

## E-Newsletter

October 14, 2024

News and photographs from The South Dakota District—LCMS

## A NEW SCHOOL AT BLACK HAWK



Divine Shepherd Lutheran Church and School in Black Hawk was blessed to open the doors of its Kindergarten through fourth grade Classical Academy on Tuesday, September 3<sup>rd</sup>. The Church had been praying and seeking God's will earnestly for nearly two years beforehand. God answered the prayers of His people by sending us our teacher, Erin Norman. Erin holds a Master of Arts in Special Education and a Bachelor of Science Degree in Agricultural Educa-

tion & Communications from the University of Wyoming. She and her husband Scott are members of Divine Shepherd. Their two boys, Marshall and Garrett, are also students in the Academy.

Classical education in the language arts at the primary level is captured in the trivium, comprised of grammar, logic, and rhetoric. Students are taught to gather information, critically reason, and express information. Classical Lutheran Education acknowledges God as the source of all knowledge and learning and expresses this back to the Triune God.

The Academy opened its doors on September 3<sup>rd</sup> with 5 students as a microschool. Pastor Dennis Mercer, who is the Associate Pastor at Divine Shepherd, serves as the Headmaster. He holds a Bachelor's Degree in Music Education from Towson University in Maryland. This year he completed the SMP program through Concordia Theological Seminary Ft. Wayne. Pastor Mercer and Erin were installed in their respective positions in the Divine Service held September 8<sup>th</sup> at Divine Shepherd.

Thanks be to God for His continued blessings to His Church!





