

The Voice

December 2023



Canton Lutheran Church
124 E 2nd Street
Canton SD 57013
605.764.2429

"It's the most wonderful time of the year." Have you heard these Christmas song lyrics yet this year?



Here at Canton Lutheran Church we have decorated the sanctuary, are making cookies for the CLC high school youth fundraiser and the Canton Christmas parade, and are finalizing our Living Nativity production and Christmas Cantata concerts. It is a full time of year at CLC and in each of our lives!

And, just before Christmas worship, with beautiful candlelight and carols sung, we have the season of Advent.

The term "Advent" is derived from the Latin word *adventus*, meaning "Coming" or "Arrival," and is also connected to the Greek word *Parousia*. Often we think of Jesus *coming* as a baby, born in Bethlehem to Mary and Joseph, with wonder and simplicity. But, *Parousia* directs us to the second coming of Christ, when he will come as our merciful judge, to right all the wrongs.

The later "coming" is a bit heavier, and harder to imagine. The cute, cuddly baby Jesus is a relatable image. As people who walk as yet by faith, we need both images. Advent gives us both.

We need a relatable God who stoops to our humanity; an image we can grasp in our mind's eye. AND, we need the promise of a second coming; of a Christ who can and will rectify everything that is painful, broken, or lost. In this season of Advent, especially as people struggle in families, friend groups, communities, and world...genuine suffering...We need the promise of healing. God sees you and sees your needs. And, we await Christ's entrance into our world; as cute baby and as powerful, merciful messiah.

It is the most wonderful time of the year! And, we still have problems, too. God enters our lives as *emmanuel*, meaning "God with us." May you be filled with wonder and hope in this Advent and Christmas season.

Pastor Jon

Cleaning before Christmas. Shawn would appreciate help the week of Dec. 3-8. If you are able and willing to dust, polish, or help change light bulbs, etc. contact Shawn at 605-261-2483.



Saturday, Dec. 9th @ 7:30 &
Sunday, Dec. 10th @ 4:00 pm



WELCA's Annual Coffee Stua

Sunday, December 3rd after worship. Come and enjoy special treats, even some special Norwegian treats. It's a perfect way to start the Christmas Season.

All are Welcome!



An Evening at the Stable

CLC's Living Nativity will be held on December 9th and 10th at 5:30, 6:00 & 6:30 each evening. Anyone wishing to help in the production of this event, please stop by the church office and leave your name.



Children's Christmas Program

during 9:45 am worship on
Sunday, Dec. 17th



Festival of Trees

Saturday, December 2 10 AM-2 PM
High School Performing Arts Center (PAC)

Vendor booths. Decorated trees. Vote for the best tree. Lunch and bake sale by the Senior Center. Pictures to be taken with Santa. Music by different local artist.



THANK YOU

I want to take this time to say thank you to the many people who reached out right away when I made the need known regarding helping with monetary donations to get supplies for the soup supper. You also started reaching out about bakers for the dozens of cookies need for the cookie tray sales or the ability to provide a basket. You can still help by dropping money off at the church office and/or letting either Cami or the church office know you are willing to bake/make some Christmas goodies for the cookie trays or basket for the basket raffle. Just leave your name and phone number, what kind of cookie and how many dozen you can supply or that you are donating a basket. Last for the soup supper if you have a spare hour or more on the Day of Dec 9th or 10th you can join us in the basement to help whip up the delicious soups any time after 8 o'clock both days. As always, your support means the world to us, and we couldn't do it without you.

Soup Supper

Free will offering for soup, goodies, hot chocolate, and coffee served from 5-7:30 in conjunction with the Living Nativity. All proceeds help the CLC youth missions and ministries with a goal to attend the ELCA youth gathering in New Orleans set for July of 2024. We currently have a group of 26 youth and chaperons headed there.

Basket Raffle

During the soup supper we will have baskets on display, and you can purchase raffle tickets at \$2 per ticket, \$10 for 6 tickets, \$20 for 15 tickets for the drawing on Sunday night at the close of the soup supper.

Cookie Tray Sales

If you are interested in purchasing a cookie tray you can reach out to Cami at 605-941-2730. All orders must be in by Dec 10th and must be paid in full by that day. 12" Trays are \$25 for approximately 30 goodies. Watch for us in the church foyer after Wednesday and Sunday church services. They will be available for pick up December 16th from 9-11 am in the church foyer.

Cami Van Wyhe, Youth Director

Mission of the Month

DECEMBER

Keystone Clothing Drive

... socks, underwear, t-shirts.

Baskets have been placed at church entrances for drop off of clothing items. Monetary donations can be placed in offering plate or dropped at church office.

Women ^{of the} **ELCA** 

December WECLA Calendar

Sunday, December 3, WELCA hosts

**Coffee Stua after Worship
(Special Treats)**

Monday, December 11, Bible Study

The Chosen, Library 2 pm

Thursday, December 21 **NO CARE &
SHARE**



CLC Members w/ Health Concerns:

Kim Wentz

Mike Hoffman ~ Steve Monen

Sharon Lunder ~ Arlene Markle

Dan March

Prayer Concerns

All active duty and retired military, firefighters, EMT's, police officers, first responders, and all others risking their lives to save others.

CLC Members, Family & Friends

Charles Kramer

(Father of Kim Wentz and Kris Goodroad)

Vanette Wagner

{Shawn Doty's Stepsister}

Nick Joslyn

{Friend of Rich & Teresa Beitzel}

Chris French

{Friend of Matt Ness}

Joan Jackson

{Sister of Anna Mae Edwards}

Jarrod Hill {Nephew of

Brenda Heggen & Cheryl Johnson}

Jordan Hout

{Friend of Paul & Sherry Anderson}

Tanner Larsen

Pam Junker

{Mother of Connie (Shawn) Kittrell}

Loss of Loved Ones

Family of Don Pottratz

Welcome & Witness News

The Welcome and Witness Board would like to thank everyone who donated plastic to make the ornaments for Canton Lutheran's tree for the Festival of Trees. Be sure to stop by the PAC and check out all the ornaments the kids made from recycled plastic.



During worship In November, we honored those who are caregivers for National Caregivers Month and those who do volunteer work.

We will be taking part in the Christmas parade to give a sneak peak of the Live Nativity.

General Fund			
	October		
	Budget	Actual	Change From Budget
Income	\$ 30,012.00	\$ 25,732.46	\$ (4,279.54)
Expenses	\$ 30,012.00	\$ 28,097.97	\$ 1,914.03
Over/(short)	\$ -	\$ (2,365.51)	\$ (2,365.51)
Year to Date			
	Budget	Actual	Change From Budget
Income	\$ 300,120.00	\$ 245,309.19	\$ (54,810.81)
Expenses	\$ 300,120.00	\$ 308,056.78	\$ (7,936.78)
Over/(short)	\$ -	\$ (62,747.59)	\$ (62,747.59)

Bread of Life	
9/30/2023 Balance	\$ 136,244.62
October Giving	\$ -
October Expenses	\$ 500.00
10/31/23 Balance	\$ 135,744.62
Total Pledged	\$ 568,042.00
BOL Building Balance	\$ 62,400.84
BOL Missions Balance	\$ 73,343.78
BOL Campaign to Date Giving	\$ 604,378.03
BOL Campaign to Date Expenses	\$ 468,633.41

Offering Envelopes

If you have received offering envelopes via postal mail and do not use them or prefer not to receive them, please let the office know to have your name removed from that mailing list.



Mission and Ministry News

Packaged 14 boxes of “care” to send to college students as they wrap up their first semester.

New Cameras! New Speakers! New Sound Board! We are ready to train CLC members to operate the new equipment. **ANYONE CAN LEARN TO DO THIS!**

Please talk to Bruce Henke about training opportunities.

Transition to the new equipment will happen soon! Please be patient with us as we learn to operate it.



Giving on phones and tablets can be frustrating. Nobody likes poking at their screens to type long card numbers. Tithe.ly enables you to save your details and give with a few taps using the free online giving app. Once you have an account set up you can give and tithe through the mobile app, on your website, or through a text message. You can set up regular automated giving too.



Use this QR code to download the app & give using Tithe.ly.

You are WELCOME Here

For Worship, Education Classes and Activities

If you are unable to join us in person for worship, please join us for Sunday worship on the Canton Lutheran Church Facebook page for live worship.

The Sunday service is also broadcast daily on your local cable channels:
Midco Channel 19 at 1pm & 7pm, VAST Channel 302 or 98 at 7am, 1pm and 5:50pm.

If you aren't receiving the service on cable, or the sound or picture isn't what it should be, please contact the church office for assistance. ☎05.764.2429

Volunteers Needed!

Canton Lutheran depends on congregation members to volunteer their time to help us operate. If you have a little time to donate we would love to talk to you about your interests. Please contact the church office. ☎05.764.2429

Canton Lutheran Church Staff

Pastor Jon Splichal Larson

Pastorjon.sl@gmail.com 701-516-2680



Julie Crawford

Congregation President
jcrawford1369@iw.net
☎05.214.0231

Church Office

clca@cantonlutheran.net
☎05.764.2429 Church

Linda Tuntland

Coordinator of
Children's Ministry
edu@cantonlutheran.net

Cami Van Wyhe

Youth Director
pcwcnvw@sio.midco.net

Paul Konietzko

Music Minister
konietzkop@iw.net

Jeanie Jacobsen

Wedding Coordinator
jjacobsen@iw.net

Colin Conner

Gospel Choir Director
colconn@yahoo.com

Kristi Keizer

Bell Choir Director
kfuecht@gmail.com

Amber Beatty &
Nicole Thedens & Emily
Stiegel

Children's Choir Directors

Shawn Doty

Keeper of the House
r_sdoty@sio.midco.net

Josh Smith

Bookkeeper

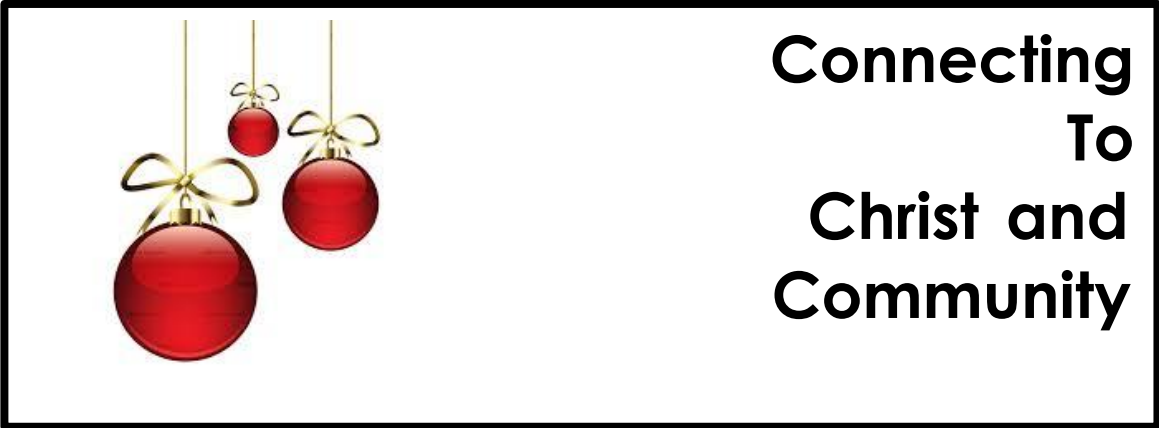
Canton

Lutheran Church
124 E 2nd St
Canton SD 57013

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

December 2023

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U.S. Postage
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Canton, SD 57013



**Connecting
To
Christ and
Community**