

# Chronicle



**Touchdown!** No penalties or lost yardage for this fun event! Thirty-two OSL football fans gathered for tailgate snacks, drinks and dessert to exchange predictions for the anticipated big game between KC Chiefs vs SF 49'ers. We first recognized Gabe (and Donita's) birthday with candles and cake before we filled our plates and settled in for a night of trivia facts, bad jokes, bingo, and a game of dice 'football'. Better luck next year for Brock Purdy and his 49'ers, but OSL Super Bowl tailgate – it was a big win!



## Soup Supper for Ash Wednesday

It may have been Ash Wednesday, but the fellowship hall was a sea of Valentine Red as well on Wed, Feb 14. Approximately 35 people enjoyed multiple rounds of soup and dessert before the Ash Wednesday service. Thanks to the ladies who provided the soup (JoAnn, Julie, and Patsy) and for the many members who brought the yummy cookies, bars, and desserts.



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**SAYING, "I'M SORRY," IS EASY.** It can even have been spoken with the evil and malignant design to manipulate another; to gain the upper-hand. "Ha-ha, you have to forgive me." Then the person returns to their previous practice of trying to get their way.

John the Baptist said, "show signs in keeping with repentance." John the Baptist shows himself in this to be a brilliant psychologist. Natural signs of repentance will show up if the repentance is genuine. In particular, a truly penitent person will resign from all attempts to remain in control. If you are truly sorrowful you will relinquish command of the relationship. You will strike the pose of: "what would you have of me?" The truly penitent person surrenders every expectation. The truly penitent person does not even demand the pronouncement of the conferral of forgiveness. Rather, he waits for it (perhaps for a long, long time). The truly penitent person doesn't rush the other, whom he has hurt.

Nobody wants to be suspicious that an expression of repentance spoken by another person is not genuine. You don't have to be suspicious. It's not up to you to judge whether the repentance of another person is genuine. The signs of repentance or the absence of such signs will make the matter plain. Repentance is naturally accompanied by signs so as to relieve you of the burden of trying to read what is in another person's heart. You're not expected to know that which you can't possibly know. Read the signs.

John the Baptist wasn't trying to place a burden upon the penitential person, as if to demand that he prove it. Rather he was presenting to those who have been injured the means to avoid becoming repeat victims. Don't be a sucker. That is not in the job description of the Christian. Forgiveness is a glorious thing, but we are not to be made stooges of by pretend apologies. Not only is that bad for us, but it's bad for the one who victimizes, abuses, and manipulates, because it reinforces the perception and belief that he can get away with it if he's just clever enough to know how to work the system. That would be a bad condition for him to fall into.

So, not being a dupe to another, or prey to false repentance, is actually good for everyone. Being nice and being stupid are easily confused. Try being genuine instead; wise as serpents and innocent as doves (as someone famous once said).

Repentance puts on fruit because that's just what a good tree does. Bad trees can't. You will know them by their fruit (also said by someone famous).

Remember, true repentance relinquishes control of the relationship and its dynamics. If the tree isn't bearing that fruit, you might be dealing with a fence post.

# WHAT'S HAPPENING NOW!!



Raylene Tisdale delivered Quilts to Berg Middle School. (no pic)  
Carole Zimmermann delivered Quilts to Emerson Hough Elementary.



Seven Quilts were delivered to Aurora Heights Elementary.



Ten Quilts to Woodrow Wilson delivered by Pat Shelton and JoAnn Bringolf.



**But Wait There's More!**



We are collecting clean plastic grocery bags for the Newton Mission Coalition. Please put them in a tub or box in the storage area north of the kitchen. The bags will be made into 3' x 6' mats to be given to the

homeless and/or sent to overseas missions. If you are interested in cutting the bags, looping them together, or weaving them, please contact JoAnn Bringolf.



OSL is participating in the event sponsored by Hy-Vee!!!! Please save your Hy-Vee receipts dated Jan. 17, 2024 – Jan. 17, 2025 for Discover Hope.



The First Christian Church, 314 E 2<sup>nd</sup> St. N., is hosting "Mat Mondays" from 1-3 every Monday until further notice to work on making sleeping mats from plastic bags. They welcome anyone interested.

These include food, floral, prescription, catering, and fuel receipts - **any Hy-Vee receipts**. You may put them in the designated box in the narthex or take them to Discover Hope.

**2024 Lent Series**  
**Hearing/believing and seeing!!**  
**Services at 7:00 PM**

Mark’s Gospel seems to be written for readers who were thinking, “We missed out.” “If only we had been there to see it with our own two eyes, it would have been easier for us to believe and live.” Mark says to them and us, “No!” You (not the 12 disciples) have the advantageous perspective. You are the Monday morning quarterbacks. You sit in the catbird seat. You already know “the rest of the story” You “get it” Believe God’s Word and see!

Each service we will continue to look to God’s Word. We always need to look again! We have the sinful nature within us that causes us to only “see dimly now.” Or like disciples only see what we want to see. Additionally like Mark’s first readers, we too, want to “live by sight, not by faith.” We “don’t always get what we think we get.” Ultimately God’s way and thought is,

As we again look and more importantly hear the Passion of our Lord according to Saint Mark, our prayer is the same as the father of the boy with the unclean spirit who cried out, “Lord, I believe, help my unbelief.” Mark 9:24

<u>Date</u>	<u>Message Title</u>	<u>Scripture</u>
March 7	“Seeing God’s Method of Operation”	Mark 14:43-52
March 13	“See _____ Confess!”	Mark 14:53-15:5
March 20	“See-ers of Golgotha”	Mark 15:6-32
March 28, Maundy Thursday	“Eat and Drink God’s Word and you will see”	Mark 14:12-25
March 29 Good Friday Tenebrae	“See how bad and how good it is!”	Mark 15:33-39

**Midweek Prayers for ALL Our Savior Members**  
**“Yes, your ears are burning!”**

That phrase says that people are talking about you. We won’t be just talking but praying for you and all other members or Our Saviors by name in our midweek services. If you wish to hear your name spoken and your age group prayed for by name simply attend. We have prayed for the single digit and 10-19 Our Savior members. We will be praying for the Twenty Somethings, Thirty Somethings, Forty Somethings, Fifty Somethings and the Sixty plus members as Lent progresses.