

March 2023

Happy Birthday to:

- 2 - Marilyn Behn
Mark Baldwin
- 4 - Jackie Birdsell
Gene Lampe
Joan Berquist
Vivian Hansen
- 5 - Rev. Pat Baldwin
- 6 - Jeremy Grefe
Don Kloetzer
- 7 - Jackie Fink
Grant Subert
Cooper Hansen
Sam Baumann
- 9 - Karen Wirtjes
Nate Hansen
- 11 - Rev. Roy Berquist
- 13 - Charles Flickinger
Zander Voss
- 14 - Benjamin Harvey
- 15 - Randy Oehlert
Nate Baumann
- 16 - Tom Teggatz
- 17 - Natalie Dent
- 21 - Paula Schnabel
- 24 - Jennie Dellinger
Justin Schnabel
Tucker Schmitt
- 29 - Darrell Stratmann
Rodger Schnabel
Ryan Tripp



Enjoy Your
Birthday!

Happy Anniversary to:

- 13 - Brandon & Patricia Heilskov
- 23 - Rev. David & Sandra Lingard

Special Services

Midweek Lenten Services
with Holy Communion

*He (Jesus) said to them,
"But who do you say that I am?"*

Matthew 16:15

Lenten Sermon Series led by Vicar Cox

Wednesday nights at 7:00 PM

Meal served at 6:00 PM

Confirmation is at 5:30 PM during Lent.



Greeters

Jackie Birdsell
Paul & Joyce Hauser
Bill & Sheree Holmstrom
Gene & Sharon Miller

Ushers

Jason Arndt
Alan Brown
Nate Hansen
Troy Hansen
Mike Spetman (when not an Elder)

Acolytes

- 1 (Wed Lent) - Brody Kloetzer
- 5 - Maren Subbert
- 8 (Wed Lent) - Cooper Hansen
- 12 - Noel Hansen
- 15 (Wed Lent) - Lukas Showalter
- 19 - Lane Haller
- 22 (Wed Lent) - Noah Behn
- 26 - Colin Harr
- 29 (Wed Lent) - Slade Pigman

Individual and small group
communion is being offered in place
of the Special Needs service.
Please contact the church office if
interested.





Wednesday, March 1st at 2PM
 Devotion/Bible Study:
 Mary Hadley
 Hostess:
 Jolene McWilliams

All ladies are invited! Please let Stephanie know if you need a copy of the Bible Study.

Lenten Meals

During this Lenten season we will be having Lenten meals before each Lenten service at Trinity. Serving will begin at 6:00 PM.



March 1: Pastor's Group	Pastor's Pizza
March 8: Esther Circle	Soups, bread, bars
March 15: Evangelism	Goulash, buns, bars
March 22: LYF	Bake potato bar & ice cream
March 29: Confirmation	Pancakes & sausage

The Board of Parish and Social Ministry would like to give a big "THANK YOU" to the groups and committees who will be serving the Lenten Meals. It is greatly appreciated, and it is a great time to enjoy good food and fellowship.

Choir Rehearsals Resuming March 5th:



We have the opportunity to use our voices to praise our God. And we have much for which to be thankful!

We welcome all ability levels; some of us read music and others do not but learn by following along. Please do not hesitate to join us as we are a welcoming group!

Although we have taken a break since Christmas, Easter will be here before we know it. We will resume rehearsals on Sunday, March 5 at 8:00 a.m.

So PLEASE consider joining us for rehearsal and singing with us! "OH, SING TO THE LORD A NEW SONG!"

Easter Lilies – Please look for cost/deadline information for ordering Easter Lilies to be in a forthcoming weekly bulletin. Easter falls on Sunday, April 9th this year.



Remember our shut-ins with your prayers, phone calls, visits, and cards...

*Country View Nursing Facility: 1720 Central Ave. E. Hampton, IA 50441

Mavis Claypool, Jennie Dellinger, Don Fink, Bob Heilskov, Doris Knueppel, Melba Muhlenbruch, Tillie Nelsen

*Franklin General Assisted Living: 1724 Central Ave. E. Hampton, IA 50441

Donna Helmke, Dixie Schmitt

*Rehabilitation Center of Hampton: 700 2nd St. SE Hampton, IA 50441

Daisy Bentrrott, Jamie Fink

*Sheffield Care Center: 100 Bennett Drive Sheffield, IA 50475

Don Meyer

*Hubbard Care Center: PO Box 212 Hubbard, IA 50122

Mildred Pingel

*Keelson Harbour, Spirit Lake: 2810 Aurora Ave. Spirit Lake, IA 51360

Betty Fink

*Our members at home who may not be able to come to church.

Thrivent Members:



The deadline to designate your 2022 Choice Dollars is March 31, 2023. You may phone Thrivent at 800-847-4836 and say "Thrivent Choice" at the prompt, call the Iowa Falls office at 641-648-2067, or go online at <https://thrivent.com/thriventchoice>. Please have your Member ID available. Thank you.

Creation Museum and Ark Encounter

The church office received information regarding 2 bus trips planned to the Creation Museum and Ark Encounter for June 5-9 and December 4-8 of this year. These trips are planned by Roger and Ellen Bauer. Please let Stephanie know if you are interested in the pricing and other information and she can make copies for you. If the scheduled trips don't work for you, call the Bauer's and they will send you a letter giving you guidance for a personal trip. For additional information you can telephone them at 319-610-2623 or email to bauerr@mchsi.com. Also see the Creation Museum's website at www.creationmuseum.org or the Ark Encounter at www.arkencounter.com. People who have been to the museum and Ark have wonderful things to say about them!

From Vicar Cox...

Last month we looked at the emerging struggles between the House of **Saul** and the House of **David**, focusing on the House of Saul. The drama in these true stories could easily inspire the plot of a Hollywood movie. This month we will look at King Saul's further attempts to harm David as recorded in **1 Samuel 19 and 20**.



Jonathan and David, the best of friends, Bible clip art courtesy of www.thebiblerevival.com.

David is the eighth son of Jesse from the small town of Bethlehem. He is a trained shepherd with skill in wielding a staff and a sling. He is also a gifted musician and poet. According to God's will, he becomes a musician in King Saul's court. But King Saul is spiritually unstable, and highly suspicious of rivals. Of course,

the reader already knows that David was anointed by Samuel and will be the next king of Israel.

David is thrust into the national spotlight when he slays the champion of the Philistines, Goliath. It turns out that David is far more than a young, talented musician. King Saul now sees David as a direct threat to his dynasty. He's not wrong. David married Saul's daughter, Princess **Michal**, and gained the undying loyalty of his brother-in-law, Saul's oldest son, Prince **Jonathan**. Saul's first efforts to discredit, or even kill David, were thwarted, as we read about last month.

David, no fool, has grown cautious after King Saul's volatile actions have nearly cost him his life. But his best friend, Prince Jonathan, is sure that King Saul has calmed down. In fact, Jonathan even got his father to swear to leave David alone. Things go back to normal for a short while. David continues his military duties, and even his role as the court musician. But King Saul is not at peace in his spirit. One night while listening to David play music, he relapses into his rage and envy. He hurls a spear at David with such force that it buries itself in the wall, David having barely dodged the attack. For those keeping track, this is the second time King Saul hurled a spear at David!

David flees to his own house where he lives with Princess Michal, his wife. It's not far enough. Saul sends his agents to camp outside David's door and kill him when he comes out. Michal, evidently aware of her father's plot (or perhaps, knowing how her father operates), tells David, "You'll be dead by tomorrow if you don't sneak away." When the agents aren't watching the back window, Michal helps David escape from it into the night.

To maximize David's opportunity to flee without pursuit, Michal puts a statue in his bed, dressed in his clothes, and capped by a wig. Any of her father's spies will think that David is still in bed unless they check up close. She also lets it be known that David is sick and will remain in bed. As the day drags on, King Saul gets tired of waiting for David to come out. He tells his agents to drag him out of bed so he can be killed, evidently unwilling to murder his daughter's husband right in front of her.

King Saul's men discover the deception, and Michal is brought to her father to answer for aiding David's escape. "Why are you helping my *enemy*?" he asks her. Fearful of her father, Michal indicates that David threatened her into compliance with his escape plan.

David makes his way to the Ramah, where the prophet, **Samuel**, lives. He tells Samuel the whole story of King Saul and his plots. Together they move to Naioth where they are safe from Saul for a while. Eventually, King Saul finds out where David is and sends his agents to retrieve him. But God intervenes, and every group of men that come for David are overwhelmed by the Holy Spirit and drop their assignment. Finally, King Saul himself comes for David in Naioth. But the will of God cannot be thwarted. The Holy Spirit overwhelms King Saul so thoroughly, that instead of dragging David back to the capital, he strips naked, lies on the ground in front of Samuel, and utters the Word of God for a full day. Bystanders are perplexed: "Is King Saul a prophet?"

Since David can no longer hide from King Saul in Naioth, he leaves and seeks out his best friend, Jonathan. Jonathan has good news for David. King Saul is a changed man. He no longer wants to kill David. "If my father still wants to kill you, he would tell me," Jonathan says. But David tells Jonathan, "Your father knows you're my best friend. You're the last person he would tell if he still wants to kill me. Without a doubt, I am only one step away from death."

(continued on back)

David and Jonathan conspire to uncover Saul's true intentions. David is expected to return to the palace for the feast of the new moon. But David thinks King Saul is planning to attack him there. So David will intentionally absent himself from the king's table during that time and Jonathan will see how Saul responds to David's absence.

If asked, Jonathan will pretend that *he* gave permission for David to go to Bethlehem to partake in an annual feast with his family. In reality, David is hiding in a nearby field. If King Saul is indifferent to David's absence, then Saul really has changed, and David is safe to remain in the palace. If King Saul is angry about David's absence, then it will be revealed that Saul meant to keep his enemy close at hand for nefarious reasons.

After missing David at the royal table for two consecutive days, King Saul can no longer hide his agitation. Jonathan tells him, "Oh yeah, David wanted to go visit his family at Bethlehem, so I gave him permission to go." King Saul absolutely loses it! He curses Jonathan for his shortsightedness and even insults his mother! "You son of a whore! Don't you know you should be the next king of Israel? But you are supporting the only man between you and the throne! Now go get him so I can kill him and clear the way for you!"

"What has David ever done to you!" Jonathan asks. Enraged at the insolence of his son, Saul does the unthinkable. He hurls his mighty spear at his own son. The spear misses, but the point is made. Jonathan leaves his father's table in disgust. In sadness, he goes out to meet with David in secret. There he tells David the ugly truth. It is not safe to be anywhere near King Saul. Out of respect, David bows to Jonathan three times. They embrace. And they speak words of peace to one another even as their two houses descend into warfare.

Warfare that we will read about next month....

Vicar Cox

The **Issues**, Etc.
MAKING the CASE
CONFERENCE

June 16 & 17 in Chicago, IL



Issues, Etc. has a great speaking lineup for their **2023 Issues, Etc. "Making the Case" Conference** Friday, June 16 and Saturday, June 17 at Concordia University Chicago.

Mark Hemingway of *RealClear Investigations*
Mollie Hemingway of *The Federalist*
LCMS President Matt Harrison
San Francisco Archbishop Salvatore Cordileone
Kyle Mann of *The Babylon Bee*
Rev. Peter Bender of the Concordia Catechetical Academy
Rev. Will Weedon of *The Word of the Lord Endures Forever*

Early bird registration is \$140 and includes three meals. Attendance is limited to 500. Go to www.issuesetc.org/2023-conference/ for more information and to sign up.

Do you know your Hymns?



The Dentist's Hymn:
Crown Him with Many Crowns

The Weatherman's Hymn:
There Shall Be Showers of Blessings

The Contractor's Hymn:
The Church's One Foundation

The Tailor's Hymn:
Holy, Holy, Holy

The Golfer's Hymn:
There's a Green Hill Far Away

The Politician's Hymn:
Standing on the Promises

The Optometrist's Hymn:
Open My Eyes That I Might See

The IRS Agent's Hymn:
I Surrender All

The Gossip's Hymn:
Pass It On

The Electricians' Hymn:
Send the Light