

Sharon Sharings



Monthly publication of Sharon Lutheran Church | Grand Forks, ND

March 2026

“Comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb”

According to the website, www.mentalfloss.com:

The phrase describes March as starting with harsh, stormy weather (lion) and ending with mild, gentle conditions (lamb), symbolizing both seasonal change and the transition from adversity to calm.

The idiom illustrates the unpredictable nature of March weather, which often begins with winter-like storms and cold temperatures, then transitions to the milder, calmer conditions of early spring. The "lion" represents the fierce, sometimes volatile weather at the start of the month, while the "lamb" signifies the gentler, more docile weather as March concludes. In some traditions, this saying also served as folk wisdom for predicting spring weather, suggesting that a stormy start could lead to a peaceful end.

Beyond weather, the proverb is often used metaphorically to describe any process that begins intensely or turbulently and ends peacefully or gently. It reflects the cyclical patterns of nature and life, offering reassurance that difficult or challenging periods are temporary and will give way to calmer, more favorable conditions. The vivid contrast between the lion and the lamb creates a memorable antithesis, emphasizing the transformation from ferocity to gentleness.

In essence, "March comes in like a lion and out like a lamb" captures both the literal transition from winter to spring and a broader metaphor for change and renewal. Its enduring popularity stems from its poetic imagery, historical roots, and the universal human experience of moving from hardship to tranquility.

As I write this on February 16, 2026 it is a beautiful day, but we are on the brink of another winter storm coming in 2 days. So, I don't know what

March will be like or how it starts or ends. But what I do know is that the last few days of March will be during Holy Week. March 29 is Palm Sunday.



Sometimes God comes into the world like a lion and sometimes like a lamb. Jesus, the lamb of God was born like a lion, powerful and glorious, proclaimed by angel armies and he was born like a lamb, a baby born in a stable and laying in a manger. On Palm Sunday, Jesus rides into town like lion in a parade of honor, but on a donkey, not in a chariot or seat of power. And at the end of Holy Week he is beaten and killed like a sacrificed lamb.

Jesus is both lion and lamb. He is the all powerful son of God and the prince of peace. Jesus is both our powerful savior, conqueror of death and our loving teacher and friend. As we continue our Lenten journey of feasting and fasting, let us remember that we are dust and to dust we shall return. And that we are both saint and sinner at the same time. Because of Jesus Christ we are saved, we are forgiven and blessed to forgive and bless others with God's powerful word, love, law and gospel.

Deacon Jamie Travers

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

March 17

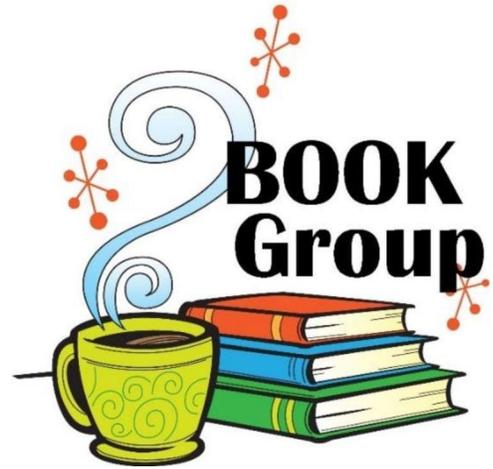
My Friends: A Novel by Fredrik Backman

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.

April 21

The Plot by Jean Hanff Korelitz

The Plot is a psychologically suspenseful novel about a story too good not to steal, and the writer who steals it. Jacob Finch Bonner was once a promising young novelist with a respectably published first book. Today, he's teaching in a third-rate MFA program and struggling to maintain what's left of his self-respect; he hasn't written—let alone published—anything decent in years. When Evan Parker, his most arrogant student, announces he doesn't need Jake's help because the plot of his book in progress is a sure thing, Jake is prepared to dismiss the boast as typical amateur narcissism. But then . . . he hears the plot.



2026 Lenten Soup-er Meals

"A warm bowl of soup is a remedy for both body and spirit."

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

- ◆ March 4: Chili Cookoff
- ◆ March 11: Ham Chowder
- ◆ March 18: Knoephla
- ◆ March 25: 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.



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**



Golden Age Club Friday, March 13 at 2:00 pm

Golden Age will meet at 2:00 on Friday, March 13th. All are welcome.



"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, March 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; 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 Rostered 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

March News

Milestone Ministries

<p>Sunday, March 1st: 5th Grade (“Communion Conversations 1”) at 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>Wednesday, March 4th: 7th Grade (“Lord’s Prayer”) at 7:15 p.m.</p> <p>Wednesday, March 11th: 8th Grade (“Apostles’ Creed”) at 7:15 p.m.</p>	<p>Sunday, March 15th: 5th Grade (“Communion Conversations 2”) at 6:30 p.m.</p> <p><i>5th graders and families, please plan to join us for our Communion Celebration at 6:00 p.m. Celebration Worship on Maundy Thursday, April 2nd!</i></p>
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VBS Updates

We are seeking donations of small white Styrofoam coolers for our Polar Expedition VBS theme. They can be dropped off in the church office at any time.



Will you and your family help us create a winter wonderland (In June!)? We are asking people to cut out paper snowflakes from basic white paper and donate them to VBS for our décor. We need lots and lots of snowflakes to make our summer time VBS to feel polar! Please bring any snowflakes that you make to the church office. THANK YOU!

OUR VBS 2026 AMAZON WISHLIST IS LIVE! Please use this link to shop for us. Several of you have already asked about this, and we appreciate your generosity. Items will be added over the coming months. <https://bit.ly/463YITb>

CHURCH SCHOOL (Preschool through 5th grade) NEWS:

I would like to thank our volunteers, parents/guardians, and students for their faithful attendance at Church School. It is so great to see you all each week. March will have us busy with a Service Project, continuing Milestone Ministries for each grade level, AND looking ahead to Vacation Bible School in June. Thank you so much for being a part of Church School at Sharon!

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 p.m. 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 March 1st, 8th, and 15th before taking a break until Sunday, April 19th. Also, please plan to join us for an end-of-the-year party at our normal time on Sunday, May 3rd!

6th-8th graders, please note that 5G will not meet during the season of Lent. 5G will resume on Wednesday, April 8th and conclude with an end-of-the-year party on Wednesday, May 6th. We will have a Lock-In from 7:00 p.m. on Friday, May 8th through 7:00 a.m. on Saturday, May 9th. Watch for more information coming soon!

HIGH SCHOOL NEWS:

RAFT will meet from 7:15—8:15 pm on the following Wednesdays during the season of Lent: March 4, March 18, and March 25.

Faith Formation Ministries

Greetings and Encouragement to You All!

It is hard to believe that we are nearing the end of 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, competition, showcase, or other type of performance, and I will do my best to be there!

Blessings and peace, Dave

Our Church School classes have been “using up” the curriculum that we had on hand this year instead of ordering the latest leaflets. Not only is that a great financial savings, but it is also enabling us to

cover some Bible stories in Church School that we have not done in a while. I think this is pretty awesome. Please ask your students each week what they learned. I always tell you in the weekly emails what their lesson is about and that would also be a great way for you to read that story in the Bible together as a family. Thank you for all that you do to make Sharon’s Church School a growing and vibrant group of children and volunteers!

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: tiinyurl.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, March 1st: 5th Grade Communion Conversations Session One (6:30-8:00 pm)

Wednesday, March 4th: 7th Grade Milestone Ministries Event (“The Lord’s Prayer”) at 7:15 pm

Wednesday, March 11th: NO CHURCH SCHOOL (Spring Break); 8th Grade Milestone Ministries Event (“The Apostles’ Creed”) at 7:15 pm

Sunday, March 15th: NO CHURCH SCHOOL (Spring Break); 5th Grade Communion Conversations Session Two (6:30-8:00 pm)

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

Revenue	January Actual 2025-2026	YTD Actual 2025-2026
Current Ministry Gifts	\$95,532	\$479,031
Loose/Misc. Offering Gifts	\$936	\$13,253
Operating Fund Memorial Gifts	\$-	\$20
Church School, Confirmation & VBS Registrations	\$-	\$6,900
Benevolence Gifts	\$372	\$4,086
Other Gifts and Donations	\$1,687	\$20,801
Total	\$98,527	\$524,092

	January Actual 2025-2026	YTD Actual 2025-2026
Operating Expenses	\$79,802	\$484,042
Mortgage Debt Reduction	\$1,076	\$7,743
Total Expenses	\$80,878	\$491,785
Revenue Exceeding Expenses	\$17,649	\$32,307

January Designated gifts received:

Noisy Offering-CVIC	\$459
Backpack Program	\$265
Fellowship Donations	\$191
Higher Ground Memorials	\$150
Thrivent Choice Dollars	\$423
Undesignated Memorials	\$25
Choir Fund Memorials	\$150
Bathroom Remodel	\$300
Mortgage	\$6,500
Projectors	\$720
Faith Formation	\$25
Church School Benevolences	\$99
Confirmation Benevolences	\$5

TOTAL: \$9,311

March's Noisy Offering will benefit Global Friends



Love Feast 2026

Members of Sharon Lutheran Church will be serving lasagna, Texas toast, salad, and dessert for approximately 250 people on March 31st at the Zion Methodist Church Love Feast. The Love Feast is an evening of community fellowship that meets at Zion the last Tuesday of the each month (except December) from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Many guests attending the Love Feast meal live alone and often eat alone. The Love Feast gives them an opportunity to socialize and visit with others.

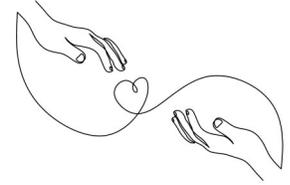
This year guests can sit and eat at the church or they can have a take-out meal. If you would like to volunteer, please use Sign – Up Genius or use the sign-up sheets at the Welcome Center. If you have any questions, please contact Jeannie Sollom at 772-8376.

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.

Women of Sharon updates



The 2026 Gathering of the Women of the ELCA (otherwise known as the Triennial) is coming! Join over 1,000 Lutheran Women in Des Moines, Iowa from July 16th to 19th for worship, advocacy, inspiration, sisterhood, and more! The Women of Sharon will help with the cost of your registration AND the Eastern North Dakota Synod has a chartered bus with seats available. Please contact Heather Peters for information at 701-429-7087 or at education@sharonlutheran.org.



july 16-19, 2026 ✦ des moines, iowa

Women of Sharon (Sharon Lutheran's WELCA unit) is seeking new Board members. There are positions opening in June of this year. These positions will be on the ballot at our Annual WELCA meeting in May. If you are interested in learning more about this, please contact Heather Peters at 701-429-7087 and we will get you more information. Our nominating committee will soon begin the work of filling these positions on our WELCA Board.

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, March 9 at 7:00 pm in the Rose of Sharon Lounge. All are welcome to attend!

Hannah Circle

Meets the **FOURTH 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.

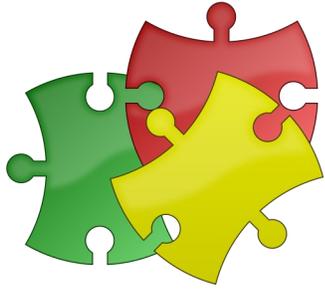
March's Noisy Offering will benefit Global Friends

March 2026

For information on AA Meetings held at Sharon Lutheran, please see aanorthdakota.org

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Mar 1	2	3	4	5	6	7
9 AM Sanctuary Worshipt 10:30 AM Celebration H 10:30 AM Church School 6:30 PM 5th Grade Comm	6 PM VBS Planning Meetin	8:30 AM Faithfully Fit 9:30 AM Prayer Shawl M 5:30 PM Stewardship Ter	9:45 AM Bible Study 5:15 PM Soup Supper 5:15 PM Worship 6 PM Church School 6 PM Worship 7 PM Choir Practice 7:15 PM Confirmation 8:15 PM R.A.F.T.	8:30 AM Faithfully Fit 6 PM Youth Team 6:30 PM Community Cor	8:30 AM New Americans	9 AM AA Women Carryi 8 PM AA Unity
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
9 AM Sanctuary Worshipt 10 AM Backpack Packing 10:30 AM Celebration H 10:30 AM Church School	6 PM Fellowship Team 7 PM WELCA	8:30 AM Faithfully Fit 6 PM Ed Team 6:30 PM Properties Team	9:45 AM Bible Study 5:15 PM Soup Supper 5:15 PM Worship 6 PM NO CHURCH SCH 6 PM Worship 7 PM Choir Practice 7:15 PM Confirmation	8:30 AM Faithfully Fit 9 AM Quilting 1 PM Sharon Cares 5:30 PM Worship Team 7 PM Young Adults	8:30 AM New Americans 2 PM Golden Age	9 AM AA Women Carryi 8 PM AA Unity
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
NEWSLETTER DEADLINE 9 AM Sanctuary Worshipt 10:30 AM Celebration H 10:30 AM NO CHURCH 4 PM Baptism Orientation 6:30 PM 5th Grade Comm		8:30 AM Faithfully Fit 1 PM Mary Circle	9:45 AM Bible Study 1:30 PM Rachel Circle 5:15 PM Soup Supper 5:15 PM Worship 6 PM Church School 6 PM Worship 7 PM Choir Practice 7:15 PM Confirmation 8:15 PM R.A.F.T.	8:30 AM Faithfully Fit 1 PM Sarah Circle	8:30 AM New Americans	9 AM AA Women Carryi 8 PM AA Unity
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
9 AM Sanctuary Worshipt 10:30 AM Celebration H 10:30 AM Church School	1 PM Hannah Circle	8:30 AM Faithfully Fit	9:45 AM Bible Study 5:15 PM Soup Supper 5:15 PM Worship 6 PM Church School 6 PM Worship 7 PM Choir Practice 7:15 PM Confirmation 8:15 PM R.A.F.T.	8:30 AM Faithfully Fit 9 AM Quilting 7 PM Young Adults		9 AM AA Women Carryi 3 PM Bryce Bommersbach 8 PM AA Unity
			NOISY OFFERING			
29	30	31	Apr 1	2	3	4
9 AM Sanctuary Worshipt 10:30 AM Celebration H 10:30 AM Church School NOISY OFFERING	7 PM Deborah Circle	8:30 AM Faithfully Fit	9:45 AM Bible Study 5:15 PM Soup Supper 5:15 PM Worship 6 PM NO CHURCH SCH 6 PM Worship 7 PM Choir Practice	8:30 AM Faithfully Fit 6 PM Communion Celebrat 6:30 PM Community Cor		9 AM AA Women Carryi 8 PM AA Unity

Our free puzzle exchange is still available for your enjoyment! Come take a look near the Welcome Center!



SPEARTOONS



Spear

"Bobby's family isn't doing their laundry anymore. He said they were giving up something for lint."

© 1999 Kevin Spear Email: kevispear@aol.com
Web: <http://members.aol.com/kevilspear>

A Decorated Table Event
& Online Quilt Auction

11th 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



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

JUNE 1-4, 2026

6:00PM-8:00PM

Registration opening in April!

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

Save
THE
Date



If you or someone you know is sick, in the hospital or facing challenges, please let us know.

We want to include you in our prayers, and the Prayers of the People during worship if you would like to be included in them.

We are here for you!

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.



All Are Welcome to the Rite of Ordination

for

Bryce Bombersbach

to the Ministry of Word and Sacrament in the
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

SATURDAY MARCH 28TH - 3 PM
SHARON LUTHERAN CHURCH
1720 SOUTH 20TH ST
GRAND FORKS, ND 58201



1720 South 20th St
Grand Forks, ND 58201

701-772-3122
www.sharonlutheran.org

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

Church Office Hours

Monday - Friday 8:30 am to 5:00 pm

Worship Times

Sundays

9:00 am Sanctuary,
10:30 Celebration Hall

Wednesdays during Lent

5:15 pm Sanctuary
6:00 pm Celebration Hall

