

## E-Newsletter

February 7, 2025

News and photographs from The South Dakota District—LCMS

## HIGHER THINGS RETREAT AT MT. CALVARY, BROOKINGS A WEEKEND OF FAITH, FUN, AND FELLOWSHIP

More than 30 youth from across South Dakota gathered at Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church in Brookings for a fantastic Higher Things retreat. The event, held January 19-20, brought together high school and college students to dive into important questions about faith, culture, and identity in a world that can sometimes feel pretty confusing.

Pastor Merritt Demski from Iowa led the retreat with engaging presentations, lively discussion, and excellent liturgy, helping students see how Scripture speaks clearly about these topics. It was a weekend filled with deep conversations, plenty of laughs, and encouragement to stand firm in Christ.

Mt. Calvary was an excellent host with warm hospitality, delicious meals, and a great atmosphere for meaningful conversations. Attendees left not only with new insights but also with new friends who share the faith.

The South Dakota District hosts two of these retreats each year: one in August for confirmation-aged students (next time it'll be August 8-9 at St. John in Gregory, SD!) and another in January for high school and college students. If you haven't been to one yet, you're missing out! These retreats are a great way to grow in the faith, wrestle with big questions, and have a great time doing it.

