

## St. Mark's members thank police, deputies

By Alexa Zoellner Union staff writer | Posted: Monday, September 28, 2015 8:58 am

JEFFERSON — Members of St. Mark's Lutheran Church visited the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office and Jefferson Police Department Thursday to deliver "thank you" cards signed by the congregation.

"So often, we pray for victims of violence," the Rev. David Zandt, pastor of the Jefferson church, said. "Yet do we ever consider the first responders — those affected by the things they see every day? We forget what they do and the sacrifices law enforcement makes.

"I think it's the church's responsibility to make people aware of those who sacrifice every day and to lead in thanking them," he added. "We take for granted what they do so they deserve our utmost respect and thanks."

The cards read: "We all wanted to take the opportunity to say thank you for all you do for the citizens of Jefferson County. In so many instances, you go above and beyond the call of duty and we want you to know that your service does not go unnoticed. Thank you!"

Sheriff Paul Milbrath accepted the card on behalf of the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office.

"It's very heartwarming," Milbrath said. "You don't call the cops when you're having a good day, so it truly means a lot because it comes from the community. I think it'll really mean a lot to the deputies."

On behalf of the City of Jefferson Police Department, Chief Ken Pileggi accepted the card.

"When you take a look at this card, it's so nice to know we enjoy the support of the community," Pileggi said. "It's hard to put words to it. It's awesome. A lot of times, it can be a very negative environment law enforcement deals in. When you deal with that negativity, it's hard. When citizens recognize the violence and danger officers face everyday and thank them, it's awesome."



### LAW OFFICERS THANKED

LAW OFFICERS THANKED — Members of St. Mark's Lutheran Church in Jefferson presented "thank you" cards to the City of Jefferson Police Department and the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office on Thursday. The cards were to thank law enforcement for all they do for the community. — Daily Union photos by Alexa Zoellner.