Sign Post

November – December, 2026

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

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1515 29th St. NE
Cedar Rapids, IA 52402

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Remember how the Lord your God led you all the way. He guided you in the desert for these 40 years. He wanted to take your pride away. He wanted to test you to know what was in your hearts. He wanted to see whether you would obey his commands. He took your pride away. He let you go hungry. Then he gave you manna to eat. You and your parents had never even known anything about manna before. He tested you to teach you that man doesn't live only on bread. He also lives on every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord. Your clothes didn't wear out during these 40 years. Your feet didn't swell. Here is what I want you to know in your hearts. The Lord your God guides you, just as parents guide their children. Deuteronomy 8:2-5

Have you noticed some people always complain? They'll complain no matter it is sunny, cloudy, raining, hot or cold. They will complain about being bored or having too much to do. You can't make them happy and you're wasting your time if you try to cheer them up.

We should all know that God does not want us to be complainers like that. A right Christian attitude is to be thankful for everything He does for us and gives us.

What does God do for us? The Apostles' Creed and Nicene Creed are good summaries. They are both divided into three parts for the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Each part teaches what God does for us.

Part 1 – God the Father. God teaches us that He created us and He continues to take care of us. He made us, body and soul, and gives us everything we need for life. We should trust in Him to care for us and thank, praise, serve and obey Him.

Part 2 – God the Son, Jesus. Jesus is true God and true Man and He is my Savior. I was a lost sinner, but Jesus died to forgive my sin and save me. Now I belong to Him and live as His holy child.

Part 3 – God the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit used Baptism and God's Word to give me faith in Jesus. He continues to forgive my sins and keep me in faith in Jesus. In the end, He will raise me alive with all believers and give me eternal life with Jesus.

Continued on p. 2

Living in Thanks (continued from p. 1)

Think about all of those things God does for us, how He gives us life in this world and eternal life with Jesus. We will want to thank and praise Him!

Do you remember the stories about the Israelites in the desert? God saved them and Moses led them out of Egypt. They were free and no longer slaves! But almost immediately they began complaining. And they complained for all 40 years that they wandered in the wilderness. No food. No water. Moses was a bad leader. God was against them. Again and again they complained. It is amazing that God didn't just destroy them all.

Deuteronomy 8 taught them a better way to think about their experiences. Instead of looking at the problems, look at God and what He is doing. Don't complain about clothes. Instead, thank God that He didn't let your clothes wear out for 40 years. Don't complain about food. Instead, thank God that He is feeding you manna. More than that, thank Him for His word that gives us true life.

That is a good reminder for us. We all have times that we complain about things. This Thanksgiving and every day, instead of looking at what is wrong and complaining, look at God and thank Him for how He is taking care of you.

Pastor Eckert

Prayers

Please remember these in your prayers:

- Thank God that He always gives us what is best, especially His greatest gift in Jesus as our Savior. Ask Him to continue to protect us from all things evil and to make us want only His good blessings.
- Thank God for our newly elected leaders. Whether we agree with them or disagree with them, God tells us to pray for them, obey them, and encourage them to do their duty. Ask God to lead them to do what He wants for our nation and for His people.
- Pray for people throughout the world who are experiencing difficult times – the wars in and around Ukraine, Israel and Iran, the protests in Europe, and flooding and drought in various places.
- Ask God to bless people with health: Norma Jean Mangrich, Kent Kischer, Jay Oelberg, Lisa Oelberg, Connie Neely, Janet Weber, James Weber, Curtis Bethurum, Kathy Anderson, JoAnn Mitchell, Chris Wrage, Ricky Moore, Paula Slavin, Nancy Griffin, and many family members and friends.
- Pray for the family of Rosie Glime. She went home to be with Jesus in September. Ask God to give her family and friends peace, joy, and hope in His promise of resurrection and life for all His people.
- Pray for peace and for protection for our military serving around the world.
- Pray for Calvary Lutheran Church for the Deaf in Des Moines as they work with Iowa District West to plan the future of the deaf ministry there.
- All shut-ins to keep strong faith in Christ Jesus.

Dive Into God's Word

Angels Announce the Savior

Angels are in the story of Jesus' birth four times. Each time, they had a wonderful message to say that the Savior was coming soon, or that the Savior was born. Read the four stories and answer the questions. *Answers are on page 4.*

1. Read Luke 1:5-25.
   a. The angel Gabriel appeared to who?
   b. What good news did the angel tell Zechariah?
   c. How did Zechariah react? Did he believe the message?

2. Read Luke 1:26-38.
   a. Next, the angel Gabriel came to who?
   b. What good news did the angel tell Mary?
   c. At first, Mary was puzzled and wondered how she could have a baby. What did the angel say? How would Mary become pregnant? (verse 35)
   d. Now what did Mary say? Did she doubt God's plans? (verse 38)

3. Read Matthew 1:18-25.
   a. What was Joseph planning to do? (verses 18-19)
   b. What did the angel say about Jesus? What will Jesus do?
   c. Did the angel's message change Joseph's mind? What did he do after the dream?

4. Read Luke 2:1-20.
   a. Who did the angels come to?
   b. What did the angels say about Jesus Christ?
   c. After the angels left, what did the shepherds do?

Notice that every time the angels spoke God's word. Zechariah doubted, but then later believed. Everyone else believed right away and they did things that showed they believed. These people are good examples for us.

God gives us good news about Jesus, our Savior. We can also believe His message that Jesus takes away our sin and then live to show that Jesus forgives us!

Answers to Dive Into God's Word, p. 3.

1. Luke 1:5-25.
   a. Zechariah, a priest.
   b. The angel said Zechariah and his wife (Elizabeth) would have a son and name him John. John will be a great man, filled with the Holy Spirit. He will lead God's people back to God.
   c. Zechariah had trouble believing the message because he and his wife were old and could never have children.

2. Read Luke 1:26-38.
   a. The angel Gabriel came to Mary.
   b. The angel told Mary that God was with her. She would become pregnant and give birth to the Son of God, the Savior.
   c. The Holy Spirit would make her become pregnant. That is why her baby would be the Son of God.
   d. Mary said let it happen the same as the angel said. Mary trusted God's word and plans.

3. Read Matthew 1:18-25.
   a. Joseph was planning to divorce Mary. He learned that Mary was pregnant and he was not the father.
   b. The angel said that Mary is pregnant from the Holy Spirit. Joseph should name the baby "Jesus" because He will save His people from their sins. (The name "Jesus" means "God saves.")
   c. Yes, he did what the angel said. Joseph did not divorce Mary. He married her, named the baby Jesus, and was an adoptive father for Jesus.

4. Read Luke 2:1-20.
   a. The angels came to shepherds in the field.
   b. The angels said Jesus is the Savior, Christ the Lord, and that He was born for them today.
   c. The shepherds hurried to Bethlehem to see Jesus. They knew the angels told them so they could go see Jesus. They searched and found Jesus. Then they told people what the angels said about Jesus. After that, they went back to the fields and praised God.

November

1 Agnes Mundhank
4 David Legg
5 Kathy Anderson
Lisa Oelberg
6 Tracey Shepard
Gary Lewis
8 Lilly Anderson
12 Wanda McAllister
14 Chris Wrage
15 Doris Ciha
19 Vicki Morris
Pastor Tim Eckert
Mike Check



20 Melody Schulte
22 Josh Hoover
23 Shirley Hampton
26 Kelani Purdy-Allen
28 Paula Slavin
30 Rhonda Regenwether

December

1 Jennifer Legg
11 Sheri Pohlman
25 Jesus Christ

November 2026

1 * See below for worship and Bible study times.	**2**	**3**	**4** 7:00 WL – Worship	**5**	**6**	**7** 10:00 DU – Bible Study 3:00 QC – Worship
8 * See below for worship and Bible study times.	**9**	**10**	**11**	**12**	**13**	**14** 3:00 QC – Worship
15 * See below for worship and Bible study times.	**16**	**17**	**18** 7:00 WL – Study	**19**	**20**	**21** 3:00 QC – Worship
22 * See below for worship and Bible study times.	**23**	**24**	**25**	**26** **Happy Thanksgiving!**	**27** 3:00 QC – Worship	**28**
29 * See below for worship and Bible study times.	**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 3:00 p.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. 1st Saturday Study at 10:00 a.m.

December 2026

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

BR – Burlington. Concordia Lutheran Church, 2901 Cliff Rd., Burlington. 3rd 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 3:00 p.m.
WL – Waterloo/Cedar Falls. Immanuel Lutheran Church, 4820 Oster Parkway, Cedar Falls. 1st Wednesday study at 7:00 p.m., 3rd Wednesday worship at 7:00 p.m.
DU – Dubuque. Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, 2145 John F. Kennedy Rd., Dubuque. 2nd Saturday Study at 10:00 a.m.

Christmas Joy

Created on https://armoredpenguin.com/wordsearch/

At Christmas, Jesus was born and God showed the beginning of His plan of salvation. That is a reason to rejoice and thank God. Many of the Psalms cry out to God for salvation, and many Psalms thank and praise God for salvation. Psalm 98 praises God because He saves and loves His people. The words in the search are from Psalm 98:1-6. Find the underlined words.

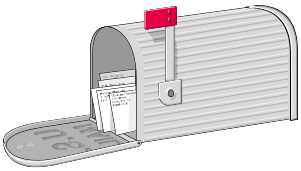
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P T L L W P O H L H T L A M N
O T L S E M O U U H H U F A E
E V O L L U F H T I A F O O T
P N O F T R R R R G N Y G H H
G A N W E T A T N O D O W N A
A T D D H E A I U N I J V S C
P I N R O H S M A R O V E H C
H O L Y A R M R W U U E F E O
W N W E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

Sing a new song to the Lord. He has done wonderful things.
By the power of His right hand and His holy arm He has saved His people.
The Lord has made known His power to save. He has shown the nations that He does what is right.
He has shown His faithful love to the people of Israel.
People from one end of the earth to the other have seen that our God has saved us.
Shout for joy to the Lord, everyone on earth. Burst into joyful songs and make music.
Make music to the Lord with the harp.
Sing and make music with the harp.
Blow the trumpets. Give a blast on the ram's horn. Shout for joy to the Lord. He is the King.



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Postal Carrier: Have a great day!

