

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

Noah, David, Solomon, and Peter did great things for the kingdom and were great witnesses. Anna Diestler did great things to witness of her love for Jesus. *(This is being told by her Granddaughter, Gloria (Stickney) Day)*. Let me tell you about her and what a difference she made in 5 or 6 generations of her family. Anna was born in Germany. At age 4 she came by boat to the USA and then to Wisconsin to live with her mother's sister. She married Frank, who died in 1939. Their marriage produced 4 boys. My dad Walter was oldest.

Perhaps we all forget many things in our life as we get older, but after 75 years, my fond memory of Grandma is as clear today as it was then. Because our family stayed with her many times, we heard many of the stories from the bible, especially at bedtime. She would tell us kids about how much Jesus loved us, the story of Daniel in the lion's den, always with the hope that we would learn to not fear anything that came into our lives.

When my mother was giving birth in the next room to my sister Mary, Grandma took Don, my brother and me into her bedroom and sang songs in German and then in English, so that we wouldn't notice our mother crying. Even though she could read from her German bible and understand it better, she read from her English bible, sounding out the words. That book was tattered and worn from wear.

We would go wild strawberry picking out in the woods that meant we would have short cake for supper. When we went fishing, as we walked through the pastures, singing songs, Grandma would tell us stories about the logging that took place and the many other things that the men did to clear the land.

I remember that no matter how far out in the country we lived, Grandma always managed to walk to church every Sunday. When she moved into Wittenberg, it was about a mile each way.

When I married Earl Stickney, he was 11 years older than me and he was not baptized. Learning from Grandma moved me to share with my husband, who was baptized at age 30. We had 11 children together who were all instructed in the Christian faith, baptized and confirmed. They now have children and still another generation after that who are being instructed in the faith. Grandma was a strong influence to all of her grandchildren as two of her other sons have the same lineage.

- - - - -

(Added by her Great-Grandson, Joseph E Stickney) Late one morning my parents and I drove to Wittenberg to visit Great-Grandma Diestler. We arrived shortly before lunch and as we parked in the dirt driveway one couldn't help but smell the lilacs that were in full color. Her home, unpainted yet showed us a welcoming that was filled with the kind of love you read about in scripture.

On the left side of the driveway was one of the two lots she owned. It was fully planted with every kind of vegetable and berry you could think of. Out back clothes were swinging in the fresh air. Behind that was the "outhouse." We were invited in to view a table laden with food, which she called a lunch, but was more like a banquet. There by her rocking chair was that tattered old bible, still in its place.

I remember many visits with her that were filled with love and peace that you would feel in her presence. She made a difference in my life too!

Those who know about the love of Jesus for us, share what they know to those who don't know.

"Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners--of whom I am the worst. But for that very reason I was shown mercy so that in me, the worst of sinners, Christ Jesus might display his unlimited patience as an example for those who would believe on him and receive eternal life." 1 Timothy 1:15,16).



Grandma getting ready for church in her Sunday best.



**David's Star Lutheran
Easter Egg Hunt**

Saturday April 16th 11am

Come and join us for this annual tradition in our Church Woods. Hear the Easter Story told by using special Easter Eggs, along with plenty of candy-filled eggs. Kids 0-12. Great Family Fun! www.DavidsStar.org/easteregghunt