

# March

## The Joyful Noise

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More on "Follow Me" Mark 1:17

One of the issues that seems to be facing the church today is the ability to reach people for the kingdom of God, specifically young people.

The goal of the church, (wait better put) the church exists to make more followers of Jesus Christ. Why are so many not willing to step foot in the church?

Where is the disconnect? Why is church attendance down? Why are people turning away from their spiritual lives and becoming more like the world?

In the midst of a more ever-present secular world, with watered down gospel teachings, and poor models of discipleship. It is hard to not miss the poor job the church has done as a whole of getting the message of Christ out to the unbelieving world, and furthermore being able to relate to real people with real struggles.

While you could make the argument that reaching a younger audience is more important now than ever, (wait no it isn't) it has always been important! The church seems to be doing a poor job at relating to younger audiences. Or maybe we are just too comfortable with what we've always done?

Maybe we aren't doing a good job of meeting people where they are? Maybe church isn't all that inviting to someone who has never stepped foot into a church or is afraid to come in again because of past hurt or fear of judgement they may get.

The earthly ministry of Jesus, he was always meeting those he encountered where they were. He didn't judge, or tell the people he encountered how they had messed up, or rub their nose in what they had done. Rather, he pointed them back to the kingdom of God in one way or another.

Again, back to the reason the church was created. To bring honor to God and bring people in for God. To celebrate God's love and presence in our lives through the gift of the Holy Spirit.

The Bible teaches us to love others where they are at. Not pretending we have it all together in our pew for an hour a week so the people who feel like they don't have it together don't feel welcomed to come in because they feel they will get judged by the people who do have it together. Many churches may be missing the mark. A church should look more like a hospital.

No doubt reaching the lost, specifically the younger generation of today, is a major issue the church will continue to face, and is not going away.

"Loved people love people, and we can love because He first loved us, so love people!"

Faith in Christ allows us to take Jesus into our DAILY LIVES and shine light in the dark by knowing:

-Jesus is alive!

-Our faith in Christ saves us from eternal separation from God.

-Being a Christian is a whole life commitment, not just an hour a week.

-Being a follower of Jesus means teaching (and learning) from others in their discipleship. (an open mind says I can learn something from everyone)

-Worshipping God with others changes our relationship with God. (Where two or more gather in my name there I am with them -Matthew 18:20)

Grace and peace,  
Pastor T



If you would like to be included in the **Weekly Prayer Partner EMAIL** which includes scripture readings, prayer requests, birthdays, and weekly reminders, please email or call the church; especially if you have not received these lately. If you have email, but do not receive information from the church this way, please give your email address to the office. We may not have it, and it's important that we do going forward so you can stay updated. Thank you.



### **HOSPITALIZED**

Please contact the church office or Travis Remme if you know a member has been admitted to the hospital. With the new privacy laws being strictly enforced there are many times we are unaware of hospitalizations. We would rather get ten calls than none at all. Thank you. **Prayer concerns** can be called into the office (472-2324) or emailed to the office at [rockrapidsumc@premieronline.net](mailto:rockrapidsumc@premieronline.net) or to Travis Remme at [tremme2@gmail.com](mailto:tremme2@gmail.com) and they will be sent out.



# Joys & Concerns



## Praise God~

- ☺ Wyatt Mounts (son-in-law of Dave & Roxanne) returned from deployment
- ☺ Improvements of Nora Matthiesen
- ☺ CLGLR Wrestling!
- ☺ Choir
- ☺ Kids Choir
- ☺ Organists
- ☺ Katie Geerdes is home
- ☺ Evelyn Baldwin- new Grandma to Cecelia Ann
- ☺ Marlys & Ed Brown & Jim & Char DeGooyer- thankful for all the meals that have been delivered to them.
- ☺ Hayes and his progress
- ☺ Holly Spitler
- ☺ Good weather
- ☺ 2<sup>nd</sup> chances



## Prayers~

- ✚ Katie Geerdes
- ✚ Melissia Olivier
- ✚ Darrell Osborn
- ✚ Judi Sieperda
- ✚ Dana Lutmer
- ✚ Connie Kille
- ✚ Katelyn Wilde & Memphis Texas
- ✚ Jean Sides
- ✚ Ed Brown
- ✚ Family of Barb Middle



The Low-income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) offered through **Mid-Sioux Opportunity, Inc.** may be able to help you pay your winter heating bill. This program is funded through the Iowa Department of Human Rights and has been established to help qualified low-income Iowa homeowners and renters pay for a portion of their primary heating costs. Your local Mid-Sioux office will be taking applications through April 30, 2021. Each applicant will need to

furnish a copy of their most recent heating and electric bill, original Social Security or I-94 card for each household member, and proof of the household's income for the past month (30 days), the past twelve (12) months, or the most recent calendar year (tax return). Eligibility for participation is established according to the federal income guidelines listed below. Applicants eligible for an award will be paid on a first come, first served basis, and all payments are subject to availability of funds.

Due to COVID-19 we will only be taking applications by phone, mail, or online. Please call 712-472-3746 or 712-722-3611 on Wednesdays 9:00-4:00 to schedule an appointment.

*MAXIMUM GROSS INCOME*

| HOUSEHOLD SIZE | ANNUAL INCOME |
|----------------|---------------|
| 1              | \$22,330      |
| 2              | \$30,170      |
| 3              | \$38,010      |
| 4              | \$45,850      |
| 5              | \$53,690      |

For families with more than five members, add \$7,840 for each additional member.

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*March Birthdays And Anniversaries*



|                       |                       |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 01~ Chris Attig       | 14~ Patty Halse       |
| Jeff Parkinson        | 17~ Shawn Wibben      |
| Tami Schweitzer       | 18~ Scott Maxwell     |
| Dylann Van Berkum     | Mike Selken           |
| 02~ Brody Docker      | John Yeakel           |
| Ashlynn Yeakel        | 19~ Evelyn Baldwin    |
| 04~ Steve Herman      | 20~ Rick & Pam Attig  |
| 05~ Jamie Schar       | 21~ Hayden Bullerman  |
| Dusty Bullerman       | 22~ Bonnie Wilson     |
| 08~ Roscoe Pettengill | 23~ Dave Warren       |
| 09~ Ed & Marlys Brown | 26~ Freda Kammarmeyer |
| 10~ Lou Braun         | Jerry Birkey          |
| Maddix Broesder       | 29~ Russ Kiel         |
| Brendin Sprock        | 30~ Krista Sprock     |
| 12~ Heather Heimensen | Sharon Steenblock     |
| 13~ Brian McIntire    | 31~ Jim DeGooyer      |
| Brent Vande Weerd     |                       |

\*We apologize for any omissions or incorrect information. Please contact the office with the correct/missing information. Thank you!

| March 2021  |   |  |   |   |     |     |
|---|---|--|---|---|-----|-----|
| Sun   | Mon                                       | Tue  | Wed   | Thu   | Fri | Sat |
|   | 1   | 2<br>1:30 p.m.-<br>Quilters &<br>Crafters  | 3<br>6:00 p.m.-<br>Worship Team<br>meeting  | 4   | 5   | 6   |
| 7<br>9:30 a.m.- Worship<br>10:30 a.m.- Sunday School<br>10:45 a.m.- Bible Study<br>Organist: Marilee Schleusner<br>Head Usher: Lainn Menning<br>Acolyte: Ellie Docker<br>Powerpoint: Sonya Peterson<br>Sound: Quintin Sprock  | 8   | 9<br>1:30 p.m.-<br>Quilters &<br>Crafters  | 10<br>7:00 p.m.-<br>3 <sup>rd</sup> Ave. Youth<br>7:00 p.m.-<br>3 <sup>rd</sup> Ave. Squared                                | 11  | 12  | 13  |
| 14<br>9:30 a.m.- Worship<br>10:30 a.m.- Sunday School<br>10:30 a.m.- UMW<br>10:30 a.m.- Prayer Ministry<br>10:45 a.m.- Bible Study<br>Organist: Holly Moeller Head<br>Usher: Lainn Menning<br>Acolyte: Chase Puterbaugh<br>Powerpoint: Sonya Peterson<br>Sound: Chase Thedens | 15<br>6:00 p.m.-<br>Ad Council<br>meeting | 16<br>1:30 p.m.-<br>Quilters &<br>Crafters   | 17  | 18  | 19  | 20  |
| 21<br>9:30 a.m.- Worship<br>10:30 a.m.- Sunday School<br>10:45 a.m.- Bible Study<br>Organist: Marilee Schleusner<br>Head Usher: Lainn Menning<br>Acolyte: Brody De Groot<br>Powerpoint: Sonya Peterson<br>Sound: Veronica Waagmeester   | 22  | 23<br>1:30 p.m.-<br>Quilters &<br>Crafters<br>6:30 p.m.-<br>Meal Ministry-<br>prepare food | 24<br>6:00 p.m.-<br>Bread of Life<br>7:00 p.m.-<br>3 <sup>rd</sup> Ave. Youth<br>7:00 p.m.-<br>3 <sup>rd</sup> Ave. Squared | 25<br>2:00 p.m.-<br>Ms Fits- clean<br>kitchen | 26  | 27  |
| 28<br>9:30 a.m.- Worship<br>10:30 a.m.- Sunday School<br>10:30 a.m.- Prayer Ministry<br>10:45 a.m.- Bible Study<br>Organist: Holly Moeller Head<br>Usher: Lainn Menning<br>Acolyte: Jessa Vande Weerd<br>Powerpoint: Sonya Peterson<br>Sound: Tate Vande Weerd                | 29  | 30<br>1:30 p.m.-<br>Quilters &<br>Crafters   | 31  |   |     |     |

Like a kite to a string  
 The further we are from God  
 The less we feel  
 His tug on our hearts

