



# DISTRICT NEWS

## SOUTH DAKOTA

### ***THE PAST IS PROLOGUE***

**By Rev. Randy Sturzenbecher, President, SD District**

Dear Saints,

I hope you have had time to read the February 2026 issue of the Lutheran Witness. The entire edition focuses on Congregational Vacancies.

At any given time, across the Synod there are about 500 vacant parishes. This is not unusual. Vacancies allow movement of pastors by the Holy Spirit's guidance. Vacancies also allow congregations time to reflect on the ministry in their congregation and community and prioritize what their strengths and weaknesses are.

The reality we face today is that our universities and seminaries are producing fewer pastors and church workers. When this is combined with an aging clergy population and increasing retirements, it can give the impression that we are entering a vacancy crisis.

We are not in crisis. Our Lord is very clear when He says, "And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age" (Matthew 28:20b). And in Romans 8, we hear this: "What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things" (Romans 8:31-32)?

God provides for His Church. We know that and trust that. He sent His Son to be our Savior. Neither sin nor death, nor the devil nor the grave could hold Him. He rose and promised us this. "For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his" (Romans 6:5). The eternal unchangeable hope that we are forgiven does not and will not change no matter how many congregations are vacant.

God is already providing for His Church. Set Apart to Serve, the Synod's initiative to raise up more church workers, is leading to more men and women entering our Concordia University system for church work. Our seminaries are seeing larger class sizes, which will lead to more men available to receive calls into vacant congregations. God is providing, but it will take time.

We are not in vacancy crisis, but we are faced with a 24% vacancy rate in our beloved District. It is easy for us to think that the ministry in this place must be done this way at this time, because this is the way we have always done it. We have more of those luxuries when we are blessed



**Rev. Randy Sturzenbecher,**

President,  
SD District

with a full-time pastor to shepherd the flock and bring God's good and precious gifts to us. When we are vacant, we are required to be more flexible.

When I was in Washington, D.C., for the March for life, I walked by the National Archive building. In front of that building is the statue named "Future." Inscribed beneath "Future" is the phrase, "Past is Prologue."

That is profound. Looking at our past gives direction for our future.

Here is how the Saints in the Dakota Territory were served in the past.

"In 1874 Reverend John F. Doescher was commissioned to serve in Dakota Territory. He reported in 1875 that he was serving 26 stations in eight different counties. It was under Reverend Doescher's direction and leadership that

the Evangelical Trinity Congregation Unaltered Augsburg Confession was organized in 1876 at Heilbronn (southwest of Freeman), Dakota Territory. This was the first congregation on record of what became known as the South Dakota District of the Lutheran Church- Missouri Synod." (*Courageous Faith Bold Witness, A History of the South Dakota District LCMS*, p7.)

One dedicated Pastor preaching and teaching and giving the Good News of Jesus Christ risen from the dead to God's Saints at 26 different places in eight different counties where people adjusted so when the opportunity came to hear the Good News they were there. I can guarantee you they did not all have church at 9 o'clock on Sunday morning! But they did gather in worship. They did have God's Word of Law and Gospel preached to them. Babies were baptized. The Lord's Body and Blood were given to them for the forgiveness of sins. The blessed dead were laid to rest, and hope was preached to the grieving. God was working.

He continues to work, even in times of vacancy.

Dear Saints, during times when your congregation is without a full time resident pastor, I encourage you to remain patient and flexible. God is faithful, and He will provide. And when your pastor is called to serve as a vacancy pastor, please also be patient with him. The number of saints he serves increases, the miles he travels grow, yet the hours in each day remain the same.

God is with us always just as He promises.

Praying for the vacant congregations and those serving the vacant congregations,

President Sturzenbecher

# DISTRICT NEWS

## *Celebrating 25 Years of Main Street Living: Be a Part of Creating a Daily Devotion Book*



**By Rev. Dr. Scott Sailer, Content Editor, Devotion Book Project**

You might have heard that the board of directors of Main Street Living (MSL) is hoping to publish a daily devotion book in celebration of the 25th Anniversary of MSL. The board anticipates a January 1, 2027, release date, around the time the very first MSL worship service was broadcast out of Sioux Falls, 25 years ago.

We would love to have you – pastor, commissioned minister, or layperson – write one, two, or three devotions for this project!

For more information, including submission guidelines and sample, please contact me at [scottsailer@aol.com](mailto:scottsailer@aol.com) or (605) 212-2706.

**The deadline for submissions is March 31, 2026.**

## **SYNOD SEEKS NOMINATIONS FOR LCMS BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEMBERS-AT-LARGE**

During its May 2026 meeting, the LCMS Board of Directors will appoint two (2) members-at-large, for three-year terms, to begin November 1, 2026, and end October 31, 2029. Nominations for members-at-large are currently being requested.

One incumbent, Gregory T. Golden, is eligible for reappointment to an additional term. He is presently in his second term; he will automatically be considered in nomination. Louis W. Kastens, III, the other incumbent, resigned May 5, 2025, and an alternate attended in his place.

Members-at-large are eligible to serve no more than three successive terms. The two alternates appointed in 2025 were Nick Avey (Tonganoxie, Kan.) and Collin Bivens (Troy, Ill.).

LCEF also requests that the LCMS Board of Directors appoint **two to three alternates** in case any members-at-large are unable to attend an annual meeting held in November, which this year will be held in-person in St. Louis.

Nominations may be submitted through the new online nomination system at [forms.lcms.org/form/LCMS/SECR/APPOINTMENTS/2025-01-LCEF-MAL-NOM](https://forms.lcms.org/form/LCMS/SECR/APPOINTMENTS/2025-01-LCEF-MAL-NOM). For those with a LISN ID, it can be used to login. For all others, you will use your email address to complete the process.

The deadline for submission of nominations is **Monday, March 9, 2026.**



Mt. Olive, Watertown, is blessed to have many active seniors in our congregation. Each quarter our LWML group hosts a birthday party for those with milestone birthdays of 70, 75, 80, 85, 90, and every year after 90. In February, the LWML Quarterly Birthday Celebration honored Francis Boogaard - 97, Vicky Lauseng - 70, Harry Johnson - 90, Merle Heidenreich - 96, Norma Schoenfeld - 95 and Arlene Jordan - 93.

## **2026 Bible Bowl**



The 2026 Bible Bowl is open for registration to youth in 6th-12th grades. This year's Bible Bowl topic is, "The Life of David" and will cover 1 Samuel 16 through 1 Kings 2, Psalm 51 and Luther's Small Catechism: Confession. The event takes place Saturday, March 21, starting at 10 a.m. Location is Faith Lutheran Church, 714 N. Grand Ave., in Pierre.

After rejecting Saul as king, Samuel declared that the LORD had sought out a man after his own heart to be prince over his people (1 Samuel 13:14). We will not find a perfect man, but a man who knew God's mercy and forgiveness, who would transgressors in the God's ways, so that sinners should return to him.

For additional questions, contact District Bible Bowl coordinator Rev. Marcus Ring at (605) 831-0601 or [revmring@gmail.com](mailto:revmring@gmail.com).

All are welcome to study God's Word and watch our District youth compete.

## MAIN STREET LIVING PROGRAMMING – MARCH

“Main Street Living” is a liturgical worship service broadcasting a different local pastor each Sunday morning. It airs along with the classic Lutheran Hour program, “This is the Life.” Both can be viewed on KDLT (NBC) & KEVN (FOX).

NBC airs “This is the Life” programs at 10 a.m. and “Main Street Living” programs at 10:30 a.m. Central Time. KEVN (FOX) airs “This is the Life” programs at 8 a.m. and “Main Street Living” programs at 8:30 a.m. Central Time. The “Main Street Living” programs are interpreted and closed captioned for the deaf and hard of hearing.

Visit [www.mainstreetliving.com/](http://www.mainstreetliving.com/) to view current and past episodes.

### Mar 1, 2026

8 a.m. (KEVN/FOX) and 10 a.m. (KDLT/NBC) – “Undertow”

Harry (David Ogden Stiers) loses his daughter to drowning. In his grief, he blames the lifeguard, Jim (Gil Peterson).

8:30 a.m. (KEVN/FOX) and 10:30 a.m. (KDLT/NBC) – “Main Street Living”

Rev. Kurt Laskowsky, pastor at First English, Centerville and Zion, Hurley, presents a message titled, “Faith Tested.” The sermon is based on Matthew 15:21-28.

### Mar 8, 2026

8 a.m. (KEVN/FOX) and 10 a.m. (KDLT/NBC) – “The Healer”

Dave Forman (Gary Collins) is a dynamic “faith healer” who becomes angered by the drowning death of his daughter.

8:30 a.m. (KEVN/FOX) and 10:30 a.m. (KDLT/NBC) – “Main Street Living”

Rev. Ryan Loeslie, pastor at Immanuel, Dimock, presents a message titled, “Worshiping God in Spirit and Truth.” The sermon is based on John 4:5-26.

### Mar 15, 2026

8 a.m. (KEVN/FOX) and 10 a.m. (KDLT/NBC) – “Flames of Hate”

Betty Blackwood (Angie Dickenson) is stuck between the man she loves, Art (Ed Kemmer), and her obsessive father Nate (Edger Dearing), who disapproves of art.

8:30 a.m. (KEVN/FOX) and 10:30 a.m. (KDLT/NBC) – “Main Street Living”

Rev. Don McKillop, pastor at Trinity, White Lake and St. Paul, Plankinton, presents a message titled, “I Was Blind, Now I See.” The sermon is based on John 9.

### Mar 22, 2026

8 a.m. (KEVN/FOX) and 10 a.m. (KDLT/NBC) – “Money for Marriage”

A woman’s decisions at work put a strain on the new couple’s marriage.

8:30 a.m. (KEVN/FOX) and 10:30 a.m. (KDLT/NBC) – “Main Street Living”

Rev. Tim Rynearson, pastor at Peace, Brookings, SD, presents a message based on Psalm 130.

### Mar 29, 2026

8 a.m. (KEVN/FOX) and 10 a.m. (KDLT/NBC) – “The Twisting Road”

A young man and his wife deal with life, future and regrets of things left unspoken.

8:30 a.m. (KEVN/FOX) and 10:30 a.m. (KDLT/NBC) – “Main Street Living”

Rev. Zachary Wessel, pastor at Trinity, Hartford, presents a message titled, “Behold Your King.” The sermon is based on Matthew 21:1-9.

## SFLS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR EARNS PRESTIGIOUS AWARD

Sioux Falls Lutheran School (SFLS) is pleased to share Mrs. Tia Esser, Executive Director, has been named the recipient of the 2026 Esther Award by the Lutheran Education Association (LEA). Since 2006, the Esther Award has been presented only seventimes, underscoring the significance of this recognition.



Tia Esser

The Esther Award recognizes exemplary leadership and perseverance on behalf of Lutheran

education—particularly leadership marked by faithfulness, courage and discernment during seasons of challenge and growth, resulting in positive and lasting ministry outcomes.

Former District President and longtime pastoral partner Rev. Dr. Scott Sailer reflected on Mrs. Esser’s servant-hearted leadership, noting that she is “a humble servant-leader who never seeks her own praise, but consistently gives glory to God and

lifts up those who serve alongside her.”

Over the past decade and a half, Mrs. Esser has helped guide SFLS through a remarkable season of mission-centered growth and renewal. What began as a small preschool–8th grade program has become a comprehensive infant-through-grade-12 Lutheran school, now preparing to serve more than 550 students during the 2026–27 school year. Along the way, the school has navigated campus relocation, the development of a thriving high school, multiple major capital projects, faculty and staff expansion, and sustained enrollment growth, all while remaining firmly rooted in the Gospel.

## Moments with Mary Jo

### A Time of Renewal



**Mary Jo Stier**  
LWML District  
President

As we march into another month (yes—March!), we're reminded of the saying: Will it come in like a lion and go out like a lamb?

March is a season of new beginnings, renewal and transition as winter fades and spring emerges. As we look forward to the coming of spring, it's also a good time to pause and reflect inwardly. Scripture calls us to do just that: "to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness"

(Ephesians 4:23-24).

Over the past few months, you have allowed me the space to share my grief, and for that I am deeply thankful. Now, as Ephesians 4:23 reminds us, it is time for renewal—renewal of spirit and purpose.

One way I am experiencing this renewal is through planning the South Dakota District Convention this June. The theme is, "Confidence in His Grace," based on Hebrews 4:16: "Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need."

## Milbank Zone Report

By Jeanette Gravdahl, Milbank Zone President

The Milbank Zone had a Fall Rally/Workshop on Saturday, Oct. 11, 2025, at Emanuel, Milbank. The theme was, "Freely Received, Freely Give." Pastor Chris Davis from Emanuel led an informative and thought-provoking Bible study on generosity. He encouraged us to consider: "Generosity: What's the point?" He used the widow's mite, the greatest commandment, and the tithe as discussion points.

Election of officers was held and all officers agreed to serve another term. They are: Sue Magedanz, secretary; Nancy Hanson, treasurer; and Dorothy Bassingthwaite, VP of Human Care.

Gifts from the Heart ingathering for the Fall Rally supported the Milbank Orphan Grain Train and included donated items and cash donations.

The ladies spent the afternoon working at the Milbank Orphan Grain Train site, hauling in carloads of items for the Grain Train and then separating the items into the appropriate boxes. Ingathering items included plastic bags, fabric, sheets, pillowcases, trim for pillowcase dresses, diapers, baby quilts and clothing. Many of the ladies packed mercy meals.

The Milbank Zone Spring Rally will be at St. John's, Revillo, on April 19. Pastor Nathan Neugebauer will provide a Bible study on grace. The in-gathering will be layette items for Orphan Grain Train and kits will be assembled after the meeting.



Milbank Zone ladies prepared over 250 Mercy Meals at Milbank Orphan Grain Train.



## REPENTANT JOY!

### COUNSELOR'S CORNER

Lent is your yearly reminder that you didn't get away with it.

Whatever sin you did, or continue to do, God sees and knows. You can pull the wool over the eyes of your neighbors. You can look good by giving lots of money to church, or charity or by investing yourself in worthy causes. You can look good by going to church every week or more than once a week, and by praying a lot, so that people think: There goes a good person.

However, you can't pull the wool over God's eyes. Your Father in heaven sees what is secret, even that which nobody else sees. And while you know your own sins better than anyone else, and how sinful you are, God knows them even better than you. Your sin runs deeper than even you know. You didn't get away with it. Thus, Lent is a season of repentance, so that we seek the cleansing that we need; not in what we do, but in what our Lord has done for us. To bend the knees not of our bodies but of our hearts and say: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

And He does. Jesus went to the cross to die for all of our sins – the ones we know and the ones we don't. He knows



**Rev. Dr. Brian Mosemann**  
LWML District Counselor

them all. The One who knows every sin died for every sin. No sin too little, no sin too great, no sin Jesus did not bear on the cross.

To repent is to change your mind about sin. To let go of it. To confess it. That you don't want it anymore. For the Holy Spirit, through the Word of God, has revealed to you something better to hold onto than your sin: Jesus. The Spirit has given you faith to believe in Him and cling to Him. None of that came from you. It is the work of the Holy Spirit in you, changing your mind and heart.

The Divine Service is about repentance. After the confession of your sins comes the Absolution, in which all your ugly, filthy, death-causing sins are forgiven. Next comes the Gospel of all that Jesus has done for you in winning forgiveness for you. And that is followed by Jesus giving you His Body and Blood to feed and strengthen you in your new life of faith and the Spirit.

The reason that you let go of your sins and cling to Christ is because Christ grabbed hold of you and your sins and clung to the cross for you. Thus, Lent is a joyful season of Christ and His gifts, for you. Repentant joy!

## *LWML seeks Young Women Representatives for June SD District Convention*

**By Laurel Schamber, Committee chairman for YWR**

Becoming a young woman representative provides connections with other young women from around the great state of South Dakota and connections with experienced women in mission. It continues the legacy of LWML to bring in younger generations to our mission to serve the LORD with gladness.

Please consider asking the young women within your groups and

congregations, ages 22-35, to participate as young women representative in this year's SD District Convention June 5-6 in Rapid City, SD.

Additional information regarding specific activities for young women representatives will be released in the near future. You can also contact the chairman of the committee for young women, Laurel Schamber with further questions via email at [lschamber0706@gmail.com](mailto:lschamber0706@gmail.com).

## GIFTS FROM THE HEART

**By Dianne Hemminger**

The two recipients of our Gifts from the Heart at the District Convention will be Cornerstone Mission and Food Banks in the Black Hills.

Please consider donating items. Items for the Cornerstone can be large backpacks, reading glasses, twin size fitted sheets, laundry and dish soap, coffee and Kleenex.

Food bank items can be cereal, apple juice, Hamburger Helper and Tuna Helper, sugar (2-lb bags), canned vegetables and canned fruit, spaghetti sauce, produce, eggs, pasta, crackers, cheese, peanut butter and Jello.

# LUTHERANS FOR LIFE

## 2026 MARCH FOR LIFE

By Rev. Ryan Drevlow

Last year around September I was approached by an enthusiastic group of college students from SDSU. The Jacks for Life and the Lutherans for Life Student Chapter at SDSU had interest in attending the March for Life in Washington, D.C. My brother in Christ, Rev. Matthew Wurm, suggested this group contact me for advice and a moment happened. After speaking with them I suggested they link up with the Y4Life Conference and start working on airfare. I also suggested we open it up to the entire state. We did our best to get the word out. Soon our group included folks from Aberdeen and Sioux Falls.

After all the hard work was done organizing the trip, we settled into the wonderful fun of the idea. We were going to go to the seat of power and authority in our country and join with others from all over the world to say one clear thing: Life matters. It matters in the womb, in the hospital bed, across the world and in your own backyard. Since Roe has been overturned, abortions have slowed in some areas but in some places they have multiplied. We came to speak to Washington our righteous anger toward the Plan B pill and abortion tourism. We came to tell the power brokers there that we are against euthanasia for old and young alike.



South Dakota March for Lifers

Our group was made up of adults, high school students and college students. The students were well mannered, adventurous and patient. The conference was great. The speakers were on-point, teaching us truths of scripture and also giving us all kinds of good information about the world that we live in and how to impact it. The highlight of the conference was Ryan Bomberger, who spoke about his mother who was raped but gave him the gift of life. What a testimony!

We also spent time seeing things in D.C. that represent parts of our national heritage. My favorite activity in D.C. is to go to the Archives and see the Constitution and Bill of Rights. We fight for life because the word of God clearly tells us what life is and how we should protect it. A heartening harmony of logic is these words by Thomas Jefferson:

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.

We have amendments to give the right to protect oneself and to express oneself, but the greater and more foundational right is this: Whether unborn, infirm, indigent, or other, every person has a right to life, a right to live. And we must do what we can so that progress and the world do not turn against God's Law and man's best attempts to self-govern.

I might have said a few of these things to the people with me in D.C., including my children. I always get a little amped up when seeing the foundational documents of our country.

So the moment of the March came. We sang together, all sorts of people, young and old. We sang hymns and songs about the gift of life and about Jesus. We prayed along the march route for our country and our leaders. We cheered and laughed. We cried tears of joy and shouted to anyone who would hear. It was a good trip that we intend to do again next year. I will have more information for you on that front soon. We hope to take a group of South Dakotans twice as big!

Thank you, SD District! You helped us with funding part of our trip. Without you we would not have been able to go. Thank you! We can hardly wait until next year!



Pastor Drevlow with family in DC



## AN INVITATION TO PARTNER WITH MISSIONS WORK IN SPAIN

By Rev. David Warner

'Foro' is Spanish for forum. In LCMS International Missions, a Foro is a partnership of Lutheran people and institutions that help different mission fields do their work, on the ground, in the field.

The Eurasia Region of the LCMS Office of International Mission is establishing Foros for Spain and Romania to allow individuals, congregations, Districts and other LCMS organizations to participate in and support these growing fields. Foro Partners visit and learn the joys and challenges of their field, meeting and worshiping with the missionaries and the people they serve. They learn and discuss strategic plans with the missionaries, and in subsequent years, review their progress and discuss strategic plan adjustments with them. Foros also provide financial support to enable various projects, such as securing worship spaces or establishing theological libraries. Foro Partners become ambassadors for their field in their home church, circuit and district.

The Spain mission is holding their first Foro meeting, in Madrid, Spain, April 23 - 27. Former missionaries to Spain, Pastor David Warner (Custer and Hill City) and his wife, Shelee, will be attending. They would love to have you along to see a bit of Spain, learn about the mission, and become a partner of and ambassador for the faithful work being done there. Costs for travel, lodging and meals are the responsibility of the individual, or the congregation or group that is sending them. This is a significant investment. But, experience with Foros teaches us that the benefit, to the Mission Field, to Foro partners, and to their U.S. congregations, more than justifies the investment.

Interested in the Foro in Spain? If your congregation or you personally are interested, please contact Pastor Warner: 605-591-0415 - [pastorwarner@outlook.com](mailto:pastorwarner@outlook.com). He is ready to answer your questions, and provide details on activities and costs.

## LCEF's Take Heart Scholarship now open

High school seniors who have a Young Investors StewardAccount® with Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF) are eligible to apply for the Take Heart Scholarship. Answer this question, and you could receive up to \$3,000:

**Other than Jesus, which person in the Bible would you love to talk with?**

Recipients will be awarded scholarship amounts of up to \$3,000. Apply by May 1, 2026. For more information, visit [lcef.org/scholarship](http://lcef.org/scholarship).

## 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](mailto:communications@sddlcms.org).

## CALL INFORMATION

### PENDING CALLS

The following are prayerfully considering calls:

**Rev. Matthew Moss**, St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church and School, Maple Grove, MN, to Peace, Rapid City, Feb. 12.

**Rev. Samuel Handscke**, Faith, Pierre, to Prince of Peace, Medina, OH, Feb. 6.

**Rev. Phillip Booe**, Saint John, Luverne, MN, to Divine Shepherd, Black Hawk, Feb. 1.

### ACCEPTED

**Rev. Nathan Neugebauer**, St. Johns-Revilla/Bethlehem-Milbank, to Holy Cross Evangelical, Dodge City, KS, Feb. 14.

### DECLINED

**Rev. Daniel Grimmer**, Zion, Mitchell, declined 3 calls on Feb. 15: Zion-Chinook, MT/St. Paul-Havre, MT; St. John, Fredonia, WI; and St. Mark's, Milford, OH.

**Rev. James Preus**, Trinity, Ottumwa, IA, to Mt. Calvary, Brookings, Feb. 18.

### VACANCIES

• South Dakota District Office, Assistant to the President

- Trinity, Blunt/Immanuel, Harold, Holy Cross, Onida
- Mt. Calvary, Brookings (associate pastor)
- St. Peter, Wentworth
- Divine Shepherd, Black Hawk (senior pastor)
- Concordia, Cresbard/Immanuel, Wecota
- St. Paul, Plankinton/Trinity, White Lake
- St. John, Wagner/Trinity, Fairfax
- Mt. Calvary, Huron
- Peace, Rapid City
- Emanuel, Sisseton/Zion, Waubay
- Emmaus, Tripp/Zion, Delmont
- Mt. Olive, Watertown
- Trinity, Corona/Our Savior, Wilmont

# DISTRICT NEWS

## YOUTH CONNECT EVENT COMING UP

Siouxland Youth Connect and Iowa District West invite you to “The Slow Down”—an evening of music, poetry, and hope featuring Tanner Olson and Matt Doering.

**Date:** Thursday, March 26

**Time:** 6:30 PM

**Location:** Redeemer Lutheran Church  
3204 South Lakeport Rd, Sioux City, IA

**Tanner Olson** is a spoken-word poet and speaker who travels the country sharing poetry and stories of grace and hope. He was one of the nightly speakers at the Youth Gathering in New Orleans.

**Matt Doering** is a singer/songwriter based in Georgetown, Texas. He travels across the U.S. sharing music that offers a kind, restful reminder that—even in life’s ups and downs—beauty and love are always present.

Come and slow down. Be encouraged. Find hope.

A meal will be served from 5:15 - 6:00 pm.

Register at

<https://form.jotform.com/260194631874058>.

The poster is for an event titled "THE SLOW DOWN" featuring Matt Doering and Tanner Olson. It includes logos for Siouxland Youth Connect and Iowa District West. The event is described as "a night of music, poetry, and hope with TANNER OLSON and MATT DOERING" on Thursday, March 26th at 6:30pm. It also mentions a meal and fellowship from 5:15 to 6:00pm and a free will offering. Contact information for Jonathon (712-276-1125) and the address of Redeemer Lutheran Church (3204 S. Lakeport Street, Sioux City, IA 51106) are provided. Three QR codes are included for RSVP, More Info, and Watch.

## PARENTING TOWARD THE KINGDOM



Kyle Townes

All parents are invited to a free one-day workshop with Kyle Townes, author of *The Road Less Traveled: Reclaiming Childhood for Christianity*. She will present topics such as godly discipline, our role as parents, screen time, socialization, influential books, education and more. Throughout this course, we will refocus on what is truly important and eternal in our parenting. We will examine how secular parenting strategies and beliefs have

led many Christian families astray, and outline a different, Biblical path forward for you and your children.

Kyle is the wife of a military veteran, Richard Townes, and the mother of five children. After spending years in the public school system teaching middle school, she left the profession to classically educate her children at home. Townes is now a conference speaker and freelance writer. In addition to the previously mentioned book, she also maintains a blog at [Kidsarecapable.net](http://Kidsarecapable.net).

The workshop will take place at St. John’s, Britton, on May 9, with registration beginning at 8:30 am and sessions from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm. This workshop is free, but so we may plan for the noon lunch, we ask you to register by May 5 with Pastor Robert Moeller by email [Seelsorge8@aol.com](mailto:Seelsorge8@aol.com) or call or text (605) 321-1641.