



2020–2022 MISSION GRANT DEVOTION

#6 DAKOTA BOYS AND GIRLS RANCH CHAPEL AUDIO EQUIPMENT

The **Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch** of North Dakota has one mission: *to help at risk children and their families succeed in the name of Christ*. Through the **Ranch**, the love of Christ is shown to young people who have been through terrible situations of unimaginable abuse, neglect, mental health struggles, violence and other adverse experiences. Regardless of their specific situations, they all need the mercy and healing found in Jesus Christ.

Come to me all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart and you will find rest for your souls (Matthew 11:28,29).

"My heart, which is so full to overflowing, has often been solaced and refreshed by music when sick and weary." -Martin Luther

One way for the residents to experience God's mercy and healing is through music. Whether it is playing instruments, singing hymns, or praise songs in worship, music is a valuable resource for helping the residents discover the hope and healing of their heavenly Father.

I heard the voice of Jesus say, "Come unto me and rest;
Lay down, thou weary one, lay down Thy head upon My breast."
I came to Jesus as I was, So weary, worn, and sad;
I found in Him a resting place, and He has made me glad. *LSB 699*

"Beautiful music is the art of the prophets that can calm the agitations of the soul; it is one of the most magnificent and delightful presents God has given us." -Martin Luther

Through the generosity of the LWML South Dakota District, several pieces of audio equipment will be purchased to help enhance the music experience for these children. Amplifiers, speakers, microphones, mixers, and various audio cables and wiring will allow the residents to fully experience God's love and healing through music.

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth! Serve the Lord with gladness! Come into his presence with singing! Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him; bless his name! (Psalm 100:1,2,4)

"Next to the Word of God, the noble art of music is the greatest treasure in the world" - Martin Luther

Prayer: Creator of all things beautiful and good, we thank you for the gift of music and how it ministers to our souls during times of deep hurting, despair, and grieving. You alone are our source for hope in this world of difficult times. We thank you for the ministry of the Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch. We pray your blessing on the staff and residents there, that they will benefit from the new audio equipment and that your name will be praised through it. Empower each person with your Spirit that they may be fully healed of their afflictions of body mind and soul, through the power of your name, Jesus! Amen!