

# Brandon-Split Rock Lutheran Newsletter September 2024

## **FOOD TRUCK** *festival*

SEPTEMBER 4TH - 5PM - 7:30PM

### **MARCO'S FESTIVAL FOODS**

**CHEEZY NOODLEZ ~ CRAIGS SHAVE ICE**

**BIG POPPA'S ~ FAT KID FILLYS**

**THE HANGOVER HUT ~ SDSU ICE CREAM**

**BACKYARD BBQ ~ THE LUNCHBOX**

**TAQUERIA JUANITA ~ SODAK SODA**

**SHEEPFLOCKERS ~ LET'S GO FRANK**

**MARY'S MOUNTAIN COOKIES**



### **BRANDON LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**600 E. Holly Blvd.  
Brandon**

**WORSHIP: 6:00PM**

**CM ORIENTATION: 7:00PM**

**HS YOUTH GROUP: 7:30PM**



**Tell me about your family. Did you grow up in South Dakota?**

**Pastor A:** I grew up the youngest of two children. I have an older brother, Chris. We moved around a bit when I was young because my dad was a pastor. I was born in Kansas City, Missouri. We lived about 100 miles away from Kansas City in Trenton, Missouri until I was 2. We then moved to Omaha, Nebraska and lived there until I was almost 7 when we moved to Naperville, Illinois, a suburb of Chicago. My family lived there until I was 22. While we lived in the Chicago area, my mom was a teacher. She decided to go back to school, got her master's degree in education, and then went on to earn her Ph.D. She became a professor of education for the rest of her career. From the Chicago area, my parents moved to Westlake, OH. My brother stayed in the Chicago area and raised his two sons there. I moved around a bit in my early 20's as I pursued careers in Youth Ministry and music. Most of those moves were between Ohio and Minnesota where I attended Concordia University in St. Paul. In 2001, I married Joel Pakan. We have lived in Wisconsin, Texas, Minnesota, Louisiana, Pennsylvania, Colorado, and now South Dakota.

**Pastor E:** I grew up in Brookings with my parents and my 2 younger siblings. My grandparents lived within biking distance of our house and were involved in my every day life growing up. I stayed in South Dakota through college and then ended up accepting a job in Denver where I went to seminary. I moved back to South Dakota to Madison for my first call in the beginning of 2009. Nick and I got married in 2011 and we have Finn who is now 8 and Jack who is now 5.

**What's your favorite Bible verse and why?**

**Pastor A:** This is a tough question. There are so many that speak to my heart in different ways at different times in my life. Right now, 1John 3:16-18 is an important, everyday verse to me. Here's what it says, "We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help? Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth

and action.” This is an important reminder to me of two things. First: God has loved us enough to send Jesus – who lived and died and rose again -so that we could be forgiven, know real love, and have an abundant life here in this life and in the life to come. We are deeply loved by our Triune God who will never let us go. Second: Because of this deep love that God has for us, we are called to share that love. Not just in talking a good game about how we should love our neighbor, but in actually doing the work of caring for those in need. We are to use our hands, feet, and resources to care for this world that God so loves. It’s a daily reminder of our calling. It’s that nudge that I need to remember to reach out beyond my own comfort zone and care for my neighbor with the love of Christ.

**Pastor E:** I would answer this question differently in different seasons of my life... and it’s hard to narrow it down to one. A consistent favorite in my life has been Isaiah 43:1-2. It says: “But now thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you.” First, it reminds me of my baptism- that I am claimed by God no matter what. My name is beloved child of God and I am God’s. I have a piece of artwork with this verse on it- and especially in some of the harder times in my life, I have hung on tightly to the promise that God is with me- I am not alone- and the hard stuff will not completely pull me under.



## You Are Invited!

Although the weather might not be changing quite yet, change is in the air as we move from summer to school year.

And with this new season come new activities and the start-up of activities that have been on summer break!

There are lots of ways to be involved at BLC and SRLC. As you read through the newsletter this month, look for ways you can jump back into ministry opportunities.

Maybe you can try something new. Maybe you'd been taking a break from one and are ready to get back in. Maybe you are excited to get back to participating in something you love!

The church is its people. We want you to be a part of this community, this body of Christ.

Join us in worship. Join in bible study, children and youth education. Try a new small group or try your hand at stitching or serving coffee. There are so many things happening in this place. Join in as we serve in the community and beyond. All are welcome!

See you soon!

Pastor Elizabeth







## **Children's Ministry & Bible Basics News**

We are looking forward to starting classes soon!

Wednesday Bible Basics (5 & 6 grades): Family Orientation is Wednesday, August 28 at 7:00PM. First night of class—September 11 from 7:00—8:00pm.

Wednesday Children's Ministries (preschool – 4 grades): Family Orientation is Wednesday, September 4 at 7:00PM.

First night of class—September 11 from 7:00—8:00PM.

Sunday Children's Ministries (preschool – 4 grades): Family Orientation is Sunday, September 8 at 9:45AM.

First morning of class—September 15 from 9:45-10:40AM.

**We love welcoming preschoolers to our programs!**

**Welcome Rozlyn Andersen, Marceline Jansen, Millie Kieffer, Harper Koob, Camden Koob, Aliyah Laughlin, Claire Rasmussen, Jameson Rosecky, Ivy Stills & Breelyn Swenson!**

*Dear God,*

*As we embark on a new school year, we seek your guidance, protection and wisdom.  
Fill our hearts with a love for learning and guide our steps throughout our journey.  
Amen!*

*"Train children in the right way, and when old, they will not stray."  
Proverbs 22:6*

## **Announcement**

The following announcement was sent via email on August 21:

Hello Brandon and Split Rock Lutheran friends,

I am sharing with you that Ang Riedel, our Office Manager and Volunteer Coordinator, has resigned from her position. We are so thankful for Ang's ministry here for the last six years! Her last day in the office will be Friday, September 6<sup>th</sup>.

**Please join us on Wednesday evening, September 11<sup>th</sup> to celebrate Ang as we thank her and wish her well in her new adventure!**

God's Blessings, Pastor Elizabeth, Senior Pastor

## **It's Not Goodbye, It's See You Later**

It is usually easy for me to put my thoughts in writing, but today I am finding it hard to do. How do you say goodbye to so many people that you have come to know and love? People who have become friends. As I think about my eight years of working here, the first two in the preschool, and the last six in the office, I have a lot of memories. I have met so many wonderful people, said goodbye to some good ones, planned fun events, saw many changes, worked with great co-workers, tasted lefse for the first time, learned about quilting, and so much more. But the best memories of the people of Brandon Lutheran and Split Rock are the kindness, compassion, generosity, and the love they show for others. This is what I will take with me.

My family and myself will still be attending the Wednesday night worship services. My youngest two are enrolled in Bible Basics and Confirmation. So, we will see you around.

I want to say thank you. To all of you. Thank you for welcoming me with open arms. Thank you for always being so kind and caring. Thank you for showing me the heart that is Brandon Lutheran and Split Rock. I will truly miss seeing and talking to you daily.

Ang



## New Members!

Welcome to our new members of Brandon Lutheran! Make sure when you see them around, to say hello and welcome!

If you have been visiting and would like to join our church, please email the church office at [blc@brandonlutheran.org](mailto:blc@brandonlutheran.org) to find out more information. Welcome!

Barry & Kathy Goodwin





## ♪BLC Music Ministries Update♪

Just like that, summer is wrapped up, and we're ready to get back up and running at full speed! I am looking forward to seeing all the smiling faces return after a summer of adventures! We missed you!

Music Ministry kickoff will take place Tuesday, September 3, at 6:00 PM in the Martin Luther Room! We will share food and fellowship and prepare for a wonderful season of making music together. If you have been on the fence for awhile about joining one of our ensembles, please come and join us! Even if you don't join us for the season, we'd still love to meet you and get to know you better.

We have lots of opportunities for you to get more involved with our Bell Choir, Brass Ensemble, Choir, and Praise Band! Joining one of these ensembles is a great way to build new relationships, have fun, and grow in your faith and worship of our Lord! Do you sing or play an instrument? Do you know someone who does? If you'd like to have more information or if you know of someone who might be interested, let me know by sending me an email at [music@brandonlutheran.org](mailto:music@brandonlutheran.org), or by calling the church at 605-582-3401. We'd love to get to know you better!



By now I trust that you have all heard that our phenomenal Office Manager, Ang, will be leaving us at the beginning of September. What a great loss for Brandon Lutheran. Ang, thank you for the many, many ways you have gone above and beyond for our BLC Family in your time here. We will miss you very much, but we wish you all the best in your new endeavors!

If you get the chance, be sure to stop in to wish Ang well, and thank her for the countless ways she has helped all of us at BLC!

Blessings,  
Ben Jacobsma



## **Service Time Change**

On Sunday, September 8, our service times will be returning to 8:30am and 10:45am on Sundays. Wednesday services will begin on Wednesday, September 4. The Wednesday service time has been changed to start at 6:00pm.

## **St. Francis House**

Brandon Lutheran will be serving at the St. Francis House again this fall. We have two lunch shifts available and two dinner shifts. You can sign up on our website under the Volunteer Opportunities tab.

The day shifts are September 22 & December 7 from 11:15am—12:30pm.

The dinner shifts are October 19 & November 11 from 5:45pm—7:30pm.

## **Backpack Program**

Brandon Lutheran will be participating in the Backpack Program again this October. The Backpack Program is a partnership between Feeding South Dakota and the Brandon Valley School District. Every Wednesday, a volunteer goes to pick up empty totes at Fred Assam Elementary and takes them to Feeding South Dakota. They then receive new totes with backpacks full of food. The volunteer will take these back to Fred Assam and will drop them off. Fred Assam then distributes them amongst the Brandon Valley Schools.

The Backpack Program ensures that children who rely on school meals do not go hungry over the weekend so they can return to school on Monday ready to learn. The backpacks are filled with non-perishable ingredients that provide at least three nutritious meals.

To sign up to drive on a Wednesday, please visit our Volunteer Opportunities tab on our website.

# august **BAPTISMS**



Congratulations and God's  
blessings to Tristyn Grace Page  
who was baptized on  
August 25, 2024.  
Tristyn's parents are  
Erica & Jarrod Page.



## **Wednesday Night Meals**

Wednesday Night meals will begin on Wednesday, September 11. They will be served from 4:45-6:00pm.

Donations of bars and cookies for desserts are welcome! We need volunteers to help serve the meals, bus the tables, carry the trays & clean up. Please go to our website to sign up to volunteer to help!

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

## **Menu**

September 11—Broasted Chicken and Mac & Cheese

September 18—Beef Tips & Mashed Potatoes

September 25—Lasagna, Salad & Bread Sticks

October 2—Turkey, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy

October 9—Meatloaf & Baby Red Potatoes

October 16—Broasted Chicken and Mac & Cheese

October 23—Ham & Cheesy Hashbrowns

October 30—Beef Tips & Mashed Potoates





## WELCA September 2024

It's been so exciting to see all of the school supplies brought in for LWR so far! Thank you for all of the donations. We look to have the kits put together by some of our Wednesday night students the end of September! Again...thank you to all who participated with the donations. There is such a need for these supplies at this time.

Our Heritage Festival will be **Sunday, October 20** so **mark you calendar!** This year we will be making Rosettes and Krumkaka at church on October 14 at 10:00 AM, and sweet breads on October 18. We'd love to have volunteers to help us create these goodies for the Bake Sale. If you are talented and would like to share your crafts for the Craft sale or bake sale, we'd love to have you volunteer, also! It would be wonderful to have a variety of items to sell at the Heritage Festival. Most importantly, sign-up in October to volunteer making meatballs and other foods, decorating and setting up, helping serve the food, making desserts, clean up, dishwashing, and fellowship! Bring your family and friends to this WELCA fundraiser event on Sunday, Oct. 20th!

### Other WELCA Opportunities

September 7; 10:00 AM Faithful Greetings downstairs

September 9; 10:30 AM Executive Board Meeting

September 9; 1:00 PM Freezer Ministries

September 16; 9:30 AM Kitchen Clean Up

September 20 & 21; Circles Meet



Beginning in **May**, our WELCA group will be collecting items for our School Kits for Lutheran World Relief (LWR). In the fall, we will have some of our youth put our kits together, and these kits will be sent to Minneapolis for LWR.

These summer months are the best times to purchase many of these items on sale! Please see the lists posted to know what items we can use. We have bags, but need unsharpened pencils, 16 or 24 pack of crayons, pens, rulers, pencil sharpeners, 2 ½ inch eraser, 2, 70 sheet notebooks, and blunt tip scissors. Bring your items to the drop off table in the Narthex of BLC.

Together, we can make life a little easier for many children and their families who are in need. Let's see how many kits we can create this year!

If anyone has a Thrivent Grant that we could use for this project, please let Pastor Elizabeth know.

Thank you!



# SCHOOL KIT

## ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS

Include the following items in each School Kit:



**x1**

One sturdy drawstring backpack-style cloth bag, approximately 14" x 17", with shoulder straps (no standard backpacks)



**x4**

Four 78-sheet notebooks of wide- or college-ruled paper, approximately 8" x 10½"; no loose-leaf paper



**x1**

One box of 16 or 24 crayons



**x1**

One 30-centimeter ruler, or a ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other



**x1**

One pencil sharpener



**x1**

One pair of blunt scissors (safety scissors with embossed steel blades work well)



**x5**

Five unsharpened No. 2 pencils with erasers; secure together with a rubber band



**x5**

Five black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink); secure together with a rubber band



**x1**

One 2½" eraser



Lutheran World Relief  
SUSTAINING PARTNERS: LUTHERAN CHURCHES



# 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.

## September Serving Schedule

**Sunday, September 1: Ushers/Greeters:** Larry & Carol Gulickson

**Lector:** Tony Thoreson

**Communion Server:** Dick Neu

**Communion Bread:** Bonnie Bly

**Tech:** Jolene Kujawa

**Sunday, September 8: Ushers/Greeters:** Chad & Wendy Olson

**Lector:** Robin Farley

**Tech:** Tighe Family

**Sunday, September 15: Ushers/Greeters:** David & Corbin Sorenson

**Lector:** David Sorenson

**Communion Server:** Deb Weir

**Communion Bread:** Bonnie Bly

**Tech:**

**Sunday, September 22: Ushers/Greeters:** Kyle & Becky Sorenson

**Lector:** Kyle Sorenson



**Sunday, September 29: Ushers/Greeters:** Duane & Bonnie Bly

**Lector:** Tony Thoreson

**Communion Server:** Becky Heggen

**Communion Bread:** Sharla Janssen

**Tech:**

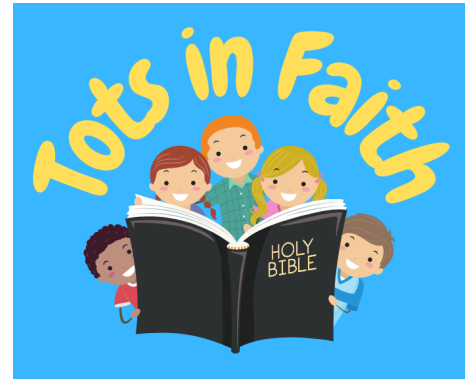
## **Rally Sunday**

Split Rock Lutheran Rally Sunday and the first day of Sunday School will be 9/8. If you are interested in having your child join this Fall, please connect with Brittany Lessman or fill out this form <https://forms.gle/sKqoz7VfCrCUuJg79>. Volunteers are always appreciated, we are in search of a part-year confirmation mentor. Let Pastor Aimee know if you can assist.



A **HUGE THANKS** to all those in the congregation who helped in many ways in the nursery. It has been a whole congregational project.

- Faith formation toys, games, books are in the nursery.
- Curtains and made and hung
- The cupboard is purchased and in by the Tots in Faith Parents
- Bulletin board up
- Diaper changer up
- Wooden figures are being finished
- All books for units
- Faith posters are laminated by the laminating crew.
- Art table and chairs purchased and put together
- Toddler corner is planned and items purchased.
- Baby corner is planned and mostly purchased.
- The door is cut and rehung
- Art supplies and paper figured out
- Stool in the bathroom
- Purchased mobile from donated money



A team of 9<sup>th</sup> graders is ready to be nursery attendants

Still need Pack and play

## The Nursery

The nursery will be open beginning Sunday September 8 for children 5 and under. Sunday hours are 9:30-10:45 a.m. We hope all children will be in worship. If they need a break there are toys in the narthex behind the welcome counter.

On Wednesday nights, the nursery will be open from 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. beginning Wednesday September 11.

At these times, 2 nursery attendants will be present to watch kids ages birth through five. For special events we will use the space with attendants. At other times it will be locked so it stays clean enough for children.

The faith story for September is *Creation* which they will explore with coloring materials, books and activities.

## September Serving Group

Andrew & Stacey Adam  
Kim Becker  
Jeff & Tina Birath  
Jamie & Heidi Buteyn  
John & Kathryn Clemenson  
Michael Erickson  
Roy & Shannon Fletcher  
Anita Gaspar  
Tom & Tiffany Grode  
Mary Halseth  
Jim & Becky Heinitz  
Randy & Joni Hoffman  
Dan & Wendy Ibberson  
Sam & Bonnie Johnson  
Doug Kane  
Betty Kielman  
Mark & Mary Jo Kobernusz  
Chris & Sonya Lamont  
Brent & Erin Lindner  
Jason Malone  
Linde McKay  
Larry & Ann Narum  
Gerod & Melissa Olivier  
Camille Parker  
Adam & Becky Peterson  
Jay & Allison Rasmussen  
Angie Richmond  
Diane Rollag  
Lee & Rhonda Schelling  
Marlin & Diane Sejnoha  
John Sittig  
Devin Steffen  
Blake & Noel Sunne  
Ty & Nicole Tietjen  
Aaron & Jenna Volzke  
Sara & Donny Watters  
Mary Jo Zeeb

Jon & Anne Anderson  
Brita Barnes  
Chuck & Joanne Bennis  
Jason & Marin Bortnem  
Josh & Kristin Buhman  
Bob & Marlys Byre  
Erik & Jenessa Christensen  
Ben & Shari Davis  
Tom & Jeannie Dubbelde  
Todd & Sandi Froke  
Broc & Krista Halseth  
Terry Mahar & Susie Hanson  
Ty & Michelle Hentschel  
Mike & Cheryl Immeker  
Eric & Tara James  
Cindy Jorgenson  
Tim & Sharon Knoll  
Mark & Wendy Koster  
Gary & Kathy Lembcke  
Wendy Lohan  
Jon & Kristin McInerney  
Rocky & Jackie Miller  
Bill & Tracie Ode  
Wayne & Elaine Oolman  
Adam & Sara Pearson  
Jeff & Kari Plumbtree  
Heidi Reimer  
Kathryn & Randy Reiners  
Maxine Risty  
Shelby Rosenau  
Josh & Kassie Shellum  
Guy & Nancy Sitzmann  
Brett & Kaisha Stofferahn  
Mike & Jen Toates  
Harlan & Rebecca VandeKieft  
Judy VonDeLinde  
Daniel & Diane Wullstein  
Tom & Jen Wullstein



## Worship Schedule for Brandon Lutheran & Split Rock

BLC: 8:30 am & 10:45 am on Sundays—School Year

9:45 am on Sundays—Summer

6:15 Wednesdays—All Year

Split Rock: 9:30 am on Sundays—School Year

8:30 am on Sundays—Summer

### Office Hours:

Monday through Friday: 7:30 am—4:00 pm—School Year

7:00 am—3:00 pm, Monday-Thursday, 7:00 am-11:00 am—Friday—Summer

Contact us at 605-582-3401 or [bhc@brandonlutheran.org](mailto:bhc@brandonlutheran.org)

BLC Facebook Page is: [www.facebook.com/BrandonLutheranChurch](http://www.facebook.com/BrandonLutheranChurch)

Church Website: [www.brandonlutheran.org](http://www.brandonlutheran.org)

600 E. Holly Blvd.

PO Box 320

Brandon, SD 57005

### Our Staff

**Elizabeth Pagnotta**

Senior Pastor

**Aimee Pakan**

Associate Pastor

**Ang Riedel**

Office Manager

**Scott Hupke**

Finance Manager

**Kristin McInerney**

Director of  
Children's Ministries

**Juan Gabriel Angel**

Director of  
Youth Ministries

**Ben Jacobsma**

Minister of Music

**Amy Bray**

Wedding Coordinator

**Nicole Jellema**

Director of  
Noah's Ark Preschool

**Kristin McInerney**

**Erin Sislo**

NAPS Teachers

**Ann Beesley**

**Jenni Brendsel**

**Jodi Myers**

**Jo Conrad**

NAPS Assistants