



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

info@sclc-rc.org www.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 January 2026

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 and click on box to join us online.

Services are archived for viewing.

The Work of Christmas

When the song of the angels is stilled,
When the star in the sky is gone,
When the kings and the princes are home,
When the shepherds are back with their flock,
The work of Christmas begins:
To find the lost,
To heal the broken,
To feed the hungry,
To release the prisoner,
To rebuild the nations,
To bring peace among people,
To make music in the heart.

*Howard Thurman, "The Work of Christmas," in *The Mood of Christmas and Other Celebrations*.

For many of us by the time January 1 comes along Christmas is nothing more than a 2025 memory. Christmas season it seems is over. But it is not! The first day of Christmas is December 25. Christmas season is celebrated in the church for 12 days beginning on Christmas day ending on Epiphany, January 6, 2026, when we celebrate the arrival of the Magi to worship the King of Kings. (No, they did not arrive on the night of Jesus' birth.) However, the work of Christmas lasts all year long, does it not?

The work of Christmas did not end on December 25, 2025 in our congregation and it will not end on Epiphany either. We continue to reach out to share the love of God with each other, with people in our community and beyond. In little ways and in big ways, as individuals and as a congregation we share the grace, love, mercy and forgiveness of God – Father, Son and Holy Spirit with all we encounter. Not because we want glory or fame but because it is what we are called to do as disciples of God.

I am blessed to be a part of a family of faith that recognizes the work of Christmas is not complete on December 26 but lasts 365 days. I am grateful that we can rely on the promise of Emmanuel, God with us. I pray we continue to be guided by the light of Christ and are open to hear and understand the work he has called us to do.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year,
Pastor Deb Grismer

Thank you for the cards, gifts and goodies Rod and I received this Christmas. Thank you also for including me in your prayers during the busy month of December. Words cannot express how much I appreciate this community of faith.





SAVE THE DATE

Feb. 7, 2026
Augustana University Campus
\$75 per middle schooler

Faith Fest is a day-long retreat opportunity for 6th-8th graders hosted by students at Augustana University. This year's theme, "We are a Family," is based on Colossians 3:14. Our special musical guest will be David Scherer, a gifted musician and engaging worship leader. This year's schedule includes service projects in the Sioux Falls community, worship, games, crafts and more!

Register at augie.edu/FaithFest by Jan. 24.

For more information, contact Reverend Shawna Day at shawna.day@augie.edu or 605.274.4805.

Contact Ms. Mona to register (mona@sclc-rc.org). The group attending Faith Fest will leave Friday, February 6th in the afternoon and return Sunday, February 8th.

This is a great opportunity open to all middle schoolers!

Thank You



Thank you for the outpouring of support in collecting food items and monetary donations for Church Response. We had volunteers take multiple carloads of food equaling over 1,500 pounds! In addition to the food items, there was over \$1500 in monetary donations.



Ministry of the Month – Family Promise of the Black Hills

Family Promise of the Black Hills: Helping Families Find Home

Family Promise of the Black Hills is a newer ministry in Rapid City. Their mission is to support families experiencing or at risk of homelessness. We work to prevent family homelessness and are developing a Rotational Temporary Housing Network to provide emergency lodging for children and their families.

Through mentoring, advocacy, and life-skills support, we help families address the root causes of homelessness. With community partners and volunteers, we strive to ensure every child has a safe place to call home. We serve households with at least one parent/guardian and one child; nationally, 95% of families in the prevention program remain housed after three months.

Once fully launched, Family Promise of the Black Hills expects to assist about 54 individuals each year in securing stable housing and to support families on the verge of homelessness with rent or utility help.

If you would like to provide basic cleaning supplies for families entering housing, please fill a bucket containing the following: all-purpose cleaner, dish soap, window cleaner, sponge/scrub pad, dishcloths, paper towels, trash bags, hand soap, and rubber gloves.

Walmart gift cards can be purchased **through the church office** for Family Promise, who will use them to buy essentials and food based on each family's needs. Financial donations can be made using the envelopes at the back of the church, online, through the globe offering, or directly on their website at <https://www.familypromisebh.org/who-we-are>

MINISTRY OF THE MONTH



Feeding South Dakota



We're very excited to report that with the completion of our sixth distribution on Dec. 13-14, we have now distributed 1,000 food boxes to senior citizens who are in need in our community! We are incredibly grateful to our willing volunteers who have made this ministry possible. 65 of our fellow South Canyon members have already served at a distribution, with the majority serving at multiple distributions.

Please know that our collective work on this vital ministry has been a greatly appreciated blessing to our many recipients as well as our partners at Feeding South Dakota.

If you've not yet had the opportunity to volunteer but would like to be part of an upcoming distribution, our sign-up sheets for January-March are currently available in the Koinonia Room. These sheets also have a description of the various roles that we need help with at each distribution.

We also do a pre-distribution training program for all of our first-time volunteers on the Thursday evening (6:30 pm) before each distribution. This session will help you understand the overall process for the distribution, your specific role, important safety considerations, and other content required by the USDA, which sponsors this food program.

If you have any questions in the meantime, please talk to either Diane Tschetter or Tim Shirley. We hope to see you soon at an upcoming distribution!

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Free Lunch

Gratitude runs deep when reflecting on the support for Free Lunch ministry. Despite cancellation of school Thursday, rescheduling Free Lunch to Friday, would students even know, and wondering if last minute volunteers could be found, this congregation responded! Twenty-eight volunteers stepped up, though some had major tree damage from the storm. They dropped everything to lend a hand. In two days of stressful finals, 721 students and staff were fed and nourished. As we begin a new year, we would love your assistance in volunteering for a shift or offering baked goods. If you are looking for fun, fellowship and camaraderie, you will find it in Fellowship Hall, as we prep, serve and clean up on Tuesday, January 27th. You can sign up for a shift or bake 2 dozen of any kind of baked goods. Thanks to this congregation for your amazing generosity.



Wednesday Meals

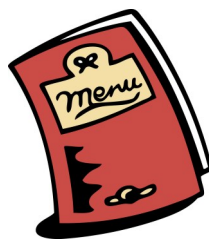
5:00-5:45pm

January 7– Chili

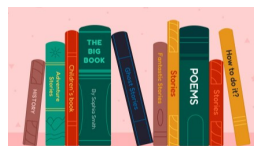
January 14– Turkey Pot Pie

January 21– Beef Stroganoff

January 28– Breakfast for dinner



Books and More Books!



Thank you so much for your awesome support of this ongoing fundraiser for our Youth Ministries! This project has

been incredibly well received, and we're thrilled to see the book bins being emptied and filled again and again. With our book sales, we have raised over \$1700 and have even been able to purchase a projector with these funds!

We'd love to keep this little Book Nook going and growing! If you have donations of *any* kind of books—children's, fiction, non-fiction, devotionals, cookbooks, classics, or anything in between—you're welcome to drop them off at the church anytime.

Your wonderful generosity helps support our youth and keeps great books circulating in our community. Thank you!

SCLC was excited to host a camp-in at the church on December 6th for Boy Scouts Pack 2. We're grateful to be Pack 2's charter organization!



Adult Forum

Faith and Life Adult Discussion

Sundays following worship
Reformation Room at SCLC

Will Resume Meeting January 11th

Facilitated by Craig Alberty

All are welcome to be a part of
the conversations!

SCLC Small Groups

Young Adult Small Group

Next Meeting January 22 at 6:30pm in the
Koinonia Room



Did you know there is a Book Club at SCLC? Anyone is welcome to join, or just read along. Book club meets the 3rd Saturday of the month at 8:30am. To find the list of books for the year see the calendar on the church's website or contact the office! **From the Book Club:** We are a group of readers with diverse tastes and interests; we enjoy reading a book and sharing in a discussion. Sometimes we all like the book; sometimes we are divided on it; on one or two occasions through the years, we have all disliked the book! Discussion is always interesting. This year, we tried to select several books that tie in with the 250th anniversary of our country. Others were selected because they looked like good reads. Some are available at the local library.





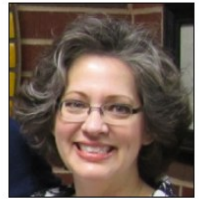
Free Lunch



Youth and Caroling



Director of Worship



Ellen Shirley
ellen@sclc-rc.org

Welcome 2026! Thank you to everyone who shared their musical gifts in worship, served on Altar Care, Ushered and Greeted, participated as an Assisting Minister, Read Scripture in worship, Streamed and worked as the Slide Operator. We, the Church Family, are very grateful for all you did in 2025 and continue to do for the life of this church.

I've been wanting to "put 'the band' back together". It's been 6 years since we played our instruments together for a Sunday worship service. If you play(ed) a band instrument -and still have *it*- and are at least in the 8th grade (just to make sure you are not overwhelmed) mark your calendar for playing in worship Sunday, Feb. 1, 2026. There will be two rehearsals prior to playing in worship on the 1st; Saturdays, Jan. 24 and 31 from 9:30 a.m. – 11:00. See me for music if you are interested.

January start dates –

Inter-generational Band and Wednesday Worship begin January 7 at our regular 5:45 p.m. rehearsal time with 6:00 p.m. worship.

Sanctuary Choir Wednesday, January 7 at 7:10 p.m.

Kid's Choir – Friday, January 9 at 3:45 p.m.

Handbells - Tuesday, January 13 at 6:30 p.m.

Joyful Noise – Wednesday, January 14 and 21 at 6:40 p.m. to prepare for January 24 and 25 worship.

Sunday's Worship - Inter-generational Band - Rehearsals Saturdays, January 24 and 31 from 9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. to prepare for February 1, 9:00 a.m. worship.



You are invited to join the Adult Discussion Group

Intersection: Faith and Life

Sunday mornings following worship beginning January 11

Format: Sessions begin with opportunity for anyone to share and discuss how their Christian values have been used or challenged during the week. Might include personal interaction, social media posts, news and current events, etc. We then look at Sunday's Scripture and discuss relevance to Christian values and daily life.

Christian Values: To date, the group has identified the following as values learned through their Christian experience: Faithfulness, Helpfulness, Acceptance, Grace, Community and Nonjudgemental.

This is a great opportunity to gather, get to know others in our worshipping community and have open conversation centering on putting our faith into action. All are welcome to be a part of this discussion group!



Children, Youth, & Family Ministries

January Activities



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



Spark Sunday: 10:05 - 10:45am

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

January:

4th-No CLASSES

11th-Jesus' Baptism

18th-The Lamb of God

25th-The Disciples

Whirly Wednesday: 6:40 - 7:15pm

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

January:

7th-Arrival of the Magi

14th-A Light of the Nations

21st-The Lamb of God

28th-United in Christ

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

6th to 8th Grade

January:

7th-Faith Formation

14th-Caring Conversations

21st-Service Projects

28th-Games

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

9th to 12th Grade

January:

7th-Bible Study

14th-Caring Conversations

21st-Bible Study

28th-Adventure Outing



Milestones for January

mark your calendars

~ Wednesday & Sunday,
January 7th & 11th

2 Yr. Olds

Daily Devotions

~ Sunday & Wednesday,
January 25th & 28th

7th Grade

Caring Conversations

February Milestones

~ Sunday & Wednesday,
February 1st & 4th

10th Grade

Serving

~ Sunday & Wednesday,
February 22nd & 25th

3 yr. Olds

Prayer Pillows

Confirmation: 6:40 - 7:15pm Wednesday

8th & 9th Grade

NOTE THE CHANGE 8th Grade!!

January:

7th-Confirmation - For Both 8th & 9th

14th-Youth Group

21st-**8th Grade Confirmation**/9th Grade Mentor Night

28th-Youth Group



Upcoming Events: Take Note and Mark your Calendars

Faith Formation Classes Resume Wednesday, January 7th

January Special Event **L0 Outlaw Ranch Visit** ~ Sunday & Wednesday, January 25th &

28th **FAITH FEST in Sioux Falls** ~ 6th-8th Middle School Trip February 6th-8th

NO WEDNESDAY ACTIVITIES - February 18th - ASH WEDNESDAY



Pieces of Us

2025. What a year! Our members had many ups and some downs. But no matter what, we have always been there for each other. And together we did many wonderful things. In December alone, we finished up and donated 30 quilts to WellFully. Lauren talked to us about all they do. The following week we donated 12 quilts along with bags filled with household items for the young adults in the New Alternatives program. Amber and Kim talked with us as well. We donated \$200 to The Circle mission along with \$500 to Stevens High School's food program to help with food insecurity and debt.

We are excited for 2026 and for all the new opportunities it has to offer. Blessed New Year to all.



Fellowship Committee



What a phenomenal turnout for the Christmas Lights Tour! It was a great evening filled with food, fellowship and fun!

January 17 - Third Saturday Supper @ 6:15 pm
Koinonia Room

Menu: Hotdish/Casserole Battle

The Fellowship Committee is seeking three or more volunteers to bring your favorite hotdish/casserole to share for supper. Committee members will provide bread, sides and desserts.

Please let the church office know if you are willing to be part of the battle. Winners will be determined by those present.

Even if you don't attend Saturday Night worship we would love for you to join us for supper.



Greetings from Friend-Ship Preschool!



From the **Preschool**

January 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 New Year's Day Office Closed	2 Office Closed	3 5:30pm- Worship
4 9am-Worship (Live Streamed)	5 1pm-2:30pm- Staff Meeting	6 Epiphany 1pm- Worship at St. Martin	7 7:30am-Men's Bible Study 9:30am-Westhills Communion Service 10am- Westhills Ruth Circle 5pm-Meal (chili) 6pm - Worship, 2 year old milestone 6:40pm-Whirly Wednesday 7:10pm-Sanctuary Choir	8 9am-Piecemakers 9am-Christmas Decoration Take Down 4:30pm-Fellowship Committee Mtg 6:30pm-Feeding SD Training	9 3:45pm-Kid's Choir	10 9am-1pm Feeding SD Distribution 5:30pm-Worship with communion
11 9am-Worship with communion, 2 year old milestone (Live Streamed) 10:05am-Adult discussion group 10:05am-Spark Sunday School 1-3pm-Feeding SD Distribution	12 1pm-2:30pm- Staff Meeting	13 6:30pm-Handbells	14 7:30am-Men's Bible Study 9am-Elizabeth Bible Study 5pm-Meal (Turkey Pot Pie) 6pm - Worship 6:40pm-Whirly Wednesday 6:40pm-Joyful Noise 7:10pm-Sanctuary Choir	15 9am-Piecemakers	16 3:45pm-Kid's Choir	17 8:30am-Book Club 5:30pm- Worship 6:15pm- Saturday Night Supper
18 9am-Worship with Communion (Live Streamed) 10:05am-Adult discussion group 10:05am-Spark Sunday School	19 1pm-2:30pm- Staff Meeting	20 1:30pm-Eunice Bible Study 6:30pm-Handbells	21 7:30am-Men's Bible Study 5pm-Meal (Beef Stroganoff) 6pm - Worship 6:40pm-Whirly Wednesday 6:40pm-Joyful Noise 7:10pm-Sanctuary Choir	22 9am-Piecemakers 6:30pm-Young Adult Bible Study	23 3:45pm-Kid's Choir	24 9:30-11am Inter-generational Band Rehearsal 5:30pm-Worship with communion- and Joyful Noise
25 9 am-Worship with communion and Joyful Noise (Live Streamed) 10:05am-Adult discussion group 10:05am-Spark Sunday School 2pm & 3pm - Good Sam-Echo Ridge Worship	26 1pm-2:30pm- Staff Meeting 6pm-Council Meeting	27 Free Lunch 6:30pm-Handbells	28 7:30am-Men's Bible Study 5pm-Meal (Breakfast for dinner) 6pm - Worship 6:40pm-Whirly Wednesday 6:40pm-Joyful Noise 7:10pm-Sanctuary Choir	29 9am-Piecemakers	30 3:45pm-Kid's Choir	31 8:30am-Pinewood Derby-Pack 2 9:30-11am Inter-generational Band Rehearsal 5:30pm-Worship



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Phone: 605-343-4887

Website: www.sclc-rc.org

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SCLC Canyon News

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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

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

Family Promise

January 2026

**LET US KNOW IF YOU
WOULD RATHER HAVE
YOUR NEWSLETTER
EMAILED INSTEAD OF
PAPER FORM**

**CALL 605-343-4887 or
email: info@sclc.org**