



Sunday School programs to be held in the area

Many children's Christmas programs in area churches will be held this holiday season. Christmas celebrations will continue as Christians in the community and around the world recognize the birth of the Savior and the new life he brought to the world.

Clark services

At St. Paul Lutheran Church, a children's program will be held on December 13 at two services starting at 9:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Two services will be provided so there will be less people together in the pews at one time to help with social distancing during this pandemic.

At the Assembly of God Church, a Sunday morning event will be held on December 13 with the Sunday School children having their program at 10:30 a.m. There will be no potluck following the services this year.

At the Plymouth Congregational UCC Church, December 20 at 9:30 a.m. will be the date for their children's Sunday School program.

Willow Lake area

On the Willow Lake Evangelical Church Facebook page - the Tri-Parish youth will be holding a virtual

Sunday School
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'A Christmas to Remember' held Thursday

The Clark Elementary School Christmas Concert, with Amy Nelson as director, was held last Thursday at the Clark High School gym, for parents and grandparents.

During this time of the coronavirus pandemic, many things are being canceled or held virtually, but many school activities continue on, with distance planning, masks and family only.

Above left, preschool students Nolan Huber and Leonardo Perez Ramirez enter the stage.

At right, students playing Deck the Halls on the xylophone include, left to right in the front row, Easton Huber, Isaac Mora-Lira, Zayden Ringo, Carlos Solanos and Grant Nelson. From left to right in the back row are, Zed Obermeier and Chas Beving.



Andrea, Aspen and Emily Marshall are shown on the east edge of Clark at the city's welcome sign. One may notice it received a little makeover last week due to the efforts of Cub Scouts Emily and Aspen, children of David and Andrea (Overby) Marshall from Spearfish.

A 'Duty to Country' badge was earned as Emily moves up the ladder to become a Boy Scout. Overgrown brush was cleared off, the letters were scrubbed clean and the group went even further with some Christmas decorating adding some lights and the Yeti - 'Bumble' to the area.

'Duty to Country' badge earned by Emily Marshall

"If people will notice and it brings a smile to their face, we've done our good turn for the day," stated Andrea Marshall of Spearfish. Formerly Andrea Overby, a 2002 graduate of Clark High School, Andrea and her family were home for Thanksgiving recently to the home of Greg and Dianna Overby in Clark.

Andrea and David Marshall's children Emily and Aspen who are 10 and nine years old respectively,

took time and some elbow grease to clean up the city of Clark's welcome sign last week.

Both of the girls are in a Cub Scout troop with the Spearfish pack. (Yes, girls can be in Cub Scouts now.) They are always looking for community service projects and noticed one last week on the east side of Clark along U.S. Highway 212. The Clark welcome sign had become overgrown with growth

over the last summer, so they decided this was to be their next project.

With the assistance of providing the tools from their grandparents, Greg and Dianna, the girls worked for a good share of last Tuesday cleaning off the landscaping in front of the welcome sign.

"It was really fun," stated Emily.

Wary of the politics in Minnesota, after deciding to move, she and her sister Jan took a trip to South Dakota in July. Mona grew up in Richfield, Minn. but most recently lived in Little Falls.

"My sister is very logical and we had it planned out to visit several towns with properties for sale. We started in Watertown and had picked out a few towns in advance on our designated road trip to find out where I was going to end up.

Marshall continued that her move was more so due to political reasons as she considers herself more of a patriot with a son who served in the US Navy. Besides her veteran son Bruce, she has a son named Eugene and a daughter named Wenonah and seven grandchildren.

"I wanted to come here as I'd only heard good things about South Dakota. I call your state the 'free' state."

"We liked Watertown but I was looking for more of a smaller town/rural area. When we visited Clark, we both looked at each other and said - this is it! It was a definite feel. We'd drive down the street and people would wave, people would smile at you, it was just the friendliest town. It exuded friendliness!"

"I believe God had a big part to play in this," continued Marshall. "I had my own checklist and some criteria of my own. Every desire I had was checked off of the list in Clark."

She wanted a friendly town - check. She wanted a little Baptist Church in town - check. She wanted to be on a flyway for geese and

saw more geese here than she'd ever seen in her life - check.

She wanted to be on a quiet street

Marshall
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New Clark resident Mona Marshall: "I've found my Mayberry"

"I've found my Mayberry," stated Mona Marshall, formerly of Little Falls, Minn., who has moved to Clark within the last three months.

Just like in the Andy Griffith show from the 1960s, with their small town full of friendly people from the police to neighbors to strangers on the street, the town of Clark has impressed one of its newest residents.

"I want to give back to the community now for being so wonderful to me and so welcoming. My good neighbors have taken me in, bringing me pies, soup and apples from their trees. It's been amazing."

Marshall started thinking last summer how she wanted to move to South Dakota.

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Mona Marshall, illustrator and author by trade, has moved to Clark this summer and thoroughly enjoys her new home. Wanting to move to "the free state" of South Dakota, her dream came true when she found Clark and all that small town living has to offer. Marshall is shown with her two dogs, Willie and Luther and one of her children's books Dudley that she wrote for her granddaughter's birthday.

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(continued on page 5)

WEATHER				
Robert Cole - Official Weather Observer				
		HI	LO	PR
Dec. 1	.....	39	13	0
Dec. 2	.....	44	22	0
Dec. 3	.....	32	19	0
Dec. 4	.....	42	19	0
Dec. 5	.....	45	21	0
Dec. 6	.....	47	23	0
Dec. 7	.....	45	24	0
2020 precipitation to date		18.21		
2019 precipitation to date		37.14		

Late fall weather in South Dakota has been enjoyable

With this nice December weather to date, winter will seem shorter let's hope.

"Winter is getting off to a mild start in the region. Laura Edwards, State Climatologist says temperatures are much warmer than normal. "December weather has been more like weather we usually see in early November, with lows above freezing and highs 10°-15° above normal."

Edwards went on to talk La Niña

for this winter, commenting that there is a lot of winter weather ahead. "Plan for the worst, hope for the best," she said. "We could see more active weather in January, February and March."

The state climatologist is also keeping an eye out for frost down four to six feet if we have an open winter. "Right now we are measuring freezing soils on a couple of feet, but we have a long winter yet to go."

The 10-day forecast is for above

normal temperatures, with a chance of snow for Friday/Saturday of this week.

La Niña

At a glance:

- La Niña is expected to continue through the winter and weaken in the spring.
- A strong La Niña is possible during November through January.
- La Niña can influence weather in the U.S. during the winter.
- A strong La Niña is possible this

winter and that may impact weather conditions in the United States over the next several months.

Typically with La Niña in place, the southern U.S. experiences above-average temperatures and below-average precipitation and the northern U.S. experiences below-average temperatures (particularly the Northern Plains and Northwest) and above-average precipitation. However, it is important to note that La Niña, El Niño or the

lack of either, is just one piece of the atmospheric puzzle.

The weather pattern that frequently takes shape includes an upper-level ridge of high pressure near the Aleutians, which pushes the jet stream northward over Alaska and then southward to near the U.S./Canada border. This keeps colder air across the northern tier. Additionally, the storm track is a bit farther north, leaving the South dry and warm.

The possibility of a strong La Niña is also supported by the significant atmospheric-ocean linkage already in place. In this case, there is a sinking air motion over the cooler water of the central and eastern Pacific.

Several models also depict a strong La Niña is possible November-January, NOAA said.

Most computer models indicate

Late fall weather
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