

Come join us starting at 5 pm. The gala is a fundraiser in which all proceeds will go towards building our new addition.



Tickets available for purchase after worship service.

Important Dates and INFORMATION

April 5 - 15 - Pastor Jerry is out of town. Contact Cody Church for pastoral needs.

April 7 - Steve Richarz fills in for pulpit supply.

Book club - April 7 at 6 pm at Cody and Erin's house and April 28 at 6 pm at church in the youth room.

April 13 - Gala social hour starts at 5:00 pm. Dinner @ 6:00 pm.

April 14 - Rev. Mike Japenga fills in for pulpit supply with communion (in the pews).

April 21 - confirmation meeting at 6 pm.

April 26 - please have reports into Karyn for council meeting.

April 27 - Celebration of Life service for Mary Lou Royster at 11 am with luncheon afterward.

April 28 - confirmands lead worship service-SHINE SUNDAY-church council at 7:30 pm.

April 24-last day of Shine.

upcoming dates in May

May 12-Mother's Day and graduation Sunday,

May 19-confirmation Sunday.

May 26-Memorial Sunday



Pastor's Corner

I recently visited with a retired couple who moved from their home of 40+ years and into a senior living facility. They talked about how they enjoyed living in their home, but how it became a challenge for them to live on their own, and so they made the difficult decision to sell their home and transition to assisted living. "However," they said, "it has been the best decision of our lives (outside of marrying each other). We love our new home. We always have something to do, the staff are amazing, and we've made a lot of new friends." Their journey of experiencing joy, then uncertainty, and then hope, again, is the journey that we just experienced last week during Holy Week.

Holy Week is the most significant week on the Christian calendar, in which we remember the events surrounding Jesus' journey from Palm Sunday to the cross and then to Easter. The journey that this couple took, and journeys that we often take in life is the journey of Holy Week. From the joys of Palm Sunday, to the uncertainty of Maundy Thursday and Good Friday, and then to the unexpected new life of Easter, this sacred rhythm shows up for each of us in a variety of events in our lives. It is the mystery of cross and resurrection.

Thankfully, God has given us His own presence and the gift of Others as we make this sacred journey multiple times throughout our life. As we experience the lows of Good Friday we are invited lean into the promises of God, and when we rejoice in the hope of Easter morning, we can celebrate the remarkable hope God has given to us in Christ. Cross and resurrection are opportunities for us to remember God's love and lean into it and on each other as we walk the journey with Jesus.



“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.”
– Romans 15:13 (NRSV)

Pastor Jerry Bertelson

Awaken Us

Lord of all hopefulness, awaken us.
Show us the meaning in our toil
That we may ever rejoice in the
promise of the seeds we sow.

Lord of all righteousness, awaken us.
Show us the good path
That we may walk in confidence in
Your wisdom and understanding.

Lord of all hospitality, awaken us.
Show us the refuge of eagles' wings
That we may always be people of
shelter in times of storm.

Lord of all freedom, awaken us.
Show us the courage that called our
forefathers out of bondage
That we may always stand with the
bound and the oppressed,
and be their champions.

Lord of all peace, awaken us.
Show us the heart that stills even raging waters
That we may make still raging hearts, and
reconcile warring neighbors.

Lord of all charity, awaken us.
Teach us of the unending return on our sacrifice
That we may rejoice more fully in our giving.

Lord, you have eyes for the just and ears for
their cry.
Awaken in us a heart of justice
That you may count us among their number.

Amen

United Church
PO box 188
115 N Railway Ave
Canistota, SD 57012

PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE



Titus 3:4-6

"But when the kindness of God our Savior and his love toward mankind appeared, not by works of righteousness which we did ourselves, but according to his mercy, he saved us through the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us richly, through Jesus Christ our Savior."