

Sign Post

**September –
October 2019**

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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
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The grass dies and the flower falls, but the Word of our God continues forever. Isaiah 40:8

50 years! Our congregation celebrates our 50th anniversary this year with the big day for the celebration on September 22. We are also thanking God for the 45 years we have been in our church building.

What are we really celebrating? We have had many potlucks and dinners over the years. We have enjoyed fellowship with many people. There have been many groups that have met for work, service or study – senior citizens, LWML, Bible studies, and other groups. For 45 years, we have owned our own church building in Cedar Rapids. Our pastors have served multiple preaching stations around Eastern Iowa. We thank God for all of these blessings.

But there is one most important thing we celebrate most of all. Jesus is our Savior. Without Him, we would have no life, no salvation, and no reason to celebrate. He made us and gives us everything we have. When we celebrate 50 years, we are really thanking God for 50 years of blessings He gives us through Jesus.

Have you ever wondered about the name of our church, what it means? “Word of God” has two important meanings. First, the Word of God is Jesus Himself. John 1:1-14 talks about Jesus as the Word of God. There are other verses that also say Jesus is the Word of God, but John 1 is one of the most clear. Jesus is the one who is God’s powerful Word to teach and do everything God planned to save us.

Second, where do we learn about Jesus? In the Bible, which is God’s Word. The Bible shows us that Jesus is our Savior who died and rose alive to forgive our sins and give us life. So we love God’s Word in the Bible and want to read it, study it, and see His Word in worship.

Word of God Lutheran Church for the Deaf has been here 50 years to teach God’s Word (the Bible) so people can believe God’s Word (Jesus) saves them. We want everyone to know that this world is temporary, but God’s Word is eternal. When you belong to Him, your life will also continue forever.

Pastor Eckert

Dive Into God's Word

On our theme of Isaiah 40:8, we will study the Bible itself in this newsletter. What is the Bible? Who wrote it? Why? *Answers are on page 4.*

What is the Bible?

1. The Bible is God's _____ . 2 Timothy 3:14-17
2. The Bible is a collection of how many books? Written by many different people in many different times.

The Bible is a history of God working in the world. God created this world. God chose people from this world to belong to Him. He sent His Son Jesus to save people. And He continues to work today through His church. In all of that, God is working in history and working in His world. The Bible tells that story.

Who wrote it? When?

3. The Bible has two main parts, the _____ Testament and the _____ Testament.

The Old Testament was written from around 1450 B.C. to 400 B.C.

4. _____ wrote the first 5 books (Genesis to Deuteronomy) around 1450 B.C.
Malachi, Ezra and Nehemiah were probably the last books written around 450-400 B.C.

The New Testament was written from around 45 A.D. to 100 A.D.

James was probably written around 45 A.D. Matthew and Mark maybe around 50 A.D.
John, 1 John, 2 John, 3 John, and Revelation were written around 90-100 A.D.

Why did they write the Bible?

It is easy for us to think, "People wrote the Bible because God wanted them to write it." But why did God tell them to write it? We will see a few of the reasons here.

Old Testament

5. God said to write this down so people _____ what happened. Exodus 17:14.
6. So the people can meditate (think about) His teachings _____ and _____. Joshua 1:8.
7. To teach future generations to _____ God. Psalm 102:18.
8. To remember that God _____ and _____ them to belong to Him. Deuteronomy 4:37.
9. To show that God's teaching gives _____ and _____. Proverbs 3:1-2.
10. To record all the _____ God spoke to His people. Jeremiah 30:1-3.
11. To show the people and remind them that they _____ against God. Daniel 9:9-11.
12. To tell about God's plan to send the _____. Genesis 3:15, Isaiah 7:14, Isaiah 53

New Testament

13. To record the story of everything that happened, then we can know for certain what we have been _____. Luke 1:1-4.
14. To _____ us and teach us. 1 Corinthians 10:11
15. To teach us how to _____ and behave as Christians. 1 Timothy 3:14-15.

- 16. To write down what the disciples _____ and heard Jesus say and do. 1 John 1:1-5, John 21:24.
- 17. To teach us, encourage us, and give us _____. Romans 15:4, 1 Peter 5:12.
- 18. To tell us not to _____, but if we do sin, to remind us that we have a Savior, Jesus. 1 John 2:1-2.
- 19. The Old Testament wrote about _____. John 5:46, Luke 24:44-47
- 20. To warn us against false _____. 1 John 2:26

Why do we have the Bible?

These two Bible verses explain the best why we have the Bible.

John 20:30-31.

- 21. The Bible was written so you can _____.
- 22. Can you believe in anyone you want? Who should we believe in?
- 23. Who is Jesus? What do these verses say about Jesus?
- 24. By believing, you may have _____ in His _____. Only Jesus gives life. He gives life only through faith in Him.

2 Timothy 3:14-17.

- 25. The Bible (the Holy Scriptures) gives you _____ so you can be _____ through faith in Jesus.
- 26. God’s word trains us for a righteous _____. 2 Timothy 3:16
- 27. God’s word also makes us ready for a life full of _____ works. 2 Timothy 3:17

Loving God’s Word

Created on www.armoredpenguin.com/wordsearch

The Psalms often talk about loving and obeying God’s law. Only Jesus perfectly did that, and He did that for us. But God still calls us to love Him and do what His word says. Psalm 119 is about loving God’s word and following it.

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

Word List

Psalm 119:33-40. Teach me, Lord, the meaning of your laws, and I will obey them at all times. Explain your law to me, and I will obey it; I will keep it with all my heart. Keep me obedient to your commandments, because in them I find happiness. Give me the desire to obey your laws rather than to get rich. Keep me from paying attention to what is worthless; be good to me, as you have promised. Keep your promise to me, your servant—the promise you make to those who obey you. Save me from the insults I fear; how wonderful are your judgments! I want to obey your commands; give me new life, for you are righteous.

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

1. The Bible is God's Word.
2. The Bible is a collection of 66 books. 39 books in the Old Testament, 27 books in the New Testament.
3. The Bible has two main parts, the Old Testament and the New Testament.
4. Moses wrote the first 5 books (Genesis to Deuteronomy).
5. God said to write this down so people remembered what happened. Exodus 17:14.
6. So the people can meditate (think about) His teachings night and day. Joshua 1:8.
7. To teach future generations to praise God. Psalm 102:18.
8. To remember that God loved and chose them to belong to Him. Deuteronomy 4:37.
9. To show that God's teaching gives life and peace. Proverbs 3:1-2.
10. To record all the words God spoke to His people. Jeremiah 30:1-3.
11. To show the people and remind them that they rebelled against God. Daniel 9:9-11.
12. To tell about God's plan to send the Savior. Genesis 3:15, Isaiah 7:14, Isaiah 53
13. To record the story of everything that happened, then we can know for certain what we have been taught. Luke 1:1-4.
14. To warn us and teach us. 1 Corinthians 4:14
15. To teach us how to live and behave as Christians. 1 Timothy 3:14-15.
16. To write down what the disciples saw and heard Jesus say and do. 1 John 1:1-5, John 21:24.
17. To teach us, encourage us, and give us encouragement. Romans 15:4, 1 Peter 5:12.
18. To tell us not to sin, but if we do sin, to remind us that we have a Savior, Jesus. 1 John 2:1-2.
19. The Old Testament wrote about Jesus. John 5:46, Luke 24:44-47.
20. To warn us against false teaching. 1 John 2:26
21. The Bible was written so you can believe.
22. No, we don't believe in anyone we want. The Bible tells us to believe in Jesus.
23. John 20:30-31 says Jesus is the Christ (Messiah), the Son of God. He is the Christ means He is our Savior. He is the only one God sent to save us. No one else can save us. He is the Son of God means He is true God Himself. He is able to save us. Also, that means we can and should worship and believe in Him.
24. By believing, you may have life in His name. Only Jesus gives life. He gives life only through faith in Him.
25. The Bible (the Holy Scriptures) gives you wisdom so you can be saved through faith in Jesus.
26. God's word trains us for a righteous life. 2 Timothy 3:16
27. God's word also makes us ready for a life full of good works. 2 Timothy 3:17

September

- 1 Lynn Eiben
- 5 Carissa Huffman
- 13 Jim Biwer
- 15 Karlene Kischer-Browne
- 26 Kent Kischer
- 27 Mollie Schmitz



October

- 9 Sharon Pope
- 12 James Weber
- 17 Kris Baltzer
- 29 April Powell

September 2019

1	2	3	4 10:00 CR – Cleaning Day 7:00 WL – Worship	5	6	7 10:00 QC – Worship/Study
8 * See below for worship and Bible study times. CR – Voters’ Meeting/Potluck	9	10	11 10:00 CR – Senior Citizens	12	13	14 10:00 QC – Worship 1:00 DU – Study
15 * See below for worship and Bible study times.	16	17	18 7:00 WL – Study	19	20 1:00 MU – Worship/Study	21 10:00 QC – Worship/Study
22 50th Anniversary Celebration! See flyer for the schedule.	23	24	25	26	27	28 10:00 QC – Worship/Study
29 * See below for worship and Bible study times.	30					

BR – Burlington. Concordia Lutheran Church, 2901 Cliff Rd., Burlington. 5th 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 3rd Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.
 DU – Dubuque. Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, 2145 John F. Kennedy Rd., Dubuque. 2nd Saturday at 1:00 p.m.
 MU – Muscatine. Our Savior Lutheran Church, 2611 Lucas St., Muscatine. Talk to Pastor Eckert to confirm meeting location.

October 2019

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

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 3rd Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.
 DU – Dubuque. Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, 2145 John F. Kennedy Rd., Dubuque. 2nd Saturday, Bible Study at 1:00 p.m.
 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:

- ✦ Thank and praise God for all the work He has done through Word of God Lutheran Church for the Deaf for the past 50 years! Pray that God will continue to work through His Word, Baptism and the Lord's Supper in this place, and work through us. We want the church to continue to serve Him and His kingdom.
- ✦ For all who ask God to give them health: Mollie Schmitz, Doris Harris, Lorri Green, Shirley Green, Barbara Zimmerman, Janet Weber, Tracey Shepard, Randy Mangrich, Jerry Hanson, Joan Mass, Larry Plumb, Sharon Pope, Gerald and JoAnn Mitchell, Jeanette Kern, Bonnie Lou Huffman, Terry Ann Check, Paula Slavin, and many family members and friends.
- ✦ For Pat Monroe and her family after her father passed away in August. Pat spent a lot of time caring for both of her parents. We pray that God will give her and her family His peace and hope.
- ✦ Our nation continues to be very divided over important issues, but also is very divided over what is right and wrong and how we live. Ask God to lead the whole nation to sorrow and repentance over our fighting and rebellion against Him. Pray that people will trust in God again and see that His ways are best.
- ✦ Ask God to take care of David and Jeanette Kern as they plan to move to Colorado to be closer to their daughter.
- ✦ Pray for our brothers and sisters in Christ around the world who are suffering because they are Christians. Make them strong to continue faithful to Jesus even through persecution.
- ✦ 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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Thanks to Colin Nelson

10-01-2007

I USUALLY SAY TO NOT BELIEVE
EVERYTHING THAT YOU READ, BUT THIS IS
AN EXCEPTION

Barb Zimmerman Receives Uriel C. Jones Right Hand Award

The Right Hand Award is an award from the International Lutheran Deaf Association that recognizes a deaf person who has a long history of volunteer Christian service to the church and community. This award is given every two years at the International Lutheran Deaf Association (ILDA) convention. The ILDA convention met in Topeka, Kansas, this past July and gave the award to Barb. Word of God nominated her earlier in the year. Barb was not able to be there, but she was able to watch on VP and see the announcement that the award was being given to her. The photo is of Barb, her son Bill Jr. and daughter-in-law Susie when she received the award in Waterloo. Past Word of God members who received the award were Bill Zimmerman (2017) and Lester Ahls (1991). Congratulations!



Interesting Historical Notes about Word of God

This isn't a full history of Word of God. But this highlights a few interesting things that happened in the beginning, even long before Word of God began in 1969. The work began long before any of us!

1923	Rev. N.P. Uhlig of Cedar Rapids began preaching to the deaf. About the same time, Rev. J.A. Beyer of St. Paul, Minn., began preaching to the deaf in Dubuque, Davenport, and Decorah. Later, he also preached in Waterloo and Mason City.
1955	Rev. Victor Mesenbring was the pastor in Des Moines. He traveled regularly to preach in Cedar Falls, Mason City, Cedar Rapids, Burlington, and Rock Island, Illinois. Rev. Laurence Stacy then became the pastor and added Oskaloosa.
1958 & 1965	Rev. Clark Bailey and Rev. James Bengelsdorf were pastors in Des Moines and continued traveling to Iowa East to serve the deaf.
Feb. 16, 1969	Rev. Quintin Quade was installed as a missionary to begin a deaf congregation in Cedar Rapids.
Dec. 28, 1969	Word of God Lutheran Church for the Deaf is officially incorporated in Iowa.
July 1973	Rev. Allan Page was installed as the second pastor of Word of God.
October 1974	Word of God bought the church building at 1515 29 th St. NE from a Nazarene church and moved in.

50 Years of Blessings



Word of God Lutheran Church for the Deaf

Sunday, September 22, 2019

10:00 a.m. Bible Study

11:00 a.m. Worship. Rev. Mark Anderson, guest preacher

12:30 p.m. Catered meal, visiting, historical items, and more!

Everyone is invited!

Deaf community, family and friends

Former pastors and their families

Preaching stations in Iowa East

Sister congregations

***To help us plan the meal, RSVP to iowaeastdeaf@yahoo.com by Sept. 15.
Come celebrate with us!***

1515 29th St. NE, Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52402