



## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

March 23rd - March 29th, 2026

Palm Sunday



*To set the mind  
on the flesh is death,  
but to set the mind  
on the Spirit  
is life and peace.*

*Romans 8:6*



Direct your 2025  
**Thrivent Choice Dollars**  
by 3-31-26

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**Direct Thrivent Choice Dollars!**  
Thrivent Choice Dollars grant funds can help support Hosanna Lutheran Church or many other organizations you care about. Eligible members of Thrivent Financial who have been designated Choice Dollars have until **March 31, 2026**, to direct any remaining 2025 Choice Dollars<sup>®</sup>. Help support our congregation.

**Call 800-THRIVENT and state "Thrivent Choice<sup>®</sup>" or go to [Thrivent.com/thriventchoice](https://Thrivent.com/thriventchoice) or call your Financial Rep.**

**Youth Group Lent  
Desserts**

**Youth Group Parents  
click here to sign up**

**& Hot  
Chocolate Bar**

**Every Wednesday during Lent they will serve a themed dessert!**

# Lent

Facebook Daily Devotions  
@ 9 am or 9 pm

Pastor Craig & Pastor Janine  
will be on Facebook Live  
Thursday, February 19th -  
Saturday, April 4th





# Palm Sunday

*Sunday, March 29th, 2026*  
*9:15 am Worship*

# **First Communion Classes**

for 3rd Graders

during Lent

starting February 22<sup>nd</sup> - March 29<sup>th</sup>

*except March 22<sup>nd</sup>*

after Worship on Sundays

with Pastor Janine





*Maundy  
Thursday*

**April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2026**

**Worship at 7 pm**



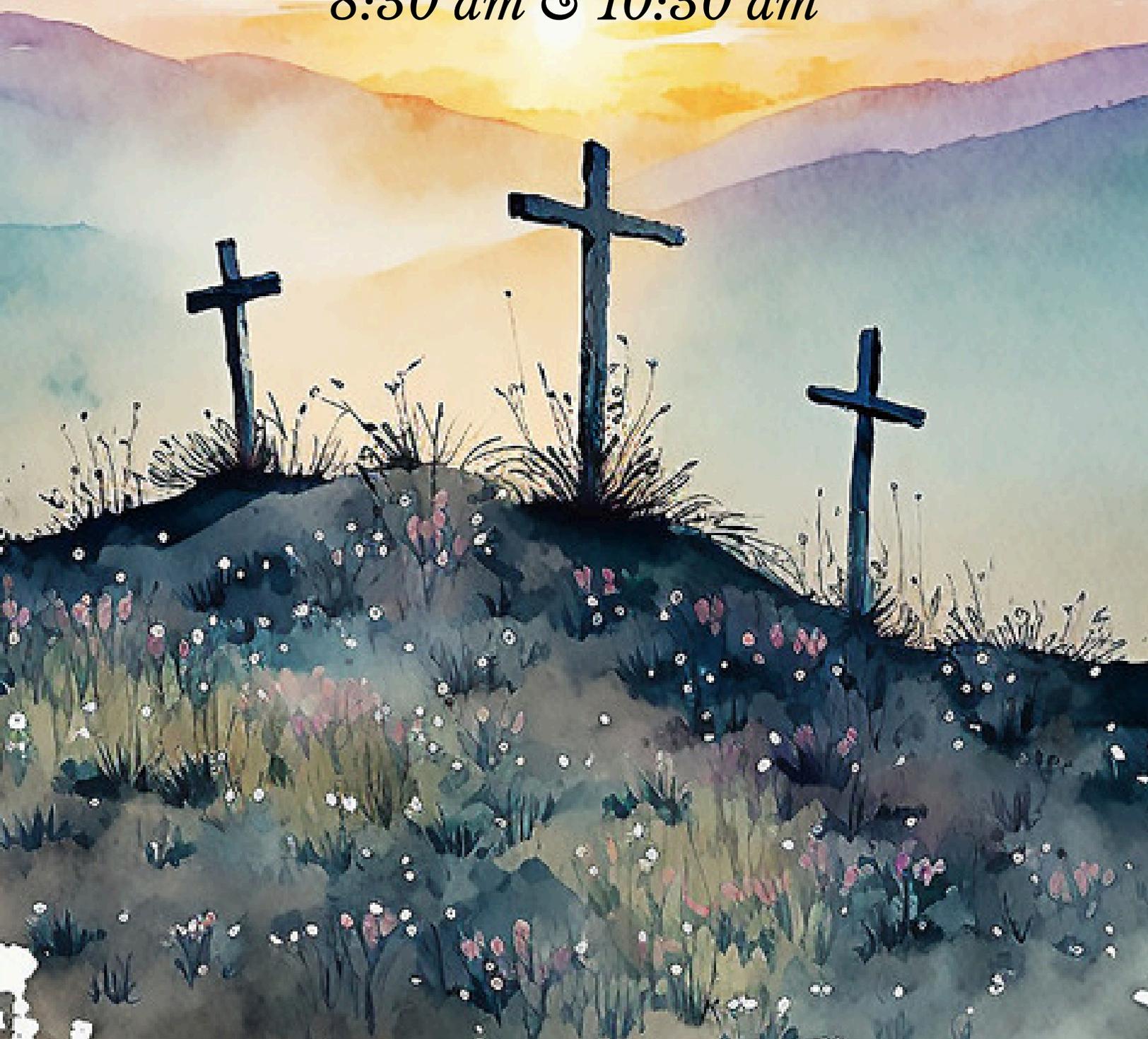
*Good  
Friday*

*April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2026  
Worship at 8 pm*

# *Easter Sunday*

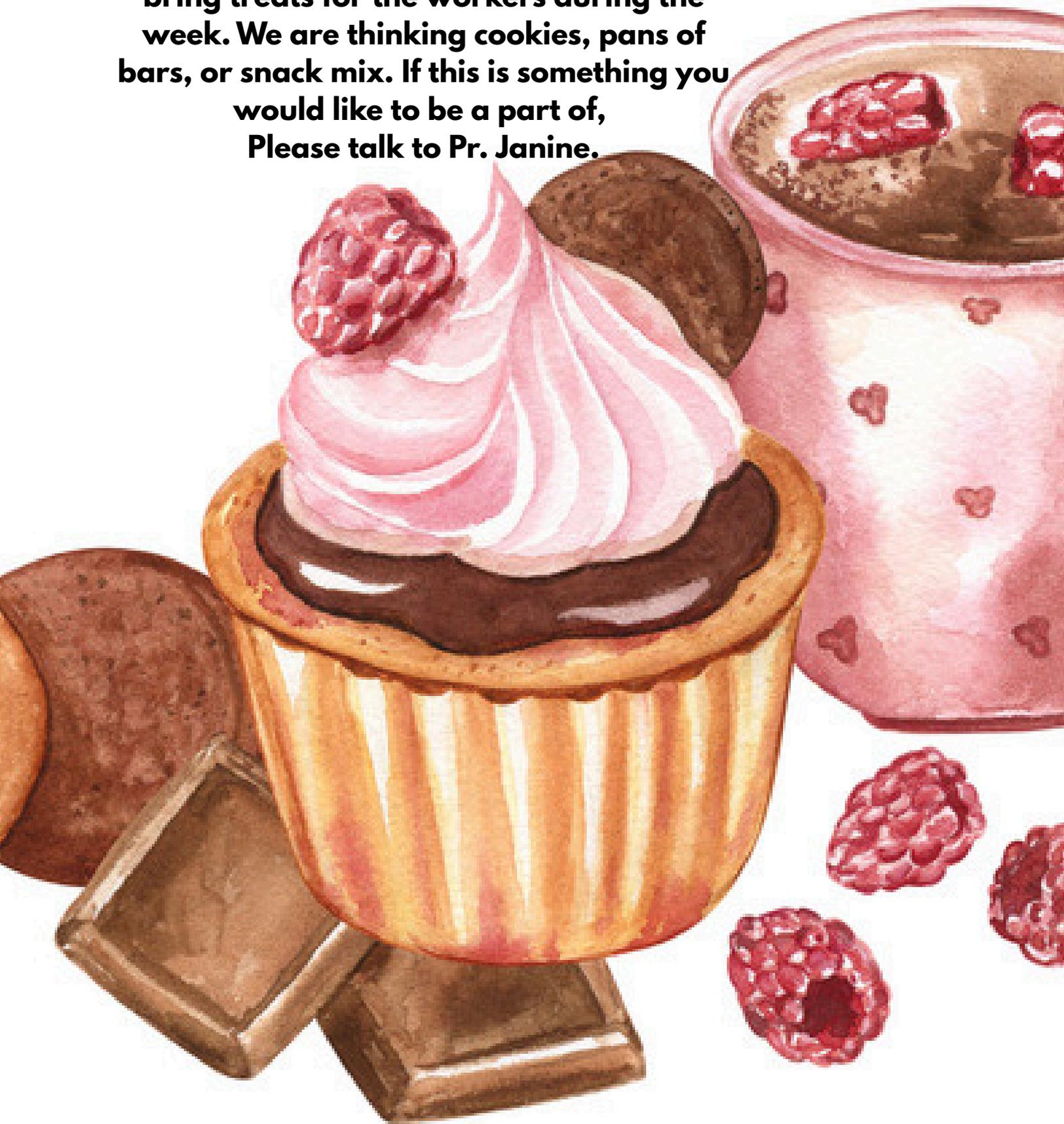
*April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2026*

*Worship at  
8:30 am & 10:30 am*



# 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.



Prayer Time  
Tuesday Mornings  
@ 9:30 am  
at the church!



Join Us

Every Tuesday

@ 10am for

Coffee &

Fellowship

**in the Chapel!**



# 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





**Do you have a love for music?**

**Hosanna Choir would like to  
invite you to join them!**

**The Choir is planning to sing on  
Palm Sunday.**

**Practice will be on  
Wednesday, March 25<sup>th</sup>  
at 7:15 pm in the Chapel.**

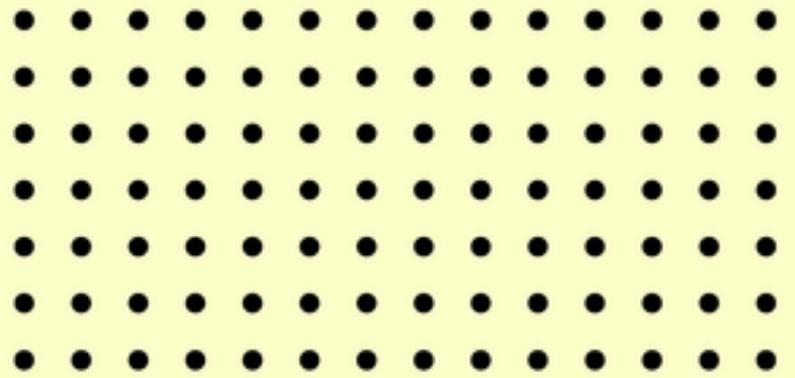
**Questions?**

**Please talk to Sarah Becker  
or email her at [sebrindle@gmail.com](mailto:sebrindle@gmail.com)**



# 1-2 Thessalonians

A 7-WEEK STUDY



*Join*

**Pastor Craig on**

**Thursdays @**

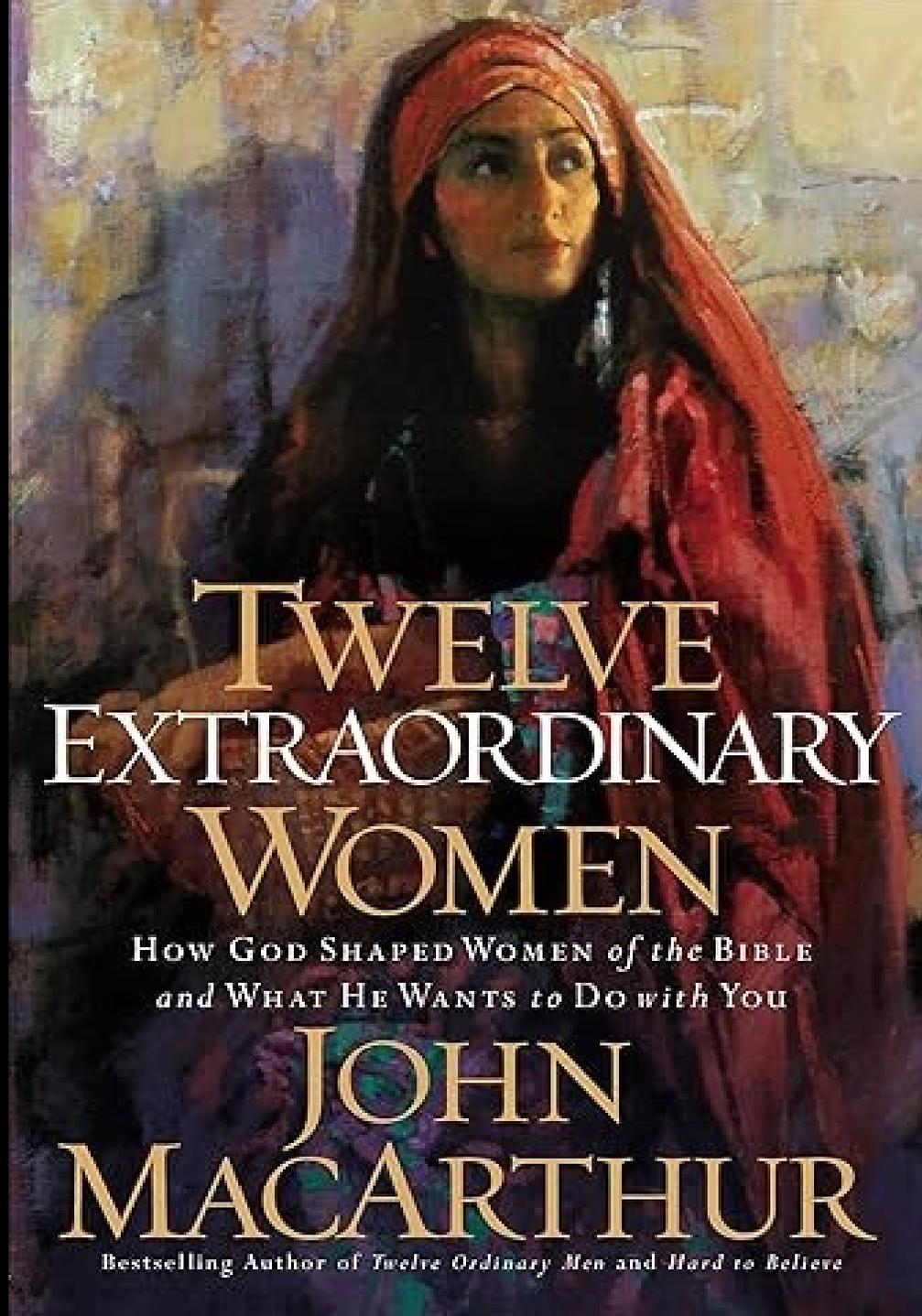
**Noon & 6PM**

**February 12th -**

**March 26th**

**Please sign up at the information table,**  
**in the entryway.**

**Books are in the office for \$5.**



*Faith Circle*

**Thursday, April 2nd**

**@ 2:00 pm**

**in the Chapel**

# Listening for the Promise Weekly Devotional

Fifth Sunday in Lent – March 22, 2026

*“<sup>25</sup>Jesus said to her, ‘I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, <sup>26</sup>and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?’”*

*– John 11:25–26 –*

*When Martin Luther's daughter Magdalena was fourteen years old, she had become very ill. As she laid on her bed, her time on earth was coming to a close. Luther prayed, “O God, I love her so. But nevertheless, thy will be done.” He turned to his daughter and said, “Magdalena, would you rather be with me, or would you rather go and be with your Father in heaven?” The girl replied, “Father, as God wills.” Luther held her in his arms as she passed away, and as they laid her to rest, he said, “Oh my dear Magdalenachen, you will rise and shine like the stars in the sun. How strange to be so sorrowful, and yet to know that all is at peace, that all is well.” It is this hope in the hour of death which the resurrection brings before us.*

*Anyone who has lost a loved one knows the sting of death. Death strives to suffocate us, and it seems to be lurking around every corner. We turn on the news and hear about death everyday: school shootings, fatal car accidents, conflicts and wars around the world, Christians persecuted in Nigeria, illness and cancer. With each news report, life appears to more and more fragile. It seems we are bound, and there is no escape.*

*Yet, we think we can somehow cheat death. We're convinced to try the latest supplements that promise to slow down aging. Serums and night creams are flying off the shelves as people strive to keep their fine lines and age spots at bay. Sadly, we can become so obsessed with avoiding death that we miss out on living the earthly life God has given us. Without God, we are bound by death, and we cannot free ourselves.*

*Lazarus died. His loved ones felt the pain of grief, including Jesus. Death cannot be avoided. But the good news is that God is not bound by death. God does his greatest work in death. Jesus is triumphant over death, and the raising of Lazarus foreshadows what is to come in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.*

*Death does not destroy us. It certainly takes its toll on us, that's true. But it is in facing death that we have hope. With death there is resurrection. St. Paul reminds us, “Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life” (Rom. 6:3–4). We have life in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

## Lent5

March 22, 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.



*“Faith closes its eyes and commits the manner and the way and the method of preserving to God. Thus, in all perils, Christian wisdom walks with closed eyes and does not take offense.”*

*“The Christian way is to despair of all counsels and wisdom, to commit everything to God alone, and to walk the unknown way.”*

–Martin Luther–

Lectures on Isaiah, LW 17

#### Ezekiel 37:1-14

The Lord speaks to the prophet Ezekiel asking him if the bones that lay before him in this valley can live. Ezekiel replied, “You alone know, Lord.” Humanly speaking, of course, some old dry, brittle, barren bones cannot be brought back to life. It is utterly impossible for humans to revive anything that is dead, but for God, nothing is impossible.

- How is Ezekiel’s response to the Lord’s question a confession of faith?

The Lord told Ezekiel to prophesy to the bones. “Tell them!” he said. God told the prophet to proclaim to the dead bones that He would bring them back to life, that their communal death would be no more, that Israel would be brought back to their land and live again as a nation. God’s Word brings life out of death; all God has to do to bring about resurrection and new life is to speak it into being.

- It is God’s will that life should be brought out of death. But what does God want Israel to realize and confess in the face of their resurrection? What does God want us to confess about our lives?

#### Psalms 130

The Psalmist cried out to the Lord and waited with hope and eager expectation for the Lord to answer his plea. The psalmist knew himself well enough to know that he could not stand before God based on his own merits. He knew that if God was tallying up sins, no one had reason for hope. But he also trusted that, finally, God would be merciful, and he was. It is God’s mercy that separates him from all other supposed gods. As the psalmist cried out to God for relief, he awaited his answer in faith, trusting in the character of the Lord as one of lovingkindness and mercy.

- Does the psalmist take God’s mercy for granted, or are his expectations rooted in God’s faithfulness? How do you know?
- What are some ways we live as if we think we can stand before God based on our own merits?

#### Romans 8:1-11

Drawing on his previous argument in chapter 5:16-18, Paul proclaimed that there is no condemnation for those who live in Christ Jesus. As judgment arose out of the sin of Adam, a sin that all humanity shares in, so through one man’s righteousness is the condemnation wiped away. Jesus, though he was sinless, made himself an offering for sin and

through that he condemned sin rather than condemning the sinful.

- What does it mean to be condemned? In what ways are we now free from that condemnation?

In a crucial theological move, Paul also makes clear that the law is powerless to bring salvation. God in Jesus Christ intervened in the world to accomplish what the law could never accomplish — the forgiveness of sins and life everlasting.

- What are some ways we still seek salvation through the law? Why does it seem so much easier to accept the law rather than God’s grace?

#### John 11:1-45 (46-53)

Mary and Martha’s brother, Lazarus, became seriously ill while Jesus was away from their home town of Bethany. The sisters sent for Jesus but he did not hurry back, instead he took his time returning, saying that this sickness will not lead to death, but will reveal the glory of God. However, when Jesus finally arrived in Bethany, Lazarus had been dead and in the grave for four days. There is a theological significance to being dead for four days. The ancient Jews thought that a person’s soul remained near their body for the first three days after death. According to Jewish Midrash, death was only final after the third day.

- How does this story of Lazarus being dead for four days show

God’s power in light of Jewish thought?

In conversation with his disciples, Jesus declared that Lazarus was dead and not simply asleep. Both sisters greeted him by saying, “If you had been here, our brother would not have died.” They hesitated to allow him to open the tomb because of the stench of the dead body. Jesus responded to their uncertainty, “Didn’t I tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?”

- Why can we only see God’s glory when we truly believe?
- Have there been times in your life when you have thought God’s presence has been delayed too long?

Finally, after the experience of grief has already shrouded Jesus and his friends, Jesus does what he came to Bethany to do. With nothing but his word, he called Lazarus back from the realm of death. The power of his word breaks even the chains of death. From this moment forward the leaders of the people would look for ways to destroy Jesus.

- Why would Jesus’ power over life and death be such a problem for the religious leaders??

**MON**

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

**TUE**

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

**WED**

**9:30 - Quilting**  
**12:00 - Men's Bible study**  
**6:30 - Lent Worship**  
**7:15 - Youth Group Dessert Bar**  
**7:15 - Choir Practice**

**THU**

**10:00 - Coffee**  
**12:00 - Pr. Craig Bible study**  
**5:00 - Melissa Gross Bible study**  
**6:00 - Pr. Craig Bible study**

**FRI**

**SAT**

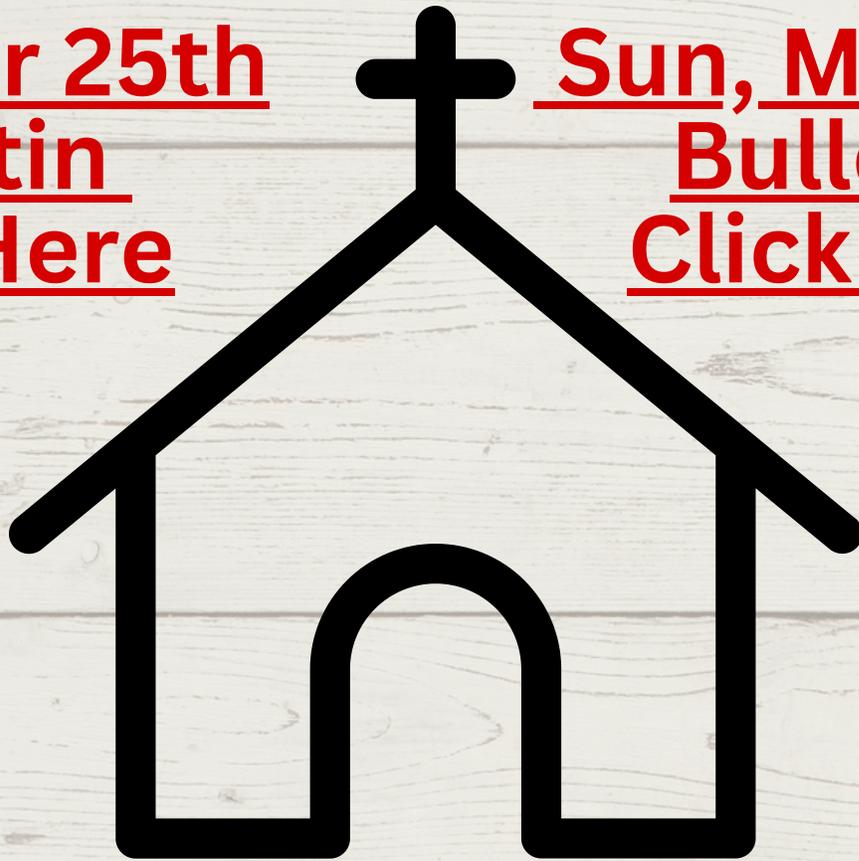
**SUN**

**9:15 - Worship**  
**10:15 - Coffee**  
**10:30 - Faith Formation/1<sup>st</sup> Communion class**

# This Weeks Bulletins

Wed, Mar 25th  
Bulletin  
Click Here

Sun, Mar 29th  
Bulletin  
Click Here



**LIVE**  

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**STREAM**



# APR. Servant Team!

## Servant Team #7 - Serves - April and November 2026

- Benson, Earl
- Brekke, Terry & Sharon
- Bue, Harvey & Doris
- Davidson, Betty
- Erickson, Larry & Lisa
- Erickson, Terry
- Farthing, Don & Karen
- Geist, Nate & Lindsay & family
- Gjerst, Logan & Bethany & family
- Griep, Brad & Diane
- Hartwig, Jake & Amanda & family
- Hopkins, Linda
- Jacobson, Bill & Terra
- Jones, Dana & Rose
- Jorgenson, Deb
- Kalt, Dean & Vonnie
- Larson, Sharon
- Lawrence, Bryce & Karissa & family
- Mohning, Tim & Emily & family
- Nichols, Lannie & Gina
- Petersen, Terry & Peggy
- Peterson, Robb & Jodi
- Pieper, Jim & Shelly
- Schafer, Ashley & family
- Skinner, Karen
- Small, Gayle & Dorothy
- Streckfuss, Chris
- Svalstad, Duane & Judy
- Williams, Ron & Pat

## HLC MARCH 29TH SERVANT TEAM



**Keyboard  
Accompanist:**  
Dorothy Fuller



**Head Ushers:**  
Need 1



**Lector:**  
Grant Werling



**Non Communion  
Sunday**

# HLC WEDNESDAY MARCH 25TH SERVANT TEAM



**Keyboard  
Accompanist:**  
Angie Eickmeyer



**Head Ushers:**  
Doug Keffeler

## Attendance & Offering

Wednesday, March 18th, 2025

Attendance: 109

Lent Offering: \$484

Youth Group: \$197

# Attendance & Offering

Sunday, March 22nd, 2026

Attendance: 162

General Offering: \$8,696.69

Hospitality: \$152

Decor Committee: \$415, Facility: \$180

Youth Group: \$170, YARN: \$25,

Fire Recovery: \$4,000 in memory of Chuck Valberg

Hospitality: \$979.84 (cover AED cost)

## HLC Year to Date

## Financial Report as of 2-28-26

|          | <u>YTD Budget</u> | <u>YTD Actual</u> | <u>Difference</u>          |
|----------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------------------|
| Giving   | \$ 58,206         | \$62,342.59       | \$ 4,136.59 - Over Budget  |
| Expenses | \$ 54,421         | \$53,318.41       | \$ 1,102.59 - Under Budget |

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

# MARCH

## Benevolence & Mission Outreach

\$2000 - Watertown Christian School

\$665 - Augustana District - for theological conference scholarships for seminarians

\$905 - Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ - for general operating expenses

## 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?

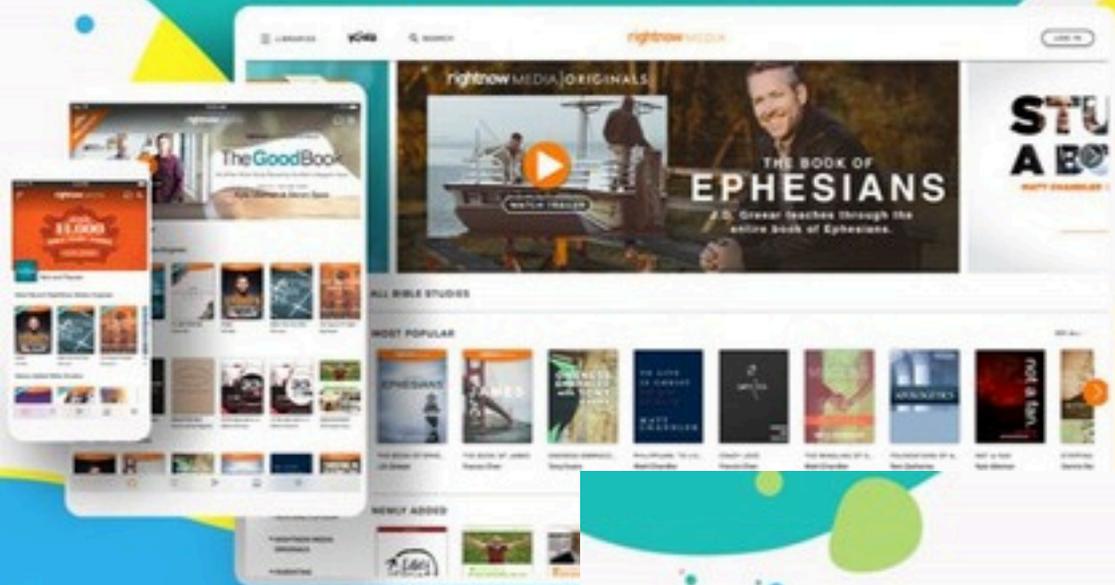
**Please contact** Anna at 605-237-8399 or email her @ [watertownhosannalutheran@gmail.com](mailto:watertownhosannalutheran@gmail.com)



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

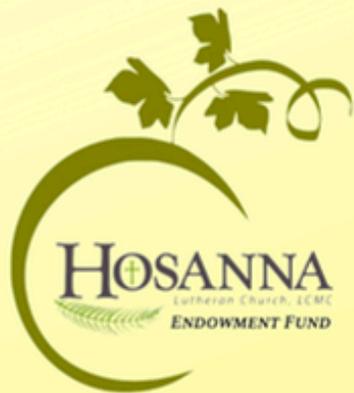
2. Download Vanco Mobile App  
Search for Hosanna Lutheran
3. Fill out an electronic giving form  
They are located on the  
information table
4. Place your gift in the offering plates in  
the fellowship hall
5. Mail checks to 1617 14th Ave NE  
Watertown, SD 57201

# 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 March  
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

# **March 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.***



## **SUMMER PROGRAM ENROLLMENT IS NOW OPEN!**

When school's out, learning doesn't stop! At Our Little Village Learning Center, summer is structured, engaging, and designed to keep your child school-ready.

Led by Carol Dagele with 47 years of teaching experience, our Summer Program features grade-appropriate, standards-based learning combined with hands-on activities, art, outdoor exploration, and meaningful intergenerational experiences on the Harmony Hill campus.

**Open 6:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.**

**Meals included**

**Located 2 miles south of town on Hwy 81**

Spots are LIMITED and they will fill quickly.

If you want your child to stay confident, curious, and prepared for fall, now is the time to enroll. **Call 605-886-4113**

