

DIVINE SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

MAR. 2024

The question comes up every year. Why do we observe Lent? With a risen Christ, doesn't it seem counterproductive to walk the valley of sorrows for 40 days? Couldn't we just concentrate on Christ's victory and celebrate the devil's defeat? Yes we could, but that would not be good for us.

In 1948 Winston Churchill said to the British House of Commons, "Those that fail to learn from history are doomed to repeat it". Churchill was wise, because learning from our past causes us to learn more about ourselves and our enemy so we have hope for the future.

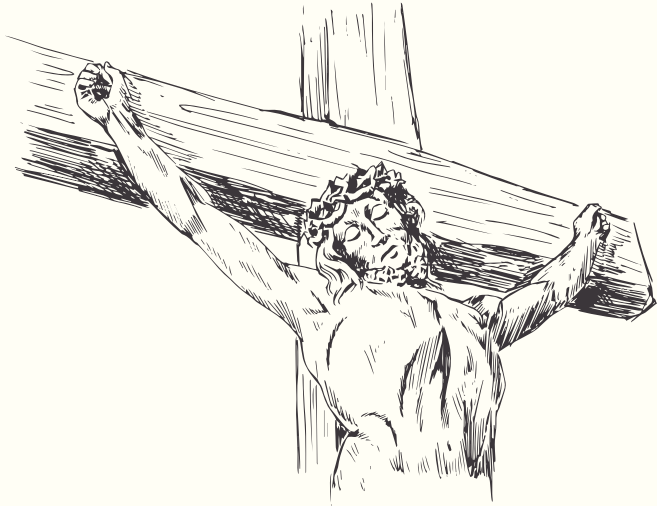
In Lent we are more intentionally reminded of our sin and our enemy of death brought on by sin. A cross of hope and promise is traced upon your forehead using the burned up dead ash of last year's palm branches. We hear the words, "from dust you came and to dust you will return". A clear reminder to each of us that we are sinners and sin will bring your death. We remember our past and see clearly our sin so that we see the love of Christ and His sacrifice that gives us a future.



Three times Jesus reminded His disciples about what death demands. Three times Jesus told the 12 He would be handed over to sinful men, tried, crucified, die and be buried. He was reminding them and us of the reality of sin and what it does. It demands a sacrifice. But Jesus also said, "and on the third day I will be raised from the dead".

Our past is a past of sin and death. Hurtful things have been done to us. We have done hurtful things. Remembering our past, the hurt and pain, helps us see the love and mercy of Jesus.

Jesus did not play the victim. He was not helplessly caught in the system. He came and endured all the mocking and beating to accomplish our salvation by His sacrifice on the cross. His sinless blood changed our past. We are forgiven. God remembers no more your sin.



Jesus gives us hope for today and changes our future. We have hope for every event and every day. Our hope stems from an empty tomb and an eternal Victory. Our hope is grounded in a living Savior that beat our enemy. Our hope, Jesus, carries us to confession and absolution remembering our past and confessing our hate and anger and the sin that seeks to kill us. Then hearing the forgiving words of Jesus we are free. Our enemy defeated once again by our risen Christ Jesus.

We have hope for today and for the future. Our hope, Jesus, gives us joy even when we stand by the grave of a dear friend and say "Christ is Risen"! Because of Jesus those who die in faith rise just like Jesus did. We have hope for the future in spite of what we see unfolding on the news. We have hope for tomorrow and next year because Jesus has promised to be with us eternally.

Lent is very important. It forces us to see sin and what it does. But it helps us see even more clearly the love of Jesus for you.

Remembering my past and rejoicing in my present and future in Jesus.

Pastor Randy





Hello Friends-

The Early Childhood Center and the Classical Lutheran Academy would like to invite you to the 3rd Annual For the Kids Legacy Banquet. We have a wonderful evening of entertainment with a speaker, lovely dinner, live and silent auctions and fellowship. It will be an evening to enjoy and remember! All profits go to the Early Childhood Center and the Academy. Want a ticket or 2? Please find a Board Member, myself, Katie Bierschbach or Katie Andreasen.

We are also looking for auction items and desserts for the event. If you would like to donate please reach out and I'll answer any questions you have.

On another note, if you or someone you know is looking for part time or full time employment, likes a fun and fast paced atmosphere and loves children. We have a place for you. Please send them to Katie Andreasen with the Early Childhood Center to apply. We are looking for assistant teachers and a preschool teacher for the 4/5 class (second year of preschool- Kindergarten ready). We are also looking for Summer Program help! Give a call to the center or visit with any of the Board Members.

Thanks for your time and have a great day,
Dana Garry- Reiprich, Early Childhood Board Chair

ECC & Academy Legacy Banquet

APRIL 13TH 5:00-8:00 PM

**ANGEL'S CATERING AND RECEPTIONS
12340 JENTER RD, SUMMERSET, SD 57718**

DIVINE SHEPHERD CLASSICAL LUTHERAN ACADEMY (K-4) OPENING FALL 2024!



[DSCLA.DIVINESHEP.ORG](https://dscla.divineshep.org)

- **DISTINCTIVELY LUTHERAN**
- **CLASSICAL**
- **QUALITY EDUCATION**



**PASTOR DENNIS MERCER
HEADMASTER**



**ERIN NORMAN
TEACHER**

CONTACT US:

605-787-6438

**[dsllcacademyinfo@
divineshep.org](mailto:dsllcacademyinfo@divineshep.org)**

THE ECC IS

HIRING!

- **2 Full time positions for assistant teachers**
 - Hour lunch breaks
 - Share God's Word
- **1 After School teacher**
 - Provide care for students until parents arrive

APPLY NOW

**MESSAGE OR CALL KATIE A. AT
605-791-1131**

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

2nd	Karen Bartling Jesse Roberts
5th	Keira Cleland Brodie Eisenbraun
6th	Grace Eliason
8th	Sarah Halvorson Bev Johnson
9th	Ruth Sperlich
10th	Trent Jensen
14th	Raylea Webber
15th	Gordon Quam
17th	Riley Geidel Ray Reynolds
19th	Abby Dathe
20th	Jill Tobin Herman Wahl

21st	Hannah Anderson
22nd	Lance Kaleda
24th	Carl Petersen
25th	Garrett Burg
26th	Marvel Jacobson
27th	Titus Sutton
29th	Ethan Hedeem Marilyn Suckut Brayden Swane

***Is your birthday or anniversary not listed? Please let the church secretary know and she will add it to the list!**

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

1st	Bobbi Geidel Dale Schmidt
2nd	Jasmine Mayer
3rd	Mel Geidel
5th	Curtis Petersen
6th	Monica Leins Rith McKinstry
7th	Suzanne Mayer
10th	Kenny Bittner Jenna Burbach
11th	Kristin Swane Erin Norman
13th	Lakyn Uran
14th	Morgan Phillips Shane Radensleben
15th	Isabella Peck Brenda Price

16th	Megan Lapcinski
17th	Jeff Dyer Cade Horton Stephanie Kitchens
19th	Ruth Reynolds
25th	Mary Ricker
27th	Garrett Norman
30th	Darlene Wahl

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MARCH & APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

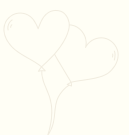
MARCH

1st	John & Faun Harmon
5th	Ron & Bev Johnson
10th	Gordon & Leota Quam

APRIL

11th	Tim & Peggy Severson
21st	Darrell & Jennifer Koepp
30th	Gary & Brenda Price

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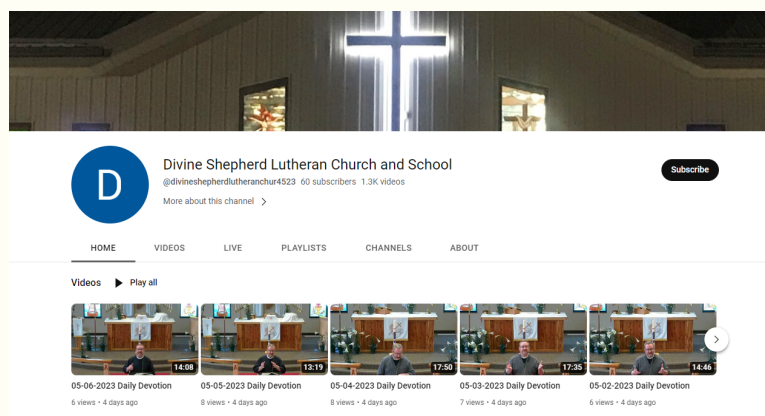


Important Church Information

Announcements will be read 5 minutes before church every Sunday.
Announcements can be sent to the church secretary by noon every Thursday.
Please email her at dslcsecretary@divineshep.org or call **605-787-6438**.

Any information about church events and services can be found in the announcements that are handed out at each service as well as on our website: **divineshep.org**.

8:00 am services are livestreamed. You can find current and past services and daily devotions on our website, Facebook page, and YouTube.



Church Secretary Office Hours: **Monday-Thursday, 8:00 am-3:45 pm**

Church Phone: **605-787-6438**

Church Email: dslcsecretary@divineshep.org



Give today! Use this QR code or go to divineshep.org and click "Give Now" to start Online Giving.

MARCH & APRIL EVENTS

**MIDWEEK LENT SERVICES THIS YEAR
ARE AT
11:00 AM (MATINS) & 7:15 PM (VESPERS)**

MARCH

6th	Rev. Jonah Domenchelli Presentation on Missionary Work in Germany
23rd	Annual Easter Egg Hunt

APRIL

13th	ECC & Academy Legacy Banquet
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