

# EVENING CELEBRATION AND RECOGNITIONS

to **forgive**

sins

to **protect**  
the **weak**

to **work** for  
**justice** and  
**peace**

to **pray**  
without  
**ceasing**

to **visit** the  
**prisoner**

to **dream**  
**dreams**

to **cloth**  
the naked

to **shelter**  
the

**unhoused**

to **sing**  
**praises**

to make  
**disciples** of  
all **nations**

to  
**prophecy**

to **walk**  
**humbly**  
with our  
**God**

to **provide**  
for the  
**widow** and  
**orphan**

to **Feed**  
my  
**sheep**

to **fish** for  
**people**

to care for  
**creation**

SOUTH DAKOTA SYNOD, ELCA



Exodus 18:13-27

2026 SYNOD ASSEMBLY

to **pass** on  
the **faith**

to **love** thy  
**neighbor**

to **preach**  
the **gospel**

to **baptize**

to **comfort** the  
**grieving**

to **welcome**  
the stranger

to **do this** in  
**remembrance**  
of me

THURSDAY, MAY 28, 2026

SIOUX FALLS, SD



South Dakota Synod  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

 **PROGRAM** **Greeting & Welcome**

*Bishop Constanze Hagmaier*

**Photo Slide Show****Recognition of Retirements**

*Bishop Constanze Hagmaier*

**Blessing/Prayer**

*Tim Larson,*

*Senior Planned Giving Adviser - Luther Seminary*

**Recognition of Anniversaries 5-40 years**

*Bishop Constanze Hagmaier*

**Blessing/Prayer**

*Rev. Denise Broveak, Assembly Chaplain*

**Musical Break - Dakota Road Music****Recognition of Anniversaries 45+ years**

*Bishop Constanze Hagmaier*

**Blessing/Prayer**

*Bishop Emerita Andrea DeGroot-Nesdahl,*

*Wartburg Theological Seminary*

**Musical Break - Dakota Road Music****Recognition of Congregational Anniversaries**

*Bishop Constanze Hagmaier*

**Closing Prayer - Bishop Constanze Hagmaier****Appetizers**

Sponsored by Luther Seminary & Wartburg Theological Seminary

# ANNIVERSARIES

- 75 YEARS** Rev. Paul H. Sanders\*
- 70 YEARS** Rev. Norman D. Eitrheim  
Rev. Eugene B. Tjarks
- 65 YEARS** Rev. Norris L. Einertson
- 60 YEARS** Rev. Durwood J. Clauson  
Rev. Donald D. Lehmann
- 50 YEARS** Rev. George M. Gehant, III\*  
Rev. Lilette E. Johnston  
Rev. R. Paul Johnston  
Rev. Jon R. Skaar
- 45 YEARS** Rev. Mary A. Feistner  
Rev. Wayne W. Meidinger  
Rev. Joanne K. Nagele  
Rev. Dave A. Nerdig  
Rev. David B. Zellmer
- 40 YEARS** Rev. Gregory P. Johnson  
Rev. David M. Wildermuth
- 30 YEARS** Rev. Chris B. Anderson  
Rev. Lori L. Hope  
Rev. Thomas E. Opoien  
Rev. Rhonda J. Wellsandt-Zell  
Rev. Elizabeth E. Wilder Platts
- 25 YEARS** Rev. Constanze Hagmaier  
Rev. Dirk A. Hagmaier  
Rev. Layne D. Nelson  
Rev. Jeffrey M. Otterman

\*Recently deceased

- 20 YEARS** Rev. Marcia I. Brennan  
Rev. Debora L. Grismer  
Rev. Justin L. Neugebauer  
Deacon Christy Lee Olson  
Rev. Katherine L. Olson  
Rev. Loren Lars Olson  
Rev. Jared L. Rakness
- 15 YEARS** Rev. Martha S. Atkins  
Rev. Ryan P. Gage  
Rev. Dr. Ramona S. Hayes  
Rev. Sheila R. Pohl  
Rev. Donald J. Reiffenberger  
Rev. Jonathan D. Splichal Larson  
Rev. Christopher R. Zuraff
- 10 YEARS** Rev. Janna N. Bader  
Rev. Alan H. Blankenfeld  
Rev. Michele L. Gehring  
Rev. Joshua P. Knudsen  
Rev. Steven L. Lindley  
Rev. Robert P. O'Connor
- 5 YEARS** Rev. W. Robert Michael Busbey  
Rev. Karie M. Geyer  
Rev. Shadoc B. C. Hanson  
Rev. Scott T. Munger  
Rev. Jaimie L. Odde  
Rev. Timothy M. O'Shields  
Rev. Aimee J. Pakan  
Rev. Joel M. Pakan  
Rev. Elizabeth A. Parks  
Rev. Kari M. Webb

SOUTH DAKOTA SYNOD, ELCA



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2026 SYNOD ASSEMBLY



# RETIREMENTS

Rev. Marcia I. Brennan  
Rev. Denise E. Broveak  
Deacon Laura L. Campbell  
Deacon Tommy L. Martin  
Rev. Thomas E. Opoien  
Rev. Stephan J. Sandness  
Rev. Lynnae I. Sorensen  
Rev. Brian R. Wasmoen  
Deacon Kristine C. Wollman

# CONGREGATIONAL ANNIVERSARIES

## ***125 Years***

Christ Lutheran Church-Hartford, SD  
Trinity Lutheran Church-Yankton, SD

## ***50 Years***

Our Savior Lutheran Church-Faulkton, SD



**South Dakota Synod**  
**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**