

South Dakota Lutheran Secretariat Via de Cristo Newsletter

Check out our website -- <http://www.sdlvdc.org/>

February 2025 Edition --- Enean Mattes & Pastor Steve Carmany, Editors

EXTRA! EXTRA! READ ALL ABOUT IT!!!

//VDC Weekend// Upcoming Events// 4th Day Service Opportunities//

//Lay Encouragement// Shirt Sale// Pastor's Corner//

Co-Ed Weekend --- **November 13th – 16th, 2025**
At Swan Lake Christian Camp—288th St., Viborg, SD myslcc.com
Send in your applications!!!
Pray and Start Inviting Right Now!!!
Deadline for all applications is October 13, 2025
Early Bird Discount: Applications and Deposit
must be received by September 8, 2025

If you have any questions, please contact any of the Secretariat Members.

Attention All Team & Palanca:

Practice Meetings

*Saturday, September 13th -- 9:00 am start
Morningside Lutheran Church – Sioux City IA*

ALSO...

*Saturday, October 4th – 9:00 am start
Swan Lake Christian Camp*

- TEC Weekend: March 21-23, 2025 @ Yankton, SD
 - TEC Weekend: May 30 -June 1, 2025 @ Sioux City, IA
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Other ways you could serve

The South Dakota Lutheran Secretariat Board has many open positions. Monthly meetings are held by Zoom on the 3rd Monday of the Month at 8:30 pm and last less than an hour.

Enean Mattes is the current Lay Director

Beth Abraham is currently the Interim Assistant Lay Director / Secretary

Allen Abraham is the current Treasurer

There are vacancies in the Community Rep Director positions for South Dakota Northern Tier, Nebraska and Iowa.

Dee Diede is currently the Interim Community Rep Directors for the South Dakota Southern Tier.

Pastor's Corner:

Getting Personal

by Pastor Craig Bock

I noticed this past week, the two most significant impacts that I saw the Lord make in the lives of people were when I had the opportunity to “get personal”, first at a funeral service and then in the Sunday morning message. Real life personal experiences of peace, joy, and relief, even when accompanied by pain and struggle, are what people are looking for as they go to a movie, watch a sporting event, or gather with friends. God created us with a need and desire to get personal, experiencing life in its fullness in the depth of our hearts. Although most people do not expect it on Sunday morning, something personal is what they are seeking when they regularly attend or even occasionally visit a weekly worship service.

In a world of regulations and platitudes, accompanied by unattainable expectations and fearful condemnation, God came to “get personal” by becoming one of us, experiencing the hurts and disappointments and vulnerability we all share as human beings. And through Jesus, God has opened a new reality for every person who would ever live – a personal relationship with Him.

“God became real to me” are the words I hear over and over again from those whose lives have been transformed through *Via de Cristo*. Jesus is a real person – who meets us where we are and takes us into an even deeper personal walk with Him.

As we greet the weekend guests on Thursday evening, it is through informal personal greeting over snacks and beverages. The evening chapel continues with personal reflection on one’s own life. The first rollo ends with the very personal question – “What is your (personal) ideal?”. The final invitation of the weekend is “Christ is counting on you” (personally).

This coming year, as people frantically go about their daily lives, with the responsibilities of family, work, finances, social pressures and institutional obligations, Jesus is waiting to walk with them personally through every opportunity and challenge of life. And every day you have the opportunity to be that personal presence of Jesus to another person, as you reach out with the same personal care, concern, and the deep personal love that you have received from our Lord. The people around you will see and feel Jesus through you, and your presence in their life will be a significant step in their personal journey closer to God.