



ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH

39943 270TH STREET, DIMOCK, SD 57331-5206

Office: (605) 928-3438 Church Building: (605) 928-3608 Parsonage: (605) 928-3253
web: <http://hisgoodnews.net/stjohn/> e-mail: stjohn@santel.net Cell: 605-999-1624

December 2006

Advent/Christmas Schedule

1st Sunday in Advent, Dec. 3, 10AM
LYO-led "Hanging of the Greens & Memorial
Ornamenting of the Trees", with Holy
Communion

2nd Sunday in Advent, Dec. 10, 10AM
Advent Hymn Sing Liturgy
"Guess Who Is Coming?"

3rd Sunday in Advent, Dec. 17, 10AM
WOV Word & Prayer
"Guess Who Is Here?"

4th Sunday in Advent, Dec. 24, 10AM
Service of the Word
"Guess Who Is Whose?"

Christmas Eve, Dec. 24, 7:30PM
Sunday School Christmas Program

**The Nativity of Our Lord, Christmas Day
Dec. 25, 10AM**
Glory to the Newborn King



RISE UP BUILD

**We are all part of the Body of Christ
Want to be His Hands?**

Rise Up & Build is happening again for 2007! Plans are under way to send teams of volunteers to Ocean Springs, Mississippi for one week each from January 13 through February 24 to assist in the continuing recovery efforts from Hurricane Katrina destruction. Volunteers are being sought now. Members from St. John, and Trinity Lutheran, Mitchell who traveled to Biloxi last year are combining efforts to return to the area, and to encourage others from the area to join them.

This year, housing for volunteers will be provided in a converted garment warehouse, in dormitories equipped with bunk beds. The Ocean Springs mission trips will be limited to 100 people for each of the six weeks. Volunteers are asked to contribute \$60 in board, room and on-site transportation costs (\$120 if traveling by air and needing local transportation), plus providing their own travel to the area. The housing and meals at the Ocean Springs is being subsidized by the national committee of Lutheran Disaster Response.

Our local committee is working on coordinating travel to Mississippi during the January 20 - 27 week, (Saturday to Saturday). The committee is also working on spreading information about the project, assisting groups or individuals who would wish to go during one of the other weeks,

(continued on next page)

CHRISTMAS AT DAKOTA WESLEYAN

What Child Is This?

A Celebration of Christmas for the Entire
Community

Saturday, December 9, 2006, 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, December 10, 2006, 3:00 p.m.

Sherman Center, DWU Campus

Music, Art and the Message of Christmas
Carols for Choir & Audience

New Music for the Wesleyan Choir

New Arrangements for Brass & Woodwinds

Carols for Organ and Piano

Nearly 100 Examples of Nativity Art

Narration by Jack Mortenson and Jessica Schultz

Seating is limited. Please call Paul Almjeld at 995-
2658 or 995-6171 (hm) for FREE tickets.

(Or just ask him after church services.)

St. John Membership Report:

Membership as of Nov. 1:

Baptized - 393, Confirmed - 321

Funerals:

11/13, Oliver Wieczorek - (09/04/1922 - 11/08/2006)

11/15, LaVerna Kreth - (04/28/1919 - 11/13/2006)

Membership as of Nov. 30:

Baptized - 391, Confirmed - 319

THE SALVATION ARMY
MITCHELL, SOUTH DAKOTA 57301



St. John's Lutheran

Dear Pastor & Congregation:

This should have gone out long ago, but I wanted to send a brief note, to thank you and the families of the church for stepping up and helping us with our "Adopt A Saturday Lunch Program." Your lunch was delicious, and the clients enjoyed it very much.

We are lucky to have such a caring church community. The Salvation Army is lucky to have you as a partner in serving those in need throughout the Mitchell area.

Your groups' willingness to volunteer helps us to exemplify the words found in Philippians 2:2 (New Living Translation) which says: *"Then make me truly happy by agreeing wholeheartedly with each other, loving one another, and working together with one mind and purpose."* Thank you for sharing your love and concern for others with us and allowing us to share the work with you. We look forward to partnering with you again soon!

Yours In Christ,

Linda Leigh Heath

Director of Social Services/Volunteers

and generating support from those who may not be able to join one of the trips themselves, but could contribute to help others make them. St. John contacts for information and assistance in getting connected with groups going on the Rise Up & Build mission Jan.20 - 27, or one of the other weeks are Rich Luebke and Pastor Dave. Please talk to them if you have interest in joining the group, or to contribute support. More information, and sign-up materials are available at a special display in the church narthex.

All levels of skills are needed: rebuilding (frame, sheetrock, mud/tape, paint, flooring, etc.) **AND** non-rebuilding abilities: (data entry, distribution center, office help, etc.) Camp accommodations: indoor bunks, internet accessibility, showers, meals, and RV hookups if bringing own camping unit. Whatever your abilities, you can help! Talk to Pastor Dave, Rich Luebke, or any of St. John's "Rise Up & Builders" of last year.

Caroling Schedule:

This year, groups from St. John will be going to carol members and nursing home residents according to the following schedule:

Weds. Dec. 6 - 5:00pm, Confirmation League, at Ethan and Mitchell

Sat, Dec 9 - 1:00pm, Jr. Lutherans

Weds, Dec. 12 - 6:00pm, LYO, at Armour and Parkston

Sun, Dec. 17, LMM & Thrivent Group, local rural area, starting from the church.
Join in the fun of group caroling!

From our Sunday School Committee:

Needed: Some of our adult members to provide characters for the re-enactment of the manger scene during the Christmas Program. Talk to Curt Mueller or Jeff Gerlach if you could help in this way.

Also, a reminder to parents: Memory work is an important part of our education program, especially becoming familiar with Bible verses, and catechism material assigned to each grade level. Support and encourage your students to do their memory exercises each week.

St. John's Annual Meeting Preparation

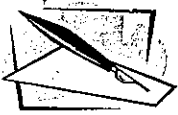
Coming quite soon in the new year is St. John's Annual Congregation Meeting on Wednesday, January 17. We will need to assemble reports. Your booklet preparer, Kathy Winterfeldt, will need reports no later than Monday, January 8, in order to have the time to duplicate and assemble the booklet for pre-meeting distribution on Sunday, January 14, so that members will have the time to prepare for the Annual Meeting.

It would be helpful to submit reports that are copy-ready. Samples of last year's reports will be sent out to people responsible, so you can use those as a guide. Thank you for your help in making this year's Annual Report a helpful reflection of our work together, and to assist in planning for a coming year.

An address to send greetings:

While Barb Kretschmer remains in recuperative care, greetings may be sent to her at:

Barb Kretschmer
c/o St. Michael's Hospital
POB 27
Tyndall, SD 57006



St. John Church Council Minutes

NOVEMBER COUNCIL MINUTES

St. John Church Council met Nov. 13, 2006 at 7:00 pm in the church basement with Pres. Don Burmeister calling the meeting to order. Roll call was taken with one member absent. Ron J. had devotions – “Doing the Word”. Minutes were read and approved by Ron N and Mark and motion carried. Treasurer’s report by Russell showed balance on hand of \$1,183.58. Motion by Cal to approve with a second from Carol. All approved. Discussion was held concerning the cleaning fund being short and possibly investing the remaining memorial balance for short term. Bills presented were \$11,381.85. Paid two months benevolence. Ron J made a motion to pay the bills with a second from Cal. Motion carried. Broke for lunch served by the ladies.

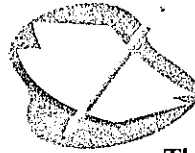
Pastor’s Report: Confirmands for October 2006 were Michael Rosencrans and Alyssa Storm. Five members transferred out. Pastor has started doing some workday shadow visits. The new worship book workshop was held with Pastor, Doris H and Susan A. attending. The Pastor showed us a sample of the new book. LYO will lead the 1st Sunday of Advent Worship service on Dec 3rd. Christmas trees will need to be in place by that time. Confirmation classes will be team-taught by Pastor Dave and Kathy and this year the mentors will be asked to increase their roles with the confirmation students.

Unfinished Business: The stained glass window on the West side is still trying to be matched. There are pieces by the bell tower, which might be useful if needed. The Grazer lawn mower is fixed and has been returned. As for the rear door of the Church, Bob suggested we could contact Interstate Glass & Door to take a look at the best approach to fix the latch, etc. Sandy Moke will have the go ahead to contact the piano tuner as in previous years. The pastoral evaluation forms are to be completed as soon as possible and turned in.

New Business: Christmas treat bags will be assembled on Sunday, Dec 17th. \$735.00 was raised for the safe fund. Russell mentioned a safe at Corsica Implement, which was felt it would work for our needs. Ron N made a motion and Cal seconded that Russell should go ahead and purchase it. The Thanksgiving Offering will again go the support World Hunger. Brian N. contacted Pastor that, if it is okay with the council, the LYO has made an offer to purchase a nice plastic Nativity Scene for the church. Cal made a motion to let the LYO go ahead with a 2nd from Mark. Motion carried. The Bishop election process is soon upcoming as nominations need to be to our Synod conference by January 31st.

Communion: Thanksgiving, Nov 23rd at stations with Don, Carol, Ron J, Mark and Ron N assisting. Sunday, Dec. 3rd at stations with Linda, Cal, Tim, Carol and Russell assisting. Stan and Shannon will usher.

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, Dec 11th at 7:30 pm. The nomination committee will meet previous to that at 6:30 pm. We will serve a Christmas Potluck. Carol will have devotions. We closed with the Lord’s Prayer.
Council Secretary Linda Kurtenbach



St. John Women of the ELCA Minutes

The St. John Women of the ELCA met on Tuesday afternoon November 21st in the church basement with 9 members present.

Devotions were given by Care Group #3. Bible study was led by Pastor Dave. The business meeting was called to order by Associate Coordinator Kathy Winterfeldt. The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved as read. A thank you was read from Mitchell Area Safehouse. A thank you from Salvation Army will be posted on the bulletin board in breezeway.

The Treasurer’s Report shows a balance of \$1,308.03. It was approved and placed on file.

Mission Action Report by Marilyn Mueller – Care Group #4 will have devotions and Care Group #1 will be hostess in December. Our lunch will be potluck. Quilt Days were November 9th and 10th and 40 quilts were made. Lutheran World Relief will no longer be accepting clothing.

Unfinished Business: In the article concerning the 125th Anniversary Wall Hanging, the word black is used and should be blank.

New Business: “Answer the Call” and Lutheran Outdoors will be having fundraisers in 2007 and our Ingathering for 2007 has been designated for this. Christmas gifts for elderly and those in need were discussed and it was decided all in Care Group will remember them with a phone call, visit, card, etc. Martha Titze is a member of Care Group #3 – Barb Kretschmer’s address is St. Michael Hospital, PO Box 27, Tyndall, SD 57066. Phone Number is 605-589-3341. Betty Metzger has moved to Mitchell and her address is: 1100 S. Edgerton #4, Mitchell, SD 57301, phone number: 605-996-5630. The announcements for cancellation of Board Meetings or General Meeting because of bad weather will be on KORN and KMIT. Board Meetings will be rescheduled for one hour before General Meeting. General Meeting will not be rescheduled. A discussion was held on term limits and re-election of officers. Stella Klumb made a motion to amend the Constitution Article VI, Section I: would

read, elected for a term of two years with unlimited re-election and Article VIII, Section II, would read: all elections shall be for a term of two years with unlimited re-election. The motion was seconded and carried. The proposed changes in the amendment were presented at the meeting and will be voted on at the next meeting. Scholarship applications from Prairie River Conference Women are available for those attending on ELCA colleges. High school seniors and those attending college are eligible and applications are due January 31, 2007. Responsibilities of Even Coordinators and Mission/Growth persons of the Care Groups are as follows: Event Coordinator – make calls and get food for all events and help with passing out slips for Mission Festival and Annual Church cleaning. Mission Action/Growth: make sure someone is available to do devotions and lunch at General Meetings, put notices in bulletin and encourage people to come to Bingo at Corsica Home, evening program at Corsica Home, and Bormann Manor Assisted Living visitations and call ahead to set date. November birthdays were recognized. Meeting adjourned. Lunch was served by Care Group #2.

Recorder

Linda Gerlach



Budge Committee

Motion by Cal and seconded by Ron J to accept MISSIONS section of \$20,000.00. Motion carried.
Motion by Carol with second by Shannon to accept WORSHIP & SERVICE section of \$11,675.00. Motion carried.
Motion by Carol with second by Cal to accept PASTORAL MINISTRY section of \$62,800.00. Motion carried.
Motion by Ron J and seconded by Mark to accept OUR CHURCH HOME section of \$35,600.00. Motion carried.
Motion to accept \$130,075.00 as total budget by Russell and second by Mark. Motion carried.
Motion by Shannon and second by Ron J. to renew the contract for lawn mowing with Dan and Rose Walters at \$110.00 a mowing. Motion carried.
Ron N. made a motion to adjourn. Cal seconded. Motion carried. Close with the Lord's Prayer.

Secretary – Linda Kurtenbach

Hats & Mittens: The Parish Ed invites all to join in filling a box with hats and gloves for all sizes from youth to adult. The box will be placed in the narthex. We will be doing this special project as our Christmas offering. The items will be given locally to those in need.

Christmas Program Practices will be held on Dec 3rd for 3rd-8th graders. The practice will begin at 12:00 and end at 2:00 pm. The students will need to bring a sack lunch to eat after church. On Dec 17 the Nursery – 8th grade will be practicing from 12:00 – 2:00 pm. Students will also need to bring a sack lunch that day. On Dec. 24th, we will practice during Sunday School hour, there will not be classes that day.

W/ELCA Scholarship Forms are available in the narthex. If you are currently a college student or high school senior planning to attend an ELCA college, please pick one up. Application deadline is January 31, 2007.

Collecting Corn: The LYO is collecting cans of corn for the Salvation Army Food Pantry. Our goal is 250 cans. If we go over, that would be great! There are boxes in the narthex and the breezeway to place cans in. Please have cans here by Dec 3rd. Thank you for your help.

Jr Lutherans will meet Sat, Dec 9th instead of Wed evening. Please be at the church by 1:00 pm. We will go Christmas caroling and then back to church for pizza, pop, bars and devotions. We ask that you bring 2 items of fruit – we will make up fruit plates to share with the elderly. Please come share your voice and time – parents may pick up their child/children at 4:00 pm. We need 2 volunteers to help, please contact Juli Moke at 928-3687 or Stacey Endres at 227-4304.

Looking for a great Christmas gift? Cookbooks make a great Christmas gift. The Sunday School still has cookbooks available. If you would like to purchase one, they are \$15 and you can get them from any Parish Ed member. It is never too early to start your shopping.



To all South Dakota Synod ELCA congregations:

As of November 1st congregations may begin submitting nominations for bishop. Congregations are to submit these nominations to their conference secretary by January 31, 2007. A blank VITA form (sent to all congregations, and available on the synod website) is to be used for all nominations. According to the synod's constitution (S9.04.12) congregations may submit no more than the names of three members of the ELCA clergy roster.

What follows is a brief summary of process to come:

- February 1-6, 2007 — Each Conference Secretary circulates the names and VITAs to members of the Conference Council, pastors, and congregations.
- February 6-20, 2007 — From the submitted nominations, each conference council will elect by majority vote no more than seven candidates and submit the names to the South Dakota Synod Secretary by February 21.
- The Synod Secretary then prepares a ballot of all eligible, willing candidates.
- March 18, 2007 — All conferences will meet in assembly and elect five persons.
- The five individuals (could be seven with ties) named by the greatest number of conferences will be on the South Dakota Synod Assembly ballot.
- Between mid-April and May 10, forums will be held in each conference for the purpose of meeting the candidates.

If you have questions or concerns, please contact the synod office or members of the Bishop Election Committee.

Please hold this process and potential candidates in your prayers. May the Holy Spirit direct our discernment in the selection of a bishop to lead the mission and ministry of the South Dakota Synod.

In One peace,

The Bishop Election Committee

Pastor Lon Kvanli, Sioux Falls, committee facilitator/chair (Lon@EastSideLC.org)

Constance Larson, Watertown (pclarson@itctel.com)

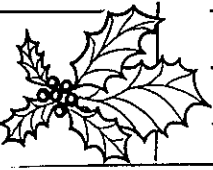
Darrell Sorensen, Aberdeen (dsoren@nvc.net)

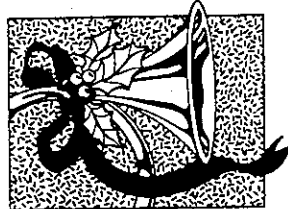
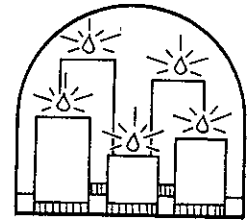
A note from Pastor Dave:

All nominations for bishop must originate from a congregation; individuals cannot nominate alone. That means that potential nominees would have to be nominated and approved at a congregation meeting, such as a congregation annual meeting.

If you have persons, members of the ELCA clergy roster, that you would like to bring before the congregation for possible nomination, we have the vita forms that you or they would have to fill out in order for us to send their names on to the conference secretary, if they were nominated by majority vote of St. John membership. Please see me if you would like one of the vita forms to have filled out on behalf of a person you would wish to nominate.

St. John Lutheran Church – Member Life Events for December

	Birthdays	Baptism Anniversaries	Wedding Anniversaries	Memorials
1	Jessica Erpenbach	Shirley Burmeister, Justin Boomsma		
2		Jonathan Olawsky	Bernard & Eileen Kreth (61 st)	
3		LaVerna Neugebauer, Gary Klumb, Keith Sargent		1970-Otto J. Kiunke
4				
5		Riley Gerlach	Lawrence Keeler	
6	Kathy Winterfeldt, Patti Boomsma, Sonya Storm, Martha Titze(91)	Donna Mae Bormann		1954-Oscar Metzger 1977-Emma Kreth
7	Angela Neugebauer, Hannah Buenning	Jay Storm		
8	Avery Mueller			
9	Marcella Jendersee(80)	Larry Neugebauer		
10		Gary Von Eye		2000-Norbert Moke
11		Eric Storm		
12	Craig Muntefering			
13	Travis Klumb, Jesse Von Eye		Ron & Dawn Neugebauer	1954-Martha Moke 1993-Lyle Gardeman
14	Ashley Gerlach, Carter Moke	Myron Storm	Chuck & Dee Storm	
15		Connie Bruske, Richard Luebke		
16	Jason Gardeman			
17	Eric J. Neugebauer, Matthew Schrank, Dakota Steichen	Brittni Moke		
18	Shannon Buenning	Nelda Neugebauer, Damon Klumb, Matthew Boomsma, Rebecca Von Eye		
19	Gloria Storm	Martha Titze		
20	Larry Wiczorek			
21	Brady Moke			
22				
23	Dan Kurtenbach			
24	Brent Wiczorek, Heather Speas			1994-Albert Goldammer
25		Lewis Bruske, Charlotte Larsch		
26	Rod Goldammer	Mary Ann Neugebauer, Paul Gerlach, Sonya Storm, Chase Frank		
27	Tamara Millage	Carl Buenning		1954-William Moke
28	Donna Gerlach, Sara Storm	Eric J. Neugebauer, Althea Bruske, Andrea Bruske	Jared & Michele Gerlach, Larry & Pat Klumb	
29			Rich & Evonne Gerlach	
30	Otto Moke (90)			1961-John Klumb
31	Riley Endres	Craig Muntefering		



Greet your friends in Christ! Send a card, make a call, or remember them in your prayers. If your date is missing, please contact the church office. Dates marked with "+" are being remembered in memoriam.

St. John Lutheran December 2006



Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

December Worship Assistants

Ushers: Chuck & Dee Storm
 Greeters: Larry & Pat Klumb
 Acolytes: Kyle Gerlach & Tyler Gerlach
 Lectors: 12/3-LYO Lector, 12/10- Delmar Mueller, 12/17- Dianna Schlaffman,
 12/24- Katie Mueller, 12/25- Deb Burmeister, 12/31- Paul Almjeld

10am Thursday
 Weekly
 - Bulletin
 Announcement
 Deadline

<p>3 1st Sunday in Advent 9:00am - Sunday School 10:00am - Holy Communion & LYO-led service, & Memorial Ornaments 12N-2:00pm Sunday School Program Practice, <u>grades 3 - 8</u>, (bring your own lunch) 2:15pm - St. John @ Corsica PVGS service</p>	<p>4 6:30pm - Douglas County Thrivent Dinner at Corsica 7:30pm - Worship Committee</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6 5:00-8:30pm - Confirmation Group Special Caroling Outing</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9 1:00-4:00pm - Jr. Lutherans Caroling 7:30pm - Christmas at DWU "What Child is This?"</p>
<p>10 2nd Sunday in Advent 9:00am - Sunday School 10:00am - Advent Hymn Choral Liturgy 12N-2:00pm Sunday School Program Practice, <u>grades 3 - 8</u>, (bring your own lunch) 3:00pm - Christmas at DWU, "What Child is This?"</p>	<p>11 7:30pm - Council Meeting</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13 6:00pm - LYO Caroling Outing 7:00-8:30pm - Confirmation Classes</p>		<p>14</p>	<p>16</p>
<p>17 3rd Sunday in Advent 9:00am - Sunday School 10:00am - WOV Service of Word & Prayer 12N-2:00pm Sunday School Program Practice, <u>all classes</u>, (bring your own lunch) 12N - Basement reserved, Storm Family 2:00pm - LMM/Thrivent Caroling, fr. church</p>	<p>18 8:00 - Lutheran Men in Mission</p>	<p>19 1:30pm - W/ELCA Bible Study</p>	<p>20 7:00-8:30pm - Confirmation Classes 7:00pm - Evening Women's Bible Study Group</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p>
<p>24 4th Sunday in Advent/Christmas Eve 9:00am - Sunday School Program Practice 10:00am - LBW Service of the Word 2:00pm - St. John @ Bormann Manor svc. 7:30pm - Sunday School Christmas Eve Program (Students at 7:00pm)</p>	<p>25 The Nativity of Our Lord 10:00am - Christmas Day Holy Communion</p>	<p>26 (Mon.) - January Newsletter Deadline</p>	<p>27 Confirmation in Recess, No Class</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29 10:00am - Newsletter Mailing Committee</p>	<p>30 Pastor on vacation, Dec. 30 - Jan. 1.</p>
<p>31 1st Sunday After Christmas New Year's Eve Day 9:00am - Sunday School 10:00am - LBW Setting 2 Liturgy of Daily Worship</p>		<p>Dec. 25, 12n thru Dec. 27, Pastor on Vacation</p>		<p>Mon. - Thurs. Standard Schedule 8:30-10:00am - Parsonage Office 10:00am-12:00n - Church office or Mtgs. 1:00-5:30pm - Visits or Church Office 7:00pm-10:00pm - Meetings, Scheduled Visits or Parsonage Office Fridays - Pastor's Day Off</p>		<p>Pastor on Vacation, Dec. 30 - Jan. 1</p>