

## STAND FIRM IN THE LORD

“Our citizenship is in heaven,” writes the apostle Paul (Phil. 3:20). Some have understood the apostle’s words to mean that we do not need to care for this world, that our only concern is for the future realm. But Paul insists that we live in the here and now, and we do so as if the realm of God—the kingdom of heaven—were fully present. Our values and priorities, our attitudes and actions, our hopes and our dreams—all are to be shaped by God’s unfolding new creation.

The gospel of Jesus offers a radical alternative to the way life is normally lived in this world. Rather than living with fists clenched in anger and hostility, followers of Jesus extend open hands and hearts in welcoming embrace. Instead of making peace with systems of oppression and domination, people of faith choose Christ’s alternative pathway of humble service—washing the feet of neighbors in need, going the extra mile in relationships, loving all manner of people, including one’s enemies. Rather than living in suspicion and fear, Christians seek to follow Christ’s pattern of self-giving love, forgiveness, peace, and grace beyond measure.

When Paul urges us to stand firm in the Lord, it involves commitment to live as Jesus lived, to love as Jesus loved, and to seek the things that make for peace and reconciliation, just as Jesus did. Even when confronted with resistance and hostility, even when it feels as if we are walking through the wilderness, our calling is to live out Christ’s radical new way of living. Stand firm in the Lord this Lenten season, and all your days.

—Joel D. Kline, pastor  
Highland Avenue Church of the Brethren  
Elgin, Illinois

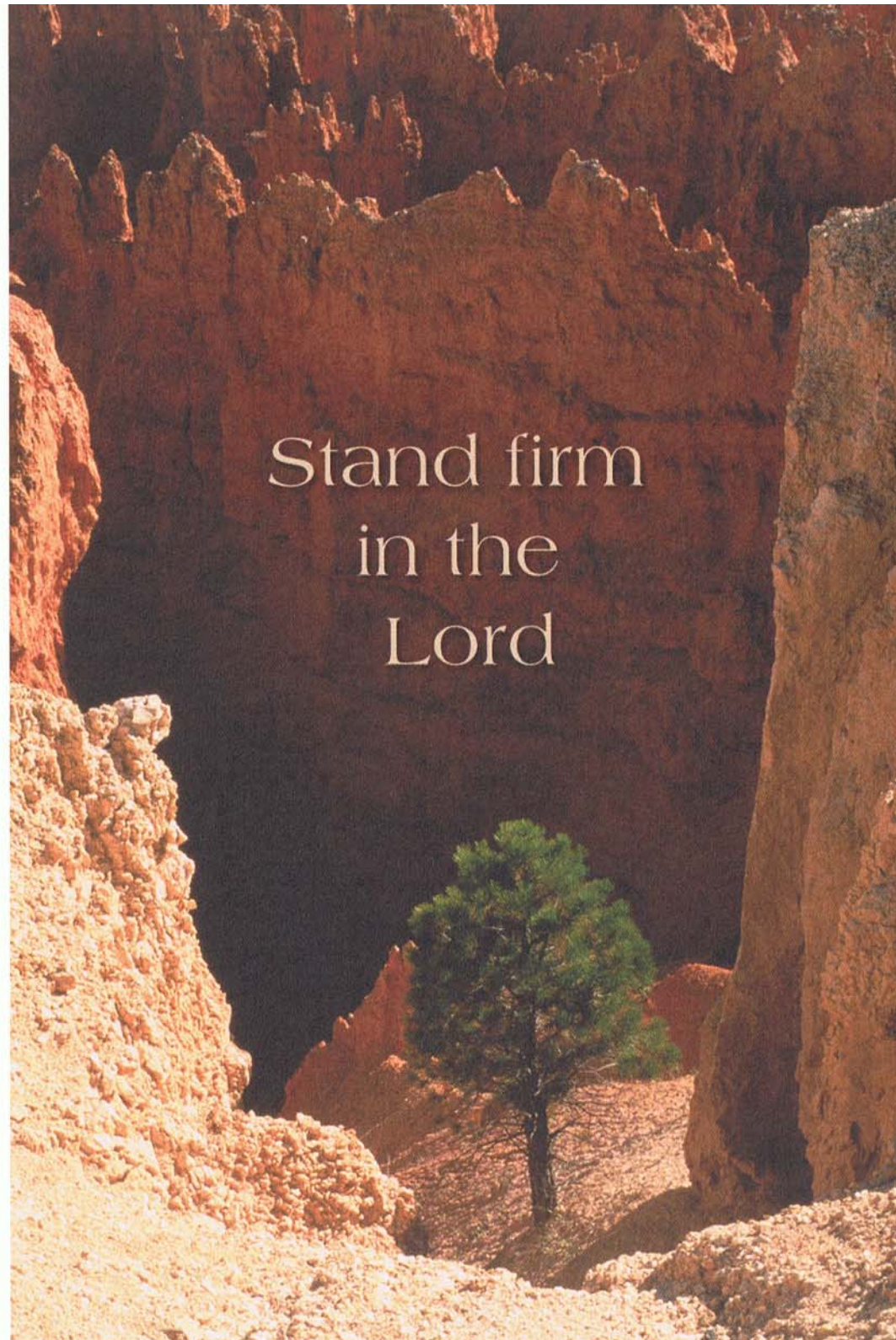
### Text for Today

**Philippians 3:17–4:1 (1), NRSV**

But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself. Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, **stand firm in the Lord** in this way, my beloved.



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Sheldon Church of the Brethren  
 David Loveall, Pastor  
 Ministers - All Members  
 February 28, 2010  
 9:30 a.m. Worship  
**Second Sunday In Lent**



**NOTE:** The red hymnal will be used today, unless otherwise noted.

GATHERING MUSIC

GREETINGS / ANNOUNCEMENTS / SPECIAL DAYS

PRELUDE / LIGHT CANDLES

\*CALL TO WORSHIP **February Memory Verse:** But now abideth  
 faith, hope, love, these three; and the greatest of these is love.  
 I Corinthians 13:13 (ASV)

\* GATHERING HYMN #320 *Faith Of Our Fathers*

\*INVOCATION

PRAISE HYMN #33 *O Worship the King*

MUSIC MINISTRY Landen Kelderman

CHILDREN'S TIME (Gathering Song: *Jesus Loves the Little Children*)  
*"Chariot of Fire"*

OFFERTORY STATEMENT

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

\*DOXOLOGY #119 (blue hymnal)

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYER HYMN #271 *O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go*

PASTORAL PRAYER

SCRIPTURE Genesis 15:1-12, 17-19

MESSAGE "How Far Do You Trust God?"

PRAYER OF BLESSING ON THE WORD

\*CLOSING HYMN #276 *'Tis So Sweet To Trust In Jesus*

\*BENEDICTION

\*THREEFOLD AMEN #382 (blue hymnal)

\* - *Please Stand, if you are able*

**SERVING THE CONGREGATION SUNDAY, February 28:**

Message	Pastor David Loveall
Children's Message	Marcene Cox
Music	Teri Kelderman
Music Ministry	Landen Kelderman
Ushers	Mark Bilsland and Alan Cox
Adult Sunday School	Scott Maggert
Children's Sunday School	Ann Maggert and Sandi Cox

**SERVING THE CONGREGATION SUNDAY, March 7:**

Message	Pastor David Loveall
Children's Message	Marcene Cox
Music	Lynn Rolfsmeier
Ushers	Mark Bilsland and Scott Maggert
Adult Sunday School	Sally Young
Children's Sunday School	Ann Maggert and Sandi Cox

## OUTREACH MINISTRIES



**United Christians  
International**

Haitian Ministry directed by Rev.  
Jean-Jean & Kristie Mompremier.  
[www.unitedchristiansinternational.org](http://www.unitedchristiansinternational.org)

## 2009 CHURCH OFFICERS

**Moderator**  
Linda Adams

**Deacons**  
Clarence & Rhelma Evans  
Linda Adams & Jo Rolston

**Clerk**  
Jo Rolston

**Treasurer**  
Sandi Cox

**Adult Sunday School Teachers**  
Linda Adams  
Donna Brinkman

Alan Cox  
Marcene Cox  
Scott Maggert  
Sally Young

**Children's Message**  
Marcene Cox

**Children's Sunday School**  
Ann Maggert and Sandi Cox

**Church Facility Trustee**  
Scott Maggert

**Church Sign**  
Alan Cox

**Custodial Care**  
Members take monthly turns

**Farm Trustee**  
Ross Cox

**Fellowship Time**  
Clarence & Rhelma Evans

**Lawn Care**  
Jed Cox  
Ross Cox

**Messenger Agent**  
Donna Brinkman

**Ministerial Committee**  
Marcene Cox  
Ross Cox  
Rhelma Evans  
Jo Rolston

**Nominating Committee**  
Ann Maggert  
Sally Young

## OUR CHURCH

Worship Service . . . . . 9:30am  
Christian Education (Sept.-May) .10:50 am

Communion  
1st Sunday of Each Month

The Sheldon Church of the Brethren  
3011 Marsh Ave  
Sheldon, Iowa 51201  
(712) 324-3842

Email: [pastor@sheldonbrethren.org](mailto:pastor@sheldonbrethren.org)

Web Addresses:

The Denomination:  
[www.brethren.org](http://www.brethren.org)

Northern Plains District:  
[www.northernplainsdistrict.com](http://www.northernplainsdistrict.com)

The Church:  
[www.sheldonbrethren.org](http://www.sheldonbrethren.org)  
[www.worship.sheldonbrethren.org](http://www.worship.sheldonbrethren.org)

**Outreach & Evangelism**  
Alan Cox  
Marcene Cox  
Sally Young

**Parsonage Committee**  
Ann Maggert

**Pianists**  
Donna Brinkman  
Marcene Cox  
Jill Dykstra  
Teri Kelderman  
Lynn Rolfsmeier

**Special Music**  
Marcene Cox

**Sunday School Superintendent**  
Jo Rolston

**Ushers**  
Mark Bilsland  
Alan Cox  
Scott Maggert

## Anniversaries and Birthdays for February

**Birthdays**  
02 - Nancy Osterbuhr  
05 - Paul Rolfsmeier  
15 - Jed Cox  
17 - Keenan Rolston  
Ruth Evans  
21 - River Fox  
29 - Jim Houtsma Jr.

Many happy returns of the day of thy birth. May sunshine and gladness be given and may the Dear Father prepare thee on earth for a beautiful birthday in heaven.

## Church Events

### **Welcome!**

Welcome to all members and guests. You came to worship, go now to serve! You've been blessed by God's love, go now to share it!

### **Adult Sunday School**

Today we will discuss Tape 4, Session 13, "Binding God's Family By Covenant" (no book). For next week we will discuss Chapter 13, "Cathedrals of Love" (no tape). This is a series on church heritage and membership. We welcome your participation!

### **Devotional**

The March-April *Upper Room* devotionals are on the back table. Please take one for your daily devotions.

### **Reminders**

- 1) If you have not checked your mailbox for awhile, please do so!
- 2) Continue to bring your old and discarded shoes to put in the box at the back of the sanctuary so Northwest Enterprises can process them for Soles 4 Souls. They are committing 100,000 pairs of shoes to Haitian victims.

## Community

**Feb. 24** - The second of five weekly Lenten Luncheons and Devotions will be held at the Immanuel Christian Reformed Church. The luncheons begin at 11:45 a.m. and the devotions at 12:15 p.m. See the insert in this bulletin for the weekly speakers and topics.

**March 7** - A free will offering Pancake and Sausage Breakfast Benefit for Matt Pruin, who has brain cancer, will be held from 10:30 am - 2pm at St. Paul's Lutheran Church. Donated items will be sold during the benefit.

**March 8** - United Methodist Men's Pancake Supper, 5-7 p.m., church basement. Adults \$5; Pre-School free. Proceeds go to youth camp at Okoboji.

**Village Treasure Chest** - Your donations of all kinds are always welcome and appreciated. So many in our area are helped through this organization. The income helps support Village Northwest Unlimited programs. Also, if interested in being a volunteer call Judy at (712)324-5416.

# Those Who Need Our Prayers

*Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done. Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus. - **Philippians 4:6-7 (NLT)***



1. Jeannette Grove healing from a fall that broke two fingers in her left hand. Visit her, call her at 324-0028 or send her a card to Fieldcrest Assisted Living Apt. #1111.
2. Jennifer Caldwell, daughter of Linda Adams, who needs prayer support.
3. Raymond Boertje, Marcene's dad, who is recovering at home.
4. Julie Fisher, daughter of Clarence and Rhelma Evans, who has thyroid cancer.
5. Ann Evans and Rev. John Elder who have cancer.
6. Matt Pruin and Darla Vaandrager of Sheldon who have brain cancer.
7. Our congregation and children, may all continue to grow in the Lord.
8. Living Peace Church, Sioux City. May its ministry be continually blessed.
9. UCI - Jean-Jean & Kristie Mompremier's ministry in Haiti.
10. Lost Brothers and Sisters. May we minister unto and lead by example.
11. Those Serving in the Military. Keep them from harm and danger.

SERMON NOTES of Sunday, February 28, 2010

"How Far Do You Trust God?"

Scripture: Genesis 15:1-12, 17-19

