

Parish News

July 2026

Britton Lutheran Parish

Senior Women Summer Celebration

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 5TH
2:00PM
FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH
FELLOWSHIP HALL

The women of First Lutheran invite you to a summer celebration! We will have a time of fellowship, a light lunch, programming all centered around the joy of life.

Please RSVP back by July 29th to the church.

FREE movie sponsored by
Britton Lutheran Parish!

DAVID AT THE STRAND THEATRE

Thursday, July 30th
6:00pm

COME watch!



BRITTON LUTHERAN PARISH ONETIME BIBLESTUDY

Apostles Creed

WED JULY 29 | 5:30 PM-8:00 PM

First Lutheran Fellowship Hall

Supper provided. No need to RSVP.



FATHER
SON
HOLY SPIRIT

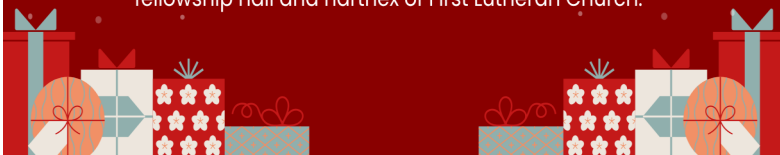
SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS NEEDED

PREK	5 TH GRADE
KINDERGARTEN	6 TH GRADE
4 TH GRADE	JUNIOR HIGH

INTERESTED IN TEACHING ONE OF THESE GRADES?
TOUCH BASE WITH KELLEY BECK, KAITLYN SASKER,
EMILY HRABIK OR HAILEY STIEGELMEIER!

CHRISTMAS IN JULY TOY DRIVE

For the last week of Youth and Family hour, we will be having a Christmas in July celebration. We will be collecting stocking stuffer toys such as cars, books, card games, and crafts for the Marshall County Food Pantry. Items will be collected the whole month of July. Drop off boxes are in the fellowship hall and narthex of First Lutheran Church.



JigSaw Puzzle Competition

Date: August 7, 2026

Time: 6:30pm Registration

7:00pm Start

Must finish in 2 Hours

Location: First Lutheran Church
Britton,SD

Teams of 3 or 4 puzzlers

500 piece puzzle

\$40.00 Entry fee per Team

Capped at 10 Teams

Please text Mary Carlson 605-354-3152
to sign up your Team

From the Pastor:

Changing Captains

I've been looking for a book that suits the needs of First Lutheran's Men's group. I pulled eight-or-so books off the shelf last week that might meet our criteria. One of them is a book called "*Prairie Parables*." It's written by David Johnson. To me, this isn't just any old book with folksy stories. The book's author grew up in the town that I started my preaching career in - Oldham, South Dakota. The stories or parables in the book are stories from and about Oldham. There are stories about pheasants, abandoned farms, roads, country churches, fences, specific people, and more. The first one I read the other day, naturally, was Johnson's story on Bullhead fishing. Because I subject you to so many fishing anecdotes and stories, I regretfully decided not to write on bullheads for this newsletter article. Although, I have an idea for an article called "Jesus, Our Bullhead" rolling around in my head. Maybe that will come to fruition later.

The story that I decided to share with you is one about a road. The premise of the parable is that the road to Oldham had recently been paved, however, fewer people than ever were going to Oldham. In essence, it got easier to get to town - a situation that might lead one to believe that more people would go there. In spite of it being easier to get there, though, the author's experience was that fewer people than ever were coming.

He compared this situation with faith, stating that God has made it so easy. He writes:

In a way, God, too, has made it easy for us. God has not designed a complicated system of good works for us to perform in order to gain His favor. God has not erected a moral stepladder that we must scale in order to ascend to the heights of His commands. Nor has God demanded that we, like the hermit retreating to his cave, sever our ties with the world. After all, God loved the world. Instead of trying to pull us away from the world, He entered it, wholeheartedly, as a person, Jesus Christ. Through Jesus, God gives us the gift of salvation. We call that "grace." In defiance of the accumulated wisdom of the world which says, "There is no such thing as a free lunch," and in contrast to the old, moralistic "hell fire and brimstone" approach, God's Word describes a God who gives and gives, with no strings attached.

So, since it's so easy, why isn't everyone absolutely gobbling it up? Johnson puts his finger on the exact reason why: "*If faith consists of inviting the Lord into our lives, to the very core of our being, our hearts, then there isn't much left over for ourselves. That will be okay only to the extent we have lost confidence in ourselves to be the captains of our fates.*"

This is what makes faith in God extremely difficult. In Johnson's words, it means losing confidence in myself as the captain of my fate. Faith means that there's a new Captain - Jesus Christ. Faith means that He is the one that's driving the boat. He is the one that decides what happens now. Initially this seems like a bad thing for us, and it is. It is a death to me. But in typical Jesus fashion, he creates us anew after death. For Jesus, life follows death. The old way will not carry on any longer, but a new creation has come. And Jesus is making you new this very moment. Amen.

Pastor Jesse



SERVICE ROSTER

Lay Readers

July 5	Mary Carlson	Wyatt Hannasch	Sara Raabe
July 12	Paisley Bray	Brad Oland	Rosemary Heitmann
July 19		Susan Smith	Rosemary Heitmann
July 26	Hailey Stiegelmeier	JoAnn Hawkinson	Jean Phillips

Ushers

July 5	Brian and Lori Rabenberg	Sara Raabe and Maxine Vrchota
July 12	David & Toni Mattson Family	Rosemary Heitmann
July 19		Sara Raabe and Maxine Vrchota
July 26	Kevin Stiegelmeier Family	Sara Raabe and Maxine Vrchota

Communion Assistants

July 5	Gretchen Christenson MaryAnn Eye Lori Ranbenberg	Sara Raabe and Maxine Vrchota
July 19		Sara Raabe and Maxine Vrchota



Vacation Bible School Program at 1:00 on Thursday, July 9. The kids will share songs and verses from what they learned during the week followed by Floats. Lunch will be provided on Thursday.

PAINTING OF THE WORD
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13TH
1:00pm
Cost is \$15
You'll paint your own 9x12 canvas to take home of John the Baptist baptizing Jesus. Paul Oman will be leading us IN PERSON in the Fellowship Hall at First Lutheran.
You can sign up in the Fellowship hall or on the Britton Lutheran Parish app.

Britton Lutheran Parish Directories are back in stock at the church! Grab a copy for your family. Free will offering will help cover the cost of the directory.



MARSHALL COUNTY FOOD PANTRY
JULY ITEM OF THE MONTH IS
HAMBURGER HELPER



Drop off spots in the narthex and fellowship hall

Baptism



Rogan Clay Warner, son of Clayton and Hillarey Warner, was baptized June 7, 2026 at First Lutheran. He was born February 10, 2026 at Aberdeen, SD. His sponsors are Karsen and Autumn Holland and DJ and Kalissa Stelzer.



Zadie Ann Marzolf, daughter of Jared and Devin Marzolf was baptized June 14, 2026. She was born November 4, 2025 at Aberdeen, SD. Her sponsors are Kayla Cole, Melody Marzolf and Megan Marzolf.



Tillie Beatrice Hagen, daughter of TeeJay and Lacey Hagen, was baptized June 16, 2026. She was born August 29, 2025 at Aberdeen, SD. Her sponsors are Jenny and Marcos Joachim and DaRae and KC Jones.

God's Bonus Days

An author writing in *Guideposts* magazine calls those nostalgic moments of memory “God’s bonus days.” LaVerne Sexton recalled that in her family, life’s unexpected dividends — a summer rainbow, a blazing sunset, a gentle spring thaw — were invitations to set aside ordinary tasks and celebrate something special.

She remembered one breathtaking day from her childhood when the sky stretched wide and impossibly blue, as if it had no edges at all. Her father grabbed the fishing poles and called out, “Let’s play hooky, hon. It’s one of God’s bonus days.” - Vuilleumier, *Meditations by the Sea*



Have you tried the Britton Lutheran Parish App? Check it out and see what is there for you.

If you would like Prayer Chain notifications via the App instead of text messages, please let Cindy Zuehlke or Pastor Lexy know. To receive notifications via the app, go to your personal settings on the app in the top right corner, scroll down and click notifications and check the prayer chain box.

QUOTES

Freedom fails when people decide that it is their right to take and not to give.
—Stanley Maxwell

Today I have the freedom to discipline myself by respecting and appreciating the laws of God and our government, or to disregard them and be disciplined by others. I choose to discipline myself.
—Clarence Buehler

America stands on two great pillars — faith and morality. Without these, our foundation crumbles.—George Washington



Lake City's end of Year Wrap-up Meeting will be Sunday, August 30 at 9:45. We will vote on the steeple project, cleaning duties for the future, and finish up any end of the year business. Any additional agenda items, text or call Sara Raabe at 701-388-5653.



Jody Breker did some beautiful painting and got the kiddos involved out at Lake City yesterday! Thanks for sharing your talents with us and adding some color to our sound panels for the fellowship hall!



EDWARD JERDE

Building Fund

† Sandy Hastings

Endowment

† Walt and Patty Roehr

Tech Support

† Joel and Karen Erickson

† Bob and Gail OBrien

† Anita Patterson

Undesignated

† Kent and Sara Holland

HOWARD LENIUS

Endowment

† Herman and Laurie Wegleitner



Join us for the Harvest Days Community Worship on Sunday, August 9 at 10:00 at the Lions Shelter/Pool Park. There will be a Free-will lunch served by Friends of the Library following the service



Monday morning fun!

On a beautiful June morning the kids made towers of Mac and cheese as tall as Goliath! They also decorated rocks to remind us how God used a simple rock and a young boy to take down Goliath!



FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH
SUMMER
FAMILY & YOUTH HOUR
 Mondays in June & July 10:30-11:30
 Excluding July 6th for VBS
 Families, grade school youth, daycares,
 come and join for an hour of relaxed play,
 Bible stories, activities and connecting this
 summer!