



South Canyon Lutheran Church

700 44th Street

Rapid City, SD 57702

605-343-4887

Office Hours:

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

Fridays: 9:00am-12:00pm

Office closed Monday, October 13th



How to Get Connected

Social Media:



[facebook.com/south canyon lutheran](https://www.facebook.com/southcanyonlutheran)

<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](https://www.facebook.com/southcanyonlutheran)

IN THE NEWS

October 2025

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

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

Services are archived for viewing.

A Time to Mourn

When someone dies, many often wonder what to say to their loved ones. Our society is uncomfortable around death and dying, so we are often looking for something to say that will make us feel better when visiting with the family whose loved one died. When our Grief Group gathered in September, I asked them to name some unhelpful things they were told as well as helpful things that were said. I share our conversation with all of you to help you walk with those who are grieving.



Unhelpful Things to Say

Most of these are platitudes that minimize the loss and rush the grieving process. They are hurtful instead of helpful.

- *Are you [the caregiver] relieved they are gone?
- *It wasn't really unexpected was it?
- *Are you being punished by God?
- *God must have needed another angel.
- *I know how you feel.
- *You should be grateful for...
- *She's/he's in a better place.
- *Just give it time.
- *Everything happens for a reason.
- *You have to be strong.
- *At least they didn't suffer.
- *You shouldn't feel guilty....
- *It was God's plan and sometimes His plan doesn't make sense.
- *Your loved one would want you to be happy. (often people say that because they're uncomfortable with your sadness)

Helpful Things to Say/Do

- *I am so sorry.
- *There are no words. I am so sorry.
- *I will never begin to understand how you feel.
- *I miss _____ about [your loved one]. *Never hesitate to share stories about the person who died, even days and months after their death.*
- *I don't have the right words but I am here for you.
- *Offer specific help. *Instead of "Let me know if you need anything," try "Can I bring you a meal on Thursday?" or "Would you like me to make some phone calls for you?" If you are not sure what to do but want to do something, speak with someone close to that person and ask for suggestions on what the person might need.*
- *Be patient and offer continued support.
- *Validate their feelings. *When Job's friends heard of Job's losses, the first thing they did was come and sit with him in silence. (Job 2:11-13)* **Ministry of presence is the best gift you can give to someone who has lost a loved one.**

Thank you for being present with those who are grieving. Your gift of time means more than you will ever know.

God bless,

Pastor Deb Grismer

Milestones Ministry – What is it?

Milestones are recognized Faith moments that foster growth in one's relationship with God, self, others, and all creation. This ministry gives the congregation the opportunity to recognize Milestones in the lives of our children each year. We celebrate these Milestones in worship and offer opportunities for parents and children to receive tools to assist them with growing their faith.

Monthly Milestones are offered to **all children age 2 to 12th grade** and are celebrated on Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings. Each age group learns about their individual Milestone associated with their grade.

Milestones that have been celebrated already include: Back to School Blessings of the BBB's, 6th Grade Entering Middle School, and 4-5 year olds Beginning Faith Formation.

October Milestones are: 9th Grade Blessing of the Keys, 3rd Grade Bible Event, 4th Grade Worship, and on Sunday, October 26th First Communion.

November Milestones are: Kindergarten Lord's Prayer, 1st Grade 10 Commandments.

Watch the [CYF Ministries Activities page](#) and emails to see the updates on the monthly Milestones for your child.

Milestones Ministry

We celebrated two different age groups in September as part of our Milestones Ministry. 6th Graders entering Middle School and 4-5 year olds entering Faith Formation. Our 9th graders, 3rd graders and 4th graders will have Milestones coming up in October!



4-5 years old Milestone

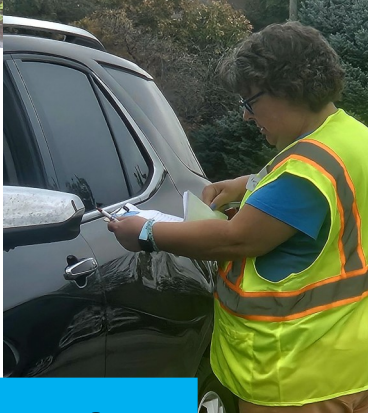
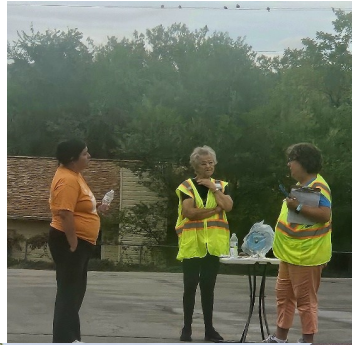


6th Graders Milestone

MILESTONES
M I N I S T R Y

Feeding South Dakota

Feeding South Dakota Senior Box distribution is a tremendous benefit for seniors in our community, and this congregation continues to embrace and support this ministry! Even when through no fault of ours, the distribution times were published incorrectly, our volunteers simply increased their hours to cover the error. What a blessing! Thank you! Have you volunteered yet? If you are interested, sign up sheets are out through December, and include volunteer shifts and tasks involved.



Free Lunch



Ministry of the Month – Freedom’s Journey

Freedom’s Journey: Walking with Survivors from Slavery to Freedom

Freedom’s Journey is a nonprofit ministry devoted to supporting survivors of sex and labor trafficking, offering a path from exploitation to healing and independence. Through strong relationships, trusted partnerships, and community education, Freedom’s Journey not only aids survivors but also works to prevent human trafficking before it starts.

Mission & Purpose

At its core, Freedom’s Journey is committed to helping survivors of all forms of human trafficking—both male and female—navigate the journey from slavery to freedom. This is accomplished through relationship and collaboration, while also combating trafficking through education, awareness, and advocacy at every level of society.

They actively work to prevent human trafficking by educating families, youth, educators, churches, civic organizations, healthcare professionals, and law enforcement. Their efforts help create a culture where victims feel safer coming forward and rebuilding their lives.

Support and Services for Survivors

Thanks to generous supporters, Freedom’s Journey provides a comprehensive network of wraparound services, tailored to the unique needs of each survivor. These services may include:

- Case management and advocacy
- Safe shelter referrals and relocation support
- Lodging, meals, and safe transportation
- Assistance with immediate needs and personal items
- Mentorship and emotional support
- Help with recovering or replacing identification
- Legal aid and court accompaniment
- Job skills development and employment support
- Connections to healthcare and trauma-informed care
- Coordination with law enforcement when appropriate
- Ongoing resources for long-term healing



Survivors receive support from the moment they escape trafficking and for as long as needed on their path to recovery.

How You Can Help

They are requesting donations of Bibles, Adult Coloring Books, Colored Pencils, Backpacks (light weight), Journals

Your generous gifts make this life-saving work possible. Every donation helps provide meals, transportation, legal support, shelter, counseling, and more to those escaping unimaginable circumstances. Together, we can be part of the solution—empowering survivors, preventing exploitation, and building a community where freedom is possible for all.

Donations can be made using the envelopes in the back of the church, online on our website, loose change or checks in the globe offering, or directly on their website at <https://freedomsjourney.us>

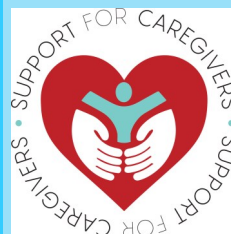
WHAT'S HAPPENING

Grief Support Group Will NOT meet in October

Next meeting: November 6 at
6:30pm

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 Thursday of the month at 6:30pm in the Mercy Room.



Care Givers Support Group October 28 at 10am Mercy 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.



College & VoTech Students & Families

Help us stay connected! Please send your student's name, school, and mailing address to the church office.
Email to: info@sccl-rc.org or
Call: 605-343-4887

Young Adults Small Group

October 18
6pm
At Canyon Lake Park

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.

thrivent® Thrivent Community Action Cards

Did you know that most Thrivent members have two opportunities to help their community in a year? These might include helping with snacks for area schools, yarn for prayer shawls, free lunch supplies, VBS and many other ideas. Please check in with Kristi or Pastor Deb on the various ideas to help with events at church too! If you are a Thrivent member and would like to learn how you can help sponsor a project, contact the church office at 605-343-4887



Saturday Night Supper

October, October 18 at 6:30 pm
Menu: Nacho Bar

Join the Fellowship Committee for food, fellowship and fun. Food will be provided. You just bring yourself and a friend or two if you desire. If you worship at a different service, please still come for supper. The goal of the Fellowship Committee is to host supper the third Saturday of each month. This will be one way we can build better relationships with each other.



Two Opportunities to Serve

Do you like to feed people? The Outreach Committee is looking for a small team who would like to provide a meal and eat with students involved with Lutheran Campus Ministries at SDSMT once a month on a Sunday or Tuesday evening. We are also looking for a small team who would like to take a meal once a month on a Thursday at noon to Habitat for Humanity builders. For more information or to volunteer, contact Pastor Deb at 605-890-0781 or pastordeb@sccl-rc.org.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Wednesday Meals

5:00-5:45pm

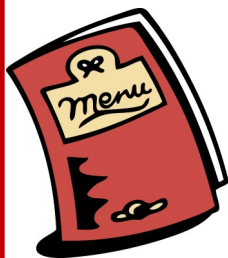
October 1— Chicken Pot Pie

October 8— Meatball Subs with Fries

October 15— Marry Me Chicken Bake

October 22— Cheeseburger Sliders

October 29— Chicken Tenders with Mac and Cheese



Free Lunch

What a delightful Free Lunch experience we had in September! Since ice cream sundaes were on the menu, we increased our volunteer numbers to 15 per shift, and served 360 meals; roughly 180 each 30 minute lunch period.

Thanks to the great crew of new and veteran volunteers, serving seemed effortless. We'll be looking for homemade desserts from our talented bakers in the congregation for our next Free Lunch on **Tuesday, October 28th**. We would love to have your help, baking, serving, or both. Please sign up in the Koinonia Room, or send me an email. (bdtchet@gmail.com) Shifts are 10:00 am to noon, and 11:45 am to 1:45 pm or until finished. Thanks for being amazing!

First Communion Class



All ages are invited. Brunch, bread making and instruction will take place Saturday, October 25 at 10am. First Communion Milestone will be celebrated at worship on Sunday, October 26.

We want to remind our church family to be on the lookout for spam or scam messages. Please know that our pastor and staff will **never** request gift cards, money transfers, or personal financial help through email, text, or social media. If you receive a suspicious message that looks like it's from us, please do not respond—reach out to the church office at (605) 343-4887 to confirm.



With Jen Dreiske

Upstander Training



Learn how to safely intervene in situations of discrimination and hate

Develop courage and empathy to protect those in need



Thursday
October 16, 2025

At St Isaac Jogues Parish
221 Knollwood, Rapid City SD

6-8 PM

RSVP: CLD2ACT@gmail.com



New at South Canyon Lutheran Church

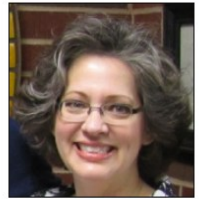
Faith and Life Adult Discussion

Sundays following worship
Reformation Room at SCLC
Facilitated by Craig Alberty

Adult Forum

All are welcome to be a part of the conversations!

Director of Worship



Ellen Shirley
ellen@sclc-rc.org



What an exciting start to the new program year this has been!! Even though all of our music programs have begun, it is never too late to join any one of them if you are interested in sharing your talents with our church family. All you have to do is show up! If you have any questions, please let me know.

Kid's Choir – Friday afternoons. Please take a schedule available at the Welcome Center.

Handbells – Tuesday evenings from 6:30 – 7:30 in the church balcony.

Wednesday Intergenerational Worship Band – Wednesday evenings from 5:45 – 6:35.

Sanctuary Choir – Wednesday evenings from 7:10 – 8:10 in the church balcony.

Joyful Noise – The schedule varies and is available at the Welcome Center.

Also in October, the Dakota Choral Union is presenting their fall concert, Songs of the Soul - Folk Songs and Spirituals, on Sunday, October 19 at SCLC at 3:00

p.m. It is going to be a wonderful program and I am very excited that we are able to share this music with our church family and the public. Tickets are \$10 each, students and children are free. We will be raising the proverbial church roof on some of these songs! Please plan to join us as we celebrate music of our heritage and our faith.

Boo Bash Hall Crawl

Wednesday, October 29th, 6:30 - 7:30

All are invited! Bring your friends!

*Put on your costume and join us after worship
for trick or treating inside SCLC followed by
hot chocolate and popcorn.*



Additional Ways to Participate

*Donate candy to be handed out. Candy can be placed in the tub by the Koinonia entrance.

*Be a part of the Boo Bash by decorating a room or entryway and passing out candy or other treats. Contact Ms. Mona at 605-343-4887 or info@sclc-rc.org to reserve a room or if you have any questions. Rooms can be decorated anytime between 4 to 6 pm on October 29th.

Children, Youth, & Family Ministries

October Activities

Spark Sunday: 10:05 - 10:45am

Pre-K (4-5 yr. olds) to 5th Grade

October:

5th-A Seed of Faith

12th-Ten Men Healed

19th-Jacob Wrestles

26th-The Pharisee and the Tax Collector

Whirly Wednesday: 6:40 - 7:15pm

Pre-K (4-5 yr. olds) to 5th Grade

October:

1st-The Rich Man and Lazarus

8th-Faith Passed Down

15th-Jesus Heals Ten

22nd-The Widow and the Judge

29th-Boo Bash Hall Crawl



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



Middle School Youth Group: 6:40 - 7:15pm Wednesday

6th to 8th Grade

October:

1st-Connect Faith Formation

8th-Caring Conversations

15th-Prayer Journals

22nd-Games

29th-Boo Bash Hall Crawl



High School Youth Group: 6:40 - 7:15 Wednesday

9th to 12th Grade

October:

1st-Bible Study

8th-Caring Conversations

15th-Bible Study

22nd-Caring Conversations with Guest Presenter

29th-Boo Bash Hall Crawl



Confirmation: 6:40 - 7:15 Wednesday

8th & 9th Grade

Parents are asked to attend on the **1st & 15th** to receive information.

October:

1st-Confirmation Begins with Parents – For Both 8th & 9th

8th-with Youth Groups

15th-**9th** Grade Mentor Night

22nd-with Youth Groups

29th-Boo Bash Hall Crawl

Milestones for November

mark your calendars

~ Sunday & Wednesday,
November 2nd & 5th
Kindergarten
Lord's Prayer

~ Sunday & Wednesday,
November 16th & 19th
1st Grade
10 Commandments

Advent Begins

Sunday, November 30th

Hanging of the Greens
Sunday, November 23rd

NO WEDNESDAY Activities
on November 26th

Future Upcoming Events: Mark your Calendars

Sunday, October 26th First Communion - Instruction and Bread Making/Brunch on Saturday at 10:00am

Wednesday, October 29th after Dinner & Worship join us for **Boo Bash Hall Crawl!**
Come set up from 4:00-6:00pm (**Inside**)



Free Lunch Full Circle Moment

September 16th marked our first Free Lunch of the 2025-2026 school year. Although it was Diana's first free lunch as kitchen coordinator, it wasn't her first time experiencing this outreach ministry. Diana had previously attended Free Lunch at SCLC when she was a student at Stevens High School.

In Diana's own words, "I know firsthand how much this ministry means, because I used to be one of the kids sitting at those tables. It's an honor now to help lead it and give students the same love and care I once received."

Thank you so much for your ongoing support of the Tom Pfeifle Memorial 5k Run/Walk. You have generously allowed our board to meet at church when needed, loaned us supplies to help our event run smoothly, promoted the event, and have participated as well. As we honor the memory of this incredible young man, we are inspired by one of his core values; to reduce, reuse and recycle. Tom's Trails at Raider Park have been completely redone, and are in fantastic shape. Take a run or walk with family or friends, and remember Tom.



Thank You, Family of Faith

We want to extend our heartfelt thanks to our church family for your generous support of Passages Women's Transitional Living, our Mission of the Month throughout August.

Passages is a faith-based, residential re-entry program that guides and supports women as they transition from incarceration or homelessness into positive, sustainable life patterns. Women whose lives have been broken by drugs, alcohol, or abuse find hope and healing at Passages as they learn to build right relationships with God, themselves, and others.

Through your faithful giving, we were able not only to provide much-needed donations but also to bless Passages with \$1034 in financial support.

We are truly blessed to be a blessing in our community. Thank you for being the hands and feet of Christ to women who are experiencing new beginnings.

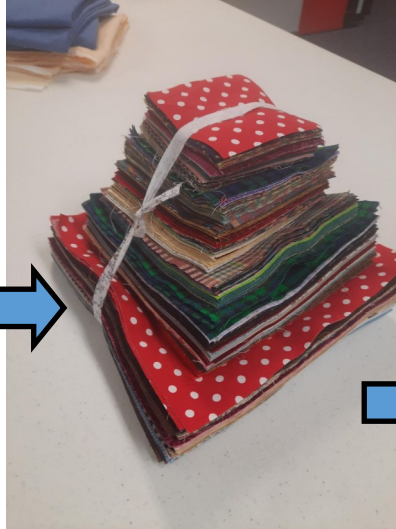
Pieces of Us

October is upon us and the church is buzzing with activity. The Piecemakers have also been busy getting ready for our fall sale.

We take fabric from this



To This



To This



*Save
The
Date*

Our sale this year will be from October 18th - November 5th. The money we raise goes to help support various charities in the Rapid City and surrounding area. We also donate many quilts that symbolize to many that they are wrapped in love. Thank you for your amazing support in the past. We look forward to seeing you at our sale.

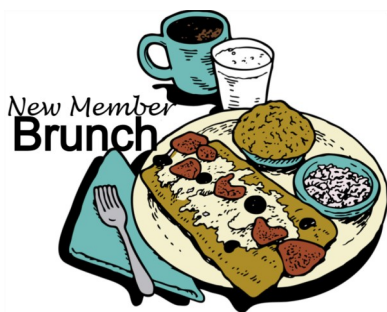
New Member Brunch & Conversation

You are invited to brunch and conversation!

When: Saturday, November 8 at 10:00 am

Where: South Canyon Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall

Who: Worshipers who are new to SCLC and those who have recently joined SCLC but have not been formally recognized in worship



Join Pastor Deb and staff members for a meal and conversation about what it means to be a Christian who is Lutheran and a member of South Canyon Lutheran Church. Learn if SCLC is a right fit for you. If you would like to join SCLC, we will be welcoming new members during worship on November 8, 9 and 13.

Please call the church office (605-343-4887) to register for the gathering and/or to let us know you wish to join SCLC!

Friend-Ship Preschool has had a wonderful start to our school year! We have 33 children attending our preschool program. We have spent September getting to know our new classmates and becoming familiar with our classroom routines. We are looking forward to a year of learning, growth, and fun!

Greetings from Friend-Ship Preschool!



Church Council Meeting Highlights

September 17, 2023



Note: Information presented at the Church Council meeting but mentioned elsewhere in the newsletter is not duplicated here.

Present: President Mandey Tschetter, Ken Bauman, Debra Watson, PJ Haar, Gregg Brower, Gary Johnson, Nichole Morse, Nancy Busching, Kelly Whiting, Halima Kringen, Jona Hagen

Ministry Updates

Education Committee: Items from the school supply drive will be delivered to local schools soon. Scholarship applications were approved and will be shared with college students. Next month cards will be sent to college students. A team will be meeting to complete the paperwork for a Sprinkles of Grace Grant.

Youth Committee: The Committee is being put together to meet in October. The youth are planning two events: Extreme Bowling and a Lock-In

Property Committee: Walk throughs are going well. Finishing putting in windows on classroom doors. Council approved a bid from Sparks Co to raise sidewalk and fix trip hazards in front of Koinonia entrance.

Worship Committee: Worship teams are going well.

Community Care: Care Givers Support Group will be doing some advertising to invite additional members. Grief Group is continuing to meet.

Fellowship Committee: Met for the first time. Brainstormed several events for the future.

Outreach Committee: 199 boxes were distributed at our last Feeding SD distribution. 360 meals were served at the September Free Lunch.

Pastor Deb's Report: Fall Theological Conference went well. Classwork is going well. Ken Bauman, Shelly Mann and Debra Watson have agreed to be on the By-Laws Task Force. We received a memorial check from the estate of Warren Harming.

Other Discussion/Decisions

1. Decision was made to give Sammie Kross, Seminarian, \$1000 per semester for this school year to assist with everyday expenses.
2. Approved Mona's request to attend the Extravaganza conference. Asked Pastor Deb to visit with Ellen about continuing education, as well as looking at a rotating schedule for staff to attend continuing education events each year.

October 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 7:30am-Men's Bible Study 9:30am-Communion Service at West Hills 10am- Ruth Circle at West Hills 5pm-Meal 6pm - Worship with communion 6:40pm-Whirly Wednesday Fun and Games Night 7:10pm-Sanctuary Choir	2 9am-Piecemakers 6pm-Call Committee Meeting	3 1:45pm-Kid's Choir	4 5:30pm-Worship
5 9am-Worship (Live Streamed) 10am-Adult discussion group 10:05am- Spark Sunday School	6 1:15pm-2:45pm Staff Meeting 5:45 pm - Education Committee Meeting	7 1pm- Worship at St. Martin 6:30pm-Handbells	8 7:30am-Men's Bible Study 9am- Elizabeth Bible Study 5pm-Meal 6pm - Worship 6:40pm-Whirly Wednesday 7:10pm-Sanctuary Choir	9 9am-Piecemakers 6:30pm- Feeding SD October Volunteer Training	10 3:45pm- Kid's Choir	11 9am-1pm Feeding SD Distribution 5:30pm-Worship with communion
12 9am-Worship with communion (Live Streamed) 10am-Adult discussion group 10:05am-Spark Sunday School 1pm-3pm-Feeding SD	13 Native American Day Office & Building Closed	14 6:30pm-Handbells	15 7:30am-Men's Bible Study 5pm-Meal 6pm - Worship 6:40pm-Whirly Wednesday 6:40pm-Joyful Noise 7:10pm-Sanctuary Choir	16 9am-Piecemakers 6-8pm -Upstander to Bystander Training at St. Isaac Parish	17	18 Quilt Sale Begins 8:30am- Book Club 5:30pm- Worship 6pm-Young Adult Group 6:30pm-Saturday Night Supper
19 9am-Worship (Live Streamed) 10am-Adult Discussion Group 10:05am- Spark Sunday School	20 1:15pm-2:45pm Staff Meeting 6:00 pm - Church Council Meeting	21 1:30pm-Eunice Bible Study 6:30pm-Handbells	22 7:30am-Men's Bible Study 5pm-Meal 6pm - Worship 6:40pm-Whirly Wednesday 6:40pm-Joyful Noise 7:10pm-Sanctuary Choir	23 9am-Piecemakers 6:30pm-Outreach Committee Meeting	24 3:45pm- Kid's Choir	25 10am-Ist Communion Brunch, bread making 5:30pm-Worship with Joyful Noise,
26 9 am-Worship with Joyful Noise, communion (Live Streamed) 10am-Adult Discussion Group 10:05am-Spark Sunday School	27 1:15pm-2:45pm- Staff Meeting	28 Free Lunch 10am- Care Givers support group 6:30pm-Handbells	29 7:30am-Men's Bible Study 5pm-Meal 6pm - Worship 6:40pm-Boo Bash Hall Crawl 7:10pm-Sanctuary Choir	30 9am-Piecemakers	31	



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700 44th Street,
Rapid City, SD 57702

Phone: 605-343-4887

Website: www.sclc-rc.org

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October 2025
SCLC Canyon News

South Canyon Lutheran Church

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

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

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 **Freedom's Journey**

October 2025

Items Collecting:

Bibles, adult coloring
books, colored pencils,
light weight backpacks,
and journals

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