

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 Jenna Smart
- 2 Jan Benson, Doug Larson, Alton Tokheim
- 3 Boston Backus 4 Spencer Mann
- 7 Julie Person, Chad Larson
8. Dawson Johannes Scheibler, Cody Hill
9. Sawyer Louise Fisher

- 11 Sandra Kinder 12 Jared Questad
- 13 Rose Mary Gregersen, Sharon Larson
- 15 Tim Carlson 17 Meagan Burns 18 Gary Hilmoe
- 19 John Mohr, Oaklie Ruff 21 Sarah Snoozy
- 23 Cauy Oien, Phyllis Koepf
- 26 Sandy Zwart, Jennifer Mohr
- 27 Marin Foster 28 Cassie Hartman, Easton Hegge
- 29 Michael Mohr

FROM YOUR PASTOR

Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his saints. Psalms 116:15

Dear Benton and Willow Creek Congregations,

We are entering this season of Thanksgiving. It's a season in which most of the harvest has been gathered, canned, pickled, or eaten. And as the fields and every other outdoor growing thing lies dormant, we are given time to pause and reflect on all of God's blessings. When we are fully engaged in the season of growth, there's hardly time for this reflection, but now is the time; now is the time for thanksgiving.

Our month of thanksgiving starts on the first Sunday in November with All Saints Sunday. We've had some very special saints die this past year, people who were wonderfully connected to the pulse of the body of Christ. Willow Creek especially has had some deep losses in 2023. So, it is fitting that we give thanks for their gifts to us and the larger community. Giving thanks for the saints is a faithful answer to the grief that we feel. And it is profoundly comforting to know that our grief is a grief observed. Our saints, who are made righteous by the blood of Christ, are known and precious in the sight of our Lord.

And as our month continues, as is our tradition, we make plans to prepare our banquet tables, to give thanks while sitting amongst the delicious bounty for family and friends and all of the Lord's blessings. The full tables and full tummies remind us of our fullness in God's blessings and our abundance of joy in His promise of forgiveness. We know, as people of faith, that our thankfulness for God's blessings spills out of our lives and into the communities in which we are called.

The very words of God's promise to Abraham some 3000 years ago, "I will bless you to be a blessing," still sends us to the needs of our neighbors. And so, in response to our many blessings, it seems that our faith compels us to ask the following questions: How can we bless those around us with the bounty and abundance of our Lord's gifts and promise? How has God blessed me so that I can give back cheerfully? How is God calling me through my talents, treasures, and time to bless others as a believer in Jesus Christ. Happy Giving with Thanks!

Pastor Tom Stadem

WILLOW CREEK & BENTON

Info and Events



TURN YOUR CLOCKS BACK
November 5th



COMMUNION DATES

The sacrament of Holy Communion will be given in worship on Sunday November 5th and 12th.

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

GUEST PREACHER FOR ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

Sunday, November 5th

On Sunday, November 5th Pastor Erika Lehmann will lead and preach for worship. Pastor Erika has served in numerous rural church settings and is currently in between calls. On this Sunday, we give thanks for the Saints that God has called home in the past year.

JOINT COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, November 14th

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



BOUNTY
CRANBERRIES
DRESSING
FAMILY
GATHER
GRATITUDE
GRAVY

GREEN BEANS
HAM
HARVEST
NOVEMBER
PARADE
PIE
PUMPKIN

SHARING
STUFFING
THANKSGIVING
THURSDAY
TURKEY



WILLOW CREEK *NOTES*

WILLOW CREEK TEAMS

Nov. 5th TEAM 1: Tim and Lisa Rave, Kevin and Katie Hoekman (*Anna, Peter, Esther, & Elijah*), Phyllis Koepp, Zach Schroeder & Jayni Anderson

Nov. 12th TEAM 2: Craig and Bonnie Dybdahl, Mary & Paul Mesner, Pat Nytroe, Andy and Laura Berg (*Claire & Ben*), Steve and Sheri Tokheim

Nov. 19th TEAM 3: Linda Linge, Terry and Kris Smart, Eric and Jenna Smart (*Louisa & Lilah*), Jared and Brenda Deters, Jay and Tina Soderquist (*Mya & Grace*)

Nov. 26th 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*)

LEFSE BAKING FOR ALL AGES

We will be making lefse on Saturdays Oct. 28th and Nov. 11th at 9am. All are welcome to join us for this annual fun event!!

SUNDAY SCHOOL REMINDERS:

November 26th No Sunday School

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.

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

(6)

WILLOW CREEK & BENTON

Info and Events

The **NORTHERN RIM** Youth Gathering for November will be determined at the Oct. 29th event at Zion Lutheran in rural Hartford.

HORSE CREEK TRIP and INFORMATION

Willow Creek/West Nidaros/Benton Mission committee has met with the following plans.

Pre-Thanksgiving trip to Horse Creek on
Saturday, November 18th



We will be taking out a snack lunch, personal hygiene kits, Christmas gifts, quilts, bedding, family food boxes and gently used winter gear. We won't be taking a bus, but if you'd like to join us, please talk to Maria Kendle or Steve Schmidt for more information. Be watching for the children's gift list being passed at church. We are also asking for help in collecting from everyone--empty banana boxes, and peanut butter and toilet paper. In addition, cans of vegetables (Benton) and cans of fruit, spaghetti sauce (Willow Creek). Your continued support of this mission is greatly appreciated.

LEFSE FOR THE HOLIDAYS!!

Willow Creek will be selling lefse again this year. The Price is \$6 for a bag of 3 large rounds. Please call Kris Smart at (605) 359-4939 to reserve your order. Pick up will be on **Saturday, Nov. 18th at Willow Creek from 10am to Noon.**

(3)

BENTON *NOTES*

BENTON WORSHIP TEAMS

Nov. 5th First Team Doug & Sandy

Nov. 12th Second Team – Roger & Linda

Nov. 19th Third Team – Cheryl & Connie

Nov. 26th Fourth Team – Butch & Lori

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

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.

PRAYER PILLOWS

Sunday, November 12th

Join us Sunday, November 12th as we present a few of our little ones with their own prayer pillow during worship service.



SECOND SUNDAY POTLUCKS

November 12th

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

BENTON *NOTES*

APPLE PIE BAKING SEASON



Apple pie making is done. Pies are for sale-large \$12 small \$7. Thank you Benton pie ladies for another pie making season!

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!



BENTON STEWARDSHIP 2023

The Benton Finance and Stewardship Board will be mailing out a stewardship letter to each Benton household in early 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!

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

The Sunday School children will be rehearsing for their annual Christmas program through November. The program will be performed on **Sunday morning, December 17th – during the 10:45am worship service.**