

Brandon—Split Rock Lutheran Parish

P.O. Box 320; 600 Holly Blvd.

Brandon, SD 57005



Newsletter 2026

**Brandon-Split Rock Lutheran
Newsletter April 2026**



Sabbatical: a time for study, renewal, and rest

Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest. Mark 6:31

Thank you for the opportunity to take this time of Sabbatical this year! We are so thankful for you, BLC and SRLC! During this time of sabbatical, it is important that you direct all calls to the church office or the church off hours/emergency cell phone—605-961-1836.

The best practice for clergy sabbaticals is for the pastor and congregation to have no contact so that the pastor can enter fully into their time of rest and renewal. And so, Pastor Aimee and Pastor Elizabeth will not be returning calls or emails during their time of sabbatical.

Pastor Aimee will be on sabbatical April 9, 2026-June 29, 2026.

Pastor Elizabeth will be on sabbatical June 22, 2026-September 12, 2026.

Pastor Randy Gehring will begin his ministry with us on April 13, 2026, and we will thank him and say goodbye on September 13, 2026.

We are grateful for this time and we will surely miss you! We each look forward to sharing with you about our time away and also our excitement for long futures at BLC and SRLC!

Rev. Elizabeth Hoium
Senior Pastor

Walking in the Word

Take part in a new faith opportunity this spring and summer! Beginning April 8.

The Path includes a prayer, audio recording of the Bible story of the week (QR code will link you to listen on your own device as you walk), there will be visuals/artwork connected to the story to stop and look at, and a blessing as you end your time Walking in the Word. The resource we will be using is the Book of Belonging. Words by Mariko Clark and Pictures by Rachel Eleanor.

All are welcome to walk the path anytime. The story will change weekly. As the weather warms, the path will be available both inside and outside. Invite a friend to join you, for an opportunity to walk in faith together. The path inside will be through the education hallways and outside will be through the tree path behind the picnic shelter.

Starting May 20, we will walk the path together on Wednesdays at 6pm as an opportunity to continue to gather in faith over the summer. Beginning at 6pm on Wednesdays, led by a pastor, we will read the story together, pray, sing, and expand the path to include the garden and playground.

Invite a friend, bring a coffee and your headphones, move your body, and grow your faith.



Walking in the Word

The Path includes:

- ✝ Prayer
- ✝ A link to the audio recording of the Bible story of the week
- ✝ Art along the path, connecting the Bible story
- ✝ A blessing as you go on your way

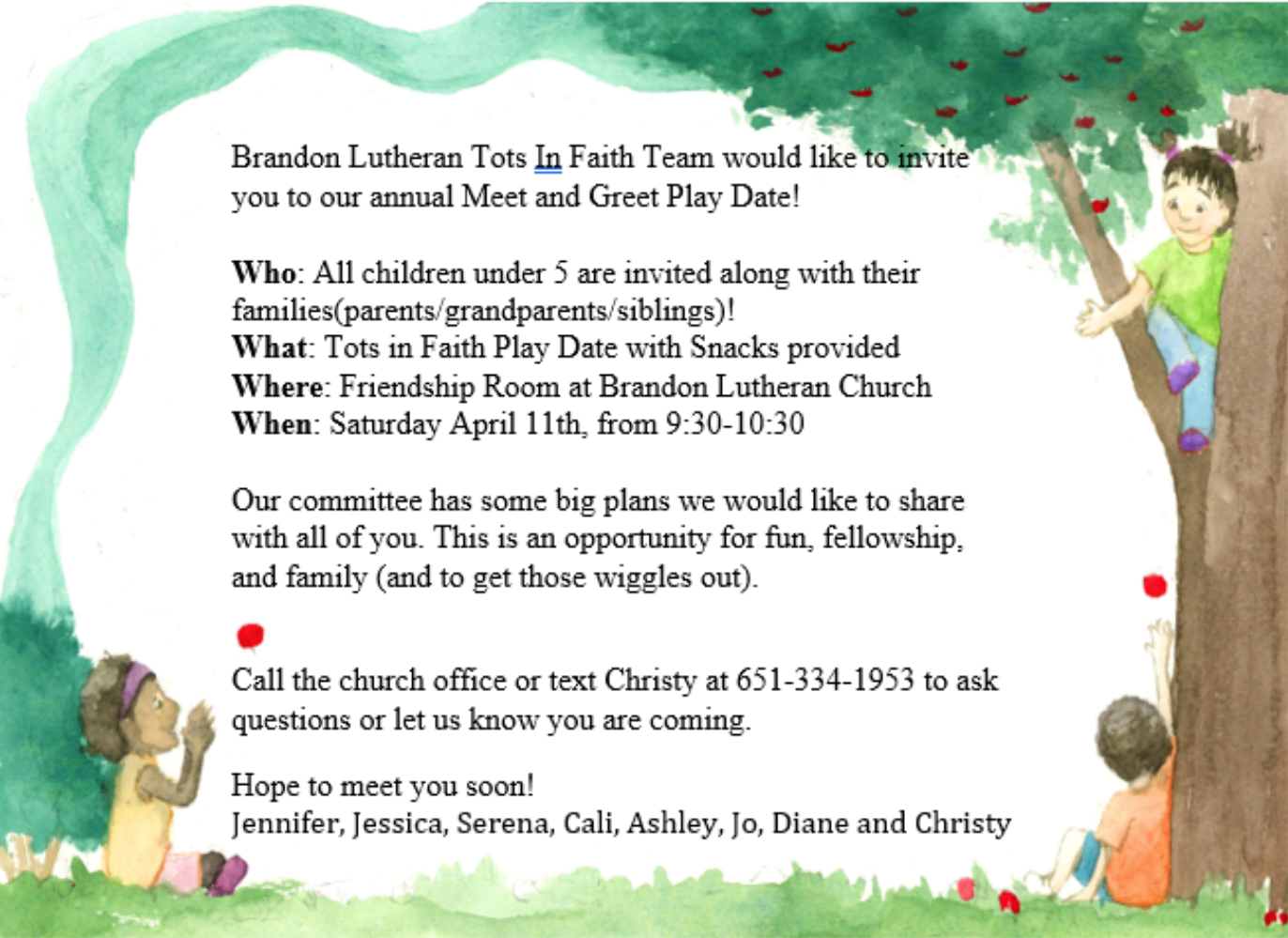
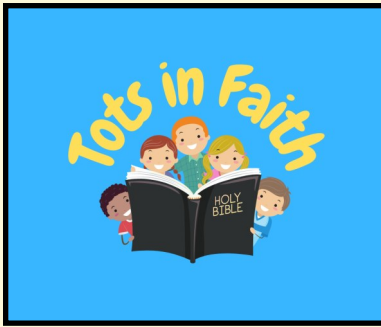
readings and art from the Book of Belonging

walk the path anytime

- ✝ located inside thru the education hallways
- ✝ located outside thru the tree path behind the picnic shelter



Walk the path together: Wednesdays at 6pm in the summer

A watercolor illustration of a large tree with green foliage and red apples. A girl in a green shirt and blue pants is climbing the tree. A girl in a yellow shirt is sitting on the grass at the base of the tree, looking up. A boy in an orange shirt is sitting on the grass, reaching up towards the tree. The scene is set in a grassy area with a white background.

Brandon Lutheran Tots In Faith Team would like to invite you to our annual Meet and Greet Play Date!

Who: All children under 5 are invited along with their families (parents/grandparents/siblings)!

What: Tots in Faith Play Date with Snacks provided

Where: Friendship Room at Brandon Lutheran Church

When: Saturday April 11th, from 9:30-10:30

Our committee has some big plans we would like to share with all of you. This is an opportunity for fun, fellowship, and family (and to get those wiggles out).

Call the church office or text Christy at 651-334-1953 to ask questions or let us know you are coming.

Hope to meet you soon!

Jennifer, Jessica, Serena, Cali, Ashley, Jo, Diane and Christy

NAPS Happenings...



We celebrated all the ways we are “Lucky” and Blessed in March.

The Preschool Staff feels so “Lucky” to have the most amazing students, families and Church!



Hello from Children's Ministries & Bible Basics!

**It's hard to believe it's officially springtime!
We are welcoming it with open arms and look
forward to all the fun events coming up for our
BLC kids!**

**Congratulations to 5th graders on their 1st Holy
Communion taking place Maundy Thursday, April 2.**



April Sunday School

April 5: NO CLASS, HAPPY EASTER

April 12: Doubting Thomas

April 19: The Road to Emmaus

April 26: God's House

April Wednesday School

April 1: NO CLASS. HOLY WEEK

**April 8: NO CLASS – Sky Zone Family Fundraiser night
from 4 – 8PM.**

All are welcome!

April 15: Doubting Thomas

April 22: The Road to Emmaus

April 29: God's House

Wednesday Bible Basics (5th & 6th grade)

April 1: NO CLASS. Holy Week

Thursday, April 2: 5th grade 1ST HOLY COMMUNION at 6

April 8: NO CLASS (Sky Zone Night!)

April 15: 5th = DIASPORA. 6TH = THE BODY OF CHRIST

April 22: 5TH = RETURN. 6TH = PERSECUTION

April 29: 5TH = OCCUPATION OR CAESAR LESSON.

6TH = SPREAD OF THE GOSPEL

Music Ministry



Easter is always a joyous time to be in music ministry as we celebrate the resurrection of Christ! It is also a time where I find myself deeply grateful for all of the time and talent that is being shared in this congregation to put extra depth and meaning into proclaiming the Gospel message through music. Plenty of scholars have debated whether it is St. Augustine or Martin Luther who can be quoted saying, "To sing is to pray twice." Either way, this is a season where I find myself drawn to finding new ways that the music we sing can emphasize the texts of our great Easter hymns in new ways.

With that in mind, you are invited to share in this gift of singing the Gospel together with a hymn sing on April 26 at 2PM. Centered on the theme of the Good Shepherd, BLC's Choir, Bells, and other musicians will share music and lead hymns, with readings and reflections from our pastors.

"Have No Fear Little Flock"
A Hymn Sing for our Good Shepherd
Sunday, April 26 | 2:00PM - 3:00PM
Refreshments to follow
Brandon Lutheran Church

Peace be with you,

Matt
Minister of Music





Wednesday Night Meals

You're invited to Wednesday night meals!

Meals begin serving at 4:45

Recommended donation for the meal is \$6.00 per person.

Menu

April 1-Holy Week-No Meal

April 8-No Meal

April 15-Spaghetti & Chicken Alfredo

April 22-Hamburgers & Nathan Hot Dogs

April 29-Meatloaf & Baby Reds



A Christian Women's Luncheon is at
11:30am on Thursday, April 16, at Annie's.
Join us for food and fellowship!
All are Welcome!



Crossroads Women of the ELCA Spring Gathering - April 25 (Saturday) 8:30 AM - 2:00 PM at Beaver Valley Lutheran.

Let's support our sisters in Christ at Beaver Valley as we come together to celebrate and renew friendships, listen to informative speakers and learn more about our organization. Registration is \$10 which includes lunch. Our Brandon WELCA will pay the fee if you sign up by April 16th. RSVP is due by April 17th. A sign-up sheet is on our WELCA bulletin board.

Circles meet on April 15 & 16 - Circles are small group Bible Studies that meet once a month. A great way to get to know your fellow church members, share ideas, and grow in your faith. All are welcome to attend any of these groups:

Wednesday: April 15

Priscilla Circle - 1:00 pm in Martin Luther Room

Anna Circle - 1:00 pm in Friendship Room

Thursday - April 16

Bethany Circle - 1:00 pm at Bethany Meadows Pheasant Dining Room

Martha Circle - 7:00 pm in Friendship Room

Voices of Passion is our FaceBook group page for Brandon Women of the ELCA. Join the group and enjoy our posts related to activities and stories related to Women of the ELCA and our church.

Watch Anytime & Online

Local access replays of our worship can be experienced through Alliance Communications cable network.

Channel 18 and Digital Channel 21

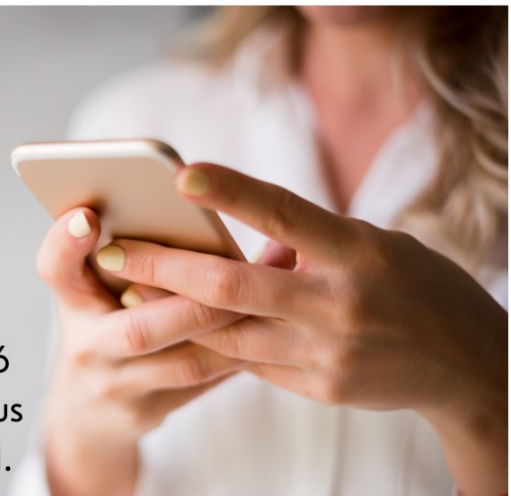
Replay of the 8:30 worship is on Monday at 6:30pm.

Replay of the 10:45 worship is on Tuesday at 8:00pm.



Off-hours & emergency
Brandon Lutheran
cell phone.

Text or call 605-961-1836
when you need to reach us
when the office is closed.





Split Rock Lutheran

The Mission of Split Rock Lutheran is welcoming and serving with joyful hearts and glorifying God in all things. We are a growing family of Christ's disciples seeking to proclaim the Gospel to all those in need of God's grace, mercy and love.

April Council Meeting

Tuesday, April 14 at 7:00 pm is Split Rock Council Meeting

April Serving Schedule

Thursday, April 2
6:00pm

Maundy Thursday Worship
@ BLC

Friday, April 3
7:30pm

Good Friday

Greet & Usher
Lector
Acolyte
Tech
Pianist
Soloist

Dick & Becky Neu
Kyle Sorenson
Grady Karssen
Stephanie Tighe
Jan Schroeder
Tony Thoreson

Sunday, April 5
7:00am

Easter Sunrise Service

Greet & Usher
Lector
Communion Server

Communion Bread
Acolyte
Tech
Organist

Chad Olson & Kellen Olson
Brett Tighe
Pastor Elizabeth Hoium &
Pastor Aimee Pakan
Linda Bly
Hayden Sorenson
Stephanie Tighe
Nancy Gross

Soloist

Tony Thoreson

8:00am

Easter Breakfast by
Sunday School

9:30am

Greet & Usher

Matt Brands & Bernie Citta

Lector

Kyle Neu

Communion Server

Shally Rogen

Communion Bread

Stephanie Tighe

Acolyte

Wesley Karssen

Tech

Becky Heggen

Organist

Nancy Gross

Soloist

Tony Thoreson

Thursday, April 9

Pastor Aimee begins Sabbatical
(through June 29)

Sunday, April 12

Second Sunday of Easter

9:30am

Greet & Usher

Paul & Carolyn Thoreson

Lector

Dick Rogen

Tech

Jolene Kujawa

Organist

Nancy Gross

Thursday, April 16

Christian Women's Luncheon
at Annie's

11:30am

Sunday, April 19

Third Sunday in Easter

9:30am

Greet & Usher

Steve & Robin Farley

Lector

Brittany Lessman

Communion Server

Deb Weir

Communion Bread

Stephanie Tighe

Acolyte

Whitney Sorenson

Tech

Brittany Lessman

Organist

Nancy Gross

Sunday, April 19-Sunday, May 10 WELCA Spring Mission Project

Saturday, April 25
8:30am-3:30pm

WELCA Crossroads Spring Gathering
Beaver Valley Church, Valley Springs

Sunday, April 26
9:30am

Fourth Sunday of Easter
Seed & Soil Sunday
Sunday School Kids Sing
Sunday School Teacher Recognition
Bruce & Juul Heggen
Dick Neu
Stephanie Tighe
Jan Schroeder

Greet & Usher
Lector
Tech
Pianist



Worship Schedule for Brandon Lutheran & Split Rock

BLC: Sundays at 8:30 & 10:45 am

Wednesdays at 6:00 pm

Split Rock: 9:30 am on Sundays

Office Hours:

Monday - Thursday 8am-4pm

Friday 8am-12pm

Contact us at 605-582-3401 or bhc@brandonlutheran.org

BLC Facebook Page is: www.facebook.com/BrandonLutheranChurch

600 E. Holly Blvd.
PO Box 320
Brandon, SD 57005

Our Staff

Rev. Elizabeth Hoium
Senior Pastor

Rev. Aimee Pakan
Associate Pastor

Melissa Wipf
Office Manager

Scott Hupke
Finance Manager

Kristin McInerney
Director of
Children's Ministries

Madie Runyan
Senior High
Youth Minister

Matthew Tylutki
Minister of Music

Larry Olson
Contemporary Music Leader

Amy Bray
Wedding Coordinator

Nicole Jellema
Director of
Noah's Ark Preschool

Laurie Adams
Erin Sislo
NAPS Teachers

Ann Beesley
Jodi Myers
Kia Reuland
Lauren Curtis
NAPS Assistants