



## South Canyon Lutheran Church

700 44th Street

Rapid City, SD 57702

605-343-4887

Office Hours:

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

Fridays: **Closed in July**

info@sclc-rc.org

# IN THE NEWS

# July 2025



## Worship Service Times

- 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:



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](http://sclc-rc.org) and click on box to join us online.

Services are archived for viewing.



2025 South Dakota Synod Assembly

## *Synod Assembly Reflections*

On May 30 & 31, over 400 ELCA Lutherans gathered in Sioux Falls for the SD ELCA Synod Assembly, the annual business meeting of the SD ELCA congregations. Assembly participants were invited to celebrate all the ways that we are **called** as individuals, as a Synod and as the Body of Christ to share the Gospel of God's love and forgiveness with the world. During our time together, we worshiped, we sang, we prayed and we ate. We connected with friends and colleagues. We participated in the Lutherans Outdoors in South Dakota's annual meeting and learned about multiple other ministries of the ELCA through speakers and panelists, including our presiding Churchwide Bishop Elizabeth Eaton. We re-elected Bishop Constanze Hagmaier to serve another six-year term as our Bishop. We re-elected Dennis Thompson, a Calvary member, as Vice President of our Synod Council. We voted on various resolutions brought to the Assembly floor. I enjoy being a part of Synod Assembly each year. It was an honor to be representing South Canyon Lutheran Church this year.

Pastor Deb

*Reflections from the other SCLC voting members are below. Synod Assembly materials are available on the table in the sanctuary. Feel free to borrow them and look through them.*

Thank you for the opportunity to represent SCLC at the Synod Assembly in Sioux Falls. I enjoyed the chance to mingle with other Lutherans and to spend time with some of our recent pastors: Pastor Cassandra, Pastor Erik, and Pastor Paul. (FYI, Pastor Erik is now married and his wife is expecting a baby). I also had the privilege of voting to elect our bishop for the next six years and to vote on matters proposed for Synod-wide approval. Finally, it was very meaningful to worship and commune with Lutherans from around the state. I very much enjoyed the experience.

Desyl Peterson

*I had the privilege to attend our SD Synod Assembly this year. There were a couple breakout sessions held on the Thursday evening prior to the opening of the Assembly. I attended the session led by Dr. Dawn Rundman about Early Brain Development, Faith Formation, and Worship. I learned about some of the things we can do as a congregation to support our youngest members and their families. Throughout the assembly, I got to experience beautiful worship services, listening to and witnessing the joy that comes from Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton, energetic and engaging music, being part of the election process for our Synod Bishop, hearing greetings and information about many ministries that we support in our Synod (and around the world), and having the opportunity to hear and vote on resolutions that were introduced. One thing that brought me a lot of joy in the experience was seeing many people I have had connections with in various points of my faith journey- some went all the way back to people at my church, in my community, and in youth programs from my teenage years, so many were various connections from my summers working at Outlaw Ranch, a couple came from past pastors in our community, and a few others were participants on the LOSD Adult Trip to Holden Village I attended a couple summers ago. My overall experience attending our Synod Assembly affirmed a true sense of belonging being an ELCA Lutheran.*

Nichole Morse

I am very grateful and honored to have been asked to attend the 2025 SD Synod Assembly. The event was well attended and well organized and the hospitality was outstanding. The music was so inspiring and uplifting. When the assembly sang as a group with our guest musician Jonathan Rundman, it sounded like a concert! Most enjoyable. It was very nice to get to know who the Synod staff are and the positions they hold and their involvement throughout our synod. It was so delightful to see Bishop Constanze Hagmaier so humbly accept being re-elected for another term as our Bishop, as she is so deserving, so well suited and very well liked. I enjoyed ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton in many ways; she was brilliant, humorous and charming and an excellent speaker. There was a great sense of connection with other attendees from various parts of the state. I would not hesitate to attend another assembly.

Paulette Morse



# New Members

We welcomed new members in worship on June 14th and 15th.



Pastor Deb and Rod



Michelle and Doug



Parker



Andrew, Diana, Dillon, Kennedy

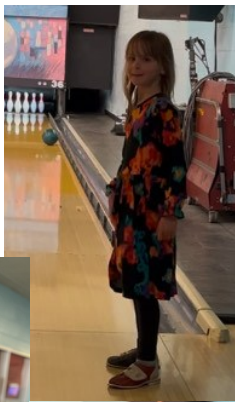


Nathan, Nicholas, Mark, Zabrina,  
Sam, Skylie, Elizabeth



Marsha





# Kid's Choir Bowling Party

# Softball





## Ministry of the Month – Love INC (Love In the Name of Christ)

Love INC walks alongside people on their journey to wholeness through mutual service, education, friendship and prayer. Their vision is to see people thriving in healthy relationships, knowing their value, purpose, place in Christ and our community. Involving local churches, they offer a hand-up with many service opportunities and classes.

Through Life INC, classes are offered on parenting, finances, nutrition and cooking, mentoring, children's ministry, Christianity and dealing with trauma. The Connection Center takes requests for help and referrals to local agencies. With the RISE program, participants restore furniture for sale in their store and Thrive volunteers also restore bikes for sale. Linens, bedding and kitchen items are earned by those in need and foster families in their GAP ministry. In addition, furniture and diapers are earned by program participants.

As Love INC provides a "hand-up" for those in need, they appreciate donations of new or gently used kitchenware, bedding, blankets, towels, sporting goods, and bikes (please drop them off at 414 E Omaha Street). If you have donations of furniture or washers/dryers, call 605.718.5683 to schedule a pickup.

Donations can also be made on Realm or with envelopes at the back of the church. For more information on Love INC, volunteer opportunities or to donate directly, check out their website at <https://loveinonline.com/>.



### Feeding South Dakota

Thank you to all who have signed up indicating interest in helping with the Senior Box distribution at our church on the second weekend of each month. Your response to the tasks for this month has been wonderful, and we're eager to be a ministry partner. There is a sheet available for additional names and contact information, and a monthly sign up sheet with specific tasks can be found in the Koinonia Room. We will be having a training for our July volunteers on July 7th at 7pm.



### Upcoming Performance at SCLC



Strikepoint, an internationally-acclaimed handbell ensemble based in Duluth, Minnesota, will be performing at **7:00pm on Friday, August 8** at South Canyon Lutheran Church. Admission is free but a \$15 donation is suggested; in support of local arts groups, 20% of the evening's donation will be returned to the Bells of the Hills. This performance is part of Strikepoint's 2025 summer concert tour.

Strikepoint concerts are designed to engage and delight listeners. Among the comments most frequently heard after concerts, a favorite is, "If we'd known it was going to be this good, we would have brought all our friends."



# WHAT'S HAPPENING



Church Response is serving more people this summer and they are now distributing about 500 food bags per month and are in need of snack items that can go into these bags. Items

needed include: Vienna sausages, packets of tuna or chicken, gorp, pretzels, animal crackers, pudding cups, applesauce cups, granola bars, and crackers. These items can be dropped off at Church Response or our church.

## Tom Pfeifle Memorial 5k *Fun* Run/Walk Saturday, September 6, 2025

**Benefit for Raider Park**

*For Use by Students, Staff, and Community.*

- **Race Time:** 9:00 am at Raider Park, Rapid City, SD.
- **Fee:** Donation. Every donation receives a ticket for a door prize drawing. Must be present to win.
- **No Age Limit:** Participants under age 18 will need parental/guardian consent.
- **Pie served following the race.**
- **Stevens Raiders Drumline fun!**
- **Dogs discouraged.** • **Waivers online.**
- **Wear your favorite TPM 5k T-shirt!**



**Tom Pfeifle Memorial 5k *Fun* Run/Walk** will take place on Saturday, September 6<sup>th</sup> at Raider Park. The event begins at 9 am. In honoring Tom's values of reducing, reusing and recycling, we ask you to wear a favorite Tom Pfeifle race shirt from previous years if you have one. There will be no pre-registration or fees involved. All donations will help maintain the Tom Pfeifle trails. All who make a donation will receive a ticket for a door prize drawing. You need to be present to win. Please arrive no later than 8:45am to sign a waiver. We look forward to having the Raider Drumline with us, as they enthusiastically motivate the runners/walkers. Pie will be served following the *Fun* run. Save the date.

## Tom Pfeifle Memorial 5k *Fun* Run/Walk

Are you looking for an excuse to avoid cooking? Look no further, and come to **Pancheros on Friday, July 18**, as 20% of all food ordered from 4-8 pm will support the Tom Pfeifle Memorial Inc. The running/walking trails are scheduled for a complete overhaul, which will cost around \$20k. Your support is appreciated.



## Swimming Night with Calvary Lutheran Church

July 17 6:30pm-8:30pm

Jimmy Hilton Pool

Please join us for an evening of fun and fellowship! This event is FREE but RSVP is required. To RSVP please scan the QR code or click [here](#).



## Free Lunch

Students and staff voted on favorite Free Lunch meals and the top 4 were: walking tacos, grilled burgers, mac n' cheese and loaded nachos. Many comments were included, such as, "Thanks for giving us food! We look forward to this every month! God bless!" "I'll really miss this next year!" "Thanks for all you do! Free Lunch rocks!" If you'd like to volunteer a couple hours of your time as your schedule allows, or contribute baked goods occasionally, please sign up in the Koinonia Room, and you will be contacted.



## Care Givers Support Group July 22nd at 10am Reformation Room

Current, past and future care givers are invited to gather for a time of learning, fellowship and support

with others who are on a similar journey. This group will meet the fourth Tuesday of the month.

## Koinonia Coffee Bar is open for Business!

Open Monday-Thursday 9am-4pm

Enjoy a great drink, snacks and fellowship!

Present this Free Drink Coupon for a drink on us!

\*No purchase necessary to come and hang out!\*





# WHAT'S HAPPENING

## Questions & Conversation with Pastor Deb

Mondays from 6:00 to 7:00 pm  
Reformation Room

Our challenge this summer is to read through the entire Bible. Some read faster, others read slower. The important thing is we are reading God's Word.

Because we are reading at different speeds, it is hard to gather for Bible study. So instead Pastor

Deb will be available for questions and conversation about what you are reading. Nothing formal will be planned. Just an invitation to come for conversation.

## Grief Support Group July 2nd at 6:30pm Koinonia Room

All who have experienced the loss of a loved one are invited to gather for conversation and learning. We will pray together and walk with one another as we grieve.

The Grief Support Group will meet the first Wednesday of the month at 6:30pm in the Koinonia Room.

Grief  
Support  
Group



## Kitchen Coordinator Update

Welcome Diana  
Patosa, our new  
Kitchen Coordinator



We are excited to announce that Diana Patosa will be taking over the position of kitchen coordinator as Michelle Gab steps down due to her upcoming back surgery. We have been blessed to have Michelle as our coordinator for the past several months. Michelle will still be around as she trains Diana and then becomes another wonderful volunteer with our food ministries. We thank Michelle for all of her hard work and amazing ministry.

Diana and Michelle have already started working together. Diana is excited to begin this new adventure in her life and we are excited to have her on board.

A little about Diana: Hi! I'm Diana — wife to Andrew, mom to Dillon and Kennedy, and lover of all things cozy, creative, and outdoorsy. I'm happiest when I'm hiking a trail, spending the day at the lake, or in the kitchen cooking and baking something delicious for my family. When I'm not chasing my kids or trying out a new recipe, you'll probably find me curled up with a good book or working on an embroidery project.

I graduated from Stevens High School in Rapid City and later from Western Dakota Tech.



## Senior Fellowship Gathering

Wednesday, July 9

7:00 pm to ??

Let's try again!!!

We will meet at the Peace Pole by the Berlin Wall in Memorial Park (206 N 8th St #100, Rapid City) for conversation and prayer. We will then head to the Memorial Park Bandshell for the Rapid City Municipal Band concert. If you need a ride, please call the church office to reserve a spot in the van. Bring your own lawn chair!

\*\*In case of rain, this outing will be postponed to Wednesday, July 23.

Young Adults  
Small Group

Wednesday, July 23

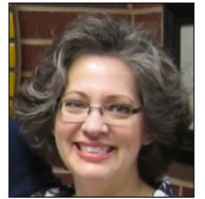
6:00 pm

Meet at Canyon Lake  
Shelter by Parking Lot off  
Park Drive

All young adults (20s & 30s) are invited to be a part of the new SCLC young adult small group ministry being led by Matthew Wilson and Phil & Nancy Busching. The group will take time for fellowship, fun and conversation around the tough faith and life questions. Invite others to be a part of this group.



# Director of Worship



Ellen Shirley  
ellen@sclc-rc.org

The Pop-Up Choir will sing Good Old Gospel Ship in worship on Sunday, **July 13**. We had a good turn out for June, but let's see if we can add to those numbers for July! Let's meet at 8:25 to "learn" this very fun and repetitive gospel anthem. Hope to see you there!!

## Other dates to mark on your calendar –

Sunday, Aug. 3 - Bella Voce will provide special music in worship.

Friday, Aug. 8 - StrikePoint - A touring handbell choir from MN will perform a concert at SCLC at 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, Aug. 10 - Pop-Up Choir will meet at 8:30 a.m. in the sanctuary.

Wednesday, Aug. 27 - Ice Cream Social for all SCLC Musicians!! Social begins at 6:15 p.m. followed by the first Sanctuary Choir rehearsal at 7:00 p.m.



## Children, Youth, & Family Ministries



### July Activities

2025 Vacation Bible School  
with SCOUT!

THANK YOU for attending VBS  
with Scout, we had so much  
fun learning about God, His love, and  
that God is with you wherever you go.  
Joshua 1:9



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



### Outlaw Ranch DAY CAMP!

Is coming BACK to SCLC...

July 7-9 (M-W) from 9:00am-3:00pm

\$50 Registration fee (includes lunch and snacks)

**Ages:** Kindergarten to 5th Grade (finished)

**We will explore and experience God and His love!**

It will be full of excitement. It will be refreshing. It will be unique. It will intentionally show you God's love, and your faith will have a new energy to grow stronger. Contact Miss Mona at 605-343-4887 to register today!!



All Faith Formation Education classes will resume again in the Fall, watch your email for information. **Enjoy your Summer break!**



# Vacation Bible School

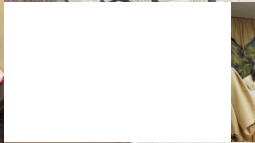
What a week! Over **90 kids** joined us for *"On the Road with Scout"*—a fun-filled journey through Bible stories, songs, games, and crafts.

A **huge thank you** to the many volunteers who made it all possible. We couldn't have done it without your time, energy, and heart!





# Vacation Bible School





# July 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 7:30am-Men's Bible Study  6:30pm- Grief Support Group	3 9am-Piecemakers	4 Independence Day <b>Office Closed</b>	5  5:30pm-Worship
6  9am-Worship (Live Streamed)	7 <b>9am-Day Camp</b> 1pm-2:30pm Staff Meeting  6pm- Questions & Conversation with Pastor Deb  7pm-Feeding SD Training for July Workers	8 <b>9am-Day Camp</b>	9 7:30am-Men's Bible Study <b>9am- Day Camp</b>  7:00pm-Senior Fellowship Group	10 9am-Piecemakers  6:15pm- Worship Team Meeting	11  <b>Office Closed</b>	12  9am-Feeding SD Distribution  5:30pm-Worship with communion
					MS & HS Mission Trip	
13  8:25am- Pop-Up Choir Practice 9am-Worship with communion (Live Streamed) 1pm-Feeding SD Distribution	14  1pm-2:30pm Staff Meeting  5:45pm-Education Committee Meeting	15  9:30am- Bear Butte Conference Leaders' Gathering	16  7:30am-Men's Bible Study	17  9am-Piecemakers  6:30pm-Swimming with Calvary Lutheran at Jimmy Hilton Pool	18  <b>Office Closed</b>	19  8:30am-Book Club  5:30pm- Worship
MS & HS Mission Trip		Pastor Deb at DWU in Mitchell				
20  9am-Worship (Live Streamed)	21  1pm-2:30pm Staff Meeting  6pm- Questions & Conversation with Pastor Deb	22  10am-Care Givers Support Group  6:30pm-Elizabeth Circle Worship & Gathering at Chapel in the Hills	23  7:30am-Men's Bible Study  6pm-Young Adult Small Group Gathering 6pm- Council Meeting	24  9am-Piecemakers	25  <b>Office Closed</b>	26  5:30pm-Worship with communion
27  9 am-Worship with communion (Live Streamed)	28  1pm-2:30pm- Staff Meeting  6pm- Questions & Conversation with Pastor Deb	29	30 7:30am-Men's Bible Study	31 9am-Piecemakers		





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## July 2025 SCLC Canyon News

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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

**Mandy Mertes**, Admin Assistant

**Diana Patosa**, 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](mailto: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*

Love INC

July 2025

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