

Hands and Feet Opportunities "Better Together"

Lutheran Social Services-SD started the Better Together program in January, 2015. The program aims to match local independently living older adults, whom they call neighbors, with volunteers. The main purpose of the relationship is to get the older adult more active in the community and receive a companion to help ease any feelings of isolation and loneliness.

For a volunteer to get started, they need to first complete an application. LSS will process the application and complete all necessary background screens. When that is done, each volunteer meets one on one with our Better Together Coordinator for a 90-minute volunteer orientation. **Volunteers can be individuals, couples, families or small groups.** At least one volunteer must be age 18 and be present at all meetings. Volunteers commit to meeting with their assigned neighbor for at least four hours per month for a minimum of one year.

Together, matches can go out to eat, go to community events, talk and play cards at the neighbor's home or do whatever their imagination takes them!

If an older adult is interested, they must first complete the intake form. When completed, the LSS Better Together Coordinator will be in touch to set up a home visit. They will visit with the older adult for about an hour to explain the program and make sure this is something that will work for them.

When a match is made, LSS will set up the initial meeting and be present to ensure all goes well. After the first meeting, matches can schedule meetings at times that are convenient to both the volunteer and neighbor. LSS coordinates a monthly activity that all matches are invited (but not required) to attend. Events range from social gatherings to community service projects to attending community events. LSS also provides ongoing training and support to both volunteers and neighbors throughout their participation in the program.

Would you like to get involved? There are currently about 30 matches meeting and several older adults waiting for a volunteer

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**Operation Prom Dress** is March 24-25 – for more information go to:  
<http://life965.com/2017/02/operation-prom-dress-2016/>  
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All women are invited to the **Beautiful Life Women's Conference** on Saturday, April 1 at the American Reformed Church in Luverne, MN. Doors open at 8 AM with a continental breakfast; conference is from 9 AM until 2 PM. Rachel Barrentine - singer, songwriter, speaker - will weave her personal narrative of music, chronic sickness, goofiness, and grace in a way that ignites fresh faith in her listeners as she challenges us to "Be Brave". Registration is available online at www.beautifullifeconferences.org or by calling the church office at 507-283-8600. Cost is \$25 before March 26; \$30 after, and includes dinner from The Bluestem.

BRANDON VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

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Sunday, February 26, 2017

Accompanist: Jan Questad and Jackie Kramer

Greeters: Lindy Johnson and Marlene Smith Usher: Scott Sittig

Scripture Reader: Joan Murphy Nursery: Shawna James

Children's Church: Barbara Young and Kyle Skogen

9:30 am

Worship Service

Welcome, Announcements, & Christian Greetings

Praise Affirmation.....Galatians 2:20-21

Hymn #89....."Our Great Savior"

Prayer of Praise

Offering/Offertory

Doxology (*Hymn #625*) – please stand

Ministry of Music.....Chet & Rachel Hsiao

Children's Moments with Pastor Merv Kramer

Scripture Reading.....Titus 2:11-14

Children may be excused for Children's Church (3 yrs-2nd grade)

Sermon... "The Fruit of the Spirit –

Faithfulness, Gentleness, Self-Control"Pastor Kramer

Prayer Response

Closing Hymn #370....."I'll Live for Him"

Benediction

Postlude

***Nursery care is available for children infant thru 3 years old

(Please contact an usher for information and/or direction)

***Hearing Amplifier Available – Please contact an usher

Please join us after the worship service for coffee and treats in the fellowship room.

Sunday School for All Ages

Combined Preschool-1st Grade with Aaron Skogen or Jan Questad in Nursery
Combined 2nd-5th Grade with 2D Gerdes and Mindy Roeder in Cubbies Room
6th-8th Grade with Erica Skogen or Judy Preston in Pastor's Office
9th-12th Grade "Truth Project" with Mike & Stacy Frost in Youth Room
Adult Classes:

- "Grace" Bible Study with Mike Benson in Fellowship Room
- Video study with Pastor Kramer in Sanctuary. Today's topic is "The Six Days of Creation" part 2

*** Praise & Prayer***

Maxine Savage, for healing and strengthening

Elmer Gerdes, healing from hip fracture surgery, now at Garretson nursing home

Ruth Ortiz, possible cornea transplant surgery (previous one was unsuccessful)

Ruth Hansum, recovering at home from back surgery

Lajeanne Wright, wife of Jim Wright, for continued strengthening, dealing with side effects of medication; encouragement and endurance for Jim

Lorrayne Montecuello, for healing from broken hip, now home recovering

Ron Benson, brother of Mike Benson, for heart health issues

Amanda Benson, as her sending church, Amanda has asked that we lift her up in prayer as she is in the mission field.

Serving Our Country: Josh Onnen, Air Guard; Chad Carlson, Air Guard (Son-in-law of Carl & Lindy Johnson); Devon Lee, Army, and Kristina Lee, Air Force (Grandchildren of Ray & Dee Olson)

Our Prayer Partnership

- First Slavic Church
- Great Plains Recording Secretary

For Your Information and Prayer

- Monday: -3:30 p.m. Outreach Team meeting
- Wednesday: -6:30 p.m. Awana Clubs
- Thursday: -7:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study Fellowship (beginning a study of Ecclesiastes) at Rachel Hsiao home, 501 E Switchgrass
- Saturday: -2:00 p.m. Pastor Search/Leadership Team meeting

Next Sunday: March 5, 2017

- Greeters: Dan & LaDell Hason
- Usher: Doyle Young
- Nursery: Aaron Skogen
- Scripture Reader: Gene Preston
- Children's Church: Pat Lacey & Garret James

Congratulations:

The rose bud gracing the sanctuary today is presented in honor of a son, Denzel, born to Justin & Rae Jackson. Proud Grandparents are Terry & Chris Kramer and Aunt Rachel.

Our Missionary/Church Planter of the Week: Feb. 26

Tim Stevenson, Horizon Community Church, Galt, California. One of the philosophies of Horizon is that a church is a group of people not a building, so they gather at locations in three different cities. The two newest campuses are in Lodi and Walnut Grove. The campus at Lodi put an offer on an old church building at the end of last year, and Walnut Grove recently hired a part-time campus pastor to allow the ministry there to move forward. Pray that God would continue to deepen and widen their ministries in all three communities. For more information, visit www.horizonweb.org.



OUR GIVING:

Sunday, February 19, 2016

General Giving	\$ 2,636.00
Building Fund	\$ 25.00
Total	\$ 2,661.00