#### **REMINDERS & BIRTHDAYS:**

Please look for updated info on worship & events via our websites, Facebook pages, these weekly announcements or by contacting the office. (bentonwillowoffice@gmail.com/ 271-7388)

wclcdellrapids.org & bentonelca.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS All Willow Creek/Benton Announcements should be emailed by Tuesday each week and newsletter announcements by the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month. OFFICE CONTACT INFO listed above.

#### **WAYS TO GIVE:**

**MAIL:** Benton PO Box 706 Crooks, SD 57020 Willow Creek 24795 470<sup>th</sup> Ave Dell Rapids, SD 57022

**ELECTRONIC GIVING** Check the websites giving image.

www.wclcdellrapids.org & www.bentonelca.org

#### **BENTON'S 'TEXT TO GIVE'**

1: Text "give" to the number **1-605-205-7789.** The automated response will direct you to the webpage.

2: The donations webpage through your browser is https://bentonchurch.breezechms.com/give/online



1 Cheryl Aker, Bonnie Mews, Steve
Hartman 2 Jill Hagen 3 Rick Zwart
5 Jolene Izadshenass Susie Schmidt

6 Amy Chabra 8 Evan Nelson

9 Polly McGreevy

10 Brayden Koopman

11 Dennis Aker 12 Jake Sundermann

13 Jacob Paulson, Laura Berg

14 Dorothy Rogness, Braxton Geigle 25 Seth Ellison, Jared Opland

**16** Gary Thompson **21** Jaxton Mohr

23 Fran Alberty 24 Justin Person, Jaimie Ellison

25 Stacey Koopman, Kevin Hoekman, Bonnie Pinnerud,

Liam Freudenthal 26 Zachary Schroeder

I have been crucified with Christ; <sup>20</sup>and it is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me.
-Galatians 2:19-20

### FROM YOUR PASTOR

Dear Benton and Willow Congregations,

I will be preaching on the book of Galatians through the summer. Each Sunday, from June 4<sup>th</sup> through August 27<sup>th</sup> (with a pause on Aug. 6) the sermon will be taken from this book as we walk together through Paul's message to this new church in Galatia.

This book has been named the Charter of Christian Freedom and it has come to us through a battle for sure. History teaches us that we always receive the truest confessions, our most profound words, after having battled for them. In the Apostle Paul's letter to the Galatians, this truth is confirmed. This letter sings of a freedom with no strings attached so that anyone in any circumstance may exclaim the above verses with the blessing of heaven.

Paul starts in right away after his normal customary salutation with these words: "I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting the one who called you in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel— not that there is another gospel, but there are some who are confusing you and want to pervert the gospel of Christ." And as Paul points out, the "different gospel" only serves to remove your freedom in Christ.

Martin Luther chose an even more personal name for the book of Galatians. He called it "My Katie" after the name of his wife. It was the freedom that Luther discovered in Galatians that gave him the confidence to shed his monastic vows and consider marriage as a most blessed gift in this life. It turned out that marriage was not a distraction to Luther's calling, it was his strength. Because of the freedom that Paul so succinctly lays out in Galatians, God sent to Martin this former nun Kate, the true earthly inspiration and strength behind the man.

My prayer for you as we walk through Galatians this summer is that you too will join with Paul rejoicing in our everlasting Christian freedom: "I have been crucified with Christ . . .!"

- Pastor Tom Stadem

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### WILLOW CREEK & BENTON

Info and Events

#### **SUMMER TIME--SERVICE TIME CHANGE**

**Sundays starting June 4th** 

Willow Creek 8:30am

Benton 10:00am



#### **COMMUNION SUNDAYS IN JUNE**

Sundays JUNE 11th & 18th

#### 2023 SUMMER PREACHING SERIES on Galatians

Starting on June 4<sup>th</sup>, Pastor Tom will be preaching each summer Sunday on St. Paul's letter to the Galatians. Known as the "Magna Carta of Christian Freedom," Paul preaches against anything that would come in between our freedom in Christ to make God's free gift our work. Each Sunday, Pastor Tom will take half of each of the six chapters and help us connect this ancient but timeless message to our daily lives.

### **BANQUET SERVING**



Monday, June 5th

Benton, Willow Creek and West Nidaros will be serving the Banquet West on **Monday**, **June 5**<sup>th</sup> for the evening meal. We will need 4 people between the churches to

come early to prep and 15 total to be part of serving the meal. SIGN UP AVAILABLE IN ENTRANCE -- sign up for this annual event.

THE NEXT Northern Rim High School Youth Gathering is on Sunday, June 11<sup>th</sup> at Benton Lutheran Church from 5pm to 6:30pm. The following youth are headed to Klein Ranch this summer from July 16-21: Claire Berg from Willow Creek; Tori O'Toole, Dominick and Dawson Larson, Justin Person and friend Lane Maske from Benton.



### WILLOW CREEK NOTES

### **WILLOW CREEK TEAMS:**

**June 4**th **TEAM 4** Justin and Lindsay Koepp (*Faith & Sawyer*), Ken & Debbie Mader, Shane and Beth Warne, Nancy Offerman, Steve Schmidt, Austin and Shelby Schmidt (*Lilly & Everet*)

June 11<sup>th</sup> TEAM 5: Rick and Sandy Zwart, Jason and Erin Mitzel (*Max*), Judy Stadem, Steve and Kim Bazata (*Kael & Mack*), David Olson (*Levi*) June 18<sup>th</sup> TEAM 1: Tim and Lisa Rave, Joyce Linge, Kevin and Katie Hoekman (*Anna*, *Peter*, *Esther*, & *Elijah*), Phyllis Koepp, Zach Schroeder & Jayni Anderson

**June 25<sup>th</sup> TEAM 2**: Craig and Bonnie Dybdahl, Mary & Paul Mesner, Pat Nytroe, Shawn and Danielle (*Addy, Kinley, Braxton, Easton, Asher*), Andy and Laura Berg (*Claire & Ben*), Steve and Sheri Tokheim

#### MEN'S COFFEE / QUILTING LADIES

Join us Saturdays at 8:30am at Willow Creek for goodies, coffee and fellowship.

There will be a Pancake Breakfast on the first Saturday of every month.

Also, join the "Quilting Girls" Mondays at 9am for quilting and fellowship!



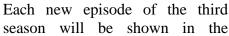
#### FOOD PANTRY ITEMS NEEDED

Paper Towels, Napkins, Toilet Paper, Kleenex, Laundry Soap, Dish Soap, Women's razors, Personal Hygiene Items, Peanut Butter, Jelly

Baking Needs, Knorr Rice Sides, Knorr Noodle Sides, Coffee, Juice, Salad Dressing, Oil, Flour, Sugar, Cake Mixes, Cookie Mixes, Brown Mixes, Jello, Pudding *Monetary Donations are welcome – Please mail to PO Box 244 Baltic SD 57003* (6)

# WILLOW CREEK & BENTON Info and Events

Season III of the "THE CHOSEN" – 5pm each Sunday





Benton fellowship Hall. Sunday nights at 5pm. Each household is invited to bring a dish to pass and enjoy a meal together before the video. Lively discussion always follows each episode! Eight episodes complete season III. Come and invite a friend.



#### **SUMMER CAMPFIRES and FELLOWSHIP**

Each summer (on rotating Wednesdays) we like to enjoy a potluck and singing around a campfire. Are you able to host a campfire at your house this summer? Please let Monica know . bentonwillowoffice@gmail.com or 271-

7388. SIGN UP IN ENTRANCE OF EACH CHURCH!!

Our First Campfire of the Season May 31st

Kerrie and Rick Arens 46657 Grand Meadow St. Hartford 261-9728

Other dates: June 14th, June 28th, July 12th, July 26th, Aug 9th, Aug 23rd

### BENTON NOTES

### **BENTON WORSHIP TEAMS:**

JUNE 4<sup>th</sup> Team 1 Doug & Sandy JUNE 11<sup>th</sup> Team 2 Roger & Linda

JUNE 18th Team 3 Cheryl & Carol

JUNE 25th Team 4 Butch & Lori

#### RHBARB PIE MAKING



Join us Wednesdays 9:30am starting on May 31st as we make the best rhubarb pies in the area! No experience necessary.

**Buy, enjoy and support missions!** \$5 small and \$10 large

Contact Cheryl 366-6562

### CROOKS COMMUNITY DAYS – "SUMMER VIBES"

#### Saturday, June 3rd

The Benton Evangelism Board is sponsoring a float in the Crooks Day Parade on Saturday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> at 10:30am. The Parade theme is "Summer Vibes"! Roger Person will be pulling a Benton float through the parade so we will need riders of all ages to help share your summer joy with us! Let Roger Person or Angie Mulder know if you can ride in the parade

#### **CROOKS COMMUNITY WORSHIP**

#### Sunday, June 4th

Pastor Tom and Pastor Jared Rakness of West Nidaros will be leading a Crooks Community Days Sunday worship service at Sunset Park at 11:30am on Sunday, June 4<sup>th</sup>.

## BENTON NOTES

## RIBFEST & BEAN BAG TOURNEY EVENT

#### Saturday, June 10th

The Benton Evangelism Board is sponsoring a Bean Bag--Ribfest Event. The tourney will be organized at

4pm on Saturday June 10th. A bouncy house will be available for the kids along with lots of options for fun.

AT 5pm, we will pause the tourney for a smoked rib smack-down. The best meat smokers will be voted on as we enjoy great food together.

A free will offering will be taken to cover expenses. Contact Gary Jongewaard at 605-515-0521 or Angie Mulder 605-675-9201 if you'd like to offer a 'smoked sacrifice' for the event! Please spread the word and join the fun!!



### REMEMBERING TORNADO TUESDAY after 20 years!

Sunday, June 25th

On Sunday June 25<sup>th</sup>, Benton will have a special remembrance of the events of June 24<sup>th</sup>, 2003, also known as Tornado Tuesday. Before that Sunday, Pastor Tom will be asking members for their stories of that day to compile in a video that we hope to play

during the service. All are invited to bring their pictures and recollections of that day during fellowship time too as we give thanks to God for sparing the Benton church and for the community who came together to repair the extensive damage in the area.