



From
the
Pastor's



Desk

Reflecting on our Lord's Gentleness and His Real Strength

I recently lamented with others from Wartburg Seminary about the death of our beloved worship professor 30 years ago. The saying on the office door of 44-year-old Dr. Ralph Smith said this: *Nothing is so strong as gentleness, nothing so gentle as real strength.*

I was dating my wife, Pastor Carla, when the call came to her parsonage in Detroit that another driver had a heart attack and swerved in front of them causing a terrible head-on car crash. Ralph's wife, Cindy, his daughter, and two others from Wartburg survived the crash. A funeral service was held at the Wartburg chapel right after Thanksgiving break.

It was my great honor to help lead that service. Knowing his infant grandson was in his arms in the coffin gave us all some comfort, but also brought tears. Truly, he left an amazing legacy for all who knew him!

Tragedies can happen anytime in life. I told you last month about a funeral I presided over last year at the Black Hills National Cemetery. It was for a 98-year-old cowboy, a veteran of World War II, who had to deal with a lot of tragedy in his life. As a Marine, he was at the bottom of the hill during all the fighting and the raising of the U.S. flag at Iwo Jima.

Going back in his life, while very young in Minnesota, he and his brothers watched their father shoot their mother in the kitchen, and then go to the basement to end his own life. The boys ended up in orphanage in Minneapolis run by Lutheran Social Services and then on to a foster family.

This World War II veteran and cowboy made something out of his life in spite of the hardships he endured. He was known as "Old Timer" and ranchers near and far knew they could count on him to show up for fence fixing and branding days.

Beloved in Christ: *Nothing is so strong as gentleness, nothing so gentle as real strength.* The definition of the word gentle is "strength under control." I used that when wrestling with our young son on the carpet in the living room of the Roseni parsonage near Beresford. He never got hurt because I kept my strength under control.

I'm not sure why tragedies happen like the one I mentioned. But I do know our Lord Jesus Christ used his strength to go to the cross and die in our place. I pray we will all remember our Lord's "strength under control" as we prepare next month to begin this year's Lenten journey.

Love them like Jesus, ><> Pastor Kevin

Serving Grace January 2024

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE ~ 9:00 AM

Position	January 7	January 14	January 21	January 28
Greeters (1)	Russell and Patsy Lisko	Norma Tesch and Dorothy Bostrom	Nick, Michelle, Vance and Sawyer Shryock	Jeff and Darla DeKraai
Ushers (4)		Al Weidenbach and Brandon Caneva	Bonnie Lange and David Lyons	
Assisting Ministers	Tim Patmore	Kim Webber	Tim Patmore	JD Williams
Lesson Reader (1)	Tim Patmore	Paulette Meland		Jeff DeKraai
Serving Communion	Brandy Nikkila	Lynette Kvanvig		
*Coffee Hosts (3)	Lynette Kvanvig and Dawn Geppert	Bonnie Lange		Sue Whitford, Sharon Collins, Deanne Burnette, Jeannie Humble and Karen Hansen
Sunday Acolytes	Mason and Blaine McGillivray	Lily and Landry Wilson	Braxten Bahe and Quintin Kelly	Jenika and Jett Leonhardt

*Coffee Hosts– please bring 4 dozen cookies each, help set up, serve and clean up. Worship helper instructions are located near the greeters' welcome table.

~ WEDNESDAY NIGHT WORSHIP SERVICE ~

Position	January 10	January 17	January 24	January 31
*WNL Meal Hosts	Tim and Debbie Patmore	Tim and Debbie Patmore	Tim and Debbie Patmore	Tim and Debbie Patmore
Wednesday Night Acolytes	Khiana Williams Oviatt and JoLei Avery	Tenlee and Talen Koontz	Lily Meunier and Pate Gunderson	Kaydence and Owen Aldren

January Serving Grace Members

Adam, Laura
 Aldren, Kelly and Jennifer
 Bertolotto, Jerry and Ann
 Carlson, Randy & Petrowske, Denise
 Curry, Jarred and Inga
 DeKraai, Jeff and Darla
 Engebretson, Dave & Jackie
 Geppert, Dan and Dawn
 Gibson, David & Lydia

Halverson, David & Shirley
 Halverson, Sonja
 Hurlburt, Mick and Connie
 Kaufman, Bob and Marie
 Kopren, Darlyne
 Kvanvig, Lynette
 McPherson, Elizabeth & Luke
 Meyer, Gary and Liane
 Potts, Tim and Marcia
 Rush, Grant

Schaefer, Lorayne
 Schummer, Kenya
 Selting, Rob and Carmen
 Tesch, Bob
 Tesch, Norma
 Ward, Jeff and Shellie
 Whitford, Sue
 Williams, J.D. and Michelle

Serving Grace February 2024

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE ~ 9:00 AM

Serving Grace sign up board is located near the entrance of the church.
If your name is listed below, please sign up for February before January 22nd.

Position	Feb 4	Feb 11	Feb 18	Feb 25
Greeters (2)				
Ushers (4)		Al Weidenbach and Brandon Caneva	Bonnie Lange and David Lyons	
Assisting Ministers	Garland Dobler	Tim Patmore	Tim Patmore	JD Williams
Lesson Reader (1)	Kimberly Petersen		Kimberly Petersen	
Serving Communion				
*Coffee Hosts (3)				
Sunday Acolytes	Khiana Williams Oviatt and JoLei Avery	Tenlee and Talen Koontz	Lily Meunier and Pate Gunderson	Kaydence and Owen Aldren

Avery, Dan and Dadra
Bisson, Paul and Mary
Boy, Dan and Sheri
Boy, Sandra &
Plaggemeyer, Aisha
Casteel, Clayton & Janice
Collins, Sharon
Gabriel, Larry
Greslin, Don and Judy

Hayes, DeWayne
Hencke, Bryan & Tammy
Jorensen, Barney & Dawn
Kelly, Matt and Amanda
Kreutz, Dale & Mary Ellen
Lange, Bonnie
Lisko, Russell and Patsy
Pankratz, Chris & Melissa
Petersen, Kimberly

Reder, Hope
Shryock, Nick and Michelle
Shuck, Denise
Smit, Ruth
Stubstad, Carol
Weimer, Jan
White, Lyla
Wiedmann, Ron and Gloria
Wilson, Pete and Mikayla



PROJECTOR OPERATORS IN JANUARY

1st Sunday: Debbie Patmore
2nd Sunday: Deb Haivala
3rd Sunday: Debbie Patmore
4th Sunday: Bob Tesch

ALTAR GUILD IN JANUARY

2023 YEAR TO DATE

OFFERINGS

\$230,853.68

EXPENSES

\$265,425.81

BUDGET

\$255,875.00



DECEMBER ATTENDANCE

Sundays

Dec 3 - 138

Dec 10 - 102

Dec 17 - 174

Dec 24 - 95

Dec 24 -284

Dec 31 - 99

Wednesdays

Dec 6 - 48

Dec 13 - 43

Dec 20 - 163



PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: Gordon Kotab, Allen Anderson, Myles Hupp, John Wilcox, Darla DeKraai, Ron Monson, Paulette Walker and the families of Marlowe Kinkade, Robert Johnson, and Ramona Hultman.

On-going prayers: Bud Rank, Kelly Collins, Sharon Rank, Jody Wilke, Dale Kreutz, Morgan Myers, Bill Molitor, Ally Tedder, Marcia Potts, Larry Schemmel, Joy Conway, Dawn McCarthy, our homebound members and those serving in the military. *(Please notify the office of changes)*



Deadline to submit items for the February newsletter is *Monday, January 22nd.*

Please send your newsletter items to Keri at gracelutheran@rushmore.com. Let us send you an email with a link to our newsletter when it's posted to our website. If you are interested, please send your email address to the office at: gracelutheran@rushmore.com or call Keri at 605-347-2713.

Did you know... Our website contains the weekly worship bulletins, monthly newsletter, sermon broadcast, monthly calendar, Council and Committee minutes, and much more. For a printed copy, see the info rack at the entrance of the church.

Check it out at: www.sturgisglc.org.

See special events on Facebook.



Has your address or phone number changed?

Please let Keri know at 605-347-2713 or e-mail us at gracelutheran@rushmore.com.



Funerals & Prayer Service

December 19 - Ed Pickar
December 23 - Ramona Hultman
December 29 - Robert Johnson
January 2 - Marlowe Kinkade



I want to thank everyone for all of the wonderful Christmas gifts and cards. I'm truly grateful for all of you. ~Keri

Sausage Hashbrown Bites Pam Weidenbach

1lb Jimmy Dean sausage, cooked
8 oz cream cheese
1 1/2 cups fine shredded cheddar cheese
1 1/2 cups Bisquick
4 cups fine sliced frozen hashbrowns - thawed
Combine ingredients and shape into 1 1/2 inch diameter spheres and bake at 400 for 20 - 25 minutes.



CONGREGATIONAL
MEETING

Annual Congregational Meeting

Sunday, January 14

immediately following the service.

Annual report copies will be available or can be downloaded and printed from our website at: sturgisglc.org. If you would like a hard copy prior to the meeting, please stop in the office & pick one up after January 10.



By Jan. 14, call or text Marlene at 605-347-1375 or email kotabgmc@rushmore.com to sign up for the 2024 Cantata Choir. All singers are welcome. The first rehearsal is Sunday, Feb. 11 at 1:30 at Grace. Come sing with us.



Beginning January 1

If you would like one printed or emailed, please stop in or give Keri a call at 605-347-2713.



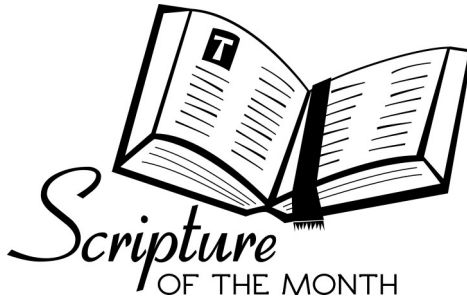
Parsonage Open House Sunday, January 7, from 2 pm - 4 pm. Come and wish Pastor Kevin a Happy 65th Birthday!! All are invited.

January 7

Genesis 1:1-5
Psalm 29
Acts 19:1-7
Mark 1:4-11

January 14

1 Samuel 3:1-10[11-20]
Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18
1 Corinthians 6:12-20
John 1:43-51



January 21

Jonah 3:1-5, 10
Psalm 62:5-12
1 Corinthians 7:29-31
Mark 1:14-20

January 28

Deuteronomy 18:15-20
Psalm 111
1 Corinthians 8:1-13
Mark 1:21-28

9 AM SUNDAY WORSHIP RADIO BROADCAST SPONSORS

The radio broadcast calendar for 2024 is posted on the bulletin board in the entryway of the church. You are invited to place your name on the date you wish to sponsor. You may also call the office 347-2713 to reserve a date. The cost per broadcast is \$65. Partial sponsorships are invited and encouraged.

Jan 7 - Rachel Circle, in memory of Eleanora Miller.

Jan 14 -

Jan 21 - In celebration of Ruth Mechling's 93rd birthday, love her children.

Jan 28 - Rachel Circle, in memory of Elizabeth Loughlin.

Offering Information

Send your offering to PO Box 577,
Sturgis, SD 57785,
or drop off at the church Office
Mon - Fri 8 am - 12 pm / 1 pm - 5 pm

To Use Venmo:

1. Scan the QR code with your smartphone.
2. Login or setup your account (first time only).
3. Make your gift.



**The Red Bucket Ministry
For the 1st Quarter**

**Camp Scholarships
for all 5th Grade Students**

Leave a donation in the Red Bucket located in the back of the church and your donation will help send all of our 5th grade students to summer camp at Outlaw Ranch.



FALL/WINTER 2023/2024 PLANNED GENEROSITY PROMOS FOR BULLETIN/NEWSLETTER October 8 – March 10

(NOTE: Most of these pieces are not date-specific and may be used whenever time and space permit.)



JANUARY 7: *Who is your generosity hero?* Take a moment to think about someone whose life reflects their faith through a generous heart and giving spirit. What about their words and actions inspires you? Maybe you are a generosity hero to others, or would like to be one. If your faith is calling you to lead by example with generosity in the coming year, Lutheran Planned Generosity of South Dakota can help. Call 605.274.5030 or email lpgsd@sdsynod.org to make a plan that makes a difference.

JANUARY 14: *Plan for your future like you plan for your vacation.* Did you know that most people spend more time arranging a single vacation than they spend on estate planning over an entire lifetime? Lutheran Planned Generosity of South Dakota is a free service offered by the South Dakota Synod of the ELCA that can help you walk through this process. Call 605.274.5030 or email lpgsd@sdsynod.org for more information.

JANUARY 21: *Give It Twice.* If you're like most parents, you want to leave something to your children, and maybe even grandchildren. But they may not be prepared to manage a large gift representing your entire life's saving and investing. What if it were possible for them to receive an inheritance over a period of years, allowing them time to develop financial skills to save and invest for their own future? A **Give It Twice Trust** can do just that, as well as provide tax savings and an opportunity for you to make a gift to ministry. Contact Kathy McHenry, Lutheran Planned Generosity of South Dakota, 605.274.5030 or lpgsd@sdsynod.org for more information.

JANUARY 28: *Give to ministry and receive regular income.* Did you know that you can fund a gift annuity through a donation of cash, securities or other assets and receive a fixed payment for the rest of your life? Rates have increased--at 78, you'll receive 7.2% per year, much of which may be tax-free. You also have the peace of mind knowing that after receiving a lifetime of payments, any remainder will support the ministries of your choice. Contact Lutheran Planned Generosity of South Dakota (605.274.5030 or lpgsd@sdsynod.org) for more information.

FEBRUARY 4: *How much is enough?* That sounds like a loaded question, doesn't it? But this isn't about creating some kind of guilt trip over the size of my gifts. Instead, I'm thinking about how much is enough for ME? Have I thought intentionally about the point where I have everything I need, and what is God's hope for anything beyond that amount? Not an easy thought process, but I'd love to hear your comments and to have you join me in considering these questions. --Kathy McHenry, Lutheran Planned Generosity of South Dakota (605.274.5030 or kmchenry@sdsynod.org).

your life can make a difference

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kmchenry@sdsynod.org

Cell: 605.868.8754
www.lpgsd.org



January BIRTHDAYS

4 Kristin Cammack
Taya Tucker

5 Coleen Hanes
Mel Hanes

7 Pastor Kevin

10 Darlene Mullins

11 Zachary Adam
Marjorie Erion-Johnson
Jake Vliem

13 Ward Dobler

14 Judy Greslin

15 Joanne Noyes
Larry Crawford

18 Vivian Kreutz

20 Aimee Jost

22 Eileen Raforth

23 Ardith McFarland
Ruth Mechling
Ranae Pickar

25 Pate Gunderson

26 Glynda Smith

27 Kevin Anderson
Jason Kreutz
Cindy Gehringer
Brenda Nohava

28 Dorothy Bostrom
Barb Haivala
Thomas Magdanz Jr.

31 Austin Hall
Jesse Blakeman



January ANNIVERSARIES

3 Bernard & Marie Ritten

13 Allen & Linda Hemmah

Grace Lutheran News and Events

January 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 OFFICE CLOSED 	2	3 8:30 am Quilting	4 9:30 am Bible Study 5:30 pm Council Meeting	5	6 8 am Men's Prayer Breakfast
7 9:00 am Worship (HC) 10:00 am Coffee Hour/ Journey with Jesus 10:30 Choir	8 Pastor's Day Off	9 1:30 pm GLCW Meeting	10 8:30 am Quilting 5 pm Kids Alive 5 pm Bible Study 5:30 pm WNL Supper 6:30 pm HS Youth 6:30 pm WNL Service	11 9:30 am Bible Study	12 	13 8 am Men's Prayer Breakfast
14 9:00 am Worship (HC) 10:00 am Annual Mtg. 10:00 am Coffee Hour/ Journey with Jesus 10:30 Choir	15 Pastor's Day Off 	16 5:30 pm Worship Meeting	17 8:30 am Quilting 5 pm Kids Alive 5 pm Bible Study 5:30 pm WNL Supper 6:30 pm HS Youth 6:30 pm WNL Service	18 9:30 am Bible Study	19	20 8 am Men's Prayer Breakfast
21 9:00 am Worship (HC) 10:00 am Coffee Hour/ Journey with Jesus 10:30 Choir	22 Pastor's Day Off Newsletter Deadline	23	24 8:30 am Quilting 5 pm Kids Alive 5 pm Bible Study 5:30 pm WNL Supper 6:30 pm HS Youth 6:30 pm WNL Service	25 9:30 am Bible Study	26	27 8 am Men's Prayer Breakfast
28 9:00 am Worship (HC) 10:00 am Coffee Hour/ Journey with Jesus 10:30 Choir	29 Pastor's Day Off	30	31 8:30 am Quilting 5 pm Kids Alive 5 pm Bible Study 5:30 pm WNL Supper 6:30 pm HS Youth 6:30 pm WNL Service			