

Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer

The Latest Word

“Making God Known Through Word and Deed.”



Meals on Wheels Coordinator Needed at LCOOR

Are you looking for a meaningful way to give back to your community? LCOOR is looking for a volunteer coordinator to organize drivers from our congregation for Meals on Wheels. For more information, please contact Twila at 605-886-2696.

Quilters Seeking More Participants

Can you tie a knot? Do you enjoy socializing? Then LCOOR's Quilting Group might be just the right place for you! Despite being referred to as a "quilter," there are many other tasks that need to be done! If your schedule permits, please stop by the church between 9 a.m. and noon on Thursday, Feb. 6 or Thursday, Feb. 20, to see how you can help!

Linens Can Become Quilts

The LCOOR Quilters are always in need of sheets to be used for quilting. Sheets of any size can be re-purposed. New sheets are also greatly appreciated. Feel free to drop off the linens at the church office or in a marked bin near the Welcome Center.

Babysitter List Available

Just a reminder to all you parents of young children – an LCOOR Baby Sitter List is available at the Welcome Center! We all need a little break now and then, so why not pick up a list next time you're at church?

New Members to Be Welcomed in February

While we welcome people to LCOOR at all times, we 'officially' receive new members a few times a year. Our next New Member Orientation is set for 5:15 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 19. This one-hour "refresher" class, led by Pastor Dan & Pastor Laura, will answer any questions about the Lutheran faith and provide an opportunity to meet other new members and church staff. Anyone interested in attending should contact Twila Schmitt, Welcoming & Caring Coordinator. Our next recognition of new members will be held during worship services on: Feb. 22 (Saturday), Feb. 23 (Sunday) and Feb. 26 (Wednesday).

In this newsletter:
Dish to Pass
Financial Reports & News
LCOOR Events & Opportunities
Youth Mission Trip Opportunity
Faith Formation & Youth Updates
Preschool Happenings
February 2025 Calendar

Dish to Pass by Twila Schmitt

On the 13th of January, I was planning to take down the Christmas tree in my office. Then, someone offered a brilliant idea. And at that moment, my Christmas tree was transformed into a “Christian Tree!”

Even greater than the joy of keeping the lights twinkling in the months ahead, was the beautiful notion that I didn’t have to change a thing. You see, the tree is adorned with elegant gold & pearl beaded “Chrismons.”

Each Chrismon (ornament) represents a specific design or symbol of Christianity. I can remember much larger versions, crafted out of Styrofoam and sequins, hanging on the floor-to-ceiling Christmas tree in the church where I grew up. Of course, at the time, the storied significance of Chrismons was lost on me.

Fast forward a few decades to the present. It was, in fact, a gift from a dear friend that has taught me about Chrismons...and so much more. Allow me to share a little background:

The concept of Chrismons originated at Ascension Lutheran Church in Danville, Virginia in 1957. A member there, Frances Spencer, created the designs and named them Chrismons (CHRIS+MONogram). The symbols represent the Name, the Life and the saving Acts of Jesus the Christ.

My creative friend made her first Chrismon (actually several of the same one) in 1999 to give to family members that Christmas. Each year through 2019 she continued this tradition. That’s 21 years of Chrismons! Before she moved away from South Dakota a couple years ago, she gifted me with a complete set.

While I can’t recall each of the background stories that inspired the 21 Chrismons now on my tree, that’s OK. Because, you see, my friend also created a booklet that includes a photo and caption for each one. Although I’ve treasured them at home, it’s been amazing to share them here through Advent, Christmas, Epiphany – and now as my “Christian Tree.”

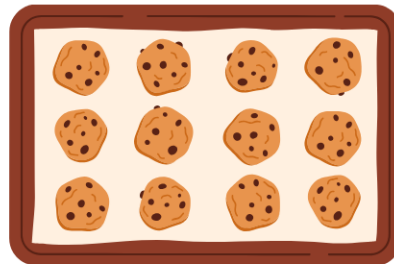
But the story continues. On Jan. 15, the same ‘someone’ who inspired my “Christian Tree,” delivered a beautifully hand-sewn tree skirt perfect for year-round display. She will remain anonymous (for now); however, I want Joan to know that her Chrismons continue to bless us here every day! Please stop by soon and enjoy them with me.

*“And now these three remain: Faith, Hope and Love, but the greatest of these is Love.”
– 1 Corinthians 13:13*

Joan Porath’s “Peanut Butter Chocolate Chip” cookie recipe recently came up in conversation about favorite recipes in the LCOOR Cookbook. February would be the perfect time to bake a batch to share.

Peanut Butter Chocolate Chip Cookies

1 c. margarine	2-1/2 c. flour
1 c. peanut butter	1 tsp. baking powder
1 c. white sugar	1-1/2 tsp. baking soda
1 c. brown sugar	½ tsp. salt
2 eggs	1 to 1-1/2 c. chocolate chips



Cream margarine, peanut butter and sugars. Add eggs and beat well. Stir in flour, baking powder, baking soda and salt and add chocolate chips. Drop by tea spoonsful on greased cookie sheet. Bake at 375 degrees for 10 to 12 minutes.

Financial Reports & News

December 2024 Financial Report

December Revenue	\$109,267.57
December Expenses	\$105,400.50
Change in General Fund	\$3,867.07
Revenue to Date	\$1,044,217.82
Expenses to Date	\$1,059,152.81
% of Budget Year Completed	100.00%
Annual Budgeted Income for 2024	\$1,076,987.34
% of Budgeted Income Received Year to Date	96.96%
Annual Budgeted Expense for 2024	\$1,076,987.34
% of Budgeted Expense Incurred Year to Date	98.34%

Simply Giving Program- Helping You Live Generously

The Simply Giving® Program is an automated stewardship solution that empowers individuals to give conveniently, safely, and consistently. Through electronic funds transfer (EFT), you can schedule automatic offerings directly from your checking, savings, debit, or credit card account. Why Choose Simply Giving?

Convenience

- No more writing checks or preparing envelopes every week.
- Perfect for those with busy schedules, frequent travelers, or anyone unable to attend services regularly.

Consistency

- Ensure your contributions are received without interruption, even during vacations, illness, or other commitments.

Ease of Use

- Setting up your recurring contribution is quick and simple!

How to Get Started

1. Complete an Authorization Form—available at the Welcome Center or from Jodi Spilde in the church office.
2. Submit your form to begin enjoying the benefits of Simply Giving.

Sign up today and receive a complimentary LCOOR t-shirt as our thanks!

Have Questions? We're here to help!

Stop by or call the church office at 605.886.2696, and Jodi will be happy to assist you with any questions about the Simply Giving Program. Start your journey to stress-free giving today—because generosity should always be simple.

Mission of the Month Distributions for December

In December, we lifted up the LCOOR Care Fund as our Mission of the Month. This vital ministry received \$1,000 from the church budget, along with an additional \$814.84 contributed through the Noisy Can offering and Special Offerings.

Thank you for your generous support of this caring ministry of Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer. Your contributions help make a difference in the lives of those in need within our congregation and community.

Timmerman Scholarships

Are you a member of Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer and a graduate of Watertown High School? If you're entering your first or second year of education or technical training at a South Dakota state-supported institution, you may be eligible for the Timmerman Scholarship!

Each recipient will receive a \$1,000 scholarship to help with educational expenses.

How to Apply:

Applications and more information are available:

- In the Church Office
- At the Welcome Center
- Online at lcoorwatertown.org under the RESOURCES tab

Deadline to Apply: March 31, 2025. Don't miss this opportunity to support your education!



February Mission of the Month- ELCA World Hunger

The contributions from the Noisy Can and the specially marked offerings will be designated for ELCA World Hunger in February.

Nearly 1-in-10 people – 733 million – in our world are hungry. As members of the ELCA, we are called to respond. We are a church that rolls up our sleeves and gets to work.

ELCA World Hunger is uniquely positioned to reach communities in need. From health clinics to microloans, water wells to animal husbandry, community meals to advocacy, your gifts to ELCA World Hunger make it possible for the ELCA to respond, supporting sustainable solutions that get at the root causes of hunger and poverty.

Mission Project for February- LWR Fabric Kits

We Need Your Help to Make Fabric Kits. Sewing is a valuable skill that can help men and women earn reliable income. Lutheran World Relief Fabric Kits provide fabric and thread for vocational training programs teaching sewing and for newly trained tailors to launch their sewing businesses.

LWR Fabric Kits are highly regarded throughout the world because of their quality and consistency. Your careful adherence to our kit assembly guidelines will ensure that all LWR Fabric Kits are useful, consistent and fair.

Fabric Kit Instructions can be picked up at the Welcome Center & church office or you can go to <https://lwr.org/kits/fabric-kits/instructions> for the instruction sheet.



Circle Bible Study

Priscilla and Martha Circles will meet in February, focusing on the bible study in the Gather magazine. Copies of the study can be found at the Welcome Center or church office. All are welcome to attend either study!

- Martha Circle will meet at 2 p.m. Monday, Feb. 10, in the Gathering Space
- Priscilla Circle will meet at 9:30 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 19, in the Gathering Space.



Deliver a Caring Casserole

Our Caring Casserole ministry is available to anyone who wishes to drop off a meal to a friend, neighbor or family member! The casserole freezer is located in Twila's office and is available before or after worship – or any time the church office is open. Thanks for helping us care for one another!



Serve Boldly Summer Mission Trip - June 22-27, 2025

Join us on our **9-12 grade** summer youth trip for an immersive journey of service and spiritual growth. Spend 4 days serving communities in need, engaging in meaningful service projects, and building lasting connections with fellow youth participants. Whether you're sorting medical supplies, helping with yard work, or spreading love and positivity wherever you go, these trips are designed to leave a lasting impact on both you and the communities you serve.

More information is available per request by visiting with Pastor Dan or Wendy. You can also email us at pastordan@lcoorwatertown.org or wendy@lcoorwatertown.org.

Providing youth the opportunity to accompany and serve their neighbor while deepening an understanding of God's presence in their lives.



Faith Formation & Youth Updates



Youth Music Team

High school youth will practice for Lenten Youth Music Team on Wednesday, March 5th, immediately following Ash Wednesday services. Songs will be selected and practiced that evening. The team will lead the music at worship during the Wednesday night Lenten services.



Luther League 2.0

Luther League 2.0 will begin meeting Wednesdays immediately following worship at approximately 7:15. Activities will include things such as Bible Talk, an opportunity to explore scripture and how it applies to your life as a student. We will also have evenings set aside for fun, games and service projects.

Feb. 5: Bible Talk

Feb. 12: Valentine's Service Project

Feb. 19: Fun Night, including games and snacks

Feb. 26: Bible Talk



Junction

A youth group for **1st – 4th grade**. We will meet on **Thursday, February 6 from 6-7:00 p.m.** Join us for a bible verse, games, crafts, snacks and fellowship. Friends are always welcome!



Route 56

A youth group for **5th & 6th grade**. We will meet on **Thursday, February 20 from 6-7:00 p.m.** Join us for a bible verse, games, crafts, snacks and fellowship. Friends are always welcome!

Church School and Confirmation Dates for February:

Sunday's... February: 2, 9, and 23. There will be no class Sunday, Feb. 16 due to the long President's Day weekend.

Wednesday's... February: 5, 12, 19 and 26.

Below is a reminder of the church schedule for Sunday's and Wednesday's:

Sunday's

8:30 am Church School and Confirmation
9:30 am Worship

Wednesday's

4:45 pm Meal
5:30 pm Church School and Confirmation
6:30 pm Worship



LCOOR Preschool Happenings



LUTHERAN CHURCH OF OUR REDEEMER

ENROLLING NOW

2025-26 PRE-KINDERGARTEN
SCHOOL YEAR Monday-Thursday

Our preschool offers a Monday-Thursday 8:30-11:30 Pre-Kindergarten (4/5 year old) program, which is open to anyone not just church members. You can find an enrollment form at the Welcome Center, the Preschool classroom, or on our website at lcoorwatertown.org.

*Must be 4 by September 1, 2025.

February Calendar



- February 13th-** Valentine's Day Party
- February 17th-** No School-President's Day
- February 27th-** Chapel

Care to help our preschool? All help is appreciated.

- *Used/New toys
- *Classroom Giving Tree
- *Snacks/Juice
- *Thrivent Choice Dollars
- *Scrip Dollars
- *Support our fundraisers

We still have a few spots open!!

Our preschool offers a Monday-Thursday 8:30-11:30 Pre-Kindergarten (4/5 year old) program. It is open to anyone not just church members.

Our curriculum includes introducing letters and sounds, numbers, first/last names, shapes, and colors. We also socialize and play, listen to a lot of books, and sing songs along with many other learning activities. The students also learn about God's love, hear and learn stories and songs about Jesus.

We would love for your child to be part of Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer Preschool!!

Any questions please call Miss Nikki or Miss Wendy at 886-2696 or email us at preschool@lcoorwatertown.org



Snowman Directed Drawings





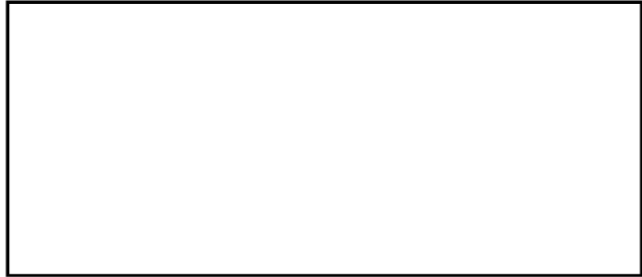
Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer

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Watertown, SD 57201

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Visit Jodi Spilde in the church office to collect your 2025 offering envelopes.

The Latest Word

A monthly publication of Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer.

Deadline for the March 2025 Newsletter:
Monday, February 17, 2025

Prayer Chain

Marilyn Chapman 886-4858
Email: twila@lcoorwatertown.org

Phone

605-886-2696

Website

<https://lcoorwatertown.org/>



Facebook

www.facebook.com/lcoor



Youtube

<https://www.youtube.com/c/LutheranChurchofOurRedeemer>

Staff

Senior Pastor.....	Dan Overbo
Associate Pastor.....	Laura Overbo
Preschool Teacher/Director.....	Nikki Landmark
Preschool Teacher Aide/ Faith Formation Assistant	
.....	Wendy Kruger
Welcoming & Caring Ministries.....	Twila Schmitt
Business Manager.....	Jodi Spilde
Business Administrative Assistant.....	Megan Thyen
Sound & Technology.....	Zach Stanton
Custodian.....	Roman Gainor



Church Council

President	Monte Hopper
Vice President	Ryan Nuttall
Secretary.....	Codi Storm
Treasurer	Laurie Tennis
Ann DeSpiegler	Gwen McGillivary
Jan Birkeland	Jessica Kruse
Alan Stager	

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>26</p> <p>8:30am Church School 8:30am Confirmation Workshop 9:30am Worship 10:30am Annual Meeting of the Congregation</p>	<p>27</p> <p>8:00am Watertown Sandwich Ministry 11:00am Meals on Wheels Delivery 6:45pm Al-Anon</p>	<p>28</p> <p>9:00am Sewing Ministry Group 11:00am Area Pastor TEXT STUDY 11:00am Meals on Wheels Delivery 1:00pm Staff Meeting 5:30pm Youth & Family Committee Meeting</p>	<p>29</p> <p>8:00am Watertown Sandwich Ministry 11:00am Meals on Wheels Delivery 12:15pm Men's Lunch 4:45pm Community Meal 5:30pm Church School 5:30pm Confirmation Workshop 6:30pm Worship 7:15pm Bible Talk 7:15pm Handbell Rehearsal</p>	<p>30</p> <p>10:45am Preschool Chapel 11:00am Meals on Wheels Delivery 5:15pm Al-Anon</p>	<p>31</p> <p>Church Office Closes at Noon 8:00am Watertown Sandwich Ministry 11:00am Meals on Wheels Delivery</p>	<p>1</p> <p>5:30pm Traditional Worship with Holy Communion 6:30pm Saturday Evening Meal</p>
<p>2</p> <p>8:30am Church School 8:30am Confirmation Workshop 9:30am Worship with Holy Communion 10:30am Praise & Rejoice Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>3</p> <p>8:00am Watertown Sandwich Ministry 6:45pm Al-Anon</p>	<p>4</p> <p>10:00am Prayer Shawl Group 11:00am Area Pastor TEXT STUDY 1:00pm Staff Meeting 3:00pm Quilting Bible Study - Sew True Quiltlets</p>	<p>5</p> <p>8:00am Watertown Sandwich Ministry 12:15pm Men's Lunch 4:45pm Community Meal 5:30pm Church School 5:30pm Confirmation Workshop 6:30pm Worship with Holy Communion 7:15pm Bible Talk 7:15pm Handbell Rehearsal</p>	<p>6</p> <p>9:00am Quilting 5:15pm Al-Anon 6:00pm Junction Youth Group (1-4 Grade)</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Church Office Closes at Noon 8:00am Watertown Sandwich Ministry</p>	<p>8</p> <p>5:30pm Traditional Worship</p>
<p>9</p> <p>8:30am Church School 8:30am Confirmation Workshop 9:30am Worship 10:30am Praise & Rejoice Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>10</p> <p>8:00am Watertown Sandwich Ministry 2:00pm Martha Circle 6:45pm Al-Anon</p>	<p>11</p> <p>11:00am Area Pastor TEXT STUDY 1:00pm Staff Meeting 6:00pm Executive Committee 6:30pm Church Council Meeting</p>	<p>12</p> <p>8:00am Watertown Sandwich Ministry 12:15pm Men's Lunch 4:45pm Community Meal 5:30pm Church School 5:30pm Confirmation Workshop 6:30pm Worship 7:15pm Handbell Rehearsal 7:15pm Luther League 2.0 Service Project</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Preschool Valentine's Day Party 5:15pm Al-Anon</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Church Office Closes at Noon 8:00am Watertown Sandwich Ministry</p>	<p>15</p> <p>5:30pm Traditional Worship with Holy Communion</p>
<p>16</p> <p>No Church School or Confirmation (President's Day Break) 9:30am Worship with Holy Communion 10:30am Praise & Rejoice Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>17</p> <p>March Newsletter Deadline No Preschool - President's Day 6:45pm Al-Anon</p>	<p>18</p> <p>10:00am Prayer Shawl Group 11:00am Area Pastor TEXT STUDY 1:00pm Staff Meeting</p>	<p>19</p> <p>8:00am Watertown Sandwich Ministry 9:30am Priscilla Circle 12:15pm Men's Lunch 4:45pm Community Meal 5:15pm New Member Orientation 5:30pm Church School 5:30pm Confirmation Workshop 6:30pm Worship with Holy Communion 7:15pm Handbell Rehearsal 7:15pm Luther League 2.0 Fun Night: Games and Snacks</p>	<p>20</p> <p>9:00am Quilting 5:15pm Al-Anon 6:00pm Rt. 56 Youth Group (5/6 Grade)</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Church Office Closes at Noon 8:00am Watertown Sandwich Ministry</p>	<p>22</p> <p>5:30pm New Members Received 5:30pm Traditional Worship</p>
<p>23</p> <p>Prairie Coteau Conference Assembly @ NeSoDak 8:30am Church School 8:30am Confirmation Workshop 9:30am New Members Received 9:30am Worship 10:30am Praise & Rejoice Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>24</p> <p>8:00am Watertown Sandwich Ministry 6:45pm Al-Anon</p>	<p>25</p> <p>11:00am Area Pastor TEXT STUDY 1:00pm Staff Meeting</p>	<p>26</p> <p>8:00am Watertown Sandwich Ministry 12:15pm Men's Lunch 4:45pm Community Meal 5:30pm Church School 5:30pm Confirmation Workshop 6:30pm New Members Received 6:30pm Worship 7:15pm Handbell Rehearsal 7:15pm Luther League 2.0 Bible Talk</p>	<p>27</p> <p>10:45am Preschool Chapel 5:15pm Al-Anon</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Church Office Closes at Noon 8:00am Watertown Sandwich Ministry</p>	<p>1</p> <p>5:30pm Traditional Worship with Holy Communion 6:30pm Saturday Evening Meal</p>