



# The Messenger

March 2007

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## Let It Snow, If Only in the Memories

Well, with the crazy mixed up, blowing, drifting, snowing, sleet, raining, sniffing, sneezing, coughing, achy, stuffy head, fever so you can rest medicine. Woe, wait a second, got caught in a commercial there. Sorry! As I was saying, with the crazy, mixed up, blowing, drifting, snowing, sleet, raining weather we've been having lately, you'll have to excuse me if this month's article is a little loony, for in that case it only matches my mindset at the moment. A bit of a helter-skelter, "stream-of-consciousness" type of piece seems right for this month, with the general cabin fever mood of the last few weeks. Hey, any time you have to cancel church on a Sunday morning, you're moseying through a bit of a peculiar stretch. You feel cooped-up, almost like a hermit. At least, that's how I feel. My goal with this article, then, is to reconnect with you, and to do that by the same means that has kept us apart lately. That is, I'd like to share with you how stormy winter weather has led to some of the memorable little episodes of my life. I can't really get to know *you* better in an article, but hopefully this will at least work the other way around.

Getting started, my first memories with snow were very, very good. The white would start falling and my two sisters, brother, and I, along with every other kid around town, would jump up and down like we'd just won the lottery. Snow-days off of school were great, but the mornings were kind of weird. With Mom making waffles for breakfast it was like a Saturday, but without the cartoons. We'd end up tunneling in the snow, then going back in to play Atari, make peanut butter play-do, and enjoy the free day doing fun things like that.

About eight years later at Martin Luther College, another sweet snow memory was created. It was winter of my freshmen year. Some classmates and I went to a friend's house in Redwood Falls, MN to watch the Superbowl. And wouldn't you know, the Packers were in it! That was the only one I care to remember, for obvious reasons, the one against the Patriots. After the awesome game that night we had an awesome snowstorm. A total whiteout. Monday classes were cancelled, and we ended up celebrating the next morning by watching the same ESPN *SportsCenter* as it was aired four times in a row, until we were saying the hosts' lines before they did.

On to the seminary, my next snow memory was a bit less pleasant. It was my vicar year and I got caught in a nasty Texas snowstorm. Actually it was the only one of the year, about a two-inch snowfall, but I did learn that what they say about Texas is true. Everything is bigger there, including the black ice. Our incident takes place in the busy Fort Worth suburb of North Richland Hills where my vicar church was. I was cruising down Davis Blvd., hanging a right on Lola Dr., the street the

church was on, to preach for the Monday night service (which I soon found out was cancelled, due to the snow!) when, suddenly, my tires lost traction on ice I couldn't see, and I began to skid. Such a helpless feeling, as you know, if you've ever experienced it. At the end of my car's little toboggan ride to the curb I realized. Who needs a custom car garage? I had "tricked my ride" in about five seconds. That is a young whippersnapper way of saying, I "made handsome modifications to my car". Except these modifications weren't very cool. My steering wheel was stuck at 9 o'clock. The front air dam was cracked, and almost broken off. I almost cried. Take a close look at my car and you can still see the deep scar on her face from her run-in with the great Lone Star snowstorm of two thousand and three.

And then, of course, the most recent snow memory is so recent it continues into today, but especially last Sunday, which I'll probably always remember, too. This memory was kind of sad, even odd. Odd to have a Sunday morning at 9:30 and not be in robe, but to look outside and see Antarctica, where a whole parking lot of cars should be. Well, I do have a sermon I can reuse next year, when the first Sunday in Lent rolls around again.

But here we are this weekend, able to worship together in our pretty church once again. And as usually happens, all those haps and mishaps of the past for me are now mostly fond memories, including last Sunday. Probably the same for you. It just goes to show the Lord's grace, and a sentimental, goose bump-type fulfillment of Romans 8:28. **"In all things God works for the good of those who love him."** Yes, further proof that, with Jesus on our side, all things work in our favor, even snowstorms, because we enjoy God's favor in any season thanks to the cross.

*Pastor Gregory Pope*



## Message From The President

# SNOW DAY

Recently we experienced a “snow day” for church. The snowstorm did not quite reach the potential the weathermen predicted but did give us a considerable amount of snow and cause the roads to be slippery. The plows did not get the roads cleared early enough and the parking lot had not been plowed.

Pastor and I agonized on Saturday evening whether to call off services for Sunday then or wait until morning. We decided to see what Sunday morning brought and at 6:45 a.m. decided we should cancel since many other churches had already done so and County Traffic was strongly recommending that people should stay off the roads. Being a rural congregation located off main roads we felt that was probably good advice.

Pastor called the radio stations. I called the TV stations. We both soon realized that neither had much staff available on Sunday morning to handle the press of cancellations. This caused delays in our cancellation being broadcast. In fact I could only get one of the four TV stations to answer the phone. The rest I had to eventually leave a message. The one that answered told me it would be a while before our cancellation would get on air because they were behind. It took an hour and a half before I finally saw it posted. We apologize if someone came to church and found church closed.

In the future please tune to WCUB or WOMT and their affiliates for weather cancellations. We will try the TV stations, but after my experience with the last storm, I do not put a lot of faith in them. Also please check for cancellations if the County Highway Department or County Traffic recommends not driving.

There are other forms of worship, such as the Worship Hour sponsored by our congregation on WCUB. This just shows how easily the opportunity to join our fellow members in worship can be upset. We should be thankful and rejoice in every opportunity to come and worship.

*John Smith,*  
Congregational President

## Announcements & Reports/Updates

### Lakeshore Lutheran Chorale Contemporary Praise Concert

"The Lakeshore Lutheran Chorale will be presenting a Contemporary Praise Concert at St. John/ St. James Ev. Lutheran Church, Reedsville, Sunday, March 25th, at 7:00 p.m."

### From the Fellowship Committee

Thank you to all that have participated and will be participating in the Lenten meals this month. This has been a great addition to the Lenten Services. Stay tuned for additional details for Easter.

Thanks to the Fellowship Committee members in the last two years for their support and time that has been put into getting all the activities established. Thank you to you, the congregation, for your support in attending all the activities. Everyone has been very helpful and supportive in the last two years. This will be my last correspondence, since my time is up. It has been a lot of fun planning and getting to know other people in the congregation. The more people who are interested and helping, the faster the time goes. I can't believe it's been two years already!! If you would be interested in joining in the future and want to know what it entails feel free to give me a call.

Thank you, *Tammy Glaeser*

### From Building and Grounds – Lighting Project Update

At times during his sermons, pastor reminds us to "LOOK UP" for many spiritual reasons. Now your Building and Grounds Committee requests you to "LOOK UP and see what is new inside the church. The lighting project that was approved by the voters has begun and is well on its way. The fixtures have arrived from Graybar and have been installed into the ceiling. As I write this, Schnell Electric from St. Nazianz is well into the electrical work required and before your read this may have completed the required work.

To give you information as to what has been or soon will be installed. **ONE** new fixture will be added under the balcony, directly over the aisle, to match the two existing fixtures. **TWO** new flood light fixtures have been added to the balcony area. A request from the organ committee is being addressed for the addition of a flood light fixture directly over the organ. It is my hope that the electricians can install this at the same time as the other fixtures. This will be determined by the availability of a suitable fixture.

In the main body of the church **FOUR** fixtures have been added to illuminate the front of the church and the alter area. **TWO** of these fixtures have four lamps each and each lamp will be aimed at different areas at the front of church. The other **TWO** fixtures have been installed to give additional illumination to the altar area. Each of these fixtures has two lamps that are also adjustable for position. These fixtures, located in the church body, will be controlled by dimmers to give the desired amount of light and are designed so that the lamps would be replaceable from within the church attic.

It is the desire of this committee that these fixtures and their positioning add function and beauty to our place of worship.

Building and Grounds Chairman,

*Gary Vetter*

## **Vehicle Donation Program – Jesus Cares Ministries**

Jesus Cares ministries will accept drivable, running vehicles with no maximum mileage limit. Other forms of transportation or equipment (such as motorcycles, 4-wheelers, campers, etc.) can also be donated. For your tax benefit, washed and vacuumed vehicles bring higher value for your charitable deduction.

It's easy to do. Contact Heidi at Jesus Cares Ministries office at 414-259-0292 or toll free –877-505-3675. Heidi will set up a time for you to meet with Jim Klein from our office who will help you complete a few simple forms about the donation. We will provide you with your tax-deductible donation forms.

Please note that our address has changed: Jesus Cares Ministries, 4050 N 95<sup>th</sup> St., Milwaukee, WI 53222.

## **WELS BAY AREA PREGNANCY COUNCELING CENTER**

Watch for a clothesbasket coming soon- out in the narthex for donations of diapers for the Bay Area Pregnancy Center diaper drive. Gifts of money are also welcome.

# **G r e e t e r s F o r M a r c h**

<b>March 4<sup>th</sup></b>	Denise & Lance Preston
<b>March 11<sup>th</sup></b>	Earl & Lois Glaeser
<b>March 18<sup>th</sup></b>	Bob & Gail Lietzau Family
<b>March 25<sup>th</sup></b>	Lucille & Harold Jaeger

## **MLHS Announcements**

- ➤ **ADULT EDUCATION COURSES** are back for the spring! Choose from digital photography, how-to-use E-bay, quilting, and many other choices. Registration forms and information are available on the MLHS website, or by calling Pam Reichardt at 732-3656.
  
- ➤ **SUNDAY SHOWCASE IS HERE!** Sunday, March 4<sup>th</sup> from 11a.m. – 4p.m. This year's event promises to be the most fun yet, with over 500 auction items including catered dinner parties, Packer tickets, diamond jewelry, vacation packages, bicycles, a Golden Retriever puppy, the Man's Room, and much, much, MUCH more! Join your family and friends for an afternoon of music, food and fun! Tickets available at the door or in advance through the school office.
  
- ➤ **POSITIONS AVAILABLE:** MLHS is seeking applicants for two positions: **Facilities Manager** and **Financial & Tuition Credit SCRIP Coordinator**. Job descriptions and an employment application forms are available at the high school office. Application Deadline is March 15<sup>th</sup>.
  
- ➤ MLHS will once again be putting together a group to walk/jog/run this spring, with the goal of registering 50 people for the Bellin Run in Green Bay on June 9<sup>th</sup>. The group will begin meeting on March 12, and WILL START SLOWLY for people of all abilities. Anyone interested in joining this fun group to get in better shape, please contact Dave Ring at the high school, extension 125.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS: PLEASE COME AND SEE THE YOUNG PEOPLE FROM YOUR CONGREGATION USING THEIR TALENTS!**

#### **Week of 2/26 – 3/4**

Tue 2/27 – 3/3

Boys' Basketball Regionals

Sun 3/4

MLHS Sunday Showcase, 11:00a.m. – 4:00p.m.

#### **Week of 3/5-11**

Mon 3/5

Bethany College Band Concert @ MLHS; 9:40 a.m.

Fri – Sun 3/9-11

WELS Band Fest @ FVL

Sat 3/10

MLHS Youth Wrestling Tourney

#### **Week of 3/12-18**

Sat 3/17

Trinity Tiger Wrestling Tournament @ MLHS

**Visit our website at [www.mlhslancers.com](http://www.mlhslancers.com)!**

### *Zarling Accepts Call as Next President of MLC*

On Jan. 15 Mark Zarling, professor of Christian education at Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary, Mequon, Wis., accepted the call to serve as president of Martin Luther College, New Ulm, Minn.

Current president Theodore Olsen will retire in July 2007. Olsen has served as president of Martin Luther College since it began operating as a single pastor/teacher training college in 1995. "Even though things have changed over the years, our mission of proclaiming the gospel has not," says Olsen. "There are so many blessings at Martin Luther College."

Although the school is making great strides and preparing students to serve wherever they are called, "There are still challenges, and there always will be," says Olsen. Incoming president Mark Zarling agrees. "Certainly we know there are plenty of financial challenges, but not more than the resources a good and generous God has given to his people. And let's never forget his amazing grace and close our eyes to the blessings."

That's what Zarling hopes to accomplish in his new role—to remind people of God's blessings. "Martin Luther College has a single focus, a single purpose. God has graciously blessed the ministry of this school for many years, and I want people to understand that blessing does not come without cost, but it is priceless."

In the face of a changing world, Zarling sees amazing opportunities for Martin Luther College to serve Jesus and the church. "Whether we're talking about preparing young men to enter the seminary, or preparing men or women to serve as teachers or staff ministers, finally it's always about Jesus. It's about souls. We need to clearly keep that focus—that connection of why we're training and how we're training—to best glorify the Savior and bring the Savior to others."

### *\$22 Million Donated to WELS Endowment Funds so Far*

More than \$22 million has been given to WELS Missions and Ministerial Education Endowments since the funds were created in early 2006. The total includes \$2.5 million in immediate gifts and \$19.8 million in deferred gifts (gifts through estate planning instruments).

Part of the total includes \$1 million from the Schwan Foundation. Schwan offered to match funds given by WELS donors during a target period of time. An additional dollar-for-dollar match will be donated by the foundation if WELS can bring in an additional \$500,000 by June 30.

WELS administrators hope to stabilize the funding of long-term ministry through these endowment funds. Many synod programs require predictable financial support, but funding often drops with the economy and ministerial education school enrollments. To ensure ongoing support, the principal of the endowment funds is maintained while only a portion of the interest is used on a regular basis to fill funding gaps.

The goal of the Ministry of Christian Giving is to have \$300 million in endowments by the end of 2018. WELS is already able to utilize additional funding through these endowments for the 2007-08 fiscal year.

For more information on WELS endowment funds, visit [www.wels.net/jump/endowment](http://www.wels.net/jump/endowment).

### *A Milestone for Meditations*

To commemorate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of *Meditations*, Northwestern Publishing House is creating a special book of *Meditations* devotions. With selections from some of the first volumes, this compilation represents a small fraction of the thousands of devotions printed in this publication during the last half century. The book will be available in summer 2007.

First published by Northwestern Publishing House in 1957, *Meditations* quickly became a widely-used resource for daily devotions. Printed quarterly in correlation with the church year, the booklet has remained relatively unchanged since its beginning. Scripture passages often correspond to current church readings, and extending beyond Sunday's sermon, *Meditations* is an accessible outreach tool for witnessing and evangelizing.

Pastors, missionaries, and professors across the United States and the world contribute to *Meditations*, allowing them to preach to an audience of nearly 150,000. Pastor Curtis Jahn, editor of the anniversary edition, says, "*Meditations* is second only to the *Christian Worship* hymnal in the number of people it puts into direct contact with God's Word on a weekly basis as a published material." More than 75,000 copies reach Christian households through church, school, and individual subscriptions.

To subscribe to *Meditations*, go to [www.nph.net/periodicals](http://www.nph.net/periodicals) or call Northwestern Publishing House at 1-800-662-6022.

### *WELS Blue Star Families Offer Support*

Since World War I, families of military personnel have displayed Blue Star flags—the unofficial representation of a child serving in America's Armed Forces—in the windows of their homes. Many WELS military families have continued this tradition as a sign of pride and patriotism.

In addition to pride and patriotism, however, families experience separation, anxiety, and uncertainty. The WELS Blue Star Families organization was formed to connect the families of those serving in the military.

In addition to discussing the immediate, physical needs of the troops, members of WELS Blue Star Families work to help the troops spiritually. They send care packages and raise awareness in their communities. These families also support and encourage each other by phone, e-mail, and in person. Through this connection, they can share their concerns and fears as well as their faith and parental pride.

WELS Blue Star Families is founded on common faith and Christian kinship. Just as the Blue Star in the window unites military families in the unique challenges they face, the cross of Christ unites these families with the heavenly assurance and spiritual comfort only God can provide.

To donate items for care packages or to learn more about WELS Blue Star Families, go to [www.wels.net/jumpword/military](http://www.wels.net/jumpword/military) or contact Special Ministries at 414-256-3241.

# Church Attendance for February



Saturday/Sunday = Total

<b>Date</b>	<b>February 2004</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>February 2005</b>
Week 1	20/110=130	Week 1	29/111=140
Week 2	55/78 = 133	Wed	98
Week 3	18/209 = 227	Week 2	43/114=157
Week 4	34/111=145	Wed	73
Wed	77	Week 3	21/71=92
Week 5	18/150=168	Wed	60
		Week 4	35/127=162
<b>Monthly Total:</b>	<b>880</b>	<b>Monthly Total:</b>	<b>782</b>

<b>Date</b>	<b>February 2006</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>February 2007</b>
Week 1	53/108=161	Week 1	19/61=80
Week 2	32/70=102	Week 2	52/125=177
Week 3	23/87=110	Week 3	40/120=160
Week 4	42/113=155	Wed	82
		Week 4	53 (No Sunday Service -Weather)
		Wed	81
<b>Monthly Total:</b>	<b>528</b>	<b>Monthly Total:</b>	<b>633</b>

\* Lent starts at different points each year...thus the difference in Monthly Totals at the bottom.

“God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in spirit and in truth.”

John 4:24

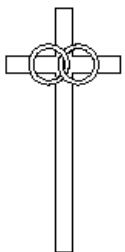
Our present commitments have created a shortage. We have had to "borrow" from ourselves (flex fund, prop Maintenance, and pastors equity.) Our present shortage is \$5,727.42. With the missing week we will all need to work together to make up for the shortage. May Christ's love compel each one of us to give from the heart to the Lord and his work.



## *A Happy Birthday and God's Blessings to...*

3/1 Orabelle Fisher-89 Years Young!  
3/1 James A. Ott  
3/1 Louette Propson-Enders  
3/1 Karen Teesch  
3/1 Tara Teesch  
3/1 William Teesch  
3/4 Matthew Fischer  
3/4 Kaitlyn Fischer  
3/7 Julie Glaeser  
3/7 Caden Jungbluth  
3/8 Brad Liermann  
3/9 Ronald Kasten  
3/11 Rebecca Schnell  
3/11 Bernice Vetting - 82 Years Young!  
3/13 Brayden Hochkammer

3/13 Karen Knutson  
3/14 Gloria Kiesow  
3/16 Ed Vetter  
3/17 Haley Tuschel  
3/20 Peter Liermann  
3/21 Darlene Kiesow  
3/22 Michael Kiesow  
3/23 Mikaela Mellstrom  
3/23 Pastor Pope  
3/25 Jordan Sieracki  
3/27 Alaina Luckow  
3/28 Kristina Smith  
3/29 Leonard Arnold  
3/29 Kara Sieracki  
3/31 Polly Bonfigt



## *Happy Anniversary To...*

3/2 Dan & Ann Knutson – 11 Years!  
3/25 Chris & Betty Mangin – 7 Years!  
3/25 Connie & Jim Mangin – 35 Years!  
3/30 Mona & Karl Hansen – 13 Years!

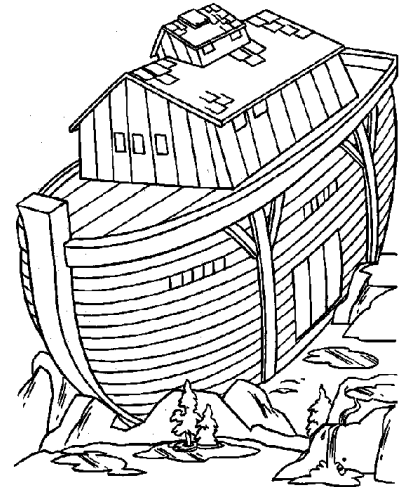
**\*If you have a March birthday or anniversary and it is not listed or your anniversary is listed incorrectly please let us know so we can update your information. Thanks!**

# Kids Corner



## Bible Quiz – “Noah’s Ark”

1. What material was used to water-proof the ark?
  - a. Glue
  - b. Sap
  - c. Gruel
  - d. Pitch
  
2. How old was Noah when the flood came?
  - a. 150
  - b. 600
  - c. 500
  - d. 800
  
3. How many people were in the ark?
  - a. 10
  - b. 6
  - c. 20
  - d. 8
  
4. Who closed the door?
  - a. Noah
  - b. One of his sons
  - c. The Lord
  - d. Noah’s Wife
  
5. Where did the ark come to rest?
  - a. Hills of Judea
  - b. Mountains of Ararat
  - c. Valley of Eshcol
  - d. Mount of Gilead



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**Answers: 1.) d [Gen 6:14] 2.) b[Gen 7:6] 3.) d [Gen 7:7] 4.) c [Gen 7:16] 5.) b[Gen 8:4]**



# Word Search

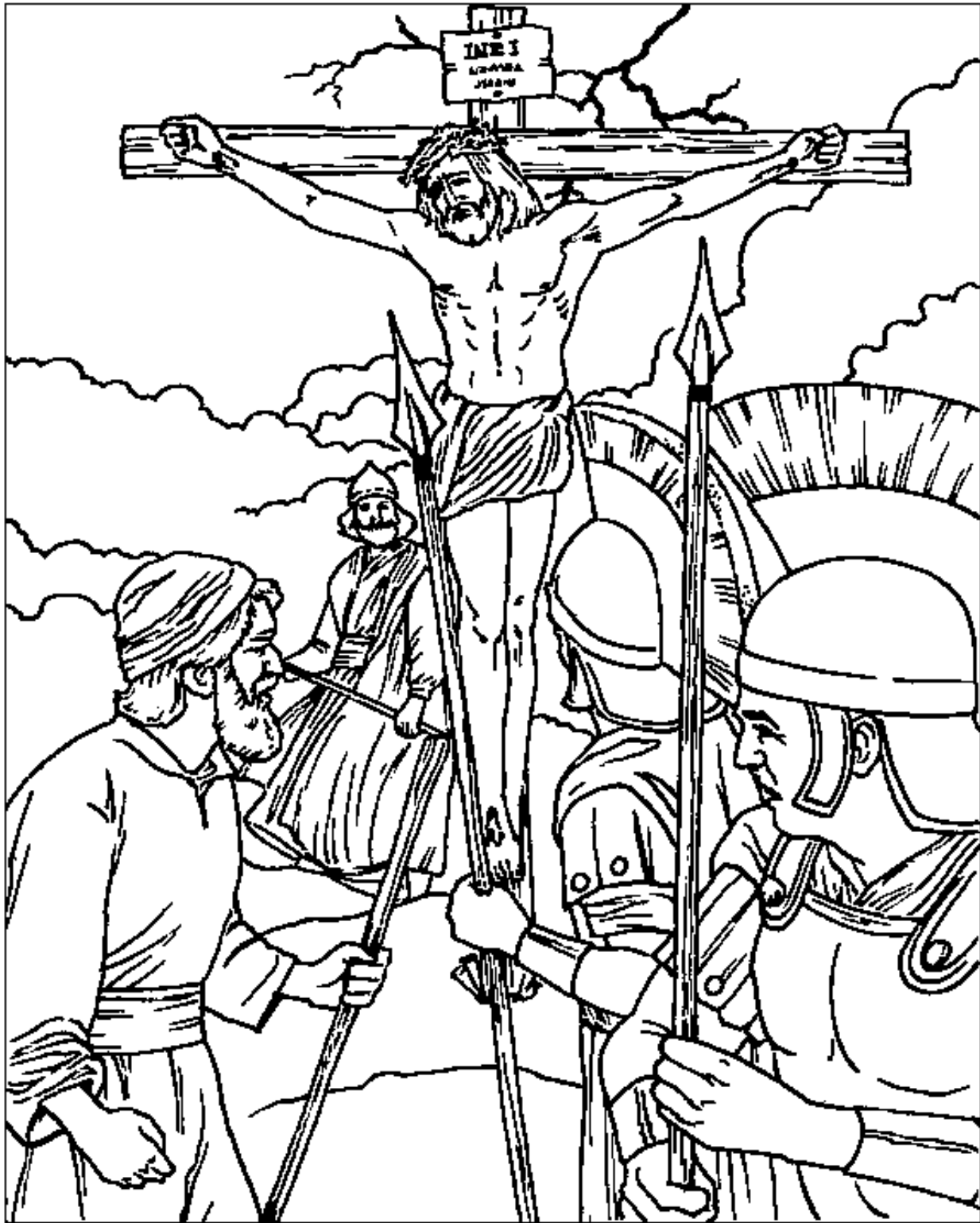


## Lenten Season

M	D	E	T	U	C	E	S	R	E	P
T	A	R	C	H	O	S	A	T	H	D
N	H	T	I	A	F	U	V	A	O	M
E	L	B	R	K	R	S	E	R	L	P
P	L	A	W	D	I	E	D	P	Y	E
E	M	O	R	B	G	J	I	S	D	I
R	O	I	V	A	S	D	S	N	Y	T
S	N	I	S	E	M	O	I	D	N	O
H	E	S	F	H	R	G	T	E	H	B
R	E	J	E	C	T	I	R	I	P	S
M	S	A	C	R	I	F	I	C	E	R

(UP / DOWN/ DIAGONAL / BACKWARDS)

1. Jesus
2. Savior
3. Reject
4. Message
5. Died
6. Cross
7. Sins
8. Sacrifice
9. Repent
10. Persecuted
11. Save
12. Love
13. God
14. Holy
15. Spirit
16. Faith



When they came to the place called the Skull, there they crucified him,  
along with the criminals--one on his right, the other on his left.  
Luke 23:33