

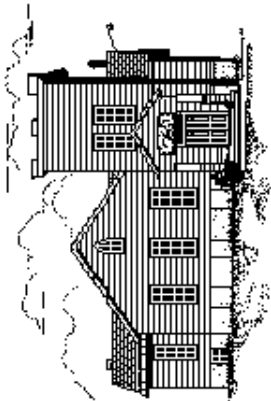
They will beat their swords into plowshares -- Isaiah 2:4

Sheldon Church of the Brethren

# PLOWSHARE



**Time of  
preparation**



Sheldon Church of the Brethren  
3011 Marsh Avenue  
Sheldon, Iowa 51201  
(712)324-3842  
**Address Services Requested**

*Peacefully. Simply. Together.*

*March-April 2007*

An  
Inspirational  
Thought

*For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16 (NIV)*



## The Joy of Lent

Lenten disciplines are good to observe, of course. It is good to discipline our minds and bodies, to study and serve. These practices are available year round. But it is also good to build up our capacity for joy. Like a spring flower, joy can be cultivated and nurtured as we sharpen our awareness of the signs of resurrection all around us.

Resurrection is not an easy concept to grasp. The women at the tomb on Easter morning thought the emptiness of Jesus' tomb meant that his body had been moved, not that he was alive. Can you imagine the emotional shift they had to make when the angel revealed to them that Christ had risen? It may have been hard for some of these women to grasp what they were being shown. It may have taken them a while to actually feel the joy of resurrection.

Today, in our cynical age, it often seems that it's easier to believe in bad things than in good, easier to identify with death than with life. But like the women on Easter morning, our weeping can turn into joy when we see and receive signs of resurrection.

Thought from *The Upper Room* of March-April 2006.

faith JOURNEY

### On the Front:

Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, "Go and make preparations for us to eat the Passover." Luke 22:8 (NIV)

We Gather  
In Love

### Holy Week Church Services:

April 1	April 5	April 6	April 8
<b>Palm Sunday</b>	<b>Maundy Thursday</b>	<b>Good Friday</b>	<b>Easter Sunday</b>
Church service at 9:30 a.m.	Love Feast at 6:30 p.m. Feet washing, Lord's Supper and Communion served.		Church service at 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School at 10:45 a.m.			No Sunday School

**The Church's One Foundation...Keeping It Strong!**

### Meals On Wheels

Our congregation is responsible for Meals On Wheels in Sheldon Monday through Friday, March 19-23 and March 26-30. Sign-up sheets for these days have been made available. Four people are needed each day for the two routes. Meals are to be picked up at the Northwest Iowa Health Center at 11:15 a.m. each of those days. Thanks to Linda, Jo, Jed, Mark, Clarence & Rhelma, and Alan & Marcene for taking the time to help.

### Spring Council Meeting

The church's spring council meeting will be held following the worship service (no Sunday School) on Sunday, April 29. Committee reports and various other church items will be discussed at that time.

# Pathways

## New Baby

Lilith Ann was born to John and Molly Abraham on Feb. 24. Molly is the daughter of Lynn Rolfsmeier. Great-grandmother is Harriet Rolston. Lilith was greeted by her older sister, Olivia.

### Serving The Church on Sundays - March and April

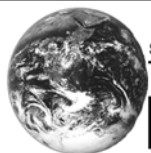
Date	Pianist	Children's Talk	Adult S.S.
Mar. 4	Marcene Cox	Marcene Cox	Alan Cox
Mar. 11	Donna Brinkman	Marcene Cox	Donna Brinkman
Mar. 18	Marcene Cox	Marcene Cox	Scott Maggert
Mar. 25	Marcene Cox	Rev. Lucinda Douglas	Linda Adams
April 1	Jill Dykstra	Marcene Cox	Marcene Cox
April 8	Marcene Cox	Marcene Cox	None - Easter
April 15	Donna Jans	Rev. Tim Button-Harrison	Marcene Cox
April 22	Marcene Cox	Don Adkins	Alan Cox
April 29	Donna Brinkman	Marcene Cox	None - Council Mtg.

Each Week: Children's Sunday School - Ann Maggert and Sandi Cox  
Each Week: Ushers - Alan Cox, Mark Bilisland, Scott Maggert

### Addresses to Remember:

Arline English	Jeannette Grove
P.O. Box 25	521 East Main St. Apt. 102
Spirit Lake, IA 51360	Laurens, IA 50554-1556

These people would love to receive mail. Your letters will add sunshine to their days and help them know that you care.



Sheldon Church of the Brethren

News. Inspiration. About Ourselves.

**online** [www.sheldonbrethren.org](http://www.sheldonbrethren.org)

Sheldon Church of the Brethren's email address: [pastor@sheldonbrethren.org](mailto:pastor@sheldonbrethren.org)

Church of the Brethren:	<a href="http://www.brethren.org">www.brethren.org</a>
Northern Plains District:	<a href="http://www.npcob.org">www.npcob.org</a>
Living Peace:	<a href="http://www.lpcob.org">www.lpcob.org</a>
Christ's Cupboard:	<a href="http://www.christcupboard.org">www.christcupboard.org</a>
Kinship Community Inc.	<a href="http://www.kcimentors.org">www.kcimentors.org</a>

# "Together" gathering to be held April 14

Weather caused the cancellation of a "Together: Conversation on Being the Church" in late February. The gathering has been rescheduled for Saturday, April 14, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Tim Button-Harrison, Northern Plains Interim District Executive will be leading a session with church leaders and interested individuals from Worthington, Kingsley, Sioux City, and Sheldon in our church basement. A lunch will be served. Following the session, the ministerial committee will be meeting with Tim.

### Why?

The world is a fragmented place, and sometimes the church is also. We long for the "spirit of unity" that Paul speaks of, but don't always do any better than the world around us. To help ourselves understand and address this reality, the Church is being invited to an extensive conversation, one that will be a first step toward a new and common understanding of who, whose, and what we are.

"In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God."

—Ephesians 2:21-22

### Are we just going to talk?

We'll talk, and we'll also listen. Expectations, openness, and prayer will make these holy conversations. There is no required outcome, no set of goals and objectives, no policies to be voted on or decisions to be made. Rather, this time together is about asking what God's yearning is for us as a church. Together we can grow in the maturity of our faith; perhaps we will even find ourselves transformed. If we are open to God's Spirit, it will be worth our time.

### Who participates?

You. And everybody else in the Church of the Brethren.

### How do we talk?

A study guide provides some common material and a flexible framework.

### When do we begin?

Every district has sent several people to a first conversation. These people have listened and learned together, and are taking the experience home to district and congregational gatherings.

Congregations may carry out their conversations in Sunday school, weekend retreats, midweek meetings, or in other ways. Depending on the size of the congregation, there may be multiple small groups engaged in their own conversations. "Together" will culminate at the 2007 Annual Conference. The entire church, leadership in particular, will be listening always to build up the body of Christ.



## PLOWSHARE MARCH-APRIL 2007

The Plowshare is a bimonthly outreach publication of the Sheldon, Ia., Church of the Brethren. News items, pictures, and other contributions can be submitted for consideration to Alan Cox. Those materials can be sent by mail to 903 Morningside, Boyden, Iowa 51234. Materials can also be sent by email to [plowshare@sheldonbrethren.org](mailto:plowshare@sheldonbrethren.org) or by calling 712-725-2459.



# Church helps with meals

Members of the church helped with the March Meals On Wheels program in Sheldon. Jed Cox is leaving the hospital to do a route.

# March - 2007

<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>SATURDAY</b>
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Weather Cancelled Service Second Sunday of Lent <b>COMMUNION</b> Speaker: Rev. David Loveall		Birthdays - Alisha Dumar Gerald Jans Kevin Rolston			Birthday - Reese Elder	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Third Sunday of Lent Speaker: Rev. Don Lenderink		Birthdays - Alexis Peterson Ray Rolston Sheena Rolston	Anniversary - Ross & Sandi Cox		Birthday - Ross Cox	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Fourth Sunday of Lent Speaker: Pete Abersson	Meals on Wheels	Meals on Wheels	Meals on Wheels	Meals on Wheels	Meals on Wheels	
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
Fifth Sunday of Lent Speaker: Rev. Lucinda Douglas	Meals on Wheels Birthdays - Lynn Rolfsmeier	Meals on Wheels	Meals on Wheels	Meals on Wheels	Meals on Wheels	



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Worship - 9:30 a.m. Christian Education 11 a.m. [www.sheldonbrethren.org](http://www.sheldonbrethren.org)  
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# April - 2007

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
PALM SUNDAY NO COMMUNION Speaker: Rev. David Loveall	Anniversary - Scott & Ann Maggert			Love Feast - 6:30 pm Leader: Rev. David Loveall	GOOD FRIDAY Birthday - Mark Diers	Birthday - Jeannette Grove
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
EASTER Speaker: Rev. David Loveall						"Together: Conversations on Being A Church" Conference
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Speaker: Rev. Tim Button-Harrison			Birthday - Ann Evans		Birthday - Marne Bothmer	Birthday - Helen Clover
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
Speaker: Don Adkins Birthday - Michele Elder						Birthday - Ryan Maggert
29	30					
Speaker: Pete Aberson Spring Council Mtg. after service						



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