



Lutheran Church of Dell Rapids  
701 N. Orleans Ave.  
Dell Rapids, SD 57022  
Return Service Requested

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ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
DELL RAPIDS, SD



January 2024

*The Shepherd's Staff*

*Chosen to Serve + Sharing the Journey + Making Christ Known*

# CONGREGATION ANNUAL MEETING

SUNDAY, JANUARY 28 AT 9:30 AM

- Election of Council & Officers
- Staff and Committee Reports
- Approve Recommendations of Trust Fund Committee
- Approve 2024 Budget

Annual reports will be available Sunday, January 21

## Coming Up at LCDR

- 12/31 Hymn Sing Worship at 9:30 am
- 1/7 Baptism of Our Lord Worship at 8:30 and 10:45 am
- 1/8 Annual Reports Due
- 1/10 High 5, Simple Supper, Route 67, Confirmation, Council Meeting
- 1/13 Church on the Street Worship - volunteers 10 am - 2 pm
- 1/14 Worship at 8:30 and 10:45 am  
5th grade & parents meet with Pastor Jeff at 9:30 am
- 1/17 High 5, Simple Supper, Route 67
- 1/18 Young at Heart
- 1/21 Worship at 8:30 and 10:45 am, Nursery - Kindergarten Sing at 10:45  
Youth Pancake Feed Fundraiser at 9:30 am
- 1/24 High 5, Simple Supper, Route 67, Confirmation
- 1/28 Worship at 8:30 and 10:45 am  
Annual Meeting at 9:30 am
- 1/31 High 5, Simple Supper, Route 67, Confirmation



**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.



**New Member  
Reception  
+ Welcome Class  
Sunday, February 25  
10:45 am Worship**

Are you interested in joining LCDR? A New Member Reception is planned for Sunday, February 25 @ the 10:45 Worship Service, with a Welcome Class to follow at 11:45 am. Church Council members will help you know more about LCDR and the ministry we do together. You will get to know each other and Congregational leaders. Pizza will be provided ! Please call the office to RSVP (428-3197) or e-mail [lcdri@siouxvalley.net](mailto:lcdri@siouxvalley.net).



Lutheran Church  
of Dell Rapids

Lutheran Church of Dell Rapids  
701 N. Orleans Ave.,  
Dell Rapids, SD 57022  
605-428-3197 / [www.lcdr-sd.org](http://www.lcdr-sd.org)  
Senior Administrative Pastor  
Jeff Sorenson, 605-359-8728  
[lcdrpastor@siouxvalley.net](mailto:lcdrpastor@siouxvalley.net)  
Senior/Intergenerational Ministry Leader  
Pat Eidsness, 605-321-3713  
[pat.eidsness1@gmail.com](mailto:pat.eidsness1@gmail.com)  
Office Administrator  
Deb Huska, 605-428-3197  
[lcdr@siouxvalley.net](mailto:lcdr@siouxvalley.net)  
Tues - Thu 8am - 4:30pm, Fri 8am - 2:30pm  
Youth & Worship Leader  
John Pollmann, 605-370-8092  
[lcdryouth@siouxvalley.net](mailto:lcdryouth@siouxvalley.net)  
Children's Education  
Darcie Kringen, 605-941-1029  
[lcdrdarcie@siouxvalley.net](mailto:lcdrdarcie@siouxvalley.net)  
Custodian: Arrielle Scheibler  
Accompanist/Organist: Kris Langer, Rachel Pierson, Amber Pollmann  
Choir Director: Nancy Kelm  
Treasurer: Tom Morris  
Financial Secretary: Kristen Boyle  
Media Tech: Scott Saxon  
2023 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

General Fund Financial Snapshot for Nov. 2023

Monthly Total Income Goal:	\$35,971.58
November Total Regular Income:	\$44,214.00
November Expenses:	\$36,402.98
YTD through November:	
General Fund Income	\$355,802.93
General Fund Expenses	\$376,838.02
	-21,035.09
7.5% of Offering is paid to Synod monthly	

*From the Senior Pastor:*

In the Bleak Midwinter, Hymn 294 in our red hymnal has long been my least favorite!

*“In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan,  
Earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone;  
Snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow,  
In the bleak midwinter, long ago.”*

Not only is this first stanza of the hymn as bleak as its title, but it is sung in a minor tune more mournful than most funeral dirges! Who would want to sing a hymn like this, especially as a Christmas hymn, just adding to our bleak winter misery? And why?

Hailing from northern Minnesota, where winter really is winter (and enjoying it there too) I never did quite understand how winter in South Dakota was so difficult for people. Growing up outdoors, and with a Dad who taught us to ice fish, and drive 4WD trucks, and raced and sold snowmobiles, we looked forward to most of what winter afforded!

These days, though – as winter’s ice and snow, wind and darkness set in – I begin to get it. Maybe it’s the aging bones that don’t delight in a winter night walk like they used to. Maybe it’s the long and isolated waiting we all endured through the ordeal of Covid. But as winter sets in this year, I find myself needing a reassuring word that it will not last and that God will (soon I hope!) redeem the season with the warming sun of spring.

Which, as we sing on, is the point of this Christmas hymn!

*“Heaven cannot hold him, nor earth sustain;  
Heav’n and earth shall flee away when he comes to reign;  
In the bleak midwinter a stable place sufficed  
The Lord God almighty, Jesus Christ.”*

Indeed even as winter has no permanent hold upon the earth but the warmth and green of spring will most certainly (soon) return, so could neither heaven nor earth prevent the coming of God among us as the Child of Christmas – and the redemption that he brings not just to warm our planet – but the victory of life over death for humankind!

And in that hope, the certain hope of God’s redemption (for our frozen midwest as well as God’s people everywhere) this hymn, too, is redeemed (if still too mournful for my taste to sing).

Have a blessed winter. Be safe. Spring is on its way!

In Christ,

P Jeff Sorenson

# January 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7 Baptism of our Lord Sunday 8:30 am Worship Service 9:30 am Coffee & Treats Sunday School 9:45 am Altar Guild Meeting Remembrance of Baptism 10:45 am Worship Service	8 Staff & Committee Annual Reports Due	9 4:00 pm Elder Connection Meeting 7:00 pm 150th Ann. Task Force Meeting	10 3:30 pm High 5! 5:30 pm Simple Supper 6:00 pm Education Comm. Mtg. 6:15 pm Route 67 and Confirmation Council Mtg.	11	12 3:45 pm Staff Meeting	13 10 am - 1:30 pm LCDR serves at Church on the Street Worship
14 8:30 am Worship Service 9:30 am Coffee & Treats Sunday School 5th Grade Meeting in the Chapel Hall 10:45 am Worship Service 12-2 pm Healthy Congregation Workshop	15	16	17 3:30 pm High 5! 5:30 pm Simple Supper 6:15 pm Route 67 (No Confirmation) 7:00 pm Youth Praise Band Meeting	18 12 pm Young @ Heart 2 pm Prayer Shawl	19	20
21 Annual Report Out 8:30 am Worship Service 9:30 am Pancake Feed Sunday School 10:45 am Worship Service N-K Sing 12-2 pm Healthy Congregation Workshop	22	23	24 3:30 pm High 5! 5:30 pm Simple Supper 6:15 pm Route 67 and Confirmation	25	26	27
28 8:30 am Worship Service 9:30 am Coffee & Treats Annual Meeting Movie for children in St. Peter Hall 10:45 am Worship Service	29	30	31 1:30 pm High 5! Bowling Activity 5:30 pm Simple Supper 6:15 pm Route 67 and Confirmation			

LCDR CONGREGATION COUNCIL MINUTES  
December 20, 2023 (abbreviated)

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

**Committee Reports:**

**Education** - An Open House for incoming Board members was held on December 18. The Sunday School Christmas program on December 17 had a great turnout. A donation was given to the Foster Network in honor of the teachers and classroom helpers. 5th graders will kick off their Holy Communion instruction with a meeting with Pastor on Jan. 14. New Education Committee members are Carrie Addengast and Megan Hohn. Outgoing members are Tarah Burggraaf and Nagi Katzer.

**Fellowship/Community Outreach** - No report.

**Property** - Ryan and Steve placed patches on the holes that were around one of the AC units and around the boiler exhaust chimney. The roof drains were cleared of debris. The Bunn coffee machine in the Fellowship Hall was serviced and a solenoid shut off valve was replaced. A new light bulb was put in the garage mounted parking lot light and a broken garage door latch cable was repaired. The church organ has been doing a partial shut down when being played. We are in the process of securing service. Bill replaced all the air filters in the HVAC units.

**Stewardship** - The committee and council members met to do follow up calls to LCDR members who had not returned Statement of Intent cards for 2024. The total commitment from the 114 cards returned was \$272,070 which is an increase in planned giving of \$22,361 compared to last year. LCDR served the banquet Friday, Nov. 17, 2023. Six members were present to prepare the meal from 2-5 PM. Eleven persons helped with the serving and clean up. Approximately 210 persons were served that evening.

**Technology** - Our firewall is up for renewal.

**Worship** - Linda Bunkers and Angie Kaffar have agreed to stay on for another term. Zachary Rogen has agreed to complete the 2024 term. The Christmas worship schedule has been set. The Sunday School Calendar reflects that the last day of Sunday School is on April 28<sup>th</sup>, with May 5<sup>th</sup> being the beginning of summer break. Baccalaureate is scheduled for May 5.

**Youth/Family Ministry** - Several members helped with the cookie sales on December 17. The Advent soup suppers and activities have been well attended with close to 100 coming every week. Youth have been helping to lead the service and activities. John will meet with interested youth regarding a youth praise band after the New Year. Upcoming fundraisers for confirmation camp and NOLA will include a pancake feed in January. The terms of committee members Heather Ronshaugen and Jessica Strobel end this year. Jessica will serve another term. The new member of our committee will be Lindsey Ronfeldt.

**Member Actions:** Daniel and Maria Hup and their 3 boys have transferred out to join a church in Brandon.

**Treasurer's Report:** Motion carried to approve the treasurer's report.

**Pastor's Report:** Pat reported that the Wednesday Advent events were going well. She is working on adding recognition of baptism as part of the milestone ministry. Elder Connections has an event coming up on April 7. Pat is going to Arizona at the end of January. Pastor Jeff reported John has made reservations for confirmation camp to include up to 30 kids. The Silent Night, Holy Night worship service was wonderful! Thanks to John for putting that together.

**Unfinished Business:**

**150th Anniversary Task Force** - Cookbook sales are now at a point where sales are profit. Thanks to Chad & Heather

Ronshaugen, the anniversary website is up and running. Deb is the site administrator will update/edit the webpage so that this site becomes a One Stop Shop for all the 150th information. An "Old-Time Church Picnic" is being planned for May 19th of 2024. John Green has provided an option for the painting.

**Nominations for 2024** - Kurt reported more work is needed on nominations. Kathleen agreed to continue as secretary. Alyssa has agreed to take the position of president -elect.

**Request to Host an Intern** - This has been discussed before. We could not do this without a specific gift or plan to cover the cost as it is not in our budget. Currently it has not been set as one of our goals or aims.

**New Business:**

**2024 Budget** - Tom briefly went over the 2024 budget and compared it to the 2023 budget. We are looking at some small changes and 3% increases for staff salaries.

**Designate Joan Rasmussen estate gift** - Pastor announced we have received a gift from the Joan Rasmussen estate. The family would like it to go towards Elder Connections and Youth and Family. Motion carried to create a line item for this estate on the designated funds report.

**Prepare for the Annual Meeting** - Pastor Jeff announced the annual meeting will be on January 28 between services. Lee Weidauer will lead the meeting. The deadline for reports is Monday, January 8. Annual reports will be available Jan. 21. The January Council meeting will be Jan. 10 at 7:30 p.m.

**Fortinet firewall Renewal** - Josh reported that the firewall protection is due in February. Another 3 years will cost \$2164.00 through Direct Technologies.

**Executive Session:** No executive session was necessary.

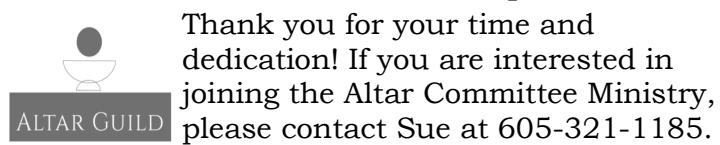
**Announcements:** Next meeting is January 10 at 7:30 p.m.

- Committee reports are due Monday, Jan. 8.
- Annual Meeting is January 28 at 9:30 am
- Annual Meeting reports are due January 8
- Church on the Street is January 13

Motion carried to adjourn.

Submitted by: Kathleen Bongers, Church Council Secretary

January Altar Committee Team :  
Jeanine Schnieders & Jacque Wallin



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



Gather Bible Study

Wednesday, January 24  
1:30 pm at LCDR  
All women of LCDR are welcome

Women of the ELCA

January 3      Quilting - 1:30 pm  
January 4      Prayer Shawl Ministry - 2 pm  
January 18     Prayer Shawl Ministry - 2 pm



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

Prayer Shawl Ministry meets the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month at 2:00 pm

From the Record Books

80+ Birthdays:

January 1:    Mabel Ellefson  
January 4:    Kay Kahler  
January 8:    Ron Beck  
January 9:    Lee Kirkeby  
January 28:   Lillian Larson



Memorials:

Memorial Fund:

\$60 In Memory of Lyle Frederickson  
\$50 In memory of Lyle Frederickson (designated 150th Anniversary Fund)  
\$50 In memory of Lyle Frederickson (designated roof)  
\$5 In memory of Lyle Frederickson ( designated New Orleans Youth Gathering)  
\$45 In memory of Blanche Quincey (designated 150th Anniversary Fund)  
\$70 In memory of Blanche Quincey (designated New Orleans Youth Gathering)

Baptisms:

December 3:  
Tate Levi Larson, son of Taylor & Ashleigh Larson

Lutheran Church of Dell Rapids 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
Celebration Sept. 28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup>, 2024  
Website: [www.lcdr-sd.org](http://www.lcdr-sd.org)

**Themes** Main Theme: 1 Samuel 2:2 "There is no Rock like our God." Additional Theme: "Look to the rock from which you were hewn, and to the quarry from which you were dug ... and the rock was Christ." Isaiah 51:1 combined with 1 Corinthians 10:4.

**Anniversary Venue: Saturday Event** - Hefty's Morton Center for Fellowship Time, Catered Banquet, and a Program. **Sunday Event** - at LCDR with a Special Worship Service, and Fellowship Event.

**"Save the Date" Magnets:** If you did not receive this mailing, please call the church office.

**"Sharing of Memories":** If you would like to share some of your "favorite" LCDR memories, please feel free to call 605-428-3197 or email [lcdr@siouxvalley.net](mailto:lcdr@siouxvalley.net).

**"LCDR Cookbook" Project:** The cookbooks are here. This heirloom cookbook is only \$15. **"John Green" Project:** John Green has been commissioned to do a painting of LCDR, of which prints will be available for purchase. **"History Book":** We are putting together a History Book to commemorate our "150 Years of Faith". **Memorabilia":** We are in the process of gathering ideas. If you have ideas, please contact a member of the task force.

**Message from the Task Force:** We hope that all of you are as excited as we are! Please feel free to talk to anyone on the Task Force for more information. We would love to hear your ideas. We can always use more help for this milestone celebration! **Planning Members:** Pastor Jeff, Steve Munk, Sue Bredlow, Jody Stone, Becky Randall, Regan Stone, Nicole O'Bryan, Karen Nielsen, Sandra Lamer

From the Associate in Ministry

Anniversary of Baptism  
Remembering Our Way of Life!

On January 7th we will be celebrating the Anniversary of Our Lord's Baptism with a special Remembrance of Baptism for the children baptized at LCDR in the past year. Our scripture, prayers, and message will all focus on Jesus' baptism, the baptisms of these children, and our own baptisms.

Between services that day we will bring the families of these newly baptized children together to get to know each other better, because they will be celebrating lots of milestones in their children's lives together over the years ahead!

We will all be reminded that baptism isn't a one-time event. It is foundational to a life in Christ. Martin Luther said that baptism is when we are "first received into the Christian community." God's love, forgiveness, and peace come to us through baptism, through water and the word.

Celebrating baptism does not only bring blessing and support to the newly baptized, but to all of us who celebrate with them. We, too, are reminded that we are children of God, "sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever."

We, too, have received the gifts of faith, family, forgiveness, and eternal life.

Plan to join us January 7th to:

- Mark the celebration of belonging to God's family and to the congregational family.
- Equip families to actively live out their baptism in the domestic church called "home."
- Provide an opportunity for the whole Christian community to gather and recommit to live from the identity God has given each of us in baptism.
- Recognize that being a baptized child of God is more than a single event; it means living it in daily life.

Pat Eidsness,  
Senior / Intergenerational Minister

# Youth Ministry

From the Youth & Worship Leader:  
“New Year, New You.”

I know I’ve said those words before, and I’m guessing you have, too. What better time to think about pressing “re-set” on our lives than when the calendar flips from one year to the next? From exercise routines to careers, the start of a new year helps propel adults toward a desired change to create something – or someone – new.

Each Wednesday, our youth groups pray to “be the best versions of themselves” using the gifts, talents, and interests that God has given them. In one way, it is a prayer that helps us have a conversation about the impact we can have on others, yet it is also intended to encourage the youth to simply *be themselves*.

So as we enter 2024, instead of thinking about how any of us can or should change to become someone “new,” maybe all of us, young and old(er), should simply give ourselves permission to be the person God intended us to be.

New Year? Just Be You.

Thank you to all who provided a poinsettia for the sanctuary in memory of a loved one!



## In Memory of.....

Caroline Heidebrink  
Joe & Stevi  
Dave Bunkers  
Sandi Sittig  
Joan Pollmann  
Francis & Minerva Morris  
Richard Holt  
Art & Dee Nebben, Pearl Maseman  
Wayne Sorenson  
Jesse & Margaret Godsk  
Dwayne & Jane Bredlow  
Lyle Frederickson

## From....

Rollie & LuAnn Heidebrink & family  
Suzanne Bunkers  
Suzanne Bunkers  
The Pollmann Family  
The Pollmann & Saxon Families  
Tom & Lori Morris  
Sheri Holt & family  
Jan Dybvig  
Pastor Jeff & Siri Sorenson  
Dave & Sue Bredlow  
  
Norene Frederickson, Andy Frederickson,  
Tammy Huntimer, Tina Giese, Christine Weigelt  
Brian, Lisa, Maddy & Makenna Wilber  
Marc, Joanne, Samantha & Dylan Mathis  
Dave & Barb Klein  
Dylan & Stacia Bunkers  
Jim & Lisa Schroeder  
Sandy Jensen & Family

Phil Weisz  
Barth O’Laughlen  
Heather Klein  
Les Walters, Mary Lou Wilson  
Stan & Rochelle Lundquist  
Paul Jensen

## YOUTH EVENTS

### January 3

No Youth Activities

### January 10

3:30 pm High 5!  
5:30 pm Simple Supper  
6:15 pm Route 67  
Confirmation

### January 17

3:30 pm High 5  
5:30 pm Simple Supper  
6:15 pm Route 67  
No Confirmation  
7:00 pm Youth Praise Band Meeting

### January 21

9:30-10:45 am Pancake Feed

### January 24

3:30 pm High 5  
5:30 pm Simple Supper  
6:15 pm Route 67  
Confirmation

### January 31

1:30 pm High 5! Early  
Release Activity  
5:30 pm Simple Supper  
6:15 pm Route 67

## Youth Praise Band Meeting

**Wednesday, January 17  
7:00 pm**

All youth in grades 8-12 who are interested in participating in a youth praise band are invited to join John downstairs in St. Peter’s for a short meeting. If you have any interest in helping serve the church in this unique way, we’ll find a place for you!

**High 5! Early-Release Activity – Bowling!**  
**January 31 / 1:30 – 5 pm**



Any 5th grader interested in attending this activity will need to sign-up on the youth bulletin board outside the sanctuary.

# SUNDAY SCHOOL

## From the Director of Sunday School:

December came in like a whirlwind and ended like one too. So many things happening in our church. I have to give a special shout-out to a few folks who helped make this December pretty special. First, Bill and Gayla Evans. They were gracious enough to host our 5<sup>th</sup> graders for our photo shoot for the Christmas program. Boy, did they all have fun! If you can imagine 16 kids all dressed in costumes (angels, shepherds, wise men, mary and joseph) running through the field so we could take a picture at a perfect spot Bill picked out for us. It was hilarious! Bill also got the “stable” all ready with fresh hay and cleaned it up for a perfect backdrop. Then after we took the pictures, Gayla had a whole spread with hot cocoa and freshly baked cookies for them to enjoy. The weather was a perfect day and I think all had a great time. John and Tarah were also there to help, and I was grateful for those extra hands. Then getting ready for the program...Matt Tudor and Scott Saxon were so helpful with the sound and PowerPoint and getting a song with split tracks ready. Also those who helped get the risers set up and tress and poinsettias moved around and everything up front – Dane Stone, Chase Small, Matt Tudor, Scott Saxon, Sue and Dave Bredlow. Matt Tudor was kind enough to stay after the program and disassemble the risers and take them downstairs. What a huge help to me! It’s so great to be a part of this awesome church family! Happy New Year!

## January

### December 31

No Sunday School

### January 7

9:30 am Sunday School

### January 14

9:30 am Sunday School  
5th graders & parents meet with Pastor Jeff at 9:30 am in the Chapel Hall

### January 21

9:30 am Sunday School  
10:45 am Nursery-Kindergarten sing

### January 28

9:30 am Annual Meeting—No Sunday School - Movie with popcorn downstairs during the Annual Meeting for kids

### February 4

9:30 am Sunday School/ Donuts with Dads  
If you have any questions, contact Darcie at 605-941-1029 or [lcdrdarcie@siouxvalley.net](mailto:lcdrdarcie@siouxvalley.net)



**Pancake Feed**  
**Sunday, January 21**  
**9:30 - 10:45 am**

Join our youth between services on Sunday, January 21 for a breakfast fundraiser! Pancakes, fruit, and more will be served by the youth headed to confirmation camp and the ELCA National Youth Gathering. A free-will offering will be accepted to help raise funds for these two important opportunities.



Join us for **Sunday, February 4**  
**9:30-9:50**  
**St. Peter’s Hall**

On Sunday, February 4, during the Sunday School music time (9:30-9:50), we invite the dads or a special male friend of the Sunday school children to come downstairs and enjoy some donuts, juice and coffee. Along with enjoying the goodies, the children will be singing some Sunday school songs.



**5th Grade Youth & Parents**  
**Donuts with Pastor Jeff**  
**January 14 at 9:30 am**

5th Graders kick off Holy Communion Lessons on January 15 at 9:30 am and are invited, along with their parents, to enjoy donuts and juice with Pastor Jeff in the Chapel Hall.



**Thursday, January 18**  
**12 PM**  
**Fellowship Hall**

The Young at Heart will gather together Thursday, January 18, at noon in the Fellowship Hall for a potluck.

Young at Heart is for those 60 year & older for ideas, food and fellowship.