

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



NEWS February 2025

IN THE

Worship Service Times

- Wednesdays 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

How to Get Connected

Social Media:



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.

Reflections on Love



I love chocolate. I love my husband. I love my parents. I love my children. I love dogs and horses. I love my friends. I love the color purple. Yes, I like Pina Coladas and getting caught in the rain...

February is filled with talk of love and ways to express the love you have for yourself and others. In English we tend to use one word to express all different kinds of thoughts and feelings we have for people, objects, activities or ideas. This is not true of other languages. Several words in Greek and Hebrew appear in the Hebrew Bible and New Testament..

Although in English they are all translated "love", their meanings do affect how we interpret and understand the text.

Ahab: Hebrew word for love. Describes a variety of intensely close emotional bonds. This Hebrew word is used to describe a variety of types of love in the Old Testament similar to the way our English word describes love.

Eros: This Greek word was not used in Scripture but would have definitely been used by the people. It refers to sexual, sensual or romantic love.

Storge: Greek referring to familial love or the natural affection between kinfolk. This word appears only occasionally in the New Testament.

Philia: Is the Greek term which describes the powerful emotional bond seen in deep friendships. It is the most general type of love in Scripture, encompassing love for fellow humans, care, respect and compassion for people in need. The concept of brotherly love that unites believers is unique to Christianity. In John 13:35, Jesus said philia would be an identifier of his followers.

Agapao (Verb) or Agape (Noun): Greek word which describes God's love which is unconditional love, preferential love that is chosen and acted out by the will. It is benevolent love that always seeks the good of the beloved, expecting nothing in return. This type of love is exclusive to the Christian community because if flows directly from God's love. It is founded upon deep appreciation and high regard. It is the type of love God has for us and the type of love we try to emulate as God's children and share to a hurting world.

Norman Geisler offers this description of the different nuances of these words: "Erotic love is egoistic. It says, "My first and last consideration is myself." Philic love is mutualistic. It says, "I will give as long as I receive." Agapic love, on the other hand, is altruistic, saying, "I will give, requiring nothing in return."

So as you talk about and express your love this February, what type of love are you showing?

Food for thought.

Pastor Deb Grismer

February 23 - 3:00 pm South Canyon Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall

All SCLC members are encouraged to represent your congregation at this business meeting of your Bear Butte Conference. You will have a chance to interact with leaders from various ministries in our Conference and Synod as well as participate in the election of members to represent this conference at the conference and Synod level. Information about what's happening within the SD Synod will be shared, including information about the upcoming Bishop elections at the SD Synod Assembly in May. You also will be able to meet members from other conference congregations and maybe make some new friends. Of course, there will be treats!!! Registration is not required. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Deb.

ADDED BONUS - The SDSM&T will be having their annual Chili and Soup Cook-off Fundraiser following the event. More information to come!

Ministry of the Month - CHURCH RESPONSE

"All our steps are ordered by the LORD; how then can we understand our own ways?" Proverbs 20:24 Each day is filled with steps, and at Church Response, they witness countless acts of faith and courage through the steps people take.

- Some steps lead individuals to their doors to present their food pantry cards and receive essential groceries to sustain them through the week.
- Others are taken by homeless individuals filling out forms to receive commodities, healthy snacks, bread, and water.
- There are steps into the lobby from those seeking warm clothing, socks, or coats.
- Many take the difficult step of seeking help with past-due or disconnect utility notices, often sharing deeply personal stories of life's hardships.

Church Response

Every step matters. Recently, a woman walked in with a box of men's socks, arriving just as supplies had run out. She smiled and said, "It's God's timing." Moments like these remind us that God's prompting guides every step—whether to seek help or to offer it.

Church Response, a Christian outreach organization, was founded after the devastating Black Hills flood of 1972 as a way for local churches to unite in serving the Rapid City community. For over 50 years, they have worked together to provide a helping hand to those in need. They are the hands and feet of Jesus to so many in need. As part of their outreach, Church Response offers grocery gift cards for Family Fare, Safeway, and Walmart in denominations of \$25, \$50, or \$100. These can be purchased with cash or check from SCLC's office. You receive the full value of the card, and Church Response benefits from a 1.5% to 5% rebate, helping to support programs and services. It's a win – win – win as you receive groceries and both Church Response and South Canyon benefit from the sales of these cards.

Requests for assistance and distributions have increased significantly over the past year as more people face economic struggles. The need for their services has greatly increased since the closure of the Hope Center.

We will be collecting the following items:

- Soup (along with any other non-perishable food items)
- **Personal care products**: Soap, shampoo, toothpaste, toothbrushes, and other hygiene essentials.
- Winter clothing: Clean, gently used winter coats, hats, mittens, and, especially, warm winter clothing and socks for men.

Your generosity makes a difference! Financial donations can be made on Realm (church online giving also can access via church website - www.sclc-rc.org), and with offering envelopes available in back of the church. Thank you for walking alongside us in this ministry of compassion, faith, and hope.

For Everything There Is a Season

This is true for ministries in a congregation's life as well. *The Giving Center* began several years ago as an opportunity for congregation members to leave a variety of items which were donated to various places. These baskets have served this ministry well. But its season has come to an end as staff, volunteer, committee and congregation focus has changed. We are incredibly grateful for all who participated in this ministry.

The *Giving Center* shelves and baskets will be finding a new home and purpose within the building. This will allow the congregation to focus their donation of items and finances on more specific ministries, such as the Ministry of the Month. Instead of being overwhelmed by lots of asks, we can work together to give more to our designated ministries.

In the future, a list will be put together and shared stating where the various items from *The Giving Center* were taken so if someone has items to donate, they can be taken directly to the organization. Food donations can be taken directly to Church Response for their food pantry, to the food pantry at SDSM&T or to the food pantry at Woyatan Lutheran Church which serves the community.

If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Deb



South Canyon Lutheran Church

See, Grow, Serve to the Glory of God!

Happy February Community of Faith!

The end of January is a time when all kinds of fun mail arrives in your mailbox, like papers needed to complete your taxes and giving statements for 2024. Many of you have or will receive your giving statement from SCLC in your USPS mailbox. The following letter will be attached. In case you don't receive anything from SCLC, we thought we would share the letter with you in this space as well. If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to reach out to me.

Pastor Deb

Dear Community of Faith,

It is an exciting time to be part of South Canyon Lutheran Church. The Holy Spirit is at work and there is much joy and excitement in the air. Thank you for being a part of this joy and excitement through your giving of your gifts, including your financial gifts.

Along with this letter, you will find a summary of your financial gifts to SCLC for 2024. Your giving is extremely important. Our total revenue for 2024 was \$607,624.24 and our total expenses were \$593,016.15. By each of us financially giving what we could, we were able to start 2025 with a positive balance in our operating account. This is news to celebrate!

Financial giving is about more than just the numbers. Think about the ministry that happened within your congregation during 2024, because everyone worked together in the giving of their time, talents and resources. A new senior pastor was called! New staff were hired. Children and Youth ministries are expanding. You gathered for worship, heard the preached Word of God, partook in the sacraments, sang, prayed, learned and connected with each other. You fed students and families both physically and spiritually. You supported the work of multiple organizations, touching the lives of thousands of individuals, through the Ministries of the Month. (Just to name a few things that happened in 2024). You didn't let a time of transition stop you from doing the work God called you to do. So exciting.

From the bottom of my heart, thank you for supporting the mission and ministry of South Canyon Lutheran Church with your financial gifts, as well as your time and talents. Yes, the need for your financial support continues in 2025 so our ministry can continue. I am excited to be journeying with you at this time in the life of the congregation.

God bless,

Pastor Deb Grismer

Call Process Update

The Church Council is moving forward with the call process for an Associate Pastor. If you are willing to serve on the Call Committee, please contact Diane Tschetter, Council President, at 605-390-1167 or bdtschet@gmail.com by February 12.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

WEDNESDAY MEALS 5:00 - 5:45pm

- February 5 Chicken
- February 12 Pork Ribs
- February 19 Roast
- February 26 Sloppy Joes

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

Meals on Wednesday nights is a time to reconnect with your family, church family and meet new people! Come join us!!!



Saturday, February 22 10:00 am - 12:30 pm

Do you have a child that is interested in receiving communion? Has your child been receiving communion but has not been able to be a part of a 1st Communion Class? Are you interested in learning a little bit more? This is the class for you!

All ages are invited to be a part of this interactive First Communion Class at South Canyon Lutheran Church. We will dig into Scripture, bake bread, paint communion cups, learn how to set the communion table, sample communion wine and juice and try to stump Pastor Deb with any questions you may have.

Please register by contacting Miss Mona (mona@sclc-rc.org) or contact the church office at 605-343-4887 by February 17 so we can make sure to have enough supplies for everyone.

1st Communion Milestone will be celebrated during worship on Saturday, February 22 and Sunday, February 23.



High School Free Lunch Tuesday, February 25

Sloppy Joes, veggies and dip, chips, desserts & root beer floats.

Sign up to volunteer to help or donate desserts at the Welcome Table

What a wonderful partnership we experienced for our January Free Lunch. With a Thrivent Community Action Grant we were able to purchase ingredients for the culinary arts classes at Stevens High School taught by April Malik. Her students baked delicious desserts for us to enjoy!

Last fall, 1585 meals were served to high school students and staff with 222 volunteers participating. Wow! Thank you for volunteering to bake, prep, serve and cleanup. This outreach ministry is successful because of you. We are also very grateful for the support of Thrivent Community Action grants, which help defray the cost of this ministry. We always welcome new faces to participate in this outreach.

Pre-Pregame Potluck Party at SCLC Saturday, February 8 at 6:30 pm SCLC Fellowship Hall

Come, and gather with us in the fellowship hall for Food, Fellowship and Fun. A nacho bar will be set up. You are invited to bring a sharable side, dessert or snack to add to the food tables. A variety of games will be available to play. You may also bring your own game to share.

Come for worship at 5:30 pm and stay for the fun following worship or come for the food and fun at 6:30 pm. This event is open to all ages from all over the community. Invite your friends to come as we connect with each other and build relationships.



WHAT'S HAPPENING



HOST A SHORT TERM EXCHANGE STUDENT Impact a Culture Change a Life

Host families are needed for international teens coming to Rapid City June 26 - July 24 through FLAG's Short Term Exchange Program.

WHY HOST? You have within you the opportunity, the strength, the patience, and the passion to change an international teen's life. When you open your heart and home, you're not only offering a kind gesture, you're changing the world through global diplomacy, through pursuit, through action. Your choice to host can change everything!

Don't worry. You won't be doing this alone. The local coordinator, Kerry Britton will be with you every step of the way. More information can be found at the welcome desk, online or by contacting Kerry directly at 605-393-5599.



Two opportunities led by Pastor Deb available to gather together to explore God's Word and build relationships. If you miss a week, that is okay. Come when you are able.

Wednesdays at 12:00 (Everyone)

Reformation Room at SCLC We will continue walking through Luke.

Saturdays at 10:00 am (Women)

Through February 15 Koinonia Room at SCLC Women of all ages are invited to this study of Esther.

*Check out with the Circle groups and men's group meet for study as well.



Youth Ministries Book Sale!

The book sale (located downstairs) has created a great space to buy new to you books and donate your books you won't be reading again! Come check out the selections - it keeps changing. Money donated is supporting the growing Youth Ministry at SCLC!

Coming soon to SCLC The Season of Lent Beginning Wednesday, March 5

The story of Lent, the story of our faith, is a story of messy middles and nuanced surprises. So this Lent, we are remembering that faith is more complex than this or that, black or white, true or false storytelling. This Lent, we are guided by the Gospel of Luke to find God and to stretch our own understanding beyond the twofold, easy answers our world so often gives. Join us this Lent as we look at everything in between.



Ash Wednesday Services, March 5 12:00 pm - Worship with meal to follow 5:00 pm - Meal with worship at 6:00 pm (No Whirly Wednesday Activities)

Midweek Services Wednesdays at 12:00 pm with meal to follow 5:00 pm - Wednesday Evening Meal, Worship and Activities 9:00 am- Sunday Morning Worship and Activities

Director of Worship

Save the Date

Usher/Greeter Training March 2 after worship.

This is another chance for us to share ideas and go over safety items.



Funeral Ushers

And speaking of Ushers and Greeters, we would like to have a contact list of names of people who would be willing to serve as ushers for funeral services. Funeral ushers would make sure the heat/ air is on in the sanctuary, light the candles, direct people to the restrooms, direct family members to locations throughout the church, work the elevator, set out mics, clean the pews afterwards, and help manage the bulletins. Please send me an email if you are able to serve in this way. Thank you, Ellen ellen@sclc-rc.org

The Chamber Singers to Perform at SCLC

I am thrilled to inform you that we are once again blessed to have the **University of South Dakota Chamber Singers** at South Canyon this March as part of their spring concert tour! (This seems to be one of the only ways I can get Brian to come home!!) This group is the premier vocal ensemble for USD and they will be performing for us on **Thursday, March 13 at 7:00 p.m.** We will need a little help serving them dinner that evening AND **we will need to provide housing for all 40 students** for the night. They are lovely, talented students and I am looking forward to a wonderful program and a fun evening/next morning in fellowship with them! If you are able to house two or more students for the night, please let me know! (I call Brian!) -Ellen

Altar Care

We are in need of more helpers to prepare for communion throughout the year. As of now we have only two people signed up for the month of March, three for April, one for July and no one for August. If you are interested in helping, but are hesitant to serve because you are unfamiliar with the process, we will train you!! If you are only able to help once a month, please don't let that stop you from signing up! We'll take whatever you can offer and piece it all together. This is a great way to use your time and talents to serve. Please let me know if you are interested in helping. -Ellen



Something New Coming to SCLC

...and it is super exciting!

A new cross is coming to our sanctuary. Memorial money is being used to purchase this traditional, year-round symbol of our Christian faith. This cross, made of domestic hardwood, brings a visual focal point, easily recognized by anyone who enters, of our call to focus on God. The multiple layers of different wood offers texture and movement and unifies the rest of the wood in our building.

Don't worry Jesus (the Ascension statue) and the Road to Damascus painting have not left the building. One is hanging in the Reformation Room and the other is in the Koinonia Room continuing to bring life to our building.



Children, Youth, & Family Ministries

February Activities



Pre-K (4 yrs old) to 5th Grade

February 2nd - Jeremiah

9th - The Disciples

16th - The Beatitudes

23rd - Joseph Feeds his Family

Whirly Wednesday - 6:40pm



Pre-K (4 yrs old) to 5th Grade

February 5th - Jeremiah's Call

12th - Jesus Calls Disciples

19th - Trust in the Lord

26th - Joseph Feeds his Brothers

Middle School Youth Group - 6:40pm Wednesday (6th - 8th Grade)

February 5th - Campfire Conversations

7th - 9th Faith Fest - Sioux Falls

12th - Games

19th - Prayer Journals

26th - Love Thy Neighbor - Blankets



High School Youth Group - 6:40 Wednesday (9th - 12th Grade)

February 5th - Jesus, Joy, Junk/Youth Group RE-BOOT Meeting 7:30pm

12th - Bible Study

14th - Extreme Bowling 10:00pm

19th - Games

26th - Campfire Conversations



9th Grade Confirmation - 6:40 Wednesday

Your meeting times for **February** are: **the 5th** Faith Mentor Night - Faith Talk, **the** • 12th and 26th for Learning Night with Eric. Other nights are with HS Youth Group.

SPECIAL EVENT: For entire Congregation

February 22nd - 23rd First Communion Instruction, Brunch, & Class





Future Upcoming Dates:

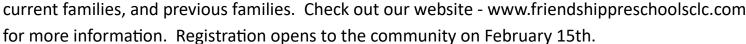
March 5th: Ash Wednesday - No Faith Formation Activities March 9th: Chili Cook-off

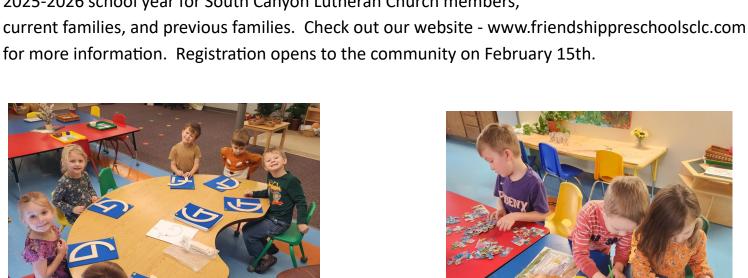
March 28th: High School Game Day Night!

Greetings from Friend-Ship Preschool! Our school year is in full swing. We have been busy learning, playing, and creating!

Throughout the month of January our classes have been exploring and reading about all things winter...snowflakes, igloos, and polar animals. Additionally, our Pre-K class is learning how to write letters, numbers, and what opposites are. Our 3 year old class has been working on colors and shapes.

Friend-Ship Preschool is currently accepting early registration for the 2025-2026 school year for South Canyon Lutheran Church members,









The SCLC Church Council Highlights January 21, 2025

Present: Diane Tschetter, Mandey Tschetter, PJ Haar, Ken Bauman, Gary Johnson, Jona Hagen, Halima Kringen, Bob Thompson, Kelly Whiting, Nichole Morse, Matthew Wilson, Pastor Deb Grismer

Highlights not covered elsewhere in the newsletter.

Property Committee: Bids have been received for work on gutters as well as pest control. Multiple bids are being sought for replacement of HVAC units that need to be replaced. LifeVacs have arrived and will be installed throughout the church. A washer/dryer for the church has been purchased and will be installed. We will be purchasing our own kitchen towels and rags. We will be cancelling our Servall contract.

Education Committee: Middle schoolers and chaperones will be heading to Faith Fest February 7-9. 1st Conversations are being held with Outlaw Ranch about bringing Day Camps back to SCLC as well as hosting VBS. Five youth will be confirmed this spring. A campership fund for children and youth who are attending a LOSD camp will be established with the invitation to congregation members to contribute to the fund.

Youth Committee: List of activities for the remainder of the school year have been given to youth. Senior breakfast is May 4. High School 5th Quarter party/Lock in will be January 31.

Worship Committee: We will begin having funeral ushers for funerals at SCLC. Bi-annual usher/greeter training will happen in March and September. These trainings will include safety information. A proposal for additional/new mics in the sanctuary is being put together. Looking into the possibility of making a tomb for Lent.

Staff/Pastors Report: Pastoral Care has included funerals, hospital visits, home visits, phone calls and office visits. Pastor Deb will be attending Senior Pastor Retreat January 2-4 in Chamberlain. CPR/AID training was held for most of the staff. Staff retreats went well with great results. Deep conversations were held about past, present and future.

Other Discussion:

- *Discussion held throughout the meeting around communication and ideas of how better communication could happen throughout the staff, committees, council and congregation.
- *The Council approved moving forward with hiring the second office assistance. Pastor Deb will work with the Personnel Committee.
- *The Council approved moving forward with the call of an Associate Pastor. Diane will lead putting a call committee together.
- *The semi annual meeting of the congregation was scheduled for May 18, 2025.

Next Council meeting will be held February 18, 2025 at 6:00 pm.



Financial Update

The Church Council received financial statements for December as well as for 2024. The numbers from these reports are printed below. More detailed information can be obtained from Pastor Deb or Kristi Wellendorf.

Statement of Financial Position

As of December 31, 2024

Total current assets: \$683,796.60 (Bank accounts, memorials and Thrivent Investments)
Total Liabilities: \$4,224.43 - Payroll Federal Taxes

Statement of Activity

January - December, 2024

Total revenue for the year: \$607,624.24 Total expenses for the year: \$593,016.09 Total operating revenue: \$14,608.15

The total revenue as well as the total expenses were both under the 2024 Financial Mission Plan (Budget). Thanks to your generosity, we began our year with a positive operating revenue.



Save the Date

May 18, 2025 following worship

Mark your calendar for our semi-annual meeting! We will have a great time learning about all of the ministries of our congregation as well as electing Council members and other fun stuff. Maybe we will even have food to follow. Whoo hoo!!!

February 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				U O E		1 10am - Women's Bible Study - Esther 5:30pm-Worship
2 9am–Worship (live streamed) 10am - Spark Sunday School	3 Nam - 12:30pm Staff Meeting Gpm-DCU practice	4 6:30pm-Bell Choir	5 7:30am-Men's Bible Study 12noon - Bible Study 5pm-Meal 6pm - Worship 6:40pm-Whirly Wednesday 7:10pm-Sanctuary Choir	6 9am-Piecemakers	7 1:45 - Kid's Choir	8 10am - Women's Bible Study - Esther 5:30pm-Worship with communion 6:30pm - Potluck & Game night for everyone
9 9am–Worship with com- munion (Live Streamed) 10am-Spark Sunday	10 Nam - 12:30pm Staff Meeting Gpm-DCU practice	11 6:30pm-Bell Choir	12 7:30am-Men's Bible Study 9am-Elizabeth Circle Bible 12noon - Bible Study 5pm-Meal 6pm - Worship (Communion) 6:40pm - Joyful Noise 6:40pm-Whirly Wednesday 7:10pm-Sanctuary Choir	13 9am–Piecemakers	10pm - HS Youth Group - Extreme Bowling	15 8:30am-Book Club 10am - Women's Bible Study - Esther 5:30pm-Worship
16 9am-Worship (Live Streamed) 10am - Spark Sunday	17 Ilam - 12:30pm Staff Meeting Gpm-DCU practice	18 9:30am - BBC Leaders Gathering 6pm - Church Council Meeting 6:30pm-Bell Choir	19 7:30am-Men's Bible Study 12noon - Bible Study 5pm-Meal 6pm - Worship 6:40pm-Whirly Wednesday 6:40pm - Joyful Noise 7:10pm-Sanctuary Choir	20 9am-Piecemakers	21 3:45 - Kid's Chair	22 10:00 - First Com- munion Class, Brunch & Bread Making 5:30pm-Worship with Joyful Noise, communion & Ist Communion Milestone
23 9 am-Worship (live streamed) with Joyful Noise communion & 1st Communion Milestone 10am - Spark Sunday 3 pm - Bear Butte Confer- ence Assembly at SCLC	24 11am - 12:30pm Staff Meeting 6pm-DCU practice	25 Free Lunch for HS Students & Staff 6:30pm-Bell Choir	26 7:30am-Men's Bible Study 12noon - Bible Study 5pm-Meal 6pm - Worship 6:40pm-Whirly Wednesday 7:10pm-Sanctuary Choir	27 9am–Piecemakers	28 3:45 - Kid's Choir	



700 44th Street, Rapid City, SD 57702

Phone: 605-343-4887 Website: www.sclc-rc.org Non-Profit Org. U.S. Postage Paid Rapid City, SD Permit No. 267

February 2025 SCLC Canyon News

South Canyon Lutheran Church

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Rapid City, SD 57702
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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 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



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

Church Response

February 2025

Items collecting: soup, nonperishable food items, personal care products, winter clothing

LET US KNOW IF YOU NO LONGER WISH TO RECEIVE A PAPER NEWSLETTER CALL 605-343-4887 or

email: info@sclc.org