



March 2008 Devotion
Circuit Rider for Rural South Dakota
\$75,000

Where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them. Matthew 18:20 (NIV)

Leader: We begin in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

All: Amen

Leader: There are many areas of rural South Dakota where ranches are many miles apart. The people are very isolated and often cannot drive the long distances to worship our LORD together with other Christians.

All: LORD, you have promised that where two or more are gathered in your name, there you will be in the midst of us. Help these very isolated people to become part of a gathering of believers where their faith may be fed and nourished.

Leader: When severe health problems or even death occurs in these ranch families or among the people who live on and help operate the ranch, they often have no one to turn to for spiritual guidance and strength.

All: LORD, send them someone who can minister to their souls assuring them of the true hope of everlasting life available to all who believe in Jesus.

Leader: The South Dakota LCMS ministry has its historical roots in circuit riders who brought the good news of salvation through Jesus Christ to isolated pioneers who worshipped in their homes more than 100 years ago.

All: Now, LORD, we ask you to help us raise funds to support a modern day circuit rider ministry that would seek out these isolated ranch families and workers.

Leader: This circuit rider ministry would establish a regular itinerary of home based Bible Studies, prayer groups, home worship services and offering the sacraments when and where appropriate.

(All may join hands as they pray the following together.)

All: Dear Triune God, bless the Circuit Rider and the ranch families and workers. Strengthen their faith, and help them to witness to others about your unending love. To this end, oh LORD, increase our generosity displayed in mite giving so that we may fully fund our mission grants. In Jesus' Name we pray. Amen.