



# DISTRICT NEWS

## SOUTH DAKOTA



**But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose coming forth is from of old, from ancient days.**

**Micah 5:2**

**H**ave you ever tried to locate Israel on a globe? Have you located Bethlehem?

It is striking that God chose microscopic Israel as the place His Son would take on human flesh and enter human history. But that's how God often works. He begins in small ways to do something big.

The Son of God, the Creator of the world and the universe with the Father and the Holy Spirit, is conceived in the womb of one of His created ones. Jesus' mother is a humble, young Jewish lady, not the Queen of Sheba. *The small beginnings of something big.*

Jesus is born in Bethlehem's stable, not in the presence of a midwife in busy and much larger Jerusalem. He grows up in unimpressive Nazareth. *The small beginnings of something big.*

Jesus grows up to give His life to redeem the world. He dies but rises from the dead. He pours



**Rev. Scott Sailer**  
District President

out His Spirit. His original, small and unimpressive band (plus one new recruit, Paul) turns the world upside-down as they proclaim the message of the cross and the resurrection of this Jesus of Nazareth. The refrain throughout the book of Acts is "and the Word of the Lord continued to increase" (Acts 6:7, 12:24, 19:20). *The small beginnings of something big.*

Now, fast-forward to our time. It, too, overflows with God's way of working. *The small beginnings of something big.*

Take your congregation, for example. Look back at its history. You're likely to discover that a few German Lutherans gathered with a traveling preacher in a town hall or schoolhouse for the first worship service about 100 years ago. Today, your congregation gathers in its own church building and you may have several hundred members. *The small beginnings of something big.*

Then there is you! Do not forget that at one time you were "dead in your transgressions and sins" (Eph. 2:1). You can't get much more insignificant than that.

But because of His great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ. **Eph. 2:4**

This gracious action by God in taking you from nothing to something in His sight certainly includes God the Son making the trip from heaven to earth, into and out of the womb of a human mother and into the manger. The small beginnings of something big — yes, Jesus and the plan for our salvation,

See **CHRISTMAS**, page 2



## Congrats, Pastor Bakat!

Rev. Albert Tshikumbi Bakat was ordained into the pastoral ministry and then installed as assistant pastor of Resurrection Lutheran Church, Sioux Falls, on Oct. 10.

Pastor Bakat will serve the African immigrants of the Resurrection congregation. Rev. Dr. Christopher Ascher, Resurrection senior pastor, was Pastor Bakat's mentor while he was in the Ethnic Immigrant Institute of Theology (EIIT) program of Concordia Seminary, St. Louis.

Front row, (from left) Revs. Aaron Asmus, Memorial, Sioux Falls; Christopher Ascher; Albert Bakat; Gui Kasongo, Gospel Lutheran Church, Milwaukee; Darren Olson, district missionary; (back row) Allen Konrad (emeritus and former missionary to Africa, Rowley, Iowa); David Morfitt (emeritus, Sioux Falls); Corey Aker (Faith, Sioux Falls); Matthew Nix (Christ and Trinity Deaf, Sioux Falls); Scott Sailer (district president); Jonah Domenichelli (Risen Savior, Tea); and Daniel Deardoff (Blessed Redeemer, Brandon).

## CHRISTMAS

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

but also you. You are a new creation in Christ, someone who is blessed to be a blessing, someone who has been forgiven to be a forgiver, someone who has been "Good-News'd" to "Good News" others. Through you, the Word of the Lord can increase and others can be blessed — for eternity.

The small beginnings of something big!  
Have a very blessed and merry Christmas.

**Your servant in Christ,  
Pastor Scott Sailer**  
"Not ashamed of the Gospel"  
Rom. 1:16; 16:25-27

## Call Information

### VACANCIES

- Groton/Andover, St. John/Zion
- Leola, St. Paul
- Mitchell, Zion
- Pierre, Faith (*senior pastor*)
- Sioux Falls, District executive secretary



## Share your news with us!

We love to feature a wide variety of news occurring in our district congregations. If you have any announcements, special events or human interest stories, please share with your brothers and sisters in Christ of the South Dakota District.

Send submissions to Kate Meadows:

► [kate@katemeadows.com](mailto:kate@katemeadows.com)

► 420 E. Liberty Street,  
Rapid City, SD 57701

**The deadline for the February issue is Dec. 15.**

# 100 years of ZION, PRESHO

Zion Lutheran Church, Presho, celebrated its 100th anniversary with a special day on Sept. 11. The event opened with a service, with Revs. Ray Greenseth and Richard Pierson presiding. Rev. Greenseth serves as pastor of Zion, along with Messiah, Murdo, and St. Paul, Draper. Pastor Pierson, emeritus and former Zion pastor (1972-76), served as preacher. The choir sang “How Great Thou Art.”

Guests enjoyed a lunch of roast beef, baked potatoes, corn and cold slaw, which was served by the youth following the service. Children who attend the Vine Time midweek educational program played the bells for the Doxology in thanksgiving for the meal.

Cordie Schlomer, church council president, welcomed everyone by asking those related to the constitution signers to stand. “Quite a few stood,” said Pastor Greenseth.

Helen Cameron was honored for being the oldest member of Zion. Other ministers in attendance were Revs. David Otten (Emmanuel, Gettysburg, and Christ, Lebanon), David Linkugel (Lord of Life, Elkhorn, Neb.), Robert Gardner (emeritus, Hot Springs) and Wade Harr (Trinity, Reliance;



Zion, Hamill; and Christ, Winner). Otten served as Zion vacancy pastor several years ago, and Linkugel served at Zion and Trinity, Presho, and Trinity, Reliance (1985-91).

Zion’s LWML performed a skit called “Soup Supper Surprise,” and the Vine Time children sang “Go My Children.”

The guests moved to the basement to enjoy cake and fellowship for the conclusion of the celebration. — Submitted by Betty Jean Mertens

▲ Children with the Vine Time midweek educational program play handbells during the anniversary service.

▼ Members of Zion’s LWML Quilting group work on a quilt.



## PATTY'S PONDERINGS

### Walking in love



"WALK IN LOVE" is the theme for the LWML South Dakota District Convention, to be held June 3-4 in Yankton. The theme verse is Eph. 4:32-5:2.

Please plan to attend the convention, which will include servant events, Bible study and fellowship. The ladies of the Yankton Zone are planning lots of fun for us.

Each zone will have a convention banner with a design based on the convention's theme. A Young Woman Representative is invited from each zone to participate in the mission of joyfully proclaiming Christ, supporting missions and equipping women to honor God by serving others. Please find that person to attend so she can learn more about LWML.



**Patty Peters**  
LWML South Dakota District President

**THE LWML.ORG WEBSITE** and the LWML app have resources to help your groups with Bible studies, skits, crafts and activities. Visit [lwml.org](http://lwml.org) and browse "The Word" tab at the top of the page, along with the other tabs.

If you have an iPhone or iPad, the app is available at the App Store; or at the Google Play Store if you have an Android phone or tablet. For more information, visit [lwml.org/app](http://lwml.org/app).

**I AM SO BLESSED** that I was able to attend several zone rallies this fall. As we enter Advent, let us prepare our hearts for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, who put aside His crown to become a servant, to walk beside us and know our sufferings. After Advent, we will prepare for the Prayer Service in the spring.

May the Holy Spirit work in your hearts and minds as you take time to study and pray upon God's Word. May God's face shine upon you during this Advent and Christmas season.

## QUILTS OF COMFORT



◀ During the Christian Life Retreat, from left, Bev Graham and Mary Flanigan sign cards of encouragement for church workers.

▼ Sandy Williams packages food donations.



### "GOD'S QUILT OF COMFORT: WRAPPING UP IN THE PSALMS"

was the theme for the South Dakota District LWML Christian Life Retreat, held in Pierre Sept. 17-18. There were 111 members and guests in attendance. Servant events included tying blankets, designing cards of appreciation and collecting food, all of which will be sent to comfort Christian friends.

Since our theme was "God's Quilt of Comfort," our sisters brought quilts to display, each having its own story of comfort to share in beautiful designs and colors. At the retreat, each LWML member designed her own quilt square, and those squares will be made into a quilt. The recipient of this work of Christian love will be determined at a later date.

The ladies heard from Rev. Mick Wolfram of Lutheran Family Service of Iowa, which hopes to provide services in South Dakota in 2022. Young Women Representatives Janelle Lafrentz and Elizabeth Schmidt reported on their joyful experiences at the LWML 39th Biennial Convention, held in Lexington, Ky., in June. Heart-to-Heart Sisters Kay Nelson and Brooke Aker talked about their work of supporting women of other cultural backgrounds.

We also heard from Rev. Dr. Cory Rajek, who recently served as senior pastor of Faith, Pierre. He accepted a call to serve as an LCMS missionary to Latvia and teaches at the Luther Academy, the seminary of the

See **LWML**, page 8

## COUNSELOR'S CORNER



# LIGHT AND HOPE IN A COLD, DARK SEASON

What's your favorite Christmas hymn? There are so many good hymns that it's hard to pick a favorite. One of my favorites is the old German carol "Lo, How A Rose E'er Blooming" (*Lutheran Service Book* #359).



**Rev. Daniel Grimmer**  
LWML District  
Pastoral Counselor

While it's not generally as well known today, I love listening to it and reflecting on the beauty of the Son of God coming into our sinful and fallen world to redeem us.

The hymn builds upon the image found in Isaiah 11:1:

There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit.

Some 600 years before the birth of Jesus, Isaiah was prophesying that the Christ would come from the "stump of Jesse," a clear reference to the lineage and house of David. But it's the stump of Jesse, not the tree of Jesse. The Spirit had revealed to Isaiah that the earthly power and authority of David's kingdom would be broken. The tree would be cut down. Foreign kings and nations would conquer David's kingdom and lead the people into captivity. No king from David's house would rule in Jerusalem again.

And yet, even from the dead and lifeless stump where the great tree of Jesse — the kingdom of David — once stood, a shoot would come forth and grow. God's promise that David's kingdom would endure forever was not broken. Jesus was a new King David, come to save and deliver God's people in a far different way than they were expecting.

The hymn reflects on this image from Isaiah. However, it depicts the shoot not as a mere green leafy branch, but as a rose with bright, full colors against the gray and dark backdrop of the cold, dead of winter, a rose that is beautifully fragrant in a world that smells of death.

Perhaps my favorite part of the hymn is the first half of stanza 3:

This flow'r whose fragrance tender  
with sweetness fills the air, dispels  
with glorious splendor the darkness  
ev'rywhere.

I think this is one of the reasons why Christmas is so warm and beautiful. At the darkest time of the year, when growing plants and flowers and the beauty of the earth is least in our minds, we decorate trees with lights and color. Poinsettias bloom and we bake delicious treats and are generous to both our loved ones and those around us who are less fortunate.

But all of it is a reflection of the glorious splendor of Jesus, the Son of God, becoming incarnate in the womb of the virgin Mary, entering into our dark and lifeless world to become the life and the light of men. We are generous as a reflection of His mercy. We are generous because He who took on our flesh and blood later saved us from our sin. Even in the dark of the winter of this sinful world, we remember that the rose of Christ's love and mercy through His death and resurrection blooms brightly still.

May your Christmas be filled with beauty and joy as you remember that Jesus was born to save you from your sins. Merry Christmas!

## HURON ZONE REPORT

With COVID-19 factoring in the group planning the last year, the Brookings Zone had yet to meet in person, but I'm excited to mention that we had our Fall Rally on Oct. 16. The Brookings Zone will have new officers and, with that, I hope to see fresh ideas and a focus on new goals for our zone. This will be my last article as the Zone president. Although it has been a rewarding and exciting two terms, I am ready to pass on the torch.

The societies within the Brookings Zone have all been busy doing their mission projects. Many have been supporting the Baker family from Mount Calvary, Brookings. Pam Baker is a former Young Women Representative and zone vice-president and her husband, Matthew, is currently attending Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Ind. We are excited to support the Bakers on their new adventure. I encourage everyone to check out their blog at [bakerleapoffaith.com](http://bakerleapoffaith.com) to stay connected to their seminary journey.

**Delorus Limmer** • Brookings Zone President

# Join us Jan. 21 for **MARCH FOR LIFE**

Do you really believe that there is any chance to overturn *Roe v. Wade*?

Do you really believe that you can convince millions of people to give up their "right to reproductive choices" or the "freedom" they have to do what they want with their own bodies?"



Dear friends in Christ,

## Is it even possible?

In the present struggle we have as we fight for the unborn, many people who have yet to join our movement ask me questions such as these.

Based on the words of Jesus — and the apostles and the prophets, indeed the entire Word of God in Christ as we have it in the Bible — my response is a resounding *Yes!* I believe there is more than just a chance that we will win this battle. I know how difficult our position seems considering the opposition, both in America and around the world, to the message that life begins at the very moment of conception. I have seen the dark mentality of our current administration in action, fighting to embed the abomination of abortion in the bedrock of American law. Even so, I find that God's people have never been alone in the valley of the shadow of death.

Jesus' words in Mark 10:27 should comfort us. As the faithful Son of God, Jesus says: "For all things are possible with God."

St. Paul himself was able to say to the Philippian church: I can do all things through him who strengthens me. **Phil. 4:13**

And in Ephesians Paul refers to God as Him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think. **Eph. 3:20**

These proclamations are not meant to prompt ridiculous ques-

tions like, "Can God make a rock so big that He can't lift it?" The punch of these passages is intended to inspire people like us, involved in the battle for those oppressed by sin, death and the devil who we see all around us.

I find us in good company as I consider the places where the apostles and prophets stood, like Ezekiel in the valley of dry bones. In Ezekiel 37, the Lord asks him "Son of Man, can these bones live?"

The prophet's reply is: "O Lord GOD, you know."

His answer might seem tentative to our ears. He didn't say, "Totally!" or, "For sure, Lord! You can do all things!"

If you are surprised by his response, look again at the text. In Ezek. 37:2, after the Lord sets Ezekiel in the valley full of bones, He walked Ezekiel back and forth among the bones. Ezekiel saw that "there were very many on the surface of the valley, and behold, they were very dry."

The intense object lesson of the valley of death was intended to impact Ezekiel. We should always be much more than merely sober-minded about death. It is healthy to fear death. Death is truly an enemy whose sting is sin, which is leveraged by Satan himself to intimidate and immobilize God's people.

Ezekiel would have been immobilized if not for the Lord's intervention, which gives life where there is death, forgiveness where there is sin and the Savior's victory to crush Satan's head. That is why I believe that *Roe v. Wade* can be overturned — by the Lord, working by His Word wherever He sends His people.

And that is why I am asking you to go into the valley with me. In a few short weeks on Friday, Jan. 21, March for Life will be held in Washington, D.C. You are more than welcome to make your own travel plans, or to contact me at Mount Calvary, Huron, for help (*contact info below*).

We will not be alone at the nation's March for Life. Thousands of our friends in Christ and pro-life neighbors from around the world will also be there. Together, we will ensure that the world remembers the 62 million children that have been lost to abortion since 1973. We will be there to ensure that children yet unborn have a voice in our communities, our government and in the world.

We will be there to reassure pregnant mothers that they are not alone in caring for the gift our Lord gives in the children they carry. We will be there as a sign that the Lord is at work on every mountain top and in every valley of life's journey — that He Himself is the way through each valley, even unto eternal life.

Your friend and fellow worker,  
Pastor Chris Navurskis

Pastor Navurskis serves as pastor of Mount Calvary, Huron, and is life coordinator of the South Dakota District. He can be reached at [pnavurskis@gmail.com](mailto:pnavurskis@gmail.com) or 605-352-7121.



## LCMS South Dakota District Congregational Year-to-Date Report of Mission Receipts for the nine months ending Oct. 14, 2021, compared to the nine months ending Oct. 14, 2020

City, Congregation	Comm. Members	2021 Intention	9 months 2021	9 months 2020	Avg/Per 2021	Comm. 2020	City, Congregation	Comm. Members	2021 Intention	9 months 2021	9 months 2020	Avg/Per 2021	Comm. 2020
<b>Circuit 1 – Aberdeen</b>							<b>Circuit 5 – Mitchell</b>						
Aberdeen, Our Savior	329	10,000	9,325	8,620	28.34	26.20	Armour, Redeemer	222	8,000	7,000	6,000	31.53	27.03
Aberdeen, St. John	87	12,500	13,217	11,826	151.92	135.93	Chamberlain, Zion	407	–	12,050	1,605	29.61	3.94
Aberdeen, St. Paul	780	38,000	29,405	33,683	37.70	43.18	Delmont, Zion	99	16,000	12,000	12,000	121.21	121.21
Andover, Zion	106	–	650	–	6.13	–	Dimock, Immanuel	166	15,000	8,006	9,883	48.23	59.54
Britton, St. John	155	–	7,000	7,000	45.16	45.16	Emery, St. Peter	59	3,000	4,009	2,642	67.95	44.78
Columbia, St. John	102	7,750	7,750	5,813	75.98	56.99	Gregory, St. John	258	–	–	–	–	–
Cresbard, Concordia	58	2,225	5,790	4,220	99.83	72.76	Hamil, Zion	25	–	–	–	–	–
Doland, Redeemer	43	–	1,500	2,000	34.88	46.51	Huron, Mount Calvary	766	70,000	46,204	34,404	60.32	44.91
Ferney, St. Paul	165	4,000	4,000	4,119	24.24	24.96	Mitchell, Zion	555	30,350	22,848	19,560	41.17	35.24
Groton, St. John	308	–	5,993	5,948	19.46	19.31	Parkston, Faith	191	10,000	7,650	6,800	40.05	35.60
Leola, St. Paul	48	–	–	–	–	–	Plankinton, St. Paul	145	4,000	1,000	6,000	6.90	41.38
Mansfield, Trinity	280	23,500	20,636	11,052	73.70	39.47	Tripp, Emmaus	57	2,500	1,875	1,000	32.89	17.54
Redfield, Messiah	152	1,000	–	–	–	–	White Lake, Trinity	117	–	7,900	9,800	67.52	83.76
Stratford, St. Paul	43	–	3,000	3,000	69.77	69.77	Wessington Springs, Zion	75	8,000	650	650	8.67	8.67
Wecota, Immanuel	86	6,902	9,822	5,846	114.21	67.98	Winner, Christ	68	–	1,500	1,000	22.06	14.71
<b>Circuit 1 Totals</b>	<b>2,742</b>	<b>\$105,877</b>	<b>\$118,088</b>	<b>\$103,127</b>	<b>43.07</b>	<b>37.61</b>	Wolsey, St. John	216	13,400	4,654	3,770	21.55	17.45
<b>Circuit 2 – Watertown</b>							Woonsocket, Mount Olive	11	–	–	–	–	–
Aurora, First English	–	–	–	1,010	–	30.61	<b>Circuit 5 Totals</b>	<b>3,437</b>	<b>\$180,250</b>	<b>\$137,346</b>	<b>\$115,114</b>	<b>39.96</b>	<b>33.49</b>
Brookings, Mount Calvary	375	40,000	33,989	31,853	90.64	84.94	<b>Circuit 6 – Freeman</b>						
Brookings, Peace	271	–	–	8,300	–	30.63	Alexandria, St. Martin	81	1,100	1,650	1,000	20.37	12.35
Corona, Trinity	146	2,000	752	1,181	5.15	8.09	Canistota, Zion	227	5,000	1,054	3,096	4.64	13.64
Flandreau, Redeemer	37	3,000	1,500	2,250	40.54	60.81	Emery, St. John	51	–	–	790	–	15.49
Milbank, Bethlehem	62	400	–	–	–	–	Freeman, St. Paul	265	9,000	9,291	4,737	35.06	17.88
Milbank, Emanuel	575	16,000	26,294	8,051	45.73	14.00	Hartford, Trinity	96	3,000	–	–	–	–
Revillo, St. John	126	–	3,519	2,401	27.93	19.06	Howard, St. John	111	4,000	–	4,570	–	41.17
Sisseton, Emanuel	161	3,900	3,595	2,280	22.33	14.16	Madison, Our Savior	221	3,000	3,000	2,700	13.57	12.22
Watertown, Mount Olive	389	30,700	23,025	23,025	59.19	59.19	Marion, Bethesda	61	2,500	2,500	–	40.98	–
Waubay, Zion	118	2,500	3,575	5,293	30.30	44.86	Menno, Immanuel	62	3,000	3,143	1,830	50.69	29.52
White, Zion	77	3,500	2,085	1,103	27.08	14.32	Montrose, St. John	88	–	–	–	–	–
Wilmot, Our Savior	162	3,000	1,293	1,630	7.98	10.06	Parker, First English	43	2,000	10,515	2,000	244.53	46.51
<b>Circuit 2 Totals</b>	<b>2,499</b>	<b>\$105,000</b>	<b>\$99,627</b>	<b>\$88,377</b>	<b>39.87</b>	<b>35.36</b>	Scotland, St. Paul	31	600	500	500	16.13	16.13
<b>Circuit 3 – Pierre</b>							Spencer, Trinity	77	–	2,000	1,000	25.97	12.99
Blunt, Trinity	37	–	2,000	2,000	54.05	54.05	Wentworth, St. Peter	181	7,750	6,458	5,872	35.68	32.44
Draper, St. Paul	21	–	–	1,814	–	86.38	<b>Circuit 6 Totals</b>	<b>1,595</b>	<b>\$40,950</b>	<b>\$40,111</b>	<b>\$28,095</b>	<b>25.15</b>	<b>17.61</b>
Gettysburg, Emmanuel	201	6,500	2,579	1,309	12.83	6.51	<b>Circuit 7 – Sioux Falls</b>						
Harold, Immanuel	19	600	600	600	31.58	31.58	Brandon, Blessed Redeemer	285	–	10,120	9,900	35.51	34.74
Lebanon, Christ	23	300	–	–	–	–	Sioux Falls, Christ	90	–	1,500	2,550	16.67	28.33
Midland, St. Peter	40	3,000	2,132	1,910	53.30	47.75	Sioux Falls, Faith	619	43,500	32,625	32,625	52.71	52.71
Murdo, Messiah	76	3,000	2,265	2,071	29.80	27.25	Sioux Falls, Lord of Life	179	12,000	9,000	9,000	50.28	50.28
Norris, St. John	68	2,500	460	480	6.76	7.06	Sioux Falls, Memorial	725	52,000	30,400	24,130	41.93	33.28
Onida, Holy Cross	110	–	1,600	–	14.55	–	Sioux Falls, Our Redeemer	324	–	20,400	23,617	62.96	72.89
Pierre, Faith	1,478	45,000	33,750	33,750	22.83	22.83	Sioux Falls, Resurrection	214	10,000	7,500	7,500	35.05	35.05
Presho, Zion	95	1,500	3,000	–	31.58	–	Sioux Falls, Trinity of The Deaf	35	–	–	–	–	–
Reliance, Trinity	38	–	–	–	–	–	Sioux Falls, Zion	646	–	47,000	40,000	72.76	61.92
Rosebud, Rosebud Mission	–	–	1,630	753	–	–	Tea, Risen Savior	100	9,750	11,075	7,181	110.75	71.81
<b>Circuit 3 Totals</b>	<b>2,206</b>	<b>\$62,400</b>	<b>\$50,016</b>	<b>\$44,687</b>	<b>22.67</b>	<b>20.26</b>	<b>Circuit 7 Totals</b>	<b>3,217</b>	<b>\$127,250</b>	<b>\$169,620</b>	<b>\$156,503</b>	<b>52.73</b>	<b>48.65</b>
<b>Circuit 4 – Black Hills</b>							<b>Circuit 8 – Yankton</b>						
Black Hawk, Divine Shepherd	364	15,225	11,419	11,250	31.37	30.91	Alcester, Peace	113	3,000	1,836	2,236	16.25	19.79
Creighton, Emmanuel	52	–	–	267	–	5.13	Avon, Zion	190	5,000	3,785	3,775	19.92	19.87
Custer, Our Redeemer	195	–	1,500	6,210	7.69	31.85	Centerville, First English	64	2,000	1,464	1,103	22.88	17.23
Deadwood, Grace	73	3,000	2,250	1,733	30.82	23.74	Dakota Dunes, Holy Cross	173	26,000	13,926	16,527	80.50	95.53
Hill City, Our Savior	23	–	–	–	–	–	Fairfax, Trinity	71	2,500	6,500	2,500	91.55	35.21
Hot Springs, Bethesda	308	7,000	5,250	5,249	17.05	17.04	Hurley, Zion	31	2,750	–	1,151	–	37.13
Philip, Our Redeemer	50	–	–	200	–	4.00	Springfield, Our Savior	24	–	–	–	–	–
Rapid City, Bethlehem	448	27,667	20,750	22,442	46.32	50.09	Tyndall, St. John	132	–	1,000	–	7.58	–
Rapid City, Our Redeemer	125	2,200	2,831	1,635	22.65	13.08	Utica, Martinus	65	–	892	929	13.72	14.29
Rapid City, Peace	524	21,000	15,959	18,729	30.46	35.74	Vermillion, Concordia	81	–	5,760	6,480	71.11	80.00
Rapid City, Zion	792	24,000	18,750	15,500	23.67	19.57	Wagner, St. John	231	9,000	6,750	6,750	29.22	29.22
Spearfish, St. Paul	316	41,500	41,500	41,000	131.33	129.75	Yankton, St. John	1,107	53,000	35,333	35,334	31.92	31.92
Sturgis, Blessed Emmanuel	27	800	1,612	1,806	59.70	66.89	<b>Circuit 8 Totals</b>	<b>2,282</b>	<b>\$103,250</b>	<b>\$77,246</b>	<b>\$76,785</b>	<b>33.85</b>	<b>33.65</b>
Wall, First	201	–	–	–	–	–	<b>GRAND TOTALS</b>	<b>21,476</b>	<b>\$867,369</b>	<b>\$813,875</b>	<b>\$738,709</b>	<b>37.90</b>	<b>34.40</b>
<b>Circuit 4 Totals</b>	<b>3,498</b>	<b>\$142,392</b>	<b>\$121,821</b>	<b>\$126,021</b>	<b>34.83</b>	<b>36.03</b>							

Comm. Members: Communicant membership, as of Feb. 4, 2021 per LCMS Rosters and Statistics

# 2021 Advent and Christmas Media Kit

**NOW AVAILABLE!**



Downloadable materials to promote your Christmas services to your community.

[lcms.org/christmas-media-kit](https://lcms.org/christmas-media-kit)



WISHING YOU  
**PEACE AND JOY**  
THIS ADVENT  
AND CHRISTMAS!

## LWML

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5)

Evangelical Lutheran Church of Latvia, and leads English-language services.

“Comfort in Crisis — The Psalms of Lament” was the Bible study led by Rev. Daniel Grimmer, our senior pastoral counselor. “Lament is calling upon God in the middle of our suffering in faith, reorienting how we look at our suffering in light of God’s promises,” he said.

Rev. Clint Thorson, our junior pastoral counselor, shared how “God Loves Stuff!” In Psalm 1, we found that we are blessed by God in many ways. Psalm 33 tells us that we are blessed to know God through His Word. Psalm 60 tells us that when bad stuff happens, we aren’t forgotten. Victory or defeat, we win with God. When we are wrapped up in Christ, God gives Himself to us! We are filled with Him — covered inside and out!

We ended our spirit-filled days together with singing and a special production by the South Dakota LWML Nursing Home Two Wheelers, who performed a lively dance with their musical walkers.

The retreat was a joyful time of sharing God’s Word, serving our Lord and enjoying being part of our wonderful LWML South Dakota District.

**Joy in Jesus,**  
**Susan Buxcel**  
Vice-President of Christian Life