



South Canyon
Lutheran Church

700 44th Street
Rapid City, SD 57702
605-343-4887

Office Hours:

Mon-Thurs: 9:00am- 4:00 pm

Fridays: 9:00 am-12:00 pm

info@sclc-rc.org

The Canyon

Parish News

DECEMBER 2023

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at **SCLC**

Worship Service Times

- Wednesdays at 6:00 pm (September-March)
- Saturdays at 5:30 pm
- Sundays at 9:00 am
- Communion is offered on the 2nd, 4th & 5th weekends

Wednesday Nights

- 5:00 pm — Meal
- 6:00 pm — Worship
- 6:35 — Faith Formation & Youth Group
- 7:10 pm — Adult Choir Rehearsal

Weekly Events

Men's Bible Study at Hardees

Wednesday mornings at 7:30 am
Hardees on Haines Ave. by Applebees

Adult Choir Rehearsal

Weekly on Wednesdays at 7:10 pm
(Sanctuary Loft)

Piecemakers Quilting Group

Every Thursday at 9:00 am (Fellowship Hall)

Children's Choir Rehearsal

Weekly on Fridays at 3:45 pm (Sanctuary)

Women's Bible Studies - Check inside for details on the groups

The Alleluia Ringers - Bell Choir

Weekly on Tuesdays at 6:30 pm

How to Get Connected

Social Media:



facebook.com/south canyon lutheran

<https://onrealm.org/SouthCanyonLuth>

Services Online

We are live on Sundays at 9:00 am here:



South Canyon Lutheran YouTube



facebook.com/south canyon lutheran

Get Text & Email Alerts:

Call the church office to get set up with our app-based platform so you can receive text. Let us know if you have an email where you would like to receive newsletters and other information, including Weekly Connections.

Download our Realm App:

We have a wonderful app for downloading. Call the church office to learn how!

Call or Email our Main Office:

Main Office: 605.343.4887

info@sclc-rc.org

NEED TO CATCH UP?

Catch all the livestream and videos on our website or on YouTube at any time. Go to our website: sclc-rc.org and click on box to join us online.

Services are archived for viewing.



A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR PAUL J. ERDAL, *Interim Pastor*

“Arise, shine, for your light has come ...”

As I am writing this article for the December Newsletter, the first significant snowfall already happened in Northern Minnesota. This warmer weather in “The Hills” is a welcome. I’ve been told that this is a bit warmer than usual. However, 40s is not unusual.

As I am contemplating the month of December, I am contemplating on the darkness; the winter months of darkness specifically. In South Dakota and the Black Hills, we cannot help but also think about the cold, the sudden winter storms, and the darkness.

The ending of Daylight Savings Time (fall back) has helped the darkness in the mornings. However, we cannot ignore the fact that the daylight hours are getting shorter. The Winter Solstice usually falls on December 21st. It also marks the first day of winter. There are still 24 hours in a day, however, the sunlight on that day is the shortest in the year. Which also means that it is the darkest day in the year.

I am reminded of the verses in the Book of Isaiah ...

**“Arise, shine, for your light has come,
and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.
For darkness shall cover the earth
and thick darkness the peoples,
but the Lord will arise upon you,
and his glory will appear over you.
3 Nations shall come to your light
and kings to the brightness of your dawn. “**

(Isaiah 60:1-3)

For those who are challenged with this seasonal change in the amount of light and darkness, namely seasonal affective disorder (SAD), it can be very difficult. I know that I have a bit of this and taking vitamin D is helpful. I also know keeping a daily regular schedule helps me tremendously.

Please be mindful of others with more severe cases of SAD. It is a challenging time with so much Darkness.

May we all find Brightness in our days these winter months. May you find the Joy and Hope in our Lord God ... “but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you.”

In Christ’s Service,

Pastor Paul J. Erdal, *Interim Pastor*

Church Business

COUNCIL MINUTES

Watch this space next month for October’s Council Minutes and Financials

WHAT'S HAPPENING

PASSAGES WOMEN'S TRANSITIONAL LIVING

The Christmas Giving Tree is full of ornaments of gift ideas for this year's Servant Event. Take an ornament and place your gift (unwrapped) under the tree by December 13th. There are also lists of needed items and bins by the Giving Center if you choose to participate. Thank YOU for giving these 15 women and their staff, faith mentors, and volunteers a Christmas full of Joy! They are the only women's home – faith based – in this part of the country! Their program success is tremendous. Those living at Passages must be employed, pay rent, attend Bible Study, learn budgeting, and the list goes on. It's about teaching them to fish, instead of giving them a fish! For more information on their mission and serving opportunities (AND a tour of their home), check out their website <https://www.passagesliving.com/>



FREE LUNCH



In this season of giving, how appropriate to serve Free Lunch to hungry high school students and staff on Tuesday, December 5th. The recipients have been so gracious and appreciative, and the volunteers hear many thank-yous, and “man, can these ladies cook” remarks. Please consider signing up for a two-hour shift, or bringing brownies, cookies, cupcakes, or any dessert that serves about two dozen. Thanks to all who have been a part of this ministry.

The menu for December Free Lunch is: Mac’N Cheese, brats, tossed salad, and delicious desserts

SEMI - ANNUAL MEETING

Thank-you, congregation, for the wonderful turnout for the Semi-Annual meeting. Your presence was valued and appreciated. If you were unable to attend, and would like a copy of the booklet with the budget, please stop in at the church office. Thank-you for your generous giving of time, talents, and treasures. With your continued help, we will be able to end the year with a healthy financial picture. Thanks be to God!

CHURCH RESPONSE GROCERY GIFT CARDS

Who knew that by purchasing grocery gift cards from the office that:

- You purchase a gift card for \$25, \$50 or \$100 – and get to go shopping with the full amount. Cards are available for Family Fare, Safeway, or Walmart.
- South Canyon AND Church Response receive cash back -- up to 5% to split on each gift card sold! *And it costs YOU nothing!*
- It's a win-win-win! With so little effort, you can help SCLC and Church Response. **Please give it a try.**
- Order forms are available at the Information Counter. Stay tuned in January for more information!
- If you'd like to help “sell” them on Sunday mornings, contact the office.



WHAT'S HAPPENING

Parent Brunch

this is a once-a-month gathering for parents with children 5 years old and younger

December 10th

Meet after worship in the Koinonia Kafe

Nursery services available. If you have questions, please contact the office

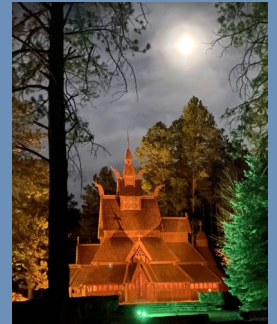
Bring something to share if you can

CHRISTMAS AT THE CHAPEL IN THE HILLS

ADVENT WORSHIP

Sat. Dec. 9, 5:00 PM

Sun. Dec. 10, 5:00 PM



Free Lunch @ South Canyon Lutheran Church



FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS & STAFF

Mac 'N Cheese, brats, tossed salad and desserts

**11-12:45 TUESDAY
DECEMBER 5TH**

BOOK CLUB

No meeting in December

MERRY CHRISTMAS

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDIES

ELIZABETH CIRCLE

9:00 am on the 1st Tuesday
Koinonia Kafe
Leader-Barb Nelson

EUNICE CIRCLE

1:30 pm on the 3rd Tuesday
Koinonia Kafe
Leader-Jo Walker

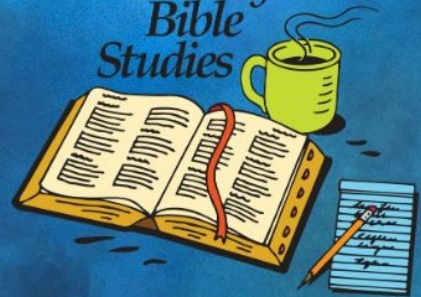
PRISCILLA CIRCLE

7:00 pm on the 3rd Tuesday
via Zoom
Leader-Carol Davies

WESTHILLS RUTH CIRCLE

1:30 pm on the 3rd Tuesday
Westhills Village

*Weekday
Bible
Studies*



MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Men's Bible Study
7:30 am Wednesdays- weekly
Hardees on Haines Ave. by Applebees
Leader-Larry Thompson

MONDAY NOON BIBLE STUDY

Noon on Mondays - Watch here for news when this Bible Study will resume
Reformation Room



MOMENTS TO CELEBRATE



Free Lunch



Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting

FAITH FORMATION

Sundays

December 3th

Worship: 9:00 am

December 10th

Worship 9:00 am—Christmas Cantata

December 17th

Worship: 9:00 am with communion

December 24th

Worship: 9:00 am-regular service with communion

Worship: 4:00 pm-Christmas Eve candle-light

Worship: 7:00 pm-Christmas Eve candle-light with communion

December 31

Worship: 9:00 am with communion

Wednesday Nights

MEALS

(5:00-6:00 pm)

December 6th—Cook's Choice

December 13th—Cook's Choice

December 20th—No Meal

December 27th—No Meal

WORSHIP

Worship 6:00—6:30 pm

PROGRAMMING

Faith Formation/Youth Group 6:35—7:15 pm

Peer Groups

*4 years to 5th grade

*Middle School

*High School

SKIP THE TAX

If you haven't taken your RMD yet this year, consider doing so prior to year's end. Charitable Contributions from your IRA, RMD gifts to South Canyon Lutheran Church benefit both you and your church! Consider a donation to church in this way, contact your tax or financial advisor for more information. We appreciate all who have already given this year.

OUTLAW RANCH LIVE NATIVITY

December 17, 3-7 pm

live animals hot cider

cocoa craft fair

baked goods sale



When they saw
THE STAR, they rejoiced
exceedingly with *great joy*.

Matthew 2:10



Special Offering for December



FEEDING SOUTH DAKOTA

Feeding South Dakota is a nonprofit hunger relief organization working to end hunger statewide. They assist in providing temporary food assistance to those facing food insecurity. Through the support of volunteers, local businesses, and donors they distribute millions of meals through network agency partners, mobile food distributions, and Child Hunger Programs.

For more information visit their website <https://www.feedingsouthdakota.org> where you can give online directly to them or use the offering envelopes in the back of the church.

MINISTRY OF THE MONTH/SPECIAL OFFERING OPPORTUNITIES FOR 2024

Do you have recommendations for outreach for our special offerings for 2024 that you would like to share? We'd love to hear what is on your heart. Which local nonprofit has a mission that needs to be shared, needs support, and needs to tell their story? Watch for a pop-up meeting soon!

A festive graphic with a dark red background. On the right side, there are green pine branches and red holly leaves with three red Christmas ornaments hanging from them. The text is in a light yellow/gold color for the first part and bright green for the second part.

December 24th Services:
9:00 am Worship with communion
CHRISTMAS EVE
CANDLE-LIGHT SERVICES
4:00 pm
7:00 pm with communion

From the Office



Kristi Wellendorf
kristi@sclc-rc.org
605.343.4887



Sheila Hoyer
sheila@sclc-rc.org
605.343.4887



Woyatan Lutheran Church

SCLC will serve the meal and worship with our partners in ministry on Sunday, Dec. 10th.

Sign up to bring desserts and to serve at information counter or email the church office to get in contact with Heidi who is organizing this wonderful ministry.

HELP!

Are you available to help out at church once in awhile? Office help is needed on various days, afternoons especially, when Sheila or Kristi need to be gone for an appointment, vacation day, or if sick. Help involves answering the phones and doors. If you'd like to come help out at other times, we would love to have you! Please call the office to volunteer.

Various ways to give financially to your church family: 1) Offering envelopes will be shipped out directly from the company to you at the end of December. If you missed out - we can still order a set for you! 2) Online giving is easy - you can set up automatic giving or give when you want - the lowest fees we are charged is when giving through a checking or savings account. When using the online option, there are many funds that you can choose from: SCLC; ministry of the month; Wednesday night meal; preschool tuition or donation; Piecemaker quilt sale/donation; or memorial funds to name a few. 3) Text to give is another option. If you have any questions, you can contact Kristi at the church office.



Director of Worship

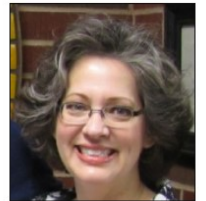
Bell Update – I have discovered, with the help of our former Hand Bell Director Barb Elving, that SCLC already owns four octaves of hand bells. The additional octave was discovered in plain sight, much to my great joy. We now have bells for a few more ringers!!

Our Hand Bell Ensemble will be spreading Holiday Cheer this Christmas season. We will be performing a mini-concert at Good Samaritan on December 5th and again at Holiday Hills Estates on December 12th. These two concerts will be in place of our regular rehearsals. We will ring for our SCLC family at the 4:00 PM Christmas Eve service.

Our annual Christmas Cantata will be on Sunday, December 10, during the 9:00 AM worship hour. This year's cantata features Jane Pfeifle's "The Very First Christmas Letter" that she wrote and presented at the Ladies' Advent Brunch in 2017. Jane will be joined by the SCLC Sanctuary Choir and the Kid's Choir. It is going to be a celebratory Christmas worship!

The Dakota Choral Union will be presenting "Christmas at the Cathedral" on Sunday, December 17, at 3:00 PM at Our Lady of Perpetual Help, 520 Cathedral Drive in Rapid City. This will be another glorious program that celebrates the birth of our Lord! Admission is a donation of non-perishable food and/or a free-will offering.

The Sanctuary Choir will sing at the 7:00 PM Christmas Eve service.



Ellen Shirley
ellen@sclc-rc.org

Children, Youth, & Family

DECEMBER:

December 2:

Parent/Youth Meeting

4:00 MS w/pizza

6:30 HS w/pizza

December 6:

6:35—7:15 pm 4yrs—5th grade Faith Formation

6:35—7:15 pm: MS & HS Youth Group

December 13:

6:35—7:15 pm: 4yrs—5th grade Faith Formation

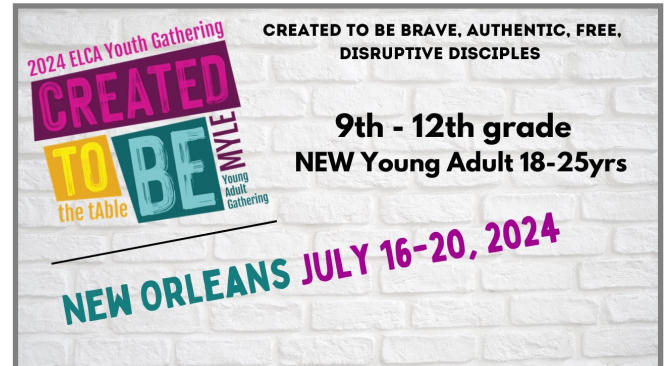
6:35—7:15 pm: MS & HS Youth Group

December 20: No programming

December 27: No programming



Mona Drolc
mona@sccl-rc.org
605-343-4887

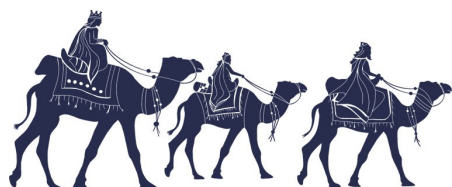


PANCAKE FEED

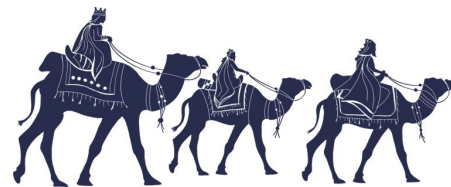


COMING IN 2024! YOUTH BOOK SALE

Thanks to all for the book donations! It's such a blessing to see this support! The Youth will continue to collect **all kinds** of books and DVDs for **all ages** for the next several months and will have a Donation Book Sale in early 2024. This is a great way to "give" of your excess to bless others! We appreciate your support.



DECEMBER



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 3:45pm Kid's Choir	2 4pm MS mtg w/pizza 5:30pm Worship with communion 6:30pm HS mtg w/pizza
3 9am Worship with communion	4	5 9am Elizabeth Circle 11:00am Free Lunch 6:30pm NO Bell Choir	6 7:30am Men's Bible Study 5pm Meal 6pm Worship 6:35pm Programming 7:10pm Choir Practice	7 9am Piecemakers	8 3:45pm Kid's Choir	9 5pm Chapel in the Hills Advent worship 5:30pm Worship
10 9am Worship with Christmas Cantata 10am Parent Brunch 11 am Woyaton 5pm Chapel in the Hills Advent worship	11	12 6:30pm NO Bell Choir	13 7:30am Men's Bible Study 5pm Meal 6pm Worship with communion 6:35pm Programming 7:10pm Choir Practice	14 9am Piecemakers	15 3:45pm NO Kid's Choir	16 8:30am NO Book Club 5:30pm Worship
17 9am Worship DCU Concert Outlaw Ranch Live Nativity	18	19 1:30pm Eunice Circle 6:30pm NO Bell Choir 7pm Priscilla Circle (Zoom)	20 7:30am Men's Bible Study 5pm No Meal or Programming Newsletter deadline	21 9am Piecemakers	22 3:45pm NO Kid's Choir	23 5:30pm Worship with communion
24 9am Worship with communion 4pm Worship (candlelight) 7:00 pm Worship with communion (candle-light)	25 Office Closed	26 Office Closed	27 7:30am Men's Bible Study 5pm No Meal or Programming	28 9am Piecemakers	29 3:45pm NO Kid's Choir	30 5:30pm Worship with communion
31 9am Worship with communion						



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Return Service Requested

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info@sclc-rc.org
The office is open
Monday-Thursday,
9 AM to 4 PM
Fridays 9 AM to Noon



Pastor Paul J. Erdal, Interim Pastor

Ellen Shirley, Director of Worship & Music

Kristi Wellendorf, Office Manager

Mona Drolc, Youth Group Leader

Sheila Hoyer, Administrative Assistant

Vacant, Director of Pastoral Care

Linda Jensen, Kitchen Coordinator

CONTACT information



Marsha Mertes, Pianist

Mary Weidenbach, Choir Accompanist

Lori Brey, Nursery Attendant

Mark Meier, Custodian

Ken Weybright, Computer Consultant

Andrea Wager, Bookkeeper

Friend-Ship Preschool

Phone: 605-343-4887

Fax: 605-355-0435

info@sclc-rc.org

Preschool 3's-8:45 AM 11:15 AM

Pre-Kindergarten 3 day:
M, W, F - 8:45 AM to 12 PM

Pre-Kindergarten 5 day:
M-F- 8:45 AM to 12 PM

Friend-Ship Preschool Staff

Rana Holland, Preschool Director

Julie Kokesh, Preschool Teacher

Laura Mason, Preschool Teacher

Dawn Dockter, Preschool Teacher

Mission of the Month:

FEEDING SOUTH DAKOTA

