



DISTRICT NEWS

SOUTH DAKOTA



LCMS/Erik M. Lunsford

A family celebration

Surrounded by our brothers and sisters in Christ — on Christmas and every day



Rev. Scott Sailer
District President

I have a confession to make, and so do you. My confession is that I have more than one mother and father and sister! (Won't my mother, Kathy; my father, Calvin; and my only sibling, Kelli, be surprised!) And I maintain that you have more than one mother and father, too.

That fact will be a blessing to you this Christmas.

Here's what I mean. Jesus made the same kind of confession, recorded for our learning at the end of the third chapter of Mark.

"For whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother." v. 35

He said this at a time when the mother and brothers of Jesus thought He was "out of His mind" for all the people He was serving and the sermons He was preaching and the miracles He was performing (cf. Mark 3:21).

Jesus' words define what the holy Christian church and the communion of saints really are — those who do God's will; that is, those who trust God's plan of salvation in Jesus alone and who respond

with faithful lives. These are Jesus' family members. And we are members of His spiritual family, too. We are brothers and sisters of Jesus. We are brothers and sisters in Christ.

This is instructive and encouraging for our celebration of the birth of Christ. No matter if you have many people gathering for the Christmas celebration or if you will be alone this Christmas, you have the blessing of being surrounded by "family." As you join with fellow Christians in worship on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, you are a part of a family that gets to celebrate the birth of the Messiah together — a Savior, born for you!

You might be without all the brightly wrapped presents, but you do have God's gift of the Babe wrapped in swaddling cloths, lying in a manger. And with Him, you also have everlasting life.

Having a Savior "Brother" and a large family of brothers and sisters in Christ is instructive to our life together in our congregations in another way. It used to be that you could fairly well define a member of our LCMS congregations in South Dakota as "German," "farmer" (or blue-collar) and living in fairly close proximity to their church.

Thanks be to God that we still have a good number of Eisenbrauns and Genzlingers and Schultzes in the South Dakota District. Yet there are a growing number of folks on our church membership lists with names that reflect African heritage rather than European descent. Some of our communities have a growing number of people of

See **FAMILY**, page 3

Congratulations, Julie, and thank you!

Julie Pike's sunny voice on the phone has greeted hundreds of pastors, teachers, DCEs, deaconesses, lay-people, staff from the LCMS and its districts, and salespeople. She's been South Dakota District's office administrative assistant for 35 years.

When Julie started working for the district in 1987, Ronald Reagan was the president of the United States. Rev. Paul Wendling was our district president. Julie has also served with district presidents Revs. Dr. Raymond Hartwig, Dr. Vernon Schindler, Dr. Dale Sattgast and now yours truly. She has served with executive secretaries Howard Kosoman, Rev. Howard Shane, Rev. David Schwan and Rev. Darren Olson.

On Sept. 19, the district Board of Directors paused our meeting to thank Julie, who received flowers and a restaurant gift card — small gestures for her many years of service.

St. Paul writes to the Philippians:

I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the Gospel. PHIL. 1:4-5

Partnerships are a part of our lives, in business and marriage, and through homeowners' associations and various groups and organizations. They can be a challenge sometimes, but Paul's words to the Philippians emphasize the blessings.

The "partnership in the Gospel" that Paul treasures begins with Jesus Christ. He has brought us into a relationship with Himself and with one another. Christ is the Vine, and we are the branches, connected with one another in His body.

The apostle Paul partnered with individuals and congregations in the body of Christ to help people know Christ and make Christ known — a partnership in the Gospel!

This is what Julie does and helps us to do in The South Dakota District — and she's been doing it for more than three decades. She speaks, calls, encourages, reminds, sends, receives, plans and organizes so that our Word and Sacrament

work happens a little more efficiently and in concert with one another — a group of 106 churches and about 20 schools in eight circuits and one beloved district.

Thanks, Julie, for 35 years as a very important partner in the Gospel!

Rev. Scott Sailer

South Dakota District President
(Pastor Sailer is pictured with Julie at right.)



WELCOME, PASTOR LEMMERMANN!



Rev. Scott Lemmermann was installed as pastor of Zion, Canistota, and St. John's, Montrose, on Oct. 16 at Zion. He had been serving as pastor of Ascension, Kansas City, Mo. Welcome to the beloved South Dakota District! Pictured are, from left, Revs. Brian Mosemann, Kurt Laskowsky, Thomas Christopher, Nabil Nour, Paul Warnier, Scott Lemmermann, Don Erickson, Scott Sailer, Jonah Domenichelli, Terry Makelin and Adam Welton.

Pastor Lemmermann is pictured with his wife, Jean, and their children, Aaron and Hannah.



District members bless OGT

A fish boil dinner, or Wisconsin-style fish feed, to raise funds for Orphan Grain Train (OGT) brought in \$2,957 at Zion, Delmont, on Oct. 2. Volunteers prepared the fish, onions and potatoes in a specially seasoned brine. Members of the LWML Mitchell Zone hosted the event and provided salads and desserts.

The event was a wild success, according to Julie Kaufman, Mitchell Zone president.

“I fretted about this for a long time, and it turned out amazing,” Julie said. “When I spoke to the people at the Orphan Grain Train and they said they were bringing enough fish and potatoes for 200 people, I was worried that we wouldn’t have that many people. But we fed approximately 175 people. Even before the event was half over people asked if we were going to do it again.”

The freewill offering, along with donations of quilts, clothing and sleeping mats, will go to the Orphan Grain Train headquarters in Norfolk, Neb. OGT will share the resources to those in need around the world. To learn more, visit ogt.org.

Emanuel, Milbank, hosted a German sausage meal fundraiser for Orphan Grain Train on Oct. 9. Emanuel also received support from a Thrivent Action grant.

Ken and Mae Saeger, the only original Lutheran Laymen’s League members still volunteering at the Milbank OGT site, welcomed guests. According to Linnea Schwandt, coordinator of the OGT branch in Milbank, the funds raised will go toward global shipping costs of OGT donations.

Donations (including Mercy Meals) are packed by volunteers at OGT branches and sent to Norfolk. Since last year, OGT has shipped five air cargo containers to Ukraine, and more shipments are planned.



▲ OGT volunteers, from left, Dennis Reeves, Lowell Fick and Gary Duren traveled from Rock Rapids, Iowa, to help with food preparation and cooking at Zion, Delmont.

▼ Ken and Mae Saeger sort through donations at the Orphan Grain Train branch in Milbank. In the background is Brenda Monson.



FAMILY

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

Hispanic heritage and who are sincere Christians. Might some of their names, some day, be on our church membership lists, too? They also are Jesus’ brothers and sisters and mothers, according to His words in Mark 3. They are our brothers and sisters in Christ.

Are we beginning to see — around us here in South Dakota — what the Bible has always told us was the reality?

After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. **REV. 7:9**

This is a view of heaven, of course. But if heaven is and will be like that, then the holy, Christian church on earth is certainly like that now.

Thank God for this special gift this Christmas — and every day — of many brothers and sisters in Christ, here, near and far! With us now. With us forever.

**Your servant in Christ,
Pastor Scott Sailer**

“Not ashamed of the Gospel”
Rom. 1:16; 16:25–27

Call Information

Rev. Christopher Davis, pastor of First English, Dorset, Minn., accepted a call as sole pastor of Emanuel, Milbank, Nov. 1.

Rev. Nathan Neugebauer, pastor of St. John/Reville and Bethlehem/Milbank, declined a call as pastor of St. Paul, Ogalalla, Neb., Oct. 7.

Rev. John Fries, pastor of Grace/Blessed Emmanuel, Deadwood/Sturgis, has accepted a call as pastor to St. Paul/St. Paul/Redeemer, Alta Vista/Junction City/Wabanssee, Kan., Nov. 6.

Rev. Darren Olson, Sioux Falls, is prayerfully considering a call as pastor of Christ, Juniata, Neb., Oct. 19.

PATTY'S PONDERINGS

Join us in Milwaukee for 40th convention

The theme for the 40th Biennial LWML Convention is "Celebrate the Lord of the Nations," based on Ps. 33:12-13:

Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD, the people whom he has chosen as his heritage! The Lord looks down from heaven; he sees all the children of man.

The convention is scheduled for June 22-25, 2023, in Milwaukee, and I am sure that many of you will attend. Understanding that we are all His children, at convention we will:

- ▶ Celebrate our Lord through Word and Sacrament;
- ▶ Honor God by serving our neighbors; and
- ▶ Proclaim His message to the nations.

The keynote speaker will be Rev. Dr. Gregory P. Seltz, executive director of the Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty. The Bible study leader will be Kaye Wolff, national LWML Nominations chairman. Dr. Dina Vendetti will lead us in song. Throughout the convention, Jan Struck and Abby Goehring will provide comic relief.

The conference will include Mites in Action speakers, servant events and an ingathering. On Saturday night, hosts of the Lutheran Ladies Lounge podcast will put on a show for us.

One of the traditions of the convention is the banner parade. The district Board of Directors will decide on our banner design at its January meeting. There is a lady in our South Dakota LWML District who will have a wonderful idea for a banner that represents South Dakota and the convention theme.

Please send your banner ideas to me at lwmlsdprespatty@gmail.com by Jan. 10. I am looking forward to seeing your ideas!

May God bless you as you prepare for the coming of the Christ child. God loved us so much that He sent His only begotten Son to us as a poor baby in a manger. That baby is our Savior, who now sits at the right hand of His father.

Let us celebrate with much joy and thanksgiving the coming of the Lord of the nations.



Patty Peters
LWML South Dakota District President

BLACK HILLS ZONE UPDATE



Rachel Aamold, a parish nurse, presented at the Brookings Zone Fall Rally.

The Brookings Zone has recently had many opportunities to meet, gather and serve the Lord with gladness, including attending the South Dakota District convention and volunteering at The Puppet Place ministry at the state fair in Huron.

The Brookings Zone Fall Rally was held Oct. 8 at St. John's,

Howard. Rachel Aamold, parish nurse at Zion, Sioux Falls, spoke on the role of the caregiver, basing her presentation on Ps. 61:1-2. Elections for secretary and treasurer were held.

We are excited to host the LWML South Dakota District Retreat April 21-22, 2023, at Peace, Brookings.

SPECIAL MINISTRY FUND

Supporting district missions

Hello! I am Vonda Sturzenbecher and I am the chairman of the Special Gift Fund for the LWML South Dakota District. The purpose of this fund is to receive and distribute gifts and bequests for designated uses, projects and programs that support the mission and ministry of the LWML South Dakota District.

One of the annual uses for this fund is the Puppet Place at the South Dakota State Fair in Huron. This helps pay the energetic crew that creates the puppet show and "plays" the actual puppets, as well as those who help with the actual show.

Other items that have been purchased through the fund include vans for the ministry at Evergreen Lutheran Church on the

Pine Ridge Reservation, and vans for our Lutheran schools.

We have also helped to send young women to LWML conventions and with projects for various congregations. For a form to request funds, visit sdlwml.org, go to the "Resources" tab and select "Special Gifts/Subscriptions" from the drop-down menu.

You may donate to this fund via a direct contribution, through your will, through a trust and/or via gifts in memory of a deceased person or in honor of someone.

If you have any questions, contact me at sdlutheran@gmail.com or 605-391-0429 (if I don't answer your call, please, leave a message and I will get back to you). You may also mail your question to Vonda Sturzenbecher, 8605 Woodland Dr., Black Hawk, SD 57718.

I would also love to come to your rally or meeting to explain more about our Special Gift Fund!

COUNSELOR'S CORNER

CHRISTMAS IS FOR YOU



During Advent we await the coming of our Lord Jesus, who was born on Christmas Day! During this busy time of preparation between Thanksgiving and Christmas, my prayer is that Advent and Christmas may be a time of rest and renewal for those of you who are weary and heavy laden. May it be a time of peace and comfort for those who feel the weight of trying to make it on their own.

For those who feel the sharp pressure of thinking you have to change your spouse if you are going to have any joy, that



Rev. Brian Mosemann
LWML District Counselor

you have to be on top of everything if you are going to make your mark in life, that you have to do everything correct with your children if they are going to turn out fine, that you have to control what others think about you if you are going to feel important, that you have to be the best if your life is going to be worth anything, that you have to be successful if you are going to satisfy the deep desire for parental approval, and so on ...

Christmas is for you.

The birth of Christ gloriously teaches us that God's willingness to clean things up has overcome our stubbornness to mess things up. The arrival of God Himself in the flesh sets us free from the pressure we feel to save ourselves from loneliness and lostness, despair and dejection. Jesus came to release us from the pressure of having to fix ourselves, find ourselves and free ourselves.

He came to rescue us from the slavish need to always be right, rewarded, regarded, respected. He came to relieve us of the burden we inherently feel to trust in ourselves to get things done right. Because Jesus came to accomplish for us what we could never accomplish for ourselves, life ceases to be a tireless effort to establish ourselves, justify ourselves or validate ourselves.

You have been set free. Rest in the joy of Christmas.

Special Focus Ministries has new VP

I am Dianne Hemminger, newly elected VP of Special Focus Ministries. I have lived in Belle Fourche for 16 years, but I go to church at St. Paul's, Spearfish.

I am a retired teacher, having taught in Wolsey (my hometown) and Creekside Elementary in Spearfish. I have worked with preschoolers and third through fifth grades as a teacher/librarian. Now many of my days are spent in community volunteer positions.

I have been a member of LWML for many years. In my local LWML, I lead Bible study. Many years of teaching Sunday school has given me much joy. My hobbies include reading, word puzzles and crocheting.

My husband and I enjoy attending national LWML conventions, including in Albuquerque, N.M. (2017); Mobile, Ala. (2019); and Lexington, Ky. (2021). After the conventions we go sightseeing through the states. We love to turn the LWML conventions into our vacation!

I am looking forward to learning what my new position entails as my faith in Jesus will help me understand my duties and responsibilities ahead.

I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

PHIL. 4:13



From the tabernacle to Jesus

Rev. Robert Hinckley, pastor of Zion, Chamberlain, delivers his workshop presentation.



The LWML South Dakota District Christian Life Workshops were held in Mitchell on Oct. 8 and Spearfish on Oct. 15, with Rev. Robert Hinckley presenting "The Tabernacle/Temple in the Bible."

In Matt. 12:6, Jesus says to the Pharisees:

"I tell you, something greater than the temple is here."

Jesus fulfills and replaces the tabernacle/temple of the Old Testament. The temple priests were anointed with oil, but our High Priest, Christ, was anointed with the Holy Spirit. The Day of Atonement (Leviticus 16) is no longer needed, as Jesus was the sacrificial lamb who died in our place for the forgiveness of

See **WORKSHOP**, page 8

Wanted: Partners in ministry

Dear friends in Christ,

I love fall in the Black Hills. My wife and I had the opportunity to live in Rapid City during my vicarage year and we feel a special connection to the place and people. So when we were able to be there in October for the district pastors conference, we had a great time driving around the area and reminiscing.

Much has changed with the passage of time and Rapid City has grown, but some of the places we frequented are still the same or similar. The grocery store is still a grocery store. The gym where we worked out is still there. Even the hardware store is still a hardware store.

Something new caught my attention, however, when we passed the hardware store. A sign in the window read, "Employee Owners Wanted."

Think on that wording. The sign didn't say, "Help Wanted." It said, "Employee Owners Wanted."

Perhaps you have noticed there is a shortage of workers these days. Restaurants have shortened their hours because

they can't find servers. Employers are offering lucrative sign-on bonuses, and I see "Help Wanted" signs all over town. Nevertheless, this sign was different.

I reached out to the hardware store to inquire what the sign meant. The employee I spoke to said that after working with the company for a number of years, each employee is a vested partner. That means if you work there and are committed, you share in the profits and losses of the business. You have a say in the way the business is done.

The hardware store is attempting to make the work more than just a job, more than a clock-in, clock-out routine and more than a drudgery to walk away from when frustrated or forget about when closing time comes. The employers not only want the employees to be a part of the business; they want the business to be a part of the employees.

We are seeking a similar arrangement

for Life Ministry partners in the LCMS South Dakota District. I have talked to President Sailer and asked if we can form a leadership team for Life Ministry in our district. My position is a volunteer position, and I am looking for three or four more brother pastors to share in this work of connecting with congregations in South Dakota to equip and recruit Life Ministry partners.

I can't offer a lucrative sign-on bonus (though I'd be happy to buy you lunch or coffee). I can't tell you that you will never want to walk away from it. But I can tell you that the profits far outweigh the losses. I can also say that you will have a share in what the Lord produces from our humble service.

As Paul writes to Timothy:

Share in suffering as a good soldier of Christ Jesus. No soldier gets entangled in civilian pursuits, since his aim is to please the one who enlisted him. An athlete is not crowned unless he competes according to the rules. It is the hard-working farmer who ought to have the first share of the crops. Think over what I say, for the Lord will give you understanding in everything. 2TIM. 2:3-7

Think over what Paul says and pray according to the prompting you might have for Life Ministry. Then let me know where we should meet to talk more.

Have you been blessed to know the difference Jesus has made using your work and witness in His name? I'd enjoy hearing that life story. A fellow worker may need to hear it. Contact me at:

- ▶ pcnavurskis@gmail.com, or
- ▶ 605-352-7121.

Rev. Chris Navurskis

Pastor Navurskis serves as life coordinator of the South Dakota District and as senior pastor of Mount Calvary, Huron.



LCMS/Erin M. Lunsford



MISSION RECEIPTS

LCMS South Dakota District Congregational Year-to-Date Report of Mission Receipts for the nine months ending Oct. 14, 2022, compared to the nine months ending Oct. 14, 2021

City, Congregation	Comm. Members*	2022 Intention	9 months 2022	9 months 2021	Avg/Per Comm. 2022	Avg/Per Comm. 2021
Circuit 1 – Aberdeen						
Aberdeen, Our Savior	329	10,000	10,085*	9,325	30.65	28.34
Aberdeen, St. John	87	12,500	11,114	13,217	127.75	151.92
Aberdeen, St. Paul	780	50,000	42,537	29,405	54.53	37.70
Andover, Zion	106	-	1,800	650	16.98	6.13
Britton, St. John	155	-	3,500	7,000	22.58	45.16
Columbia, St. John	102	-	5,813	7,750	56.99	75.98
Cresbard, Concordia	58	2,500	4,425	5,790	76.29	99.83
Doland, Redeemer	43	-	1,500	1,500	34.88	34.88
Ferney, St. Paul	165	4,000	4,000	4,000	24.24	24.24
Groton, St. John	308	7,000	6,988	5,993	22.69	19.46
Leola, St. Paul	48	500	-	-	-	-
Mansfield, Trinity	280	25,000	21,221	20,636	75.79	73.70
Redfield, Messiah	152	500	1,000	-	6.58	-
Stratford, St. Paul	43	4,000	3,000	3,000	69.77	69.77
Wecota, Immanuel	86	7,150	4,362	9,822	50.72	114.21
Circuit 1 Totals	2,742	\$123,150	\$121,345	\$118,088	44.25	43.07
Circuit 2 – Watertown						
Brookings, Mount Calvary	375	43,500	35,418	33,989	94.45	90.64
Brookings, Peace	271	-	6,000	-	22.14	-
Corona, Trinity	146	2,000	1,607	752	11.01	5.15
Flandreau, Redeemer	37	3,800	2,850	1,500	77.03	40.54
Milbank, Bethlehem	62	300	-	-	-	-
Milbank, Emanuel	575	-	16,000	26,294	27.83	45.73
Revillo, St. John	126	4,000	2,562	3,519	20.33	27.93
Sisseton, Emanuel	161	3,900	1,855	3,596	11.52	22.34
Watertown, Mount Olive	389	30,700	25,583	23,025	65.77	59.19
Waubay, Zion	118	-	4,985	3,574	42.25	30.29
White, Zion	77	5,000	900	2,085	11.69	27.08
Willmot, Our Savior	162	2,500	1,772	1,293	10.94	7.98
Circuit 2 Totals	2,499	\$95,700	\$99,532	\$99,627	39.83	39.87
Circuit 3 – Pierre						
Blunt, Trinity	37	2,000	1,500	2,000	40.54	54.05
Chamberlain, Zion	407	-	12,961	12,050	31.85	29.61
Draper, St. Paul	21	-	-	-	-	-
Gettysburg, Emmanuel	201	6,500	2,517	2,579	12.52	12.83
Gregory, St. John	258	-	-	-	-	-
Hamill, Zion	25	500	-	-	-	-
Harrold, Immanuel	19	600	-	600	-	31.58
Lebanon, Christ	23	-	-	-	-	-
Midland, St. Peter	40	3,000	2,075	2,132	51.88	53.30
Murdo, Messiah	76	3,000	1,262	2,265	16.61	29.80
Norris, St. John	68	-	715	460	10.51	6.76
Onida, Holy Cross	110	1,600	-	1,600	-	14.55
Phillip, Our Redeemer	50	-	-	-	-	-
Pierre, Faith	1,478	-	33,750	33,750	22.83	22.83
Presho, Zion	95	1,650	-	3,000	-	31.58
Reliance, Trinity	38	-	-	-	-	-
Rosebud, Rosebud Mission	-	-	1,306	1,630	-	-
Winner, Christ	68	2,000	2,000	1,500	29.41	22.06
Circuit 3 Totals	3,014	\$20,850	\$58,086	\$63,566	19.27	21.09
Circuit 4 – Black Hills						
Black Hawk, Divine Shepherd	364	15,681	10,454	11,419	28.72	31.37
Creighton, Emmanuel	52	-	-	-	-	-
Custer, Our Redeemer	195	3,000	2,210	1,500	11.33	7.69
Deadwood, Grace	73	3,000	2,500	2,250	34.25	30.82
Hill City, Our Savior	23	-	1,000	-	43.48	-
Hot Springs, Bethesda	308	7,000	5,250	5,250	17.05	17.05
Rapid City, Bethlehem	448	28,388	21,291	20,750	47.52	46.32
Rapid City, Our Redeemer	125	2,700	2,800	2,831	22.40	22.65
Rapid City, Peace	524	-	18,562	15,959	35.42	30.46
Rapid City, Zion	792	27,000	20,250	18,750	25.57	23.67
Spearfish, St. Paul	316	42,000	42,000	41,500	132.91	131.33
Sturgis, Blessed Emmanuel	27	800	-	1,612	-	59.70
Wall, First	201	2,100	2,562	-	12.75	-
Circuit 4 Totals	3,448	\$131,669	\$128,879	\$121,821	37.38	35.33

City, Congregation	Comm. Members*	2022 Intention	9 months 2022	9 months 2021	Avg/Per Comm. 2022	Avg/Per Comm. 2021
Circuit 5 – Mitchell						
Armour, Redeemer	222	8,000	6,000	7,000	27.03	31.53
Delmont, Zion	99	16,000	12,000	12,000	121.21	121.21
Dimock, Immanuel	166	15,000	21,505	8,006	129.55	48.23
Emery, St. Peter	59	3,000	3,628	4,009	61.49	67.95
Huron, Mount Calvary	766	70,000	39,685	46,204	51.81	60.32
Mitchell, Faith	555	30,850	23,199	22,848	41.80	41.17
Parkston, Faith	191	10,000	10,000	7,650	52.36	40.05
Plankinton, St. Paul	145	-	-	1,000	-	6.90
Tripp, Emmaus	57	-	1,875	1,875	32.89	32.89
White Lake, Trinity	117	8,000	6,550	7,900	55.98	67.52
Wessington Springs, Zion	75	-	-	650	-	8.67
Wolsey, St. John	216	-	8,334	4,654	38.58	21.55
Woonsocket, Mount Olive	11	-	-	-	-	-
Circuit 5 Totals	2,679	\$160,850	\$132,776	\$123,796	49.56	46.21
Circuit 6 – Freeman						
Alexandria, St. Martin	81	1,100	825	1,650	10.19	20.37
Canistota, Zion	227	-	1,633	1,054	7.19	4.64
Centerville, First English	64	2,000	965	1,464	15.08	22.88
Emery, St. John	51	-	-	-	-	-
Freeman, St. Paul	265	9,000	8,056	9,291	30.40	35.06
Hartford, Trinity	96	3,000	-	-	-	-
Howard, St. John	111	-	-	-	-	-
Hurley, Zion	31	2,750	740	-	23.87	-
Madison, Our Savior	221	3,600	2,700	3,000	12.22	13.57
Marion, Bethesda	61	2,500	2,500	2,500	40.98	40.98
Menno, Immanuel	62	3,000	3,176	3,143	51.23	50.69
Montrose, St. John	88	-	-	-	-	-
Parker, First English	43	2,000	7,000	10,515	162.79	244.53
Scotland, St. Paul	31	600	450	500	14.52	16.13
Spencer, Trinity	77	2,000	2,000	2,000	25.97	25.97
Tea, Risen Savior	100	11,790	8,387	11,075	83.87	110.75
Wentworth, St. Peter	181	7,750	5,167	6,458	28.55	35.68
Circuit 6 Totals	1,790	\$51,090	\$43,599	\$52,650	24.36	29.41
Circuit 7 – Sioux Falls						
Brandon, Blessed Redeemer	285	15,000	11,250	10,120	39.47	35.51
Sioux Falls, Christ	90	2,000	2,000	1,500	22.22	16.67
Sioux Falls, Faith	619	43,500	36,250	32,625	58.56	52.71
Sioux Falls, Lord of Life	179	12,500	9,420	9,000	52.63	50.28
Sioux Falls, Memorial	725	50,000	31,705	30,400	43.73	41.93
Sioux Falls, Our Redeemer	324	24,000	20,800	20,400	64.20	62.96
Sioux Falls, Resurrection	214	10,000	7,500	7,500	35.05	35.05
Sioux Falls, Trinity of The Deaf	35	-	-	-	-	-
Sioux Falls, Zion	646	48,000	48,800	47,000	75.54	72.76
Circuit 7 Totals	3,117	\$205,000	\$167,725	\$158,545	53.81	50.86
Circuit 8 – Yankton						
Alcester, Peace	113	3,000	2,313	1,836	20.47	16.25
Avon, Zion	190	-	4,183	3,785	22.02	19.92
Dakota Dunes, Holy Cross	173	25,814	14,545	13,926	84.08	80.50
Fairfax, Trinity	71	4,500	-	6,500	-	91.55
Springfield, Our Savior	24	100	-	-	-	-
Tyndall, St. John	132	2,500	-	1,000	-	7.58
Utica, Martinus	65	-	1,551	892	23.86	13.72
Vermillion, Concordia	81	-	6,480	5,760	80.00	71.11
Wagner, St. John	231	9,000	6,750	6,750	29.22	29.22
Yankton, St. John	1,107	53,000	26,500	35,333	23.94	31.92
Circuit 8 Totals	2,187	\$97,914	\$62,322	\$75,782	28.50	34.65

GRAND TOTALS **21,476** **\$886,223** **\$814,264** **\$813,875** **37.92** **37.90**
Comm. Members = Communicant membership as of Feb. 4, 2021 per LCMS church locator website

Register for Higher Things retreat by Dec. 19

A Higher Things retreat for high school and college-age youth, "Born That Way," will be held at Faith Lutheran Church, Pierre, Jan. 6-7.

When it comes to sex and related topics, our teens are overwhelmed and hearing very different messages from the church and the culture. Rev. Joel Shaltanis, pastor of Lord of Life Lutheran Church, Plano, Texas, will take a practical look at what God's Word says about the proper role and place of sex (within a mar-

riage) and why it says it (God really wants you to be blessed.)

The cost of \$40 per person covers all Friday night snacks; Saturday breakfast, lunch and snacks; all presentations and activities; and overnight lodging at Faith Lutheran Church.

Download registration forms at leader.higherthings.org/events/retreats.

Please RSVP by Dec. 19.

CUNE updates aid program

Concordia University, Nebraska (CUNE) recently revised its Lutheran Guarantee program to increase the amount of aid offered. The new amounts take effect Fall 2023.

"We're committed to ensuring our fellow brothers and sisters in Christ have the opportunity to receive an outstanding, Christ-centered education steeped in Lutheran heritage," said CUNE President Dr. Bernard Bull. "Cost should not stand in the way of our students discovering

their passions, honing their skills and training for their careers."

Under the new program, CUNE guarantees a minimum of \$25,000 per year in institutional scholarships and grants if a student is a member of a Lutheran congregation; a dependent of a Concordia alum; a dependent of a full-time, rostered Lutheran church worker; or a graduate of a Lutheran high school. For students enrolling in a church work program, the amount rises to \$27,500 minimum per year.

To learn more, visit cune.edu/lg.

WORKSHOP

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

our sins. In 1 Cor. 3:16, we find that the church is God's temple and God's Spirit dwells in us. Finally, in the New Jerusalem, we will be united with our Lord in the new temple.

Pastor Hinckley examined the temple as a theme from Genesis to Revelation. He identified the seven temples in the Bible: the Garden of Eden, the tabernacle of Moses, Solomon's temple, Herod's temple, the

church (the body of Christ), Ezekiel's vision (Ezekiel 40-48) and Revelation.

In all, 87 people attended the workshop in Mitchell, and 38 in Spearfish. The Mitchell workshop held a silent auction for Mites.

Attendees collected a total of \$1,318. We praise our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ for this Mite offering, which will go for the district 2022-24 Mission Grants.

Susan Buxcel
VP of Christian Life

Share your news with us!



We are always in need of more submissions for the South Dakota District *Lutheran Witness* insert. Your stories remind us of what God is doing around the South Dakota District. They also share ideas for nurturing those God has already gathered into His church and for reaching those still outside of the flock with the Good News about Jesus. It finally reminds each of us that Christ's church is much larger than just our particular congregation.

We welcome pictures and stories of congregational events, youth events, outreach events, installations, events from your men's or women's group, servant events, conferences, anniversaries, church renovations or additions, and much more. If you would like an upcoming event publicized, please make sure we have the information at least two months in advance.

Submissions for the February 2023 issue are needed by Dec. 15.

Send articles and photos to Kate Meadows at:

• kate@katemeadows.com

or

• 420 E. Liberty Street
Rapid City, SD 57701