

First & Palisade Lutheran Parish



March 2026

LENTEN SERVICES



Wed, Mar 4th—7pm at Palisade Lutheran
Wed, Mar 11th—7pm at First Lutheran
Wed, Mar 18th—7pm at Palisade Lutheran
Wed, Mar 25th—7pm at First Lutheran



Sunday, March 29th
9:00am Worship at First Lutheran
10:30am Worship at Palisade Lutheran



Thursday, April 2nd
7:00pm at
Palisade Lutheran



Friday, April 3rd
7:00pm at
First Lutheran



Sunday, April 5th
7am Worship w/Communion at Palisade Lutheran
10am Worship w/Communion at First Lutheran

From the Pastor's Desk

We wait for many things. We wait in line at the grocery store to check out, we wait at the doctor's office to get checked out, we wait at the airport in security and to board the plane. We even wait in the sanctuary for worship to start. Waiting is one of those things that we cannot avoid.

Much of the time waiting is not a problem, we know it is a part of life and that when the waiting is done we can get on with our day, and so we patiently wait until it is our turn.

The season of Lent is also a time of waiting. We still wait for the things in life that we usually wait for, but during Lent there is one more thing we wait for.

During Lent we wait for the celebration of Easter. That one day when we anticipate the greatest gift ever given to humankind, the resurrection of Jesus from the tomb.

This wait is longer than most, but the final result is also greater than any other. At Easter we don't just get groceries or a vacation, at Easter we get a clean bill of health, spiritual health. At Easter we receive the assurance that because of Jesus' death and resurrection we receive forgiveness and the promise of eternal life.

As we wait to ponder the brutality and shame of the cross, we grieve. We grieve for our life of sin, we grieve for the loss of relationships due to our self absorbed lifestyles, and we grieve because we know that there is little we can do about it. No matter how hard we try we cannot fix the sin in the world nor the sin in our lives.

But Lent reminds us that something has been done to "fix" these things, Jesus died on the cross to "fix" sin. Not to change sin, not so illuminate sin, but to "fix" it. To "fix" the hold sin has on our lives. To "fix" the penalty of death from sin. To "fix" the world so that sin no longer is the victor over us.

When Jesus died on that cross he took all the sin of the world, past, present, and future from us and took it upon himself. When he rose on the third day, that sin and its punishment, was gone.

Sin still remains in our lives, but Jesus took the consequences that once were there, away, forever.

I encourage you this Lenten season to stop and think about that. The death and resurrection of one man was the salvation of the world.

Give thanks to God the Lent for this Great News and take time to stop and share this news with others.

May this Lent be a time of reflection and grace as you come to realize what Jesus sacrifice truly means.

Have a blessed Lent,
Pastor Mark

*The
Season
of
Lent*





Easter Lilies at First



As we did last year, **First Lutheran** will be ordering Easter Lilies to beautify our sanctuary on April 5th, Easter Sunday. 6” potted plants will be delivered to the church for the Easter service. After the service you can take yours home and enjoy the beauty of your plant.

Cost is \$18 per plant. Order forms are on the table in the narthex of the church. Please fill out a form and indicate if you are giving it in memory or honor of someone special in your life.

The number of plants we will need will be given to The Flower Mill after the March 15th service. Please return your order form and money to Jerry Kerkhove at church. If you have any questions, please call him at (605) 553-4188.



Palisade Lutheran will be purchasing Easter lilies for Easter Sunday. If you would like to give a donation in memory, or in honor, of a loved one, please contact Candace Reese by Sunday, March 22nd. You are welcome to take a plant home after the Easter worship service.

Save your empty PILL BOTTLES!



We will donate them to various organizations that can reuse them.

There will be a container at each church to place your empty pill bottles

Please wash/rinse and remove the label.



We will be worshipping at St. Dymas on Thursday evening, June 25th.

St. Dymas is an ELCA congregation located behind the walls of the SD State Penitentiary

More information to come.....

Our Parish Officers for 2026 are:

President—Lyle Rollag

Vice-President—Dennis Rozeboom

Secretary—Les Hengeveld

Treasurer—Candace Reese

CANCELLATION POLICY

There is a sign-up sheet at each church to share your email and phone # so that you will receive notices faster. Please use a phone # that will accept text messages.

If church services are cancelled for any reason, notice will be posted on our Facebook pages, KELO TV and KDLT TV. Text messages and emails may also be sent out.

Our **Parish email** address is:
firstpalisade@alliancecom.net

Church **office phone #** is:
605-757-6662

Pastor Mark's
contact information is:
Email: meliason@sio.midco.net
Cell phone: 605-321-5633

Palisade Lutheran Online Giving

Go to the Palisade Lutheran website at
www.palisadelutheran.org and
click on the online giving menu.
Or scan this QR code



First Lutheran Online Giving

Go to the First Lutheran
Facebook page and click
on the Vanco link. Or scan
this QR code



Newsletter information
may be mailed to:

Tylene Jansma
1019 St Highway 23
Beaver Creek, MN 56116

Or emailed to:

btjansma@alliancecom.net

DEADLINE for the April newsletter
is March 20th, 2026

Find us on Facebook:
[@FirstLutheranValleySprings](https://www.facebook.com/FirstLutheranValleySprings)
[@PalisadeLC](https://www.facebook.com/PalisadeLC)

Sunday morning worship
services are livestreamed on
Facebook every Sunday!



Join us in worship with Pastor Mark Eliason *Serving*

First Lutheran Church
300 Maple Street
Valley Springs, SD 57068

Palisade Lutheran Church
211 121st Street
Garretson, SD 57030
www.palisadelutheran.org



First Lutheran Council Meeting

Tuesday, February 17, 2026

The meeting was called to order by President Don Johnson with 6 members present and the pastor. Pastor Mark opened the meeting with prayer.

Secretary's Report: read and noted.

Treasurer's Report: read and noted.

Pastor's Report: During Lent Pastor will be leading information for some of the things we do what we do. There will be no confirmation until after Easter. Ash Wednesday services will be on the 18th at Palisade at 7:00 PM.

Old Business: The three stairwell hallways have been painted

New Business: Jerry will be in charge of ordering lilies. We will be walking the ditches April 18th at 8:00 AM. We will be researching the cost for pest control in the church

Next Council meeting is March 17. The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Hengeveld, Secretary

SPRING IS ALMOST HERE!

First Lutheran will be cleaning the two mile stretch of County Road 138

(the highway on the north side of Valley Springs from the state line west to the interstate entrance/exit and road to Garretson) again in April.

We began our two year commitment to the County last spring. We do our first walk in April, before the grass starts to grow and do a second walk in October, before the snow flies. We had good turnouts for our two walks last year. We found many interesting items in the ditches. In addition to ditch walkers, we need people to drive beside us and transport the filled bags to the drop off site at the end of the two mile section.

We are tentatively planning to make **Saturday, April 18th**, our day to walk the ditches. If there is a weather issue, we will try for the following **Saturday, April 25th**.

There is a signup list in the narthex at church. **Please signup by April 12th** so the county knows how many safety vests to set aside for us.

If you have any questions, please see Jerry Kerkhove at church or call him at (605)553-4188.



Parish Council Meeting Minutes

February 19, 2026

The meeting was called to order by President Mary Finck. There were 8 council members present and Pastor Mark. Pastor opened the meeting with prayer. The meeting was called to order at Palisade.

Secretary's Report: Secretary's report was read and noted.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer's report was read and noted. Balance on February 19, 2026, was \$11,417.55.

Lenten Services – 7:00 PM

Feb 25 - First

Mar 4 - Palisade

Mar 11 - First

Mar 18 - Palisade

Mar 25 – First

Maundy Thursday Service – 7:00 PM

April 2 – Palisade

Good Friday Service – 7:00 PM

April 3 – First

Easter Sunday Services – April 5

7:00 AM – Palisade

10:00 AM – First

Old Business: None

New Business: Worship at ST. Dysmas will be June 25th beginning at 6:30. More info to follow.

The Parish will again serve the Banquet in Sioux Falls. Date and time to be discussed at each council's March meetings. Each church will be setting up a donation box for rinsed empty prescription bottles to donate to the Humane Society for their use. Going forward the Parish will carry the workman's compensation policy for the pastor, and each church will carry a policy for their employees. Which currently is the organist for each congregation.

The following were nominated and elected to serve as officers for the next year:

President – Lyle Rollag

Vice President – Dennis Roozenboom

Secretary – Les Hengeveld

Treasurer – Candace Reese

The next Parish council meeting will be on May 21, 2026, at 7:00 pm at First.

The meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer at 7:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Les Hengeveld, Secretary



Palisade Lutheran Council Meeting

Thursday, February 19, 2026

The Palisade Church council was called to order by President Rodney Lowe. Others present were Pastor Mark Eliason, Tylene Jansma, Dave Swenson, Peter Bakken, Kelvin Edmunson, Matt Sorenson and Deb Kruger.

Devotions and Prayer: Pastor opened with devotions and prayer.

Secretary's Report: Read and placed on file.

Treasure's Report: Reviewed, discussed and placed on file.

Pastors report: Lenten service starts on February 18th at Palisade Lutheran. Congregation may add their cell phone number to the list provided in the foyer of the Church. This will enable Pastor Mark to text you if he cancels Church service due to the weather.

Correspondence: Update from Tuft home and received a thank you card from Shetek. Also, we received a letter from Kone elevator, they will be increasing our bill by \$8.36.

Old Business:

Discussion on community support and discussion on the funds received from the Pearl Aaker estate

Discussion on pest control. Peter Bakken will contact Orkin.

New Business:

Elevator lights have been updated.

Discussion on getting Pastor Mark's picture placed on the back wall.

Next Council meeting: March 12th, at 7:00 pm

Meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer

Deb Kruger, Sec

**Thrivent Choice
Dollars**



If you are a Thrivent member, chances are you have "CHOICE DOLLARS" that can be distributed to the congregation or organization of your choosing. Typically, the more product you have, the more dollars you have to distribute. This is real money, and you can choose where it goes. Just log into your Thrivent on-line personal account and go to the 'Generosity' tab, scroll down to 'Direct Choice Dollars' and follow the directions. If you do not have an online account with Thrivent, call your agent. If you need help, call Thrivent at 1-800-847-4836. Please consider donating to First or Palisade Lutheran.



Palisade Lutheran Church
Annual Meeting
January 25, 2026

On January 25th, 2026 the Palisade Lutheran Church Annual Meeting was called to order by President Lyle Rollag, after worship service.

The annual report had been handed out prior to the meeting, President Lyle Rollag recommended church members to review the Pastor's report, secretary report and Parochial report. After reviewing the reports, Rodney Lowe made a motion to approve all reports, second by Cheryl Lyngen, motion passed and placed on file.

Treasure's report reviewed and corrections made. Report approved and placed on file.

Reports from Sunday school, Cemetery Association, Memorial Fund, and WELCA were reviewed. Motion made by Peter Bakken to approve the reports and a second from JoEllen Benson, Motion passed.

Old Business: none

New Business: Parish budget reviewed, motion to pass made by Gary Lyngen, seconded by Rodney L, motion passed.

Palisade church budget: discussion on raising the deductible for Church insurance, this will be researched. Motion made by Peter Bakken and seconded by JoEllen Benson to pass the budget. Motion passed.

Nomination of new officers and council members presented. Motion made to pass unanimously.

Tuff Home Delegates: Tim and JoEllen Benson

Synod Assembly May 29 and 30, 2026. Peter Bakken and Lelani Kruger volunteered to attend.

President Lyle Rollag was notified of a major benefactor who has made a contribution to Palisade Lutheran Church, more discussion and decisions to be made at the council level.

Motion to adjourn by Gary Lyngen, second by Rodney Lowe. Closed with singing of the Table prayer.

Deb Kruger, secretary

First & Palisade Lutheran Parish



2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 First Lutheran 9:00am Worship w/Comm 10:00am Sunday School Palisade Lutheran 9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship w/Comm	2	3	4 7 pm Lenten Service at Palisade	5	6	7
8 First Lutheran 9:00am Worship 10:00am Sunday School Palisade Lutheran 9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship	9	10	11 7 pm Lenten Service at First	12 1:30 pm Palisade WELCA Mtg 7 pm Palisade Council	13	14
15 First Lutheran 9:00am Worship 10:00am Sunday School Palisade Lutheran 9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship 	16	17 7 pm First Council meeting	18 7 pm Lenten Service at Palisade	19	20 Deadline for April Newsletter	21
22 First Lutheran 9:00am Worship 10:00am Sunday School Palisade Lutheran 9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship	23	24	25 7 pm Lenten Service at First	26	27	28
29 PALM SUNDAY First Lutheran 9:00am Worship 10:00am Sunday School Palisade Lutheran 9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship	30	31				

**FIRST & PALISADE LUTHERAN PARISH
PO BOX 190
VALLEY SPRINGS, SD 57068**