

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Have you ever been to a 3D movie? They give you special glasses when you walk in to enhance the experience. With them on, a good 3D or 3 dimensional movie can be amazing.

I went to a 3D movie on our last vacation. With the lenses on, it looked like giant fish were swimming next to me. Giant prehistoric seas monsters seemed to jump off the screen to try and eat us. The colors were brighter and the picture crisper than we were used to at movies.

Half way through the movie, I had to take the glasses off and rub my eyes. All of the sudden, all the magical images disappeared. Without the 3D lenses, the screen seemed full of fuzzy drab images. When I put the glasses back on, the video world reappeared in 3 dimensions.

The lens you are wearing really affects what you see in these movies. The same can be said of life. How we see each other and how we perceive the things around us is also interpreted by the lenses we are wearing.

If we look at our neighbors with the lenses of God's mercy and grace, their human flaws are more forgivable. Through God's lenses we can see the needs of those around us and our call to help.

However, if we approach those around us through world weary lenses that have been scratched and dented by our experiences, all we see are the flaws. All we see are the unforgivable mistakes and the horrors that people have brought onto themselves. We see people getting what they deserve. We see problems too big for us to solve. We see situation we don't want to touch with a ten foot pole.

The way you look at the world makes a difference. We have little choice of the place we are or the people we see from day to day. What we do have a choice in is how we will react to the people and places God has planted us by.

Whose glasses will you choose to put on when you get out to bed tomorrow? Will it be the ones you've carried for years and used to judge your neighbor and your situation or will it be the ones God uses to look at you? God gifts us by seeing us through his lenses of mercy, forgiveness and love. Let's try putting on our "grace" glasses today.

Pastor Janet Miller

*1st Communion classes begin at Hope-1st communion classes will begin on Sunday, March 19 following Worship and continue on Sunday, March 26. These classes are open to all students 2nd grade and up. The 1st communion ceremony will be held either Maudy Thursday or Good Friday. (TBD). If interested in enrolling your child(ren), please contact Pastor Janet by calling the church (605)-398-6150 or her cell (605)-237-8005.

*Thrivent Choice Dollars expiration date: Choice Dollars designated during the calendar year can be directed until March 31 of the following year. If you need help setting this up, please contact the church for assistance. More information is included in the newsletter.

January 29, 2023
Annual meeting

Welcome and opening by President Tim Gapp
M-Laurie, 2nd – Dustin to continue without a quorum. Passed

Reading of the 2021 Annual meeting. M-Beth, 2nd-Earline. Passed

Treasurer report and financials-Cemetery update, Sunday school-money spent of VBS props and activities. Noisy offerings will be taken every 2nd children's church each month. Youth-2024 youth gathering. Because it was rescheduled the youth hadn't been doing much fundraising. Camp-3 youth went this year. Lent/Easter breakfast fundraising. Anne encouraged kids to sign-up for camp and young adults to apply as camp counselors.

Pastor report-M-Kathy, 2nd-Tamijo. Passed
Other reports-Read and approved

Tim discussed how worship has changed since Covid and what we can do. Mentioned how the contract with Florence has been going and how they appreciate having a pastor to share with us. Carroll expressed that all are invited to help with quilting too. Pastor encouraged anyone with Thrivent cards to consider donating to the quilters. M-Laurie K, 2nd-Becky. Passed.

*Tim thanked Anne for her work as treasurer
Mission plan for 2023- Anne reviewed the past and future budget. M-Bruce, 2nd-Beth. Passed.

Thank you to Bruce, Earline, and Beth for their work as financial secretaries. M-Bruce, 2nd-Jim A. to approve the 2023 budget. Passed.

New council elections-M-Earline, 2nd-Diane to elect Dustin Holt, Ben Graf, Tamijo Bronson, Maddie Hinkelman, and Levi Whempner.

Prairie Coteau Conference-Pastor, Michael, and Anne will be attending. All are invited.

Closed with Table prayer.

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

March 2023

<u>Sunday March 5</u> 10:00 Sunday school Review of KidVid Weird Animals 11:00 Hope church service
<u>Sunday March 12</u> 10:00 Sunday school Review of KidVid Weird Animals 11:00 Hope church service with Kid's Church! Bring a NOISY OFFERING ;)
<u>Sunday March 19</u> 10:00 Sunday school 11:00 Hope church service
<u>Sunday March 26</u> 10:00 Sunday school 11:00 Hope church service
<u>Sunday April 2</u>
<u>Sunday April 9</u>
<u>Sunday April 16</u>
<u>Sunday April 23</u>
<u>Sunday April 30</u>
<u>Sunday May 7</u>
<u>Sunday May 14</u>
<u>Sunday May 21</u>

Sunday school has been going great! The kids have learned some great lessons and have had a lot of fun with crafts and activities. We started out doing our Monumental lessons. We then learned Hometown Nazareth which tied into our Christmas program. The Christmas program went great & we are all so proud of Hope's kids! We are now doing a series of dvd's from KidVid. They teach some great lessons and have some great music!

We will continue to do Kid's Church every 2nd Sunday of each month. It is great seeing the kids grow in their talents!

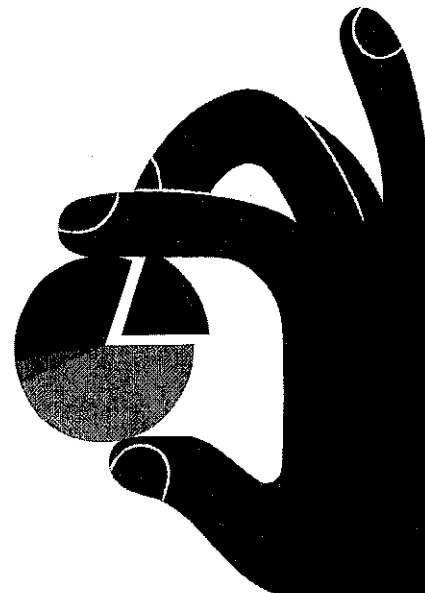
We could definitely use some more adult help. We have a sign up sheet for volunteering & it is great to see names on there! You do not need any special skills, just yourself! If you haven't signed up yet please pick some dates. Make your high school kids volunteer too! Thank you in advance!

If you have any comments, suggestions, questions, or would like to help feel free to talk to any staff member or call Pastor Janet @605-237-8005, Becky Pies @605-237-0539, or Annie Seffrood @605-949-5658.



Choice Dollars® details

Eligible clients with membership can recommend where Thrivent distributes some of its charitable grant funds. These recommendations are shared by directing Choice Dollars to enrolled nonprofit organizations, including churches.



Eligibility requirements

To be eligible to direct Choice Dollars as part of Thrivent Choice®, you must be a client with benefit membership.* Individual eligibility is also based on at least one of the following:

- Having \$750 or more in annual billed premiums of qualifying life and health insurance products.
- Having \$20,000 or more in contract value of qualifying life insurance and annuity products.

Eligibility is determined monthly and reevaluated on an annual basis.

Minimum and maximum Choice Dollars designations

Eligible clients will be designated a minimum of 25 Choice Dollars and a maximum of 5,000 Choice Dollars per eligibility period (Jan. 1 to Dec. 31).

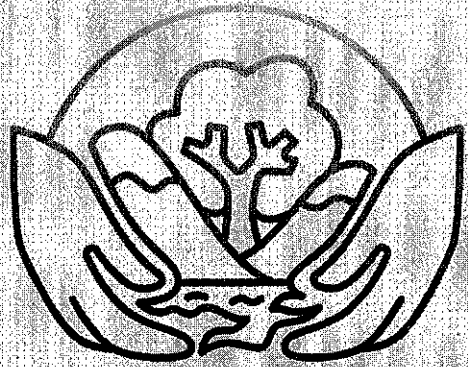
Choice Dollars expiration date

Choice Dollars designated during the calendar year can be directed until March 31 of the following year.

**If you need assistance, please contact the church and we will gladly help!!*

*A client with benefit membership is someone 16 years or older who meets membership eligibility, has been admitted for membership, and has a qualified connection to a Thrivent financial insurance or annuity product or received a settlement agreement from such insurance.

The Thrivent Choice® charitable grant program engages Thrivent clients with membership and Thrivent Member Networks in providing grants that support charitable activities, furthering Thrivent's mission and its purposes under state law. All grant decisions, including grant recipients and amounts, are made at the sole discretion of Thrivent. Directing Choice Dollars® is subject to the program's Terms and Conditions available at thrivent.com/thriventchoice.



SUMMER 2023

WONDER

LUTHERANS OUTDOORS IN SOUTH DAKOTA



WEEKLY CAMP CALENDAR



OUTLAW RANCH



NESODAK



KLEIN RANCH

WEEK 1
JUNE 11-16

HOSTED CAMP
STAFF-IN-TRAINING (9-12th)

CONFIRMATION 1
STAFF-IN-TRAINING (9-12th)

JUNE 4-9
STAFF/WRANGLER-IN-TRAINING (9-12th)

YOUTH CAMP (6-9th)

WEEK 2
JUNE 18-23

YOUTH CAMP (3-8th)
PRIDE CAMP (9-12th)

CAMP GILBERT

YOUTH CAMP
(6-9th)

WEEK 3
JUNE 25-30

FAMILY CAMP
ADVENTURES (7-12th)

CONFIRMATION 2
SIT (10-12th)

YOUTH CAMP
(6-9th)

WEEK 4
JULY 2-7

FAMILY CAMP
ADVENTURES (7-12th)
SERVANT CAMP (8-12th)

1-2-3 CAMP (1-3rd)*
EXPLORERS (3-6th)*
*JULY 5-7

CLOSED

WEEK 5
JULY 9-14

FAMILY CAMP
ADVENTURES (7-12th)
SERVANT CAMP (8-12th)

VENTURE CAMP (7-12th)
FISHING CAMP (6-9th)

YOUTH CAMP
(6-9th)

WEEK 6
JULY 16-21

FAMILY CAMP
ADVENTURES (7-12th)
SERVANT CAMP (8-12th)

YOUTH CAMP
(3-8th)

YOUTH CAMP
(6-9th)

WEEK 7
JULY 23-28

YOUTH CAMP (3-8th)
ADVENTURES (7-12th)
SERVANT CAMP (8-12th)

VENTURE CAMP (7-12th)
FISHING CAMP (3-5th)

YOUTH CAMP
(6-9th)

WEEK 8
JULY 30-AUG. 4

FAMILY CAMP
ADVENTURES (7-12th)
SERVANT CAMP (8-12th)

YOUTH CAMP (3-6th)

WEEK 9
AUGUST 6-11

1-2-3 CAMP (1-3rd)
AUG. 6-8
EXPLORERS (3-6th)
AUG. 9-11

**REGISTER
AT
LOSD.ORG**

Thoughts About Lent

As I get ready for Ash Wednesday and our Lenten season to begin, there has been an old song running through my head.

“Do you know where you're going to?
Do you like the things that life is showing you?
Where are you going to?
Do you know?

Do you get what you're hoping for?
When you look behind you, there's no open doors
What are you hoping for?
Do you know?”

Diana Ross sang these words in the 1970s so some of you are not old enough to remember them. (Look up “Do You Know” by Dianna Ross in YouTube. It’s a pretty song) But, the song’s words come to mind as I look through our Lenten series called “Seeking”. Each week we are presented with questions and see how our scriptures and our relationships help us to answer them; “Who will you listen to? Where are you headed? How do we know where to turn? Is this the action I choose?” These questions and others like them will be answered each week in Lent.

I love the season of Lent. It gives us a chance to set aside a mid week service each week to look at scripture and worship in a little different way. As pastors, we choose themes and special mission emphasis. As congregation members, we take the time out of busy weeks to center our minds around Christ. Come this year “seeking” and find the answers with me.

Our Lenten journey begins on February 22nd with Ash Wednesday. We will have services of communion and the imposition of ashes in both Florence and Summit. Worship schedules for lent will be Florence (at New Helgen) 5:30pm with supper to follow and Hope in Summit will serve Suppers at 6:00-7:00 with services at 7:30pm.

Come “seeking” and see what you can find.

Pastor Janet Miller



LENT

March 2023

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
			1 6:30 supper 7:30 Worship	2 9:00 am Quilting Pastor Dean Zoom meeting	3	4
5 purple-2 Lent Communion Prairie Coteau Conference @ NeSoDak	6	7	8 6:30 supper 7:30 Worship	9	10	11
12 purple-3 Lent Spring forward- Daylight savings begins	13	14 Ladies Bible study at Florence	15 6:30 supper 7:30 Worship	16 9:00 am Quilting Pastor Dean Zoom meeting	17 Newsletter items due	18
19 purple-4 Lent Communion *1 st Communion class following Worship.	20	21 Conference Pastor's	22 6:30 supper 7:30 Worship	23	24	25
26 purple-5 Lent *1 st Communion class following Worship.	27	28	29 6:30 supper 7:30 Worship	30	31	

*Every Sunday, unless otherwise noted: 10:00 am Sunday school/Coffee Fellowship, 11:00 am Worship. Communion every 1st and 3rd Sunday.
Worship helpers (as of printing): **March 5**-Coffee-Andrea/Nicole, Ushers-Tim, Cooper, Dash, and Odin, Reader-needed, Communion set-up-Andrea/Nicole, Communion servers-Andrea, Cooper, and Dash. **March 12**-C-Bruce/Diane, U-(needed), R-Bruce. **March 19**-C-(needed), U-(needed), R-Earline, CS-U-(needed), CS-(needed). **March 26**-C-(needed), U-Lee/Dawn, R-(needed).

