



Compassion

2023 - Fourth Quarter

All Things Work Together

The last time I visited Robert, he wasn't his usual happy, outgoing self. He seemed depressed. So, I waited quietly, giving him time to gather his thoughts and share with me whatever he wanted to share, and that's just what Robert did.

Robert told me that he just received notice from the Department of Corrections in Madison that any action on his request to be granted parole had been deferred for 18 months.

Robert also told me that he has been in prison for nearly 36 years and that for the last 10 years he has been eligible for parole. He was obviously frustrated.

Robert was even more concerned about his parents who are now in their early 80s. What if our Lord takes one or both of his parents home to heaven before he is released from prison? Robert asked me, "What can I do?"

I didn't answer Robert's question. Instead, I asked him how he would answer his own question. After a few seconds of silence between us, Robert answered, "Trust Jesus." I was very happy to tell Robert that his answer was the right answer. In fact, he couldn't have been more right. I reminded him that "all things work together for the good of those who love God" (Romans 8:28 EHV) and that begins with trusting in Jesus for the forgive-



ness of sins and eternal life in heaven. It continues with trusting in his loving care each and every day.

Neither Robert nor I know how God will keep his promise to make "all things work together for the good of those who love God," but we are both sure that God will. The God who gave his Son for all sinners will never fail to keep his promises, especially those he makes to his children!



by Chaplain
Charlie Iles

IN THIS ISSUE



The Lord's Certain
and Sure Coming



Do You Drink?



Special Gifts
& Memorials



**Joy to the
world the Lord
has come.**

The Lord's Certain and Sure Coming

Over 700 years before the Savior's birth, Isaiah foretold: "For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders" (Isaiah 9:6).

Years passed; no Messiah was born. Did Old Testament believers begin to give up? Were some asking, "Isaiah, do you believe what you wrote? Is the coming of the Messiah ever going to happen?"

In his Epistle to the Galatians, Paul wrote: "But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those under the law, that we might receive adoption to sonship. Because you are his sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, 'Abba, Father.' So you are no longer a slave, but God's child; and since you are his child, God has made you also an heir" (Gal 4:4-7).

The Messiah did come to Bethlehem (the location promised) and exactly at God's set time. Isaiah's promise was kept; the Savior was born just as God had foretold through Isaiah.

Paul not only explained that God waited until the time was right, but also adds other important information. The Messiah was born of a woman, born under the law. Our Savior, as a true human being, was obligated to keep the law. He did that perfectly. The Savior then took our sin upon himself and went to the cross to pay for every sin. His payment was complete; his resurrection on Easter Sunday morning demonstrates that God the Father accepted the payment. Then, by the Grace of God, Jesus Christ shared his holiness with each of us through faith! Paul emphasizes that now, through the work of the Savior, we are at peace with God, we are his children and are heirs of eternal life in heaven. We can call the Almighty God "Abba, Father," a Hebrew term

used by loved children in addressing their dear father. What an amazing happening. Through faith in Jesus Christ, we are destined for a victory over death, a resurrection to life with a glorified body, and reigning with our heavenly Father in his eternal home.

God promised he will come again. This sick world will finally end. Believers have been waiting for 2,000 years for his return. Are you beginning to wonder, "Will it ever happen? Will God really return?" Just as the Messiah came to Bethlehem when God determined the time was right, so He will come again and take us to himself in heaven. We wait patiently knowing God's Word is true and trustworthy.

Lord, take away any doubt I have of your return. Be with me and reassure me that you will come again, just as you have promised. Amen."



by Pastor
Robert W. Pasbrig



Do You Drink?

When I first began leading Bible studies at the county jail, one concern I had was whether I could connect with inmates who had very different lives and backgrounds than mine.

During one Bible study, this concern was quickly becoming a reality as I struggled to understand the unfamiliar slang and idioms of two women in the group. They were even more difficult to understand when they talked with each other. That happened often instead of them participating in the Bible study that I had prepared.

Slowly, I started to understand that they were talking about drugs. When I asked for clarification, Shawna replied, "First thing I'm doing when I get out of here is some weed. I'm gonna be high as a kite!"

When I looked at her with concern, she snapped, "It don't hurt no one." Then she asked, "Do you drink?"

Uh oh! I thought. *This is a test question.* Knowing that some inmates wait for a good, honest answer to a tough question before they openly share or really listen to God's Word, I prayed for the right response. The first thought that popped into my head, however, was my delight at recently seeing a friend's huge storage cabinet filled with craft beer. So, I confessed, "I do drink, and when I do, I need to be mindful not to overindulge, or use alcohol to cope with problems rather than taking them to Jesus."

Immediately, both ladies erupted into laughter and loud, excited talking. Now it was even harder for me to understand what they were saying! Finally, I timidly asked, "Did I say something wrong?"

"No!" Shawna replied with a smile. "In fact, we like you! We want you to come back again! You tell it like it is!"

Imagine my relief! By honestly answering their question, God allowed me to connect with these women. Both women paid close attention through the rest of the Bible study and asked thoughtful questions about applying God's Word to their lives. Hallelujah! God allowed us to be so different in some ways, yet so much the same in our need for Him.

Thank you for supporting our ministry of sharing Jesus' love with people behind walls who all need our Savior - just like you and me.



by Director of Development
Tammy Schmidtke





Shining the light of Jesus' love
on the walled-in souls of our communities!

Wisconsin Lutheran
Institutional Ministries, Inc.

1833 Executive Drive, Suite 101B
Oconomowoc, WI 53066

414.259.4370

www.IM.Life



Non Profit Organization
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
MILWAUKEE, WI
Permit No. 4249

OUR MISSION

*To provide
direction, comfort,
and hope by shining
the light of Jesus'
love on the walled-in
souls of our
communities.*



Special Gifts & Memorials 7/18/2023 to 11/21/2023

IN HONOR OF

**Eugene & Lois Voigt's 60th
Wedding Anniversary**
Mrs. Gloria Zuelsdorf

IN MEMORY OF

Al Schlegel
Mrs. Barbara Schlegel
Allen Krause
Prof. & Mrs. Steven Westphal
Ardis Brandau & Son Andy
Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Reils
Arnold & Martha Sonnenburg
Mrs. Sue Wehner
Our Parents
Rev. & Mrs. Arthur Koepsell
Benjamin & Lydia Harbach
Mr. & Mrs. Benjamin Harbach
Betty Hoover
Mr. Franklin Hoover
Thomas Madsen
Clarence & Ella Marquardt
Carlton & Helen Crozier
Mrs. Donna Madsen
Carol Davidson
Mr. Daniel Davidson
Charles H Weinheimer
Mr. & Mrs. Ray Zauner
Charles H Weinheimer
Mrs. Georgietta Weinheimer
Charlotte Gauger
Mrs. Patricia Pippo
Craig Maxwell
Mrs. Gail Maxwell
My Parents & Sisters
Ms. Cynthia Pagel
**Wendy Robertson, Our
Daughter**
Rev. & Mrs. Daniel Falck
Daniel Wolfram
Rev. & Mrs. Arno Wolfram
Rev. David A Tetzlaff
Mrs. Geraldine Babinec

David P McDuffie
Ms. Deborah Bradford
Diane Kienast
Mrs. Sue Wehner
Dorothy Schroeder
Mrs. Donna Tetzlaff
Douglas Beard
Ms. Lou Ann Beard
Duane Lauersdorf
Ms. Muriel McKinley
Ellen Lapp
Laurie Lapp
Mr. David Beyer Sr.

Elmer, Effie & Lillian Zimmerman
Mr. & Mrs. Florian Baumann
Emily Woldt
Rev. & Mrs. Philip Henselin
Eugene Rosenthal
Mrs. Charlotte Rosenthal
Gale J Higgins
Mrs. Carol Higgins
Gerald Brooks
Mrs. Donna Brooks
Gerry Salwey
Mrs. Sharon Salwey
Gloria Goldbach
Mr. & Mrs. Patrick Weber
Hallie Fox
Ms. Lynn Rogowski
Hiya Trager
Ms. Lorraine Kerr
Parker
Mr. & Mrs. James Boisen
Jim Hilden
Mrs. Shirley Hilden
James Shallow
Mrs. Kathleen Shallow
Mrs. Margaret Trissel
Jean Villwock
Mr. & Mrs. Steve Mathwig
Jeffrey Schwark
Mr. Ralph Schwark

Jerome Witt
Mrs. Faye Witt
John Peters
Mrs. Janelle Peters
Pretty Girl
Mr. & Mrs. Steve A. Ahrens
Keith Zibell
Mrs. Barbara Zibell
Rev. Kenneth Lenz
Ms. Stephanie Windle
Kenneth Robinson
Mrs. Jane Clevon
Deceased Family
Mr. Loyley Seifert
Marilyn Paschen
Mr. James Paschen
Pastor Oscar J. Naumann
Mr. Martin Naumann
Marvin Krueger
Ms. Carol Krueger
Michael A. Nelson
Ms. Ann Nelson
Michael Bavuso
Mrs. Jean Wentz
Michael T Carini
Ms. Julie DeNicola
Mylon & Rand Lange
Mrs. Janet Lange
Richard Hanamann
Mrs. Carole Hanamann
Robert C Noffke
Mrs. Donna Noffke
Robert F. Maas
Ms. Julie DeNicola
Bob Erdmann
Mr. Daniel Davidson
Ron Frederick
Ms. Bonnie Frederick
Ruth Haberkorn
Mr. Keith Haberkorn
Georgiana Pat Hollatz
Ms. Lynn Rogowski

Theodore & Joan Nieman
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Nieman
Vicki Braakma
Mrs. Donna Ohrmundt
Walter Kehren
Mr. & Mrs. Roger Tomfohrde
Wayne Krueger
Ms. Kristin Krueger

IN THANKSGIVING FOR

Angelica Belen
Mrs. Patricia Boettcher
**The Love of Christ Jesus &
Life - Everyone's Gift!**
Mrs. Carolyn Reineck
50 Years of Marriage
Rev. & Mrs. Dennis Bratz
Pastor Brian Adams & Faculty
Mr. & Mrs. Donald Gebert
Special Blessings
Mrs. Elsbeth Kietzmann
God's Gifts
Mr. Lawrence Roehl
Our Grandchildren
Rev. & Mrs. Arthur Koepsell
Today
Mr. Norman A. Stellick
85 Years of God's Grace & Mercy
Mr. Ralph Schwark
Our 10 Grandchildren
Rev. & Mrs. Richard Lehmann
God's Countless Blessings
Ms. Sue Miller
**God's Steadfast Grace in These
Troubled Times**
Mr. & Mrs. Terry Krause