

## Bethel Choir To Perform In Yankton Sunday

The Bethel Choir of Bethel University, St. Paul, Minn., will present a program of sacred choral music in Yankton on Sunday, March 18, as part of the ensemble's tour through Minnesota, Nebraska, South Dakota, and Colorado.

The choir will perform at Calvary Baptist Church, 2407 Broadway, at 4 p.m. It will also take part in the 10:30 a.m. service.

The Bethel Choir, led by Conductor Dennis Port, has received acclaim for its performances of choral literature in the United States and Europe as well as performances of major works with the Minnesota Orchestra.

This year's tour program, "Hymns and Spiritual Songs," is comprised of selections spanning more than 250 years of choral music. The inspirational collection of original compositions and arrangements includes something to please all tastes. Music from the pens of Pavel Tschesnokoff, Johannes Brahms, Johann Pachelbel, and Heinz Zimmerman anchor the inspirational program that is punctuated by some beloved hymns and traditional spirituals arranged by Moses Hogan, C. Edward Thomas, Lynette Peffley and Robert Berglund.

Events are free and open to the public, although a freewill offering will be taken. No reservations or tickets are needed. For more information, call Calvary Baptist Church or visit [www.calvarybaptistyankton.org](http://www.calvarybaptistyankton.org).

## Catholic Daughters Fish Fry Set For Parkston

PARKSTON — The Catholic Daughters of the Americas Court No. 280 Sacred Heart, Parkston, will present its sixth annual All You Can Eat Fish Fry on Friday, March 23, at the Sacred Heart Parish Center. Serving is from 4:30-7:30 p.m.

The menu includes pollack fish (deep fried or baked), baked potato or potato wedges, coleslaw, buns and Jell-O Dream Cake.

## Meeting Set For Catholics Weighing Annulment

An informational meeting for Catholics considering marriage annulment will be held at 7 p.m. Sunday, March 25, at St. Benedict Catholic Church, 1500 St. Benedict Drive, Yankton. Everyone is welcome to attend. Refreshments will be served.

## Valley Male Chorus To Perform At Riverview

The Valley Male Chorus of Rock Valley, Iowa, will be presenting sacred music on Sunday evening, March 25, at the Riverview Reformed Church, 1700 Burleigh Street, Yankton. This concert will begin at 6:30 p.m. The Riverview Reformed Church of Yankton is sponsoring this concert.

A freewill offering will be taken for the benefit of children and adults with disabilities who are currently receiving services at Hope Haven both locally and around the world.

Everyone is invited to attend this evening of praise and thanksgiving.

## Easter Vacation Bible School Offered

Yankton Baptist Church will have an Easter Vacation Bible School from 1-3 p.m. on Saturday, March 31.

Preregister before March 25 by calling 605-665-7587 or 605-689-0312. Visitors welcome to attend.

## UCC To Present Easter Cantata April 1

The Adult Choir of the Yankton United Church of Christ (Congregational) is in the midst of rehearsals for its sixth annual Palm Sunday music presentation, the cantata "We Were There" by Pepper Choplin, scheduled for 4 p.m. Sunday, April 1.

The cantata will be performed in a choral/readers' theatre format, all accompanied by orchestra.

Director Jennifer Powell said, "Most years our cantatas have followed the events of Holy Week, but, this time, the music and readings will tell a more personal story of Jesus, in the words of those who were with him throughout his life, and at the end."

The public is invited to this opportunity to experience the Passion story in an especially meaningful way. A freewill offering will be collected.

For more information, contact Melissa Pratt at the church office ([melissapratt@iw.net](mailto:melissapratt@iw.net); 605-665-7320).

# God Wants Your Faith To Grow

BY REV. LANCE LINDGREN

Vangen Lutheran Church, Mission Hill

"His divine power has given us everything needed for life and godliness. He has given us, through these things, his precious and very great promises ..." (2 Peter 1:3-4 NRSV)

We're in the midst of Lent; but you may have doubts if there's any real growth in your faith. And with all the competing forces in our daily lives, it can be difficult living a life of faith in God with any degree of integrity. Growing in faith, or remaining negligent is, of course, your free will; the choice is yours. And because of the assurance of freedom of religion in this country, we have the option of continuing to run on the treadmill of "self-sufficiency," or of becoming "God-sufficient."

So many things happen in our lives — work, marriage, family, relationships, church, community — that we often wonder if we have what it takes to keep going; to "make it" in life. Well, according to the Apostle Peter, God wants to affect every area of our lives, and

when we grow closer to Christ, God's power can become operational in our lives. But, it seems that everywhere we turn, we get this obsession of making it our quest to be self-sufficient in order to achieve the "American way of living."

Many people think that if a person sets one's mind to it (whatever "it" is), that person could literally do anything. However, in the process of attempting to do literally anything, of striving to be self-sufficient, the casualty ratio has also been extremely high. The incidents of personal tension, stress at work, family stress, divorce, abusiveness, financial bankruptcy, etc. are all indicators of how we've failed in the face of our human quests.

God doesn't promise us that we'll be granted the magic power to do anything at all on our own. All of Scripture reminds us of that from the very beginning with Adam and Eve. But, by learning to be



REFLECTIONS

"God-sufficient" — trusting in God's power rather than our own — we're able to face daily pressures.

You may already know that God is salvation, but to be "God-sufficient" means to practice a prayer life, and to let our faith rest daily in Christ's promises. If you don't make a habit of taking time to pray, to study and reflect on God's Word, and to worship God, the fruit of your faith will surely remain in an infancy stage. Think not though, that God is not interested in you, or that God has abandoned you, because you haven't nurtured your faith! God's faithfulness is eternal! God is willing to make himself known to you all the time. God's great desire is to guide and bless our lives, to give us wholeness.

flect on God's Word, and to worship God, the fruit of your faith will surely remain in an infancy stage.

Whether we have little or much, putting our trust in God, we're assured we'll have Christ always. We may not have the faith of a Peter or Paul, but the power of God-in-

Christ can and will give us what we need to experience life, if we but just let God have reign in our lives. Peter and the other apostles in the Bible say over and over again, that through Christ, we can be patient and hopeful in all things.

God created us to be social, relational people; and God desires that we have a relationship with Him, too! God doesn't want us to be stagnant in our faith. As long as there are lessons of the real world to be learned, growing in faith in God does not end either. There's no such thing as having completed one's growth in faith. Growth in faith is a security against spiritual decay in life.

Which will it be for you? Continue to run yourself ragged on the treadmill of human self-sufficiency? Or will you become "God-sufficient" by turning your life over to God? If you haven't done so already, why not give God a chance to be in your life? With what remains in Lent, let God increase his presence in your life. Like a loyal friend, God is waiting for you. The choice is yours ...

# Recent Poll Puts Spotlight On Pastors' Priorities

BY HELEN T. GRAY

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KANSAS CITY, Mo. — The Rev. Molly Simpson puts a high priority on hospitality at her church.

She wants people to feel welcome. That way visitors are more likely to return, she said.

"Also, kids are excited to be there, and parents feel comfortable to leave their children with people who can minister to them on their level."

The proof is in the results.

When the United Methodist Church of the Resurrection's Olathe, Kan., branch started six years ago, attendance was 300 to 350. Now it is 900, Simpson said.

Simpson was considering the recent Barna Group survey of 614 Protestant pastors across the country on how they plan to improve their churches in the next year. The California-based organization that researches spiritual topics gave the pastors a choice of 12 activities and asked them to rate their priorities.

At the top was assessing their church's vision and mission. Fifty-nine percent were definite and 88 percent were definite or probable.

At the bottom was finding a search firm to help hire the right people. Just 2 percent of the pastors said they definitely planned to do this, and only 5 percent were definite or probable.

The second priority was assessing their church's reputation in the community (38 percent were definite and 72 percent definite or probable), followed by measuring the demo-

graphic and spiritual needs of their community (31 percent definite and 62 percent definite or probable).

The others in order of importance were:

Be more focused on safety and security issues at your church. (25 percent definite)

Revamp your budgeting and spending process. (25 percent definite)

Conduct an assessment of spiritual transformation in your church. (22 percent definite)

Invest in facilities and equipment for children. (22 percent definite)

Invest in audio and visual equipment. (19 percent definite)

Invest in facilities and equipment for teens. (18 percent definite)

Invest in technology and digital media. (18 percent definite)

Work to help increase giving. (6 percent definite)

Church of the Resurrection's Simpson was surprised that "technology and digital media" were so low, given this will become more important for the church of the future. But it's hard to know whether churches have already made investments in those areas or whether they feel that is too far out of their financial reach.

She was encouraged that "assessing your church's vision and mission" was No. 1.

"The rest don't matter if you don't have vision and mission," she said. "We have to change our thinking before we change our behavior. You have to ask why we are doing what we're doing."

It also surprised her that assessing the church's reputation in the community was No. 2.

# CHURCH SCHEDULES

## Abundant Life

**ABUNDANT LIFE MINISTRIES**, 517 Burleigh, Lawrence and Barbara Hladky, pastors, 665-0889. SAT 7pm Praise and worship celebration, SUN. 10am Worship. WED. 7pm Worship. Teens prayer daily 10am.

## Alliance of Renewal Churches

**LIVING WATER CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP**, Sun. 10am Yankton Middle School (2000 Mulberry) Weds. 7pm Prayer. David Olson, pastor. (605)260-2138.

## Assembly of God

**ASSEMBLY OF GOD**, 801 W. 25th, Jeff Mantz, pastor. 665-6362 (office). SUN. 10am Worship Celebration. WED. 6:30pm Midweek service and Bible study for all ages.

## Baptist

**ANTIOCH BAPTIST CHURCH**, 221 W. 3rd, Kevin Caskey, pastor, 665-0066. SUN. 9:30am Sunday School, 10:45pm Preaching Service, 4pm Afternoon Service. THU. 7pm Preaching & Prayer Service.

**BETHEL BAPTIST CHURCH**, 303 Ohio St., Wakonda. Mike Lindsay, pastor, (605)759-5020. SUNDAY Worship. 11:00a.m. evening 6:00pm WEDNESDAY Bible Study 12Noon.

**CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH**, SUNDAY: 9:00 Sunday School for all ages, 10:30 Worship Service. MONDAY: Service broadcast 7:30pm Channels 3 & 98. WEDNESDAY 6:30pm AWANA, 7-8th Grade Youth Group: 7:00pm 9-12th Youth Group, Adult Bible Study. Pastor Jon Cooke, Associate Pastor Rick Slattery, Youth Pastor Jeremy Nelson. [www.cbchurch.com](http://www.cbchurch.com) 2407 Broadway, (605)665-5594.

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## Baptist

**HARVEST INDEPENDENT BAPTIST**, 100 W. 3rd, Mission Hill. Pastor Nathan Martin, 668-0708 (ch.) 665-1481 (home). SUN. 9:30am SS. 10:30am Worship. 5:30pm Worship. WED. 7:00pm Worship.

**YANKTON BAPTIST CHURCH**, SBC, Pastor Matt Green, 607 East 15th St., Yankton, 665-7587. SUN. 9:30am Bible study, SS; 10:45am Worship. WED. 7pm Midweek service.

## Bible Church

**GRACE BIBLE CHURCH**, Call Pastor Joel Fink for meeting times an locations. Regular meetings: Sunday morning 10:30am; Wednesday Bible Study 7pm. (605)760-4701.

## Catholic

**HOLY FAMILY CHURCH OF CEDAR COUNTY** (Sts. Peter & Paul), Bow Valley, NE. Rev. Eric Olsen (402)357-2400. Mass: Saturdays 5pm.

**HOLY FAMILY CHURCH OF CEDAR COUNTY** (Immaculate Conception), St. Helena, NE. Rev. Eric Olsen. (402)357-2400. Mass: Sundays 9am.

**HOLY FAMILY CHURCH OF CEDAR COUNTY** (Sacred Heart), Wynton, NE. Rev. Eric Olsen. (402)357-2400. Mass times, Sundays at 11am.

**MOUNT MARTY COLLEGE**, Peace Chapel, MMC campus. SUN. 10am Mass with the Sisters in the Bishop Marty Chapel. Public is welcome to attend.

**SACRED HEART**, 509 Capital, Yankton, Rev. Mark Lichter pastor. 665-3655 (office). SAT. 4:30pm Mass. SUN. 8am, 9:30am, 11am Mass. THUR. 12:30pm, 2:30pm and 7:30pm Confessions.

**ST. AGNES PARISH: SIGEL**, rural Utica. SUN. 9am Mass, confessions 1/2 hour before Mass.

**ST. ANDREW'S CATHOLIC CHURCH**, Bloomfield, NE. Fr. Michael Schmitz SUN. Mass: 10:30am; TUE. Mass: 8am; THUR. Mass: 7pm. Confessions: THUR. 6:30-6:55pm.

**ST. BENEDICT CATHOLIC CHURCH**, 1500 St. Benedict Drive, Yankton, Father Ken Lulf, 664-6214 (church)& 10:30am. SAT. SUN. 8:30am& 10:30am.

**ST. BENEDICT CATHOLIC CHURCH**, 1500 St. Benedict Drive, Yankton, Father Ken Lulf, 664-6214 (church). Masses: SAT. 5pm. SUN. 8:30am& 10:30am.

## Catholic

**ST. BONIFACE CATHOLIC CHURCH**, Menominee, Neb., Rev. David Fulton, pastor. SUN. 8:30am Mass.

**ST. BONIFACE CHURCH**, rural Freeman. MARCH WEEKEND Mass Saturdays 4:30pm or call Rev. Mathew Vazhappily. (605)583-4318.

**ST. COLUMBA CHURCH**, rural Irene. MARCH WEEKEND Mass, Saturdays 6:15pm or call Rev. Mathew Vazhappily. (605)583-4318.

**ST. GEORGE CHURCH**, Scotland, SD. Rev. Mathew Vazhappily. MARCH WEEKEND Mass Sunday 9:30am or call (605)583-4318.

**ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC**, Lesterville. SUN. 10:30am Mass.

**ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC**, Fordyce, Neb. Rev. David Fulton. SUN. 10:30am Mass.

**ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH**, Constance, Neb., Fr. David Fulton, pastor. SAT. Mass: 7:30pm.

**ST. PATRICK'S CATHOLIC**, Wakonda, Rev. Scott Trayner, 624-2697. SUN. 8:30am Mass.

**ST. ROSE OF LIMA**, Crofton, Neb. Fr. Michael Schmitz. SAT. Mass: 8:00am & 5:30pm. SUN. Mass: 8:30am. WED/FRI. Masses: 8:15am. Confessions: WED. 11am-11:30am. SAT. 5-5:20pm.

**ST. WENCESLAUS**, Tabor, (605)463-2336. Rev. Joseph Puthenkulathil. SAT. 6pm Mass. SUN. 8:30am Mass.

**THE HOUSE OF MARY SHRINE**, 6-mi. W. Yankton, Hwy.52. Masses: Monday 8:30 through October. Masses Saturday 9:00 every Saturday. Rosary Sunday 4:00. Rosary 4:00. Open 7 days a week for prayer. [thehouseofmaryshrine.org](http://thehouseofmaryshrine.org)

## Charismatic

**YAHWEH-SHALOM CHARISMATIC**, St. Benedict Catholic Church. MON. 7:30pm prayer meeting

## Christian

**KINGSWAY CHRISTIAN Church**, 19th&Burleigh, 665-6317. Joseph Mason, Pastor. 9am SS; Worship 10:15am. Wed. 7pm Kids for Christ/Adult Bible Study. [www.kingswaychristianyankton.org](http://www.kingswaychristianyankton.org)

## Church of Christ

**CHURCH OF CHRIST**, 1114 West 12th, Yankton, 665-6379. SUN. 9:30am Bible study; classes for all ages. 10:30am Worship.

## Church of Jesus Christ

**CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST LATTER-DAY SAINTS**, 2300 Douglas, Yankton. Randy Campbell, (605)565-2016. Family History Ctr 665-0901. SUN. 10am Sacrament meeting.

## Episcopal

**CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH**, 517 Douglas, Yankton. Rev. James Pearson, (605)665-2456. Sunday 9:00 am Serenity 10:15 The Holy Eucharist and Sunday School Wednesday noon The Holy Eucharist.

## Evangelical

**Cornerstone Evangelical Church**, Pastor Oliver Omanson, Stewart Elementary School; Morning Service 10:30 a.m. Wednesday College Bible Study 1306 Maple Street. Mike Stevens 665-8750.

**EMMANUEL CHURCH YHS** Theater, 1801 Summit, Sunday School at 9:30am Worship Service 10:45 am [www.emmanuelyankton.com](http://www.emmanuelyankton.com) (605)665-0404.

## Lutheran

**CHRIST THE KING LUTHERAN CHURCH**: 305 W. 25th, Yankton, 665-8848. Rev. Dani Jo Ninke. SUN: 8:30am & 10am Worship, SS-9:45am.

**FAITH UNITED LUTHERAN CHURCH**, 44874 303rd St., Volin SD 57072. (605)267-2277. SUN. Worship Services 9:30am. Children's Education WED. Evening (WOW) 6:30-7:30pm.

**FIRST AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH**, AFLC 300 S. Carpenter St., Tripp. (605)935-6941 9:30am Sunday School; SUN. 10:45 Worship firsthope@santel.net

**GAYVILLE-BERGEN LUTHERAN Pastor** Ralph Egbert. (605)267-4342 (church) Sunday: Bergen Worship-9:00am, SS-10:15am GLC SS-9:15am, GLC Worship-10:30am.

**HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH**, AFLC 200 South Wilson, Delmont. (605)935-6941. SUN 9am Worship. 10am Sunday school. [firsthope@santel.net](http://firsthope@santel.net)

## Lutheran

**Martinus Lutheran Church**, Utica. Pastor Dean Schroeder Sunday Divine Service 10:30am (605)589-3195 [www.MartinusLutheran.org](http://www.MartinusLutheran.org)

**OUR REDEEMER LUTHERAN**, rural Irene. 263-3724. SUN. 9am Worship.

**OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN**, LCMC/NALC, Menno. Pastor Theresa Jacobson Office 605-387-5241 Worship 9am, Brunch, SS 10:20am Wednesday Lenten Services at Grace, 7:30pm

**OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN**, LCMS, 12th and Elm, Springfield. Rev. Kenneth Johnson, pastor. SUN. 8am Worship. 9am SS. THUR. 7pm Adult Bible study.

**PRINCE OF PEACE**, Wisconsin Synod, 201 East 25th St., Pastor Werre, 665-4793. Sat. 6pm Worship.

**South Dakota Lutheran Church** Missouri Synod, MAIN STREET LIVING television program, 10a.m. (CST) on KDLT-NBC; and 11a.m. (CST) on KAUN-PAX; and 10a.m. (MST) on KKRA-PAX.

**St. John's Lutheran Church**, Tyndall. Pastor Dean Schroeder. Sunday Divine Service: 8:30am (605)589-3195. [www.StJohnsTyndallLCMS.org](http://www.StJohnsTyndallLCMS.org)

**ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH** (LCMS), 1009 Jackson. David Gunderson, Pastor. SUN. 8am Worship, 9:15am Education Hour, 10:30am Worship.

**TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH**, 403 Broadway, Yankton, 665-7415. Saturday-5:30p.m. Worship; Sunday-8:15a.m./10:45a.m. Worship; 9 a.m.-Breakfast; Classes-9:30a.m.

**TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH**, Hartington/Crofton, NE, Justin Whire, interum pastor; (402)254-6606. SUN. 9am Worship (Hartington), 10am SS (Hartington), 11am Worship (Crofton).

**TRONDHJEM LUTHERAN CHURCH** (AFLC), rural Volin. 263-3841. SUN. 9:15am; 10:30am Worship.

## Non-Denominational

**FAITH ALIVE**, 501 Cedar St., Yankton. 665-4797. Contemporary Worship & Family Values. SUN: 10am service. WED. 7pm Care-Cells "Small Groups For Building Relationships" Various Locations.

## Non-Denominational

**GLORY CHRISTIAN CENTER**, 901 E 11th St. Yankton. Gail Ryken, pastor, 665-2369. SUN. 10am Service. WED. 6pm Prayer. GC School, call (605)665-1988.

## Presbyterian

**PEACE PRESBYTERIAN** (PC/USA), 206 E. 31st. 665-0448. Rev. Dr. Nelson Stone & Rev. Marilyn Stone. Sun-10am worship, Coffee to follow. SS for kids 10:30am. Aired at 8pm Fri. on Ch. 3 & 98.

## Reformed

**RIVERVIEW REFORMED**, 17th St. & Burleigh, Rev. Rodney Veldhuizen, pastor. 665-9204. SUN. 9:30am Worship, 10:15am SS. WED. Youth group & adult choir.

## Seventh-Day

**SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST**, 722 Locust St., Yankton, 665-1032. Worship Services: Saturday 9:30am & 11am. Pastor Nick Osborn (605)760-7791. Yankton Fruit Program. [yanktonfruitprogram.org](http://yanktonfruitprogram.org)

## United Church