



The Latest Word

*"Making God Known
Through Word and Deed."*

Vol. 43 Issue No. 1 Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer Watertown, SD January 2024

Pick Up a Caring Casserole

Our "Caring Casseroles" ministry provides delicious casseroles for you to deliver to friends and neighbors. Know someone who just got home from a hospital stay? Or a family who recently had a baby? What about bringing a meal to a friend whose life is so hectic that he or she simply has no energy to cook? The freezer filled with meals is located in Twila's office. Please feel free to stop by any time, pick up a casserole (or two) and share in this caring ministry.

January Craft Night

Join us Tuesday, January 23rd at 6:30 p.m. in the Gathering Space for Craft Night! We will be creating a beautiful winter wonderland vase! Sign up at the Welcome Center by Friday, January 19th.

BeFriends to Meet January 11th

Our BeFriends group will meet at 10 a.m. on January 11th, with a special guest speaker from Prairie Lakes Hospice. If you've ever considered becoming a BeFriend, you are also welcome to attend and learn more about the program. Call Twila at the church office (605-886-2696) for more information.

Circle Bible Study

Priscilla and Martha Circles will meet in January, focusing on the bible study in the January Gather magazine. Copies of the study can be found at the Welcome Center.

- Martha Circle will meet at 2 p.m. Monday, Jan. 8, in the Gathering Space
- Priscilla Circle will meet at 9:30 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 10, in the Gathering Space.



New Members Will Be Welcomed in January

While we welcome new members all year round, we will "officially" receive new members in January. We will "Welcome New Members" during worship services on January 17(Wednesday), January 20 (Saturday) and January 21 (Sunday). If you -- or others you know -- wish to join our LCOOR family, please contact Twila at 605- 886-2696.



Annual Meeting of the Congregation

Date: Sunday, January 28

Time: 10:30 a.m.

Inside:	Pastor Message & Milestone Ministries.....	Page 2	Preschool News.....	Page 7
	Financial News.....	Page 3	INSERT: January Calendar	
	Financial & Other News.....	Page 4		
	Funeral Planning Information	Page 5		
	Faith Formation Ministry.....	Page 6		

PASTOR MESSAGE & MILESTONE MINISTRIES

Genesis 1:1-5

When God began to create the heavens and the earth—the earth was without shape or form, it was dark over the deep sea, and God’s wind swept over the waters—God said, “Let there be light.” And so light appeared. God saw how good the light was. God separated the light from the darkness. God named the light Day and the darkness Night. There was evening and there was morning: the first day. (Common English Bible)

This creation story seems to fit the beginning of a new year perfectly. As the calendar turns, we are all busy naming our resolutions for 2024. We are planning our own sort of creation or, more accurately, re-creation of our lives. Like God’s wind sweeping over the face of the dark waters, we are energized to shape and reconstitute the untapped potential of our lives. We make resolutions to separate the light from the darkness, exchanging television, chocolate, and absences for renewed study, healthy eating, and time with family and friends. We stand at the beginning of the new year and envision our idealized selves and then plan the ways to embody those visions.

We would like to be bold and suggest that we all take up yet another resolution. In fact, this resolution is one that can easily be added to your own list.

As a whole, let’s all pledge to show **kindness**. Kindness~ so basic and yet profound. It is through sharing kindness with one another that we become the light in the darkness.

We are each called by God—called to be better than we believe or allow ourselves to be. We are called to allow ourselves to be re-created and to live as new people in Christ. We begin 2024 trusting that God’s wind will sweep over the waters of our lives. And it will indeed be good.

Blessings to you in the new year!

Pastor Dan & Pastor Laura Overbo

January Youth Sign Up Information

Wednesday, January 3:

Reader: Brecken J.

Acolyte: Cayden K. & Brayden F.

Saturday, January 6:

Reader: Jalen C.

Acolyte: 2 NEEDED

Blessing Assistant: 2 NEEDED

Sunday, January 7:

Reader: Kole M.

Acolyte: 2 NEEDED

Blessing Assistant: Kaitlyn S. & 1 NEEDED

Wednesday, January 10:

Reader: Bentley K.

Acolyte: Autumn G. & Isabella S.

Blessing Assistant: Haevyn J. & 1 NEEDED

Sunday, January 14:

Reader: Tyllie S.

Acolyte: 2 NEEDED

Wednesday, January 17:

Reader: Brylie S.

Acolyte: Brayden F. & Carter B.

Saturday, January 20:

Reader: Josephine W.

Acolyte: 2 NEEDED

Blessing Assistant: 2 NEEDED

Sunday, January 21:

Reader: Graysn M.

Acolyte: 2 NEEDED

Blessing Assistant: 2 NEEDED

Wednesday, January 24:

Reader: Jayla E.

Acolyte: Brayden F. & Carter B.

Blessing Assistant: 2 NEEDED

Sunday, January 28:

Reader: Dawson M.

Acolyte: 2 NEEDED

Wednesday, January 31:

Reader: Mackenzie S.

Acolyte: Autumn G. & Carter B.

This information indicates who has signed up to help with worship in various areas.

PARENTS: If you see an area with a need, please call the church office at (605) 886-2696 to sign your child up or sign up on the master sheet that is posted at the information center in the gathering space.

Reader: 7th & 8th Grade Students

Acolyte: 5th & 6th Grade Students

Blessing Assistant: 4th Grade Students

FINANCIAL NEWS

November 2023 Financial Report

Revenue	\$	78,587.80
Expenses	\$	79,891.19
Change in General Fund	\$	(1,303.39)
Revenue to Date	\$	1,021,881.91
Expenses to Date	\$	953,495.54
% of Budget Year Completed		91.67%
Annual Budgeted Income for 2023	\$	1,067,619.19
% of Budgeted Income Received YTD		95.72%
Annual Budgeted Expense for 2023	\$	1,067,619.19
% of Budgeted Expenses Incurred YTD		89.31%

Endowing Our Future- It's easier than you might think...



A gift to the Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer Endowment Fund can be made in memory of a loved one or as a part of your own legacy plan, but also in honor of a special birthday or anniversary. Contact Jodi Spilde in the church office or Kathy McHenry at Lutheran Planned Generosity of South Dakota (605.274.5030 or lpgsd@sdsynod.org) for more information.

Thrivent Choice Dollars received in December

We have received a deposit from Thrivent Choice Dollars! Thank you Ron & Robbyn Givens, Dar Morrow, Allen Rude, Jodi Spilde and Barb Struwe for directing these dollars to our church and preschool.

- Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer – \$81.00
- LCOOR Preschool - \$51.00

A big THANK YOU goes out to everyone who have directed their Choice Dollars® to Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer and LCOOR Christian Preschool this past year. With these dollars, we are able to fund various ministry projects that are not in the church budget.

January Mission of the Month- Nicaragua Partner Ministry & Nicaragua Youth Retreat



Missionary: Rev. Dr. Claudia Soliette López Ortega

soliette.lopez@iluterana.org

Pastor Soliette is our South Dakota Synod missionary to the Faith and Hope Lutheran Church of Nicaragua (**Iglesia Luterana Fe y Esperanza – ILFE**). She hosts travelers from South Dakota and assists them while they meet church members and look at various projects. She helps with the youth and health ministry of the church. The South Dakota Synod's costs for her salary and her travel within Nicaragua and visits to South Dakota are about \$9500 US per year.

Annual Lutheran Youth Camp

Early In January during the school vacation each year from 40 to 80 youth from the city of Managua and many other small cities and villages travel to Managua to take part in the Lutheran Youth Camp. The cost of transport, housing, and food averages about \$80 per participant. This camp is an excellent outreach to the young people. It is a chance to renew friendships, to learn about sports, health, furthering their career formation, and Bible study. Our synod budgets a goal of \$10,000 US each year to support the Iglesia Luterana Fe y Esperanza at this Camp.

Please consider supporting us in this important work of Missionary Soliette and Youth Camp. Gifts to the Mission of the Month are intended to go beyond your regular giving. Be sure to clearly mark "Mission of the Month" on your offering envelope so that it can be credited properly. Thank you for your commitment to ministry.

FINANCIAL & OTHER NEWS

\$6,520.00 Memorials & Special Gifts Given since last printing

Prayer Shawl Ministry

- *In memory of Phyllis Coombes* from Roger & Linda Austad
- A gift from Ron & Roberta Hagen

Youth Outdoor Play Area

- *In memory of Jim Silliman* from Ash Griffin (VRS), Gary & Gail Mohlenkamp, Nik & Judith Trotter, Troy & Michelle DeJongh, Marilyn Chapman, Ken & Wendy Fransen Family, Carole Stein-Holien, Paulette Amundson and Rory & Brooke Creager

Special Gifts

- *In memory of Ardell Johnson* from Jonathan & Berit Oviatt and Dave & Linda Nerdig

Watertown Sandwich Ministry

- A gift from Ron & Roberta Hagen

Ukraine Families Ministry

- A gift from Bruce & Colleen Hestad

A Note of Thanks

We would like to thank Adam Lauseng for his years of service as Custodian at Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer. He has worked diligently at maintaining the church for the mission and vision of Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer.



Mission Project for January-LWR Baby Care Kits

Bringing a baby into the world can be a difficult and scary thing for a mother living in poverty. Keeping a new baby healthy, clean and comfortable takes a lot of resources. The items included in a Baby Care Kit provide the basics a family needs to care for their new members in the way they hope! Worry will always be present for all parents, but having some essentials allows them to enjoy and get to know their little ones and introduce them with pride to the world.

Baby Care Kit Instructions can be picked up at the Welcome Center & church office or you can go to <https://lwr.org/kits/baby-care-kits/instructions> for the instruction sheet.



Position Opening: Custodian 30-35 hours/week

Custodian, responsible for maintaining the physical condition and appearance of Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer, thereby helping the church to fulfill its mission and ministry of Making God Known Through Word and Deed. Full job description and application is available online at lcoorwatertown.org or in the church office.



FUNERAL PLANNING INFORMATION

We suggest that you share your wishes with your family so they are aware of your final wishes and know how to best carry them out. Our local funeral homes have helpful documents that you can fill out and keep on file with them. The information on this page will be of great assistance to your families and Pastors in planning your memorial service.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Visitation to be held at: Church Funeral Home

Service to be held at: Church Funeral Home

Graveside Other: _____

Cemetery or Mausoleum location:

Special Songs or Hymns:
(Sung by soloist, congregation or recorded music)

Favorite religious passages, quotations or poems:

Scripture Readings:

Flowers (describe):

Preference for memorials:

Funeral lunch preferences:

Names of Children (or close relatives) & Contact Information:

FAITH FORMATION MINISTRY

JANUARY 2023



Philip Lickei



7th/8th Grade Confirmation January Schedule:

- Wednesday, January 3 – Workshop #15
- Wednesday, January 10 – Workshop #16
- Wednesday, January 17 – Workshop #17
- Wednesday, January 24 – Workshop #18
- Wednesday, January 31 – Workshop #19

Monthly Youth Groups:

- Junction... A youth Group for **1st – 4th grade** will meet the first Monday of each month. This month we will meet on **Monday, January 8 from 6-7:30 pm.** Join us for games, crafts, snacks and awesome fellowship. Friends are always welcome!
- Rt. 56... A youth group for **5th & 6th grade** meets the third Monday of each month. This month we will meet on **Monday, January 22 from 6-7:30 pm.** Join us for games, crafts, snacks and awesome fellowship. Friends are always welcome!

Luther League 2.0 (7-12 Grade)

Please note that starting this month; this youth group is for 7-12 grades.

Every Sunday night we will gather for Luther League 2.0 at 6 pm. Each evening we will enjoy a thought provoking discussion topic, snacks, games and awesome fellowship. Please feel free to bring your friends and join us for a fantastic ministry opportunity! This month we will gather on...

- Sunday, January 7
- Sunday, January 14
- Sunday, January 21
- Sunday, January 28

Youth Music Team

Our youth music team will start practicing for the Lenten Worship Services this month. We will practice on **Sunday nights at 7 pm** (following Luther League 2.0) in the sanctuary. Our practice schedule for January 2024 is:

- **Sunday, January 14**
- **Sunday, January 21**
- **Sunday, January 28**



January Christian Education Schedule:

Wednesday Church School will gather at 5:30 p.m. on:

- January 3
- January 10
- January 17
- January 24
- January 31



Sunday Church School will gather at 8:30 a.m. on:

- January 7
- January 14
- January 21
- January 28



LCOOR PRESCHOOL NEWS

Enrolling Now!

Pre-Kindergarten

For 2024-2025 School Year
(Must be 4 by September 1, 2024)

Monday - Thursday
Morning | Afternoon



Our preschool offers a Monday-Thursday 8:30-11:30 Pre-Kindergarten (4/5 year old) program, which is open to anyone not just church members. *We will fill the morning class first and if there's an interest, we will open an afternoon class.*

Our curriculum includes introducing letters and sounds, numbers, first/last names, shapes, and colors. We also socialize and play, listen to a lot of books, and sing songs along with many other learning activities. The students also learn about God's love, hear and learn stories and songs about Jesus.

You can find an enrollment form at the Welcome Center, the Preschool classroom, or online. We would love for your child to be part of Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer Preschool!!

Any questions please call Miss Nikki or Miss Wendy at 886-2696 or email us at preschool@lcoorwatertown.org



Chapel with Pastor Laura & Pastor Dan

January Dates:

January 2nd- Classes resume

January 2nd- Enrollment opens for the 2024-2025 School Year

January 15th- No School-Martin Luther King, Jr Day

January 25th- Chapel



Christmas Program



Pajama Day



Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer

2001 Second St. N.W.

Watertown, SD 57201

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Salvation Army- Cream Soup & Canned Tuna

Our friends at The Salvation Army Food Pantry would appreciate cans of cream soup and canned tuna. As you go grocery shopping, please consider picking up a couple extras to donate. Drop these items off at LCOOR and we will deliver them to the Salvation Army. Thanks so much!



JANUARY

The Latest Word



A monthly publication of Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer.

Deadline for the February 2024 Newsletter: Monday, January 22, 2024

Staff

Senior Pastor..... Dan Overbo
Associate Pastor..... Laura Overbo
Director of Faith Formation..... Philip Lickei
Preschool Teacher/Director..... Nikki Landmark
Preschool Teacher Aide..... Wendy Kruger
Welcoming & Caring Ministries..... Twila Schmitt
Business Manager..... Jodi Spilde
Business Administrative Assistant..... Megan Thyen
Sound & Technology..... Zach Stanton

2023 Church Council

President Bev Splinter
Vice President Monte Hopper
Secretary Peg Juba
Treasurer Laurie Tennis
Ann DeSpiegler Tony Kneeland
Codi Martin Gwen McGilliavary
Ryan Nuttall

Prayer Chain

Marilyn Chapman 886-4858
Email: twila@lcoorwatertown.org

Phone

605-886-2696

Website

<https://lcoorwatertown.org/>



Facebook

www.facebook.com/lcoor



Youtube

<https://www.youtube.com/c/LutheranChurchofOurRedeemer>

Meals on Wheels Thank You!!

Thanks to all who helped deliver Meals on Wheels December 18-21! LCOOR volunteers deliver meals every 10 weeks – and we are always looking for additional volunteers. Please contact Twila at 605-886-2696 if you would like to be added to our list of helpers.

Angel Tree Thank You

Wow! Your generosity is amazing! We were blessed to have 100 Salvation Army angel tags on our tree! Thanks to everyone who selected one (or two) and helped make a child's Christmas a little brighter in 2023!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>31 No Church School 9:30am Blended Worship</p>	<p>1 Preschool Christmas Break- No School Church Office Closed No Sandwich Ministry 6:45pm Al-Anon</p>	<p>2 Preschool Resumes Preschool 2024-25 Enrollment Begins 10:00am Prayer Shawl Group 11:00am Area Pastor TEXT STUDY 1:00pm Staff Meeting</p>	<p>3 8:00am Watertown Sandwich Ministry 12:15pm Men's Lunch 4:45pm Community Meal 5:30pm Church School 6:30pm Worship 7:15pm 7th/8th Grade Confirmation 7:30pm Handbell Rehearsal 7:30pm Praise & Rejoice Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>4 9:00am Quilting 1:00pm Chair Yoga 5:15pm Al-Anon</p>	<p>5 Church Office Closes at Noon 8:00am Watertown Sandwich Ministry</p>	<p>6 5:30pm Traditional Worship with Holy Communion 6:30pm Saturday Evening Meal</p>
<p>7 8:30am Church School 8:30am Watertown Sandwich Ministry 9:30am Blended Worship w/ Holy Communion 6:00pm Luther League 2.0 (7-12 Grade)</p>	<p>8 8:00am Watertown Sandwich Ministry 2:00pm Martha Circle 6:00pm Junction Youth Group (1-4 Grade) 6:45pm Al-Anon</p>	<p>9 11:00am Area Pastor TEXT STUDY 1:00pm Staff Meeting 6:00pm Executive Committee 6:30pm Church Council Meeting</p>	<p>10 8:00am Watertown Sandwich Ministry 9:30am Priscilla Circle 12:15pm Men's Lunch 4:45pm Community Meal 5:30pm Church School 6:30pm Worship with Holy Communion 7:15pm 7th/8th Grade Confirmation 7:30pm Handbell Rehearsal 7:30pm Praise & Rejoice Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>11 10:00am BeFriender Gathering 1:00pm Chair Yoga 5:15pm Al-Anon</p>	<p>12 Church Office Closes at Noon 8:00am Watertown Sandwich Ministry</p>	<p>13 5:30pm Traditional Worship</p>
<p>14 8:30am Church School 8:30am Watertown Sandwich Ministry 9:30am Blended Worship 6:00pm Luther League 2.0 (7-12 Grade) 7:00pm Youth Music Team Practice</p>	<p>15 No Preschool / MLK Jr. Day No Sandwich Ministry 6:45pm Al-Anon</p>	<p>16 10:00am Prayer Shawl Group 11:00am Area Pastor TEXT STUDY 1:00pm Staff Meeting</p>	<p>17 8:00am Watertown Sandwich Ministry 12:15pm Men's Lunch 4:45pm Community Meal 5:15pm New Member Class 5:30pm Church School 6:30pm New Members Received 6:30pm Worship 7:15pm 7th/8th Grade Confirmation 7:30pm Handbell Rehearsal 7:30pm Praise & Rejoice Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>18 9:00am Quilting 10:00am Pastors Conference 1:00pm Chair Yoga 5:15pm Al-Anon</p>	<p>19 Church Office Closes at Noon 8:00am Watertown Sandwich Ministry 9:00am Quilting</p>	<p>20 Stewardship Moment 5:30pm New Members Received 5:30pm Traditional Worship with Holy Communion</p>

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>21</p> <p>Stewardship Moment 8:30am Church School 8:30am Watertown Sandwich Ministry 9:30am Blended Worship w/ Holy Communion 9:30am New Members Received 6:00pm Luther League 2.0 (7-12 Grade) 7:00pm Youth Music Team Practice</p>	<p>22</p> <p>February Newsletter Deadline</p> <p>8:00am Watertown Sandwich Ministry 6:00pm Rt. 56 Youth Group (5-6 Grade) 6:45pm Al-Anon</p>	<p>23</p> <p>11:00am Area Pastor TEXT STUDY 1:00pm Staff Meeting 6:30pm Craft Night</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Stewardship Moment 8:00am Watertown Sandwich Ministry 12:15pm Men's Lunch 4:45pm Community Meal 5:30pm Church School 6:30pm Worship with Holy Communion 7:15pm 7th/8th Grade Confirmation 7:30pm Handbell Rehearsal 7:30pm Praise & Rejoice Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>25</p> <p>10:00am Book Club 10:45am Preschool Chapel Time 1:00pm Chair Yoga 3:45pm Stoneybrook Communion 5:15pm Al-Anon</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Church Office Closes at Noon 8:00am Watertown Sandwich Ministry</p>	<p>27</p> <p>5:30pm Traditional Worship</p>
<p>28</p> <p>8:30am Church School 8:30am Watertown Sandwich Ministry 9:30am Blended Worship 10:30am Annual Congregation Meeting 6:00pm Luther League 2.0 (7-12 Grade) 7:00pm Youth Music Team Practice</p>	<p>29</p> <p>8:00am Watertown Sandwich Ministry 6:45pm Al-Anon</p>	<p>30</p> <p>9:00am Sewing Ministry Group 11:00am Area Pastor TEXT STUDY 1:00pm Staff Meeting</p>	<p>31</p> <p>8:00am Watertown Sandwich Ministry 12:15pm Men's Lunch 4:45pm Community Meal 5:30pm Church School 6:30pm Worship 7:15pm 7th/8th Grade Confirmation 7:30pm Handbell Rehearsal 7:30pm Praise & Rejoice Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>1</p> <p>9:00am Quilting 1:00pm Chair Yoga 5:15pm Al-Anon</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Church Office Closes at Noon 8:00am Watertown Sandwich Ministry</p>	<p>3</p> <p>5:30pm Traditional Worship with Holy Communion 6:30pm Saturday Evening Meal</p>