

Pastor's Corner

By: Pastor Tom Eckstein



“Laura Perry” Testimony about Transgender Delusion

The devil has brought confusion about sexuality into our current culture – and one of the devil's most deceptive and destructive lies is that a woman can become a man or vice versa. “Gender Identity Disorder” is an actual mental illness that affects a small percentage of teenagers and adults, but instead of helping them conform their mental delusion to their actual sex as male or female they have been deceived into thinking that by taking hormones and undergoing mutilating surgeries they can become the opposite sex. But this is a lie! Much harm has been done because of this lie! Below are two pictures of “Laura Perry” who was born as a female but was later encouraged to transition to “male” – only to face later pain, depression and irreversible mutilating surgeries. The picture on the LEFT is of

Laura after attempting to become “male” and the picture on the RIGHT is of Laura after Jesus brought her back to the truth that God had created her as FEMALE and that she was wonderful the way God made her.



Here are some of Laura's own words about her experience: “I am a former transgender, having lived it for almost 9 years. I underwent years of cross-sex hormone therapy, 2 major ‘gender-affirming’ surgeries ... The transgender thoughts and feelings started early in childhood ... I spent the next 25 years trying to get fulfillment and love through sex. In high school, men objectified me (and women in general) ... I began to believe it was a disgusting, filthy, worthless thing to be a female ... During those years I underwent hormone therapy, a double mastectomy/ chest reconstruction, the removal of all my uterus and ovaries, and all of the legal name and gender status changes. I realized in horror that none of the changes I was making had actually made me a man ... as I began to wrestle with this and admit that my lifestyle was a choice, the Lord began to reveal the ugliness and

the insanity of being “transgender” ... That was about three and a half years ago, and in that time God ... has healed me and brought forgiveness and wholeness to my heart. He has revealed His heart for women and how wonderful His creation of the woman is and how beautiful it is ... God has continued to transform my life in ways I had never dreamed possible.” Sadly, our culture is evening targeting young children by deceiving them into thinking they can choose their own sex. We Christians must be willing to speak the truth in love that God has made us male and female and that there is forgiveness and a new beginning for those who have been deceived by the devil's lies. Here's a link to an 8 minute Youtube video about Laura:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EVTYhfWrguo>

Pastor Eckstein on “Short Vacation” after Easter Sunday

Pastor Tom will be taking some time off starting on Sunday afternoon, April 20th through Tuesday, April 29th. This means there will be NO Bible Class on Tuesday, April 22nd or 29th (resumes May 20th); and NO 7:00PM Service on Wed., April 23rd (resumes April 30th). These are changes from last month's calendar.

Please check the attached calendar as there are also several dates in May that Pastor Tom will be gone.

Pastor Eckstein

Newsletter Notes from Deaconess Nayva



Outreach

BOOK CLUB

Hannah Coulter

By Wendell Berry

Copies of the books are available for sale for \$12 (See Nayva).

Discussion date:

May 10th at 2:00

Women's Bible Study

Unforgivable?

*How God's Forgiveness
Transforms us*

**Tuesday
Fellowship Hall 7:00PM
May 6th and 20th**

Feel Free to join us
anytime.

Bible Study

Stephen Ministry

Wednesdays

1:00 – 3:30PM

May 14th and 28th

Please let Nayva know if you have
any questions.

Fellowship

Grief Support Fellowship

2nd Sunday 12:00

Fellowship Hall

May: No Meeting

June 8th: Noon

Hymn Study

Friday, May 2nd 10:00am

Marian Duff (Host)
Ave Maria B25

A New Song

Bible Study on the Psalms

Thurs, May 8th 1:00pm

Vera Schulz (Host)
114 12th Ave NE
Apt. 2030



Youth Group

All dates are tentative and subject to change,
but here is the proposed schedule:

May

Saturday, May 10th 10:00am

Prep for Pancake Breakfast

Sunday, May 11th 9:00am

Pancake Breakfast

Sunday May 18th NOON –

1:30pm (BYO Lunch)

Deaconess Nayva



Main Street Living TV Program
www.mainstreetlivingnorth.com
 Every Sunday on the local Fox
 Station at gam

Wars, mass shootings, drug overdoses, floods and other natural disasters, a decaying moral culture – these are evidence of the fallen creation “groaning” all around us! And yet those whose trust is in Jesus can live with a “*peace that passes all understanding*”, and a sure hope in the sure promise of the resurrection!

Please continue to share information about our LCMS “Main Street Living” media ministry with others. You can view archived programs anytime at www.mainstreetliving.com – then click on the link identified as “**Fargo/Bismarck.**” Worship services from the 5 other MSL broadcast areas, as well as the weekly “This Is The Life” programs, are also available for viewing on the website.

Thank you for your needed financial support! Checks may be sent to:

“Main Street Living NORTH,” 821 5th Ave S, Fargo, ND 58103, or donate by Credit Card or your PayPal account on the website.

God’s blessing in Christ! –

Ken Koehler, MSL North Volunteer Coordinator.



The LWML will meet on May 6th at 3:00pm. Preparation has been made for the recognition of the graduating seniors; quilts will be gifted on May 11th during the services. The graduates this year are:

Lakynn Dietrich
 Lille Douglas (received quilt on 4/20)
 Jayla Hoffer
 Hannah Kosel

Please see the feature found later in the newsletter to become more familiar with some of our members who are graduating.



The quilting group is taking the summer off and will begin meeting again in the fall.

The first Sunday of May is Mite Sunday

Thank you to everyone for donating to the noisy mites. We collected **\$209.06** in April. Thank you for supporting our mission grants.

We collect our mites to help fund our District and National LWML mission grant projects for this biennium....the mission grant being featured this month is: **LWML Mission Grant #2: A Healing Space for At-Risk Children — Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch, ND — \$100,000**

This grant has been **PAID IN FULL!** Not only was this grant for one of our North Dakota ministries, it received one of the highest dollar amounts granted this biennium. The chapel has now been completed and is in use. See the attached flyer for photos of the dedication. To learn more, visit lwml.org/thanks

The LWML National Convention will take place this June. At that time, new grant projects will be chosen. Please keep those who will be gathering for the National Convention in your prayers. Stay tuned for more information about how your mite contributions are helping to bring God’s word and acts of mercy to people all over the world.



Sunday School continues on Sunday mornings at 9:30 for a few more weeks. May 18th will be the last day of Sunday School for

the children. Thank you to all the volunteers for teaching this year.

--Sunday School Superintendent
Sue

Volunteers for May: Musicians:

Sun. 5/4	Carmen McBride
Wed. 5/7	Carmen McBride
Sun. 5/11	Daine Flieth
Sun. 5/18	Daine Flieth
Wed. 5/21	Daine Flieth
Sun. 5/25	Ione Somsen
Wed. 5/28	Ione Somsen

Elder and Acolyte Schedule

Sun. 5/4	8am	10:30 am
	E = Curt S.	E = Larry W.
Wed. 5/7	7pm	E = Quincy B.
Sun. 5/11	8am	10:30am
	E = Josh R.	E = Ed M.
Sun. 5/18	7am	10:30am
	E = Dave H.	E = Doug P.
Wed. 5/21	7pm	E = Quincy B.
Sun. 5/25	8am	10:30am
	E = Gordy L.	E = Josh R.

Communion/Altar preparation:

Marleen Councilman



Please pray for those serving our country...

- SFC Randy Flieth; ND Army National Guard-drilling in Fargo, ND
- Darren Kuhlmann; Whiteman Air Base, MO

Please pray for those that are dealing with cancer...

- Rose Martin
- Ann Schulz
- Cindy Wimer (Sister of Lila Stokkeland)
- Cassie Rott (Friend of Daine Flieth)
- Vanessa Edwards (Friend of Lori Roberts)
- John Hinz (Brother of Dave Hinz)
- Marlane Middlestead; (Sister-In-Law of Shirly Genter)
- Marcella Lange (Friend of Ione Somsen)

Please pray for those dealing with various health issues...

- MJ Westerhausen
- Marvin Lee
- Sue Corwin
- Corrine Scott
- Joan Lee
- Elden Englund
- Arianna Walch
- Delvida Obenauer
- Marian Duff
- Lyn Rutherford
- Karen Connell
- Sheila Corwin
- Drew Connell (Grandson of Karen Connell)
- Mervin Wohler (Brother-in-law of Ann Snow)

- Rayna Mayhair (Infant daughter of Tom & DeAnn Mayhair)
- Paul Schafer III (Son of Lila Stokkeland)
- Tana Lonefight (Friend of Ione Somsen)
- Brad Boerger (Brother of Tom Boerger)
- Blair Baker (Cousin of Bill & Tina Busche)
- Rachel Mulder (Mother of Nayva Mulder)
- Joy Jerome (Cousin of Nayva Mulder)
- Evelyn Bollinger (Great granddaughter of Kathey Ziegler)
- Sue Hedberg; (Daughter of Gerri & Lloyd Bauske)
- Pam Syverson (Friend in the community)
- Gordie Christenson (Cousin of Randy Flieth)

SACRED ACTS:

Confirmation Profession of Faith

Leah Willm – 3/23/2025

Baptism

Current Membership Stats:

Baptized Members-617

Confirmed Members-461

2025

Baptisms (Child)-2, (Adult)-0

Confirmations (Junior)-0, (Adult)-3



Weddings-0

Funerals-2

Transferred In-4

Transferred Out-0

Profession of Faith-4

Removed due to inactivity-0

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The Family Matters

This is a new feature in our newsletter, focusing on family concerns. Whether your raising teens in your home, helping to take care of your grandkids, or you have young people in your sphere of influence in some other way - everyone is part of a family. Our resource to share this month is "Connected Families".



They are a non-profit ministry that exists to support Christ-centered transformation in families by stewarding a growing worldwide community of parents, parent coaches, and ministry partners equipped with a biblical framework for parenting. They offer resources such as books, online courses, small group curriculum, podcasts, and activity guides. To explore, visit the website at connectedfamilies.org

Small group sessions to discuss parenting may be developed if there is an interest. Contact Ellissa for more information. (elissarosin@proton.me or 368-1456)

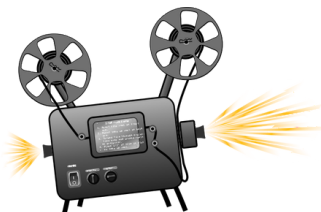


Thank you to everyone who contributed pastries and/or muffins for the Easter Breakfast this year.

Miscellaneous Announcements



Thank you to everyone who donated funds to provide Easter Lilies for the Sanctuary in remembrance of loved ones. The following were honored:
 Noel and Charlie Nemec
 Emannuel Eckstein
 Suzanna & Clarence Goehring
 Butch & Glenda Neustel
 Ann & Ernst Scholz
 Family member of Sue Corwin
 Toni Toltzman
 Cathy Herman
 David Hanson
 Floyd & Mable Wilson
 Albert & Caroline Herman
 Kalei Kahumoku
 Darlene Brummund
 Paul Martin
 Parents of Fred & Carol Martin
 Shirley Bertsch
 Edwin & Emma Hust
 David Darrow
 Englund family members



There will be a movie night @Concordia on Tuesday, May 13th, at 6pm. The movie is **"God's Not Dead"**



Pancake Breakfast!

Join us on **May 11th** during the fellowship hour between services for a pancake feast. Starting at 9:00, pancakes will be served by the Concordia Youth as a fundraiser – Free Will Offering will be accepted.

thrivent[®]

Thank you for considering Concordia Lutheran Church when making your Choice Dollars donation. This month Concordia received \$125 on behalf of the request of the following members:

Allan Hust
 Corrine Scott
 Clarice Spitzer

If you would like more information about the Choice Dollars program at Thrivent, contact your Thrivent representative.



Lutheran Family Services is serving our churches and church members in many places. See the attached flyer for a peek at the interesting activities of the past few months (one was in ND).



Registrations for summer camps are now available at shretreat.org (Downloads page). Early bird discounts apply if you sign up before April 30th (-\$25) or May 10th (-\$15). Online registration will be available soon.

See the enclosed flyer for details about the different camp experiences available. Options include archery, horsemanship, art, chess, encounter camp and much more!

In preparation for the summer camp season, Shepherd's Hill is hosting its annual **Clean-Up Week from May 28-June 1**. Enthusiastic volunteers are summoned to come and help when you can; you can work for one day or several. They have jobs for all ages and abilities. Volunteers will not be charged for meals, cabin spaces or camping spots. If you are interested, contact the Camp Manager Alora Woodruff (701-244-5225) or the volunteer coordinator Vern Hoggarth (701-220-8131).

If you wish to make announcements in the bulletin or newsletter, contact the church office at:
concordiajtsecretary@gmail.com.

LERT TRAINING



Nayva Mulder and Elissa Rosin successfully completed the "Preparing for Disaster Response" Lutheran Early Response Training (LERT) for LCMS Disaster Response teams on March 22, 2025 at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Fargo. This is the basic requirement that will enable them to go to disasters prepared and equipped to serve those in need thru the LCMS. They spent 5hrs going thru the class and had a background check to be certified as their volunteer. The LCMS Disaster Response has established itself as a reputable organization that helps in all steps of disaster recovery. To learn more visit:

<https://www.lcms.org/how-we-serve/mercy/disaster-response>

https://www.lcms-lert.org/blog/display/?blog_id=18907



Join Team Concordia for Running of the Pink! Concordia Lutheran Youth is teaming up to support Running of the Pink, a powerful local event raising awareness and support in the fight against breast cancer. We're inviting YOU to join the movement—whether you want to walk, run, or cheer from the sidelines with our Concordia Cheer Squad!



Event Date: June 7, 2025



Location: RM Stoudt * [800 23rd St SW](#) * [Jamestown ND](#)
Sign up after service or scan the QR code at our table in the lobby. Let's show up, serve with joy, and support our community—together in Christ.



"Let all you do be done in love." – 1 Corinthians 16:14

Church Office Hours

If you need access to the church during the week please call the church office (252-2819), Pastor Eckstein (658-9473), or Nayva (430-9049) to see if arrangements can be made to accommodate your needs.



Meet the Graduates



*"My name is **Jayla Hoffer**. I am planning on attending the University of North Dakota and majoring in Exercise Science. I intend to get my doctorate in physical therapy after I graduate from NDSU. I will continue to dance with the FM Ballet and Gasper's school of dance. One of my favorite memories from my time at Concordia is going to youth group and listening to the bible study and playing games. I also really enjoyed the youth gathering in Houston and I am looking forward to going to New Orleans."*



*This is **Lille Douglas**. As a homeschool graduate, she plans to attend Concordia University-Nebraska and to major in Church Music. After college, she'll be called to an LCMS church to serve as a Director of Parish Music. When asked about her favorite memory at Concordia, she stated "The warmth me and my family received from the start of our membership at Concordia and also the encouragement I received from all the members after playing for services and signing my letter of intent." She also stated "Thank you all for the support and encouragement you've given me. You all have a special place in my heart, and I look forward to visiting you all in the future."*



*Meet **Hannah J Kosel**. She is a graduate of Jamestown High School and will be attending Montana State University in Billings in the fall. She plans to work towards a degree in Art Therapy/Psychology. Her favorite memory of Concordia is singing by candlelight at the end of Christmas Eve service.*

Please join us on May 11th during the services for a special recognition of our graduates. We pray for God's many blessings as they begin the new chapters of their lives.

Concordia Events Calendar – May 2025

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
				8:30- 9:30am Men's Bible Class	10am – Women's Bible Class @ Ave Maria – B25 (Marion Duff, host)	7:30am – 12:30pm Pastor Eckstein serving Grace/Carrington 9-12pm -Orphan Grain Train
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
8am & 10:30am Services (Lord's Supper) 9-9:30am – Fellowship time 9:30am – Sunday School and Adult Bible class 2- 4pm -Pastor @ Trinity/Adrian	9-12pm -Orphan Grain Train *Pastor Eckstein in Fargo for Pastors' Conference through afternoon of 5/07	NO Tuesday morning -Bible Class (resumes 5/20) 7pm -Women's Bible Study @Concordia	7pm –Service (Lord's Supper)	8:30- 9:30am Men's Bible Class @ Concordia 1pm – Women's Bible Study @Vera Schulz Apartment 4pm-8pm – Pastor Eckstein @ Grace/Carrington		7:30am – 12:30pm Pastor Eckstein serving Grace/Carrington 9-12pm -Orphan Grain Train 10am – Youth prepare for Pancake Breakfast 2pm – Book Club @Concordia
11 Mother's Day	12	13	14	15	16	17
8am & 10:30am Services 9am – 10am Pancake Breakfast (Youth serve) 9:30am – Sunday School (NO Adult Bible class) 2- 4pm -Pastor @ Trinity/Adrian	9-12pm -Orphan Grain Train 1:30pm – Dorcas Circle *Pastor Eckstein in Bloomington, MN for preaching seminar through 5/16	NO Tuesday morning Bible Class (resumes 5/20) 1pm – Ruth Circle 6pm Movie Night @Concordia "God's Not Dead"	1pm-3:00pm – Stephen Ministers NO evening Service (resumes 5/21)	8:30- 9:30am Men's Bible Class @ Concordia		7:30am – 12:30pm Pastor Eckstein serving Grace/Carrington 9-12pm -Orphan Grain Train
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
8am a& 10:30am Service (Lord's Supper) 9-9:30am – Fellowship time 9:30am Sunday School and Adult Bible Study (Last day of children's Sunday School until after Labor Day) 12pm – Youth meeting (BYO Lunch) 2- 4pm -Pastor @ Trinity/Adrian	9-12pm -Orphan Grain Train 7pm – Elders & Stewardship meeting 7:30pm – Council	10am Bible Class 4pm-8pm – Pastor Eckstein @ Grace/Carrington 7pm -Women's Bible Study @Concordia	7pm –Service (Lord's Supper)	8:30- 9:30am Men's Bible Class @ Concordia		9-12pm -Orphan Grain Train
25	26 Memorial Day	27	28	29	30	31
8am & 10:30am Service 9-9:30am – Fellowship time 9:30am – Adult Bible class	Church Office Closed	10am -Bible Class 4pm-8pm – Pastor Eckstein @ Grace/Carrington	1pm-3:00pm – Stephen Ministers 7pm – Service	8:30- 9:30am Men's Bible Class @ Concordia		9-12pm -Orphan Grain Train 7:30am – 12:30pm Pastor Eckstein serving Grace/Carrington

***Fridays-Pastor's Day Off!**

***Mondays-Deaconess Nayva's Day Off!**

***Chancel Duties: Marleen Councilman**

4/16/2025

04:13 pm

Concordia Lutheran

May 2025

Birthdays and Wedding Anniversaries

Search: =May; Who = (everyone except removed); Filter = Birthday or Wedding

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 EMERIE MCINTYRE (b.) ETHAN MCKENNEY (b.) AMY NEUSTEL (b.)	2	3 DAWN MIELKE (b.)
4 BRANDON DOCKTER (b.) AMBER SPITZER (b.) DON WIRRENGA (b.)	5	6 GERALD CHAMPAGNE (b.) THOMAS ECKSTEIN (b.)	7 DEB HAGEL (b.) LORI LIPETZKY (b.)	8	9	10 JACOB FISCHER (b.) ANDREW WESTERHAUSEN (b.)
11 KAI BACKEN (b.) JACOB ROBERTS (b.)	12 BILL DUNAWAY (b.) (AMANDA) IRISH (b.) GORDY LUCHT (b.)	13 (KAREN) CONNELL (b.) MARK and TAMMY CHAPIN (w.)	14 BIRGITTA ECKSTEIN (b.) COLE RASMUSSEN (b.) (SHANNON) WIEST (b.)	15 ASHLEY FOX (b.) LYNN FOX (b.) SARAH MICKELSON (b.)	16 NORMA MORLOCK (b.)	17 NICOLE HOCHHALTER (b.) (HESSTON) KINZLER (b.) AARON SERFOSS (b.) RHONDA TARNO (b.)
18 (JASON) SCHMIDT (b.) KEN SCHMIDT (b.) MATTHEW and KRISTEN HALL (w.) ANDREA STILWELL and JAKE (w.)	19 SHERI DRENTH (b.) MARIAN DUFF (b.) DONALD MIELKE (b.) COREY MURRAY (b.)	20 LUCA HOCHHALTER (b.) MAKENZIE ANDERSON and (ERIK) LOFTSGARD (w.)	21 CHARLES HALL (b.) MICHELLE MORLOCK (b.) WADE SPITZER (b.)	22 TRACY ARNDT (b.) CODY LAUSCH (b.) DUKE MIEMIETZ (b.) MARY PURCELL (b.) ANDY and LEONA BRAUN (w.)	23 ANDY BRAUN (b.) LYDIA ROSIN (b.)	24 ACE OTTO (b.) AERALYNN VEN HUIZEN (b.)
25 MINON BENDER (b.) AUSTIN OTTO (b.) RYAN TARNO (b.)	26 JOYCE CARLSON (b.) DYLAN MARSOLEK (b.)	27 JODI NELSON (b.) TERRY PURCELL (b.) TREVOR SCHMITT (b.)	28 AL and ELLEN EPPEN (w.)	29 DALON DEHNE (b.) BRODY HETLETVEDT (b.)	30 DOUG SABINASH (b.)	31 TWYLA ANDERSON (b.) TOM MAYHAIR (b.)

MAY

This is a monthly prayer guide for your daily use. Each day as you pray, please feed your Mite Box in support of district and LWML Mission Grants. As you lift up the countries and mission grants listed, pray that the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ would be heard by those who live there or are served by our mite offerings.

Each country listed has been a recipient of a mission grant from Lutheran Women in Mission at some time since 1942. What a joy it is to bring these prayers to our Father's listening ears!



1. For flowers. Bring some to a friend or neighbor.
2. For school teachers, school workers, and students.
3. For Ethiopia, one of the 83 countries where LWML has supported a grant.
4. For the LWML Ohio District.
5. For nurses and healthcare workers.
6. For the opportunity to be able to invite someone to lunch so you can get to know them better.
7. For the country of Guinea.
8. For godly mothers.
9. For the opportunity to help a young mom.
10. For our Lutheran Women in Mission Vice President of Organizational Resources.
11. For LWML Mission Grant #11.
12. For God to strengthen ordained pastors everywhere.
13. For the country of Haiti.
14. For the many things you can be thankful for today.
15. For our national LCMS Council of District Presidents.
16. For the country of Hong Kong.
17. For the LWML English District.
18. For Mite Goals in all the districts.
19. For friends and strangers you meet today.
20. For the country of India.
21. For flower and vegetable gardens.
22. For firefighters.
23. For LWML Mission Grant #12.
24. For the country of Indonesia.
25. For the LWML SELC District.
26. For your neighbors and for ways to serve them.
27. For an opportunity to buy someone a cup of tea or coffee.
28. For the country of Israel.
29. For the armed forces who gave their lives and for their families left behind.
30. For the LWML Eastern District.
31. For the country of Latvia.



YOU ARE INVITED



MOVIE NIGHT

TUESDAY MAY 13TH

START: 6 PM

FELLOWSHIP HALL

God's Not Dead



Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
North Dakota District

Cultivating Life in Christ
Strength for Today Hope Forever

**YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO
THE FORMAL INSTALLATION
SERVICE OF**

**REV. MARK
CHEPULIS**

**AS DISTRICT PRESIDENT OF THE
LCMS NORTH DAKOTA DISTRICT AT
WITTENBERG LUTHERAN CHAPEL
IN GRAND FORKS, ND**

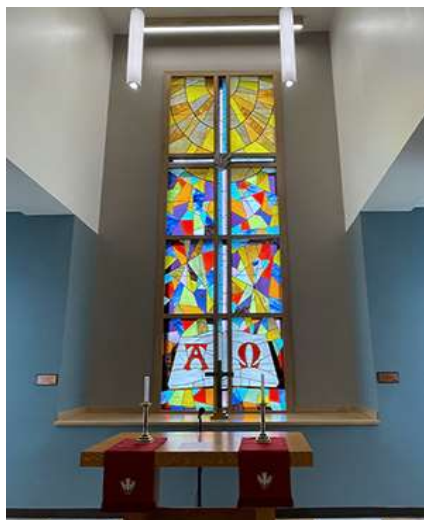
Saturday, May 31st, 2025

2:00 PM Central Time



*Clergy are invited. Please bring vestments
(red stole).*

Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch — Hope Chapel dedication — August 16, 2024



Joy Ryan, President and CEO of Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch, brought greetings to those in attendance before the worship service started.

The dedication worship service opened with "Lift High The Cross" and ended with "Here I Am Lord." Scripture readings were read before the blessing of each part of the chapel, including the building, baptismal font, stained glass window, lectern/pulpit, and altar. A student from the Bismarck campus participated in the service, reading two of the Scriptures.

Chaplain Jones' sermon, "Hope: From Yesterday for Forever," talked about many types of hope. There is a fulfillment of hope from 72 years ago when the Ranch began. Children and youth who come to the Ranch have lived in darkness, but then learn that with Jesus there is always hope. Now, Hope Chapel will be a permanent place of peace and comfort for each child who is at the Ranch now and every child that will enter here in the future.



Spiritual Life Team — Rev. Thomas Marcis Jr., Chaplain Rick Jones, Rev. Vince Otto, Vicar Dylan Meyer, Deaconess Stephanie Wilde (Fargo campus), and Deaconess Kelly Bristow (Minot campus)

Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch is a place of caring, comfort, peace, and hope for every student who resides on one of the campuses or attends school as a day student. Thank you, Lutheran Women in Mission, for supporting this much needed ministry in North Dakota with your mite offerings.



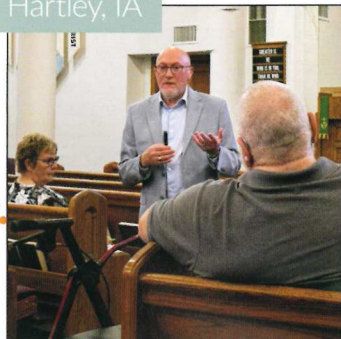
Dedication Bookmarks — Youth from all three Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch campuses colored bookmarks for the Chapel Dedication.



Musician for Worship — Vicar Dylan Meyer and Deaconess Kelly Bristow

WHERE IN THE WORLD IS Lutheran Family Service?

Hartley, IA



9/26/24 Dr. Mark Vande Braak presented to St. Paul Lutheran in Hartley, Iowa, on the topics of grief, loss, and trauma as part of Suicide Prevention Month.

Pierre, SD



9/27/24 We hosted a Pastors' Wives Retreat in Pierre, South Dakota, building connections centered on "running the race" that God has set before them.

Clarinda, IA



10/5/24 Our dynamic duo of counselor Cassie Beltz and Rev. Jonathan Conner spoke on creation and identity at the Council Bluffs Circuit Gathering in Clarinda.

Kearney, NE



10/17/24 Our Director Of Church Worker Wellness, Angela Kollbaum, presented at the Nebraska Professional Church Worker Conference in Kearney.

Minot, ND



1/19/25 Rev. Max Phillips, our Executive Director, spoke at the North Dakota District Convention in anticipation of building continued partnerships in the state.

Center Point, IA



11/16/24 We were joined by an awesome group of campus ministry students for a discussion on gender identity at St. John Lutheran in Center Point, Iowa.

Sioux Falls, SD



10/24/24 We had a great time at the 2024 Sioux Falls Lutheran School Fall Festival seeing nearly 400 families visit our trick-or-treat booth.

Trappe, PA



10/18/24 We weren't really in Pennsylvania, but German missionary Heinrich Melchior Mühlenberg transported visitors at our Fall LWML events.

Des Moines, IA



1/27/25 Lutheran Family Service was proud to sponsor the annual Prayer Rally For Life in the Iowa State Capitol to promote pro-life legislative action.

Des Moines, IA



2/11/25 Iowa LCMS pastors stood for truth and life at LFS' 8th annual Iowa LCMS Pastors' Day On The Hill event at the State Capitol in Des Moines.

Phoenix, AZ



2/13/25 Along with 2,600 church workers and professionals who care about the LCMS, we attended the 2025 Best Practices in Ministry Conference in Phoenix.

Rapid City, SD



2/21/25 Therapist Lindy Hinkley supported an awesome group of mothers at their monthly Mom Co. meeting at Peace Lutheran in Rapid City.

Noisy Offering



Concordia Lutheran Youth

PANCAKE Breakfast



SUNDAY , MAY 11 9 AM

Concordia Fellowship Hall

**Pancakes, sausages, milk,
coffee, and juice**

Free will donation



**SHEPHERD'S HILL
AT THE
CROSSROADS**

ST. JOHN, NORTH DAKOTA

NOT TO BE SERVED, BUT TO SERVE

SUMMER 2025

Mark 10:45

*"For even the Son of Man came not
to be served but to serve, and to
give his life as a ransom for many."*

**Camps, Retreats,
Camping, Cabin Rentals
and Outdoor Adventures.**

Campers at each of our
summer camps will enjoy
God's wonderful creation
through outdoor activities,
including swimming,
canoeing, kayaking, hiking,
volleyball, archery, and
adventure course challenges.
Horse-back lead rides and
trail rides are available for an
additional charge.

CAMPS FOR THOSE UNDER 10 (AND A LITTLE OVER)

Kinder Camp June 15-16 or June 29-30 \$135

Discovery Camp June 15-17 or June 29-July 1 \$175

Kids Camp June 22-26 \$305

CAMPS FOR THOSE 10 AND UP

Beginner Archery Camp June 22-25 \$275

Adventure Camp July 6-11 or July 13-18 \$335

Jr. High Encounter Camp July 6-11 \$335

Advanced Archery Camp July 13-16 \$275

Guitar Camp July 20-25 \$335

Art Camp July 20-25 \$335

Chess Camp July 20-25 \$335

Expedition Camp July 27-August 1 \$335

High School Encounter Camp July 27-Aug. 1 \$335

HORSE CAMPS

**Ages 10 and up*

Beginner Horse Camps June 22-27 or July 6-11 or
July 20-25 \$445

Saddle Club July 13-18 \$445

Advanced Horse Camp July 27-August 1 \$445

502 Shepherd's Hill Drive, St. John, ND 58369

701.244.5225 | SHRetreat.org

facebook.com/shretreat | director@shretreat.org

SHEPHERD'S HILL AT THE CROSSROADS Clean-Up Week

When?

May 28, 2025
Through
June 1, 2025

Help us get ready for
summer camp season!
Come and help when you
can. We have jobs for all
abilities.
We will feed you in
exchange for your work.

SHEPHERD'S HILL AT THE CROSSROADS
502 SHEPHERD'S HILL DRIVE, ST. JOHN, ND 58369
701-244-5225 | SHRETREAT.ORG |
FACEBOOK.COM/SHRETREAT

Let's Clean
Our Camp
Together!



Join us in preparing for the summer season!

Are you ready to roll up your sleeves and make a difference? Shepherd's Hill at the Crossroads is a camp and retreat center that has served the ND District for generations. Strengthening faith in God through Bible studies and chapel services, as well as providing activities such as archery, trail rides, hiking, and canoeing, all while appreciating nature the way God has intended are just a few benefits of our ministry.

However, our beloved camp needs your help, and we're calling on enthusiastic volunteers to join us for a comprehensive clean-up event. This is an opportunity to emphasize the importance of stewardship and the positive effects of your efforts to make our LCMS camp a warm, inviting place to worship God while enjoying the great outdoors. Consider making this a service event for youth groups, confirmation classes, LWML groups, men's networks, or even your whole church! We have tasks for all ages and abilities. Come when you can during the dates listed below. More opportunities will be available in the future or call to schedule a time that works best for your group. Will we have some fun? You betcha!!!

Click below for the printable letter containing more information about Clean-Up Week!!