

Brandon—Split Rock Lutheran Parish

P.O. Box 320; 600 Holly Blvd.

Brandon, SD 57005



MARCH

Newsletter 2026

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



Peace.

A Blessing from Kate Bowler

Blessed are we, the fearful, though we long to be people of peace.

We can't lie: we are afraid.

Afraid there won't be enough- enough resources, enough time, enough memories.

Blessed are we who ask you for wisdom.

Show us what to turn from, what to set aside.

Come Lord, that we might see you, move with you, keep pace with you.

Blessed are we who ask that this Lent we might dwell together quietly in our homes.

Come, Lord, that we might be for others the peace they cannot find.

Blessed are we who look to you and say,

God, truly, we are troubled and afraid. Come govern our hearts and calm our fears.

Oh Prince of Peace, still our restless selves, calm our anxious hearts, quiet our busy minds.

Amen.

Rev. Elizabeth Hoiium
Senior Pastor



to Listen

**YOUR PEACE WILL
MAKE US ONE**

AUDREY ASSAD

Introducing our Sabbatical Supply Pastor!

Hello Brandon Lutheran and Split Rock Lutheran! I am Pastor Randy Gehring, and I look forward to getting to know you as I serve among you while Pastor Elizabeth and Pastor Aimee are on their respective sabbaticals.

I am a retired ELCA pastor who has served at Canton (SD) Lutheran Church (1989–1993), Bethel Lutheran Church in Wahpeton, ND (1993–2004), Bethesda Lutheran Church in Ames, IA (2004–2013), and Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Sioux Falls (2013–2023). I now enjoy working full-time on a farm south of Canton. I work for two guys whom I confirmed when I served at Canton Lutheran back in the 1900s. While I enjoyed my career as a pastor in the church, I have discovered a love I never knew I had as I help with nearly every aspect of the farm.

I am married (40 yrs) to Pastor Shelly Gehring, who serves at Grand Valley Lutheran Church, rural Canton. Together we have two children: Pastor Laura Laughlin, who is married to David Laughlin (Chaska, MN); and Pastor Tom Gehring, whose partner is Leah Geis (Chicago, IL). Laura will begin serving as Lead Pastor at Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd in Minneapolis, MN mid-February, David serves as a social worker in Edina, MN, Tom serves as a chaplain at Access Community Health in Chicago, and Leah serves as an Executive Assistant for a realty firm in Chicago. We also have one exceptional grandson 😊, Oliver, who will turn eight on March 5 and is a second grader in Chaska.

May God bless our journey together as we seek to follow wherever the Spirit leads.



NAPS February Happenings...

❤️ Our Hearts are FULL! ❤️

Our amazing team successfully distributed **736** tubs of cookie dough!

It takes a village and we have a great one! THANK YOU everyone!!! Enjoy your cookies! 😊



We also spread the love at our Valentine's Day parties!
We LOVE our preschool and church families!



Hello from Children's Ministries & Bible Basics!

We had a wonderful time with our Kindergarten students last week making & blessing new prayer pillows!

March Sunday School

March 1: Abram's Call

March 8: Woman at the Well

March 15: Lazarus

March 22: Holy Week

March 29: The Empty Tomb

All Sunday kids sing during the 8:30 Palm Sunday Service



March Wednesday School

March 4: Woman at the Well

March 11: Lazarus

March 18: Holy Week

March 25: The Empty Tomb

Sunday, March 29: Wednesday kids sing during the 10:45 Palm Sunday Service

Wednesday Bible Basics (5th & 6th grade)

March 4: 5th = Kingdoms. 6th = The Law

March 11: 5th = Prophets. 6th = Grace

March 18: 5th = Babylon. 6th = The Cross

**March 25: 5th graders & parents 1st Communion Class
6th grade = Pentecost**

Music Ministry



On February 8, we welcomed our son, Will, into the world! My wife and I are so thankful for that ability to have some time together as she recovers and we get to bond with our new addition to the family. I am also so grateful for Debbie Jones' help leading worship and music ensembles during this time. Thank you for helping her to feel welcomed and appreciated! I return to the organ bench on March 8, and I look forward to lots of exciting music making as we approach the Easter season.

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

March 4– Lasagna, Salad & Breadsticks

March 11 – Turkey & Mashed Potatoes & Gravy

March 18 –Broasted Chicken & Mac & Cheese

March 25 –Beef Tips & Mashed Potatoes

March is **BOLD WOMEN MONTH**

The Mission Statement of Women of the ELCA indicates that we mobilize women to act **BOLDLY** on their faith in Jesus Christ. Who are these women in our congregation? Be thinking of who is a **BOLD** woman in your life that has influenced your faith by their faithful examples of service and advocacy.

- Perhaps it is your grandmother who faithfully checks on her family members to be sure they are being prayed for and included in church activities. She is certainly a **BOLD** woman.
- Perhaps it is a retiree who lends her creative skills to make quilts or offers a listening ear when delivering meals.
- Perhaps it is a single mom who's devoted to her children and a good employee too. She's a **BOLD** woman!
- Perhaps it is the college student who witnesses to her faith in the face of many temptations that surface on campus - she's a **BOLD** woman.

There are so many examples! Identify these **BOLD** women in your life and let them know. Postcards will be available during March to help you make your appreciation known.

March 14 - Saturday at 9:30 in the Martin Luther Room

The **General Gathering** will feature **BOLD Women**. We welcome our featured speaker - a **BOLD** woman who has an exceptional story to tell. **Theresa Kashale** is now a new member of the LSS Board of Directors but 30 years ago came to the United States from the Democratic Republic of Congo as a refugee and used the services of LSS to become the woman she is today.

Welca supports Lutheran Social Services with a yearly donation and we are excited to hear more about the many services that LSS provides. This personal story of Theresa shows the importance of this ministry in our midst. Martha Circle is the hostess.



Join us for

BLC'S VENDOR FAIR

Join us for a day of art, handmade crafts, and local talent. WELCA will be hosting concessions with cinnamon rolls, caramel rolls, pastries, soup & chili, and ham & cheese sliders for sale. Coffees, juice boxes, and waters will also be available for sale.

don't miss it!

BRANDON LUTHERAN CHURCH
600 E HOLLY BLVD, BRANDON, SD

SATURDAY MARCH 28 FROM 9AM-2PM

FEBRUARY

Baptisms



Congratulations and God's blessings to Christine Sandra Tolbert who was baptized at Split Rock Lutheran Church on Sunday, February 22, 2026. Christine's parents are Nicholas and Brianna Tolbert.

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.

March Council Meeting

Tuesday, March 10 at 7:00 pm is Split Rock Council Meeting

March Serving Schedule

Sunday, March 1

9:30am

Greet & Usher

Lector

Communion Server

Communion Bread

Acolyte

Tech

Organist

Second Sunday in Lent

David Sorenson & Corbin Sorenson

Steve Farley

Chad Olson

Bonnie Bly

Whitney Sorenson

Brittany Lessman

Nancy Gross

Tuesday, March 3

6:30pm

Worship Committee Meeting

Wednesday, March 4

6:00pm

Lenten Worship at BLC

Sunday, March 8

9:30am

Greet & Usher

Lector

Tech

Organist

Third Sunday in Lent

Daylight Savings Time Starts

Leo Heggen & George Dieters

Alon Sorenson

Becky Heggen

Nancy Gross

Saturday, March 14
9:30am

BLC WELCA Women's
Community Gathering

Sunday, March 15
9:30am

Fourth Sunday in Lent
WELCA Spring General Meeting
after worship

Greet & Usher
Lector
Communion Server
Communion Bread
Acolyte
Tech
Pianist

Kevin & Linda Olson
Jan Christiansen
Brad Nussbaum
Bonnie Bly
Jonathan Swenson
Stephanie Tighe
Jan Schroeder

Wednesday, March 18
6:00pm

Lenten Worship at BLC

Thursday, March 19
11:30am

Christian Women's Luncheon
at Tailgators

Sunday, March 22
9:30am

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Greet & Usher
Lector
Organist
Tech
Pianist

Paul & Deann Park
Brecken Weir
Nancy Gross
Jolene Kujawa
Jan Schroeder

Wednesday, March 25
6:00pm

Lenten Worship at BLC

Saturday, March 28
9:00am

BLC WELCA Vendor Fair

Sunday, March 29

9:30am

Greet & Usher

Lector

Communion Server

Communion Bread

Acolyte

Tech

Organist

Palm Sunday

Sunday School Kids Sing

Brad & Monica Nussbaum

John Weir

Tony Thoreson

Monica Nussbaum

Jersey Hanson

Brittany Lessman

Nancy Gross



Worship Schedule for Brandon Lutheran & Split Rock

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

Split Rock: 9:30 am on Sundays

Office Hours:

Monday - Friday 8am-4pm

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

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

Church Website: www.brandonlutheran.org

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

Juan Gabriel Angel
Director of
Youth Ministries

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