

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>



1 Cheryl Schoer, Jayna Backus, Charlee Jo Benshoof

2 Paul Sunderman 5 Haley Dahl

7 Linda Benson, Andrew Schmidt

8 Tina Soderquist, Kristi Van DeRostyne

9 Pam Person, Tracy Kinder, Scott Burggraff

11 Alex Gray

12 Leighton McNamara

14 Jessica Fischer

15 Renae Vinzant

16 Michael Gray, Nicholas Schmidt, Lily Schmidt

19 Dawson Larson, 20 Rachael Vinzant, Lori Oseby 21 Joyce Reiners

22 Beth Warne

23 Katie Hoekman

26 Riley Haynes, Justin Koepf

27 Zach Benson, Kayla Ernefti

29 Ryan Vinzant

30 Carol Goodrich

FROM YOUR PASTOR

but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect.

- 1 Peter 3:15

Dear Benton and Willow Creek Congregations,

I think of this verse as four Benton confirmation students prepare their "I Believe" papers for their big day on Sunday, October 22nd. It is a difficult thing to put your beliefs into words and put them on paper if you are not used to doing this. We are used to putting facts on paper, but it is a whole other exercise to first grasp what it is that we believe about Jesus Christ and then condense it into words. So, I've been meeting individually with our students to help them put their faith into words, "a defense for the hope that is in" one could say.

And the important thing to remember is that the hope within us is not something that we muster up on our own. It isn't manufactured by our own mental and spiritual efforts. No, it's placed there by the outside Word of God coming into our ears and alighting upon our hearts by the power of the Holy Spirit, who gives us faith.

Faith is an outside/in gift, not an inside/out work. If faith were something that we could conclude about God through reason, it would not be a gift; it would be a work. But since God grants us this gift, we use this gift to thank, praise, serve, and obey Him.

'Faith and righteousness as gifts' was life changing to Martin Luther as he studied scripture. To have finally been given the faith to believe that faith doesn't depend on my righteousness but in God's faithfulness to His Word of promise.

And so, we will also celebrate Reformation Sunday on October 29th as Luther was forced to confess the hope that was in him, to make a defense for the gospel. And Luther's confident stand before the world powers of his day did not come from anything that he had figured out. It came from trusting in God's Word alone to make faith.

I look forward to celebrating with you again, the power of God's Word alone to save and the gift of faith that we share in Christ.

Pastor Tom Stadem

WILLOW CREEK & BENTON

Info and Events



COMMUNION DATES

The sacrament of Holy Communion will be given in worship on Sunday October 1st and 8th.

CONFIRMATION CLASSES



The Wednesday Confirmation Schedule is as follows:

- 6:00pm – 1st Year - 7th Grade Students at Benton
- 7:15pm – 2nd Year - 8th Grade Students at Willow Creek
- Confirming 3rd year students meet independently with the Pastor.

JOINT COUNCIL MEETING

The Next Joint Council Meets at Willow Creek on November 14th at 6:30pm



“Iron Sharpens Iron”

Men’s Group meets weekly at 7am at Pastor Tom’s home for breakfast and a study.

Name: _____

FALL WORD SEARCH



acorns	cobweb	harvest	October	seasons
apples	corn	hayride	orange	September
autumn	Fall	jackets	pumpkin	squash
bonfire	festivals	leaves	quilt	squirrel
brown	foliage	maize	rake	sweaters
chestnuts	football	migrate	red	Thanksgiving
chilly	gourds	November	scarecrow	wagons
cider	green	nuts	scenic	yellow

WILLOW CREEK *NOTES*

WILLOW CREEK TEAMS

Oct 1st TEAM 1: Tim and Lisa Rave, Kevin and Katie Hoekman (*Anna, Peter, Esther, & Elijah*), Phyllis Koepp, Zach Schroeder & Jayni Anderson

Oct 8th 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

Oct 15th TEAM 3: Linda Linge, Terry and Kris Smart, Eric and Jenna Smart (*Louisa & Lilah*), Jared and Brenda Deters, Jay and Tina Soderquist (*Mya & Grace*)

Oct 22nd 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*)

Oct 29th TEAM 5: Rick and Sandy Zwart, Jason and Erin Mitzel (*Max*), Judy Stadem, Steve and Kim Bazata (*Kael & Mack*), David Olson (*Levi*)

SUNDAY SCHOOL REMINDERS:

Sunday, October 8th: No Sunday School

Sunday, October 22nd: Christmas Program Practice Begins

MEN'S COFFEE / QUILTING LADIES

MEN: Join us Saturdays at 8:30am at Willow Creek for food, coffee and fellowship. The First Saturday of every month the men provide a Pancake Breakfast during their coffee fellowship time.

WOMEN: Join us Mondays at 9am as we enjoy quilting and fellowship at Willow Creek.



FOOD PANTRY ITEMS NEEDED

Primary needs assessed for this month: Dried rice, Pasta, Stuffing, Personal care, Breakfast items, Pasta sauce, canned fruit, Mac n Cheese *Monetary*

Donations – mail to PO Box 244 Baltic SD 57003

WILLOW CREEK & BENTON

Info and Events



THIRD GRADE BIBLES

Bible instruction classes on Tuesday, Sept. 26th and Tues. October 3rd at 6:30pm with parents will prepare our 3rd graders for a special Bible

Presentation Milestone during worship on October 8th! Thank you parents and congregation alike for holding faithfully to those promises that we all make together when God's promise is delivered at the baptismal font!!

The NORTHERN RIM

Sunday, October 29th

The Northern Rim Youth will meet on Sunday evening October 29th from 5:30pm to 7:00pm at Zion Lutheran Church in Rural Hartford. It will be a campfire event with six area churches. Come and invite a friend.



BENTON NOTES

BENTON WORSHIP TEAMS

- Oct. 1st First Team – Doug & Sandy
- Oct. 8th Second Team – Roger & Linda
- Oct. 15th Third Team – Cheryl & Connie
- Oct. 22nd Fourth Team – Butch & Lori
- Oct. 29th – Fifth Sunday, Need helpers

BENTON SUNDAY SCHOOL 2023/2024

Sunday School Theme: *“Impossible Made Possible”* - Luke 18:27
Come hear the stories that show how things that are impossible for us are possible with God. Join us in art projects, songs and activities that will further share the Word of God.

*Join us each Sunday at 9:30am for Sunday School (ages 3 and up).
And the First Sunday of the month is **Sunday School for all ages.***

ALL CHURCH SUNDAY SCHOOL

October 1st and November 5th. (First Sunday each month)
All ages are invited to Come hear a message, participate in an activity and/or craft, and fellowship with our church community. Feel free to invite others. Come experience the Word of God in a different setting.

BENTON COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday October 17th at 7:00pm

APPLE PIE BAKING SEASON



Benton pie ladies will begin making apple pies **Wednesdays at 9am**. Please come and help, if you can. No experience needed!! This apple season we will be selling large pies for \$12 and small for \$6.

White Confirmation Gowns Needed:

Does anyone have any TriValley white graduation gowns (or any other white gowns) that they would donate to Benton? We are looking to increase our variety of sizes for our Confirmation Students. Thank you.

(4)

BENTON NOTES



SECOND SUNDAY POTLUCKS

October 8th, and November 12th

Join us the 2nd Sunday of each month for potluck following worship service!

ONLINE GIVERS

The Stewardship and Finance Board has created a new way for Online Givers to place an offering in the plate on Sundays. It's a blue card located on the back of each pew that states that you've chosen to give electronically. This will be a way to show our congregation and visitors that there are many people who choose this consistent and easy way to give to the ministries of Benton. It also helps the giver have something to place in the plate. We hope that this is a helpful way to continue to teach that we are a giving community of faith!

MENTORING OPPORTUNITY

LSS & Renberg Elementary are partnering together to find mentors in our community. Renberg Elementary in Renner is in need of mentors for an additional 10 students. Would you consider this opportunity? It would take an hour a week and make an impact in the life of a child in your neighborhood! Contact Michelle at Mentoring@LssSD.org or 605-444-7801 for more information.

FALL FAMILY FUN EVENT

Our 2nd annual **Fall FAMILY FUN EVENT** is planned for Saturday, Oct. 21st beginning around 4pm. There will be a **smoke off contest** and a **special pie making contest**. The board of Evangelism and Thrivent Financial is sponsoring this community invitation event so plan now to enter your cooking talents into the contest! Contact Angie Mulder, Gary Jongewaard, Roger Person, or Pastor Tom with any questions

Benton CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

Confirmation Sunday will be celebrated on **Sunday, October 22nd**. The families of all four confirmation students, who have 6th and 7th generation ties to the original charter members of Benton, would like to invite the congregation to a meal following worship hosted by the grandparents of each of the students!

(5)