

SCANDIA LUTHERAN CHURCH

Worship Windows

August 2026

VBS August 2-6; (5:30pm Supper) 6:00-8:00pm;
Program @ 6:15pm on Thursday night.



Each day bring your:
BIBLE (gr 3-6), and **water bottle!**
*Offering: Bring school supplies or money.

We are enjoying the summer heat. Not exactly. The air outside feels a bit like a hot, wet blanket; the air is thick, and the biting bugs are prevalent. I want to deadhead the roses and my potted petunias, but I am carefully cautious. I have a brand-new container of After Bite, highly recommend, but I prefer not to get bitten in the first place; thus, my roses are paying the price. I suppose if I were really dedicated, I would douse myself in bug repellent, put on a sun-screening hat, and get after it... I am simply not that dedicated. I am enjoying the air-conditioned indoor pursuits.

Like rereading and contemplating the scriptures from yesterday's gospel. Chapter 13 of Matthew. Someone helped me understand it differently (Thank you, Pastor Gary Woodruff), and I will never look at it the same way again. Matthew shares Jesus' list of differing things that the Kingdom of heaven is like: The kingdom of heaven is like a field, sown with good seed and, surreptitiously, also sown with bad. The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed; the kingdom of heaven is like leaven; the kingdom of heaven is like a treasure discovered in a field; the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant who searches and finds a pearl of great price. The Kingdom of heaven is like a net that gathers both good and bad in its webbing.

The kingdom of heaven is a place where good and bad things grow together, a place where shelter and rest may be provided, something of great and unexpected value, the person who searches for good, and lastly a tool he used to search for, find, and gather both the good and the bad. Then the question: "Do you understand this?" "Yes" is their unified and mind-boggling response, because I don't get it! "NO, tell me more!" The list is so diverse and simultaneously inclusive.

Luke gives us another perspective again from Jesus: (Luke 17:20-21) *Once Jesus^a was asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God was coming, and he answered, "The kingdom of God is not coming with things that can be observed,"²¹ nor will they say, 'Look, here it is!' or 'There it is!'*

For, in fact, the kingdom of God is among (within) you."

We are not just the good/bad seeds. We are also the sowers of good and not so good. We are each tiny seeds with the possibility of growing into something that may help others. Or not. We are the leaven that can permeate creation (for good or evil. We are the treasure in the field Jesus gave up his life to save; we are the seekers of value, we are the instruments of restoration. Or at least with the help and guidance of the Holy Spirit we can be. Capability and capacity for either exists within each of us. We can share and look for and nurture the love and light of Christ in a broken world. Or we can foster the things that cause harm. Jesus sees us as treasure worth dying for. Believing we will find him worth living for.

Blessings, Pastor Elan Ashby



Thank you to all who
donated cookies for VBS!

Please consider giving to the Fellowship Hall carpet.

Thus far \$12,400.07 has been raised. Final price & quotes are ongoing.

Prayer Partners are needed for the new confirmation class. You play a very important part in their lives. To become a Prayer Partner, please call Jen Knudson at (605-359-4605).





**Wesley Wayne
Knudson**
Born March 3, 2026
Baptized June 29, 2026

Parents:
Dallas
Knudson
& Ashlyn
Bailey

Sponsors:
Dalton
Knudson
& Abigail
Bailey



**Everson Owen
Klement**

Born
May 16, 2026
Baptized
July 19, 2026

Parents:
Jesse & Chelsey
Klement

Sponsors:
Shalee & Pres-
ton Stevens



BRENT'S MESSAGE

Romans 15:20-21 - It has always been my ambition to preach the gospel where Christ was not known, so that I would not be building on someone else's foundation. Rather, as it is written:

"Those who were not told about him will see,
and those who have not heard will understand."

Paul gives us one of the guiding directives for the way he conducts his ministry. He wants to preach where the Gospel has not first been planted. This, he says, in part is the reason he has not visited the Roman church yet. It was not new territory, and until Paul had preached through pretty much all the unreached territory in the eastern Mediterranean, he had not wanted to head further west. Rome was in the center of the Mediterranean Sea. How the Roman Christians formed their fellowship is not strictly known. Some hold that it was the preaching of Peter that formed the first foundation, but the church likely began when a network of Jewish believers (perhaps including Priscilla and Aquila) formed in the capital of the empire. Paul had originally been sponsored in his missionary journeys by the church at Antioch in Syria. As he is contemplating moving westward, he has begun to set his sights on Spain as a long term goal. Help from the Roman church in this endeavor is what the apostle would like.

It is not an accident that Paul quotes a particular passage of Scripture here. It is Isaiah 52:15. The last part of this chapter (vs. 13-15) is actually a part of a poetic poem formed by chapter 53. In this poem we have one of the most stunning descriptions of the crucifixions in all of prophetic literature. It was seen by Isaiah some 700 years before the birth of Christ - 700 years in advance! Here are verses 52:13-15: See, my servant will act wisely: he will be raised and lifted up and highly exalted. Just as there were many who were appalled at him — his appearance was so disfigured beyond that of any human being and his form marred beyond human likeness—so he will sprinkle many nations, and kings will shut their mouths because of him. For what they were not told, they will see, and what they have not heard, they will understand. The Suffering Servant is obviously Jesus, who suffered under Roman authority in order to sanctify (sprinkle) all nations. Paul is clearly out to evangelize the Roman world. The hope that emperors might shut their mouths for a minute in astonishment, and that they might come to actually understand the Gospel is in the apostle's mind. He is after God's

prophetic promise! We should be too, here and now. Let us not think that everyone around us has already heard the Gospel. Astonishingly, there are many among us who have never heard the Good News. And there are many as well who think they know the story, but like the Roman emperors, have never really heard the truth. We should not be afraid of telling the old, old story again and again. The world needs to hear it until they really hear it and see it with new ears and eyes. It would be a few hundred years before a Roman emperor (Constantine) really heard the Good News. But that did not stop Paul. He would stand before Nero unafraid. Nero who would eventually order his execution.

God's blessing as you live out the Gospel witness where you are. Vicar Brent

BANQUET

Scandia will be serving the **West Side Banquet** in Sioux Falls on **September 23, 2026**.

Needed: 5 volunteers to arrive at 2pm to prepare the food & 15 helpers at 5:15pm to help serve/clean up. **\$600.00 is also needed** to sponsor this meal. Checks can be made out to Scandia with Banquet in the memo line. A sign up sheet will be going around. If you have any questions please contact Cynthia Marohl.

Our Prayer Concerns ...Ashley Gerken; Joan Knutson; Julie Junker; Gary Adamson; Yan (Steve Eide's fiancé); Jean (Paul) Peterson; Julie Leslie; Floyd Anderson; Terry Rist; Evans & Owren (Kathy Anderson's cousins); Jordon Hussey; Jayne Ratzlaff & Gary Johnson (Stevens' relations); Annette Sarringer; Adam Nelson; Amy (Norling) Peterson; Elaine Tatge (Floyd Anderson's sister); Curtis (Kathleen Blake's brother); World Leaders; and those whom we name in our heart.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 9:30am Church Service	3 9:30am Coffee Hour VBS 6:00pm	4 VBS 6:00pm 7:00pm AA Meeting	5 11:15am CCRC Worship Service VBS 6:00pm	6 9:30am Coffee Hour VBS 5:30pm Super/Program	7	8
9 9:30am Church Service Confirmation students meet with Pastor	10 9:30am Coffee Hour	11 7:00pm AA Meeting	12 11:15am CCRC Worship Service	13 9:30am Coffee Hour	14	15
16 9:30am Church Service/ Blessing of the Back Packs	17 9:30am Coffee Hour	18 9:30am Ruth Bible Study 7:00pm AA Meeting	19 11:15am CCRC Worship Service	20 9:30am Coffee Hour	21	22
23 9:30am Church Service 5:00 M & M	24 9:30am Coffee Hour	25 7:00pm AA Meeting	26 11:15am CCRC Worship Service/ Desserts & Pie! 7:30pm Council	27 9:30am Coffee Hour	28	29
30 9:30am Church Service	31 9:30am Coffee Hour					

A regular Scandia Council meeting was held on July 15, 2026. Members present included Chuck Oster, Daniel Knutson, Connie Petersen, Vonni Knutson, Char Adamson, Joyce Vasgaard, Philip Christofferson, Ruth Stevens, Kory Muller, and Pastor Elan. Shane Rist was absent.

President Chuck Oster called the council meeting to order at 7:34 pm. Pastor Elan gave devotions.

Secretary's Minutes from the June 17 meeting were reviewed; motion by Vonni, seconded by Philip to approve minutes; motion carried. Treasurer's report was reviewed; Daniel made a motion to approve; seconded by Kory; motion carried. Financial Secretary's report was reviewed.

President's report – Chuck thanked everyone who helped with music and preparation for the Sunday Hymn Sing Service and with removal of the outdoor carpet. He updated the council on several topics, including the Assembly report in the newsletter; outdoor carpet installation has been completed; and damage was found on the hallway floor on the west side of the Fellowship Hall. He also reported that he met with insurance agent and reviewed church property insurance.

Pastor's Report – Pastor Elan

Lots going on these days! Brent and I were able to take a little break, staying by Lake Elmo with a double Celebration of Life Service for two sisters who died five days apart. I was able to do some ink and watercolor sketches, something I haven't done in years. I've been meaning to do this since Christmas as I wanted to use them as our thank you cards, so while belated, I got'er done!

Between baptisms, funerals, home visits, and Chapel Services, we stay busy, though we enjoy what we do. I count on the Holy Spirit to do the heavy lifting for all of it. One of my favorite pastimes is caring for people and creation, so the freezer meals, sourdough bread baking, and the Meat & Meets are restorative for me. Add houseplants and the outdoor flowers and you can see we feel pretty fulfilled. Jace Muller is doing our mowing, and he keeps the yard looking nice. We had a big limb fall from a tree in front of the parsonage. Well, it broke, and Brent pulled it the rest of the way down. Paul Buckneburg hauled it all away for us.

This month's Meat and Meet is "Christmas in July" and is going to be held at the church starting at 5:00 pm on July 19. Not many people from our church have signed up, but we still hope for a good turnout. I have turkey and pork ribs. Also, will be making a few traditional Christmas favorites. I haven't found any lutefisk yet, but to be honest, I have not looked that hard. (Hardly looking would be more appropriate!) We invited the SE Conference

pastors and the AA group to attend.

On Tuesdays, we head to Vermillion to check in with the SE Conference pastors who come to our Text Study.

Wednesdays include a radio broadcast in the morning, Chapel at CCRC, then I head to Sioux Falls for any visits if someone is there. Sometimes I serve at the Pantry. I did that tonight, and once a month, Church Council!

Thursdays include monthly Zoom calls for Dean's meetings, Rotary every other month, and Good Grief weekly. Tomorrow, July 16, 2026, we are helping with golf cart rides at CCRC, then the Good Grief group is helping serve hot fried twisters to the residents (and staff)! We try to fit in Coffee Fellowship on Mondays and Thursdays.

On August 21-22, we will be in Aberdeen for a class for Brent, and they are letting me attend too. We will be going to California on the 31st of August, home September 12. Pastor Carroll will be doing the service while we are gone.

Reports:

Education – VBS will be Aug. 2 – Aug. 6; 6 pm to 8 pm; with supper at 5:30 pm. There are currently 35 students registered.

Ministry Team – no report

Property – Exhaust fan motors were replaced for the air conditioning system in the fellowship hall. Technician reported the system seems sound for its age. Railing on the ramp has been taken down for repair and powder coating. Railing in front of the church will also be removed and powder coated. When both railings are removed, service will be held in Fellowship Hall.

Worship and Music – Committee met in early July and will meet again in August to select music. They have some CDs for use during service if no organist is available.

Old Business:

Daniel reported that Daktronics submitted a preliminary estimate on costs to replace the interior part of the outside sign. Costs for their equipment would be \$16,606 to \$19,775, depending on technology. It was suggested that, as an alternative, a television could be installed in the enclosed sign structure and would have announcements put on it via the media system.

COUNCIL MINUTES

A leader for the youth group is still needed, and volunteers are welcome. Having Scandia youth attend youth gatherings will need to be discussed.

New Business:

The council reviewed the property insurance renewal and discussed increasing the property value of church contents to cover media system equipment. Char made a motion to raise coverage of contents from \$150,000 to \$200,000; Kory seconded, and the motion carried. Chuck will visit with the insurance agent about the changes requested.

Members discussed and examined damage to the Fellowship hallway floor. Moisture had collected beneath the rugs, damaging more flooring than was initially found. The rugs were removed so the area can dry completely. Before approving replacement of the damaged flooring, the council requested a repair estimate for the affected area.

The council discussed the sales/use tax filing required for religious organizations and suggested that the treasurer review the process with the CPA.

A thank-you note and support request from an Augustana student were presented to the council. The council agreed to support Anna Preheim through the Augustana PACT program with the budgeted amount of \$500.

Council discussed whether to continue selling greeting cards in the church office. Council agreed to continue the practice. Office Secretary will order additional cards to restock the supply.

The Property Committee has requested a bid for the church carpeting project to determine how much additional fundraising is needed. Amounts will be shared with members in the newsletter.

The next Council Meeting will be on August 26, 2026, at 7:30 pm with devotions by Kory Muller.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:59 pm and closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Ruth Stevens, Council Secretary

2026 2ndQuarter Report

April-Jun 2026 Income	\$53,754.69
April-June Expenses	<u>\$48,338.31</u>
Difference Income vs Expenses	\$5,416.38



LOOKING For
Sunday
School
Teachers &
Music Leader,
Please call Ashley
(605-403-3239)
if you are willing to help.

8/13/2026 Rally Sunday

8/13/2026 3rd graders will receive their Bibles in church.

10/11/2026 3year olds get their blankets in church.

We have restocked the **greeting cards** in the office. A box of cards is \$7.00-\$8.00 for a box of 12 cards. Less than a dollar a piece!

Total Stop grocery certificates are stocked and ready to be purchased. \$25.00 each & Scandia gets 5%!



Sunday, August 16, is Back - Pack Blessing Sunday. Bring your back packs to church and Pastor will bless them during the service.



Thank you Scandia,
I used the Campership
money to attend Swan
Lake Camp for a 3 day
stay this year. I had
sooo much fun!! Brock
Pingrey joined me this
year. We met new
friends, ate good food,
played games, swam,
sang & had chapel
time. I can't wait to
go next year again!!
Thank,



Colton Langley

Thank you Scandia,
I went to day camp at
Swan Lake & used the
Campership fund.
We played games, sang,
swam, ate snacks & lunch,
and made a cross craft
out of beads. It was so
much fun. Can't wait till
next year when I get to
stay over night.
Thanks,
Gracie Langley



Thank you so much for my
quilt. It will come in very
handy at college. I
appreciate all the work that
is put into the quilts for us
seniors. Tessa Eide



Altar Guild

Jane Knutson & Kathy Anderson
Communion Assistants
Char Adamson & Joyce Vasgaard



USHERS for August



2 Daniel Knutson Family
9 Mike Moore Family
16 Matt Bendert Family
23
30 Allen & Kathy Skotvold

READERS for August

2 Darrell Mark
9 Cynthia Marohl
16 Jean Smith
23 Cody Carstensen
30 Mark Christofferson



If your
are willing
to read,
usher or
be com-
munion as-
sistant,
please call

ACOLYTE SCHEDULE for August

2 Wesley Moore & Turner Van Hull
9 Bryer Martz & Drew Moore
16 Isaiah Perry & Walker Bendert
23 Miles Stevens & Oakley Martz
30 Jace & Carter Muller



This is a requirement for your confirmation.
If you cannot acolyte when you are sched-
uled, you must find your own replacement
and let the church office (563.2458) know by
Thursday so it can be posted correctly the
bulletin.

the
office
@ 605
-563
-2458
or
call /text
Sherrie
605-530-
7910.

Scandia Lutheran Church

251 Broadway Blvd.
PO Box 147
Centerville, SD 57014-0147
Office Phone: 605-563-2458
E-mail: office@scandialutheran.com

Pastor
Elan Ashby
507-828-9514
Office Administrator:

Worship 9:00 am
Everyone Welcome!

Non Profit Organization

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Permit No. 44

Centerville, SD 57014

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

TIME DATED MATERIAL

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

August 3

Stacy Knudson

August 5

Sophia Eide
Christian Perry

August 6

Lee Barrows
Regina Barrows

August 7

Loren Pickard
Evan Bertrand

August 8

Patrick Carlson
Clint Perry

August 9

Blake Mark

August 10

Andy Mark
Emilee Laska

August 11

Doug Knutson
Justin Poppenga
Cordell Lunning

August 12

Char Adamson
Maggie Stevens
Megan Stevens

August 13

Jim Carlson
Todd Austin

August 14

Betty Jo Johnson

August 15

Marlene Erickson

August 17

Jaelynn Buckneberg
Nolan Fischer

August 19

Ronald Meyer
Colton Langley

August 21

Henry Gerken

August 23

Maryn Nelsen

August 27

Ethan Bobzin

August 28

Shanda Beeler

August 29

Harlow Stevens

August 30

Megan Carnes
Preslee Stevens

August 31

Pattie Meyer

August 3

Phillip & Shelli Eide

August 11

Justin & Breanne Nelsen

August 12

Steve & Julie Leslie

August 13

Gary & Char Adamson
Jamey & Kim Hult

August 15

Preston & Shalee Stevens

August 17

Nick & Alison Laska

August 19

Dan & Roxanne Evans

August 21

Allen & Lori Hisel
Dustin & Maggie Stevens

August 24

Tony & Stephanie O'Toole

August 26

Paul & Colleen
Buckneberg

August 27

Scott & Natalie Moore

August 31

Chuck & Deb Bertrand