



David's Star
Evangelical Lutheran Church

thegoodnews

2740 David's Star Dr.
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"Dedication to Family in 2015"

by Pastor Loescher

It's been said that if only marriage wasn't a sinner marrying another sinner, we'd have perfect families and divorce wouldn't even be in our vocabulary. But because of our own sin and those of others, we get fed up with each other and make a conflict out of almost every decision. Or one just says nothing even when not in agreement to avoid conflict, which can be worse, building unhealthy relationships instead of relationships based on the love of a husband for his wife and the respect of a wife for her husband.

Let the conflicts happen (those in marriage or any other relationship in life), only let them be loving interaction characterized by respect. Here are what have been known as ten commandments for caring conflict. Read them through and see if there aren't two or more that will help you build more caring and trusting relationships.

1. Listen with your heart and not just your ears. Active listening includes eye contact, an open heart, and a posture that demonstrates concern rather than anger. You cannot listen actively while trying to think of a good comeback.
2. Spend at least as much time listening actively as in making your own case.
3. Don't forget to express your love and commitment to each other in the midst of a disagreement (you are discussing an issue, not your relationship).
4. You are trying to win an agreement, not an argument (this is not a competition).
5. If you lose your temper, you have lost your point. Anger is an attempt to manipulate the other rather than win them with truth and wisdom. When we resort to anger, it may be that we don't have a good point. Ask for time to collect yourself and pray about what has been said.
6. Look at the point from the perspective of the other person. Invest your energy in trying to understand where they are coming from.

7. Don't drag in unrelated issues in order to devastate your "opponent". Mistakes of the past that have been dealt with (repentance and forgiveness) need to stay in the past. This is just another loveless way of manipulating the other person rather than lovingly helping them understand your point.

8. Understand the difference between fact and opinion. Facts don't change and opinions can. Pray for the humility to allow your opinion to take a different shape.

9. Don't say it if you don't mean it. Saying things to get a rise out of someone, or to manipulate them to agree with you weakens relationships shutting down productive communication. The only way to make true agreement happen is through loving conversation and active listening on the part of both.

10. Avoid fighting words. You never...You always...You make me... These phrases accuse and put the other on the defensive. Better to openly express how you feel about what they have said or done. For example, "What you said really hurt me."

In all of this the main attitude to keep is humility. Remember the humble way that Jesus won our forgiveness. How then can we not also love and forgive one another? If you are in a relationship where you could never have caring conflict because you are afraid to express yourself, you may be in an abusive/controlling relationship and need to seek outside help.

Please take the opportunity the new year affords to rededicate yourself to your relationships with others. These Ten Commandments of caring conflict are most suited to marital relationships but I'm sure you can see how valuable they would be to any family relationship. Let's dedicate ourselves once again to cultivating loving families.

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SENIORS

Helen Kannenberg...94 yrs. old...1/1/1921
 Delores Heimerl...90 yrs. old...1/8/1925
 Dietrich Schnappup...81 yrs. old...1/29/1934



**JANUARY 2015
 GREETERS**

- January 4, 2015; 7:45 Andy & Colleen Loeffler
 10:15 Steve & Heather Brandt
- January 11, 2015; 7:45 Rick & Nancy Ebeling
 10:15 Tony & Lynn Gromacki
- January 18, 2015; 7:45 Cory & Jessica Schumacher
 10:15 Dale & Barb Pratt
- January 25, 2015; 7:45 Ray & Linda Liesener
 10:15 Dennis & Marlene Bell

**WOMEN NURTURING WOMEN THURSDAY MORNING
 BIBLE STUDY**

We will meet in the multi-purpose room located behind the concession area. We meet the 1st and 3rd Thursday mornings of each month at 9:30. It is always uplifting and encouraging to be in God's Word together. We hope you can come. God's Word gives us great joy, strength and comfort, for every day. With questions call Beth Steinbrenner at 262.685.7420 or e-mail me at pbandkids@yahoo.com. Our focus will be on Psalm 23, John 10 and a book titled "A Shepherd Looks at Psalm 23." Bring your bibles and hymnals for our opening study. Hope to see you there!

MEN'S BREAKFAST BIBLE STUDY

at Jimmy's in Jackson meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday at 6:00 am. This group meets year-round.

BARNABAS

is the name of our small group bible studies. We took that name from an early disciple who was given that nickname because he was such an encourager. Our small group home bible studies are also intended for the encouragement of one another. The groups are on-going, but anytime is a good time to get involved in a group. Call or email Pastor Loescher if you'd like to get involved 677.0919 or kurt.loescher@gmail.com.

WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY meets in the multi-purpose room of school at 10:00am.

FRIDAY MORNING DROP-OFF BIBLE CLASS

When you come to David's Star to drop off your children on Friday Mornings, stay a few minutes longer and discuss the truths of the Holy Scriptures and pray with other parents. Come in your work clothes, work-out clothes, even your pj's if you have to. No make-up? Unshaven? Uncombed hair? It's all good. You're dropping off your children, there are no high expectations. There will be the Holy Word of God and good encouragement to start off your day. If you have a toddler at your side, no problem—bring him or her along. We are all parents, we can cope with children in the room. This informal, start off your day Bible study is from 8:30 to 8:50. Bring a bible, your own coffee, tea or whatever you drink to start your day.

CELEBRATION OF THANKSGIVING

On Sunday, January 25, 2015 in the 10:15 we will have a celebration of thanksgiving service for Pastor Janke as our visitation Pastor. A luncheon will follow in the school gym. There will be sign-up sheets in the new gathering space starting January 10th for veggie salads, pasta salads, fruit salads and desserts.

ANNUAL VOTER'S MEETING

is scheduled for Thursday, January 22nd at 7:00 pm.. Items on the agenda will include the adoption of the proposed 2015 Ministry Budget for David's Star as well as the election of new officers.

COUNCIL CAPSULE SUMMARY OF THE DECEMBER 2014 COUNCIL MEETING

**David's Star Church
Council Meeting Capsule
December 16, 2014**

Members in attendance: Pastor Loescher, Dennis Bell, Tim Gustafson, Keith Rusch, Andy Loeffler, Brian Lee, Jim Korthals, Brandon Lehman, Dan Bolha, Pastor Woldt, Randy Matter

Absent: Kurt Henning, Mike Willis

The meeting was called to order. The meeting was opened with a prayer by Pastor Loescher. A motion was made and carried to approve the minutes from the regularly scheduled meeting on November 11, 2014.

**Committee Reports
Membership Report (Pastor Woldt)**

Incoming:

Outgoing: Dufore, Joseph
Released from membership
Fuller, Renee

Transfer to Shepherd of the Hills, Duluth, MN
Hammond, David & Jaime; Michael, Matthew,
Wyatt
Released from membership

Pastors' Report

**Pastor Loescher, Telephone # 262.677.0919
kloescher@davidstar.org &
Pastor Woldt, Telephone # 262.377.1019
woldt@nconnect.net**

Pastor Loescher will be attending a family wedding in Michigan the first weekend in January. Pastor & Betsy Woldt have been asked to present a workshop session on the subject of "Empty Nesting" at a retreat for pastors (and their wives) who have been serving in the ministry for 25 years. The retreat is scheduled for the week after Easter in San Antonio, TX. With the assistance of the board of elders, the pastors will work to schedule an every member visitation program in 2015, with focus on receiving the spiritual blessings that come through Word and sacrament here at David's Star. A secondary outcome of the every member visit will be to more clearly identify those who, for a variety of reasons, no longer want to be served by or support the gospel ministry here at David's Star.

**President's Report
Brian Lee, Telephone # 262.377.9419
brianandpam1@att.net**

The nominating committee is looking for candidates to run for various offices that are up for election in the annual voters meeting in January. A proposed undesignated gift policy was presented and will be discussed under old business. Brian will be working on making appointments to the audit committee.

**Board for
Buildings and Grounds
Kurt Henning 262.677.2797
klhrconst@gmail.com**

There was nothing new to report.

**Board for Elementary Education
Mike Willis, mike.willis@sial.com
Principal Tim Gustafson
Telephone #262. 707.2382
tgustafson@davidstar.org**

Non-member tuition was increased by \$100 to \$400. K-8 tuition was increased to \$1250 with a discount of \$50 for each additional child (\$1200 per each additional child). 3K tuition will be \$900. The various committees working on the accreditation process met on November 18 to present their findings as they continue working through the various standards.

**Board of Elders
Dennis Bell, 262.677.2248
dandmbell55@yahoo.com**

Pastor Woldt discussed the idea of an every member visit in 2015. After discussion, the elders agreed it would be a very good idea. The elders will assist in setting up the meetings with the congregation. Paul Steinbrenner reported that he has been in contact with Pastor Janke about how to celebrate his retirement. Dave Martin has reported that Amy Hansen is currently working with a "comfort dog" and is requesting permission to visit shut-ins with the comfort dog on a volunteer basis. The board voted to approve the measure.

Evangelism Committee

Brandon Lehman, Telephone #262.894.6110

Brandon.m.Lehman@gmail.com

The committee is running Christmas ads with the days and times of our church services.

Stewardship Committee

Jim Korthals, Telephone # 262.242.8143

korthalj@wls.wels.net

The 2015 budget was distributed and was discussed under new business.

Spiritual Growth Committee

Andy Loeffler, Telephone #262.677.2319

2046home@gmail.com

The Men of His Word conference will be taking place in Oshkosh on Saturday January 31.

Treasurer's Report

Randy Matter, Telephone # 262.376.1585

rmattercpa@gmail.com

The printed report for November was presented. The YTD operating fund balance has a deficit in the amount of \$48,837.82. The YTD offerings to our WELS missions are currently at 92.34% of budget. The YTD offerings to the KMLHS operating fund are at 103.61% of budget and KML Joyful Noise is at 93.17% of budget

Vice President Report

(Dan Bolha, Telephone # 677-3485

dbolha@ymail.com)

Nothing to report.

A motion was made and carried to accept the reports.

Old Business

Undesignated Gift Policy Review – Brian presented the following recommendation:

Undesignated Gift Policy for undesignated gifts under \$5000

100% - Church Operating Budget

Undesignated Gift Policy for undesignated gifts over \$5000 to \$25,000

35% - Church Operating Budget

35% - Restricted Building Fund

10% - Future Called Workers Tuition Assistance Endowment Fund

10% - Building and Improvement Fund

10% - KMLHS

Undesignated Gift Policy for undesignated gifts over \$25,000

The council will make a recommendation to the Voters at the annual or specially called Voters meeting. The input from the voters will be used to formulate a motion that

needs to receive approval from the majority of those present.

A motion was made and carried to recommend this policy for approval by the voters at the annual voters meeting.

New Business

Proposed Budget for 2015 – The proposed budget was presented and discussed. Some modifications were made. After the board of education forwards an update to their budget, Jim Korthals will email a revised budget to the members of the council.

Sec 107 Parsonage Allowance – Randy Matter presented the housing allowance resolution for calendar year 2015. A motion was made and carried to approve the resolution.

Next month's meeting is **Tuesday, January 11, 2014 at 7:00 P.M.**

A motion was made and carried to adjourn. The meeting was closed with a blessing. Respectively submitted,

Keith Rusch, Recording Secretary

keith_rusch@yahoo.com.

LADIES AID OUTING

The Ladies' Aid is inviting you to come along and see the play, "Momma Won't Fly" at the Falls Patio Players on Sunday, February 15th at 2pm. Wheelchair tickets are not available. We will meet at David's Star by the south (gym) entrance at 1pm to carpool to the play. The play is about a daughter who has to get her mom from Alabama to California, but her mom won't fly. Deadline for ordering tickets is February 2, 2015.

If you are interested in attending, please contact Lynne Tews, [262-377-2051](tel:262-377-2051), email foneman45@prodigy.net.

THUNDERBOLT INVITATIONAL

David's Star Lutheran School hosts a basketball tournament for our boys 5th-6th grade team on January 17-18. We need many volunteers to make the tournament go smoothly. Please check the online [VolunteerSpot signup](#) on the David's Star website to volunteer for spots.

Helpers are needed for selling tickets, working concessions or scorer's table.

We would gladly take any member of David's Star high school age or older to fill these times.

Anyone volunteering at least two hours will receive free admission into the tournament. Your help is appreciated.



PARISH NURSE NEWS

“What’s the Scoop about the Loop?”

It is said that 1 out of 200 people in America is deaf and 16 out of 200 have a hearing loss! Such statistics are probably true in our congregation, too, and these people have problems understanding the Sunday sermon and participating in congregational activities. It is not very unusual for people to tell the Pastors or Parish Nurses that they have difficulty hearing in church, either with or without a hearing aid. Hearing loss and deafness can happen to the young and old alike.

About 2 years ago the Church Council approved the installation of an **Auditory Induction Looping System** here at David’s Star! Our **Auditory Induction Looping System** has proved to be a real blessing to those with a hearing aid fitted with a **T-Coil**. The **results provide much improved sound clarity while filtering out background noises**. There is a brochure on the Gathering Space kiosk put out by the WELS Mission for the Deaf & Hard of Hearing titled, “Understanding Hearing Loops” that can tell you more!

One might ask, “How many people can use a hearing loop at one time?” All people inside the hearing loop can use it if their hearing aid has the **T-Coil switch**. Another person might ask, “Do all hearing aids have a **T-Coil switch**?” Most new hearing aids have the capability, but not all. Some might need to have the T-switch activated. Ask your audiologist! If you think you might be in the market for a hearing aid, make sure you talk to Dan Bolha. He’ll answer your questions and refer you to others who are currently using our looping system!

Those people **without a hearing aid** may use a special **headset & receiver** the ushers can help you with. The headsets are located in the back of church. The headset, after being used, is yours to take home and bring back to use each week. The receivers plug back into the battery chargers where you found them, to be ready and fully charged next week! The ushers or Dan are more than willing to show you how to get started.

Hearing loop systems are increasingly being installed in public areas such as theaters, conference rooms, banks, auditoriums, libraries, buses and even cars! Look for the hearing loop logo that is posted on our church doors and wherever installed! We are blessed at David’s Star to have this new and much improved technology, allowing those with hearing loss to hear God’s precious Word clearly!

“IN THAT DAY THE DEAF WILL HEAR THE WORDS OF THE SCROLL.” Isaiah 29:18

Together in Christ,
Sue Bolha RN, Parish Nurse
262-677-3485 parishnurse@davidstar.org

Wise Stewardship at Christmas

Although Christmas has come and gone, now is a good time to consider “what” we did and “why” we did it. What can we learn from Christmas this year that will help us in the weeks and months until Christmas comes again?

At Christmas we celebrate the ultimate gift—the birth of Jesus, mankind’s Savior from sin—by making gifts of love to God and other people. It’s important to remember how Christ is our motivation for Christmas giving so that we can avoid some of the temptations that come with the holiday celebration.

In order to avoid getting caught up in excessive shopping and spending, plan ahead how much you will spend at Christmas and stick to the plan. Consider some of these Christmas spending statistics:

- In the U.S., 50 percent of people spend more than they can afford.
- For 33 percent of people, it will take six months to pay off their Christmas spending.
- Twenty percent of people will have trouble making mortgage or rent payments in January because of Christmas spending.
- The average child in the U.S. has an accumulation of toys worth over \$1,500.
- Forty percent of the toys given in December are broken by March.

Your loved ones do not want you to go into debt for them. More money spent does not mean more love expressed. Many people greatly appreciate a simple gift that says, “You are important to me. I thought of you. I care about you.”

Another idea is to do a special Christmas project with loved ones that can become a tradition. Like the shepherds, spread the news of the birth of Jesus by inviting neighbors to Christmas services. Like the wise men, bring offerings to the Christ-child to support his work. As Jesus taught us, love your neighbors as you love yourself by helping the disadvantaged.

It will be almost twelve months before we celebrate the festival of Christmas again. The spirit of Christmas, however, is celebrated every day. Let the love of Christ compel actions that emphasize and spread the true spirit of Christmas.

The Stewardship Committee

SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP SNACK SIGN-UP

Signing up to bring a snack to share on Sundays for our fellowship time has just gotten easier:

We're using VolunteerSpot (the leading online signup and reminder tool) to organize our Sunday fellowship between services. **Please sign up for Sunday Fellowship Snacks - here's how it works in 3 easy steps:**

1. **Click this link** to go to our invitation page on VolunteerSpot: <http://vols.pt/CZiNpg>
2. **Enter your email address:** (You will NOT need to register an account on VolunteerSpot)
3. **Sign up!** Choose your spots - VolunteerSpot will send you an automated confirmation and reminders. Easy!

Note: VolunteerSpot does not share your email address with anyone.

If you prefer not to sign up on-line or do not have computer access, a sign up sheet will still be available by the coffee area in the new gathering space.

Thank you for considering to serve in this capacity.

WELS PRISON MINISTRY

Wondering if your Christmas cards might be useful once the holiday season is finished? The WELS Prison Ministry collects the front page of Christmas cards for inmates to use again to send to family members. Our Parish Nurses have a plastic bin on the bookcase in the Health Office and will send them off to the National Prison Ministry office in New Ulm about once a year. A couple of things to remember: just bring the front page with no personal writing on the card and no cards with glitter! Greeting cards for other occasions are welcome too! Religious messages are particularly welcome! Thanks! Questions? Ask Sue Bolha 262.677.3485

SCRIP PROGRAM due to declining sales the decision has been made to liquidate the Scrip Gift Card program sponsored by the Parent's Group. We would like to sell our current inventory of cards. We have quantities of Pick -N Save, Piggly Wiggly and Sendik's cards. We also have

Walgreens, WalMart, ShopKo, Subway, Red Lobster, Starbucks, Panera, Noodles, Old Navy, Michaels, Claires, Boston Store, American Eagle and Applebees. Please contact Phyllis Dencker 262.677.1886 to purchase these cards.

GREETERS NEEDED

We have an on-line Greeter signup program. If you are interested in helping us out by greeting on Sunday mornings in either the 7:45 or 10:15 am services, please follow these 3 easy steps.

To sign up for Greeters:

1. **Click this link** to go to our invitation page on VolunteerSpot: <http://vols.pt/wJK3Zd>
2. **Enter your email address:** (You will NOT need to register an account on VolunteerSpot)
3. **Sign up!** Choose your spots - VolunteerSpot will send you an automated confirmation and reminders. Easy!

If you have any questions or don't feel comfortable entering this information, please call:

For **7:45** Service: Kathy Smith, [262-677-2173](tel:262-677-2173)

Email: sydandkathy@att.net

For **10:15** Service: Delores Philipps, [262-377-2368](tel:262-377-2368)

Email: mydel@milwpc.com

Please prayerfully consider greeting on Sunday mornings. It is a wonderful way to meet new members of our congregation. VolunteerSpot does not share your email address with anyone.

THANK YOU

Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ, our newborn king! Thank you very much for your gift. I really appreciate all the support and aid in paying my school bills. More important than financial support, however, are your prayers and words of encouragement. Words cannot express how blessed I feel to be a part of David's Star and to have even a minor role in serving you all. May the Lord bless and keep you all in the new year!
(Signed) Noah Willitz

Thank you, David's Star, for the money that you gave me to put towards my education at Martin Luther College. I am currently in my 3rd year out of 5 years and am studying Elementary Education and Secondary Education- Instrumental Music. I am also the Handbell President and serve as Secretary on our Forum Board (Theatre Department). I am very privileged to grow in the gifts that God has given me to teach and serve, especially in the field of music. Your monetary gift and continued prayers and support are a vital part of my growth at MLC. To God be the Glory!
(signed) Shannon Eggers

Sixth Annual Men of His Word Conference ***“A Shelter From the Storm”***

Submitted by Glenn Miller

Q. “Hi, how’s it going?”

A. “Fine... how are you?”

On Sunday mornings all over the world pleasant exchanges like this are taking place in church parking lots, old church basements and/or beautiful new narthexes complete with carpeting, coffee bars and crackling fireplaces where everything is just “fine”.

It’s nice to reach out to our fellow believers, nice to reach out with a quick casual “hello”. Taken at face value the answer “fine” implies that all is right with the world. Or is it?

“Fine” can also be a word that masks a deeper reality. Look around you. People are not always fine, even if they say so. People are suffering in this world and some of them are right here with us. Some may be people you know. One of them might even be you.

The “Men of His Word Conference” is a place where it is safe to peel back the curtain of “fine”. Where it is safe to be yourself for a few hours, a place where you can slow down enough to hear yourself think, and, most importantly, let God get in a word or two.

The WELS “Men of His Word Conference” is put together by men, for men. We love you ladies, but sometimes we need to do some work on our own.

And it’s not just for the clergy or college professors either. It’s made for regular guys like you and me.

The day starts around eight with a continental breakfast and fellowship. You listen to some music and a short inspiration. Then it’s off to three or four sessions of your choice from twenty to choose from, all fascinating, relevant, and speaking to you right where you live.

After lunch you’re on your way home around 4 PM; refreshed, renewed, and confident in the knowledge that not only God is with you, there are hundreds of men with you as well, brothers in Christ who took the risk and chose to go beyond “fine”.

Please join us for the sixth annual “Men Of His Word Conference” at the Oshkosh Convention Center and Waterfront Hotel on January 31, 2015. Seminar descriptions and registration forms can be found in the new gathering space. Carpooling is an option. Contact Glenn Miller at 414-477-8769 with any registration questions. Contact Pastor Loescher with any questions regarding session content.