

Newsletter 01.23.25

I love church signs. I love when driving down the road and seeing what random events a church is putting on. Is there a new idea there that could inspire a ministry here? What are our neighbors doing, so we can be better informed?

I especially love when signs have some pithy phrases. You know what I'm talking about. A pun of some sort like "When all seems dark, look at the Son." Some cheesy one liner that makes you groan a little bit, and then smile.

With the weather being so cold that it hurts, it's no surprise that church signs have been making note of them. Some joke about winter or the cold weather. On Facebook I've been seeing a repeat of signs with the same jokey note "Too Cold to Change Sign, Good News Inside." Or at least, some variant of that. Come inside the church (where there's heat!) and hear the message.

Of course, that's worth a chuckle, but that got me thinking. It highlights a common idea in the church. The idea that we need to bring people inside to hear the Good News. The idea that only in the church can we hear about Jesus in the four walls of the church.

Friends, that loses sight of our duty to evangelize. We're not here to drag people into the church, we're here to bring the church to where they are. We're to go out into the world and talk to people, get to know them, build relationships with them, show them God's love, and share the Good News. We're not to stay here and let them come to us, but instead go forth and be with them.

It would be easy for us to just open the doors of the church and wait for people to come to us. I wish it was that simple. Instead, it will take work. It takes work for us to go out and talk with people. It takes works build up relationships. It's draining. Worse, we may never see the fruits of our labor.

We may tell the Good News, but never see them in the church. We may lose track of them. It may seem like our words fall on deaf ears. We may never see the harvest, but God does. The Spirit is amazing like that. God knows everyone's hearts.

So as the new year begins to pick up speed, let's remember that we are called to go out and share Christ's love for everyone. Because everyone can use some Good News.

God bless! Pastor Ed

Ready to make a splash this summer? **Camp registration is officially open for 2025!** For a complete event calendar with dates and locations, click [here](#). If you have questions, contact registrar@impact2818.org or (888) 628-2818.

Don't forget: [scholarships](#) are available. No kid in your life needs to miss out on camp!

Ready to dive in? Click [here](#) to register now!

Looking Ahead

Euchre – Saturday, January 25, 4 PM

Food Pantry Open – January 28, 3 - 6 PM

Food Pantry Open – Tuesday, February 11, 3 - 6 PM

Mary Magdalene Mission Circle – Tuesday, Feb. 18, 7 PM

Euchre – Saturday, February 22, 4 PM

Food Pantry Open – Tuesday, February 25, 3 – 6 PM

TOPS Club meets at LUMC on Mondays, 4:00 PM, Room 206,
use north east door. Start 2025 with us!

Thank You

Dear Pastor Ed & Friends

Thank you all so much for your calls, cards and most of all your prayers. Dr's say it was a TIA (mini stroke) but I think God was reminding me I'm not as young as I used to be! I'm feeling back to normal and back to my "chatty" self. I miss all my church friends but love seeing everyone when I watch the service. God Bless you all! Love Janet Ditmire

Thank you for the Christmas gift, I really appreciate it.

Gary Behnke

A BIG Thank you to the Lakeville Lion's Club and the Lakeville Fire Department for all the food donations last month. Our Food Pantry is well stocked now and our only need is Shelf Stable Milk. Thank you very much!

Sunday Fellowship Time Refreshments Schedule

Jan. 26 Amber **Feb. 2** Dixie **Feb. 9** Martha
Sign up at the bulletin board outside the kitchen door.

Sunday Kids Church Schedule

Jan. 26 Jean L. **Feb 2** Communion **Feb. 9** Rita
Sign up at the bulletin board outside the kitchen door.

Food Pantry

Food Pantry Need: Shelf Stable Milk

The Food Pantry is open to anyone in the Union North school district as well as to our church family on the 2nd & 4th Tuesday of the month 3 – 6 PM