

Glorify God

Renew Through
Christ's Resurrection

Affirm the Gifts of the
Holy Spirit

Commit to Compassion

Evangelize All the Earth

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Light of Life News

Second Reformed Church

1017 S Elm Street, Lennox, SD 57039

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March 2026

Lenten Readings and Symbols

The Lenten season began with Ash Wednesday on February 18. We are using readings and symbols for our worship services during this season of prayer and preparation.

The symbols we will use are the crown of thorns, the nails, the whip, the placard, the coins, and the palms. These symbols focus attention on both the sorrowful aspect of Lent, as well as anticipation of the hope and newness of Resurrection Sunday.

The color used in the sanctuary for most of Lent is purple. This color symbolizes both the pain and suffering leading up to the crucifixion of Jesus as well as the suffering of humanity and the world under sin. But purple is also the color of royalty, and so anticipates through the suffering and death of Jesus the coming resurrection and hope of newness that will be celebrated in the Resurrection on Easter Sunday.

Information from Dennis Bratcher, Christian Resource Institute

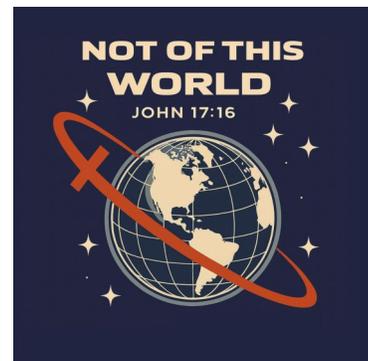
Summer Camps at Inspiration Hills

Register now for summer camps at Inspiration Hills. There are day camps, lodge camps, wilderness camps, girls only, guys only, take me fishing, saddle up, and grand camps. Register online at inspirationhills.org before April 15 for the best rates. Complete a blue camp fee assistance form (by our mailboxes) and Second Reformed will pay up to half your fee.

This year's theme is "Not of this World." *They are not of the world, even as I am not of it. John 17:16* We have an innate desire to belong. Much of life is spent searching for where one belongs, seeking belonging in friends, in people groups, in clubs, in sports, in heritage, in history, and in whatever else this world offers. What this world has to offer is a counterfeit belonging, one that is temporary, self-centered, and results in our human condition of sin being magnified. Pride, hate, selfishness, entitlement, envy, all bubble to the surface in the name of belonging. And as one finds belonging in this world, they find themselves to be OF THE WORLD.

Jesus offers something different, something real: full and authentic belonging. Throughout history, God has set apart His people to be conformed to Him, and He has set them apart today. Through Christ's work on the cross, God has claimed His sons and daughters as His own and placed them from the world into His Kingdom, that is NOT OF THIS WORLD.

from Inspiration Hills Staff



March Committees

Kitchen Cleaning:

Teresa Smidt
Emma Plank
Shellene Smidt
Reese Rodriguez

Flowers/Decorating:

Tonya Zimmer
Leanne Lefers
Megan Lefers

Nursery Cleaning:

Charish Weeldreyer
DeeAnna Buse

March Anniversary

Gerry & Sue Schryvers—
March 27

March Birthdays

Lois Klinger—March 1
Jerry Martineau—Mar 3
Harlan Hayunga—Mar 3
Marilyn Ebright—Mar 12

Each month I try to print the anniversaries of those who have been married 40 years or more, and the birthdays of those age 70 and above.

Please let me know if I miss your special day or if I need to make any corrections to the list.

Kristi Rops

Philathea Guild News *by Susan Bultena*

I'm sure you've noticed that we're seeing more day and less dark as we move through the winter. We've now gained just over an hour and a half since December 21. I'm happily anticipating greenery and gardening but as my mother used to say, "Don't wish your life away. Enjoy each day as it comes."

World Day of Prayer is the first Saturday in March and will be held at Chancellor Baptist Church this year. Please plan to join in for coffee time at 9:30 and hear speaker Jim Wipf at 10:00 AM.

The Guild met on Sunday, February 15. The calendar for 2026 is as follows:

February—contribute to Lennox Food Pantry

March—attend World Day of Prayer at Chancellor Baptist Church

April—collect and deliver bicycles to Center of Hope

May 3—recognition of graduating 8th and 12th graders

June—collect/deliver clothing/personal care items to Human Services Center, Yankton

July—(tentative month) Bingo party and refreshments at Lennox Assisted Living

August—collect and deliver school supplies to the Foster Child program in Sioux Falls

October—collect clothing and deliver to the Union Gospel Mission for "Rags to Roofing"

November—create baskets for the Center of Hope fundraiser

December—Christmas card ministry; cards/gift card to post-high school youth; Angel Tree family

Please keep these many opportunities in mind and contribute as you are able. There will be information about each collection as that month comes up so that you will know what is needed or accepted.

The Guild will purchase one new roaster for the kitchen.

New Roots Ministry

by Rev. Fred Wilbenburg, director and pastor

Middle & Senior High groups, would you be interested in hanging out with New Roots Ministry for several hours on a Saturday, eating an interesting meal in a restaurant owned by people of a different ethnicity than yours, helping in a store owned by a former immigrant, and possibly doing some street outreach? To inquire, email Fred at sfnewroots@gmail.com.

Adults, would up to 12 of you be interested in hanging out with New Roots Ministry for a few hours on a weekday afternoon, to eat some interesting, good food, to interact with and hear life-stories and -perspectives of former refugees and immigrants, and to shop in their stores? To inquire, email Fred at sfnewroots@gmail.com.

Experienced drivers, we may have a need for you. New Roots Ministry offers driver training for immigrant adults. For safety, braking tools, signs high-lighting "student driver," and instruction are provided. As well, students provide an insured car. You can make new, appreciative friends, and it's a great opportunity to pray with, and share faith with, others. Possibly interested? Email Fred at sfnewroots@gmail.com.

Jesus-followers, join New Roots Ministry on a Saturday between May--September for a 5-hour session of Everyday-Ambassador Practicum. Through fun classroom and hands-on practice, learn to effectively share God's good news with others. Read about this at <http://sfnewroots.com/our-ministries>, or inquire more by emailing sfnewroots@gmail.com.

Youth Give Back by Packing Meals

Our youth group got an opportunity to give back to our community by packing meals at Kids Against Hunger on Feb 4. This activity is not only fun for our students but also very rewarding, as during our time that evening we packed 9,288 meals that were staying local. They did a fantastic job! (See picture on page 4.)

Next week, we will be attending the movie "I Can Only Imagine 2" at the Lund Theater in Viborg.

A huge "thank you" to everyone who donated to and attended our youth group Soup and Pie supper! We had a great turnout and raised over \$2000 for our group. We are so blessed by our church family and all of your support!

Jr High (grades 6-8) is meeting at 6:00 during Lent.

March 4 - Movie at the Lund Theater in Viborg

March 11 - Jr High from 6-7, HS at 7:40 at Second Reformed

March 18 - No youth group due to spring break

March 25 - Jr High from 6-7, HS at 7:40 at First English

Marc Weeldreyer 605-877-5024

Nicole Winterboer 605-553-0788

Elijah Study Series Begins March 1

An adult study series on Elijah: Living Securely in an Insecure World will begin March 1. Terrorism. Diseases. Hurricanes. Every day the news reinforces what we want to forget—we live in an insecure world. Elijah's times were no safer. He faced famine, murder and corruption—with both courage and fear. These studies help us look beyond the insecurity of the world to our sovereign God who reigns forever.

Bring your coffee to the Family Life Center on Sunday mornings at 10:40 AM to join this study series led by Pastor Harlan.

February Consistory Notes

- A prayer vigil will be held after our Maundy Thursday service, spanning April 2 at 8:00 PM to April 3, Good Friday, at 8:00 PM. A sign-up sheet and prayer materials will be available.
- An Easter egg hunt is being planned and details will be shared at the March consistory meeting.
- The blower in the narthex was replaced. The kitchen blower is being monitored.
- Our AED has aged out and will be replaced by Derek & Emily Sitter. The current device will be returned for a rebate.
- Kristi Rops will help the deacons decide if/when it is a good time to consolidate the church's banking.
- Because we have an Ash Wednesday service planned here at the same time as our Union Gospel Mission chapel service date, we will ask the UGM to make other arrangements that evening.

Family Photo Tree

Anyone who would like their photo on the family tree in the fellowship hall is asked to contact Sandy Zwart or give her a print.

World Day of Prayer

A community World Day of Prayer service will be held Saturday, March 7, at Chancellor Baptist Church. Coffee and fellowship begin at 9:30, followed by the service at 10:00 AM. with speaker Jim Wipf. An offering will go to the Union Gospel Mission.

Freedom's Gate Banquet

A banquet for Freedom's Gate and Living Stone Prison Church will be held Thursday, March 26, at 6:30 PM at Gate City in Canton. RSVP to Ruth at 605-366-3624. Pastor Dan and Pastor Jason will give ministry updates. Former inmates will share how God has used the ministry to encourage and strengthen their Christian journey.

Digging Deeper

Digging Deeper Bible Study at Inspiration Hills on Saturday, March 14, will help participants grow in their understanding of Scripture. Whether new to Bible study or seasoned, attendees will learn practical tools for understanding, interpreting, and applying God's Word. The cost is \$25 for materials, meal, and snacks. Register at <https://www.inspirationhills.org/deep>

"Art of Marriage"

An "Art of Marriage" Retreat will be held at Inspiration Hills on March 27-29. This weekend uses Family Life curriculum to help couples reconnect, strengthen their relationship, and grow together in Christ. The cost is \$50 per couple for lodging, meals, materials. Register at <https://www.inspirationhills.org/>

March 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><i>1</i></p> <p>Pianist: Denise Snoozy Greeters/Special Music Coordinators: Brad & Teresa Smidt Coffee/Cookies: David & Margaret Rupert</p> <p>HELPING HAND FUND OFFERING</p>	<p><i>2</i></p>	<p><i>3</i></p>	<p><i>4</i></p> <p>Youth go to movie in Viborg</p> <p><i>Elder/Deacon meetings at 7:00</i> <i>Consistory at 7:30</i> <i>Lunch—Derek W</i></p>	<p><i>5</i></p>	<p><i>6</i></p> <p><i>Bulletin information due by 9:00 on Friday mornings</i></p>	<p><i>7</i></p>
<p><i>8</i> Daylight Saving Time Begins</p> <p>Pianist: Helen Groen Greeters/Special Music Coordinators: Brian & Shellene Smidt Coffee/Cookies: Verlyn & Joann Muller, Marc & Charish Weeldreyer, Lynda DeJong</p> <p>MISSION FUND OFFERING</p>	<p><i>9</i></p>	<p><i>10</i></p> <p>"Sewing for Others" at 1:00 PM</p>	<p><i>11</i></p> <p>6th-8th Youth at 6:00 PM; High School Youth at 7:40 PM</p>	<p><i>12</i></p>	<p><i>13</i></p>	<p><i>14</i></p>
<p><i>15</i> Lord's Supper Served</p> <p>Pianist: Acoustic Greeters/Special Music Coordinators: Tom & Denise Snoozy Coffee/Cookies: Rodney & Barb Knock and Dean & Emilie Mann</p>	<p><i>16</i></p>	<p><i>17</i></p>	<p><i>18</i></p> <p>No Youth Meetings</p>	<p><i>19</i></p>	<p><i>20</i></p>	<p><i>21</i></p>
<p><i>22</i></p> <p>Pianist: Diana Smit Greeters/Special Music Coordinators: Randy & Diana Smit Coffee/Cookies: Nathan & Elizabeth Hopf and Linda Olmstead</p>	<p><i>23</i></p> <p>April newsletter information due by 9:00 AM</p>	<p><i>24</i></p> <p>"Sewing for Others" at 1:00 PM</p>	<p><i>25</i></p> <p>6th-8th Youth at 6:00 PM; High School Youth at 7:40 PM at First English Lutheran</p>	<p><i>26</i></p>	<p><i>27</i></p>	<p><i>28</i></p>
<p><i>29</i> Palm Sunday</p> <p>Pianist: Helen Groen Greeters/Special Music Coordinators: Dustin & Steffy Thoms Coffee/Cookies: Gary & Kim Geiken and Lois Klinger</p> <p>BUILDING FUND OFFERING</p>	<p><i>30</i></p>	<p><i>31</i></p>				

SUNDAY SCHEDULE:
Koffee Kiosk from 8:55-9:25 AM
Worship at 9:30 AM
Preschool-5th Grade Choir/SS at 10:25 AM
Coffee/Fellowship at 10:30 AM
Youth SS (grades 6-12) at 10:40 AM (chapel)
Adult Study Series at 10:40 AM (FLC)
Classes Dismiss at 11:15 AM

Our junior and senior high youth packed over 9000 meals for Kids Against Hunger on February 4. Great job!

