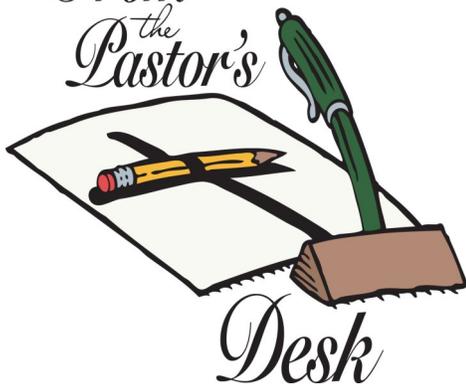




*From
the
Pastor's*



Desk

Bonding in Faith with Buddies

"Pastor Kevin invited his friend to write this guest column to encourage us all to go deeper in our faith this Lent."

How Men's Bible Study Can Enrich Your Life by Rod Gerlach *Note: Rod Gerlach and Pastor Kevin were roommates at South Dakota State University. They have remained good friends and this article shows how friendship and God's grace are guiding men's Bible studies around the world!*

Topics can evolve into serious ones, and yet veer off the rails into lighthearted tales and kidding. We're just a bunch of guys who enjoy learning more about God and sharing life stories of our Christian faith.

Members of my men's Bible studies over the years have told how Jesus walked with them during many trials (fighting World War enemies in a fox hole, losing the life of a son in a mountain climbing accident, and an alcohol addiction resulting in a broken marriage, for example).

A few times there are tears welling up in our eyes, especially after emotional experiences. As macho as men often try to be, yes, it's OK for your eyes to swell at men's Bible study. Remember the shortest verse in the Bible—Jesus wept.

Forming strong bonds and trust with other men takes time, as with any relationship. Your spiritual stories may not pop up right away. Think of your time each week together as a faith journey. After 8 years gathering with basically the same group of 6-12 guys, they're like brothers to me.

I'm a better person as a result. When discussing a predicament during our study, we often ask: "What would Jesus do?" That's pretty good guidance to try to live your life.

Like most men's Bible studies, we start each Saturday morning with coffee and discuss the week's latest events in each other's lives or in the world. Then we gather for a Christian video, book, or Bible story that focuses us. None of us profess to have a theological answer (we count on our Pastor for that), but we often recall a story in our own lives that relates to each week's subject.

It's truly inspirational. Real life stories from fellow Christian men light my fire. They often motivate our entire group to do more to help people.

And outcomes are numerous. Together, our men's group has routinely worked a service day for Habitat for Humanity, and in one case collecting furniture for a single woman who didn't have any to fill her new house. We've spruced up yards for church members who no longer can do it themselves.

Living in suburban Chicago, we often encounter homeless people on the streets seeking help. One week after discussing how best to respond, some of us decided to put several small tokens of aid in a plastic gallon bag. A sample of items include: socks, a devotional booklet, a McDonald's gift certificate, hand warmers, gloves, and a water bottle. Use your imagination to fit more in, and keep the bag in your car. Giving my first one away felt heavenly!

We humbly admit our faults and sins. Don't forget the only perfect father is God. We challenge each other to change the wrong things we do in our lives. Do-overs are allowed.

One familiar refrain that all the men in my Bible study repeat is that we feel a spiritual hole in our lives whenever we're unable to attend. That's how much our weekly fellowship means to us.

May God's grace shine on your newly started men's Bible study at Grace Lutheran Church!

Serving Grace March 2023

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE ~ 9:00 AM

| Position | March 5 | March 12 | March 19 | March 26 |
|---------------------|---|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Greeters (2) | Lynn and Karmen Aga | Dick Ruby | David and Lydia Gibson | |
| Ushers (4) | | Al Weidenbach and Brandon Caneva | Bonnie Lange and | Dale & Mary Ellen Kreutz |
| Assisting Ministers | Tim Potts | Garland Dobler | Tim Patmore | Kim Webber |
| Lesson Reader (1) | Dick Ruby | | | Blake Williams |
| Serving Communion | Ardith McFarland | Bob and Deb Haivala | | |
| *Coffee Hosts (3) | Kent & Heather Kreutz and Ward & Garland Dobler | Bob and Deb Haivala | Berg & McGillivray Families | |
| Sunday Acolytes | Elle King and Jolei Avery | Tenlee and Talen Koontz | Madeline and Olivia Vliem | Pate Gunderson and Brinley Heikes |

*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 | March 1 | March 8 | March 15 | March 22 | March 29 |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------------------|
| *WNL Meal Hosts | Rachel Circle | GLCW | GLC Youth | Mary Circle | GLC Quilters |
| Wednesday Night Acolytes | Kwynnlee & Kerrigan Meland | Torin Monahan and Levi McPherson | Willow Nikkila and Arina Haugen | Holland and Isla Rohde | Alex Weingartner and Quintin Kelly |

March Serving Grace Members

Aga, Lynn and Karmen
 Anderson, Kevin and Janis
 Berg, Randy and Connie
 Blakeman, Jenna and Jesse
 Calhoon, David and Webber, Kim
 Chapman, Dan and Lynelle
 Dobler, Ward and Garland
 Gutsche, Janet
 Haivala, Bob and Debbie
 Heikes, Rod and Shannon

Johnson, Rosalee
 Kaiser, Linda
 Keeton, Russ and Joanne
 Klein, LeRoy and Cindy
 Konold, Gene and Audrey
 Kreutz, Kent and Heather
 McFarland, Ardith
 McGillivray, Brandon and Maranda
 Mullins, Darlene
 Pickar, Ed and Ranae

Pudwill, Shawn and Danilee
 Rafevold, Casey and Heidi
 Rock, Brice
 Ruby, Dick
 Schneider, Gene and Colleen
 Sjomeling, Jason and Celena
 Walker, Paulette
 Weitzel, Larry and Ann
 Wolf, Jake and Rosalie
 Wolf, Brad and Jaime

Serving Grace April 2023

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 April before March 20.

| Position | April 2 Palm Sunday | April 9 Easter Sunday | April 16 | April 23 | April 30 |
|------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Greeters (2) | | | | | |
| Ushers (4) | | Al Weidenbach and Brandon Caneva | Bonnie Lange and David Lyons | Dale & Mary Ellen Kreutz | |
| Assisting Ministers | | | | | |
| Lesson Reader (1) | | | | | |
| Serving Communion | | Diana Bauer | | | |
| *Coffee Hosts (3) | Diana Bauer | Patmore and Berg Families | | | |
| Sunday Acolytes | Kwynnlee and Kerrigan Meland | Torin Monahan and Levi McPherson | Willow Nikkila and Arina Haugen | Holland and Isla Rohde | Alex Weingartner and Quintin Kelly |

Aga, Kevin
Assmus, Sharon
Atyeo, Tim and Tonya
Bauer, Diane
Bogart, Shawn and Mikelyn
Caneva, Brandon
Crane, Rhea and Friedel,
Mike
Dschaak, Ethan and Shanna
Gunderson, Al and Tessa

Hertol, Elnor
Johnson, Janet
Karrels, Amanda
King, Cody and Julie
Loughlin, Elizabeth
Magdanz, Thomas and Kelly
Malloux, Kathleen
Meland, Arvid and Paulette
Molitor, Bill and Sandy
Monahan, San and Jennifer

Monahan, Vicki
Mullen, Duston and Cynthia
Patmore, Tim and Debbie
Shoun, Kasey and Amanda
Sigman, Teena
Smith, Marty
Vliem, Jeremy and Cindy
Walker (Weisz), Chaska
Weisz, Rich and Cheryl
Wilson, Char



PROJECTOR OPERATORS IN MARCH

1st Sunday: Debbie Patmore
2nd Sunday: Bob Tesch
3rd Sunday: Debbie Patmore
4th Sunday: Michelle Williams

ALTAR GUILD IN MARCH

Melissa and Chris Pankratz



Douglas Paul Nikkila

Sponsors: Al Gunderson and Brandy Nikkila

Brandy Elena Nikkila

Sponsors: Cindy Gehinger and Destiny Cuestas

Leonardo Brave Comperatore

Sponsors: Bethanie and Tiffany Littler

Willow Athena Nikkila

Sponsor: Addison Osbourn

Coral Anne Nikkila

Sponsor: Brenda Nikkila



**Spring
Forward**

**Daylight Savings Time
Begins March 12!
Don't forget to set your
clocks ahead!**



Sturgis Alliance of Churches

Annual Potato Feed

Baked Potatoes with Toppings and Salad, Coffee,
Cold Drinks and Conversation

Monday, March 27th from 4:30-6:00 at the
Sturgis Community Center



Free Will Offering to help those in need

2023 YEAR TO DATE

OFFERINGS

\$31,080.75

EXPENSES

\$44,870.70

BUDGET

\$42,645.84



FEBRUARY ATTENDANCE

Sundays

Feb 5 - 123

Feb 12 - 120

Feb 19 - 151

Feb 26 - 94

Wednesdays

Feb 1 - 44

Feb 8 - 46

Feb 15 - 39

Feb 22 - Snow



PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: Debra Rasch, Sharon Rank, Judy Rupe, Donzetta Strandjord, Jon Christopherson, Kathy Christians, Marjorie Jutting, and Cindy Milek.

On-going prayers: Ed Pickar, Donna Larson, Jody Wilke, Dale Kreutz, Morgan Myers, Ramona Hultman, Tori Tetrault, Bill Molitor, Ally Tedder, Marcia Potts, Larry Schemmel, Robert Johnson, Joy Conway, Dawn McCarthy, Eleanora Miller, our homebound members and those serving in the military.
(Please notify the office of changes)



Deadline to submit items for the April newsletter is *Monday, March 20th.*

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.

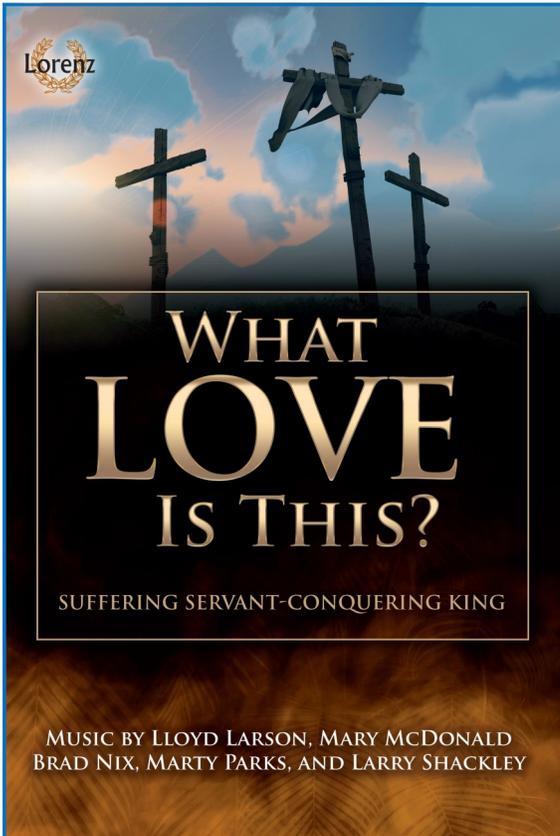
Check it out at: www.sturgisglc.org.

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.



The Sturgis Area Arts Council
Presents
The 14th Sturgis-Area
Easter Cantata
Palm Sunday, April 2
and Tuesday, April 4
7:00 p.m.
Grace Lutheran Church
Receptions follow each performance



*Hosanna,
Hosanna,
in the Highest!*

**PARENTS: All children will
join in the Palm Sunday
Palm Parade and provide
special music
9 am Sunday, April 2**

He is Risen

Sunday April 9

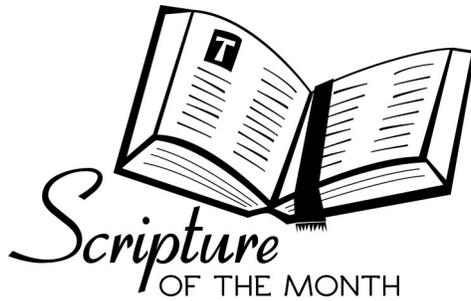
Sunrise Service
6:30 am
Lion's Club Park
Pavilion
Refreshments follow
Traditional Service
9 am
Grace Lutheran

March 5

Genesis 12:1-4a
Psalm 121
Romans 4:1-5, 13-17
John 3:1-17

March 12

Exodus 17:1-7
Psalm 95
Romans 5:1-11
John 4:5-42



March 19

1 Samuel 16:1-13
Psalm 23
Ephesians 5:8-14
John 9:1-41

March 26

Ezekiel 37:1-14
Psalm 130
Romans 8:6-11
John 11:1-45

9 AM SUNDAY WORSHIP RADIO BROADCAST SPONSORS

The radio broadcast calendar for 2023 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.

Mar 5 - In memory of Chris (Bob) Mechling, Love his children.

Mar 12 - Beth and Mark Massa and family, in honor of our parents and grand parents Herb and Connie Cleveland

Mar 19 -

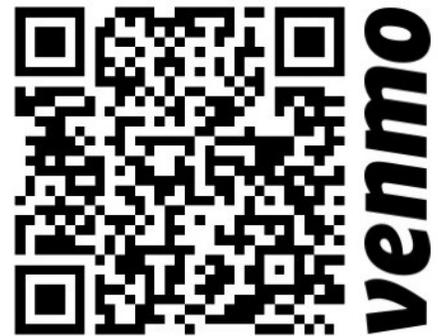
Mar 26 - Ardith McFarland, in memory of Casey McFarland.

Offering Information

Send your offering to PO Box 577, Sturgis, SD 57785, or drop off at the church in the Cross box outside the Office

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.

Welcome to the GLC Family



Pictured Top Left:
Russell and Patsy Lisko
Sponsor Marlene Kotab

Pictured Above:
Matt, Carrie and Alvin Bubkowski
Sponsor Bob Tesch

Pictured to the Left:
Rick and Kris Little
Sponsor Ruth Mechling





Register Now For Summer 2023

Happy New Year! Summer may seem far away, but it will be here before we know it. Remember to visit www.losd.org to register for a wonderful faith-filled experience at a Lutherans Outdoors camp (Klein Ranch, NeSoDak, or Outlaw Ranch) for Summer 2023.

Our early bird discount ends April 17th.

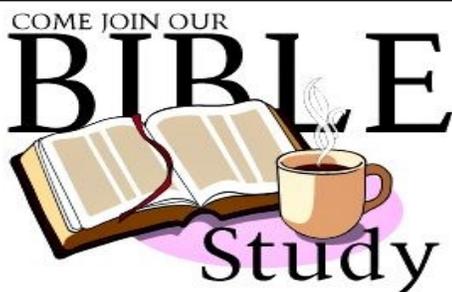
Be sure to register soon to receive the biggest savings.

Register TODAY!

Lutherans Outdoors in South Dakota welcomes ALL to explore and experience Christ's love in community and creation.



All singers are invited to join the Community Easter Cantata Choir. Practices will be held at Grace Lutheran on Sundays from Feb. 19-March 26. Performances are April 2 and 4 at 7 pm. Call Marlene at 605-347-1375 or email kotabgmc@rushmore.com to register so that a book can be ordered for you. You'll love it!



Come and join a weekly Bible Study on Matthew starting on Thursdays at 9:30 am in the Rose Room. All are welcome.



Men's Prayer Breakfast
Saturdays at 8am
at Uncle Louie's
restaurant in Sturgis.
All men are invited!



Thanks to my church family for all of your prayers, acts of kindness, and cards during the long illness and death of my brother, Boyd Swenson. Also, thank you for continued prayers for my sister, Donzetta. You are a blessing. I thank God for you! ~ Lynette Kvanvig



March

BIRTHDAYS

1 Jackie Engebretson
Gary Meyer
Jennifer Gabriel

2 Jared Williams

3 Elizabeth Wilcox
Dadra Avery

4 Ruth Smit
Jocelyn Nohava
Ramona Zeiner
Jennifer Aldren

5 Shirley Halverson

6 Sawyer Shryock

7 Karel Aga
Laura Jewell
Pat Baldwin

8 Sharon Collins
Tammy Hencke

9 Danielle Heinert
Bill Molitor
Doris Workentine
Owen Aldren

10 Joy Conway
Norma Tesch

11 Ed Pickar

12 Gary Reimer
Elizabeth Aga

13 Pastor Carla
Michelle Keeton

14 Daniel Zeiner

15 Emily Meyer
Zachary Ziegenbein

16 Beverly Hemmah

18 Koyer Kelly
David Engebretson
Chaska Weisz

19 Ramona Hultman

20 Marie Kaufman
Quintin Kelly

21 Dennis Chowen

23 Sullivan Jost

24 Ray Aga

27 Sandra Molitor

28 Debbie Merritt

29 Connie Hurlburt
Robin Baldwin

30 MaKayla Shoun

31 Jennifer Keeton
John Paul
Elmer Preszler



March

ANNIVERSARIES

13 Tim & Misty Myers

18 Don & Cindy Swenby

19 Eugene & Audrey Konold

Grace Lutheran News and Events

March 2023

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | <p>1 8:30 am Quilting</p> <p>5 pm Kids Alive 5:30pm Lenten Supper 6:30pm Lenten Service 6:30 pm HS Youth</p> | <p>2 9:30 am Bible Study</p> <p>5:30 pm Council Meeting</p> | <p>3</p>  | <p>4 8 am Men's Prayer Breakfast</p> |
| <p>5 First Communion Sunday</p> <p>9:00 am Worship (HC) 10:00 am Coffee Hour Journey with Jesus 10:15 Mutual Ministry Team Mtg. 10:30 Choir</p> | <p>6 Pastor's Day Off</p> | <p>7</p> | <p>8 8:30 am Quilting</p> <p>5 pm Kids Alive 5:30pm Lenten Supper 6:30pm Lenten Service 6:30 pm HS Youth</p> | <p>9 9:30 am Bible Study</p> <p>3:45 pm Education Mtg</p> | <p>10</p>  <p>Time to Spring Ahead</p> | <p>11 8 am Men's Prayer Breakfast</p> |
| <p>12 Daylight Saving Begins</p> <p>9:00 am Worship (HC) 10:00 am Coffee Hour Journey with Jesus 10:30 Choir</p> | <p>13 Pastor's Day Off</p> | <p>14</p> <p>7:00 pm GLCW Meeting</p> | <p>15 8:30 am Quilting</p> <p>5 pm Kids Alive 5:30pm Lenten Supper 6:30pm Lenten Service 6:30 pm HS Youth</p> | <p>16 9:30 am Bible Study</p> | <p>17</p>  | <p>18 8 am Men's Prayer Breakfast</p> |
| <p>19</p> <p>9:00 am Worship (HC) 10:00 am Coffee Hour Journey with Jesus 10:30 Choir</p> <p>1:30 Cantata Practice</p> | <p>20 Pastor's Day Off</p> <p>Newsletter Deadline</p> | <p>21</p> <p>5:30 pm Worship Meeting</p> | <p>22 8:30 am Quilting</p> <p>5 pm Kids Alive 5:30pm Lenten Supper 6:30pm Lenten Service 6:30 pm HS Youth</p> | <p>23 9:30 am Bible Study</p> | <p>24</p> | <p>25 8 am Men's Prayer Breakfast</p> |
| <p>26</p> <p>9:00 am Worship (HC) 10:00 am Coffee Hour Journey with Jesus 10:30 Choir</p> <p>1:30 Cantata Practice</p> | <p>27 Pastor's Day Off</p> | <p>28 GLCW Circles</p> <p>1:30 pm Martha/ Rachel Circle</p> <p>5 pm Mary Circle</p> | <p>29 8:30 am Quilting</p> <p>5 pm Kids Alive 5:30pm Lenten Supper 6:30pm Lenten Service 6:30 pm HS Youth</p> | <p>30 9:30 am Bible Study</p> <p>7 pm Cantata Practice</p> | <p>31</p>  | |