

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

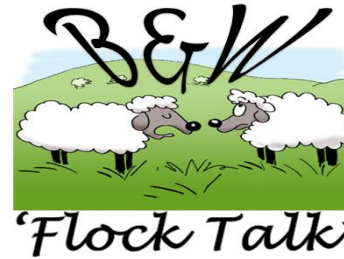
ELECTRONIC GIVING Check the websites giving image.
www.wclcdellrapids.org & www.bentonelca.org

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>



- 2 Irene Midden, Tyler Johnson, Jill Hegge
3 Max Mitzel 4 Landon Schenkel
6 Pat Benson, Garrison Mulder
7 Thea Rave 8 Gabrielle Jongewaard
9 Bryant Filler, Jessalyn Person
12 Katelyn Person
15 Troy Kretzschmar, Jett Sanderson, Angie Mulder
16 Amos Bennett Snaza 17 Merrie Hammer, Adrian Krogstad
18 Craig Dybedahl
20 Noel Ahl, Mitchell Rave, Heidi Adams, Mason Weber
21 Delores Tokheim 23 Malorie Lynne Elison
24 Andy Mann, Barbara Opp
25 Parker Meyerink 26 Mike Goodrich, Mara Adams
30 Barb Norton, Maverick Tokheim



A NOTE FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL

Dear Benton and Willow Creek Congregations,

Starting in the new year we will be reorganizing how we make our monthly newsletter available to you. Due to new post office policies going into effect, including an increase in costs associated with these bulk mailings, we are seeking more cost effective and efficient ways to share our monthly news. Please let us know your preference ASAP by contacting the office bentonwillowoffice@gmail.com or 605-271-7388.

EMAIL Each month you will receive the monthly newsletter via email. Please notify the office with your name and email address.

PICK UP in person at each church entrance. We will start making the newsletters available on Sundays before the start of each month.

MAIL If you would like to continue to receive your newsletter by mail, please let the office know.

If we don't hear from you by mid January we will assume you prefer email and/or the Pick Up method and you will no longer receive it via mail.

How can you reach the office? It's easy...Just email the office/Monica bentonwillowoffice@gmail.com or text her at 605-271-7388.

WILLOW CREEK & BENTON

Info and Events



COMMUNION DATES

The sacrament of Holy Communion will be given in worship on Sunday December 3rd, 24th (morning and eve services) and Christmas Day 25th.



CONFIRMATION CLASSES

Confirmation Classes are on hold. Stay tuned for further information and updates.

THANK YOU - HORSE CREEK

Willow Creek/West Nidaros/Benton Mission committee wants to thank you for all the donations for the annual Horse Creek Trip. What a gift to be able to celebrate with the Horse Creek Community!

PASTOR for WILLOW CREEK & BENTON CHURCHES

After a sincere thanks and heartfelt farewell to Pastor Tom Stadem and wife Judy in November, both church Council Presidents and councils are in communication with the Synod regarding an interim and permanent pastor going forward. As more information is made available, we will make it known to the congregations. Thank you for your continued faithfulness to our church families. Let us pray and trust together in the mighty hand of our faithful God who provides for us! Amen.



A D N H P W P J Q B T G F F S Q V
 Y D M Q M I A A S T A R R L G F R
 F X F A G R D O N K E Y A S Q L J
 F S B U G S A V I O R M N F W U W
 H H E A X W I X H Z I E K J A C B
 E E T M B Y J R S N M V I N Z X I
 M P H I N Y R O A E H H N U G L B
 I H L B K Y P G S Z B N C Z O Q J
 W E E Z M Z N I M E U Q E X L M E
 K R H I M Z W F M E P S N P D N S
 Z D E R A S K T A B A H S L D Y U
 G N M Q J J J S N Y I A E S R V S
 V A N F Q F A T G F T G I A Z T X
 N J C U R Z Z X E U N O M N G L Z
 B K Y M W I H F R A P E A C E G W

- | | | |
|--------------|--------|----------|
| ANGEL | GIFTS | MYRRH |
| ANIMALS | GOLD | PEACE |
| BABY | JESUS | SAVIOR |
| BETHLEHEM | JOSEPH | SHEPHERD |
| DONKEY | MANGER | STAR |
| FRANKINCENSE | MARY | WISE MEN |



WILLOW CREEK *NOTES*

WILLOW CREEK TEAMS

Dec. 3rd TEAM 5: Rick and Sandy Zwart, Jason and Erin Mitzel (*Max*), Steve and Kim Bazata (*Kael & Mack*), David Olson (*Levi*)

Dec. 10th TEAM 1: Tim and Lisa Rave, Kevin and Katie Hoekman (*Anna, Peter, Esther, & Elijah*), Phyllis Koepp, Zach Schroeder & Jayni Anderson

Dec. 17th TEAM 2: Craig and Bonnie Dybdahl, Mary & Paul Mesner, Pat Nytroe, Steve and Sheri Tokheim

Dec. 24th TEAM 3: Linda Linge, Terry and Kris Smart, Eric and Jenna Smart (*Louisa & Lilah*), Jared and Brenda Deters, Jay and Tina Soderquist (*Mya & Grace*)

Dec. 25th Christmas Day 10am Service – 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*)

Dec. 31st TEAM 5: Rick and Sandy Zwart, Jason and Erin Mitzel (*Max*), Steve and Kim Bazata (*Kael & Mack*), David Olson (*Levi*)

SUNDAY SCHOOL REMINDERS

There is No Sunday School Sunday, December 24th or 31st.

QUILT RAFFLE

The Willow Creek Mission Committee is selling Quilt Raffle tickets for a handmade quilt to be given away at our annual meeting. Cost is \$1 each or 6 for \$5. Contact Steve Schmidt with any questions.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM



Sunday Dec. 10th during worship at 9:00am

Join us for our annual Sunday School Christmas Program put on by the children of our church.

Children's
Christmas Program

MEN'S COFFEE / QUILTING LADIES

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

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WILLOW CREEK & BENTON

Info and Events

CHRISTMAS SERVICE SCHEDULE



Christmas Eve

Sunday Dec. 24th at 5pm
(Benton Church)

Christmas Day

Monday Dec. 25th at 10am
(Willow Creek Church)

ANNUAL *Business MEETINGS*

ATTENTION: Committees and councils



Willow Creek & Benton Churches

Please **PREPARE** your budgets and information for our annual business meetings.

PLEASE EMAIL the information/reports **by JANUARY 11th**

bentonwillowoffice@gmail.com

Questions ask Monica 271-7388

(If you are mailing your report please mail it to Attn: Monica Rae – Annual Report Benton – Willow Church PO Box 706 Crooks, SD 57020. I need to receive it before January 10th in the mail...otherwise it won't be entered into the report. Please mail it before then so it has time to arrive through the mail)

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BENTON NOTES

BENTON WORSHIP TEAMS

Dec. 3rd First Team – Doug & Sandy

Dec. 10th Second Team – Roger & Linda

Dec. 17th Third Team – Cheryl & Connie

Dec. 24th Fourth Team – Butch & Lori (morning service)

Dec. 24th 5pm --*Christmas Eve Service – Help Needed*

Dec. 31st FIFTH SUNDAY – Help Needed

BENTON COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday, December 13th at 7:00pm

BENTON PARENTS NIGHT OUT:

Friday, December 1st

Parents-Need to finish your Christmas shopping, wrapping, or baking? Want an evening to get things done without the kids around? Or need a date night? That night is Friday, December 1st from 5-8:30PM! There will be free 'kid care' at Benton Lutheran Church for infants on up, including a light supper, games, crafts, movies, and fun!! If you have questions or if you're available to help call Maria at 543-5424.

CHRISTMAS DECORATING & LEFSA MAKING

Saturday, December 2nd

Join us on Saturday December 2nd at 3pm as we decorate for Christmas, make lefsa and enjoy a light supper.

BENTON MISSION COMMITTEE – ELCA GOOD GIFTS

The Benton Mission Committee will be collecting money for Advent/Christmas, to go to ELCA Good Gifts with the focus of a goal of \$715.00 to provide a "Farm Family" to go where needed. A farm family consists of 1 cow, 2 goats, 2 pigs and a flock of chickens.

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BENTON NOTES



Children's Christmas Program

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Join us Sunday, December 17th at 10:45am

We will be celebrating the season with the children and youth of our church for our annual Christmas Program.

**Join us for a fellowship meal following the service—bring a salad or sweet to share!!!



BENTON STEWARDSHIP 2023

The Benton Finance and Stewardship Board will be mailing out a stewardship letter to each Benton household in November. We will share highlights in the past year and look to the ways that your offerings will support the mission and ministry of Benton in 2024. Thank you for your ongoing support!

FULL CHURCH SUNDAY SCHOOL

(first Sunday of the month)

The Board of Ed will NOT be hosting a Full Church SS for December.

Our Sunday School children will be busy practicing their telling of Christmas. The next Full Church SS will be on January 7th at 9:30am.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU!!!

Thank you so very much for all the prayers and support since our fire in March. It has meant so much to us. A huge thank you to Angie and Wade for all they've done for us. It's been a long road but we hope to be back home for Christmas.

Frank Hobart, Kay Dahl Hobart, Haley & Elizabeth Dahl

Thank you all so much for your support to me throughout this time and all that you have provided me. I'm grateful to be a part of your community and be your sister through Christ. – Lizzy

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