



THANK YOU!

The LCDR Stewardship Committee would like to thank all those who donated their time to prepare and serve at The Banquet Friday, November 17. Volunteers served 210 people. It was a

Coming Up at LCDR

- | | |
|-------|---|
| 12/3 | Worship at 8:30 & 10:45, Sunday School |
| 12/6 | High 5, Soup Supper, Intergenerational Advent Event, Choir Practice |
| 12/10 | Worship at 8:30 and 10:45 am, Sunday School |
| 12/13 | High 5, Soup Supper, Intergenerational Advent Event, Choir Practice |
| 12/16 | Youth Cookie Decorating (Middle & High School Youth) |
| 12/17 | Worship at 8:30 and 10:45 am, Cookie Walk (after both services) |
| 12/20 | High 5, Soup Supper, Intergenerational Advent Event, Choir Practice, Council Meeting |
| 12/22 | Deadline for the Newsletter |
| 12/24 | Sunday Worship at 9:30 am
3 pm Christmas Eve Bells and Brass Service
5 pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Service |
| 12/25 | 9:30 am Christmas Service in the Chapel with communion at the rail |
| 12/31 | 9:30 am Worship |



December 2023

Chosen to Serve † Sharing the Journey † Making Christ Known

The Shepherd's Staff

The Christmas Story

Please join us for our Wednesday Intergenerational Advent Events this Advent/Christmas season when we will have fun celebrating The Christmas Story, the gift of Christ come among us, and the joy we share as His people.

ALL people, young and old, all ages, are invited to join our Confirmation and Route 67 Youth each Wednesday in Advent for a soup supper from 5:30 to 6:15. The soup supper will be followed by a short play, "The Christmas Story", discussion and activity from 6:15 - 7 pm in the Fellowship Hall.



Pastor Jeff Sorenson
Ordination 40th Anniversary Celebration
December 3, 2023

Please join in this celebration on Sunday, December 3. Pastor Jeff will provide Flandreau donuts at coffee after both services. Just come, enjoy and be thanked!

CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

December 17

8:30 am Worship + Praise Band
10:45 am Worship + Praise Band

5:00 pm Sunday School Christmas Program



Christmas Eve

Sunday, December 24

9:30 am Hymn Sing Worship Service

3:00 pm Worship with brass & bells
5:00 pm Candlelight Worship Service



Christmas Day

Sunday, December 25

9:30 am Hymn Service in the Chapel
with communion at the rail



**Church on the
Street Worship at
the Sioux Falls
Coliseum
January 13, 2023**

LCDR will be helping at the Church on the Street's worship on January 13. There is a need for 15 volunteers from 8:30 am to 1:30 pm. We will set up for the 11 am service, help with donations, serve about 150 meals, and clean up. Donations of 14 dozen cookies or bars are also needed.

Please sign up in the Church entrance.



Order
Poinsettias
to decorate
the Sanctuary

If you would like to donate a poinsettia to beautify our sanctuary, please sign up on the sheet in the Welcome Center or contact Deb in the office at 428-3197. The cost is \$20 per poinsettia and the deadline to order is Tuesday, December 19. You may take your poinsettia home any time after Christmas Eve Worship.

From the Senior Pastor:

CELEBRATING 40 YEARS of
ROSTERED MINISTRY

Dear people of LCDR, it was 40 years ago December 4, 1983 that I was ordained a Lutheran pastor. What a journey, what a life it has been!



“Reverends Lloyd Svensbye and Jeff Sorenson,
December 4, 1983”

To celebrate that with you, on December 3, as a thanks for your support of our ministry through the years with you, I will provide Flandreau donuts at coffee after both worship services. You just come, enjoy, be thanked.

But **the BIG thing** that I wish to do that day – is to take some time during worship to describe for you how I came to be called to be a pastor, what that life and ministry has been, **and to offer a word of encouragement for our young people to prayerfully consider a similar call to rostered ministry.** (In other words, if you know someone who you believe could be a great pastor, push, pull, drag them here that day please!)

God is good, all the time. All the time, God is good. Thanks be to God.

In Christ,
P. Jeff Sorenson

Online Giving Made Easy!

Simply Giving



Please call the office or use the link on the LCDR website to set up your Simply Giving (secure electronic giving)! All you need is your routing & account numbers.

Giving with Venmo



You can also use Venmo for your online giving. In your Venmo account, select to pay lcdr@siouxvalley.net.

Call the office at 605-428-3197 with questions.

Lutheran Church of Dell Rapids

Senior Administrative Pastor

Jeff Sorenson, 605-359-8728
lcdrpastor@siouxvalley.net

Senior/Intergenerational Ministry Leader

Pat Eidsness, 605-321-3713
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Youth & Worship Leader

John Pollmann, 605-370-8092
lcdryouth@siouxvalley.net

Children's Education

Darcie Kringen, 605-941-1029
lcdrdarcie@siouxvalley.net

Accompanist/Organist: Kris Langer, Rachel

Pierson, Amber Pollmann

Choir Director: Nancy Kelm

Treasurer: Tom Morris

Financial Secretary: Kristen Boyle

Lutheran Church of Dell Rapids

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Dell Rapids, SD 57022
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Tues - Thu 8am - 4:30pm, Fri 8am - 2:30pm

Media Tech: Scott Saxon

2022 Council Members

Lee Weidauer, President
Shanna Moke, President Elect
Kurt Peppel, Past President
Kathy Bongers, Secretary
Tom Morris, Treasurer
Josh Anhalt, Sue Bredlow, Robert Harms,
Ethan Kringen, Karen Nielsen, Steven
Munk, Bev Rieck, Alyssa Zweifel



The Young at Heart will not gather together in December. Please enjoy all of the activities in the community during December.

We hope to see you in January!

December 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 8:30 am Worship Service 9:30 am Sunday School 9:45 am Message Conversation 10:45 am Worship Service	4	5	6 1:30 pm Quilting 3:30 pm High Five 5:30 pm Simple Supper 6:15 pm Intergenerational Advent Event 7:00 pm Choir practice	7 2:00 pm Prayer Shawl	8	9
10 8:30 am Worship Service 9:30 am Sunday School 9:45 am Message Conversation 10:45 am Worship Service 12-2 pm Healthy Congregations Workshop	11 All Day - FCCLA	12	13 3:30 pm High Five 5:30 pm Simple Supper 6:15 pm Intergenerational Advent Event 7:00 pm Choir practice	14	15	16 10 am - noon Cookie decorating (Middle & High School Youth)
17 8:30 am Worship Service 9:30 am Sunday School Cookie Walk 10:45 am Worship Service 11:45 am Cookie Walk 5:00 pm Sunday School Christmas Program	18	19	20 3:30 pm High Five 5:30 pm Simple Supper 6:15 pm Intergenerational Advent Event 7:00 pm Council Meeting Choir Practice	21 2:00 pm Prayer Shawl	22	23
24 9:30 am Worship Service No Sunday School 3:00 pm Christmas Eve Brass & Bells Service 5:00 pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Service	25 Merry Christmas! 9:30 am Christmas Day Service in the Chapel	26	27 Christmas Break - No Youth Activities	28	29	30
31 9:30 am ONE Worship Service No Sunday School						

LCDR CONGREGATION COUNCIL MINUTES
November 15, 2023 (abbreviated)

Consent Agenda: All reports have previously been made available to members. Motion to approve the consent agenda carried.

Committee Reports: **Education** - The schedule is being put together for third graders to light the advent candles. Discussion regarding committee members and new members starting in January. There will be an open house inviting potential committee members to join us and ask questions. **Fellowship/Community Outreach** - This group set up and completed the fall festival event. **Property** - Jackson Ahlers will do the sidewalk snow removal again this year. A lightbulb will be replaced on the garage-mounted parking lot light fixture. **Stewardship** - The fall appeal for 2024 giving is well under way. November 12 and November 19 are Commitment Sundays to return the '2024 Plan for Giving' cards. All members received a mailing with the cards included. On Tuesday, November 28 at 7 p.m. the members will contact all LCDR members that have not returned a card. LCDR is scheduled to serve Church on the Street on Saturday, January 13, 2024. A committee of 2-4 persons is needed to organize the meal and the volunteers for that event. LCDR will serve the Banquet on Friday, November 17. Julie Stofferahn is the organizer. **Technology** - Pending matters for 2023 were addressed and planning for 2024 was started. A broken mic needs to be replaced and will be ordered. Support contract for monitoring and backups is being assessed. A rough plan was put together for technology needs for our 2024 budget. **Worship** - Zachary Rogen has agreed to complete the 2024 term for Bryan Timperly who has resigned. It has been decided to reduce the number of services in the park to three for 2024. Pat and the Elder Connection Team are exploring the possibility of a retreat at LCDR. The presentation of the Baptismal banners to the parents on the baptism day has started. Planning is in progress to create a new large baptismal banner and names will be added throughout the year as we have baptisms. **Youth/Family Ministry** - There was discussion of who might be able to join our committee. Final plans for providing snacks and drinks after the Jason Freeman event on Wednesday, November 15 were made. The Trunk or Treat event went well. Since the majority of the trick-or-treaters came through in the last half hour, there was discussion about possibly changing the time frame for next year. Sales for the Christmas wreaths were down compared to last year, but they still earned good profits for the confirmation students to help fund camp. Plans for the advent services for the three Wednesdays in December are in place. There will be a soup supper followed by a skit led by the youth and an activity.

Member Actions; None

Treasurer's Report: Tom reported that, for the year to date, income is well below expenses. Motion carried to approve the Treasurer's report.

Pastor's Report: Pat is looking for a way to display the work of the Prayer Shawl committee. Elder Connections would like to find a way to take information from the retreat and present it here to connect generations. They are looking into the possibility of doing something in April.

Pastor Jeff shared that he has been having a problem with pain in his back. He will be celebrating the anniversary of his ordination. It will be 40 years on December 4. He hopes to encourage young people to consider ordained ministry. He shared some positive comments from a newer member that he spoke with at the fellowship event.

Unfinished Business:
150th Anniversary Task Force - Sue reported that the website is up. The cookbook is at the publishers and will be here soon. Invitations will be sent to past rostered leaders, interns and sons/daughters of the congregation. We will ask them to write something about their experience here and what they're doing now. The history book group has been working on combining information from the two past books and merging it into the new book.

Nominations for 2024 - Lee has prepared a letter to be sent out recruiting for the open positions on council and the committees.

New Business:
Time/Talents Recruiting Volunteers - Pastor Jeff noted that time/talents sheets have not been done since January 2023. There have been issues in getting volunteers in a timely manner for the jobs of greeter, reader, ushers, serving communion, etc.

Request to host an intern - The Synod has asked if we would consider hosting an intern. The group discussed it and, while it might be nice to have an intern, the cost may be prohibitive for our congregation. Pastor was asked to report back to the Synod after the stewardship appeal.

2024 Budget Preparation - Pastor Jeff noted that the budget comes to council from the executive committee. Council will need the preliminary budget before the December 20th meeting. Committees need to get their budget numbers to the executive committee by December 10. Pastor Jeff will provide history and requests for staffing increases. The executive committee will have a special meeting in early January. The annual meeting will be January 28 with council meeting on January 17th.

Executive Session: Council met briefly in executive session.

Announcements:
Next meeting will be December 20 at 7:00 p.m.
Committee reports are due by noon on Monday, December 18
Budget requests are due by December 10

Adjournment: Motion carried to adjourn.

Financial Snapshot October 2023	
Monthly Total Income Goal:	\$35,971.58
October Total Regular Income:	\$29,713.25
October Expenses:	\$33,317.60
YTD through September:	
Income	\$311,588.93
Estate Income	—
Expenses	\$346,677.32
	(35,088.39)
7.5% of Offering is paid to the Synod monthly	

From the Associate in Ministry

Keeping our promises...

Growing together in faith...

As a congregation, we make a promise at every baptism. We promise to support our children and to help them grow into their new life in Christ. So, I am reminding all of us of our promise - and giving us a fun way to keep that promise!


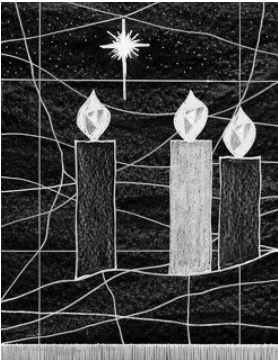
Again this year, on the three Wednesdays of Advent our youth are leading us into an intergenerational adventure. Just like last year, the 6th and 7th graders are putting on plays telling the Christmas Story, and the Confirmation kids are leading table conversations about that story. These aren't so much 'Bible Story questions' as they are opportunities to tell stories. We'll start off with a soup supper and then we're adding a different activity to end the evening each week.

Here's how important this is to our teens: one of the 8 key factors in raising faithful youth, according to the Exemplary Youth Study, is 'Apprenticed early into leadership in the church.' Our teenagers did such a great job leading last year, and both adults and younger kids loved their leadership!

It feels so different inviting you to come this year. Last year, we didn't know whether it would work or not. We didn't know whether YOU would come or not, but come you did! And from the responses I heard, all ages enjoyed themselves...and all ages enjoyed each other!

So, do plan to come to our Advent Wednesday Nights! Enjoy food and fellowship! Hear and share stories to nurture the faith of the children God has placed among us. Prepare together for Christmas; celebrate together the birth of our Savior!

~Pat Eidness



of the

Women ELCA

December 6 Quilting - 1:30 pm
December 7 Prayer Shawl Ministry - 2 pm
December 21 Prayer Shawl Ministry - 2 pm

Lutheran Church of Dell Rapids
150th Anniversary Celebration
September 28th & 29th, 2024

The 150th Anniversary Website link can be found at www.lcdr-sd.org. Please use the link to keep up to date on information for this special LCDR event!

Our Anniversary Theme has been chosen! 1 Samuel 2:2 "There is no Rock like our God." will be our main theme, however the Task Force also chose Isaiah 51:1 and 1 Corinthians 10:4 "Look to the rock from which you were hewn, and to the quarry from which you were dug ... and the rock was Christ."

Anniversary Venue
Saturday Event - held at Hefty's Morton Center. This will include Fellowship Time, a Catered Banquet, and a Program.
Sunday Event - held at LCDR with a Special Worship Service, followed by a Fellowship Event.

The "Save the Date" Magnets
If you did not receive a magnet in the mail, please the church office 605-428-3197. Please help us spread the word to all members. If you know of someone, who was at LCDR, who is no longer here and/or has moved away, we would like to get in touch with them and send them a magnet as well.

The "Sharing of Memories" Project: If you would like to share "favorite" LCDR memories, we would love to capture them! We can meet with you in person, you can send them in an email or print them in a word document. If you would like to share LCDR memories, please contact Deb at the church office 605-428-3197 or lcdr@siouxvalley.net. What a great way to walk back though time and share those "special" times we remember at LCDR!

The "LCDR Cookbook" is now here! Thank you to all who participated by submitting recipes. The cookbook is available now and will make a wonderful Christmas gift! The cost is \$15.

The 150th Anniversary Task Force is working hard! John Green has been commissioned to do a painting of LCDR, of which prints will be available for purchase. We are also putting together a History Book to commemorate our "150 Years of Faith". We plan to have 150th Memorabilia. We hope that all of you are as excited as we are! Please feel free to talk to anyone on the Task Force or attend a meeting. We would love to hear your ideas, and we can always use more help!

Task Force Planning Members: Pastor Jeff, Steve Munk, Sue Bredlow, Jody Stone, Becky Randall, Regan Stone, Nicole O'Bryan, Karen Nielsen, Sandra Lamer

Youth Ministry

From the Youth & Worship Leader:

There has long been an unofficial rule in the Pollmann house that we do not listen to Christmas music until the day after Thanksgiving. As hard as I try, when my will-power is low, the occasional “The First Noel” sung by Leslie Odom, Jr. or “O Holy Night” from the Hegg Brothers booms from the speakers in my truck well before this particular Friday in November. I may or may not sing along as loudly as I can. I know I’m not alone in this.

I’m not sure why I try to press pause on the music of the season, but I suppose being from my generation has something to do with it. Growing up, I wasn’t able to dial up any ol’ Christmas song I wanted on the radio in my parents’ Pontiac by simply saying, “Hey, Siri;” I had to wait for the season. The *anticipation* of it all – the music, the decorations, the special time with family and friends, the candlelight service in the old chapel at LCDR - I think, is what made it so special. Now, as a parent, I guess I want my sons to have that same experience.

So, while the boys may think I’m weird, I will continue to try to hold off as long as I possibly can before opening the door to the music of the Christmas season. If the velvety voice of Bing Crosby happens to echo in a store before Thanksgiving, singing “The Christmas Song,” well, I’ll have no choice but to listen, and just maybe quietly (or not) sing along.

“It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old, from angels bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold: ‘Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heav’n’s all-gracious king.’ The world in solemn stillness lay to hear the angels sing.”

Merry Christmas.
-John Pollmann

YOUTH EVENTS

December 6

3:30 pm High 5
5:30 pm Soup Supper
6:15 pm Intergenerational Advent Event

December 13

3:30 pm High 5
5:30 pm Soup Supper
6:15 pm Intergenerational Advent Event
7:30 pm HS Youth Group

December 16

10:00 am - Noon Youth Cookie Decorating

December 17

9:30 am - Cookie Walk

December 20

3:30 pm High 5
5:30 pm Soup Supper
6:15 pm Intergenerational Advent Event
7:30 pm HS Youth Group



No Youth Activities December 27 and January 3

Due to the Christmas holiday, there will be NO YOUTH ACTIVITIES on Wednesday, December 27 nor January 3. This means that there will be no High 5, Route 67, Confirmation or any other youth activities.

Advent Soup Suppers and Activities

December 6
December 13
December 20

Wednesdays in Advent

Soup Suppers served by our youth on Wednesday evenings at 5:30 p.m. **ALL** members of the LCDR congregation are invited to join our Confirmation and Route 67 Youth on Wednesdays in Advent for a short play, discussion and activity from 6:15 - 7 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

Evening schedule:
5:30 - 6:15 Soup Supper
6:15 - 7:00 Intergenerational Advent Event

These Wednesday evenings in Advent are for ALL ages! We would love to see you join us!



Youth Cookie Decorating
Saturday, December 16
Middle School & High School Youth
10:00 am - Noon

Youth are invited to decorate cookies on Saturday, December 16 in the Fellowship Hall. These cookies will then be sold at the Cookie Walk fundraiser on Sunday, December 17.

Sunday School CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Lutheran Church of Dell Rapids
Sunday, December 17
5 pm in the Sanctuary

County Fair Gift Cards



Gift cards are available in the church office in increments of \$25, \$50 and \$100. Our youth ministry receives 5% back from County Fair!

Christmas Treats



As you begin to prepare for the upcoming Christmas season, we ask that all 5th -12th grade families plan to bring 2 dozen cookies or bars to our annual Cookie Walk Fundraiser on December 17. Cookies will be available between services and sold by the pound. Proceeds go to Youth Ministry.

Advent Soup Suppers

Each Wednesday the 6 - 12 grade families will provide the soups for the soup suppers. Please bring your soup on the following dates:



December 6 - grades 10-12
December 13 - grades 8 and 9
December 20 - grades 6 and 7

Please bring your soup to the Fellowship Hall in a crock pot. Watch for a sign-up from John.



ALTAR GUILD

December Altar
Committee Team : All

Thank you for your time and dedication!
If you are interested in joining the Altar Committee Ministry, please contact Sue at 605-321-1185.



If you, a family member or friend would like a Prayer Shawl, please contact the office at 428-3197.

Prayer Shawl Ministry meets the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month at 2:00 pm.

STAY CONNECTED

⇒ Live Worship each week
⇒ Follow LCDR on Facebook
⇒ Subscribe to our YouTube channel
⇒ Find current activities and worship materials on our website lcdr-sd.org



SUNDAY SCHOOL

From the Director of Sunday School:

Merry Christmas! Oh, my heavens, as I’m writing this, it seems like a scene out of Christmas Vacation. Kevin and the boys are gone for state volleyball (Go Quarriers!) and I’m now trying to set up the Christmas tree. Now, this is a new tree for us as of this tree, it’s a lot bigger. Alex was kind enough to bring up the pieces and I put them together (I think I did something to my back). I’m not going to ask for help. Then there’s the new light system, what in the world...it took a few minutes to get those together. Okay, it’s going good. I’ve got the Christmas music blaring...then the new kitten awakes. Whole new world now. Kitten getting “excluded” from the room as I try and figure out the lights. Tomorrow will be a new day! Now my focus will be on the meaning of Christmas and the birth of our king. Joy To The World! Happy Birthday, Jesus!

Have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Darcie

ps: anyone looking for a kitten to adopt?

December

12/17 Christmas Program
Nursery - 5th Grade at 5 pm

12/24 No Sunday School

Looking Ahead...

1/1 No Sunday School

1/8 Sunday School

1/14 Sunday School
5th graders and parents meeting –
kickoff to Holy Communion lessons

Cookie
WALK

Sunday, December 17
9:30 am and 10:45 am

Don’t have time for any extra baking this season? Looking to try something new? You’re in luck! Stop by for our annual Cookie Walk Fundraiser. All proceeds go to support our youth programs! Buy Christmas cookies by the pound and save some time this Holiday Season! There will be cookies