



For more information on LCEF loans, investments, and services, please contact:

Carole L. White LCEF
V.P. Iowa East & West
409 Kenyon Rd Ste b
Fort Dodge, IA 50588

Toll Free Phone:
1-877-439-5233
carole.white@lcef.org



Bob Riggert
Director of Customer
services
bob.riggert@lcef.org



Ruth Gerken
Promotions Director
Iowa East & West
ruth.gerken@lcef.org

Thanking God for many Blessings in 2013

LCEF is thankful to our faithful investors for making loans and services possible in 2013 to a variety of churches and schools. Following are a few of the projects made possible by those investments.



Valley Lutheran School has used demographics, Capitol Funding Services and a LCEF loan.



St. John, Waverly, has used LCEF Architectural Advisory Committee for advice on a possible addition in 2014.



Our Savior, Muscatine used a LCEF line of credit while researching their next steps.



Holy Cross, Davenport used LCEF's Demographics to better understand their community for outreach.



Each patriarch, prophet, king, and disciple had their own sinful tendencies. The grace of God forgave them and transformed them!

Lutheran
Church
Extension
Fund



GOLDEN TREASURE TRUTHS

By Rev. Bob Riggert

“Say you are my sister, that it may go well with me because of you, and that my life may be spared for your sake.” Genesis 12:13

Welcome to a new year and welcome to a new series of “Golden Treasure Truths.” Each month we will learn a truth from a familiar Biblical character. Each patriarch, prophet, king, and disciple had their own sinful tendencies. The grace of God forgave them and transformed them. Each character provides a valuable truth for our own lives as God’s stewards. We treasure convenience. We pick up a beverage or snack from a convenience store. We want our technology conveniently at our fingertips. However, doing what is convenient in human relationships and in relationship with God is not always a good thing. When Abraham’s safety was threatened, he did what was convenient and introduced wife Sarah as his sister. (He did it twice!) The lie did not prove favorable for Abraham or for those he tried to deceive. When God’s plan for an heir seemed too slow, Abraham and Sarah chose to do what was convenient and devised their own plan with Hagar, Sarah’s maid.

God works through the inconvenient. Abraham is asked to make an inconvenient journey from the comfort of family and friends to a new land. An inconvenient rite called circumcision marks Abraham and his family as ones belonging to God. During an inconvenient trip with Isaac God provides an alternative sacrifice. Fulfilling His promise through Abraham’s family God chose to inconvenience Himself and send His only Son into the world. Jesus chose the inconveniences of birth in a barn, no place to lay His head, and ultimately death on a cross to bring us salvation. To bring the message of the resurrection to “Jerusalem, and in all Judean and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth,” (Acts 1:8) was often inconvenient for the Apostles.

When the use of our time, treasure, or talents seems inconvenient to us, may we be reminded that God worked through the inconvenient and lived the inconvenient to bring to us the “convenience” of forgiveness of sins, life and salvation.

Lutheran Church Extension Fund provides convenient services to congregations and investors. For your convenience there is “Joyful Response” electronic giving to your local congregation. LCEF also provides convenient saving programs for all ages and stages. Visit www.lcef.org or contact your District vice president for more convenient information.

Reflections: When have you done what is convenient rather than what was Godly and faithful? How has God worked through inconveniences in your life?

Prayer: Lord Jesus, forgive me of my comfortable and convenient choices. Give me the faith of Abraham that responds trustingly. Amen.

“Note: Lutheran Church Extension Fund offers a “Treasure Chest” of financial support for congregations, church workers, and members of all ages. For additional information contact:

Carole White, District Vice-President (carole.white@lcef.org)

Rev. Bob Riggert, director of customer services (bob.riggert@lcef.org)

Ruth Gerken, promotions (ruth.gerken@lcef.org)

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