as I have loved you. If you love one another, everyone will know you are My disciples.” John 13:34-35 (NIRV)

A couple days ago, someone was telling me about a woman who doesn’t want to come to church. She said she wants to come to church, but “that person” is there. She doesn’t like “that person” and as long as “that person” is in church, she will not come. I have seen the same thing. People make enemies and if their enemy is in church, they won’t go to church.

That is not the Christian way! For a moment, don’t think about what God teaches us. Let’s just think very selfishly. Suppose you won’t go to church because your enemy is in church and you want to avoid them. Now suppose your enemy dies and goes to heaven. Then later you die. Will you tell God, “My enemy is in heaven. I don’t want to go to heaven because my enemy is there.” How foolish is that?

But that is exactly what we are doing when we make enemies, when we stay away from church because “that person” is there, and when we refuse to forgive and reconcile with people. In the Lord’s Prayer, we say, “Forgive our sins the same as we forgive people sinning against us.” Jesus taught us to pray that we will forgive people the same as God forgives us. If we will not forgive, He gives us a very serious warning: “But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.” (Matt. 6:15) If we refuse to forgive, that leads us to hell.

God gives us a much better way – love each other. You might wonder, how can we love? That person hurt me. Or maybe you think “that person” is so bad, he shouldn’t even be in church. First, remember that no one is a good person. We are all sinners. All of us deserve hell, but God loves us and forgives us freely because of Jesus. That is His free gift for you and also for your enemy. If we hold a grudge against someone, that is the same as telling God He shouldn’t forgive that person, which means He shouldn’t forgive us, either. Throw away your grudge. Thank God for His forgiveness for you and all people.

Second, God’s love brings us together. Your relationship with another person doesn’t depend on your love; it depends on God’s love for both of you. If you have trouble loving, remember how God loves both of you. Don’t avoid church. Go to church and see God loving and forgiving both of you. Then with Christ’s love and humility, show love and share life with this brother or sister in Christ.

Pastor Eckert

Dive Into God's Word

The Table of Duties

What are the husband's responsibilities? What are the wife's responsibilities?

Martin Luther's Small Catechism has a section named the "Table of Duties." The Table of Duties reminds us what our responsibilities are and how we live as Christians in the roles that God puts us in. God makes families and He has special roles and responsibilities for the husband, wife, and children. When people reject their roles and do what they want instead of what God wants, then they and the family suffer. But when we know and accept those roles and responsibilities, the family works together better and the family experiences God's blessings. *Answers are on p. 4*

HUSBANDS

Husbands, consider the needs of your wives. They are weaker than you. So treat them with respect. Honor them as those who will share with you the gracious gift of life. Then nothing will stand in the way of your prayers. (1 Peter 3:7) Husbands, love your wives. Don't be mean to them. (Colossians 3:19)

1. The world thinks about power, so the world thinks a relationship between husband and wife includes a struggle for power. So the world misunderstands these Bible verses. Peter wrote, "Husbands, consider the needs of your wives. They are weaker than you. So treat them with respect." What does that say about the husband's responsibilities?
2. Peter said, "Honor them as those who will share with you the gracious gift of life." If the husband and wife are both Christian, how does that change their relationship? What is the husband responsible to do for his Christian wife?
3. Peter said a husband should honor his wife as a Christian, so that "nothing will stand in the way of your prayers." What is Peter talking about?
4. In Colossians 3, Paul wrote, "Husbands, love your wives. Don't be mean to them." Shouldn't this be obvious? Why does Paul have to say that?

WIVES

Wives, follow the lead of your own husbands. Sarah was like that. She obeyed Abraham. She called him her master. Do you want to be like her? Then do what is right. And don't give in to fear. (1 Peter 3:1,6)

1. Peter said this to wives: "Wives, follow the lead of your own husbands." The world hates that. The world says the wife is equal to her husband and doesn't have to follow him. Why would Peter say a wife should follow her husband's lead?
2. Next, Peter gave the example of Sarah. "Sarah was like that. She obeyed Abraham. She called him her master." How was Sarah a good example?
3. Last, Peter said, "Do you want to be like her? Then do what is right. And don't give in to fear." What might the wife be afraid of? How can she not be afraid?

Prayers

Please remember these people in your prayers:

- ✦ Thank God for His love, that He sent His Son Jesus to die and rise alive for us, to give us life now and forever with Him.
- ✦ Continue to pray that God will protect people and keep them safe from COVID. Thank God that the newer variants seem to be less serious. Ask God to give our leaders wisdom to protect people's health and also protect our freedoms.
- ✦ Josh and Marianna Hoover have a new baby boy, Alex, who was born April 11. He had surgery a couple days later and is still recovering in the hospital. Thank God for his birth and also his baptism into Christ. Pray that he continues to heal and can go home soon.
- ✦ Pray for the countries of Ukraine, Russia, and all other places in the world where there is fighting or the threat of war. Ask God to give people peace and to stop leaders' lust for power.
- ✦ Pray for our leaders, that they will learn to work together peacefully and for the good of our nation. Pray that they will look for what God wants and not what will make them popular.
- ✦ Ask God to bless people with trust and health: Mollie Schmitz, Doris Harris, Shirley Green, Susan Green, Barbara Zimmerman, James Weber, Lisa Oelberg, Jerry Hanson, Curtis Bethurum, Kathy Anderson, Rosie Glime, Gary Lewis, Gerald Mitchell, Chris Wrage, Ricky Moore, Sharon Pope, Paula Slavin, Jeanette Kern, Terry Ann Check, and many family members and friends.
- ✦ Pray for Becky Jungklaus (deaconess student) and for Vince Mroz and Dan Wallis (pastoral students) as they continue their studies.
- ✦ All shut-ins to keep strong faith in Christ Jesus.



May

- 9 Janet Weber
- 13 Norman Wilson
Curtis Sparks
- 24 Barbara Saeugling
- 26 Becky Eiben



June

- 8 Matthew Brown
- 8 Linda Jackson
- 12 Beverly Brown
- 13 Tom Eaton, Sr.
- 29 Jonah Legg
- 30 Robert Gruhn

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

HUSBANDS

1. The husband is responsible for the wife. He wants to take care of his wife and what she needs. In the world, the man might need to use his power and strength to work or do things in the community. But at home, he doesn't use his power to control his wife. He is responsible for her, he attends to her needs, and he respects her.
2. If a husband and wife are both Christian, then they can love and forgive and encourage each other as Christians. Every husband is responsible to take care of what his family needs – food, clothes, a place to live, etc. A Christian husband is also responsible to teach his family the Christian faith. He should bring his wife and children to church, study with them at home, and encourage them to live a Christian life.
3. If a husband is not honoring his wife and her Christian faith, then his faith is not right. If a husband is not teaching his family and leading them as Christians, then his Christian faith is weak. That shows his faith, his worship, his prayers, are not what they should be.
4. Yes, it should be obvious that husbands should love their wives. It should be obvious that husbands should not be mean to their wives. But how many wives don't feel loved? How many husbands are mean to their wives? We always need reminders of what God wants for marriage. This love is more than just giving flowers on Valentine's Day and being nice. Paul explained in Ephesians 5:22-33 that a husband should love his wife the same as Christ loves the church. That is a big responsibility. Jesus gave up his life for the church. A husband will give up his wants so that he can take care of his wife and love her.

WIVES

1. God doesn't think or work the same as the world. God created Adam first. He made Eve second, to be a helper for Adam, to work with him. So God created the man to be the head of the family. Again, Paul said in Ephesians 5:22-33 that Christ is the head of his bride, the church. The same, the husband is the head of his wife, because their marriage is a picture of Christ and the church. But don't think the same as the world. Remember, this isn't about power. This is about love, service, responsibility, caring for another. In a Christian family where the husband is leading like Christ, the wife will want to follow her husband because he is leading in love and service.
2. God called Abraham to follow Him. Abraham believed and followed. Sarah did the right thing and followed Abraham. She honored and obeyed him. This puts a big responsibility on the husband. If the wife will honor and obey him, he must be faithful and careful to follow Christ and be a good example and leader for his wife and children to follow.
3. A wife might be afraid of her husband, afraid that he won't lead right or take care of her. Or a wife might be afraid of giving up her power or her way. Or she might be afraid of other people making fun of her for obeying her husband. Those are very real fears, especially if her husband is not a strong Christian. God encourages us to trust Him, even when we are afraid. When a Christian wife patiently loves and serves her husband, that is a strong witness to remind him to be a good Christian husband.

May 2022

1 * See below for worship and Bible study times.	2	3	4 7:00 WL – Worship	5	6	7 10:00 QC – Worship/Study
8 * See below for worship and Bible study times. Happy Mother’s Day!	9	10	11	12	13	14 No QC worship today
15 * See below for worship and Bible study times.	16	17	18 7:00 WL – Study	19	20	21 10:00 QC – Worship/Study
22 * See below for worship and Bible study times.	23	24	25	26 Ascension Day	27	28 10:00 QC – Worship/Study
29 10:00 CR– Worship No study today.	30	31				

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. Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 1705 E. Locust St., 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 Wednesday worship at 7:00 p.m., 3rd Wednesday study at 7:00 p.m.
 DU – Dubuque. Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, 2145 John F. Kennedy Rd., Dubuque. No meeting this month.

June 2022

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

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. Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 1705 E. Locust St., 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 Wednesday worship at 7:00 p.m., 3rd Wednesday study at 7:00 p.m.
 DU – Dubuque. Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, 2145 John F. Kennedy Rd., Dubuque. 2nd Saturday Study at 1:00 p.m.

Pentecost

From www.armoredpenguin.com/wordsearch

Pentecost (also named the Feast of Weeks) is a Jewish holiday that happens 50 days after Passover. It was a time to thank God for the beginning of the wheat harvest. (Exodus 34:22, Leviticus 23:15-16, Numbers 8:26) That idea of harvest or first fruits was important. The harvest was a gift from God, because God gave food for His people. The Israelites gave the first part of the harvest, called the “first fruits,” to God to thank Him for all that He gave them.

What happened on the day of Pentecost after Jesus rose alive from the dead? God gave a great gift and it resulted in a great harvest of first fruits for the Lord. God gave the Holy Spirit for the church. The Holy Spirit gave people faith in Jesus. Those new believers were the harvest of first fruits, the first new Christians who belonged to God. The reading is from Acts 2:1-11. Read all of chapter 2 for the full story of Pentecost.

A P L E R A E H M F T P Y G E
I R I U T A R P E H A I N O N
E T O N J D N U O S P I O E A
U T L S I M S I H N W O T L T
I T L S U B C U O O T H N H A
N A R S A E M E L A S U R E J
B C L R S L E B Y T R E S S G
A H A W E I M A S I T O N O G
S A N L M E S O P O T A M I A
T N G N T V C C I H E A V E N
S O U O S E N I R L L R S L B
O I A I T R E A I S P U I E O
S S G N O S R L T A O E E F S
Y S E V A P A R T H I A N S O
A P S T E G I T O T W B R I A

When the day of Pentecost came, all the believers gathered in one place. Suddenly a sound came from heaven. It was like a strong wind blowing. It filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw something that looked like fire in the shape of tongues. The flames separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit. They began to speak in languages they had not known before. The Spirit gave them the ability to do this.

Godly Jews from every country in the world were staying in Jerusalem. A crowd came together when they heard the sound. They were bewildered because each of them heard their own language being spoken. The crowd was really amazed. They asked, “Aren’t all these people who are speaking Galileans? Then why do we each hear them speaking in our own native language? We are Parthians, Medes and Elamites. We live in Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia. We are from Pontus, Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia. Others of us are from Egypt and the parts of Libya near Cyrene. Still others are visitors from Rome. Some of the visitors are Jews. Others have accepted the Jewish faith. Also, Cretans and Arabs are here. We hear all these people speaking about God’s wonders in our own languages!”

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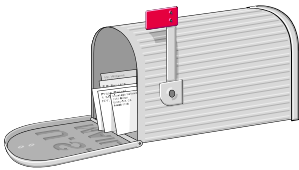


05-08-2009

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