

Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer

ISSUE NO. 9

September 2026

The Latest Word

“Making God Known Through Word and Deed.”



Reformation Journey Through Central Europe - An Immersive Experience with Elias Tours

Step into the story of the Reformation on a remarkable journey through the historic cities and landscapes of Central Europe. Traveling through the Czech Republic and Germany, this immersive experience invites you to walk in the footsteps of the reformers whose faith and courage reshaped the Christian world.

Our journey begins in the enchanting city of Prague, where the legacy of Jan Hus helped inspire the movement that would later ignite the Reformation. From there we travel to cities rich in history and faith, including Dresden, Leipzig, and Berlin, discovering powerful stories from figures such as Johann Sebastian Bach and Dietrich Bonhoeffer.

In Wittenberg, where Martin Luther posted his Ninety-Five Theses, we will stand at the very place where the Reformation began. We will also visit Wartburg Castle, where Luther translated the New Testament, and Worms, where he courageously defended his beliefs before the Holy Roman Empire.

Along the way, we will experience the beauty of the Rhine Valley, sailing past castles and vineyards on one of Europe's most scenic rivers. This journey blends inspiring history, meaningful reflection, and unforgettable landscapes—an experience that brings the story of the Reformation to life.

We have a few spots still open, so please reach out to Pastor Dan at (605) 886-2696 or pastordan@lcoorwatertown.org with any questions. Additional information is also available at the Welcome Center. We look forward to this once in a lifetime pilgrimage through central Europe as we walk where the Reformation began. **This pilgrimage departs on March 7, 2027 and returns on March 17, 2027.**

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Dan and Pastor Laura Overbo



Financial Reports & News



Thrivent Choice Dollars Received!

We are grateful for the recent Thrivent Choice Dollars® donations supporting our ministries.

Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer Preschool received \$328.00

Thank you to Paula Davis, Bernie & Kevin Luoma, Dar Morrow, Morgan Passow and Jodi Spilde.

Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer received \$216.00

Thank you to Verla Ackley, Ron Givens, Gerry Likness and Don Scharn.

Mission of the Month: LCOOR Feeding Ministries

This September, we are highlighting **LCOOR Feeding Ministries**—the Mobile Soup Kitchen and Caring Casseroles—ministries that offer food, compassion, and support to individuals and families who may be going through a difficult time.

Our **LCOOR Mobile Soup Kitchen** (starting back up in October) brings a warm meal and a welcoming presence to those in our community who are experiencing food insecurity or simply need a little extra support twice a month. Volunteers help prepare, serve, and share a hot cup of soup, creating opportunities to connect with our neighbors and remind them that they are not alone.

Through **Caring Casseroles**, members of LCOOR provide meals to individuals and families who could use a helping hand. Whether someone is recovering from an illness, facing a difficult season, welcoming a new baby, or experiencing another life challenge, a homemade meal is a simple yet meaningful way to show God's love and care.

Together, these ministries put our mission into action: **Making God Known Through Word & Deed**. Your gifts to the September Mission of the Month help provide food and support to people in our community when they need it most.

Thank you for helping LCOOR feed both bodies and spirits through compassion, generosity, and care.

Financial Reports & News

\$4,286.53 Memorials & Special Gifts

We are grateful for the generosity of those who have given memorials and special gifts to support the ministries of Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer. Since our last newsletter, the following gifts have been received:

Prayer Shawl Ministry

- In memory of Marcella Enstad, from Pam Luckhurst and Burt & Barb Andersh
- In memory of Harlan Eickholt, from Burt & Barb Andersh

Special Gifts

- In memory of Marcella Enstad, from Ilene Stave

Technical School Fund (Endowment)

- Anonymous gift

Youth – St. Francis House Project

- From Roger & Pat Crom

Global Health Ministries – Newborn Kits

A faithful group of volunteers continues to support **Global Health Ministries** by sewing diapers and assembling newborn kits. These kits provide practical care and support to mothers and newborns in communities around the world.

There are several items that are always needed and appreciated (*new or gently used-good shape, no stains*):

- Receiving blankets (30" x 30" or 48" x 48")
- Lightweight bath towels (approximately 50" x 26")
- Washcloths (**please, no microfiber**)
- Onesies (size newborn, 0-3)
- Pillowcases

Would you like to help? Whether you enjoy sewing, assembling kits, or donating needed supplies, your support makes a difference. If you would like to participate in sewing or assembling newborn kits, please contact the church office for upcoming dates and times. Together, we can share God's love through these simple gifts of care and compassion.

Special Ministry Support Gifts

The Church Council recently designated gifts from the **Special Initiatives Dedicated Line Item** to provide support for several special ministry requests:

- **\$1,500 to the South Dakota Synod** toward the purchase of a van for ministry in Nicaragua.
- **\$1,500 to Christ for the City International** to assist with pastoral housing for **Mubaiwa and Grace Mangwende** in Zimbabwe.
- **\$1,500 to Elias Tours** to help provide startup support for a **Widowed Sewing Group**.

In addition, **\$1,500 from the Care Fund** has been designated to support **Watertown area schools**. These funds will be used to help meet student needs and provide supplies, as identified by local school guidance counselors.

We are grateful for the opportunity to extend our ministry beyond the walls of Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer and support individuals, families, and communities both locally and around the world. These gifts are a wonderful example of our commitment to **Making God Known Through Word & Deed**.

LCOOR News & Events



Redeemer's Kitchen - September 27

Overwhelmed? Busy? Or maybe you're just tired of the same thing every night for supper? We can help! Redeemer's Kitchen will meet **Sunday, September 27 after the 9:30 a.m. worship** to prep seven freezer meals.

September Menu:

- Chicken Pot Pie
- Stuffed Peppers
- Honey Chicken with Rice & Broccoli
- White Chicken Chili
- Beef & Cheese Ravioli Bake
- Creamy Sausage Gnocchi
- Salisbury Steak Meatballs & Mash Potatoes
- Monster Cookies

More information, including pricing and sign-up are available at the Welcome Center or by contacting Karri in the church office at karri@lcoorwatertown.org or (605) 886-2696.



Our 75+ Celebration

Diamond Dinner

Join us for 5:30 pm Worship at
LCOOR
with Dinner to follow

ANY FAMILY MEMBER WHO BRINGS YOU IS
INVITED TO DINE AS WELL.

IF YOU NEED TRANSPORTATION, PLEASE CONTACT KARRI
WILLHITE AT 605-886-2696

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 5TH 2026

RSVP TO 605-886-2696
BY AUGUST 28TH



Diamond Dinner is September 5

Our annual Diamond Dinner 75+ Celebration will be held **Saturday, September 5th, 2026 at 6:30 p.m.** following Saturday night worship.

We are looking for volunteers that are interested in serving at this event.

Please contact Karri in the church office at karri@lcoorwatertown.org or (605) 886-2696 if you are interested in joining us for dinner or if you are interested in serving the meal.

It's Road Ditch Time

It's time to clean our section of Highway 20! What a great family project. Bags and instructions are available at the Welcome Center. Grab bags and instructions for a section—pick up the trash—take the bags to your blue container—know you helped keep our environment clean. If you need a vest—call Al—605-553-6791. Thank you for helping with this community service project.



LCOOR News & Events

God's Work. Our Hands.

Join us as we make God known through Word and Deed by serving our community!

This year, we'll be cleaning gravestones at Mt. Hope Cemetery, caring for this sacred place while honoring those who came before us.

Please join us at **11:00 a.m. on Sunday September 20, at Mt. Hope Cemetery.** We'll provide all cleaning supplies, T-shirts, water, and snacks.

To sign up, please visit our website at www.lcoorwatertown.org and click the "Serve" button in the main menu, sign up at the Welcome Center before or after worship services, or scan the QR code below.



**God's work.
Our hands.**



Adult Bible Study

Pastor Dan will be leading a five-week Adult Bible Study beginning **Thursday, October 1, at 6:00 p.m.** The study will focus on *The Me I Want to Be: Becoming God's Best Version of You* by John Ortberg.

The cost of the study guide is \$8. **Please sign up at the Welcome Center** and contact Pastor Dan with any questions. We look forward to our first Bible study of the fall season.



Fall Market: Craft Show and Vendor Fair - Saturday, October 10

Calling All Crafters, Vendors and Shoppers!

Join us for our Fall Market: Craft Show and Vendor Fair at Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer in Watertown, SD on **Saturday, October 10 from 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.** This is a wonderful opportunity to showcase your handmade goods, unique products, or small business offerings.

To sign up as a vendor, visit our website at www.lcoorwatertown.org, click the 'Serve' tab on the main menu and find the Fall Market Vendor Signup or scan the QR code.



Once you've signed up, we'll reach out to you via email to collect payment. **You can choose to pay online or send/drop off your payment at the church office:**

Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer
2001 2nd St. NW
Watertown, SD 57201

Vendor Setup Times:

Friday, October 9 from 5:00 - 8:00 p.m.
Saturday, October 10 from 7:00 - 8:45 a.m.

Spots are limited, so be sure to sign up early!
Payment is due prior to the event.

Shoppers: mark your calendars, call your friends and we look forward to seeing you!

LCOOR News & Events

Circle Bible Study

Priscilla Circle will return to regular monthly meeting following a summer break. The next meeting is **Wednesday, September 9th at 9:30 a.m.** in the Gathering Space. We welcome anyone who would like to join the group for study and fellowship! The Bible Study in the Gather magazine is often the study source, but other studies are also used. Please join us!

Martha Circle will return on **Monday, September 14 at 2:00 p.m.** in the Gathering Space. We look forward to having you join us.

Harvest Fest - October 7

Everyone is invited to join us for Harvest Fest on **Wednesday, October 7, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.** at Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer!

This fun-filled event has something for all ages, including live music from Jaded, an inflatable obstacle course, games and activities, mini golf, pumpkin bowling, face painting, a cake walk, popcorn and beverages, and so much more!

BBQ Pitstop Food Truck will also be available for purchase with cash or card. Remember to bring your lawn chair and come enjoy an evening of food, fun, music, and fellowship.

We also need your help to make Harvest Fest a success! **Volunteers are needed to help with games, activities, and other areas throughout the evening.** Whether you can give an hour or help for the entire event, we would love to have you join us!

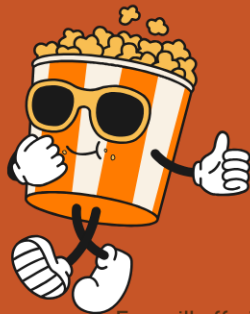
Sign up to volunteer here:
www.lcoorwatertown.org/serve.



Welcome Mallory - Faith Formation Assistant

Please join us in welcoming Mallory Kohl to LCOOR. Mallory has accepted the position of Faith Formation Assistant and is looking forward to the church school year ahead. Mallory was born and raised in Watertown, South Dakota. She graduated from South Dakota State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology and a minor in Mental Health Services. She is currently continuing her education online through Grand Canyon University in Arizona, where she is pursuing a master's degree in Clinical Mental Health Counseling. Her goal is to become a Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) and build a career focused on supporting others through various challenges and stages of life. Outside of college, Mallory enjoys volunteering, being involved in her community, and spending time with friends, family, and pets.

**POPCORN BAR
& BEVERAGES**



Freewill offering



**RAIN
OR
SHINE!**

**INFLATABLE
OBSTACLE
COURSE**



**PIE THE
PASTOR**



Enter the drawing
for \$1.00 per ticket.
Drawing will take
place at 6:45 p.m.

GAMES & ACTIVITIES

CAKE WALK 4 tickets for \$1.00
MINI GOLF
PUMPKIN BOWLING
DUCK POND
CORNHOLE
FACE PAINTING
LOLLIPOP TREE
RING TOSS
LADDER GOLF
& SO MUCH MORE!

BBQ PITSTOP



Harvest Fest

Special Musical Guest: **Jaded**

JADED WILL BEGIN AT 5PM | BRING YOUR LAWN CHAIR

**BBQ PITSTOP FOOD TRUCK AVAILABLE
FOR PURCHASE WITH CASH OR CARD.**

October

07

5PM-7PM

2001 2nd Street NW, Watertown, SD

*NO ACTIVITIES OR WORSHIP WEDNESDAY, OCT. 7th

Schedule of Events:

-  **Indoor Prize Games & Cake Walk: 5:00-6:00 PM**
-  **Live Music by Jaded: 5:00-7:00 PM**
-  **BBQ Pitstop: 5:00-7:00 PM**
-  **Outdoor Games: 5:00-7:00 PM**



Faith Formation & Youth Updates

New for 2026

Doors to the education wing will remain locked until 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday nights. All students and families may enter the building for supper through the main or office doors of the church.

Church School Teacher Meeting

Church school teacher orientation meeting will be held **Wednesday, Sept. 2 at 5:30 p.m.** in the Great Hall. This meeting will be to go over the schedule and lessons for the upcoming school year.

Acolytes, Blessing Assistants & Confirmation Students

Acolyte and Blessing Assistant Orientation will be **Wednesday, Sept. 9 at 5:30 p.m.** in the sanctuary. This is for all parents and students from 4th to 6th grade.

7th and 8th grade confirmation students and their parents will meet **Wednesday, Sept. 9 at 6:30 p.m.** in the sanctuary. Use the QR code below to register for confirmation.

Confirmation will be **Wednesdays from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.** and will include Wednesday night worship. Parents need to be in worship with their child.



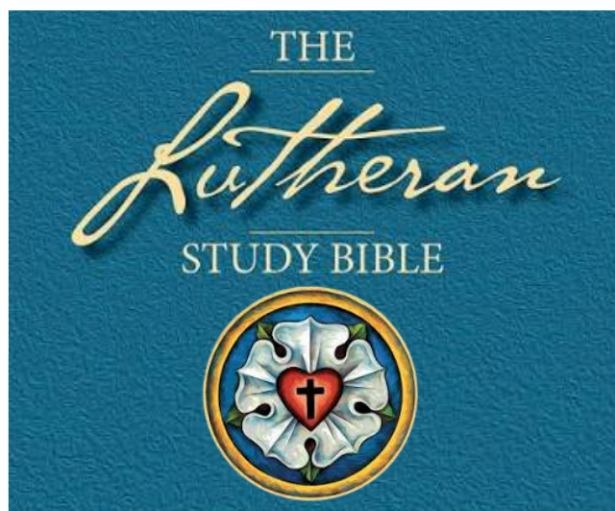
Church School

Mark your calendars for the back to church school celebration on **Sunday, Sept. 13** and **Wednesday, Sept. 16**. Our bible verse and theme for the coming school year will be "Taste and see the Lord is good" *Psalms* 34:8. Lessons will include a Bible food focus throughout the school year.

Church school for three-year-olds through sixth grade will be **Sunday at 8:45 a.m.** and **Wednesday at 5:45 p.m.**

Use the QR code below to register for church school.

Register Now



Milestone: 7th Grade Lutheran Study Bible

7th grade confirmation students will receive their Lutheran Study Bible during worship on **Wednesday, September 16 during 6:30 p.m. worship**. Parents please attend this milestone.

Faith Formation & Youth Updates

Junction Youth Group

A youth Group for **1st to 4th grade**. We will meet **Thursday, September 17, from 6:00-7:00 p.m.** Join us for a bible verse, games, crafts, snacks and fellowship. Friends are always welcome!



Route 56 Youth Group

A youth group for **5th & 6th grade**. We will meet **Wednesday, Sept. 30, from 3:45-5:00 p.m.** **Route 56 has a new look!** We're still gathering once a month, but now we'll meet on Wednesday afternoons between school dismissal and church school. **Hop on Bus 73 at Watertown Intermediate School and get dropped off right at church (or ride with a parent);** just don't be late, because the bus fills up fast! We'll have snacks, crafts, games, and plenty of fun. Then stick around for our Wednesday meal at 5:00 p.m. before heading to church school!



Meet Crossroads 78

Crossroads 78 is a **NEW youth group** at LCOOR created just for students in **7th and 8th grade!** It's a place to build real faith, real friendships, real direction, and real purpose as students navigate the middle school years together through fun, meaningful, and faith-filled experiences. Our first youth group will be **Monday, September 21 from 6:00-7:30 p.m.**

Stay in the know! Parents and students are encouraged to sign up for the Remind App to receive updates, event information, and announcements about all things Crossroads 78. **Scan the QR code to get signed up!**



Luther League Youth Group

Luther League offers a vibrant youth group for students in 9th to 12th grade. **We will meet on Wednesday nights following 6:30 p.m. worship.** Students can expect a wide range of activities, including Bible study sessions, delicious treats, fun games, engaging service projects, and opportunities for fellowship.

To stay updated, sign up for the Luther League Remind, which you can find on our website, on the bulletin board next to the youth room, or provided below.

Remind App QR Codes for Luther League Students



LCOOR Preschool

Welcome Back Students and Parents!



We are so excited for the school year to begin. This year we have 20 students in our preschool class. We're looking forward to a fun and exciting school year.

School Starts September 8th, 2026



Nikki Landmark
Director/Teacher



Wendy Kruger
Teacher Aide

back2school
prayer

"Dear Lord, use my eyes to *see* new friends.

Open my ears to *hear* my teacher

Open my mind to *learn* new things.

Let my heart *remember* YOU are near
when I'm afraid.

Help me to *love* others like you do.

I want to *shine* your light so bright in my school."

©Courtney DeFeo

Amen.



September Dates to Remember

August 31

Open House 11:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

September 8

First Day of School



Care to help our preschool?
All help is appreciated.

- New/Used Toys
- Snacks/Juice
- Support our Fundraisers
- Classroom Giving Tree
- Thrivent Choice Dollars
- Scrip Dollars



Fall Worship Schedule

Last Summer Worship at Memorial Park:

- Sunday, September 6, 2026 @ 9:00 a.m.

Fall Worship Schedule Resumes:

- Saturday, September 12, 2026 @ 5:30 p.m.
- Sunday, September 13, 2026 @ 9:30 a.m.
- Wednesday, September 16, 2026 @ 6:30 p.m.

September Book Club

For the month of September, we will not be meeting at LCOOR.

Instead, we will join the Watertown Regional Library for a discussion of this year's One Book South Dakota selection, *A Biography of a Mountain: The Making and Meaning of Mount Rushmore* by Matthew Davis. The discussion will take place on **Monday, September 21, at 7:00 p.m. at the Watertown Regional Library**, the Monday before our regularly scheduled Book Club meeting. Copies of the book are available at the library's checkout desk. We hope you'll join us!



Sweet Corn Donation for Feeding South Dakota

Unbelievable! Throughout August, those attending worship at Memorial Park purchased sweet corn, with donations benefiting Feeding South Dakota. **On Sunday, August 23 alone, corn donations totaled \$826, bringing the three-week total to an incredible \$1,489!**

Thank you to John Moes and his family for supplying the delicious sweet corn, and to everyone who purchased corn and helped support Feeding South Dakota!



Deadline for the October 2026 Newsletter:

Monday, September 21, 2026



Address

2001 2nd St. NW
Watertown, SD 57201



Phone

605-886-2696



Website

<https://lcoorwatertown.org/>



Prayer Chain

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



Facebook

www.facebook.com/lcoor



Youtube

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

Church Council

President Alan Stager
Vice President Matt Blackwelder
Secretary Kim Pearson
Treasurer Jessica Kruse
Jan Birkeland | Cindy Day | Scott Leitheiser
Bret McGillivray | Dana Stimson

Staff

Senior Pastor Dan Overbo
Associate Pastor Laura Overbo
Preschool Teacher/Director Nikki Landmark
Preschool Teacher Aide Wendy Kruger
Welcoming & Caring Ministries Karri Willhite
Business Manager Jodi Spilde
Business Administrative Assistant Megan Thyen
Director of Faith Formation Wendy Kruger
Faith Formation Assistant Mallory Kohl
Sound & Technology Sam Langner
Custodian Roman Gainor

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 9:00am Praise in the Park at Foundation Plaza	31 8:00am Watertown Sandwich Ministry 11:00am Preschool Open House for Upcoming Students 6:45pm AI-Anon	1 10:00am Prayer Shawl Group 11:00am Area Pastor TEXT STUDY 1:00pm Staff Meeting 5:30pm Personnel Committee (Handbook) Meeting	2 8:00am Watertown Sandwich Ministry 5:30pm Church School Teacher Orientation 6:00pm Handbell Organizational/Bell Polishing Meeting	3 9:00am Quilting 5:15pm AI-Anon	4 Church Office Closes at Noon 8:00am Watertown Sandwich Ministry	5 5:30pm Worship with Holy Communion 6:30pm Diamond Dinner (75+)
6 9:00am Last Memorial Park Worship with Holy Communion 10:30am Worship with Holy Communion	7 Church Office Closed Labor Day 6:45pm AI-Anon	8 First Day of LCOOR Preschool 11:00am Area Pastor TEXT STUDY 1:00pm Staff Meeting 6:00pm Executive Committee 6:30pm Church Council Meeting	9 8:00am Watertown Sandwich Ministry 9:30am Priscilla Circle 5:30pm Acolyte & Blessing Assistant Orientation 6:30pm 7th & 8th Confirmation & Parent Orientation 7:15pm Handbell Rehearsal	10 5:15pm AI-Anon	11 Church Office Closes at Noon 8:00am Watertown Sandwich Ministry 3:00pm Wedding (Courtney Hanson)	12 5:30pm Worship
13 Fall Activities Resume 8:45am Backto School Blessing 8:45am Church School 9:30am Worship 10:30am Praise & Rejoice Choir Rehearsal 10:30am Stewardship Committee Meeting	14 8:00am Watertown Sandwich Ministry 2:00pm Martha Circle 6:45pm AI-Anon	15 10:00am Prayer Shawl Group 11:00am Area Pastor TEXT STUDY 1:00pm Staff Meeting 2:30pm Quilting Bible Study	16 Fall Activities Resume 8:00am Watertown Sandwich Ministry 12:15pm Men's Lunch 5:00pm Community Meal 5:45pm Back to School Blessing 5:45pm Church School 6:30pm 7th & 8th Confirmation 6:30pm 7th Grade Milestone Recognition 6:30pm Worship 7:15pm Handbell Rehearsal 7:15pm Luther League 2.0 (9-12 Grade)	17 9:00am Quilting 5:15pm AI-Anon 6:00pm Junction (for grades 1st to 4th)	18 Church Office Closes at Noon 8:00am Watertown Sandwich Ministry 9:00am Quilting	19 5:30pm Worship with Holy Communion
20 8:45am Church School 9:30am Worship with Holy Communion 10:30am Praise & Rejoice Choir Rehearsal 11:00am God's Work. Our Hands. at Mt. Hope	21 October Newsletter Deadline 8:00am Watertown Sandwich Ministry 6:00pm Crossroads 78 (Youth group for 7th and 8th grade) 6:45pm AI-Anon 7:00pm Book Club Meets at Watertown Regional Library	22 11:00am Area Pastor TEXT STUDY 1:00pm Staff Meeting	23 8:00am Watertown Sandwich Ministry 12:15pm Men's Lunch 5:00pm Community Meal 5:45pm Church School 6:30pm 7th & 8th Confirmation 6:30pm Worship with Holy Communion 7:15pm Handbell Rehearsal 7:15pm Luther League 2.0 (9-12 Grade)	24 11:00am Preschool Chapel 5:15pm AI-Anon	25 Church Office Closes at Noon 8:00am Watertown Sandwich Ministry	26 5:30pm Worship
27 8:45am Church School 9:30am Worship 10:30am Praise & Rejoice Choir Rehearsal 10:30am Redeemer's Kitchen	28 8:00am Watertown Sandwich Ministry 6:45pm AI-Anon	29 9:00am-2:00pm Sewing Ministry Group 11:00am Text Study 1:00pm Staff Meeting	30 8:00am Watertown Sandwich Ministry 12:15pm Men's Lunch 3:45pm Route 56 Youth Group - 5:00pm Community Meal 5:45pm Church School 6:30pm 7th & 8th Confirmation 6:30pm Worship 7:15pm Handbell Rehearsal 7:15pm Luther League 2.0 (9-12 Grade)	1 9:00am Quilting 5:15pm AI-Anon 6:00pm Adult Bible Study with Pastor Dan	2 Church Office Closes at Noon 8:00am Watertown Sandwich Ministry	3 5:30pm Worship with Holy Communion 6:30pm Saturday Evening Meal