



DISTRICT NEWS

SOUTH DAKOTA

For All the Saints

By Rev. Randy Sturzenbecher, President, SD District

Dear Saints! There is a beloved hymn in our hymnal that grounds us in the fight we fight living on this earth. The hymn mentions faithful warriors, warfare, the struggles of the battle, and those who have fought the fight before us and now are at rest. The hymn is, “For all the Saints” (LSB 677).

When we sing the hymn on All Saints Day or at a funeral we are comforted by hope. Listen to verse 4:

“Oh blest communion fellowship divine!

We feebly struggle they in glory shine!”

What joy it is for us to know that those who have fought the good fight of faithfulness, trusting in Jesus’ life, death and resurrection for their forgiveness, strength and wisdom, will rest in His forgiveness and peace when their fight is over.

This hymn is also a very clear reminder that the fight continues here on earth. St. Paul writes, “for we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness” (Ephesians 6:12).

One of these ongoing battles is centered on Life and Life issues. There is a misconception that after Roe vs. Wade was overturned in June of 2022, pro-life groups have won the battle. It was a victory, but the battle shifted to other fronts. Abortions are promoted as health care and pharmaceutical companies will send “abortion drugs” to you at home, with little or no guidance, just to name a few of those fronts. The battle for life is fierce and ongoing.

Abortion is not the only life issue; there are many more. Infertility

affects many couples that want to have a family. About 17% of the world population struggle with infertility. Couples that want a family turn to medical science for help.

Medical science has many ways to assist couples in having a family naturally. IVF or In vitro fertilization is often



Rev. Randy Sturzenbecher,

President,
SD District

promoted but has serious consequences. At the moment of conception, when the eggs are fertilized, they are fully alive. If there are many fertilized eggs waiting for implementation, there are many living children created and given life by God our Father. One of the consequences of IVF is the children that are never given the opportunity to grow up. They remain frozen in a lab or are discarded. Thanks to the efforts of Lutheran Family Service of Iowa, they are working to adopt these un-implanted children. They also work extremely hard at helping families adopt children living outside of the womb. Dear Saints, if you are considering IVF, please talk to your pastor as well as your doctor. There are ways to navigate IVF in a good and God pleasing way.

The battle over life issues extends beyond life’s beginning to difficult questions about when and how life ends. In the United States, physician-assisted suicide — and in Canada, Medical Assistance in Dying (MAID) — allow a person suffering from illness or disease to end their life, either with assistance or on their own.

Today the front-line battle on Life issues is waged on the emotions and fears of every one of us. The incorrect information, the use of fear to intimidate your decision, all try to pull your focus from Christ and His promises to you.

Dear Child of God, remember your Baptism. Remember, Water and God’s Holy name placed upon you means complete and total forgiveness for past life decisions that you now regret. Remember, that God’s very real promises are yours right now. “Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest” (Matthew 11:28).

“There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus” (Romans 8:1).

“And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age” (Matthew 28:20b).

Remember, when you are facing life issue-decisions your Lord is with you and His promises to love and guide you have not changed! Remember your hope and promise through faith in Jesus Christ are always beneficial to your friends that are fearful of what lay in their future. Share your hope. Point them to Jesus. Walk with them and encourage them that they are not alone in their decision.

Dear Saints, we always, always have hope, because Jesus has risen from death’s cold clutches and has overcome every enemy we have. The hymn, “For all the Saints” reminds us of that. And when the fight is fierce, the warfare long, Steals on the ear the distant triumph song, And hearts are brave again, and arms are strong. Alleluia! Alleluia!

The distant triumph song is this. Christ is risen! He has risen indeed, Alleluia!

Fighting the good fight for life,
President Sturzenbecher



DISTRICT NEWS

South Dakota Church Profile: Holy Cross Lutheran, Onida

by Kate Meadows

In the heart of South Dakota, where small towns dot the prairie and neighbors often know one another by name, Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Onida continues a tradition of sharing the Gospel and serving its community.

Located in Onida, a town of approximately 650 residents, Holy Cross is one of three congregations that have worked together as a tri-point parish since August 2016. Its sister congregations are Immanuel Lutheran Church in

Harrold, a community of roughly 100 people, and Trinity Lutheran Church in Blunt, population approximately 335.

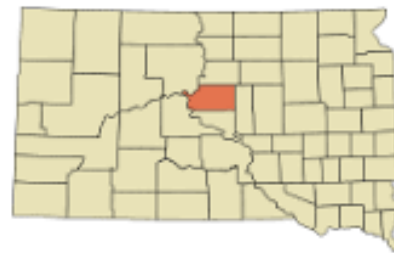
On Nov. 1, Rev. Gordon Naumann was installed as pastor for this tri-point parish. Naumann comes to South Dakota from Hazleton, PA, where he served at St. John Lutheran.

Together, these congregations represent a longstanding tradition of rural ministry in South Dakota, where churches have found ways to share pastoral resources while maintaining their individual identities and serving their communities.

The arrangement also reflects broader changes within the South Dakota District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

In 2016, then-District President Rev. Scott Sailer reported that between 1994 and 2016, congregational membership across the district had declined by 8%, while worship attendance had fallen by 28%. At the time, 71 of the district's 107 congregations were part of dual- or tri-point parish arrangements.

Those numbers illustrate the challenges facing rural congregations, particularly in communities where populations have declined and fewer people are regularly connected to a church.



For Holy Cross and its sister congregations, the challenges may look different, but the mission remains the same: proclaiming Christ crucified and risen, administering Word and Sacrament, and sharing the hope of the Gospel with their neighbors.

In communities where many residents have no regular church connection, the presence of a faithful congregation remains important.

The story of Holy Cross is a reminder that the strength of a church is not measured simply by the size of its congregation or the population of its town, but by the faithfulness of God's Word and His promises.

As these three congregations continue their ministry together, they carry forward a rich tradition of rural Lutheran life, trusting that the Lord who has sustained His Church through generations will continue to provide for His people.



Orphan Grain Train

by Linnea Schwandt

Orphan Grain Train in Milbank is always in need of volunteers of multiple ages to help pack mercy meals and donate ingredients.

The organization's collection center houses mercy meals. Packing these meals

is truly needed throughout the world and it's wonderful to watch people join in the work. However, like many other things the ingredients are getting more expensive and we are finding ourselves brainstorming ways to collect the necessary ingredients.

We invite church groups to donate to this cause and/or plan a day to help pack meals. We trust that God will provide!

Share your news with us!

NOTE: With the new part-time Communications Director position comes a new email address to share your news. Please email articles/photos to Kate Meadows at communications@sddlcms.org.



Planting Seeds, Trusting God for the Growth

by Dawn Wombold, South Dakota District LCMS Education Executive

I recently returned from Nebraska, where I had the privilege to attend the Great Plains Lutheran Educators Conference with hundreds of Lutheran educators.

As I headed home, I noticed field after field being harvested. Being from Nebraska, seeing the amount of harvesting going on in the area at this time of the year did not surprise me. However, I was struck by how the work that goes into harvesting those fields of corn and soybeans were a great reflection of the conference and the work taking place every day in our Lutheran school classrooms. Much like a farmer who plants and tends his crops, our teachers faithfully plant seeds each day and tend those seeds of faith, often without knowing when or how the Holy Spirit will grow those seeds.

On October 17-19, 61 educators from South Dakota joined Lutheran educators from Nebraska, Minnesota, Iowa and Kansas at Concordia University in Seward, Nebraska. Gathered around the theme, "Created for Every Good Work" (Ephesians 2:8-10), we had the opportunity to learn, grow professionally, strengthen relationships with fellow educators and be encouraged in the callings God has given us.

Throughout the conference, we were reminded of the extraordinary privilege we have as Lutheran educators. Dr. Bernard Bull, president of Concordia University, Nebraska, spoke of the

great treasure we have been given in the Gospel of Jesus Christ and the importance of passing it on to the next generation. Kathy L'Heureux encouraged us to remember that every day we plant seeds through our words, encouragement, correction and example.

We may not see the results of our work right away, but God's work does not depend on our ability to see the harvest.

One South Dakota teacher, Kayla Leininger (Zion, Rapid City), shared how this message encouraged her to keep going, even when teaching is difficult. What a needed reminder for all of us! Teaching is demanding work, and there are days when we may wonder whether what we are doing is making a difference. Yet, as St. Paul reminds us in 1 Corinthians 3:6, "I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth."

What a comfort this is! We are called to faithfully teach, encourage, correct and love the students entrusted to our care. Most importantly, we have the privilege of sharing the saving Gospel of Jesus Christ with them. Through His Word, the Holy Spirit works to create and sustain faith. We may not see the full harvest during our time with a student, but we can trust that God's Word accomplishes His purposes.

As I reflect on this conference, I am thankful for our South Dakota Lutheran educators. I am thankful for their dedication to their students, their



Staff from Sioux Falls Lutheran School were among those who attended the Great Plains Lutheran Educators Conference in October.

willingness to continue learning, and their commitment to keeping Christ at the center of their classrooms. I am also thankful for the opportunity to gather with fellow educators who understand both the challenges and the blessings of this calling.

Ephesians 2 reminds us that we are saved by grace through faith, not by our own works, and that we are created in Christ Jesus for the good works God has prepared for us. What a blessing to serve in a vocation where we can share that truth with children every day!

As our teachers enter their classrooms every day, please pray for them, that they may never grow weary of planting the seeds of the Gospel.

We may not always see the harvest, but we know the One who gives the growth. May He continue to bless our teachers and students as His Word takes root in hearts and lives.

Sioux Falls Lutheran School is hiring

Sioux Falls Lutheran School is hiring an Accounting & Lunch Program Assistant, After School Eagle Care Workers, and several basketball and track coaches for the 2026-27 school year. Learn more and apply: www.siuuxfallslutheran.com/careers.

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH NIGHT

Join Concordia University St. Paul for a circuit-wide youth event at Sioux Falls Lutheran School from 6-8pm on **Wednesday, Nov. 4**. The evening will include pizza, games, God's word, and a Bible study for parents. **Sign up:** bit.ly/2026-hs-youth.

SFLS Upcoming Preview Events

Discover the value of investing in your child's future at SFLS by meeting our teachers and principals, exploring our facility, and mingling with other families planning for the next stage of education at SFLS.

Middle & High School Preview: Mon, Nov. 16 from 5:30-8:00pm.

Preschool Preview: Sat, Nov. 21 at 10:00am.

Kindergarten Preview: Thur, Dec. 3 at 6:00pm.

Learn more and register: bit.ly/visit-sfls.

Moments with Mary Jo

Transformed in Christ: 2027 National LWML Convention Theme



Mary Jo Stier
LWML District President

Fall is in the air and with that comes the beautiful change of the seasons. The leaves have started turning colors, falling to the ground and marking the end the warm and sunshine of the summer. We turn ourselves to the cooler temperatures of the fall and the time of year that we look at all the Lord has given us and give thanks for the beauty of the changing of seasons.

It is also the time of year, we take the opportunity to give thanks to the Lord for the gift of family and friends as Thanksgiving is right around the corner and before long, we will celebrate Christmas. As in all my articles over the past two years, I have talked about time and how fast it goes. Well as you can see, the pattern has continued.



As we are starting to make plans for the upcoming holidays with our family and friends, we need to start looking at summer. Now is the time to start making plans to attend the National Convention in Oklahoma City July 8 -11, 2027. The theme of the convention is **Transformed in Christ**, based on the scripture verse: *"Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect"* (Romans 12:2).

The South Dakota District is looking into the possibility of having a charter bus. There will be more details in the next edition of the HiLites.

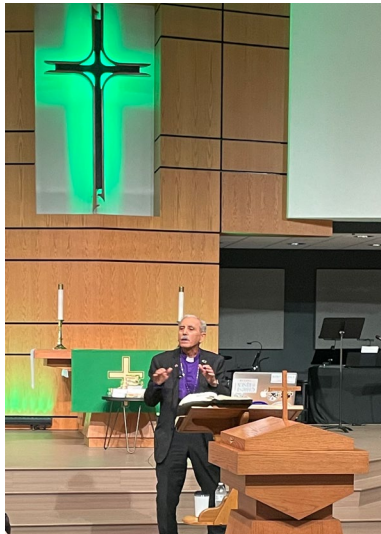
We are also looking for members to submit banner ideas that will represent the district. If creativity is a gift the Lord has given you, I would encourage you to submit an idea. More details will be available soon. For now, go out and enjoy the beauty the Lord has provided.

2026 CHRISTIAN LIFE WORKSHOPS

by Kristy Ring, VP Christian Life

A great kick off to the fall began on Saturday, Sept. 27 at Memorial, Sioux Falls. We were welcomed on a beautiful rainy day by Colleen Keiser and thoughtful group at Memorial. Nearly 70 women gathered and were blessed by hearing God's word through Pastor Doug Slavens leading us in opening devotions.

Pastor Slavens shared from Luke that we prefer to "sit for a moment in the darkness with the presence of the Lord than alone in the light." God gives us his light through Christ Jesus. In the light of the Lord, Pastor read to us the book of Ruth. There we learned from Pastor Nabil Nour that in many ways we are like Ruth. Pastor Nour guided our Bible study with a direct translation from original Hebrew text. Pastor Nour shared the rich life of Ruth and the



Rev. Nabil Nour (retired) shares about the life of Ruth.

ways God cared for her as He still cares for us today.

One week later, we gathered again enjoying sunny autumn colors on the opposite side of the state at St. Paul, Spearfish, with Black Hills Zone President Elaine Hankel to thank for organizing. We opened by singing songs and hymns with beautiful musical accompaniment.

Pastor Thomas Brown cleared our road of objections by leading us through a study on Apologetics – or, the reason for the hope we have within ourselves – based on 1 Peter 3:15. Approximately 42 women from South Dakota, Wyoming, Texas and Kansas learned how to make a defense for their Christian faith. Pastor Brown armed us with love and wisdom for sharing the truth of Christ's love with unbelievers.



Rev. Thomas Brown of St. Paul, Spearfish, leads a session on Apologetics.

Both Christian Life Workshops were well supported with shoppers from apparel to outreach supplies. Our store has been a great success. I feel great joy visiting with each shopper and sharing in the love of Christ as His love is then passed on to our neighbors through these meaningful treasures.

Thank you to all the women who warmly welcomed us to their congregations and to the Pastors who prepared and guided us in God's word. Your time and effort are greatly appreciated.

His Mercy Endures Forever

COUNSELOR'S CORNER

On His way to Jerusalem, where He would soon die and rise for the life of the world, Jesus was met by ten lepers. Standing at a distance, they did not cry the required, "Unclean! Unclean!" Instead, they called out, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us" (Luke 17:11-19). They sought mercy.

Jesus did not touch them. He simply spoke: "Go and show yourselves to the priests." As they went, they were cleansed. One of them turned back. No longer keeping his distance, he came right up to Jesus, fell on his face at His feet, and gave thanks. He worshiped. This man had been not only a leper but a Samaritan — a double outcast in the eyes of any Israelite. Yet no one is too downtrodden, too lowly or too far outside for Jesus' mercy.

Nine of the ten left and never returned. They were healed. They received what they wanted from Jesus and went on their way. They settled for less than all that Jesus would give of Himself for them. The Samaritan alone knew whom to trust — not only with his disease but with his death. He knew at whose feet his salvation rested.



Rev. Dr. Brian Mosemann
LWML District Counselor

When Jesus addressed him, He said, "Your faith has saved you."

Jesus had spoken a word of healing to all ten, and all ten were made well. Now, He spoke a word of salvation to the Samaritan.

The surprising thing is not that only one leper returned to give thanks. The surprising thing is that Jesus healed all ten knowing that only one would come back. All ten were cleansed, and the lack of gratitude from the nine did not cancel their healing. Jesus did not restore their leprosy. They went on their way without thanks to Jesus. One leper returned, gave thanks and worshiped. He was not only healed; he was saved. The other nine trusted Jesus for their healing. This man trusted Jesus with his life.

It is good news that our lives depend on God's love for us rather than on our love for Him. After all, it is His steadfast love that endures forever, not ours. God does not love you because you are good. God loves you because He is good, and His mercy endures forever.

BLACK HILLS ZONE UPDATE

by Elaine M. Hankel, Black Hills Zone President

This has been a busy year for the Black Hills Zone as we hosted the LWML SD District Convention in Rapid City.

The year began with planning, assigning committee chairman and committee members. Our Spring Rally turned into a workday, making items for the convention.

Zoom meetings were held and in June the convention took place at the Ramkota. Everyone enjoyed a successful convention.

Our Fall retreat was combined with the Christian Life Workshop, which was held at St. Paul, Spearfish. The Rev. Dr. Thomas Brown presented a Bible Study on "Apologetics in Evangelism". He also serves as the zone counselor.

In addition, the members continue to make quilts and lap robes which are given to veterans, shut ins and the Orphan Grain Train.

Cookies are provided for shut-ins and food for veterans.

School supplies were gathered for teachers' wish lists.

The zone raised \$618 in a "No Bake" bake sale for CASA and collected \$500 for Meals on Wheels.

Zone members also collected baby items for the Black Hills Pregnancy Center and participated in a diaper collection for five new babies in the zone's congregations.

We made special quilts, table runners, scarves, etc. to sell with the proceeds donated for special mission projects.

The members continue to stay busy with projects that are focused on missions and care of individuals in the community.

Don't Forget Your YWR!

Have you thought about who might be your Zone's next Young Woman Representative (YWR)?

Whether you serve on a Zone board, are active in your local group or simply know a young woman who would enjoy a meaningful LWML experience, you can help encourage the next generation of Lutheran women!

YWRs will have the opportunity to attend the 42nd Biennial LWML Convention, taking place July 8-11, 2027, in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma! This is a wonderful chance to experience a national LWML convention, meet women from across the country, grow in faith and discover more about how God is working through LWML.

YWR applications are due in December!

Now is the time to start looking, praying, encouraging, and inviting! If you know a young woman who might be interested in serving as a YWR, share this opportunity with her. Groups can begin the application process now and make sure everything is submitted by the December deadline.

Together, we can encourage the next generation of Lutheran women and give them an opportunity to experience LWML on a national level. You never know how one convention experience might inspire a lifetime of faith, service, and involvement!

Have someone in mind? Don't wait! Reach out, share the opportunity, and help us welcome the next generation of YWRs.

More Information & Applications

For more information about the YWR program and the application, visit the SD District LWML Young Women page: <https://www.sdlwml.org/young-women>

A fillable YWR application is also available through the LWML National site.

Questions? Contact Danaca Schettler, Committee on Young Women Chairman, who will be happy to help with questions about the YWR program or application process.

SDLWMLYWR@GMAIL.COM, 605.695.0220

Y4LIFE & YA FOR LIFE

in Washington, D.C.

THAT THEY MAY HAVE LIFE

January 21-23, 2027

Join us for the FREE Y4Life and YA For Life Conference and March for Life this year in Washington, D.C. Meet other life leaders from across the nation at this mountaintop event! Not only will participants learn more about life issues and take part in the March, but by registering through Lutherans For Life, leaders also receive a discount on hotel rooms and guided opportunities at the March.

Questions? Email Cori Meier at cori@y4life.org.

Register for the conference at y4life.org/events, yaforlife.org/events or by scanning the QR code below. Registration is open Sept. 1, 2026 – Dec. 1, 2026. Space is limited!

Double queen rooms cost \$139 per night, single king rooms cost \$124 per night. Reserve rooms through Y4Life.



SD DISTRICT MARCH FOR LIFE TRIP



Have you ever wanted to be part of the National March for Life in Washington D.C.? We are in the process of putting together a trip that would include a conference on life issues put on by Y4life as well as marching in the March For Life. Here are some of the details.

When: January 20-23, 2027

Travel: Fly from Sioux Falls to Reagan International Airport. (\$349 for now)

Hotel: Rooms for the conference this year will be \$139/night for a double queen room and \$124/night for a single king room. (With enough people we could have 4 per room lowering the cost)

If interested contact:

pastordrevlow@gmail.com

CALL INFORMATION

PENDING CALLS

The following are prayerfully considering calls:

Rev. Jordon Andreasen, Office of International Mission, is deliberating two calls – one to Mt. Olive, Watertown (Oct. 11) and another to Mt. Calvary, Brookings (Oct. 19).

Rev. Christ Davis, Emanuel, Milbank, to St. John, Port Hope, Mich., and St. Peter, Kinde, Mich., Oct. 10.

Rev. Keith Emshoff, Holy Trinity, Grandview, MO, is deliberating two calls – one to Peace, Rapid City (Sept. 21) and another to St. John, Revillo and Bethlehem, Milbank (Oct. 21).

Free Discipleship Training

Want to Help Families Grow as Lifelong Disciples of Jesus?

Join us for a FREE Family Discipleship Training with the Concordia Center for the Family.

The training will equip and encourage participants to practice and teach family discipleship in the home, congregation, school, and beyond. The goal is to help unite homes and congregations in making lifelong disciples of Jesus.

It is sponsored by the Mission and Ministry Council of the SD District.

For more information visit <https://sddlcms.org/event/family/>



Rev. David Knepfelkamp, St. Peter and St. Paul, Osseo, Wisc., to Emmanuel, Sisseton and Zion, Waubay, Oct. 11.

Rev. Zelwyn Heide, Zion, New Salem, ND and Saint Peter, Hannover, ND, to Zion, Delmont and Emmaus, Tripp, Oct. 12.

Rev. Jeremy Richert, Holy Cross, Dakota Dunes, to Grace, Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada, Oct. 11.

Rev. Jeremy Yeardon, St. John, Groton and Zion, Andover, is deliberating two calls – one to St. Johns and St. Paul, Sherburn, Minn., and another to Christ, Anderson, Ind. (both Sept. 27).

ACCEPTED

Rev. Gordon Naumann, St. John, Hazleton, PA, to Trinity/Blunt, Holy Cross/Onida and Immanuel/Harold, Sept. 10.

DECLINED

Rev. Silas Mehl, Good Shepherd, Carthage, MO, to Mt. Olive, Watertown, Oct. 1.

Rev. Dwight Wyeth, Zion, Bonfield, Ill., to Mt. Calvary, Huron, Oct. 15.

VACANCIES

- South Dakota District Office, Assistant to the President
- Mt. Calvary, Brookings (associate pastor)
- St. Peter, Wentworth
- St. Paul, Plankinton/Trinity, White Lake
- Mt. Calvary, Huron
- Peace, Rapid City
- Emanuel, Sisseton/Zion, Waubay
- Emmaus, Tripp/Zion, Delmont
- Mt. Olive, Watertown
- Trinity, Corona/Our Savior, Wilmont
- St. John, Revillo/Bethlehem, Milbank
- First, Wall/Emmanuel, Creighton
- Concordia, Cresbard/Immanuel, Wecota
- Faith, Pierre
- First English/Centerville, Zion/Hurley
- Blessed Emmanuel, Sturgis/Grace, Deadwood



SUBMITTING DEVOTIONS FOR POSSIBLE PUBLICATION IN THE *MAIN STREET LIVING* 25TH ANNIVERSARY DAILY DEVOTION BOOK

1. The total word count is to be a maximum of 250 words. This includes
 - a. Your first and last name
 - b. Your city and state
 - c. A suggested date for the devotion, if it is season- or time-specific. If the devotion is more general in content, you don't have to give a suggested date. The devotions will cover all of calendar-year 2027.
 - d. The title of your devotion
 - e. A one or two verse Biblical text (ESV version) for the devotion
 - f. The text of your devotion (i.e., the devotion itself)
 - g. A one or two sentence prayer
2. Save your document as a Word document, arial font, 12 font size, portrait orientation on the page (see the enclosure for how the devotion should be presented on a typical 8 ½" x 11" piece of paper).
3. Submit your manuscript(s) to the content editor, Rev. Dr. Scott Sailer, via email: scottsailer@aol.com
4. Deadline for submissions: extended to **November 30, 2026**
5. Other suggestions for content
 - a. Pastors could consider summarizing or excerpting from sermons they have preached for MSL recordings, other sermons they've prepared, and newsletter articles they've written.
 - b. You could submit multiple devotions based on a theme, such as:
 - God's creation – trees, mountains, rivers, valleys, oceans
 - Building materials – wood, rock/stone, precious metals, sand
 - Times of illness or loss
 - The 10 Commandments (10 total devotions)
 - Articles of the Apostles' Creed (1 on each article, or two or three on each)
 - Marriage and its blessings
 - Harvest and Thanksgiving
 - The disciples of Jesus (12 total devotions)
 - Women of the Bible
 - Three men on the Good Friday crosses
 - Baptism (multiple devotions)
 - Lord's Supper (multiple devotions)
 - Office of the Keys (multiple devotions)
6. Your submission(s) will be reviewed and could undergo some revision by the content editor and/or copy editor.
7. We are seeking submissions from:
 - pastors, current and retired
 - commissioned ministers, current and retired
 - laypeople to submit devotions.
8. While we will wholeheartedly consider each submission we receive, we cannot guarantee publication for every submission received.

SAMPLE DEVOTION

January 6, 2027

Scott C. Sailer

THE LORD REIGNS, THE LORD SENDS

The kingdom of God is near, Luke 10:9b.

I'm not a weatherman, but I will make a forecast: Reign today, tomorrow, forever. R-E-I-G-N, not R-A-I-N. When Jesus says, "The kingdom of God is near," He is indicating He rules over all things. He proved His kingship when He made the blind to see, the deaf to hear, and the lame to walk. King Jesus proved His gracious rule by forgiving sins, too. He keeps on forgiving sins today, out of His never-ending love for you and me.

Read Luke 10:1-20. When you do, you will find that Jesus is making His way to Jerusalem to offer Himself as the ransom for sinners. He's a man on a mission. He moves with urgency. Jesus is so intent on bringing many more into His kingdom of grace that He employs 72 in His mission.

Our Lord shows He reigns in your life whenever you, brought low by your sins, hear and believe the Good News that He paid for those sins on the cross.

Whenever Christ sends and uses you to comfort a hurting person or to assist your neighbor by a deed of love, He shows He reigns. Oh, yes, the forecast is certain: The Lord reigns. Today, tomorrow, and forever!

King Jesus, continue to reign in my life by the Gospel.

Send me as Your Gospel ambassador. Amen.