



# thegoodnews

2740 David's Star Dr. | (262) 375-1843  
Jackson, WI 53037 | [davidstar.org](http://davidstar.org)

## OUR GRACIOUS GOD GIVES US THE GIFT OF TIME!

*By Pastor Woldt*

As the calendar changes from 2010 to 2011, we once again are provided with the opportunity to reflect on God's gift of time. Time seems to speed up as we grow older. We often hear people comment, "My schedule is out of control. My days aren't long enough. I just don't have time to get it all done!" Ironic isn't it? We don't have time, even though our homes and lives are filled with "time-saving" devices. Computers with high-speed connections help us communicate and manage our lives. Microwave ovens and convenience foods help to cut time in the kitchen. Automatic washing machines, dryers and dishwashers have cut down on the time we spend doing household chores. Yet, what's happened to all the time we're supposed to be saving? The clock keeps ticking. The calendar keeps turning.

Perhaps the problem isn't lack of time, but rather management (or "stewardship") of the time that we have. The inspired Teacher wrote in the third chapter of the book of Ecclesiastes: *"There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven: a time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to uproot, a time to kill and a time to heal, a time to tear down and a time to build, a time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance ..."* Our time is God's gift to us and he gives us enough time to do what's important in life.

First and foremost, the time God gives us in life is a time of grace. God gives us time to seek and find him. In reality, it is God who seeks and finds us through his

Word and Sacrament. We are born into this world apart from God and dead in sin. God gives us time to come to faith. After the Holy Spirit brings us to faith, our time in life serves as a window of opportunity to serve the Lord. God gives us time to praise him with lives of worship and love. God gives us time to be faithful spouses and caring parents. God gives us time to show care for our neighbor and let our light shine as children of the heavenly Father. God want us to use the time he has given us faithfully.

The turning of the calendar gives us all the opportunity to reflect anew on how we are spending our time. God gives us time, but time in this life is finite. Are we using our times to the glory of God, or are we chasing after the wind trying to gather more and more earthly wealth, which will soon disappear? Is the "busyness" of our personal life drawing us further and further away from our Lord, and his Word and Sacrament? Are there some areas of life where we need become bold enough to say "No" to yet another demand on our time?

All of us need to assess how we are using the time God has given us. We might benefit from an honest conversation with a trusted family member or friend. When we discover waste or mismanagement of God's gift of time, repentance is needed. Then, lifted up by the Lord's forgiving grace, we can begin the New Year with confidence, knowing that the Lord will give us all the time we need to serve and honor him. With the Psalmist we confess, "My times are in your hands" (Psalm 31:15).

**January  
2011**

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**HAPPY BIRTHDAY SENIORS!!!**

Helen Kannenberg ... 90 yrs. old ... 1/1/1921

Delores Heimerl...86 yrs. old ... 1/8/1925

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**January 2011  
GREETERS**

January 2, 2011 7:45 Ralph & Elaine Gerner

January 8, 2011 5:00 Emily Steinbrenner & Marcus Smith

January 9, 2011 7:45 Ralph & Debbie Herther family  
10:15

January 15, 2011 5:00 Joel & Deb Rupnow family

January 16, 2011 7:45 Joel & Linda Pless family  
10:15

January 22, 2011 5:00 Ken & Sue Berndt

January 23, 2011 7:45 Ross & Colleen Lemke family  
10:15

January 29, 2011 5:00 Jim & Cathy Thompson

January 30, 2011 7:45 Cory & Jessica Schumacher family  
10:15

Have you moved...do we have your current address?  
 Do you have a new telephone number?  
 Do we have your e-mail address or has your old one changed?

Please contact the church office (262.677.2412) if any of the above have changed.

Thanks for your help.

**CHANGING THE LOCKS** on the doors during the first week of February. Any church members needing access to the school or church need to contact Lynne Tews or Rob Schneiker for a new key card.

**THANK YOU** The members of David Star would like to thank Spring Valley Turf Products and the Vogels for all of the generous donations of fertilizer, seed and salt this year. Also a thank you to the Lieseners for the soil and snow plowing services. Thank you to Traditional Concrete, Matthew Enevold and family for the light poles and fixtures in the church parking lot, and to all of the other people, a list of names too long to get them all in one bulletin, who keep our church and school in working order. Thank you and God bless you and your family.

**LIVING NATIVITY** On December 18 and 19th, 559 people registered at the Census table as they came to David's Star to enjoy our hospitality, view the Living Nativity, and reflect on the birth of Jesus Christ. The Lord blessed our outreach effort with mild December weather and over 100 volunteers. If you attended the event, we hope you enjoyed the fellowship and appreciated the chance to reflect on the birth of our Savior.

**David's Star Church Council Meeting Minutes / Capsule**  
December 13, 2010

Members in attendance: Pastor Woldt, Pastor Loescher, Jeff Morgan, Kevin Behm, Randy Matter, David Zarling, Jim Korthals, Tim Gustafson, Rob Schneiker, Joel Pless, Brian Lee.

Absent: David Nunez, Dennis Bell.

The meeting was called to order by Jeff Morgan, substituting for David Nunez who was absent. The meeting was opened with a prayer. A motion was made and carried to approve the minutes from the regularly scheduled meeting on November 16, 2010.

**Committee Reports**

**Incoming:** None  
**Outgoing:** Kohlmeier, Dennis II & Lynne; Aaron  
*Transfer to Pilgrim, Menomonee Falls, WI*

**Pastors' Report**

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

The work of the pastors is reflected in the reports of the boards and committees. We continue to appreciate the dedication of David's Star leadership and members as they show their love for the Savior in their support of the gospel ministry we carry out.

**President's Report**

**David Nunez, Telephone # 262.677.2467**  
**David.Nunez@ipaper.com**

This report was presented by Jeff Morgan, on behalf of David Nunez.

**Shepherd's Staff Update** – With the birth of their new daughter, Jeff Munn has not been able to spend too much time on the program as he had planned. Once the holidays settle down, I have asked Barry to work with Jeff and get this project moving forward again.

**Elections & Nominating Committee** – I will need to have the names of the people who are not going to be seeking a second term or their term is up from Board of Education and Board for Buildings and Grounds within the next week. As of right now, Joel Pless, Chairman of Spiritual Growth, Mel Heckendorf and Chuck Gauger, members of the Board of Elders, will not be seeking second terms, so they are now members of the nominating committee. I would like to have all these people identified so that I can meet with them and start the nominating process.

**Technology Committee** – As of right now, the so-called ball is in Bertram Wireless' court. I have talked with Jim Bertram and his banker about what the Town of Jackson is requesting.

Last week, I received a call from the banker and was told I would have an answer before the end of the week. Well, nothing, as of Friday, so as of this report I have no news regarding this.

**Council Communication** – Please keep in mind that all chairmen of the church council will need to write a closing letter to the congregation for the annual report. That will become due in January, so please keep that also in the back of your minds.

**Board for Buildings and Grounds**

**Robert Schneiker, Telephone # 262.677.2584**  
**schneikerconcrete@gmail.com**

Parking lot lights were installed on Saturday. Once circuit breaker issues are resolved, they will be up and running. Thanks to the Loescher boys for their assistance in snow removal. The committee is waiting for an update on the parish center from a home inspection report forthcoming.

**Board for Elementary Education**

**Brian Lee, Telephone # 262.377.9419**  
**brian.lee@jci.com Principal Tim Gustafson**  
**Telephone # 338-3992 tgustafson@davidstar.org**

The board discussed budget issues and tuition issues. The board is recommending that the technology fee to \$50 per student from the current fee of \$150.

The parents group is looking for a definition and guidelines as to what is considered a fundraiser and what is not. The Council discussed this, and determined that the Board of Education will need to handle this.

**Board of Elders**

**Dennis Bell, Telephone # 262.677.2248**  
**dandmbell@yahoo.com**

The Worship Committee through the Board of Elders is recommending establishing a fund with the goal to put Christian Worship Supplement in the pews at an approximate cost of \$3,000. This motion was approved by Council.

**Evangelism Committee**

**David Zarling, Telephone # 414.839.0094**  
**david.zarling@gmail.com**

Dave reported that the Living Nativity is scheduled to be held here this coming weekend. A significant amount of volunteers have stepped forward to help make this a success.

Dave presented his 2011 budget materials to the Council.

**Stewardship Committee**

**Jim Korthals, Telephone # 262.242.8143**  
**korthalj@wls.wels.net**

Jim's report will be presented under New Business with the budget.

**Spiritual Growth Committee**  
**Joel Pless, Telephone # 262.677.2109**  
[LJP72761@yahoo.com](mailto:LJP72761@yahoo.com)

Prof. Jim Korthals completed the "Christ's Love, Our Calling: Love Takes Time" Bible study on November 21. On November 28, David's Star hosted Chris Dreisbach, WELS performer and recording artist, for a concert. In December, Bill Truebenbach completed a two week Bible class on the means of grace, while Pastor Woldt taught a Bible class on the weekly lectionary readings. Dr. Joel Pless taught a class to the teens on December 12 on Messianic prophecies and the Christmas narratives in the Gospels. In January, a new round of Bible studies will begin. Adult Bible class leaders are being sought for the rest of the school year. Dr. Pless is scheduled to begin teaching Revelation to the David's Star teens in January.

**Treasurer's report**  
**Randy Matter, Telephone # 262.376.1585**

The November 30, 2010 report was presented indicating an ending operating fund balance at 11/30/10 in the amount of (\$152,943.84), compared to (\$147,791.66) at 10/31/10.

**Vice President Report**  
**Jeff Morgan, Telephone # 262.377.7532**  
[jmorgan@heinntrendcorp.com](mailto:jmorgan@heinntrendcorp.com)

No report.

A motion was made and carried to accept all reports except those items that needed separate action under old or new business.

2011 Budget Preparation – A preliminary budget was distributed to Council for their review. Under the current draft, expenses are still exceeding projected income by about \$60,000. Council will review in January, when we will have a better measurement of what our final 2010 income was, which can be used to determine appropriate budgeted income for 2011.

2011 IRS Section 107 Housing Allowance Designation – The Council resolved that the following amounts be designated as 2011 Section 107 housing allowance for the indicated Minister of the Gospel:

Randy Watts \$25,000  
Tim Gustafson \$20,000  
Kurt Loescher \$8,500  
Michael Woldt \$7,200  
Tom Neuman \$20,000  
John Giddings \$25,000  
Martin Janke entire salary

Electronic annual report – Per Phyllis' recommendation to save printing costs, it was resolved that we would print only 100 copies of the annual report instead of the 250 that we had previously done. The annual report will be emailed to those members with such capabilities, and hard copies would be available for any other individuals that wish to receive theirs in that format.

**Items for Voters (for the January 20<sup>th</sup> voters meeting)**  
2011 Budget

Next months meeting is **Monday, January 10, 2011 at 7:00 P.M.** The next Voters meeting will be **Thursday, January 20, 2011 at 7:00 PM.**

A motion was made and carried to adjourn. The meeting was closed with prayer.

Respectively submitted,

Kevin A. Behm, Recording Secretary  
[kevinbehm@att.net](mailto:kevinbehm@att.net)

## Don't Just Say It

James 1:22 tells us that we are not only to hear the Word, but to do the Word. James encourages Christians to return to the Word, take comfort in the gospel, and live righteous lives focused on service toward others. We know the kind of lives God wants us to live. Often we say it but don't do it.

You may have heard about the three birds that are sitting on a telephone wire. Two of them decide to fly south. How many are left? One? No. It's three. This is because deciding to fly south isn't the same as doing it. It is a bit like the difference between a want and a wish. I may want to lose some extra pounds and decide to do it, but then don't do anything about it. This makes my desire and decision to lose weight nothing more than a wish.

In life it's not what I say, wish, or decide that counts. It's what I do. Action always needs to follow one's decision. Otherwise it is meaningless. Good intentions are simply not enough. We define ourselves not by what we want, say or think, but by what we do.

Don't just say or think "It is time that I begin my estate planning." Start taking action now by gathering the information you need to start making your estate plans. Talk to your loved ones about your estate planning decisions so they know and understand your motives and are comfortable with your wishes. Contact someone who can help you take action on your estate plan. Ask God to help you be a doer of his Word, not just a listener.

If you need assistance with your estate planning contact Bill Truebenbach, David's Star Planned Giving Chairman at 677-2066 or our WELS Estate Planning Counselor, Pastor Dennis Kleist at (920) 740-5899.



## Parish Nurse News

The **WORST** hearing impairment....

The worst hearing impairment is **SPIRITUAL DEAFNESS**. Thankfully Jesus opens the ears of our **HEARTS!**

It is estimated that a physical loss of hearing affects more than 300 million people worldwide. Hearing loss among teens is rising due to increasing noise exposure. **One in three people over 65 years of age and one in two over the age of 80 have a hearing loss.** 90% of hearing losses can be helped with hearing instruments, and 10% can be treated medically and/or surgically. Yet fewer than 5% of those who could benefit actually use a hearing instrument.

What about you, your family and friends? How is your hearing, spiritual or otherwise?

The Mission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing is ready to serve you. Do you or people you love have problems hearing our pastors in church or understanding your TV without having the volume turned too loud for others in the room? There are things we can do to help! Assistive Hearing Devices are available in the back of Church and the ushers can show you where they are and how to use them. Recently new pads for the earpieces were purchased, making their use more comfortable. Or contact the Mission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing at [mdhh@wels.net](mailto:mdhh@wels.net) for more ideas on helping our members receive a clear message on what is being said. 27 WELS congregations have now installed a hearing loop system, which allows users to hear sound through their own hearing aids that are designed to address their own particular hearing needs. The website for the Mission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing includes a directory of churches that have installed the loop system or have services that are signed.

Hearing loss at the higher frequencies (the most common kind of loss) makes it difficult for individuals to truly understand a message. We tend to use background knowledge to fill in the blanks – and sometimes we fill in the blanks all wrong. Apply the same situation to sermons on a Sunday. People hear a pastor speak but due to a variety of reasons don't use visual clues (speechreading) to help clarify what they assume they hear. Their hearing loss causes them to guess at what is being said. One idea to help members receive a clear message would be to pick up a copy of the printed sermon in the back of church (ask an usher!) and read along with the pastor! Don't hesitate to give this a try!

So...whether your hearing loss is spiritual or physical my prayer is for all people to correctly hear the wonderful message of the gospel.

A blessed New Year,

Sue Bolha RN, Parish Nurse [parishnurse@davidstar.org](mailto:parishnurse@davidstar.org)  
677-3485