

# Sharon Sharings



Monthly publication of Sharon Lutheran Church | Grand Forks, ND

February 2026

## Lent 2026: Feasting & Fasting

*Fasting from Scarcity. Feasting on Abundance.*

In a world driven by anxiety, the myth of scarcity persists. This idea that, "There is not enough." We see this manifested in hoarding and competition. But we also see it creep into how we see ourselves: "I am not good enough." A lot of people live with shame about their accomplishments and how they think the world sees them. The result of all of this is a life of anxiety, stinginess, fatigue, and a "me-first" attitude.

But our Bible offers us a different worldview. In Creation God was overwhelmed by how "good" everything was (Genesis 1). The Psalms celebrate abundance (Psalm 104 and 147). Jesus says that he came to give us life in abundance (John 10). The Bible is filled with themes of trust, generosity, and neighborliness. The result of all of this is a life of gratitude, contentment, and community.

During our trek through Lent, you are invited to join us on Wednesdays for one of our midweek services to explore the feasting and fasting that makes up our lives. Our theme this year is: Feasting & Fasting: Uncommon Dialogues through Lent.

Each week, we will explore a different

theme through skits, music, and scripture. Take this opportunity to explore together all the gifts God offers us as we also discover the ways our own failings hamper a fuller experience of God's grace within our lives. Let us together enjoy a common experience of feasting and fasting through Lent!

**Ash Wednesday is February 18  
Lent Worship Schedule on Wednesdays:**

**(Feb. 18—April 2)**

**Soup Suppers 5:15 pm – 6:30 pm**

**Sanctuary Worship 5:15 pm**

**Celebration Hall Worship 6:00 pm**

Pastor Tawanda Murinda

**February**

**17!**

*For more  
information,  
see inside!*



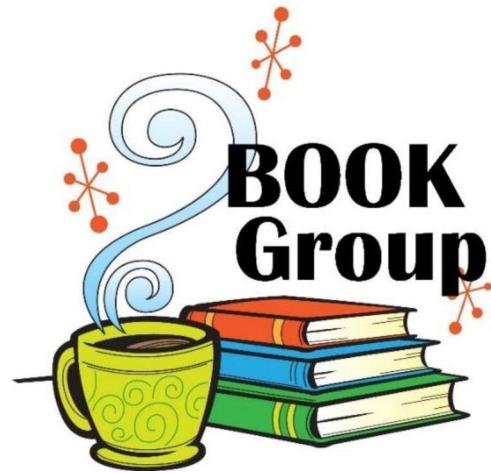
## Sharon Book Group

Sharon Lutheran's Book Group will meet at 7:00 pm on the dates below in the Sharon Library and via Zoom. For more information on each meeting, please contact Rod Gigstad at [gigstad@gmail.com](mailto:gigstad@gmail.com)

**February 17**

### **The Museum of Failures by Thrity Umrigar**

An immersive story about family secrets and the power of forgiveness. When Remy Wadia left India for the United States, he carried his resentment of his cold and inscrutable mother with him and has kept his distance from her. Years later, he returns to Bombay, planning to adopt a baby from a young pregnant girl—and to see his elderly mother again before it is too late.



**March 17**

### **My Friends: A Novel by Fredrik Backman**

A 2025 novel about four teenagers who form a powerful bond during a summer on a pier, a friendship that later impacts a stranger's life 25 years later, exploring themes of art, friendship, and finding connection.

## **God's Global Barnyard by the numbers**

Thanks to everyone who participated in God's Global Barnyard this year. With your generous donations, we were able to provide:

- 14 goats
- 4 pigs
- 5 honeybees
- 1 Bible
- 3 chicks
- School supplies for a child
- 50 fed at a soup kitchen
- 1 family fed for a week

Noisy offering came to \$618.05 and will be used where needed the most. Thanks again for your kind donations for this important project to help our neighbors around the world.

**Community Connections Team**



### Souper Bowl of Caring

Sunday, February 8, 2026

Can you help TACKLE hunger in Grand Forks? The Community Connections Team is again sponsoring our own Sharon Lutheran Souper Bowl to collect cans of soup and other non-perishable food items for the St. Joseph's Food Pantry.

So, INTERCEPT an empty brown bag from the table by the goal posts (or bring your own) as a reminder to help those in our community who suffer from hunger starting TODAY! Then MAKE A FIRST DOWN by donating as many food items as you can or make a cash donation (envelopes are on our table and place them in the offering plate or take them to the office). Let's see how many TOUCHDOWNS we can score by getting your donations in by Super Bowl Sunday or the following Wednesday, February 11th.

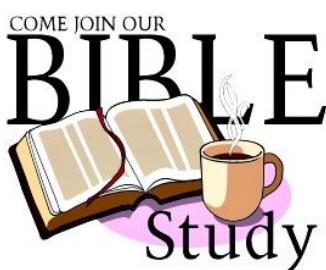
Help us SCORE against hunger as you put your faith into motion and help us MAKE THE EXTRA POINT by beating hunger and WINNING the SOUPER BOWL! Thank you from those people who struggle with hunger in our community!

# Wednesday Morning Bible Study

Each Wednesday morning at 9:45 there is an hour long Bible Study on the Scripture text for that coming Sunday's worship service. Anyone is welcome to attend.

The Bible Study goes on all year long with some breaks now and then. People are welcome to participate on whichever Wednesdays work for them.

We are happy to be able to meet in person in South Hall. An online option will also continue, so people can join in person or online. The online link is e-mailed out on Mondays. **If you don't already receive that link and would like to, please let Deacon Jamie know. His email is: [jtravers@sharonlutheran.org](mailto:jtravers@sharonlutheran.org)**



## Two Golden Age Club Opportunities

In the month of February, there are two opportunities to gather together with the Golden Age Club. Anyone retirement age and older is invited to our regular gathering on February 13, at 2:00 at Sharon. The program will be presented by the Grand Forks Fire Department.

On Tuesday, February 24, our Golden Age Club is invited to join the group at Calvary Lutheran Church for supper at 4:00 pm. We don't need to bring anything. We have been invited as their guests for a potluck meal; they are providing the food.

## "Welcome to Baptism" Orientation



If you are planning a baptism in your family, plan to come to a one-hour orientation called "Welcome to Baptism." Our next scheduled gathering is planned for Sunday, February 15 at 4:00 pm.

**To register for the class, please call the church office by Friday before the class at 772-3122; or email the church office at [office@sharonlutheran.org](mailto:office@sharonlutheran.org); or speak to Deacon Jamie or Pastor Tawanda.**

Sponsors are welcome too, in addition to parents.

The class is designed to help answer questions about baptism, including:

- **What is baptism?**
- **When should baptism occur?**
- **What is my role as a parent, sponsor, or family member of the baptized?**

*If you have any questions about this class, please speak to one of the Rotated Ministers.*

The deadline for submissions to the monthly Sharon Sharings is 5:00 pm on the 15th of each month. Anything submitted past the deadline is not guaranteed to be published. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation!

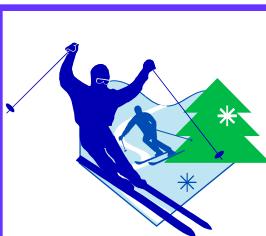
# Faith Formation Ministries

## February News

**THANK  
YOU!**

**GOT  
STOCK?**      **GET  
STOCK!**

Thank you for supporting our Youth Stock campaign! Your Youth Stock donation helps provide faith-centered opportunities for our youth to gather, serve, learn, and grow together. Thank you for your continued assistance throughout the year. We are grateful for your prayers, your listening ears, and your financial support.



### All Ages Ski Trip to Buena Vista Ski Area (Bemidji, MN)

Saturday, February 28, 2026

Depart at 7:30 am, Return at 7:30 pm

Cost: \$60 for transportation and lift ticket

If you need to rent skis/snowboard/helmet or want a lesson, those prices are as follows:

\$30 ski rental \$32 snowboard rental \$8 helmet rental (highly recommended!) \$20 ski or snowboard lesson

Please register by Sunday, February 22 to reserve your spot. More information and paperwork will be sent out on Monday, February 23. Friends and family members are welcome!

### CHURCH SCHOOL (Preschool through 5th grade) NEWS

We are “back in the swing” of things again with Church School. Classes are taking turns attending Worship and some classes are having their Milestone Ministry Events during Church School. Please see your weekly emails for details.

### UPPER ELEMENTARY & MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS:

**3rd, 4th, and 5th graders**, please join us for 3-4-5 Alive each Sunday afternoon from 3:45-4:45 pm in the Living Room (lower level youth room) at Sharon! There is no cost or registration for this program, and friends in 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade are always welcome! We will meet on February 1st, 8th, 15th, and 22nd.

**6th-8th graders**, please join us for 5G every Wednesday night that we have regular Confirmation instruction in the building! We meet from 8:15-9:00 pm in the lower level. There is no cost or registration for this program, and friends in grades 6-8 are always welcome! This month, 5G will meet on February 4th and 11th before taking a break for the season of Lent, which begins on Ash Wednesday, February 18th. After February 11th, 5G will resume on Wednesday, April 8th.

### MILESTONE MINISTRIES IN FEBRUARY AND MARCH

**Wednesday, February 18:** 4th Grade (The Gospel of Mark) at 7:15 pm

**Wednesday, February 25:** 6th Grade (The Ten Commandments) at 7:15 pm

**Wednesday, March 4:** 7th Grade (The Lord's Prayer) at 7:15 pm

**Wednesday, March 11:** 8th Grade (The Apostles' Creed) at 7:15 pm

5th graders and families, please watch for information about our special Communion Conversations (Sunday, March 1 and Sunday, March 15) and plan to join us for our Communion Celebration at 6:00 pm in Celebration Hall on Maundy Thursday, April 2!

# Faith Formation Ministries

## Greetings and Encouragement to You All!

It is hard to believe that we are more than half-way through our program year. It has been so much fun learning, serving, and growing alongside all of you! As always, please let me know when you have a concert, game, festival, showcase, or other type of performance, and I will do my best to be there! **Blessings and peace, Dave**

As the winter months move along, I hope that you are finding extra time at home with family during these cozy months. Spring is not quite "right around the corner" yet but with Ash Wednesday and the start of Lent this month, we know that the hope of spring **WILL** come.

**May God Bless You, Heather**

### Going to Bible Camp this summer?

Please contact Dave Berger or follow the link below if you have one or more students attending an ELCA Bible Camp this summer. We have scholarships available, and we may be able to help you coordinate transportation with other Sharon families. Funds are limited, so please submit your information as soon as possible! Thank you!

Sharon Lutheran Summer 2026 ELCA Bible Camp Participant Link: [tinyurl.com/BibleCampScholarships](https://tinyurl.com/BibleCampScholarships)

(Sharon members, if you would like to support kids attending Bible Camp, please know that you can make a Youth Stock donation at any time!)



### Faith Formation Important Dates:

**Sunday, February 15:** NO CHURCH SCHOOL

**Ash Wednesday, February 18:** NO CHURCH SCHOOL; Lenten Worship Assistants schedule begins for 6th-9th grade Confirmation students

Amount needed in Operating Revenue each month per approved 2025-2026 is \$77,334

Revenue	December Actual 2025-2026	YTD Actual 2025-2026
Current Ministry Gifts	\$92,503	\$388,535
Loose/Misc. Offering Gifts	\$5,778	\$12,317
Operating Fund Memorial Gifts	\$-	\$20
Church School, Confirmation & VBS Registrations	\$-	\$6,900
Benevolence Gifts	\$286	\$3,714
Other Gifts and Donations	\$2,135	\$19,114
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$100,702</b>	<b>\$430,600</b>

	December Actual 2025-2026	YTD Actual 2025-2026
<b>Operating Expenses</b>	<b>\$67,803</b>	<b>\$404,240</b>
Mortgage Debt Reduction	\$1,218	\$6,668
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$69,021</b>	<b>\$410,907</b>
<b>Revenue Exceeding Expenses</b>	<b>\$31,681</b>	<b>\$19,693</b>

**December Designated gifts received:**

Noisy Offering-God's Global Barnyard	\$618
Building & Grounds-Properties	\$6,100
Backpack Program	\$225
Fellowship Donations	\$209
Higher Ground Memorials	\$150
Thrivent Choice Dollars	\$785
Lynn Ronsberg ELCA Scholarship Donations	\$500
Choir Fund Memorials	\$150
Sharon Cares	\$220
Christmas Flowers	\$1,112
Bathroom Remodel	\$100
Alarm System	\$6,000
Garbage Disposal	\$1,000
Church School Offerings	\$82
Faith Formation	\$525

**TOTAL: \$17,776**

**February's  
Noisy Offering  
will benefit Love  
Feast**



**Game Day, Sunday February 22  
from 2:00 -4:00**



People of all ages are invited to bring your favorite board game, card game, family game, strategy game etc. and join us for some fellowship and fun at

Sharon Lutheran Church. If you don't have a favorite game to bring that is fine. There will be plenty of fun to choose from.

**Community Connections  
Team collecting items  
for LWR**

Community Connections team will be collecting personal care items for Lutheran World Relief during Lent. The following items are needed for one kit: one light weight bath towel, one nail clipper, one sturdy comb, two bars of soap 4 to 5 ounces , one adult size toothbrush.

You can drop off items in totes located under the TV by South Hall. The kits will be assembled sometime during Holy Week. Thank you from Community Connections Team.

# Golden Age Club

## Friday, February 13 at 2:00 pm

Come join us for an interesting presentation by the Grand Forks Police Department about various scams and what to watch for. Golden Age will meet at 2:00 on Friday, February 13<sup>th</sup>. All are welcome.

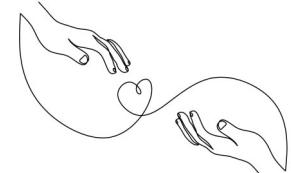


### Text to Give!

DID YOU KNOW? Sharon Lutheran can accept offerings and donations through Text Giving. Giving to the church via a text is fast, easy, and versatile. You can make a weekly offering or respond to a specific need in seconds. Just text to 73256, hit next, type Sharon1720, (One word!) hit send. You will receive a message to click to complete your gift to Sharon Lutheran Church.



## Women of Sharon Corner



The Women of Sharon invite you to join one of our circles and/or attend our monthly WELCA Board meetings. The January WELCA Board meeting will be held on Monday, February 9 at 7:00 pm in the Rose of Sharon Lounge. All are welcome to attend!

### Hannah Circle

Meets the **THIRD Monday** of each month at 1:00 pm at SLC in the Lounge. Contact Karen Axvig, 701-610-1056

### Mary Circle

Meets the **THIRD Tuesday** of each month at 1:00 pm in a member's home. Contact Ruth Thorson, 701-775-2706

### Sarah Circle

Meets the **THIRD Thursday** of each month at

1:00 at SLC in the Lounge. Contact Jeannie Sollom, 218-779-8646

### Rachel Circle

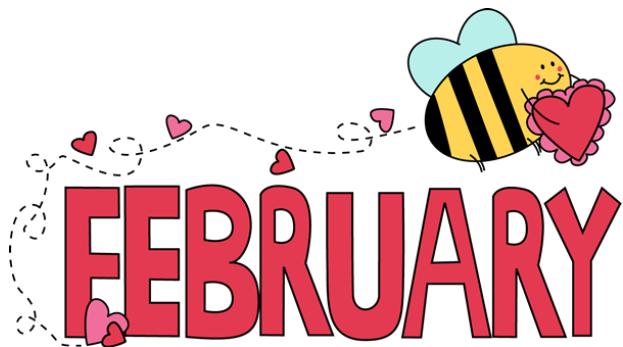
Meets the **THIRD Wednesday** of each month at 1:30 pm at SLC in the Lounge. Contact the Church Office, 701-772-3122

### Deborah Circle

Meets the **LAST Monday** of the month at 7:00 pm at SLC in the Lounge. Contact Heather Peters, 701-429-7087.

# February 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<b>1</b> 9:00 am Worship— Sanctuary 10:30 am Worship— Celebration Hall 10:30 am Church School	<b>2</b> 12:00 pm AA Noonday 8:00 pm AA Unity	<b>3</b> 8:30 am Faithfully Fit 9:30 am Prayer Shawl Ministry 5:00 pm OA 5:30 pm Stewardship Team 7:00 pm Al Anon Primary Purpose 8:00 pm AA Primary Purpose	<b>4</b> 9:45 am Bible Study 12:00 pm AA Noonday 6:00 pm Worship—CH 6:00 pm Church School 7:00 pm Choir Practice 7:15 pm Confirmation 8:15 pm RAFT 8:15 pm 5G	<b>5</b> 8:30 am Faithfully Fit 5:00 pm NA 8:00 pm AA Unity	<b>6</b> 12:00 pm AA Serenity 7:00 pm Al-Anon TGIF	<b>7</b> 9:00 am AA-Women Carrying the Message 8:00 pm AA Unity
<b>8</b> 9:00 am Worship— Sanctuary <b>BACKPACK PACKING BETWEEN SERVICES</b> 10:30 am Worship— Celebration Hall 10:30 am Church School	<b>9</b> 12:00 pm AA Noonday 6:00 pm Fellowship Team 8:00 pm AA Unity	<b>10</b> 8:30 am Faithfully Fit 9:30 am Prayer Shawl Ministry 5:00 pm OA 6:00 pm Education Team 6:00 pm Properties Team 7:00 pm Al Anon Primary Purpose 8:00 pm AA Primary Purpose	<b>11</b> 9:45 am Bible Study 12:00 pm AA Noonday 6:00 pm Worship—CH 6:00 pm Church School 7:00 pm Choir Practice 7:15 pm Confirmation 8:15 pm RAFT 8:15 pm 5G	<b>12</b> 8:30 am Faithfully Fit 9:00 am Quilting 1:00 pm Sharon Cares 5:00 pm NA 8:00 pm AA Unity	<b>13</b> 12:00 pm AA Serenity 2:00 pm Golden Age 7:00 pm Al-Anon TGIF	<b>14</b> 9:00 am AA-Women Carrying the Message 8:00 pm AA Unity 
<b>15</b> 9:00 am Worship— Sanctuary 10:30 am Worship— Celebration Hall <b>NO CHURCH SCHOOL</b> 3:45 pm 3-4-5 Alive! 4:00 pm Baptism Orientation	<b>16</b> 12:00 pm AA Noonday 8:00 pm AA Unity  <b>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</b>	<b>17</b> 8:30 am Faithfully Fit 11:00-1:00 Pancakes for Projectors 1:00 pm Mary Circle 5:00 pm OA 5:00-7:00 Pancakes for Projectors 6:00 pm Church Council 7:00 pm Sharon Book Group 7:00 pm Al Anon Primary Purpose 8:00 pm AA Primary Purpose	<b>18 ASH WEDNESDAY</b> 9:45 am Bible Study 12:00 pm AA Noonday 1:30 pm Rachel Circle 6:00 pm Worship— Celebration Hall 7:00 pm Choir Practice <b>NO CHURCH SCHOOL, CONFIRMATION, 5G OR RAFT</b>	<b>19</b> 8:30 am Faithfully Fit 1:00 pm Sarah Circle 5:00 pm NA 8:00 pm AA Unity	<b>20</b> 12:00 pm AA Serenity 7:00 pm Al-Anon TGIF	<b>21</b> 9:00 am AA-Women Carrying the Message 8:00 pm AA Unity
<b>22</b> 9:00 am Worship— Sanctuary 10:30 am Worship— Celebration Hall 10:30 am Church School 2:00 pm Game Extravagan- za 3:45 pm 3-4-5 Alive!  <b>NOISY OFFERING</b>	<b>23</b> 12:00 pm AA Noonday 7:00 pm Deborah Circle 8:00 pm AA Unity	<b>24</b> 8:30 am Faithfully Fit 4:00 pm Golden Age at Calvary for supper 5:00 pm OA 6:00 pm Church Council 7:00 pm Al Anon Primary Purpose 8:00 pm AA Primary Purpose	<b>25</b> 9:45 am Bible Study 12:00 pm AA Noonday 5:15 pm Worship— Sanctuary 6:00 pm Worship— Celebration Hall 7:00 pm Choir Practice 7:15 pm Confirmation 8:15 pm RAFT 8:15 pm 5G  <b>NOISY OFFERING</b>	<b>26</b> 8:30 am Faithfully Fit 9:00 am Quilting 5:00 pm NA 8:00 pm AA Unity	<b>27</b> 12:00 pm AA Serenity 7:00 pm Al-Anon TGIF	<b>28</b> 9:00 am AA-Women Carrying the Message 8:00 pm AA Unity



# 2026 Lenten Soup-er Meals

*“A warm bowl of soup is a remedy for both body and spirit.”*

Lenten soup meals will be served from 5:15—6:30 pm each Wednesday during Lent. The menu is as follows (subject to change!)

- ◆ February 18: Chicken Wild Rice
- ◆ February 25: Vegetable Beef
- ◆ March 4: Chili Cookoff
- ◆ March 11: Ham Chowder
- ◆ March 18: Knoephla
- ◆ March 26: Chicken Noodle

Also, there will be a gluten free vegan option each week. Servers are needed each week as well as volunteers to bring desserts. Set-uppers will be needed to get ready for the meal! Signups will be with others!

Watch for signup in the narthex. Free will donations appreciated in support of the Feed My Starving Children



program. If you have any questions, please contact Mary Adams at 701-739-5520.

A Decorated Table Event & Online Quilt Auction

## 11<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL AROUND OUR TABLE

**Saturday, April 18 at  
Calvary Lutheran  
Church Fellowship Hall**  
1405 S. 9th St., Grand Forks, ND

- **Donate a Quilt or Quilted Item**
- **Host a Decorated Table**
- **Purchase a Seat for Brunch**

Contact for more info:  
Kayla Gust | 701.787.7989  
kgust@valleyseniorliving.org

**Purchase Tickets**  
Scan the QR code  
or visit our website:  
[valleyseniorliving.org](http://valleyseniorliving.org)

A photograph of a table set for a special event. The table is covered with a white cloth and features gold-colored napkin rings, gold salt and pepper shakers, and a small gold bell. In the center is a white vase filled with a colorful arrangement of red, white, and yellow flowers. Several small informational cards are placed on the table, and a large green sign with the "Valley Senior Living" logo is visible in the background. The overall theme is elegant and celebratory.

# 4th Annual Chili Cookoff scheduled

The Stewardship Team's 4th Annual Chili Cookoff is set for March 4th, 2026! We are looking for 6-7 entries of various types of chili to include: Vegan, Gluten Free, Regular, Spicy, White and 2 Chef's Choice. We are looking forward to tasting all 7 chilis. It's first come

first serve to sign up so make sure you get registered ASAP! You can sign up on Sharon's website under Signup Genius. Good Luck to all entries.

The Chili that will be offered to all this year will be the White Chili "It may be white (chili), but it's not

cold" that won last year by Karen Axvig and Julie Hill.



**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**

**Polar Expedition**

*Save the Date*

JUNE 1-4, 2026  
6:00PM-8:00PM

Registration opening in April!

INTERESTED IN HELPING PLAN VBS?  
SEE AN EDUCATION TEAM MEMBER!

An illustration of two polar bears. One is a large adult standing on the right, and a smaller cub is standing next to it on the left. They are in a snowy, arctic landscape with hills in the background.

# Upcoming Giving Hearts Day -

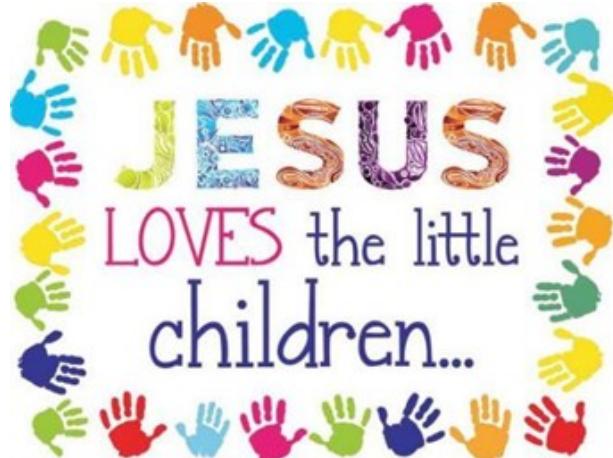
February 12, 2026



We are thrilled to participate in Giving Hearts Day on February 12, 2026! This special day offers a unique opportunity to support several key ministries in our community, including the Eastern North Dakota Synod, Christus Rex, Park River Bible Camp, Red Willow Ministries, Crossroads Lutheran Campus Ministry, and Valley Senior Living. Your generous donations help sustain these vital organizations and the important work they do to spread God's love and serve our neighbors. Please consider how you can contribute and make a lasting impact on our shared mission!

## Living Lutheran - Free Digital Membership

Living Lutheran tells the stories of the ELCA and its members--across synods, states, regions, and countries. The publication is now available digitally - FREE. Check it out at <https://www.livinglutheran.org/voices-of-faith/the-new-livinglutheran-org/>



## AND SO DO WE!

Young children are always welcome at worship services here at Sharon, but we know that sometimes they need a chance to be a little more active. We want our nursery to be safe and welcoming, so we are in the process of refreshing and refurnishing. Thanks to some wonderful volunteers, the nursery was recently painted, but we aren't done! We also want input from those who use the nursery. If you have ideas about items that would be useful or fun for this space, please share them with us by February 7. You can call the church office or contact Cheryl Nyhlen (text 218-779-0247 or email [cnyhl123@gmail.com](mailto:cnyhl123@gmail.com)) Thank you!

## Pancakes for Projectors

**Tuesday, February 17**

Come join us for pancakes and sausage on Shrove Tuesday either for lunch from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm or for supper from 5:00-7:00 pm. This is a fundraiser to raise money to repair our projectors in our worship spaces. If you would like to help, please contact Deacon Jamie.

*Laissez les Bons Pancakes Briller* ("Let the good pancakes shine.")





## Sharon Lutheran My Ministry Form

*We're so glad that you are a part of our congregation. We're eager to connect you to ministry opportunities. Please check any boxes that apply to you and leave this form in the boxes in the narthex.*

Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Preference:  Phone Call  Text  Email

**Worship:** Service attended (check all that apply)

9:00am Sunday, Sanctuary Worship  6:00pm Wednesday, Celebration Worship  
 10:30am Sunday, Celebration Worship

**Learn:** I am interested in (*Someone will be in touch*)

Bible study (Weekly or Monthly)  
 Young Adult Ministry and Events (ages 18-35ish)  
 I need information on registering my child(ren) for church school/confirmation/Vacation Bible School

**Serve & Share:** I am interested in: (*check time and circle specific interests*) - someone will be in touch

**I can help serve**

Weekly  Monthly  Annually  Special Events

**Serve:**

**Weekly/Monthly**

- ◊ Worship Assistance (usher, reader, communion preparation/clean-up)
- ◊ Education/Faith Formation Ministries: church school teacher, confirmation small group leader, etc.
- ◊ Music Volunteer (vocal or instrumental)
- ◊ Altar Guild (Weekly cleaning and preparation of worship spaces)
- ◊ Media & Technology: computer visuals attendant, live stream attendant, photographer, etc.
- ◊ Welcome Center or Baptism greeter

**Monthly**

- ◊ Ministry Teams (see attached list & note those of interest)
- ◊ Fellowship (before/after Worship): bring treats or serve/clean-up treats

**Annually**

- ◊ Vacation Bible School
- ◊ Attend Synod Assembly *First weekend in June*
- ◊ Help serve at outreach events in the community (Love Feast, Mission Picnic, LaGrave on First picnic, Free Lunch Friday at Christus Rex)
- ◊ Fall Bazaar (make items for bake sale, make crafts for sale, assist with event) *First Sat. in November*
- ◊ Christmas decorating/de-decorating *First Week*
- ◊ Spring Rummage sale (set-up/sort, assist at sale, clean-up) *Middle of May*

**Special Events**

- ◊ Funerals (prepare meal, serve, bring bars)
- ◊ Lefse Preparation
- ◊ Craft making—Quilters, card ministry, liturgical decorations
- ◊ Meal Ministry (bring meals to individuals experiencing illness/hospitalization/loss)
- ◊ Shut-in Visits (visit members who are unable to leave their homes)
- ◊ Prayer Chain (receive emails with prayer requests)
- ◊ Backpack food program (assist in packing weekend food for area children in need)
- ◊ Help with office tasks (mailings, receptionist, etc.)
- ◊ Help with internal and/or external maintenance of the church building
- ◊ Care for flowers in worship spaces and/or outdoor gardens

**Share:**

I have a special/unique skill or interest I can share (*job, hobby, life skill—graphic design, theater, budget, etc.*):

## **Needs of the people in our congregation, community and world:**

### **What ministry at Sharon has impacted or met my needs? (Circle all that apply)**

<input type="checkbox"/> Worship	<input type="checkbox"/> Youth Ministry
<input type="checkbox"/> Teaching	<input type="checkbox"/> Children's Ministry
<input type="checkbox"/> Serving	<input type="checkbox"/> Music
<input type="checkbox"/> Pastoral Care	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____

### **Share: What talents or interests do you have? (Circle all that apply)**

<input type="checkbox"/> Music	<input type="checkbox"/> Leadership
<input type="checkbox"/> Reading	<input type="checkbox"/> Praying
<input type="checkbox"/> Teaching	<input type="checkbox"/> Hands on Labor
<input type="checkbox"/> Volunteering	<input type="checkbox"/> Visiting/Listening
<input type="checkbox"/> Public Speaking	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____

## **Description of Ministry Teams**

**Community Connections Team** - Heightens congregational awareness of societal issues and provides an avenue for members to address these issues.

**Education Team** - Plans, administers, directs, and supervises the total educational program of the congregation.

**Fellowship Team** - Strengthens the fellowship between the members of our church, both spiritually and socially.

**Properties Team** - Assures the proper maintenance and repair of church property, and ensures general protection of the congregation against loss or damage of whatever nature.

**Stewardship Team** - Develops effective stewardship within the congregation around faithful giving and service.

**Sharon Cares Team**- Helps the church stay connected to those members who are unable to attend Sharon and its activities, have experienced a death in their family, and/or are experiencing health concerns. The team also provides staff recognition and thank yous, supports the transportation ministry and the hands up ministry.

**Youth Ministry Team** - Involve the young people of the congregation in the work of Christ, provide for their spiritual growth and nurture, and promote genuine Christian fellowship for the young people of the congregation.

**Outreach Team**—The Outreach Team works to build connections between our church, our members, and our community; with the goal of providing opportunities for everyone to know and experience the love of Jesus.

**Worship Team**—The Worship Ministry Team is responsible for the supervision of the entirety of congregational worship.

# 2026 Estimate of Giving

*“Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” ~ Luke 12:34*



- I/We will uphold the congregation with my prayers, presence, gifts, and service.
- My/Our estimate of giving is \$\_\_\_\_\_ (per week, per month, or per year) to the mission and ministry of Jesus Christ through Sharon Lutheran.
- I/We would like to use Direct Giving (formerly Simply Giving) for all or a portion of my commitment. Please check all that apply of the following:
  - I/We are currently enrolled in Direct Giving.
    - Please increase my/our donation effective \_\_\_\_\_ (date) by \$\_\_\_\_\_.
  - I/We wish to enroll in Direct Giving (Please fill out and return form on the back)
- I/We would like information about Sharon Lutheran's Endowment Fund.
- I/We would like to talk to a pastor or other leader about how I/we can be more involved at Sharon Lutheran.
- I am/We are not able to estimate my/our giving at this time.

My/Our 2026 Estimate of Giving is \$_____ (please circle one: per week, per month, per year)	
Name _____	
Address _____	
Phone _____	
Email: _____	
Envelope # (if known) _____	

**The goal of our Stewardship Ministry is to help God's people grow in their relationship with Jesus through the use of the time, talents, and resources God has entrusted them.**



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**By God's Grace...  
Created to Worship, Called to Teach, Committed to Serve**

## A note from the Stewardship Team...

We are resending the Stewardship Forms in this newsletter. We encourage you to fill them out and return them to the church. Thank you for your time and effort!



**Church Office Hours**  
Monday - Friday 8:30 am to 5:00 pm

### **Worship Times**

**Sundays**  
9:00 am Sanctuary,  
10:30 Celebration Hall

**Wednesdays**  
6:00 pm Celebration Hall

**Ash Wednesday (February 18) through Lent:**  
5:15 pm Sanctuary  
6:00 pm Celebration Hall