



# Compassion

Sharing hope...

2018 - First Quarter

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on the web!

NEWS

## The Power of Prayer

Do you remember the second miracle which Jesus performed? John writes in chapter 4: "Once more Jesus visited Cana in Galilee, where he had turned the water into wine. And there was a certain royal official whose son lay sick at Capernaum. When this man heard that Jesus had arrived in Galilee from Judea, he went to him and



begged him to come and heal his son, who was close to death. ...The royal official said, "Sir come down before my child dies." Jesus replied "You may go. Your son will live." The man took Jesus at his word and departed. While he was still on the way, his servants met him with the news that his boy was living. When he inquired as to the time when his son got better, they said to him. "The fever left him yesterday at the seventh hour." Then the father realized that this was the exact time at which Jesus had said to him, "Your son will live." So, he and all his household believed.

Donna and Steve are farmers. Some time ago, Donna was in a terrible car accident and spent many days in the hospital. Her family and I spent a great deal of time praying and meditating on God's Word. After a few operations and much therapy, Donna improved and eventually went home, although with physical limitations and in a wheel chair. Her husband faithfully stood by her side and used prayers to Jesus for strength, and guidance. In faith, they gave thanks to God despite Donna's limitations.

Several years later, they were both in a motorcycle accident, and this time, Steve was the one who was severely injured. His lungs were badly damaged along with other problems. The injuries were so severe that his doctor told Steve that he had less than a one-percent chance of surviving. When Steve heard this, he immediately went to Jesus, seeking his help in prayer. Eventually, Steve began to recover (much to the amazement of the hospital staff), and the severe problems which the doctors expected disappeared. The staff was

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*“What blessing is the Lord going to bring through this pain?”*

## Pain and Hope

We may associate a painful experience with the Lord having left us. Poor Gospel preachers may even lead us there, but don't believe it. Consider these three passages as you deal with your personal or family pain.

“I am the Lord's servant,” Mary answered. “May it be to me as you have said.” Then the angel left her. (Lk. 1:38-39 NIV)

Of all the virgins in Israel, God had chosen Mary. He honored her to be the mother of the Lord. Her cousin Elizabeth recognized this honor, and even saw it conferred on herself when Mary visited.

“But why am I so favored, that the mother of my Lord should come to me?” (Lk. 1:43 NIV)

Yet as the aged prophet Simeon held and blessed the baby Jesus, he prophesied about Mary,

“A sword will pierce your own soul too.” (Lk. 2:35 NIV)

The woman so blessed as to carry Jesus in her womb would also know deep sorrow at the loss of her firstborn son in death. Yes, we have the certainty of the resurrection, but don't think for a moment that this took away a mother's pain in the moment of loss.



The Lord has blessed my daughter to carry a very special baby. He honored her above all other women to be the mother of this particular baby. But a sword is piercing the hearts of mom and dad and their family. The baby may die or need immediate surgery. Tough decisions are ahead, and we need God's guidance.

People in these situations often ask, “Why?” It's the wrong question. Rather, ask, “What?” “What blessing is the Lord going to bring through this pain?”

The pain Mary experienced brought the blessing of a Savior for the world. What blessing will He bring through your pain?

My perspective as the Executive Director of Institutional Ministries allows me to know much about the lives of our staff. In every case, God has chosen wounded warriors, ones who understand pain and who have lived through it. The Lord has used their pain to groom them to minister with compassion to others in their pain.

I pray that today, God used my family's pain to comfort you. May your relationship with the Savior lead you to the right question and to God's answers in the Word as you struggle with your own pain.

To God be the glory!



by Executive Director  
Pastor Philip Henselin

# Leaning on Jesus

It was a rather somber day on the women's unit at the jail. When I arrived, Karrie (an inmate who had been attending my Bible study) asked, "Do you remember Jenna?" Jenna had been a regular part of our Bible study group. Pregnant and nearly full term, Jenna had been released two weeks earlier. "Yea, I remember Jenna." I replied, "How's she doing?" With sadness in her voice, Karrie responded, "She passed away from a drug overdose. They had a memorial service for her yesterday." "What about the baby?" one of the other ladies asked, "Did the baby die, too?" A sad nod of Karrie's head told everyone in the room that the child had indeed perished along with her mother.

So, we spent some time in prayer, praying first for Jenna's friends and family. Then Karrie made a request, "I've been struggling to stay positive and keep my head up, while the devil has been trying hard to bring me down." So, we prayed about that, too. After that, our discussion and prayers prompted one of the other ladies to share her grief with the group. She, too, had recently lost a dear friend, and so we prayed for her, and for that grieving family as well.

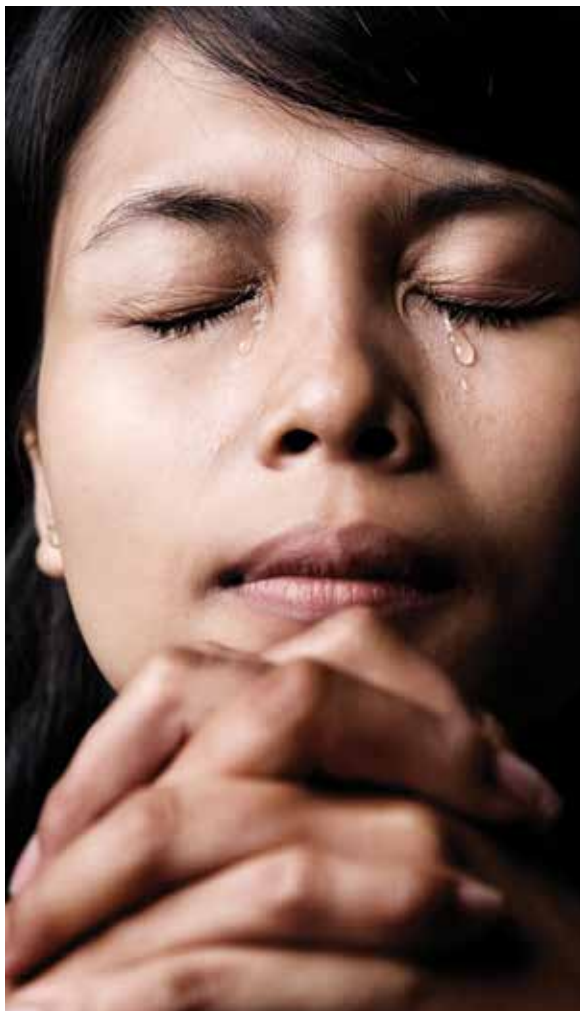
After pouring out our hearts to God, we did our lesson for the day. We ended our Bible study by looking at verses from God's Word for when we're feeling abandoned and rejected. The ladies each looked up verses and read them aloud. They were beautiful verses about the love, forgiveness, and full acceptance of their heavenly Father because of the Savior's perfect life, death and resurrection. Karrie read the last verse from Romans, where Paul speaks of the perfect joy we can have through faith in Jesus. "You sounded like my mom," one of the ladies told Karrie after she finished reading. I could see in Karrie's tearful eyes that she was touched. She needed to feel useful to others, and thinking that she helped a fellow inmate feel closer to her mother was a special blessing. Indeed, Paul's words were especially comforting to our little group.

It was an emotional Bible study, and the Holy Spirit was working mightily in the hearts of these sad and hurting souls.

Thank you, Jesus! Thank you, that in this world so touched and torn by pain and grief, we always have you to lean on as we journey through these difficult times of our lives.



by Chaplain  
Sarah Guenther



# The Power of Prayer

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so amazed they began expressing thoughts that a higher power must have intervened. Steve went home and functions well today.

Several years later, Steve's elderly mother fell and was rushed to the hospital. While she was in surgery, I met Donna and Steve again. We reminisced about the time spent together in the hospital and God's faithfulness through it all. We prayed for his mother and God answered with a successful operation. Once again, Steve and Donna expressed thanks to God for his healing powers and for supporters who have made my chaplain hospital ministry possible. To me and to many others, they have shown themselves to be Jesus' praying disciples. In the words of Jesus: "If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you. This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples." To God be the glory for the power of prayer!



by Chaplain  
Kenneth Wenzel



Sharing hope...  
with those who need it most!

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## OUR MISSION

*“To share God’s law  
and the saving  
Gospel of Jesus  
Christ with all  
individuals who  
are or have been  
institutionalized,  
and their families.”*

## Special Gifts & Memorials 11/30/2017 - 1/29/2018

### IN CELEBRATION OF Christmas

Called Staff at St. Matthew’s Janesville  
**Jesus’ Birthday**  
Mr. & Mrs. James Nietz  
**All the Chaplains--Past and Present**  
Mrs. Jane Krueger  
**Jesus’ Birth on Christmas Day**  
Mrs. Janelle Peters  
**Marion Schweitzer’s 96th Birthday**  
Ms. Paula Rauth

### IN HONOR OF

**Rev. Arnold Schroeder (Grandpa)**  
Mr. & Mrs. Ric Stuebs  
**Chaplain Charlie Iles -- Charlie is Wonderful!**  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Sell  
**Pastor Dan Schmidt**  
Mr. & Mrs. Dale Schraufnagel  
**Dave Beyer**  
Ms. Betty Bader  
**Del & Imogene Hoeffner**  
Mr. Lloyd Hoeffner  
**James Bitney**  
Mr. & Mrs. James Bitney  
**My Parents, Marvin & Phyllis Feller, Both Veterans, Who Served Our Country in WWII**  
Rev. & Mrs. Kenneth Wenzel  
**Chaplain Mark Wenzel**  
Mrs. Patti Wenzel  
**Robert F. Maas**  
Ms. Julie DeNicola  
**Ronald Fessman**  
Ms. Linda Dudzek

### IN MEMORY OF

**Adolph Fehlauer**  
Mrs. Carol Ryan  
**Alfons Woldt**  
Mrs. Ruth Woldt  
**Allen Krause**  
Mr. & Mrs. Willard Mess  
**Allen Krause**  
Prof. & Mrs. Steven Westphal  
**Amy Madson**  
Mr. Andrew Madson

### Arline Kasten

Mr. Paul Kasten  
**My Wife Barbara Grauberger**  
Mr. Fred Grauberger  
**Clarence and Ella Marquardt**  
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Madsen  
**Carlton & Helen Crozier**  
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Madsen  
**Carol Behling**  
Mr. Robert Behling  
**Carolyn Schaser**  
Mr. George Schaser  
**Christine Scheele**  
Rev. & Mrs. Martin Scheele  
**Christopher Zabrowski**  
Mr. Patrick Zabrowski  
**Daniel Wolfram**  
Rev. & Mrs. Arno Wolfgramm  
**Donald Zuelsdorf**  
Mrs. Gloria Zuelsdorf  
**Doris Palubecki**  
Mr. Thomas Palubecki  
**Dorothy Seifert**  
Mr. Loyley Seifert  
**Edwin and Laura Limberg,**  
**My Father and Mother**  
Mr. Ronald Limberg  
**My Wife of 69 Years, Ethel L. Woller**  
Mr. Vernon Woller  
**Evelyn Nimmer**  
Mr. Edward Nimmer  
**Everett Edmundson**  
Ms. Roberta Edmundson  
**Paul Edmundson**  
Ms. Roberta Edmundson  
**George Daye**  
Mrs. Lois Daye  
**Art & Gert Duerr**  
Mrs. Dawn Meise  
**Tom & Gertrude Lawrence**  
Mrs. Gail Maxwell  
**Glenn Moldenhauer**  
Mr. Earl Moldenhauer  
**Grace Oppitz**  
Mr. & Mrs. Jonathan Oppitz

### Harold Kuhlman

Mrs. Margery Henselin and Family  
**Henry Herrian**  
Mrs. Lois White  
**Herbert William Bonow**  
Mr. & Mrs. John Bonow  
**Irene and Raymond Reineck**  
Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Reineck  
**Jim Hilden**  
Mrs. Shirley Hilden  
**Jim Theisen**  
Mrs. Judith Theisen  
**My Wife, Janice Stuebs**  
Rev. Martin Stuebs  
**Jeanette Ripp**  
Ms. Muriel McKinley  
**Pastor Julian Anderson**  
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Berg  
**Karen Schroeder**  
Mr. & Mrs. Allen Mundt  
**Kyra Radsek**  
Mr. & Mrs. Joshua Lipps  
**Leonard Rusch**  
Mrs. Dorothy Rusch  
**Lloyd & Edith Thompson**  
Rev. & Mrs. Donald Thompson  
**Marguerite Brodhagen**  
Mr. Donald Brodhagen  
**Marilyn Paschen**  
Mr. James Paschen  
**Mark Mey**  
Mrs. Lavinne Mey  
**Matthew Reineck**  
Mr. & Mrs. Ken Poetzel  
**Mark Reineck**  
Mr. & Mrs. Ken Poetzel  
**My Dear Husband Mark Weber**  
Mrs. Lois Weber  
**Martha Merten**  
Ms. Margaret Reilly  
**Marvin SeEVERS**  
Mrs. Joann SeEVERS Wolfgram  
**Michael A. Nelson**  
Ms. Ann Nelson  
**Virgil & Mildred Schultz**  
Mr. & Mrs. Terry Wendorff

### Norma Arndt

Mr. & Mrs. Richard Zondag  
**Pastor Manthe**  
Ms. Joan Wintersberger  
**Rand Lange**  
Mr. & Mrs. Mylon Lange  
**Richard (Dick) Berner**  
Mrs. Carol Berner  
**Richard Bohn**  
Barbara Bohn  
**Richard Zinke**  
Mrs. Sharon Zinke  
**Robert Dembroski**  
Ms. Elaine Dembroski  
**Judge Robert W. Landry**  
Judge Victor Manian  
**Robert Young**  
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Mrs. Barbara Welch  
**My Brother Ron Hanson**  
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**Ronald and Beverly Wendlandt**  
Ms. Cindy Birkholz  
**My Sister Ruth Scanlan**  
Mr. David Beyer Sr.  
**Stewart and Leona Golner**  
Mr. David Golner  
**Rev. Theodore Sauer**  
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Sauer  
**Walter Sievert**  
Mr. & Mrs. Timothy Sievert  
**Wilma Brehmer**  
Mrs. Patricia Pippio

### IN THANKSGIVING FOR

**Everything God Has Done For Me!**  
Mr. Fred Grauberger  
**Bethel Roberts’ 90th Birthday**  
Mr. & Mrs. Tom Steinbach  
**The Blessings We Received in 2017**  
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Weinheimer  
**God’s Grace**  
Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Simonds

### Birthday Blessings

Mrs. Dolores Lindner  
**Tim & David Hermann - Adopted Sons**  
Mrs. Jacquelyn L. Hermann  
**John Martin Steinke, PhD.**  
Mr. Paul Steinke  
**Chaplain Joe Radsek for Guest Speaking**  
Dorcas Society of St. Paul Lutheran Church  
**God’s Abundant Grace**  
Mr. & Mrs. Keith Koch  
**God’s Continued Grace and Mercy**  
Mr. & Mrs. Michael M. Twohig  
**Medical Results of Brother and Niece--No Active Cancer Cells**  
Mr. & Mrs. Steven Deyo  
**The Blessings of Christ’s Birth**  
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Bingen