



# WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

April 27th - May 3rd, 2026

5th Sunday of Easter

*Let not your hearts  
be troubled.  
Believe in God;  
believe also in me.*

*John 14:1*

Thank You!

Thanks to John Larson and John Hopper for taking such good care of the church property, including planting this Princeton Elm to replace a dead tree on the west edge of the lawn.



# Join Dick Nicolai



Even though every Christ-follower is called to regularly share their faith, few actually do. Conversations: A Simple Approach to Sharing the Gospel is a two-hour personal witnessing training course from The Gideons International where you will discover the simplicity of the Gospel and learn practical ways to share your faith with confidence.

LOCATION

Hosanna Lutheran Church


DATE

May 7, 2026

TIME

6:30 PM

**Thursday, May 7th  
at 6:30 pm in the Chapel**



**HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR  
RECOGNITION DAY  
IS SUNDAY, MAY 17TH  
DURING WORSHIP!**



## Youth Group Fundraiser

Funds will be used for Youth Group Faith-building experiences such as Quake (retreat weekend), Christian concerts, and local youth group activities.

### Option 1 Short Sleeve Tshirt



**\$20 Youth    \$25 Adult**

### Option 2 Long Sleeve Tshirt



**\$25 Youth    \$30 Adult**

### Option 3 Sweatshirt



**\$30 Youth    \$35 Adult**

### Option 4 Quarter Zip



**\$40 Adult**

### Option 5 Baseball Hat



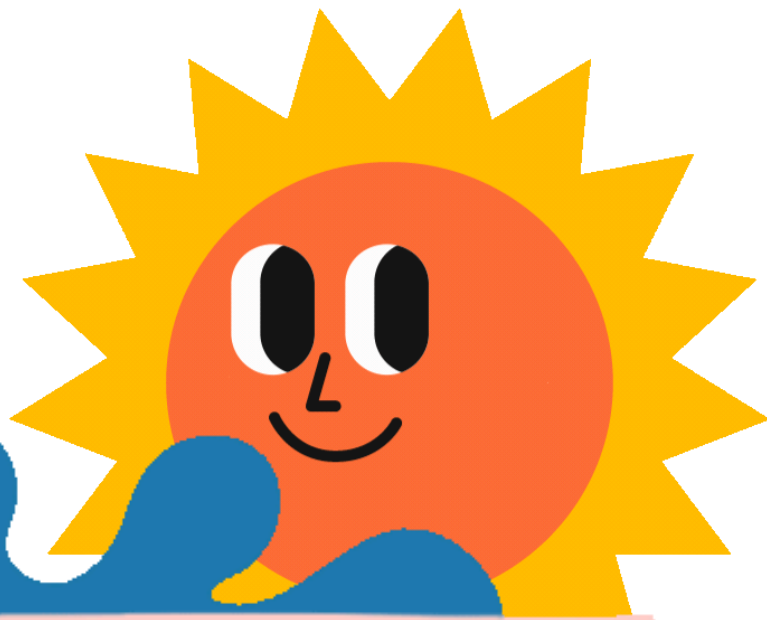
Cash and Carry at the church or special order! **\$25**

**Order forms can be dropped off or mailed to the church office or emailed to:**  
[hosanafaitformation@gmail.com](mailto:hosanafaitformation@gmail.com)

Orders will be delivered in batches approximately 2-3 weeks after your order is placed with us.

 <b>BULLDOG BRANDING</b>	<b>OWNERS</b> Darren Shelton Shawna Shelton Darren: 605-880-3737 Shawna: 605-880-7485
	121 East Kemp Watertown, SD 57201 <a href="mailto:BULLDOGBRANDINGWTN@GMAIL.COM">BULLDOGBRANDINGWTN@GMAIL.COM</a>

**Thanks to Darren at Bulldog Branding!**

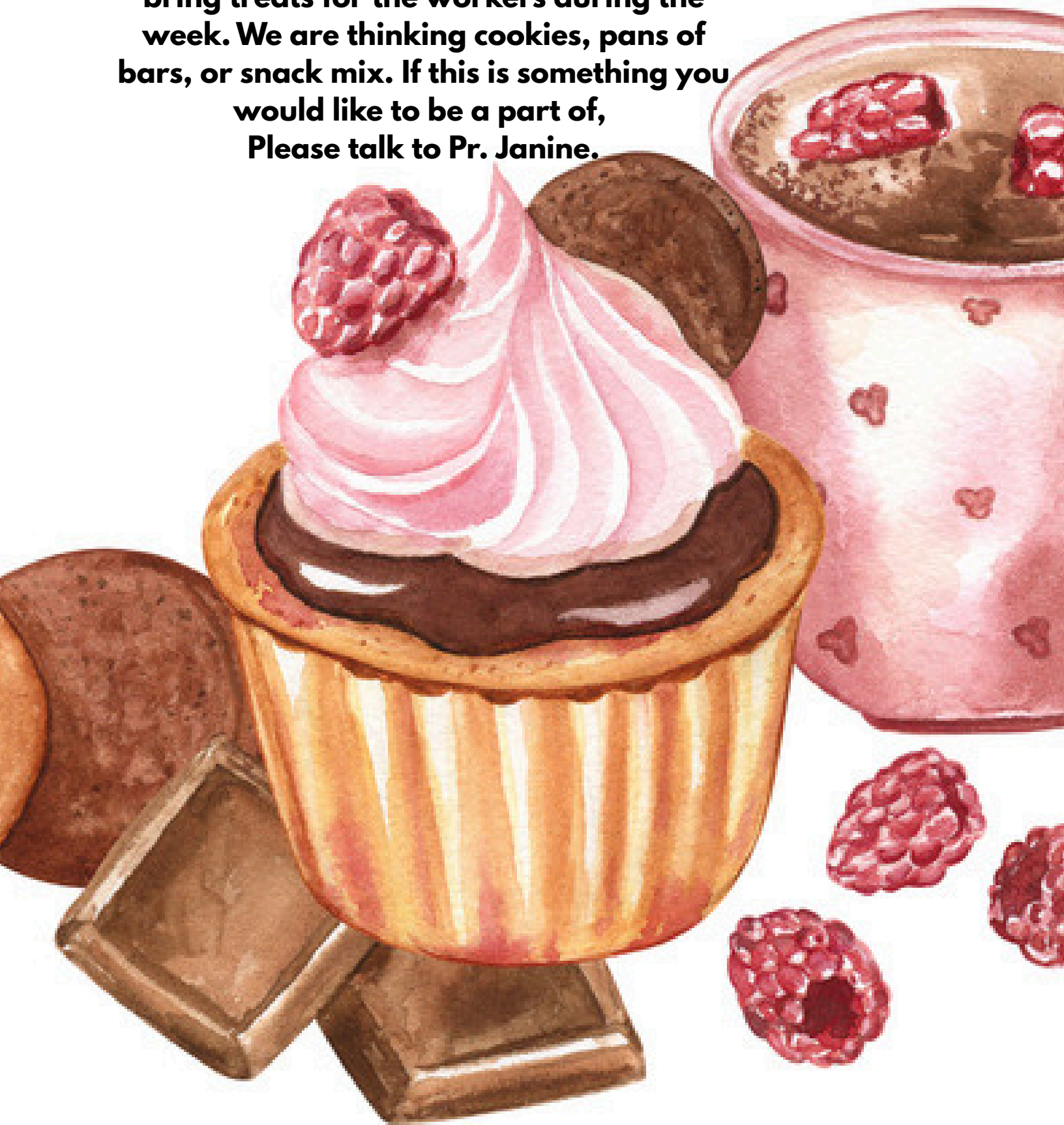


Save the Date

**VBS at Hosanna!**  
**July 27th - 31st**

# Treats for the Workers!

We would love to start a little group to bring treats for the workers during the week. We are thinking cookies, pans of bars, or snack mix. If this is something you would like to be a part of, Please talk to Pr. Janine.



# Y.A.R.N.

HOSANNA  
Lutheran Church, LCMC

## You Are Really Needed

All are welcome to join us on the  
**1st & 3rd Tuesday** of every month  
in the Fellowship Hall @ 10:00 am

*Quilt Ministry*

2nd & 4th Wednesdays  
of each month  
9:30am to noon

*Bring supplies if you can or fabric to donate.*

All are welcome to help create quilts for local and worldwide comfort.

# Men's Noon Bible study meets in the Chapel on Wednesdays



# Listening for the Promise Weekly Devotional

*Fifth Sunday of Easter – May 3, 2026*

*“Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob,  
whose hope is in the Lord his God.”*

*– Psalm 146:5–*

## *God is Faithful*

*Two thousand years after the birth of Christ we are still waiting for the fulfillment of God’s promises. We are taught repeatedly in the scriptures to be patient. We aren’t very patient, are we? The language of the New Testament has a sense of immediacy that seems to contradict the reality we see. Two thousand years is a long time; those who were the first followers of Jesus thought that He would come again immediately. It has been long enough to make us doubt what we believe, to make us wonder whether God will ever fulfill His promises.*

*Jesus’ ministry did not make sense to the religious elite of His day. He touched the untouchables. He brought wholeness to the outcast. He brought life to those who were dead to the world. He set the prisoners free, opened the eyes of the blind, and made the lame walk. He did not do good things for the righteous; He did great things for the sinners. It made no sense in Jesus’ day and does not make sense today. Human nature expects reward for goodness. Jesus gave gifts to the humble, He fixed the broken, He forgave the sinners. No wonder so many people doubt that He is the Messiah even today.*

*The psalmist speaks of the hope we have in Jesus. “Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord his God.” This is not good news to the righteous; it is good news for the sinner because it speaks of looking beyond oneself and trusting in a higher power. That higher power, by virtue of its greatness, must know better how things should be accomplished. We are still waiting for the fulfillment of the promises two thousand years after the coming of Christ because God still has work to do. There are things to be accomplished, and we are called to wait both patiently and expectantly while God finishes what He has started. He will because He is faithful. We will one day see the fulfillment of all His promises.*

## Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 3, 2026

### Proclamation Points

The following are some thoughts and questions to be used for a text study on the weekly lessons, or for jump-starting the imagination of the preacher and hearer in preparing for the proclamation event.



*It is, however, a matter of great moment, and utterly necessary, that to new-born and infant Christians, sincere and uncorrupt milk should be given. This milk is nothing else than the Gospel itself.*

- Martin Luther -

Comments on 1 Peter 2:2

### Acts 6:1-9; 7:2a, 51-60

Last week, our reading from Acts showed us a picture of a nearly perfect early Church, but today's reading shows us how quickly things became troubled. Luke described two distinct groups in the church: the Hellenists and the Hebrews. The Hellenists were probably Greek-speaking Jews from outside of Judea, while the Hebrews were speakers of Aramaic. This basic distinction of geography and language resulted in a bit of conflict in the community. The food, which was so generously being held in common in chapter 2, is now not being distributed fairly between the Hellenists and the Hebrews. The focus has shifted from a desire to be generous to a concern with making sure one gets one's due.

• *Does this seem like a legitimate thing for the Hellenists to be concerned about? What are some ways the church continues to have these types of concerns?*

Spending very little time on the specifics of the distribution of food, Luke focused instead on the systems of authority and responsibility that were taking shape in the church. The twelve, who were tasked with preaching and teaching, do not see food distribution as part of their job description. Instead, they appointed seven others to take on this responsibility. The organization of the church was starting to take shape.

• *How does this decision about varying roles and responsibilities continue to shape the church today? Does it mean that there are roles of greater and lesser importance?*

• *How can conflicts like the one described here tear churches apart? What is the aim of effective, faithful leadership in the midst of such conflict?*

Our reading shifts gears to the dramatic story of Stephen, one of the first deacons. His bold, impassioned response to the charges brought against him only further inflame his opponents, finally resulting in his death. To the end, Stephen remains steadfast in faith, trusting in God's power to redeem, even calling upon God to forgive those who are killing him.

• *What do Stephen's words and actions suggest about his faith? What kind of example is he for us? What is our responsibility to brothers and sisters in the faith who suffer for their witness?*

• *How does Stephen's vision of heaven remind us of who, finally, will be recognized as Lord of all?*

### Psalms 146

The psalmist reminds the people that princes and rulers

cannot save them. Only the Lord can save. There is no salvation in princes or presidents. When they die their plans die with them. Our hope is in the God of Jacob, the creator of all that is, the one is faithful forever.

• *How do we often get caught putting undue trust in political leaders? Is that fair to them? What does it take to snap us out of our dependence upon rulers for salvation?*

### 1 Peter 2:2-10

Milk is like a miracle substance God made for mammals to give to their offspring! Strong bones, healthy teeth, protein, muscle repair, and a great source of calcium and potassium. Peter surely didn't know all of that when he called the Gospel, "spiritual milk." The Holy Scriptures are a source of spiritual sustenance for us who follow Christ and desire to become more mature in the faith. Peter draws on Psalm 34:8 urging those who have tasted that the Lord is good to seek spiritual milk. The Lord feeds us on his holy Word and makes us stronger for our life in him.

• *Peter calls the spiritual milk of the Gospel unadulterated or pure. How is the Good News of Jesus Christ pure sustenance for you?*

### John 14:1-14

Jesus has just finished telling the disciples that they would all forsake him and he would die. He had a rather harsh word with Peter in particular. It had been a difficult evening. Then he tells them not to let their hearts be troubled. It's a rather jarring transition. "You will deny me three times ... Do not let your hearts be troubled." It's hard to see how they could be anything but troubled.

Jesus' words to his disciples point to the reality that there is something happening here that is beyond their understanding. As far as they can see, everything is falling apart. All of their hopes and dreams of what following Jesus would mean are crumbling around them as he tells them what is actually going to happen. But Jesus knows that their abandonment, their rejection, and their faithlessness are not going to be the end of the story. There is more going on than meets the eye.

• *How do you think the disciples received Jesus' encouragement not to be troubled? Do you think his words would have sounded reasonable to them after all that he had just told them?*

• *What is Jesus' explanation to his disciples why they need not be troubled? How is knowing that Jesus has prepared a place for us a comfort in this life? What freedom does that give us?*

**MON**

**Office open**  
**Mon - Thurs 10am - 2pm**

**TUE**

**9:30 - Prayer**  
**10:00 - Coffee**

**WED**

**9:30 - Quilting**  
**12:00 - Men's Bible study**  
**5:45 - Confirmation**  
**7:00 - Youth Group**

**THU**

**10:00 - Coffee**  
**5:00 - Melissa Gross Bible study**

**FRI**

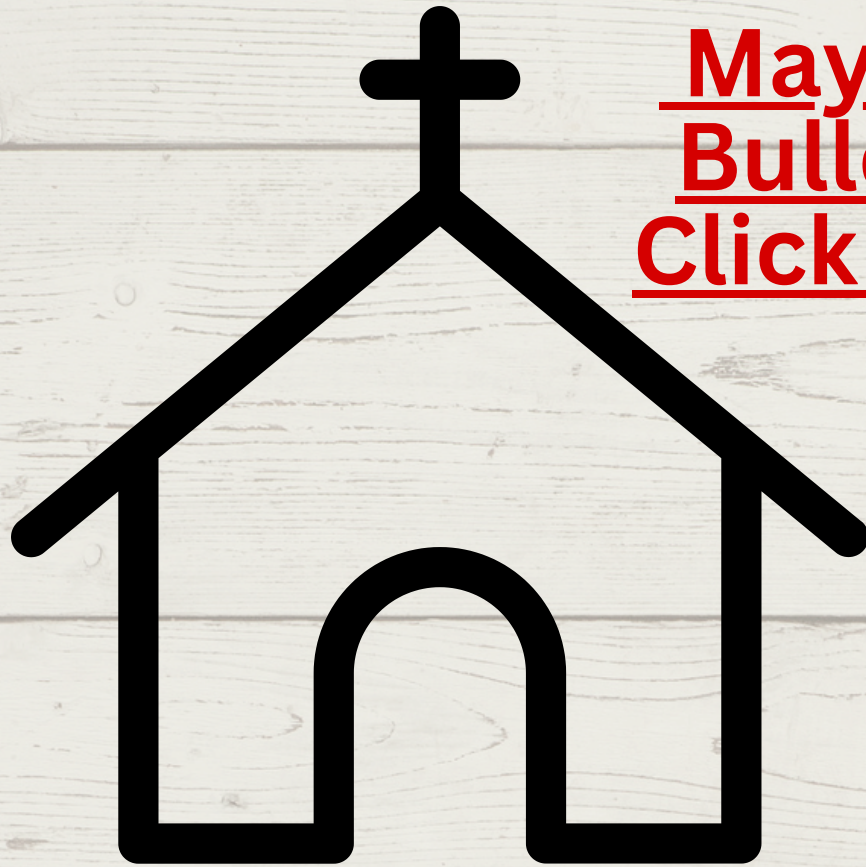
**SAT**

**SUN**

**9:15 - Worship/Communion**  
**10:15 - Coffee**  
**10:30 - Faith Formation/Last Day**

# This Weeks Bulletin

May 3rd  
Bulletin  
Click Here



**LIVE**  

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**STREAM**

Click  
Here

# MAY Servant Team!

## Servant Team #1 - Serves - May and December 2026

- Anderson, Ben & Mindy & family
- Brindle, Jeff & Sherri
- Caulfield, Jerald & Patricia
- Corey, Cam
- Dahl, Robert
- Duklet, Chris & Jill & family
- Eide, Stacy & Jacqueline
- Falk, Warren & Eloise
- Fedt, Doug & Heather
- Foust, Yvette
- Freudenthal, Gerald & Janelle
- Fuller, Lee & Dorothy
- Fuller, Dusty & Nicki & family
- Greene, Dale & Margaret
- Gunderson, LeRoy & Kathy
- Haug, Loren & Bev
- Helwig, Sean
- Hieb, Willard & Sharon
- Holgate, Jeff & Julie & family
- Jensen, Scott & Sherese
- Kamara, Hawa & family
- Knox, Kaid & Kindra & family
- Miller, David & Haley & family
- Mutschler, Bruce & Shelly
- Orthaus, David & Gloria
- Rud, Mark & Carolyn
- Schmahl, Paul
- Spieker, Cliff & Dorothy
- Storley, Reed & Lori
- Timmer, Randy & Christina
- Wientjes, Mark & Cathy
- Zeitler, Marlo

## HLC MAY 3RD SERVANT TEAM



**Keyboard  
Accompanist:**  
Angie Eickmeyer



**Head Ushers:**  
Earl Benson  
and  
Everett Johnson



**Lector:**  
Need 1



**Communion  
Assistants:**  
Need 2 adults

# Attendance & Offering

Sunday, April 26th, 2026

Attendance: 143

General Offering: \$4,441.44

Hospitality: \$63.85

Change Offering: \$178.51

Youth Group: \$65

## HLC Year to Date

# Financial Report as of 3-31-26

	<u>YTD Budget</u>	<u>YTD Actual</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Giving	\$ 94,585	\$91,190.40	\$ 3,394.60 - Under Budget
Expenses	\$ 82,799	\$80,428.53	\$ 2,370.47 - Under Budget

*Please see a Council member if you have any questions.*

# APRIL

# Benevolence & Mission Outreach

\$3615 - New Hope Mission Society for Shaliach Bible School in Kerala State, India

## 2026 CHURCH COUNCIL OFFICERS & MEMBERS

**JOSH MAAG - PRESIDENT**  
**KATHY MONNENS - VICE PRESIDENT**  
**KATHERINE ALTHOFF - SECRETARY**  
**EARL BENSON - TREASURER**

Sharon Brekke  
Sherri Brindle  
Jan DeBerg  
DeDe Gilbertson  
Patti Lien  
Andrew Magedanz

# Our Church Directory is Online!

View our church directory online or via the **FREE** mobile app today.

To view the directory online, go to [members.InstantChurchDirectory.com](http://members.InstantChurchDirectory.com) and follow the prompts under "Sign In" to "Create a login now." Please remember, you must confirm your email address before you can sign in.

There is also a free mobile app available for download at the Apple® App store in iTunes®, Google Play™ store and the Amazon Fire App Store. Simply search for "**Instant Church Directory**" to get the download.

You will need to use your email address as listed in our directory to create a log-in the first time you use the directory online and via the mobile app.

## Need help or have questions?

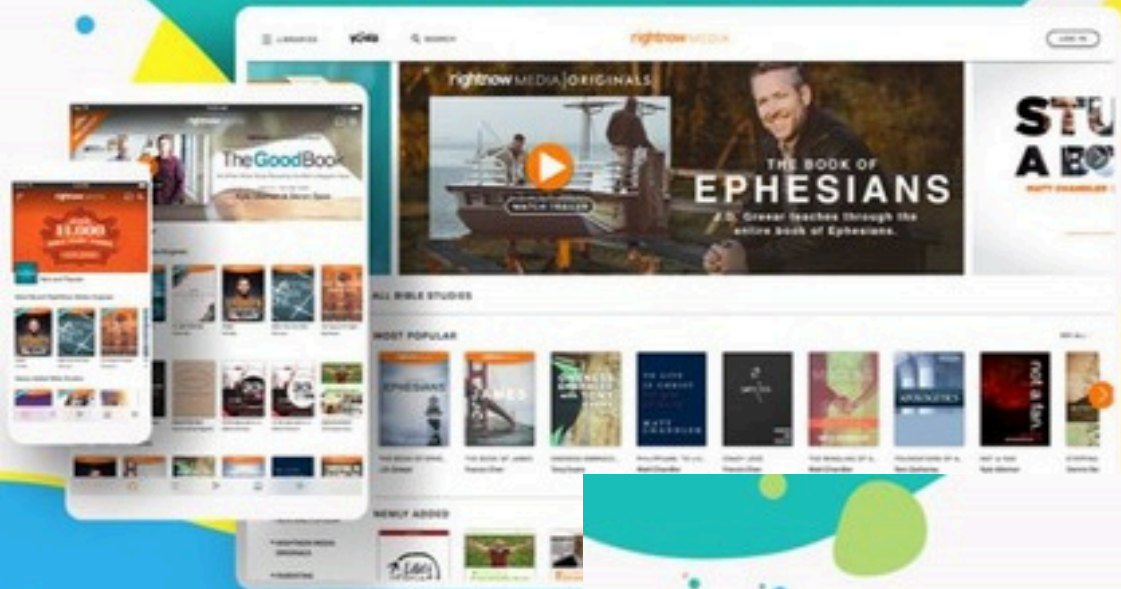
**Please contact** Anna at 605-237-8399 or email her @ [watertownhosannalutheran@gmail.com](mailto:watertownhosannalutheran@gmail.com)



Our Church Directory is powered by *Instant Church Directory*.

# FREE GIFT

for everyone in our church!



We've purchased unlimited access to thousands of Christian videos and are giving free access to **everyone** in our church. If you haven't already accepted your invite:

1

Text HLW

2

to 49775



# VANCO

## OUR NEW GIVING APP

1. Download the free ***Vanco Mobile*** app from the App Store or Google Play.
2. Search for our Church name ***Hosanna Lutheran Church.***
3. Donate!

*Thank you for your generosity!*

1. Text \$(with amount) to 855-625-1726  
Click the link they send you  
Put in your information

## 5 ways to Give

2. Download Vanco Mobile App  
Search for Hosanna Lutheran
3. Fill out an electronic giving form  
They are located on the  
information table
4. Place your gift in the offering plates in  
the fellowship hall
5. Mail checks to 1617 14th Ave NE  
Watertown, SD 57201

# HELPING HANDS FUND



**This is a discrete fund used to help  
those in need!**

**If you would like to give to this fund,  
just place your donation in an  
offering plate  
and mark it Helping Hands.**



# Endowment Fund Donations

Your donation can be sent to the church office at

1617 14th Ave NE Watertown, SD 57201

**Checks must be written out to HLC Endowment Fund**

## Endowment Fund Board Members

**President:** Tyler Gross

**Treasurer:** Karen Olson

**Secretary:** Harvey Bue

John Hopper

Dick Nicolai



**Augustana District's April**  
**Newsletter Click Here**

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**Augustana District**  
**Video**



# THE CHANNEL TO BRAZIL

## **Align With God in 2024**

”So that the works of God might be displayed.”

In John 9 we read about one of Jesus’ miracles where he restored the sight of a blind man. At the beginning of the story, we see the disciples questioning Jesus about who had sinned to cause the blind man his disability.

Rather patiently (we might imagine), Jesus insinuates that the disciples are asking the wrong question. He encourages them to look forward, ‘while it is still day,’ (v4) rather than backward upon who to blame.

What are you looking forward to this new year? Right now, it feels like the world is full of suffering and poverty of spirit and unity. In this passage, Jesus teaches us that with suffering comes the opportunity for God’s works to be displayed.

Children growing up in the slums are suffering because they are neglected and failed by a wider community that is unable to care for their physical needs and education. By supporting CBC you have the opportunity to step in as the healing hands and feet of Jesus.

Thank you for your partnership with us that displays the mighty works of God where there is sickness, anxiety and desperate poverty.

May God Bless you and your family this year.

Marc Marques  
Executive Director

# **April Newsletter**



FRIENDS of  
**MADAGASCAR  
MISSION**

Throughout the history of global mission work from churches within the United States, beginning in the 19th Century, we have seen the great mission outreach organized for the most part by Mission Societies. In the 20th Century the mission work was taken over by church denominations. It became institutionalized. As we enter the 21st Century, we are once again experiencing a return to Mission Societies claiming a greater role in Christian mission work around the globe.

It is in this climate of change, in how mission work is being done today, that the Friends of Madagascar Mission was begun. We believe we have a unique role in the future of mission, particularly in Madagascar at this time. In 2010 we began our fund raising activities and each year we continue to grow in giving from our generous donors. For this we give thanks to God!

**[Newsletter Click Here!](#)**

**[Digital Magazine Click Here!](#)**



## Resources

Watertown Area Memory Care & Aging Network has the following community resources available

- Memory Care Support Group
- Respite Care Financial Assistance
- Mary Drake Resource Library
- Community Caregiver Fair
- Memory Screening Event
- Savvy Caregiver Training Classes
- Caregiver Mentor Program

## Upcoming Events

**Watertown Event Center**  
West Highway 212 / 1901 9th Avenue SW  
Watertown, SD 57201  
*First Wednesday of each month at 7:00pm!*

### January 7, 2026

**“Safe Hands, Calm Hands”** (Teepa Snow)  
by Christina Ruml, State Ombudsman for State of South Dakota

### February 4, 2026

**“Language, Swallowing, and Dementia”**  
by Kirsten Blackwell, Speech - Language Pathologist with PLHS

### March 4, 2026

**“Holding God’s Hands”**  
by Pastor Sara McManus, First United Methodist Church

### April 1, 2026

**“Adult Day Services / My Care Line Respite Care & Telemedicine at The Village”**  
by Krista Beauchamp & Dalton Wagner

### May 6, 2026

**“Keeping Precious Memories”**  
(Creating Memory Books)  
by Dar Fuchs & Friends

### June 3, 2026

**“Let’s Talk”**  
by The Support Group



Connie Lake

***Connie’s journey caring for those with dementia / Alzheimer’s started in 1980. Her first job was to create an activity program in a long term care facility for their residents. It was not long before folks with that diagnosis were in her heart. In 1997, she created a recreation program in a long term care memory care unit. The focus was “person centered” with engagement and positive communication. A supportive community was a huge help and part of her career. She is retired now but the passion remains to create programs & offer more help for this country’s unsung heroes - caregivers!***

***The Watertown Memory Care Support Group was created in 1998 by Connie Lake and Deanna Bullis to give caregivers a place to belong. Caregivers were able to listen, share, and learn how to care for themselves. This mission remains true today.***

**Come to**  
**WORSHIP FEST**

MIDWEST BIBLE CAMP

**1500 N HWY 20**

**SATURDAY, MAY 30TH @4PM**

**WALKING TACOS PROVIDED**

Fundraiser for Free Camp for Kids!

***Music provided by local Watertown Worship Leaders***

