



# thegoodnews

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

## ***“Reflections on Worship”***

*Pastor Woldt*

Do you realize the variety of worship opportunities we have in this one month at David's Star? Here's the list of April services without times or dates:

1. A midweek Lenten service. (2)
2. An Examination service
3. Palm Sunday Service of Word and Sacrament (2)
4. Confirmation Service
5. Maundy Thursday Service (2)
6. German Good Friday Service
7. Good Friday Service of the Word
8. Good Friday Tenebrae Service
9. Easter Eve Vigil Service
10. Easter Dawn Service
11. Easter Festival Service (2)
12. Ground Breaking Service
13. Common Service with Communion (3)
14. Wedding Service
15. Evening Prayer Service
16. Morning Praise Service (2)

In addition to these scheduled services, we anticipate performing a baptism or two in April. If the Lord chooses, we may also have to share God's comfort with each other in a Christian funeral service following the death of a loved one.

The tone of these worship services range from the somber reflection of Lent to the joy of hearing the new confirmands confess their faith in the Lord Jesus; from the darkness of Good Friday to the brilliant light of Easter Dawn; from the anticipation of a life together at a wedding, to recalling the blessings of an earthly life now ended while standing graveside in the cemetery. In a very genuine way, these services are an expression of our daily walk with the Savior.

While St. Paul rightly encourages us to “rejoice in the Lord always,” the corresponding reality is that “we must go through many hardships to enter the kingdom of God” (Acts 14:22) Jesus put it this way, while giving us a real reason for hope and joy, “In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world” (John 16:33).

Sorrow over sin (contrition) is vital for true spiritual health. St. John even said, “If we claim we have not sinned, we make him [God] out to be a liar, and his word has no place in our lives” (1 John 1:10). However, I can't imagine worshipping in a setting that was continually dominated by the dark, somber mood of Good Friday. After confession comes absolution. After the dark and death of Good Friday comes Easter light and life!

Nor can I imagine worshipping in a setting where week after week moods are artificially manipulated by the rhythms of upbeat music and a motivational speaker more intent on outlining methods for victorious living than sharing the good news of Christ crucified and Christ risen for sinners like me. There are times in my life when I don't feel like laughing and dancing with joy. Sometimes I need to reflect and repent. There is a time for tears. Even Jesus cried (John 11:35).

I thank God for the variety of worship services we have during the month of April, and throughout the year. Our musicians and choir members work hard to provide a rich offering of worship music appropriate for praise, reflection and proclamation. I pray that all of you will join your pastors and fellow members of David's Star as together we repent and rejoice in our crucified and risen Savior.

**APRIL 2009**

**Volume XV,  
Number 8**



### **HAPPY BIRTHDAY SENIORS!!!**

Sylvia Schmidt...80 yrs. old...4/1/1929  
 Betty Vogel...82 yrs. old...4/3/1927  
 Harlin Kannelberg...91 yrs. old... 4/9/1918  
 Chrysta Schmelzer...82 yrs. old... 4/15/1927  
 Grace Maciejewski ...81 yrs. old...4/26/1928  
 Lawrence Klein...81 yrs. old ...4/29/1928

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### **YOU'RE INVITED!!!**

Come and enjoy an hour of Classical music such as; Handel's Messiah and Mozart. Jessica Gromacki will be giving her Senior Recital at Wisconsin Lutheran College on Sunday April 19th, beginning at 3:00 in the Schwan Concert Hall and ending at 4:00pm. ANYONE INTERESTED IN COMING IS WELCOME! There will be refreshments served after the performance.

### **TEDDY BEAR PATROL**

We will be collecting teddy bears for children in crisis situations (abuse, neglect, fire, accidents, etc.) in partnership with News Radio 620 WTMJ, Metropolitan Cadillac and State Farm Insurance on the 17<sup>th</sup> annual Teddy Bear Patrol. Area police and fire departments distribute them for their use in comforting children. Please drop off your **new** teddy bear in the box in the IMC of school or at church before April 22<sup>nd</sup>.

### **TEDDY BEAR PICNIC**

This will be held on Thursday, May 7th in the school gym from 6:30 pm - 7:45 pm: ALL AGES invited. Activities for ages 4-9 in gym, bring teddy bears! Bible Study for adults in separate room. Light Refreshments will be provided. Looking for helpers in 5th-12th grade! Please contact Jennifer Otte 262-306-3521 or [simplyjeno@yahoo.com](mailto:simplyjeno@yahoo.com)



### **Parish Nurse News**

“Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who

belong to the family of believers.”

Galatians 6:10

### **Advice from patients to caregivers:**

People undergoing treatment for cancer were asked what they would like their loved ones and other caregivers to know. Here are some of their suggestions:

- **It's OK to still get mad at me** for not doing the dishes, forgetting to pay bills, or other things.
- **Sometimes your positive energy** has to be enough for both of us.
- **Respect my independence and self-esteem.** It's hard to accept the fact that I need to be cared for, so let me do as much for myself as possible.
- **Touch me.**
- **If you think I'm overexerting myself,** check with my doctor before trying to stop me from living as normally as I can.
- **Forgive me if my fear of the unknown** leads me to be difficult or unkind.
- **Be honest,** and remember to laugh and to cry with me.
- **You have a right to set limits** on what you can do for me.

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Being a caregiver or the receiver of that care, can present all sorts of challenges. May God grant us patience and strength to respond, as He would have us respond to those challenges. Psalm 118 has become a favorite of mine and reminds us, “The Lord is with me; I will not be afraid.”

Giving thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever.

Sue Bolha RN, Parish Nurse

March 10, 2009

Members in attendance: Pastor Loescher, Pastor Woldt, David Nunez, Dan Bolha, Kevin Behm, Tim Gustafson, Mark Otte, Todd Backus, Kurt Henning, Brian Lee, Dennis Bell, David Zarling, Jeff Morgan, Randy Vogel (Building Committee), Gary Heckendorf (Fund Raising Committee).

Absent: none.

The meeting was opened with a prayer. A motion was made and carried to approve the minutes from the regularly scheduled meeting on February 10, 2009.

#### Membership Report (Pastor Woldt)

**Incoming:** Praefke, Susanne  
*Transfer from Our St. John's, Wauwatosa, WI*  
Retherford, Rosanna; Keegan  
*Profession of Faith*

**Outgoing:** Kremer, Jesse & Janet;  
Keturah, Miriam  
*Transfer to Shepherd of the Hills, West Bend, WI*  
Westermann, Jennifer  
*Release from membership*

#### Pastors' report

**Pastor Loescher, # 677-0919**

**kloescher@davidstar.org**

**Pastor Woldt, # 377-1019**

**woldt@nconnect.net**

We look forward to welcoming 17 young adults into communicant membership through confirmation on Palm Sunday (April 5<sup>th</sup>). Please keep these young Christians in your prayers, encourage them if you have the opportunity, and think about ways of incorporating their enthusiasm and talents in your area of ministry. The activity surrounding the building project is remarkable. We have been blessed with so much talent and dedication in this congregation. We ask God to bless our labors for his name's sake.

#### President's report

**Dave Nuñez, #677-2647**

**David.Nunez@ipaper.com**

DNR's NR-151 Nutrient Management Plan – This is a pending issue. Randy Vogel is working on this plan. He will be trying to complete this while the building program is being worked on.

Howard Kaschner Estate – We are waiting for a call back from the family to set a date for a final meeting with all parties to finalize the estate.

Council Retreat – Due to numerous meetings and tight deadlines for the building program, I have decided to cancel this year's retreat and pick it up again in 2010.

Building project - Numerous meetings and involvement by many members, and contractors are working on a very tight deadline that needs to be kept in order to maintain our commitment of starting the renovation of the current school right after the children are released from school. The involvement by PRA and their staff has been wonderful, thorough, and an overall good confident feeling.

I will be contacting the Technology and Internet Antenna Committees to form a committee that will be an advisory committee to PRA and discuss the requirements needed for the security, internet connections and so forth. That will have to be set up within the next two weeks so that it can fit into the overall planning.

I have asked the Building Committee to work on communication plans for the congregation. It is very important to keep the channels open and to give them updates as they are appropriate. We need the support of the congregation, and communicating to them whenever possible will ensure continued support and good feelings about the project.

#### Board for Buildings and Grounds

**Kurt Henning, # 677-2797**

**klh@nconnect.net**

New gym lights have been completed in the gym. The Golf Committee has donated the money for this project.

A new roof was completed on the restroom building in the church woods. A flat roof was converted to a gable roof. All labor was donated by Kurt Henning, including roofing, construction of roof, and siding and fascia.

A new hot water heater is needed in Pastor Woldt's parsonage. Dan Kaschner has volunteered his time to complete this.

**Board for Elementary Education**

**Brian Lee, Telephone #377-9419**

**brian.lee@jci.com**

**Principal Tim Gustafson # 338-3992**

**tgustafson@davidstar.org** )

The board is continuing to work on tuition and fee structures. These should be ready for April voter's meeting.

The board is looking at establishing a fund for tuition assistance for our students.

The board is developing a proposal at their next meeting for what to expect the increase in tuition to be for the second year of our tuition program, as well as what subsequent year's tuition might be.

**Board of Elders**

**Dennis Bell, Telephone # 677-2248**

**dandmbell@sbc.global**

The Board of Elders recommends to council that we allow the Parish Nurse Committee to collect money by the distribution of "Baby Bottles" on Mother's Day to have returned by Father's Day. The collection is for Christian Life Resources.

**Evangelism Committee**

**David Zarling, Telephone # 262-546-4506**

**david.zarling@gmail.com**

Evangelism Committee minutes from March 3, 2009

Opened with prayer

Reviewed new members received

Discussed Easter Egg Hunt to be held Saturday April 4<sup>th</sup> @ 1PM. Thanks to Bob and Lois Traska for organizing.

Discussed Live Nativity with the date and funding to be determined. Thanks to Dennis Sprenger for organizing.

Reviewed Evangelism goals for 2009: establish Evangelism Awareness Coordinator, Establish Community Outreach Coordinator, Recruit additional help for New Members Integration and Publicity, and increase event horizon for promotion purposes.

Reviewed Event/Promotional Calendar

Reviewed Jimmy's/Heidel's advertising inquiry Action items and future considerations reviewed.

Closed with blessing

**Stewardship Committee**

**Todd Backus, # 677-4016**

**todd.backus@prodigy.net**

Stewardship Committee minutes from March 3, 2009

Heart N Focus Course – Discussed feedback. Feedback/major topics as part of bulletin insert or newsletter article – helping others deal with economic downturn. Todd to discuss with Randy/Jody.

Stewardship Communication

Todd will continue to include monthly pieces in our newsletter.

Agreed to have promotion for Simply Giving.

Email blast on stewardship – needs further development.

Stewardship on education – needs further development.

Planned Giving – Bill Truebenbach has written a couple articles for inclusion in monthly newsletter. There is also a recommendation for the allocation of undesignated gifts over \$5000 for 2009 which will be acted upon under new business. Gifts under \$5000 is per council recommendation.

Envelope changes include adding KML Foundation – potential add to another monthly KML envelope (Walking the Path Together). There was also a color request change from the counters for the Our Foundation envelope.

WELS Walking Together 2009- August timeframe or later (WELS walking together with congregations – special service request – further discussion and development needed)

Next meeting – April 7th at 8:00PM

Brian Lee inquired on adding an envelope for David's Star School tuition assistance.

**Spiritual Growth Committee**

**Mark Otte, # 306-3521 motte@kmlhs.org**

Spiritual Growth Committee notes from February 16, 2009

Discussed pay for our Bible class leaders.

Pastor Woldt and Pastor Loescher will both be leading a Bible class after Easter to finish out the year.

We are looking ahead to next year and beginning to make plans for our Bible classes.

We discussed leadership with our Youth Group. Family Bible Week will be the evenings of July 26-July 30 (Sunday – Thursday) We are tentatively planning on meeting in the woods due to the construction on campus. (KML has been reserved as a backup). On Thursday, we

will participate in the worship service to complete the week.

We spent time planning the meal for Ash Wednesday, and enjoyed serving it.

### **Building Committee**

#### **Randy Vogel**

Randy Vogel was present to provide council with updated drawings of our building plans. Randy briefly presented the materials and answered questions.

### **Fundraising Committee Update**

#### **Gary Heckendorf**

Gary Heckendorf distributed to council financing proposals by four financial institutions – M & I Bank, Westbury Bank, Port Washington State Bank, and Thrivent.

After some discussion, it was decided that council would like to use a 5 year fixed rate. Gary would obtain more information regarding a 5 year fixed rate from M & I. He will also obtain more information from Thrivent regarding their fee structure and references. An email will be sent to council members after Gary receives this information.

### **Treasurer's report**

#### **Dan Bolha, # 677-3485 [dbolha@charter.net](mailto:dbolha@charter.net)**

The February 28, 2009 ending balance in our operating fund shows a deficit of \$171,622 compared to a deficit of \$155,905 January 31, 2009 and a deficit of \$128,352 on February 29, 2008. Year to date operating fund receipts are \$122,014 compared to \$122,468 last year and this year's budget of \$126,952. Our Foundation Build on the Rock funding appeal has received year to date revenues of \$70,319.

### **Vice President Report**

#### **Jeff Morgan, # 377-7532**

No report.

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

### **Old Business**

None.

### **New Business**

The Council approved allowing the Parish Nurse Committee to collect money by the distribution of "Baby Bottles" on Mother's Day to have returned by

Father's Day. The collection is for Christian Life Resources.

The Council approved the following allocation of Undesignated Gifts over \$5000, as recommended by the Stewardship Committee:

35% - Church Operating Endowment Fund

35% - Restricted Building Fund

10% - Future Called Workers Tuition Assistance Endowment Fund

10% - Building and Improvement Fund

10% - KMLHS

This recommendation will be brought to the voters at the next meeting.

### **Items for Voters (for the April 16 voters meeting)**

Recommendation from council for undesignated gift designation for gifts over \$5000.

Next months meeting is **Tuesday, April 14, 2009 at 7:00 P.M.** The next Voters meeting will be **Thursday, April 16, 2009 at 8:00 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).

# FINANCIAL REPORT FOR February 2009

	Current Month Offerings	Average weekly offerings	Offerings Received thru 2/28/09	Offerings Budgeted thru 2/28/09
Operating	\$57,688	\$14,422	\$116,693	\$120,894
Missions	\$ 6,036	\$ 1,509	\$ 11,418	\$ 12,126
KML Operating	\$ 3,181	\$ 795	\$ 6,404	\$ 8,366
KML Building	\$ 945	\$ 236	\$ 1,583	\$ 2,333

The deficit in our Operating Fund is:  
\$171,622  
The deficit at the end of January 2008  
was: \$128,352

## WE ARE BREAKING GROUND ON EASTER SUNDAY

When you come to worship on Easter morning, plan to give glory to God at the ground breaking service at 9:15 am on the church lawn. Several members of the leadership team and others representing a cross section of the people and work of our congregation will participate in the ceremonial ground breaking.

The Lord has allowed us to serve him in this place thus far. We glorify his holy name for allowing us to expand our ministries. Come and praise him for his resurrection, for our life in Christ and our living for Christ. All of us are built to serve; together we build to serve.



## WELS UPDATE FROM THE STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

The latest WELS membership statistics have just been released, and once again they show slight declines. Total baptized membership dropped from 394,241 in 2007 to 389,364 in 2008, a decrease of 1.2 percent. Communicant membership also declined slightly from 311,283 in 2007 to 308,430 in 2008.

Membership in WELS world mission churches, however, increased by 1,151 baptized souls, from 78,976 in 2007 to 80,127 in 2008.

The congregations of the synod experienced a 3.3 percent decline in the number of infant baptisms (from 6,900 to 6,673) and a 2.4 percent decline in adult baptisms and confirmations (from 4,393 to 4,287). On the other hand, there was a 3.8 percent increase (from 2,126 to 2,207) in the number of adults who joined the synod by profession of faith (generally those who come from other Lutheran church bodies not in fellowship with WELS).

Enrollment in WELS elementary schools continued the downward trend of recent years. Total enrollment in 2008 was 25,289 compared with 25,712, a decline of 1.6 percent. But the enrollment in preschool and early childhood programs grew by 2.7 percent from 9,567 in 2007 to 9,823 in 2008. Statistics like these can be disappointing, since they portray a continuing trend of lower membership and elementary school enrollment. But they can also serve as an encouragement to every congregation and every member of the synod to rededicate ourselves to our mission of sharing the gospel with as many people as possible. We want to be faithful and diligent as possible in planting the seeds of the gospel, with the full confidence that results of faithful ministry are in God's gracious hands.

## **Stewardship Thought**

In His Sermon on the Mount, Jesus gave us a very important principle for the handling of our material possessions which include any kind of financial assets and income. He taught the “God first” principle. *“But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well”* (Matthew 6:33). When we give first priority to God with our time and treasures, He is honored, and He will provide us with what we need. Are you using your time in reading God’s Word and serving others? Is God receiving the firstfruits of your income? God wants us to seek Him first, and He promises that He will be found (Jeremiah 29:13).

## **The Joy of Giving**

A pastor of a small, rural congregation was visiting a shut-in widow who lived in a run-down house at the end of a dirt road. Bedridden, sick and weak, she looked forward to the pastor’s visit. On the occasion of his first call, she handed him her offering envelope with her tithe enclosed. He tried to refuse. She said, “Pastor, this is one of the only joys I have left. I can no longer attend church or be part of the fellowship. But I can give.” The joy in her countenance demonstrated a spirit that loved to give.

## **Making Choices**

Each of us makes hundreds of choices a day, perhaps beginning with the sound of the alarm clock when we choose whether or not to get out of bed. Many of our choices are made unconsciously. We choose what we’ll wear and what we’ll eat and whether we’ll spend our leisure time reading or watching TV. We choose our friends and our pets but not our families. Those we’re born into without our having a voice in the matter. It is similar with the family of God, for it is our heavenly Father Who has chosen to adopt us into His family. We were dead in sin, but God speaking through Hosea said, *“I will redeem them from death”* (Hosea 13:14). That is God’s choice. Paul wrote to Timothy that *“Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners . . .”* (1 Timothy 1:15). That is His choice. Matthew recorded Jesus’ words: *“The Son of Man did*

*not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many”* (Matthew 20:28). We are, as Peter wrote, *“A chosen people”* (1 Peter 2:9). As the redeemed and chosen people of God we now can choose to respond by declaring *“the praises of Him Who called [us] out of darkness into His wonderful light”* (1 Peter 2:9). We can choose to follow Paul’s directive to *“serve one another in love”* (Galatians 5:13). We can choose to follow the example of Joshua who counseled those headstrong Israelites: *“Now fear the Lord and serve Him with all faithfulness . . . But if serving the Lord seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve . . . But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord”* (Joshua 24:14-15).

## **LIVING THE PROPER LIFESTYLE**

Scripture does not dictate that we are to live in a certain way. God does not tell us what we can or can’t own. He does not list the specifics on the type of home, the number of cars, or clothes we are to have, but there are attitudes that God wants us to develop within the area of financial responsibility.

**First of all, God wants us to have an eternal perspective. With an eternal perspective we act and live differently:**

- **We are called to store up for ourselves treasures in Heaven (Mathew 6:20).**
- **Our lifestyles will reflect our relationship with Christ.**
- **We will be good stewards by using our gifts and financial blessings in God-pleasing ways.**
- **We will live moderately and share generously for the work of the Lord.**
- **Our financial decisions will be spiritual decisions. Jesus said, “So if you have not been trustworthy in handling worldly wealth, who will trust you with true riches?” (Luke 16:11).**
- **What we do, how we handle the stuff of life, will be done with an eye on eternity.**



**DAVID'S STAR LUTHERAN  
CHURCH  
Holy Week Worship  
Schedule 2009**

**Palm Sunday Services**

Sunday, April 5, 2009  
7:45 & 10:15 am  
(10:15 service is our Confirmation Service)

**Maundy Thursday Services w/Holy Communion**

Thursday, April 9  
Service Times 3:45 & 7:00 PM

**Good Friday Services**

April 10  
German/English 11:30am  
Service of the Cross 1:30 pm  
Service of Darkness 7:00pm

**Easter Vigil Service w/Holy Communion**

(Saturday) April 11, 2009  
7:00pm

**Easter Services**

Sunday, April 12, 2009

Easter Dawn Worship Service  
6:00am

Easter Festival Services  
7:45 and 10:15am

Groundbreaking Service  
Easter Sunday 9:15 am  
Church lawn

Easter Breakfast service in school gymnasium from  
7:00 am to 10:00 am.

**HANDBELL FESTIVAL**

This year's Handbell Festival will be held at Luther Preparatory School in Watertown on Sunday, April 26th at 2 pm. David's Star Handbell Choirs will be participating in the festival this year! Please come to the service on Sunday afternoon!

**LADIES' AID NEWS CORNER**

We would like to encourage all women in our congregation to come to our meetings and see what we're all about. The meetings are the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month except June, July and August. We are now starting at 6:30 p.m. and planning to be done by 8 p.m. to accommodate those moms who need to get home to be with their children. We would like to revamp the Ladies' Aid to better serve all of the ladies in our congregation and would like to have your suggestions on how we can serve you better. Please call or e-mail our new president, Lynne Tews at 262-377-2051 or ltews@davidstar.org, with any questions or suggestions. Hope to see you soon.

Good Shepherd Ladies League, West Bend has invited us to an evening of Fellowship on Tuesday, May 5 for a 6pm supper. Pastor Mark Jeske will be their guest speaker and talk about Television Ministries. Guests and spouses are welcome. RSVP before May 1<sup>st</sup> to Rita Bartholomew, 262-338-0432 or barita@charter.net.

**Helpers Needed**

The Ladies' Aid wants to start a list of people (men or women) who would like to help but don't want to be in charge of meals or special projects. You would not be expected to work unless you want and it is convenient with your schedule – YOU DECIDE. If you are interested, please e-mail Lynne Tews at ltews@davidstar.org.

**Upcoming Activities:**

Saturday, May 30 @ 8a.m. – Move 3 storage room and kitchen items to gym, move school office to the Parish Center, remove shelving in storage rooms