

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 15th of each month. OFFICE CONTACT INFO listed above.

WAYS TO GIVE:

MAIL : Benton PO Box 706 Crooks, SD 57020

Willow Creek 24795 470th 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. Once the system has your number stored, this will be a simple way to give right during the offering time!

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

3 Paul Krogstad

4 Paul Dybedahl, Jaden Opland, David Olson

5 Anna Hoekman **6** Esther Hoekman

8 Russ Midden, Travis Ellison

14 Dominick Larson, Ryan Opland **15** Auroa Hill

16 Brystal Backus **18** Faye Gilderhus, Steve Bazata

19 Maci Jo Haynes

20 Rick Kittleson, Brad Zwart, Kim Willuweit

21 Lisa Rave **23** Brian McGreevy, Cameron Nelson

24 Jackie Johnson, Tim Rave **26** Bergen Nielson

28 Bob Schuette, Logan Schmidt **31** Bev Hubers, Jace

Freudenthal

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FROM YOUR PASTOR

For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery. – Galatians 5:1

Dear Benton and Willow Creek Congregations,

If you were looking for the very pinnacle verse in the letter to the churches of Galatia, it would be this verse from Galatians 5:1.

But it turns out, as we survey the chosen people of Israel, God’s people didn’t want too much freedom. I’m thinking of the Israelite people who were just rescued from slavery in Egypt and now standing in the middle of a wilderness. Their new freedom meant that God must receive much more trust for food and everything else than they wanted to give. That was too unsettling for them and soon they were longing for the days of slavery when at least they had one square meal a day.

I’m also recalling how the chosen people, now living in the promised land, wanted a king. All of the neighboring nations had kings and Israel wanted a strong and wise king. The prophet Samuel kept telling them that they had God as their king, but they rejected that. It was too hard to rely on God for safety and protection with faith. This freedom to live in faith, proved to be unacceptable. They wanted a king to rule over them.

And now in our summer Galatians study, we continue to hear the Apostle Paul rail against these new Christians who are giving up their new-found freedom in Christ for the security of the old covenantal way. They were convinced that the gift of freedom hinged upon their ability to bring their sacrifice of the old covenant into the relationship with God. They effectively received the unconditional promise of God and made it conditional. They received the mercy of God and made it about them deserving mercy.

And, if we are honest, we all struggle with a God who would set aside all of His power and control to love us that freely, that unconditionally. Dear friends, as you celebrate Freedom Day, may you be filled with awe and joy by the true freedom that we have received through faith in God’s only Son and pray for the nation that He has given us.

Pastor Tom Stadem

WILLOW CREEK & BENTON

Info and Events

2023 SUMMER PREACHING SERIES GALATIANS:



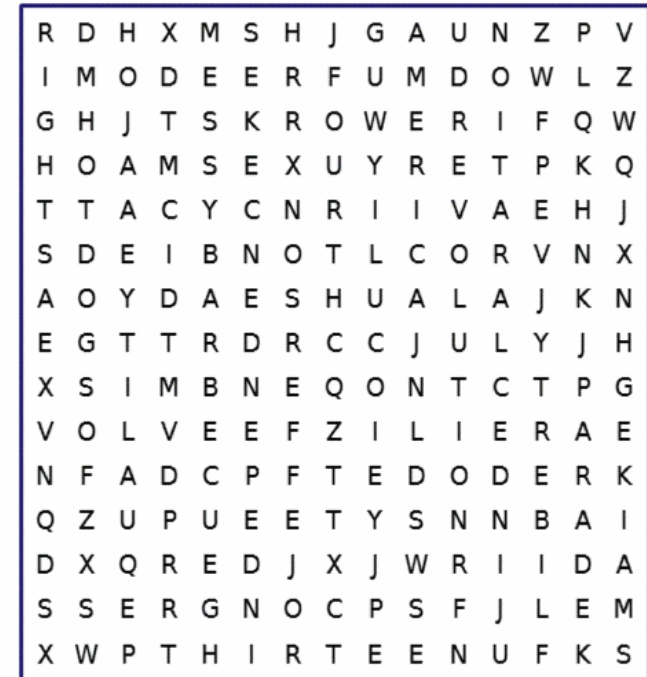
Pastor Tom will be preaching each summer Sunday on St. Paul's letter to the Galatians. Known as the "Magna Carta of Christian Freedom," Paul preaches against anything that would come in between our freedom in Christ to make God's free gift our work. Each Sunday, Pastor Tom will help us connect this ancient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



COMMUNION DATES: July 2nd & 9th



July Fourth Word Search



ADAMS
AMERICA
BARBECUE
COLONIES
CONGRESS
DECLARATION
EQUALITY
FIREWORKS

FOURTH
FREEDOM
HOTDOGS
INDEPENDENCE
JEFFERSON
JULY
LIBERTY

NATION
PARADE
REVOLUTION
RIGHTS
STATES
THIRTEEN
UNITED

WILLOW CREEK *NOTES*

WILLOW CREEK TEAMS

July 2nd TEAM 3: Linda Linge, Terry and Kris Smart, Eric and Jenna Smart (*Louisa & Lilah*), Jared and Brenda Deters, Jay and Tina Soderquist (*Mya & Grace*)

July 9th TEAM 4: Justin and Lindsay Koepp (*Faith & Sawyer*), Ken & Debbie Mader, Shane and Beth Warne, Nancy Offerman, Steve Schmidt, Austin and Shelby Schmidt (*Lily & Elliot*)

July 16th TEAM 5: Rick and Sandy Zwart, Jason and Erin Mitzel (*Max*), Judy Stadem, Steve and Kim Bazata (*Kael & Mack*), David Olson (*Levi*)

July 23rd TEAM 1: Tim and Lisa Rave, Joyce Linge, Kevin and Katie Hoekman (*Anna, Peter, Esther, & Elijah*), Phyllis Koepp, Zach Schroeder & Jayni Anderson

July 30th 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. Also, join the "Quilting Girls" Mondays at 9am for quilting and fellowship!



FOOD PANTRY ITEMS NEEDED

Kleenex, Toilet Paper, Dish Soap, Laundry Soap, Shampoo, Conditioner, Body Wash, Jelly, Sugars (brown or white), Oil, Flour, Brownie Mix, Pancake Mix, Ramen Noodles, Knorr Sides, Taco

Seasoning, Spaghetti Sauce, Boxed Pasta, Sloppy Joe, Instant Potatoes, Canned Pasta, Jello, Pudding, Breakfast bars, Juice, Coffee, Spices

Donations can also be taken to City Hall and Baltic School District

Monetary Donations are welcome – Please mail to PO Box 244 Baltic SD 57003

WILLOW CREEK & BENTON

Info and Events

SUMMER CAMPFIRES

and FELLOWSHIP – 6PM

Each summer (on rotating Wednesdays) we like to enjoy a potluck and singing around a campfire.



July 12th – Wade & Angie Mulder

25947 468th Ave Sioux Falls / 675-9201

July 26th – Dennis and Cheryl Aker 104 W 7th Crooks / 360-4791

August 9th – Steve Schmidt 24929 471st Ave. Baltic / 595-4414

August 23rd – Tom & Judy Stadems 2808 W. Kingston Dr. / 728-1553

NORTHERN RIM NEWS:

Klein Ranch July 16th – 21st

The following youth are headed to Summer Camp at Klein Ranch from July 16th-21st: Claire Berg (Willow Creek); Justin Person, Lane Maske, Tori O'Toole, Dominick & Dawson Larson (Benton). Pastor Tom and wife Judy Stadem will also be attending with the youth. Thank you for remembering us in your prayers.

BENTON NOTES

BENTON WORSHIP TEAMS

JULY 2nd Team 1 Doug & Sandy
JULY 9th Team 2 Roger & Linda
JULY 16th Team 3 Cheryl & Connie
JULY 23rd Team 4 Butch & Lori
JULY 30th Fifth Sunday—Helpers Needed

BENTON COUNCIL MEETING



Tuesday July 11th at 7pm

RHARB PIE MAKING

Join us Wednesdays 9:00am as we make the best pies in the area! No experience necessary. **Buy, enjoy and support missions!** \$7 small and \$12 large Contact Cheryl 366-6562

THANK YOU: *Thank you so much for the meals, cards, texts/well wishes, calls and prayers. Surgery went as good as could be expected and the recovery process is as well. We are so blessed to have such an amazing support system behind us as we navigate this “new” lifestyle.*

With love, Kari, Brandon, Cam & Lily Jurrens



VBS / SAVE THE DATE

July 28th at 9am
Crooks Community Center

The Benton Lutheran Church Board of Ed would like to invite our Crooks kids to a morning VBS at the Crooks Community Center. It will be a morning under the theme of "Pool Party", celebrating how Jesus is Lord over all creation!! All youth *heading into kindergarten through sixth grade in August* are invited to come for a morning of games, crafts, songs, Bible stories, a snack and the blessing of water!! (no swimming suits are required but a towel might be handy!) **THIS IS A FREE EVENT**, but we need you to register your child or children so we can prepare for you. Register on this link by July 24th : <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NY5GXMC> Spread the word and invite your friends.

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WILLOW CREEK NOTES



SHETEK BIBLE CAMP – CONFIRMATION STUDENTS

Five Willow Creek Confirmation Students head to Shetek Lutheran Bible Camp. **On Sunday, July 30th**, Ben Berg, Kinley Giegle, Anna Hoekman, and Grace & Mya Soderquist will be attending Confirmation camp at Shetek Lutheran Bible Camp near Slayton, MN. Please pray for a great week of faith and Christian community for our youth! Pastor Tom will be attending with the youth to lead a daily morning study with the WC youth.

WEDDING AT WILLOW CREEK:

Jayni Anderson & Zach Schroeder will be married at Willow Creek church on Saturday, July 8th! A wedding rehearsal will precede the wedding day on Friday night. We are so thankful and overjoyed that Zach and Jayni have joined our church family and will now say their vows in the sanctuary. We pray for their life together as husband and wife and ask God for His richest blessings upon them!



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