



DISTRICT NEWS

SOUTH DAKOTA



faith are links in a never-ending chain. If you could trace your “Faith Family Tree” and think in terms of lifespans and overlapping generations, it might surprise you how close your “links” in the chain are to Martin Luther’s, or even the apostles’.

Now, we look ahead and we see the next “links” being forged. The next links are your children, your grandchildren and maybe even your great-grandchildren! But I hope you’re not just seeing these links being forged. I hope you are helping to forge them by teaching and telling and giving and encouraging. What we have received, we hand down.

This might feel discouraging for some. Maybe you perceive some “failures” in your forging work. Perhaps you feel ill-equipped or insecure about passing along your faith to the next generation. But when we understand how we fit into God’s work, we can rest in His assurance. We need the forgiving, gracious words of Jesus and the humility to remember that it is His kingdom and we only “know in part” (1 Cor. 13:12). Regarding feeling ill-equipped, we can rejoice in knowing that we are part of the body of Christ (1 Cor. 12:12) in which we supplement and complement one another. We learn, we grow and we go where God leads us with the joy and confidence of knowing that the outcome is always in His loving hands.

To support you as a member of the body of Christ, your district will host “P.A.S.S. It On! Proclaim. Affirm. Supply. Serve. Ideas & Inspiration for Mission & Ministry” this coming fall.

See **MESSAGE** page 8

P.A.S.S. it on!



Rev. Paul Winckler
Assistant to the District President

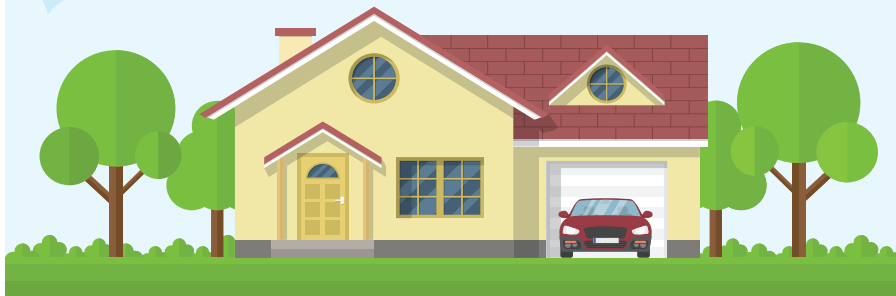
Due to my faulty memory, I cannot exactly recall when the conversation took place nor who was involved, but the point has stuck with me over the years. I do remember the conversation took place in a seminary classroom, and it had something to do with that simple, favorite Sunday school song, “Jesus Loves Me.”

“Jesus loves me, this I know, for the Bible tells me so.” That is most certainly true, but remember that the Bible didn’t just jump into your hands and open itself.

Someone put that Bible in your hands, told you the stories, taught the lessons and answered your questions. This could have happened for you at an early age or perhaps later in life.

You are where you are by the power of the Holy Spirit working through those faithful parents, grandparents, pastors, teachers, siblings and friends. And *they* had faithful people who did the same for them — and on and on it goes. Those of us with a living

‘Nothing is really mine’



Reframing how the church thinks about stewardship

By Rev. Paul Winckler

Assistant to the President,
South Dakota District

I really do *try* to stay organized. I’ve created several folders to manage my email inbox, and I keep folders on my desk where I drop messages and paper in hopes that I’ll be able to find them quickly when I need them. My system works well, most of the time, except for when a piece of information defies the neat categories I’ve created. Then, I am left wondering, “Should this go into this folder or that folder, in this category or that one?”

Sometimes, like I do with my organizing, we lose sight of the big picture, of our overall mission. We get so focused on the trees that we lose sight of the forest.

This brings me to the church’s current thinking and approach on stewardship. Like many of you, I’ve often thought of stewardship in terms of the “Three T’s:” Time, Talent and Treasure. These categories certainly have helped us distinguish different roles we can serve as stewards. However, my thinking on this was challenged, broadened and deepened during

the Philippians Conference at Mount Calvary, Brookings, in January.

Rev. Nathan Meador, assistant coordinator of LCMS Stewardship Ministry, challenged us to consider how the three T’s might cause a kind of “silo” thinking about stewardship. That is, if I get so focused on the categories and the specifics of them — what I’m giving, where I’m giving or how much I’m giving — I can miss the “big picture.”

And this is the big picture: Nothing is really mine! Everything is God’s. I

“Everything is God’s. I myself am not even my own. I have been bought with a price — the precious blood of Jesus!”

myself am not even my own. I have been bought with a price (1 Cor. 6:19-20) — the precious blood of Jesus! So if everything, and even my own self, is God’s, that’s a pretty big game-changer in my thinking.

I start with my identity in Christ given in Baptism, knowing that I am made and blessed by God, redeemed by Jesus Christ from sin, death and the power of the devil, and sanctified to live in His grace, in repentance by the power of the Holy Spirit. Before anything else — before my money, gifts or time — God

cares about and loves me! Nothing will ever change that.

If that’s where I start and live each day, stewardship is no longer this task of trying to fill certain buckets or trying to give a little here and hold back over there. It’s “the free and joyous activity of the child of God and God’s family, the church, in managing all of life and life’s resources for God’s purposes” (lcms.org/stewardship).

Over the next several editions of our newsletter, we will hear the stories of a few of our brothers and sisters in Christ who have “caught this vision” and imagined the possibilities of living “Rooted in Christ, Abounding in Thanksgiving” in whole-life stewardship. We will hear about them experiencing the excitement of following God where He leads and responding with joy to the opportunities He gives to employ His resources to connect the world to the Good News that you already know: Jesus loves you!

Celebrate 125 years OF ZION, HURLEY



Zion Lutheran Church, Hurley, will celebrate its 125th anniversary on Sunday, June 25, with a special service at 2 p.m. and lunch to follow.

Zion is located at 700 Oregon Ave. All are welcome.

'Together times'

Including God's Word in our busy schedules



EDITOR'S NOTE

We are in the midst of a roughly year-long series exploring the youth and education professionals who work in and bless the LCMS South Dakota District. This month, **Chez Shoup**, director of Family Ministries at Zion, Sioux Falls, suggests ways for families to incorporate time for devotions into busy schedules.

IN PHOTO

Chez gives the children's message at Zion during a service in December.

As the director of Family Ministries at Zion Lutheran in Sioux Falls, I get to see God work in big ways. I lead VBS teams and witness a sanctuary filled with little voices praising God. I organize Sunday school programs and oversee Easter egg hunts and trunk-and-treats, in which the neighborhood pours in and we get to pour the Good News of Jesus into their hearts.

I also get to see God work in small and quiet ways. He is at work when one of my fourth graders admits his fears midweek and we get to sit together around God's Word and discover His promises. He is at work when I bow to pray with a first grader and ask for help and healing for her grandma.

I am so grateful for all of the moments I get to experience God working, but the most important thing I do at Zion I never get to see.

The most essential and powerful part of our family ministry is just that — equipping the family to lead their own children in God's Word. Parent involvement has been proven to be the most influential component of a child's faith life. But as a parent myself, I know

that devotion and prayer time in the midst of busy schedules and sometimes reluctant children is a real struggle.

I hear comments like, "How do I get my kids to sit still and listen? They already have so much homework! They always complain when it's devotion time. I don't feel qualified to teach my kids about God." These concerns stem from the idea that, as a family, we must dedicate large chunks of time when all the children listen and sit quietly while parents share deep theological truths.

But the only requirement for family devotion time is being in God's Word. What that looks like changes from family to family and evolves within families as they grow and as schedules change.

The best way to make regular family devotional time doable is to look at "together times" that already exist. When are you already together as a family? Perhaps it is in the car on the way to school, or at bedtime, or at breakfast. You can start with a family devotional just once a week. Time around God's Word can simply come in the form of one question or one paragraph. Because my husband and I both work

Wednesday nights at church, those mornings are slower for our family. I serve waffles (which our kids always look forward to) and we spend about 20 minutes at breakfast reading, talking and answering our children's questions about God.

It's important to remember that, however your time as a family looks around God's Word, it will never

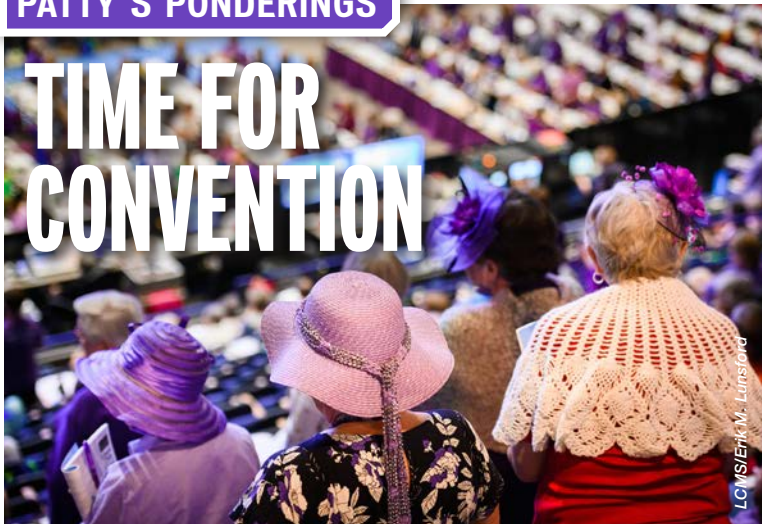
return empty (Isaiah 55:11). It's always worth it! Ask your church staff which books, devotions or reading plans they recommend for your family at the stage of life you are in right now.

“It's important to remember that, however your time as a family looks around God's Word, it will never return empty.”

Chez and her husband, Jacob, have two children. Jacob also serves Zion as director of Youth and College Ministry.

PATTY'S PONDERINGS

TIME FOR CONVENTION



June is the month to “Celebrate the Lord of the Nations” at the LWML 40th Biennial Convention in Milwaukee, where I look forward to seeing many sisters and brothers in Christ as we pray, sing and study God’s Word.

It is a time to renew friendships and make new friends. What fun it will be to participate in the servant activities, hear mission speakers, watch the banner parade and parade of national flags, and laugh with the Lutheran Ladies’ Lounge on Saturday night! I pray that God will bless our travels and our time together.

If you can’t go this year, please pray for an opportunity to go in the future. The next convention will be held in 2025 in Omaha, Neb.

Mission trip

Do you enjoy traveling, seeing beautiful scenery, eating foods of other cultures, meeting new friends and spreading the love of Jesus? If so, you have a most wonderful opportunity. The LWML South Dakota District mission trip to Gualan, Guatemala, is scheduled for Oct. 27–Nov. 4.

The goals of the trip are to teach the people of Gualan how to assemble a water purification system, provide health and hygiene education, and help the local church with evangelism.

To learn more, visit sdlwml.org or contact Dianne Hemminger, vice-president of Special Focus Ministries, at diemm@rushmore.com or 605-350-4942. This experience offers a

tremendous opportunity to both bless and be blessed by others!

May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. **ROMANS 15:5-6**



Patty Peters
LWML South Dakota District President

PIERRE ZONE REPORT

The Pierre Zone may be small in numbers, but it is mighty in its commitment to the LWML mission! In October, our zone held its fall rally in Onida. Sharon Ball of the Church of Hope at the women’s prison in Pierre was our guest speaker. Sharon shared with the 17 attendees a video of a young prisoner who talked about how God helped to turn a bad situation into a good one, much like the Old Testament story of Joseph and his brothers.

In March, 12 Pierre Zone members gathered for a spring workshop. The theme was “An Easter Treasure Box,” based on an LWML program. Rev. David Strable, pastor of Holy Cross, Onida, led the group through the Gospel of Matthew and the story of Christ’s passion and resurrection. After each passage, the ladies were asked to write down one thing that



Sharon Ball is pictured with a quilt to be raffled at the fall rally in Onida.

was meaningful to them. After all the passages were read, workshop attendees went on a treasure hunt to find items hidden throughout the church to put in their treasure boxes. All present had a

wonderful time and yes, all of the hidden treasures were found!

Mary Jo Stier
Pierre Zone President

COUNSELOR'S CORNER



GOOD LORD, HAVE MERCY!

Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ. PHIL. 3:8

I recently read a story about a man standing at the gates of heaven, waiting to be admitted. To the man's utter shock, Peter said, "You have to have earned 1,000 points to be admitted to heaven. What have you done to earn your points?"

"I've never heard that before," said the man, "but I think I'll do all right. I was raised in a Christian home and have always been a tpart of the church. I have Sunday school attendance pins that go down to the floor. I went to a Christian college and graduate school and have probably led hundreds of people to Christ. I was an elder in my church and was supportive of what the people of God do. I have three children, two boys and a girl. My older boy is a pastor and the younger works with a ministry to the poor. My daughter and her husband are missionaries.



Rev. Brian Mosemann
LWML District Counselor

I have always tithed and, before my death, I was giving well over 30 percent of my income to God's work. I'm a bank executive and help the poor in our city by securing mortgages for low-income earners.

"How am I doing so far?" he asked Peter.

"That's one point," Peter said. "What else have you done?"

"Good Lord!" the man said in frustration. "Have mercy!"

"That's it!" Peter said. "Welcome home."

Why do we as Lutherans teach God's Law? People must recognize their inability to keep that Law and thus cry out for mercy. If we had to earn points to get into heaven, we would be empty. We'd all be excluded! If points can be earned, then grace has no value or worth. But if points are impossible to earn (and anyone who has ever tried knows that they are), then grace is an inestimable gift, its value priceless.

The Law shows us our failure. But grace — the Gospel of Christ — gives us the victory. No points necessary.

Stay updated!



Through our website, social media sites and email, you have very convenient options to read about the latest information on national and district LWML news and events.

A new look to our website — sdlwml.org — was unveiled in July 2022. The menu is now on the top of the page. You can either click on each category name or hover on it to select from a drop-down menu.

A new category, "BOD," was added. This secure area is for the Board of Directors, that is, our elected officers, zone presidents and special appointed personnel.

Do you know who the email contact is for your group (society)? Ask them for the latest news! This past spring, President Patty kept us updated with the latest information about the LWML South Dakota District Spring Retreat via email.

We also share information on our Facebook page — facebook.com/SDLWML — including pictures of group (society) and zone events. Email your photos and a brief description to lwmlsd2020@gmail.com and I'll be happy to post them for you!

Nancy Bogenhagen
LWML South Dakota District Webmaster/IT

Grant proposals due Aug. 31

Wow! With the first half of our biennium here, it is time to think of our new mission grant proposals. Don't miss this opportunity for our LWML South Dakota District to help in your mission ministries.

Generally we can support \$5,000 per mission grant that is approved by the convention delegates. The deadline for the new proposals for our own district is Aug. 31. I always look forward to getting these grant proposals to see how we can impact the Lord's work. If you have any questions, please contact me at larrison920@hotmail.com or visit sdlwml.org and go to the "Missions" tab at the top of the page.

Jan Larson
Vice-President of Gospel Outreach



Dear friends in Christ,

I enjoy sharing the stories of people I meet, whose lives illustrate some aspect of God's Word. I can see living object lessons all around us as Jesus pours out His Spirit on people.

In this article, however, I write to prompt you to consider someone you may never meet, a person whose name you may never know. You might walk past her on the street or sit behind her at the movie theater or even talk to her when you order your coffee tomorrow morning. You have no idea who she is, but what happens to her in secret concerns us all.

You could say that she is one in a million. If you go by 2020 numbers, she is close to one in a million; she is one in 930,000. She could count for two of those 930,000. Lord have mercy, she could count for three. She is one of the women in the United States who chooses to have an abortion, but she does not drive to a Planned Parenthood clinic or even set foot in her doctor's office to "terminate her pregnancy." She receives some pills in the mail and aborts the life inside her at home.

According to the Guttmacher Institute, a research and policy organization that supports abortion rights, 930,000 abortions were performed in the United States in 2020. (Note: The Center for Disease Control reported fewer

abortions in 2020, largely because its figures stem from numbers voluntarily reported by central health agencies and do not include figures from three states — California, Maryland and New Hampshire — that did not report their data.) If we go with the Guttmacher Institute's figures, that means one in five pregnancies ended in abortion in 2020. And medication accounted for more than half of those, at or before the ninth week of pregnancy.

As I write this article, legal arguments for and against the distribution of the drug mifepristone are being examined by the highest court in our land. We must be a part of the conversation through interactions with our local, state and federal elected leaders. Our own senator, Mike Rounds, has been in the conversation and added his signature alongside more than 90 other elected leaders on official letters urging the FDA to restrain the reckless distribution of the drug they call "a hazard to public health."

Think about the consequences of this medication abortion, not only in terms of the loss of life in the womb, but also in terms of how the drug can impact the women who take it. At or before nine weeks of pregnancy, a woman is still processing a very new reality. At the same time, she is making a life-ending and life-altering medical

decision, apart from the immediate presence of her medical doctors.

As women self-administer this pill, they are at increased risk of bacterial infections and prolonged, heavy menstrual bleeding, according to the National Institutes of Health. These maladies are not observed nor addressed by qualified medical professionals as the women suffer because they experience this suffering in private, away from a medical facility. As a result, these traumatic terminations of life are hidden from the public conscience, and thousands of women (and men) are left to suffer in the darkness of guilt.

The evil one thrives in that darkness.

You and I must join the battle to shine the light of Christ into this darkness so that Satan's tyranny might be broken. You probably know John 3:16-17, but do you also remember the verses that follow? Jesus says in John 3:19-21

"And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil. For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his works should be exposed. But whoever does what is true comes to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that his works have been carried out in God."

Those who prescribe the abortion pills draw pregnant women into a darkness that few can fathom. Once there, these women can only be drawn out by the Light Himself, Jesus Christ. We preach Christ, the Light, not as light

See **LIFE** page 8

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



LCMS South Dakota District Congregational Year-to-Date Report of Mission Receipts for the three months ending April 14, 2023, compared to the three months ending April 14, 2022

City, Congregation	Comm. Members*	2023 Intention	3 months 2023	3 months 2022	Avg/Per Comm. 2023	Comm. 2022
Circuit 1 – Aberdeen						
Aberdeen, Our Savior*	324	10,000	2,500	4,000	7.72	12.35
Aberdeen, St. John	82	12,500	3,396	3,860	41.41	47.07
Aberdeen, St. Paul	774	–	17,031	12,760	22.00	16.49
Andover, Zion	106	–	550	900	5.19	8.49
Britton, St. John**	151	–	3,500	–	23.18	–
Columbia, St. John	101	7,750	1,938	1,938	19.19	19.19
Cresbard, Concordia	52	2,625	3,425	3,000	65.87	57.69
Doland, Redeemer	43	2,000	500	–	11.63	–
Ferney, St. Paul	165	–	–	4,000	–	24.24
Groton, St. John	303	7,000	1,076	2,661	3.55	8.78
Leola, St. Paul	51	500	–	–	–	–
Mansfield, Trinity	276	26,000	6,644	5,955	24.07	21.58
Redfield, Messiah	152	1,000	1,000	1,000	6.58	6.58
Stratford, St. Paul	38	4,000	4,000	1,000	105.26	26.32
Wecota, Immanuel	74	–	2,000	–	27.03	–
Circuit 1 Totals	2,692	\$73,375	\$47,560	\$41,074	17.67	15.26
Circuit 2 – Watertown						
Brookings, Mount Calvary	415	47,000	13,535	12,527	32.61	30.19
Brookings, Peace	289	–	1,500	6,000	5.19	20.76
Corona, Trinity	138	2,000	–	–	–	–
Flandreau, Redeemer	31	3,800	950	950	30.65	30.65
Milbank, Bethlehem	65	300	–	–	–	–
Milbank, Emanuel	582	24,000	4,000	4,000	6.87	6.87
Revillo, St. John	127	5,000	–	1,249	–	9.83
Sisseton, Emanuel	137	4,400	–	720	–	5.26
Watertown, Mount Olive	371	30,700	7,675	7,675	20.69	20.69
Waubay, Zion	127	3,000	–	3,319	–	26.13
White, Zion	60	5,500	–	–	–	–
Wilmot, Our Savior	163	2,500	–	1,155	–	7.09
Circuit 2 Totals	2,505	\$128,200	\$27,660	\$37,595	11.04	15.01
Circuit 3 – Pierre						
Blunt, Trinity	37	2,000	500	1,000	13.51	27.03
Chamberlain, Zion	407	–	7,060	–	17.35	–
Draper, St. Paul	27	–	250	–	9.26	–
Gettysburg, Emmanuel	201	5,500	–	–	–	–
Gregory, St. John	251	–	–	–	–	–
Hamill, Zion	22	500	–	–	–	–
Harrold, Immanuel	22	100	–	–	–	–
Lebanon, Christ	23	300	–	–	–	–
Midland, St. Peter	44	3,000	850	650	19.32	14.77
Murdo, Messiah	71	3,000	1,250	1,262	17.61	17.77
Norris, St. John	69	2,500	–	–	–	–
Onida, Holy Cross	109	1,600	–	–	–	–
Philip, Our Redeemer	50	–	–	–	–	–
Pierre, Faith	1,467	45,000	11,250	11,250	7.67	7.67
Presho, Zion	88	1,650	1,500	–	17.05	–
Reliance, Trinity	36	–	–	–	–	–
Rosebud, Rosebud Mission	–	–	514	360	–	–
Winner, Christ	67	2,000	500	500	7.46	7.46
Circuit 3 Totals	2,991	\$67,150	\$23,674	\$15,022	7.92	5.02
Circuit 4 – Black Hills						
Black Hawk, Divine Shepherd	343	16,600	3,920	3,920	11.43	11.43
Creighton, Emmanuel	51	–	–	–	–	–
Custer, Our Redeemer	194	3,200	–	985	–	5.08
Deadwood, Grace	82	3,500	750	750	9.15	9.15
Hill City, Our Savior	27	1,500	1,500	1,000	55.56	37.04
Hot Springs, Bethesda	140	–	1,750	1,750	12.50	12.50
Rapid City, Bethlehem	445	30,362	7,590	7,097	17.06	15.95
Rapid City, Our Redeemer	139	2,700	1,060	980	7.63	7.05
Rapid City, Peace	500	22,000	4,513	7,203	9.03	14.41
Rapid City, Zion	605	30,000	8,250	6,750	13.64	11.16
Spearfish, St. Paul	318	30,000	16,236	42,000	51.06	132.08
Sturgis, Blessed Emmanuel	18	600	–	–	–	–
Wall, First	223	2,100	–	–	–	–
Circuit 4 Totals	3,085	\$142,562	\$45,569	\$72,435	14.77	23.48
Circuit 5 – Mitchell						
Armour, Redeemer	198	8,000	2,000	2,000	10.10	10.10
Delmont, Zion	92	16,000	4,000	–	43.48	–
Dimock, Immanuel	155	15,000	5,608	4,061	36.18	26.20
Emery, St. Peter	57	–	1,375	1,378	24.12	24.18
Huron, Mount Calvary	802	70,000	10,384	13,624	12.95	16.99
Mitchell, Faith	543	30,850	7,713	7,733	14.20	14.24
Parkston, Faith***	190	10,000	5,000	2,600	26.32	13.68
Plankinton, St. Paul	140	2,000	2,000	–	14.29	–
Tripp, Emmaus	49	–	625	625	12.76	12.76
White Lake, Trinity	118	8,000	2,800	2,400	23.73	20.34
Wessington Springs, Zion	75	–	–	–	–	–
Wolsey, St. John	233	–	498	3,710	2.14	15.92
Woonsocket, Mount Olive	11	–	–	–	–	–
Circuit 5 Totals	2,663	\$159,850	\$42,003	\$38,131	15.77	14.32
Circuit 6 – Freeman						
Alexandria, St. Martin	81	–	275	–	3.40	–
Canistota, Zion	228	–	1,191	1,459	5.22	6.40
Centerville, First English	65	2,000	840	530	12.92	8.15
Freeman, St. Paul	262	9,000	3,914	2,684	14.94	10.24
Hartford, Trinity	105	3,000	–	–	–	–
Howard, St. John	122	–	–	–	–	–
Hurley, Zion	31	2,750	–	–	–	–
Madison, Our Savior	206	3,600	900	900	4.37	4.37
Marion, Bethesda	59	2,000	–	–	–	–
Menno, Immanuel	63	–	1,870	808	29.68	12.83
Montrose, St. John	91	–	–	–	–	–
Parker, First English	29	2,500	–	5,000	–	172.41
Scotland, St. Paul	39	600	200	150	5.13	3.85
Spencer, Trinity	77	–	–	–	–	–
Tea, Risen Savior	116	11,470	2,012	3,122	17.34	26.91
Wentworth, St. Peter	184	7,750	1,938	1,292	10.53	7.02
Circuit 6 Totals	1,758	\$44,670	\$13,140	\$15,945	7.47	9.07
Circuit 7 – Sioux Falls						
Brandon, Blessed Redeemer	282	15,000	3,750	3,750	13.30	13.30
Sioux Falls, Christ	106	2,000	1,000	–	9.43	–
Sioux Falls, Faith	618	43,500	14,500	14,500	23.46	23.46
Sioux Falls, Lord of Life	150	–	3,126	3,168	20.84	21.12
Sioux Falls, Memorial	740	–	14,650	8,255	19.80	11.16
Sioux Falls, Our Redeemer	266	–	8,400	8,400	31.58	31.58
Sioux Falls, Resurrection	229	10,000	3,333	2,500	14.55	10.92
Sioux Falls, Trinity of The Deaf	35	–	–	–	–	–
Sioux Falls, Zion	652	49,000	6,000	12,000	9.20	18.40
Circuit 7 Totals	3,078	\$119,500	\$54,759	\$52,573	17.79	17.08
Circuit 8 – Yankton						
Alcester, Peace	105	–	1,058	842	10.08	8.02
Avon, Zion	199	5,000	1,290	1,305	6.48	6.56
Dakota Dunes, Holy Cross	179	25,750	5,195	3,132	29.02	17.50
Fairfax, Trinity	77	4,500	–	–	–	–
Springfield, Our Savior	26	100	–	–	–	–
Tyndall, St. John	128	2,600	–	–	–	–
Utica, Martinus	70	1,500	–	–	–	–
Vermillion, Concordia	91	10,000	3,000	2,880	32.97	31.65
Wagner, St. John	182	9,000	2,250	2,250	12.36	12.36
Yankton, St. John	1,113	56,400	13,817	8,834	12.41	7.94
Circuit 8 Totals	2,170	\$114,850	\$26,610	\$19,243	12.26	8.87
GRAND TOTALS	20,942	\$850,157	\$280,975	\$292,018	13.42	13.94

Comm. Members = Communicant membership as of Oct. 10, 2022 per LCMS congregational statistics report

*\$2,000 of Our Savior, Aberdeen, is for 2022 missions

**\$3,500 of St. John's-Bitton is for 2022 missions

***\$2,500 of Faith-Parkson mission intention was paid in 2022

SET APART TO SERVE



Concordia Seminary, St. Louis (CSL), and Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne (CTSFW), held Call Day and Vicarage/Deaconess Intern Assignment services in late April. Left, Benjamin Wessel will serve as vicar at Zion, Mitchell. He is pictured with his fiancée, Jenny. Right, Matthew Baker, a member of Mount Calvary, Brookings, will serve as vicar at Our Redeemer, Cedar Falls. He is pictured with (left) Rev. Dr. Brian Saunders, Iowa District East president and Our Redeemer assistant pastor; and (right) Rev. Dr. Scott Sailer, South Dakota District president. Both students attend CTSFW. Please keep these faithful servants in your prayers!

MESSAGE

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

The event will feature numerous presentations designed to encourage, inspire and equip you to share the Gospel, teach the faith and care for one another. Our special guest presenter is Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler, speaker of “The Lutheran Hour.”

P.A.S.S. It On! will be held Saturday, Nov. 11, at Divine Shepherd Lutheran Church, Black Hawk, and Sunday, Nov. 12, at Sioux Falls Lutheran School. Visit your local congregation to find out more about this event or visit sddlms.org for more information and to register. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at paul.winckler@sddlms.org.

May God bless you and strengthen you in His mercy and grace.



LIFE

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6)

ourselves, but as those who have also been rescued from darkness. We preach to drive the darkness back, to prevent others from wandering into its undertow and to rescue those caught in its grip.

We preach the Light of the cross and the empty tomb so that women who have made these life-ending and life-altering decisions know the baby born of Mary. Knowing that baby story, we pray they never look at pregnancy the same again.

Call Information

Rev. Nathan Neugebauer, pastor of St. John, Revilo, and Bethlehem, Milbank, declined a call as sole pastor of Faith, Shumway, Ill., April 5.

Rev. William Newell, pastor of Trinity, Bloomington, Ill., is prayerfully considering a call as senior pastor of Lord of Life, Sioux Falls. **Dr. Kristen Newell**, assistant principal/teacher, Trinity Lutheran School, Bloomington, Ill., is prayerfully considering a call as administrator, Sioux Falls Lutheran School. April 23.

Rev. Levi Willms, associate pastor, St. John's, Yankton, accepted a call as pastor of Trinity, Sauk Rapids, Minn., April 22.

Rev. Clint Thorson, pastor of Our Savior, Madison, and St. John, Howard, declined calls to Calvary, Verona, N.J., and St. John, Bloomfield, N.J. (April 14) and St. Paul, North East, Penn. (April 21).

Hailey Jo Miller, DCE, Memorial, Sioux Falls, declined a call as DCE to Prince of Peace, Medina, Ohio, April 20.

Rev. Luke Edwards, Our Redeemer, Rapid City, is prayerfully considering a call as sole pastor, Immanuel, New Wells, Mo., May 8.

Rev. Micah Bauer, associate pastor, Mount Calvary, Brookings, is prayerfully considering a call as associate pastor, St. Paul, Marion, Iowa, April 23.

VACANCIES

Senior pastor

- St. Paul, Aberdeen
- Mount Calvary, Huron
- Lord of Life, Sioux Falls

Sole pastor

- Concordia, Immanuel/Cresbard, Wecota
- Grace, Blessed Emmanuel/Deadwood, Sturgis
- St. Paul, Trinity/Plankinton, White Lake

Associate pastor

- Zion, Rapid City
- St. John's, Yankton

Got news to share?

Send articles and photos to **Kate Meadows:**

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