



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



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

IN THE NEWS

December 2024

Worship Service Times

- Wednesday at 6:00 pm
- Saturdays at 5:30 pm
- Sundays at 9:00 am
- Communion is offered on the 2nd, 4th & 5th Sundays & prior Saturday nights

Christmas Worship Services

Communion at all services

- Sunday, Dec. 22 - Quiet Christmas 5:30pm
- Tuesday, Dec. 24 - 4pm & 7pm

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.

Home

Reflections from Pastor Deb Grismer

Home has a new meaning for my husband and I this year. Home is now a new apartment for us, a new office for me and a new family of faith for both of us. We are excited and grateful to be a part of the South Canyon Lutheran family of faith. Thank you to the members of the Call Committee, Council and those who were able to attend the Meet & Greet and special meeting of the congregation who called me to this new home. Rod and I so appreciate the warm welcome we have received. Thank you for the cards, the food, the joy and the hope that has been showered on us. We are super excited to be home with you for the season of Advent and beyond.

"Home" brings about different thoughts and feelings for each of us. Some of the thoughts and feelings are very positive as we think about being home for the holidays. For others, home brings about opposite feelings as 'being home' brings about hurt or longing. The Advent and Christmas scripture are rich with home metaphors and imagery. I invite you to join your South Canyon family of faith to be a part of *Close to Home* this Advent season when we will explore the Scriptures through the lens of *homesick*, *laying the foundation*, *home for all* and *seeking sanctuary*. You are *invited home* for Christmas and will experience *chosen home* and *home by another way* after Christmas and Epiphany.

I pray this Advent you are "comforted by the One who dwells intimately with us. We expand safety and sanctuary for everyone wandering far from home. We come home- wherever home is found- to live fully with joy, hope, and courage." (The Sanctified Art creative Team)

God bless,
Pastor Deb Grismer



The Coming of God

Our God is the One who comes to us
In a burning bush,
In an angel's song,
In a newborn child.
Our God is the One who cannot be found
locked in the church
Not even in the sanctuary.
Our God will be where God will be
With no constraints,
No predictability.
Our God lives where our God lives,
And destruction has no power
And even death cannot stop the living
Our God will be born where God will be born,
But there is no place to look for the One
who comes to us.
When God is ready
God will come
Even to a godforsaken place
Like a stable in Bethlehem.
Watch...
For you know not when
God comes.
Watch, that you might be found
Whenever
Wherever
God comes.

By Ann Weems *Kneeling in Bethlehem.*

WHAT'S HAPPENING

WEDNESDAY MEALS

We love having our Wednesday evening meals together as a church family! It is such a blessing to come together. We thank God for this opportunity and you.

(December MS Youth & Families are serving!)

Needed - another 4 to 5 people to help with clean-up - 6 to 640pm. (Saturday or Sunday people - this is a great way to help parents worship with their children on Wednesday nights, their time to worship)

There is a sign up at the welcome center for each week. Please help out once a month, once a week, once in awhile. Thank you in advance!

- December 4 - Turkey Pot Pie
- December 11 - Pasta Bar -
- December 18 - Chili & White Chicken Chili

Each week we will have salad, veggies, desserts, and hot dogs.



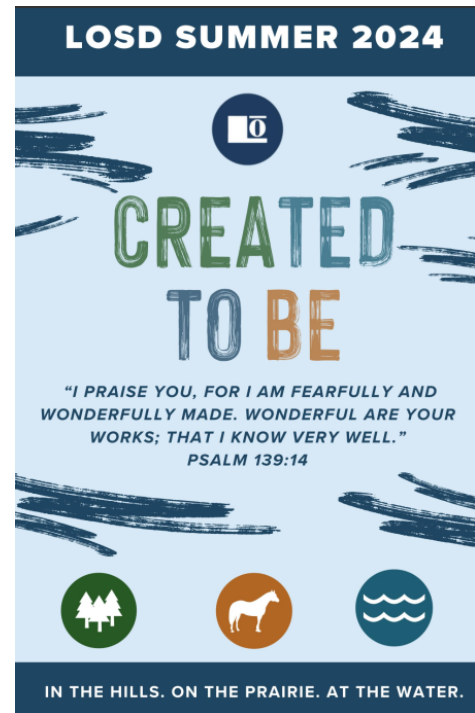
In this season of giving, how appropriate to serve Free Lunch to hungry high school students and staff during final exams. This year, finals will take place before the holidays, and we will offer Free Lunch on Wednesday, December 18 and Thursday, December 19. During

finals, only one lunch is served, so all students and staff come at the same time, and freshmen can leave campus and join us. Please consider signing up for a shift (11-130 or 1215 – 245), or provide brownies, cookies, cupcakes, or any dessert that serves about two dozen.

Thanks to all who have been a part of this ministry. The entree on the 18th is Chili Fritos, and December 19th we will serve Chicken Nachos.

Did you know that the Culinary Arts Class at Stevens High School practiced their knife skills and helped chop tomatoes, onions, and lettuce for our Walking Tacos last month? They are so appreciative of our Free Lunch ministry that they wanted to find a way to give back. Isn't that wonderful?

Registration is open!



What is Lutherans Outdoors?

Lutherans Outdoors in South Dakota provides camping and retreating programs for people of all ages and all abilities. Lutherans Outdoors is a ministry of the congregations of the South Dakota Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), and is open to people of all denominations of faith.

Mission Statement

Lutherans Outdoors in South Dakota welcomes all to explore and experience Christ's love in community and creation.

Vision Statement

To be your first choice for dynamic and innovative Christ-centered ministry experiences; In the Hills, On the Prairie, At the Water.

Core Values

We promise to:

1. Explore Faith
2. Welcome All
3. Build Leaders
4. Care for ALL Creation

Why Attend A Lutherans Outdoors Camp?

Five Fundamental Characteristics of Christian Camp

- Camp is relational
- Camp is participatory
- Camp is different from home
- Camp is a safe space
- Camp is faith-centered

The LO Experience

Studies show safety is a priority & fun is a necessity! LOSD is dedicated to camping for youth and adults and has been for more than 70 years.

Camp allows people of all ages to explore and grow in a nurturing environment, which leads them to develop a strong faith foundation, discover personal gifts, grow in leadership and build relationships in community.

- Staff are well-trained & offer signature hospitality
- Camps include diverse sites and programs
- Programs promote spiritual and personal growth

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Thank you, congregation for the wonderful turnout for the Semi-Annual meeting. Your presence was valued and appreciated. We have increased our budget for 2025, which includes cost of living raises and additional staff being hired. With your continued financial support, we will be able to offer additional ministries for our congregation, and meet more needs in the community. Thank you for your generous giving of time, talent and treasures. With your help, we will be able to end the year with a healthy financial picture. Thanks be to God.

The council's next meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 17th at 6 pm in the Reformation Room.

Welcome!



Teri Belton Teri brings her love for the Lord, her passion for people, and her exceptional administrative skills to our office team. She firmly believes that volunteers play a vital role in helping the church embody the hands and feet of Jesus in our community.

Outside of her work, Teri enjoys hiking, singing and traveling. She and her husband, Doug, cherish spending time with their three children, two dogs, and three cats, creating a busy home. We are thrilled to have Teri as part of our church family!

Michelle and her husband, Doug, have recently started attending South Canyon Lutheran Church, bringing a wealth of skills and talents with them. After living in Hawaii for twelve years, they moved to the beautiful Black Hills a few years ago. They are proud parents, grandparents and great grandparents blessed with a loving family.

Michelle has worked in the restaurant world for over 40 years. She has been a part of her church food ministry in many different churches and has a deep passion for serving others. She loves to cook, serve, clean, and create meals that bring people together. We are elated to have Michelle as our Kitchen Coordinator and look forward to seeing her talents shine in this vital role!



Michelle Gab



DAKOTA Choral UNION
Celebrating 40 years of performance
in the Black Hills

Christmas at the Cathedral

3:00 pm, Sunday, December 15, 2024
Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help
520 Cathedral Drive, Rapid City, SD

Artistic Director & Conductor | Ellen Shirley
Collaborative Pianist | Andrew Belsaas

Free admission with a donation of non-perishable food items for
Church Response or freewill donation for DCU.
dakotachoralunion.org

This project is partially funded by The Rapid City Arts Council in partnership with the City of Rapid City



CHRISTMAS AT THE CHAPEL IN THE HILLS

ADVENT WORSHIP

Sat. Dec. 7, 5:00 PM
Sun. Dec. 8, 5:00 PM



Advent Festival

 **Outlaw Ranch** 

Friday, December 6- Sunday, December 8

A fun weekend for families to eat, sing, make crafts, and find that perfect Christmas tree.

Register online:
losd.org/events-and-retreats



Upcoming

Close to Home **Bible Study Opportunities**


Beginning the week of Dec. 1

Sundays at 4:00 pm online
Led by Pastor Kari Webb
Register at <https://www.sdsynodlearns.org/courses/close-to-home-advent-2024>

You will need to create an account on Pasque Learning Community. This is free and opens up a variety of learning opportunities.

**Mondays at 12:10 pm in the
Reformation Room**
Led by Pastor Deb
*Feel free to bring your lunch. We will
be done by 1:00 pm*

Wednesdays at 6:40 pm in the Reformation Room
Led by Pastor Deb




LIVING NATIVITY @ OUTLAW RANCH

Join us for our Annual Fundraiser

— DECEMBER 15 · 3:00-6:00pm —

living nativity · bake sale · photo backdrop · cocoa

Special Offering - December

CHRISTMAS SERVANT EVENT: **Black Hills Pregnancy Center**

We will continue to collect donations for BH Pregnancy Center until December 15. Thank you so much for all the donations under the tree and in the Blessing Basket!

1. **Giving Tree:** If you are interested in helping support the BH Pregnancy Center – diapers, wipes, baby essentials, blankets, clothes, toys (ages newborn to 3T), you can pick up any baby item or pick a tag from the Giving Tree.
2. **Baby Bottle Coin Bank:** Collect coins for the month in their “baby bottle” and return it by Sunday, December 15.
3. **Grocery Cards:** Purchase cards in the office for \$25 or more. Cards will be given to the Center to purchase formula. (When you buy a grocery card, SCLC and Church Response receive a percentage of the sale. It’s a triple giving!)

They offer free pregnancy screening, mentoring, fatherhood program, intentional parenting program, nurses to educate new parents, an opportunity for parents to learn and then earn diapers, baby blankets, clothes and other items.

Their mission statement is to proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ to men and women facing pregnancy decisions while providing educational as well as spiritual, physical and emotional support in a loving confidential environment.

They will celebrate 40 years of being part of our community in 2025.

CHURCH RESPONSE GROCERY GIFT CARDS

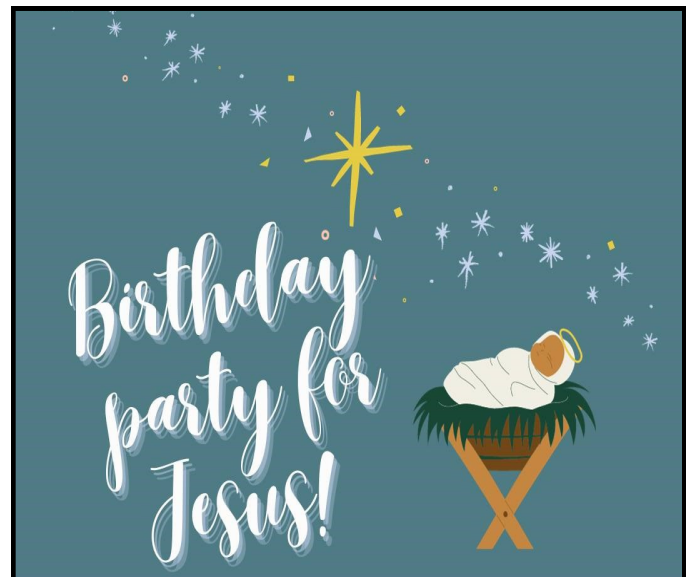
Did you know you can purchase grocery gift cards from the office & why it’s an awesome thing to do?

- You purchase a gift card for \$25, \$50 or \$100 at face value to use at Family Fare, Safeway, or Walmart/Sam’s Club.
- South Canyon AND Church Response both purchase them at a discount -- sharing up to 5% to split on each gift card sold!
- It’s a win-win-win! You can help SCLC and Church Response. **Give it a try.**

Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship Services

4:00 p.m.

7:00 p.m.



Sunday, December 15 at 10:00 am

Wednesday, December 18 at 6:40 pm

God's children of all ages are invited to meet in the fellowship hall and celebrate the birth of Jesus with games, food and fun!

Volunteers are needed to help with each party.

Please contact Pastor Deb (Mona is out of town) for more information or to volunteer.

Director of Worship



Ellen Shirley
ellen@sclc-rc.org

December 2024

- Sunday, December 8 is our Christmas Cantata during the 9:00 worship service! Once again we will be celebrating the gift that is our Savior. This year, I've added a few extra songs that challenge you to walk in the Light that is Christmas. Come hear the Sanctuary Choir along with the Kid's Choir in this wonderful presentation of the music of the Season.
- "Christmas at the Cathedral" with the Dakota Choral Union is Sunday, December 15, at 3:00 p.m. at The Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help on Cathedral Drive in Rapid City. This is a free concert, but if you are able, they ask for a donation of a canned food item for Church Response.
- Installation for Pastor Deb Grismer has been set for both Saturday, December 21 and Sunday, December 22. The Rev. Jonathan Vehar, Associate to the Bishop, will be here to officiate and celebrate the installation of our new Pastor.
- A "Quiet Christmas" worship service is planned for Sunday, December 22, at **5:30**. This service is intended for those who need a quieter service to celebrate the holidays or who will be out of town for Christmas Eve. Holy Communion will be celebrated at this service.
- We will be celebrating Holy Communion at both the 4:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve services this year. Because our 4:00 afternoon service is typically very well-attended, (Ellen's way of saying very crowded) please consider coming to the 7:00 evening service to ease some of the overflow of the earlier service. Thank you for your help with this joy-filled logistic challenge!
- Kid's Choir will be on break after the cantata. We will meet again Friday, January 10 at 3:45!
- Joyful Noise is on break for December. We will resume rehearsals on Wednesday, January 15 at 6:40.
- Wednesday Worship will pause over Christmas break. We will have worship December 4, 11 and 18, but then break until January 8, 2025.



Advent Worship Series

Close to Home

When something hits close to home, it affects us deeply. During the Advent and Christmas season, we journey through scriptures and rituals that are tender, heavy with emotion, and vulnerable. We carry the memories and truths of this season close to our hearts. Our Advent Close to Home worship series, devotional booklet and Bible study from Sanctified Art acknowledges the "already but not yet" tension of our faith: Emmanuel is with us, and yet, God's promised day—our everlasting home—is not fully realized. It names our deep longing for God to come close to us.

Please join us, beginning November 30, as we journey close to home.

Quiet Christmas Service

December 22 at 5:30 pm

South Canyon Lutheran Church
700 S 44th Street, Rapid City

For some, the joy of Christmas is distant due to loss, grief, illness or just not feeling very 'Christmasy'. This service is designed to provide space for prayer, reflection, and remembrance amidst the holiday hustle and bustle. Candlelight, communion and the Christmas story during this Quiet Christmas Service will hopefully provide a space of calm, quiet, and healing.

All are welcome.





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

December Youth Activities

December 1st: 9:00 Worship "Waiting for Christmas"
Advent Drama

10:05 to 10:45am – **Spark Sunday**

All Age Groups – Ornaments/Card making

December 4th: 6:40 to 7:15pm - **Whirly Wednesday**

All Age Groups – Ornaments/Card making

December 8th: 10:05 to 10:45am – **Spark Sunday**

All Age Groups – Christmas Caroling

December 11th: 6:40 to 7:15pm - **Whirly Wednesday**

All Age Groups – Christmas Caroling

9th Grade Confirmation – Christmas Caroling with
Mentor/Session 3

December 15th: 10:05 to 10:45am – **Spark Sunday**

PreK through 5th Grade – Christmas Party

December 18th: 6:40 to 7:15pm - **Whirly Wednesday**

PreK through 5th Grade – Christmas Party

6th through 8th Grade – Christmas Party

9th Grade Confirmation – Christmas Party

Youth Group – Christmas Party

December 22nd to January 4th: **OFF** – No activities
for Christmas Break

Merry Christmas and **Happy New Year!**

December



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
DECEMBER 1 9am-Worship (live streamed) with Advent Program 10am-Spark Sunday 4pm - Online Advent Bible Study via Zoom	December 2 12:10pm - Advent Bible Study 6pm-DCU practice	3 11am - 12pm - Staff Meeting 6:30pm-Bell Choir	4 7:30am-Men's Bible Study 5pm - MEAL 6pm- Worship with communion 6:40pm-Whirly Wednesday 7:10pm-Sanctuary Choir	5 9am-Piecemakers	6 1:45pm- Kid's Choir	7 9-11 - Cantata Rehearsal 5:30pm-Worship with communion
8 9am-Worship with Choir Cantata (live streamed) 10am-Spark Sunday 4pm - Online Advent Bible Study via Zoom	9 11am - 12pm Staff Meeting 12:10pm - Advent Bible Study 6pm-DCU practice	10 6:30pm-Bell Choir	11 7:30am-Men's Bible Study 9am-Elizabeth Circle Bible 5pm-Meal 6pm - Worship 6:40pm-Whirly Wednesday 7:10pm-Sanctuary Choir	12 9am-Piecemakers Office & Building closed - Staff Retreat	13	14 5:30pm-Worship
15 9am-Worship 10am-Spark Sunday 3pm -DCU Concert at the cathedral 4pm - Online Advent Bible Study via Zoom	16 11am - 12pm Staff Meeting 12:10pm - Advent Bible Study 6pm-DCU practice	17 1:30 - Eunice Circle 6pm - Church Council Meeting 6:30pm-Bell Choir	18 7:30am-Men's Bible Study Free Lunch for Finals! 5pm-Meal 6pm - Worship 6:40pm-Whirly Wednesday 7:10pm-Sanctuary Choir	19 Free Lunch for Finals	20	21 8:30am-Book Club 5:30pm-Worship with communion and Installation of Pastor Deb Grismer
22 9am-Worship with communion NO Spark Sunday 4pm - Online Advent Bible Study via Zoom 5:30pm - Quiet Christmas Worship Service with communion	23 11am - 12pm Staff Meeting 12:10pm - Advent Bible Study	24 4pm - Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship with Communion 7pm - Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship with Communion	25 Merry Christmas	26 Office & Building Closed	27 Office & Building Closed	28 5:30pm-Worship
29 9am-Worship (live streamed) No Sunday School 4pm - Online Advent Bible Study	30 12:10pm - Advent Bible Study 6pm-DCU practice	31	January 1st - New Year's	Jan 2 9am-Piecemakers	Jan 3	Jan 4 5:30pm-Worship



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Phone: 605-343-4887

Website: www.sclc-rc.org

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DECEMBER 2024 SCLC Canyon Parish News

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700 44th St.
Rapid City, SD 57702
605-343-4887
info@sclc-rc.org
The office is open
Monday-Thursday,
9 AM to 4 PM
Fridays 9 AM to Noon



Pastor Deb Grismer, Senior Pastor

Ellen Shirley, Director of Worship & Music

Kristi Wellendorf, Office Manager

Mona Drolc, Children, Youth & Family Ministry

Teri Belton, Admin Assistant

Michelle Gab, Kitchen Coordinator

CONTACT information



Marsha Mertes, Pianist

Mary Weidenbach, Choir Accompanist

Lori Brey, Nursery Attendant

Mark Meier, Custodian

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

Ministry of the Month

BH Pregnancy Center

We are collecting Diapers,
toys, blankets, clothing for
newborn - 3T; plus specific
items off the Giving Tree

Drop off by Dec. 15

**LET US KNOW IF YOU NO
LONGER WISH TO RECEIVE
A PAPER NEWSLETTER
CALL 605-343-4887 or
email: info@sclc.org**