



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

April 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 Blessings of Spring

By Deborah Ann Belka



There are many blessings,
that each new Spring brings
you can see it bloom about
and hear the song it sings.

With winters bleakness over,
and brighter days ahead
comes promises of new life
Springtime loves to spread.

As God unfolds the flowers,
and their buds begin to show
He gives to us the assurance
grace in our hearts will grow.

He sends us the robin's song,
with the promise to provide
a shelter under His mighty wing
where in His love we can abide.

He melts the snowy covers,
and sends the refreshing rain
sprinkling us with His mercies
to heal winter's ache and pain.

God's given to all His Son,
to shed upon us a new light
and the real blessing of Spring . . .
is keeping Jesus in our sight!

See! The winter is past; the rains are over and gone. Flowers appear on the earth; the season of singing has come, the cooing of doves is heard in our land. The fig tree forms its early fruit; the blossoming vines spread their fragrance.

Song of Songs 2:11-13b



Spring is definitely in the air. Even though our winter was very mild and we are very much praying the rains are not over and gone, spring still comes with a sense of renewal and rebirth. We stop to admire the buds on the trees and the flowers popping through the earth, sometimes in the strangest places. We listen to the songs of the birds and look forward to seeing the animal babies making their appearance. (I personally get really excited when I hear the first cinnamon baby has been born in Custer State Park or Wind Cave.)

Spring is also a time to reflect on our spiritual lives. We have made it through the darkness of Lent and are once again shouting "Christ is Risen! He is Risen Indeed!" As "Easter people" we acknowledge the suffering of the world while believing that death and injustice do not have the final word. We live as *a people*, all parts of Christ's Body working together toward a single purpose: love.

According to a Goggle search, the **core Aspects of Living as Easter People**, include:

A Life of Hope: Easter people live with the conviction that God brings life out of death and hope out of despair, even during dark times.

Joy and Transformation: It involves a life transformed by the power of the Resurrection, marked by joy and peace rather than just fear or sadness.

Active Service: This is a call to action - serving the poor, healing, and loving neighbors, effectively being the "Body of Christ" in the world.

Counter-Cultural Witness: It is a refusal to accept the world's violence, injustice, and oppression, choosing instead to live out the peace of the risen Jesus.

"Alleluia" as a Song: As St. Pope John Paul II famously noted, Easter people live in the light of the resurrection, allowing it to bring light to the "dimness" of life.

Everyday Faith: It is not a temporary feeling, but a daily commitment to, as St. Augustine taught, "be an Easter person" by imitating Christ in thoughts, words, and actions, every day of the year.

Let us live as Easter People!

Pastor Deb Grismer

Ministry of the Month – SCLC Campership Fund

SCLC Campership Fund – Sending Youth to camp with Lutherans Outdoors Ministry

Each summer, lives are changed in powerful ways through experiences at Lutheran Outdoors in SD Bible camps. Camp is more than just a getaway—it's a place where faith grows, friendships form, and young people encounter God in meaningful and lasting ways.

Through activities like worship around the campfire, Bible study, hiking, and team-building, youth are invited to step away from the distractions of everyday life and deepen their relationship with Christ. These experiences often become milestones in a young person's faith journey.

At South Canyon Lutheran Church, our goal is for every child to have the opportunity to attend camp, regardless of financial circumstances. That's why we have established our **Campership Fund**. This ministry helps provide financial assistance to families so that cost is not a barrier to experiencing Lutheran Outdoors camps. **All campers from SCLC will receive a campership.**

Lutheran Outdoors camps—such as those connected through regional ministries—are rooted in faith, community, and creation. Lutheran Outdoors offers three different camps across South Dakota including: Outlaw Ranch (In the Hills), NeSoDak (At the Water), and Klein Ranch (On the Prairie). Programs are led by trained staff who create safe, welcoming environments where youth can grow spiritually, build confidence, and develop lifelong friendships.

Important Reminder: Early bird registration for summer camp ends on **April 15, 2026**. Be sure to register soon to take advantage of reduced rates and secure your spot!

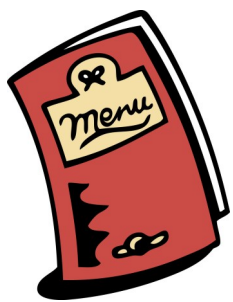
How You Can Help:

Donations to the Campership Fund can be made through **Realm (our church's online giving platform)**, through **globe offering during worship services**, or by using **Ministry of the Month offering envelopes**.



SCLC Summer Camp Fun Night

WHAT'S HAPPENING



Wednesday Meals

5:00-5:55pm

April 8– Breakfast for Dinner

April 15– Turkey Pot Pie

April 22– Chef's Choice Night

April 29– Gizzy's Pizza Party

Please mark **Saturday, August 29th** on your calendar for the 10th annual Tom Pfeifle Memorial 5k Run Walk. It will be held at 9 am at Raider Park. (across from Stevens High School) You can look forward to great fellowship, Stevens Raider drum line, door prizes and pies. More information will be included in the May Newsletter. Another opportunity to support Raider Park trail maintenance will take place on **Friday, April 10th from 4-8 pm at Pancheros Mexican Grill, 1221 W. Omaha St.** Whether you dine-in- or order carry out, 20% of the sales is donated back to our non profit. We hope to see you there.



For Sale

We have decided to sell our trailer, it's a 2000 Haulmark 7 X 12 Tandem Axle, we are asking \$2,500 for it. You can call Gregg Brower 605-770-8950 or stop by the church office if you have questions about it. It's a nice trailer yet, just needs a little TLC.



LSS Week of Giving is April 19-26, 2026

Your gift makes possible a South Dakota where all people are healthy, safe and accepted. Help us unlock \$200,000 in matching gifts by making a donation now through LSS Week of Giving!

HEALTHY Up to \$50,000 Matched Gifts to the HEALTHY Match support youth at Arise Youth Center, Multi-Cultural Center and families across South Dakota as they grow healthier and more vibrant together.

SAFE Up to \$50,000 Matched Gifts to the Safe Match support youth in residential treatment, foster care and throughout the state as they grow stronger and safer together.

ACCEPTED Up to \$50,000 Matched Gifts to the Accepted Match help families at the Center for New Americans, in the Strengthening Families program and more feel welcome, supported and connected, opening doors to brighter futures.



BONUS MATCH OPPORTUNITY FOR NEW DONORS:

Gifts are TRIPLED!



Giving.LSSSD.org

Free Lunch



The **Free Lunch day** has changed this month to **Thursday, April 30**, due to multiple spring track meets, Easter holiday, etc. If you'd like to participate in this engaging ministry, but

Tuesday never worked for you, perhaps Thursday does. All are welcome to participate in this outreach. We truly enjoyed hosting Stevens High School seniors as they prepared the March Walking Taco meal, as well as School of Mines Volunteers who helped with serving and clean up. Thanks again to Thrivent Action grants for your support of Free Lunch. We will need homemade desserts this month. Please check the sign up sheet to help serve or bake. You may also email Diane. (bdtschet@gmail.com) Thank you.

DAKOTA Choral UNION

Mozart.
Vesperae solennes de Confessore

3:00 pm, Sunday, April 19, 2026
South Canyon Lutheran Church
700 S 44th St, Rapid City, SD 57702

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

Featuring instrumentalists of the **Black Hills Symphony Orchestra**
Guest Performances by the **2026 Young Vocal Artist Competition Winners**

\$10 at the door. Cash or credit accepted.
dakotachoralunion.org

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



WHAT'S HAPPENING



See You This Summer!
Early Bird Pricing Ends April 15th!



Register Before April 15th and Save \$10!
 Register for Two Weeks and Get The 2nd Half Off!



We are chosen
 Colossians 3:12-14

In the Hills. On the Prairie. At the Water.



Oak Grove Concert Coming to Rapid City

Oak Grove Lutheran School—serving students from age three through high school—will be traveling to Rapid City from Fargo, ND for a special concert on **April 11 at 6:30 PM**. The event will be hosted by Trinity Lutheran Church.

You are warmly invited to attend this evening of music and support these talented students. Plan to attend a wonderful concert!



Eyeglass & Hearing Aid Donations Discontinued



Thank you for your donations of eyeglasses and hearing aids over the years. In the past, the Rapid City Lions Club collected them from our church and around the community, **but they have discontinued this program. The church is no longer accepting these items.** At this time, **only eyeglasses** can be dropped off at Walmart Vision Center, or you can check with your eye doctor to see if they collect them for donation. If you have **hearing aids** to donate, please contact your audiology office directly to ask if they accept or recycle them.

You're Invited to the Dayspring Ribbon Cutting and Open House at Outlaw Ranch, Tuesday, May 5 from 4-6pm

Join Lutherans Outdoors to celebrate the newly renovated Dayspring lodging facility. Enjoy refreshments, appetizers, tours, and fellowship.

Formal Program will begin at 4:30pm.

To RSVP: Contact Carol at LO

Email: carol@losd.org

Tel: 605-374-5332



Spring Clean Up Day

When: Saturday, April 25 from 9:00-11:00am

Where: South Canyon Lutheran Church

Who: Everyone of all ages



What: Bring your gloves and water bottles as we come together to clean up around the church, Tom Pfeifle Memorial Trail and Stevens High School.

Hosted by the Fellowship Committee along with the Outreach Committee and Property Committee in conjunction with the Rapid City Community Cleanup Day.

For more information or questions, contact Carrie Churchill at: 605-430-6190.

Garbage bags will be provided.



Women of the ELCA
 Bear Butte Conference 2026

And God is able to shower all kinds of blessing on you. In all things and at all times you will have everything you need...

2 Corinthians 9:8

Our Savior's Lutheran Church
 1020 State Street, Spearfish, SD

Saturday, April 25th, 8:00 - 2:00pm

8:00 to 9:00am Registration

\$10 per person, includes Lunch & Snacks

Morning Offering

Split between BBC Board & Synodical Board

Afternoon LOVE Offering & Program by

Cornerstone Women & Children's Home, Rapid City

1:15pm Worship with Holy Communion - Pastor Kari Webb

We are **collecting** non-perishable food items, especially cereal & bread. Non-food items like powdered laundry detergent, feminine hygiene items, personal hygiene items - soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste, deoderant, combs, for the Cornerstone Women & Children's

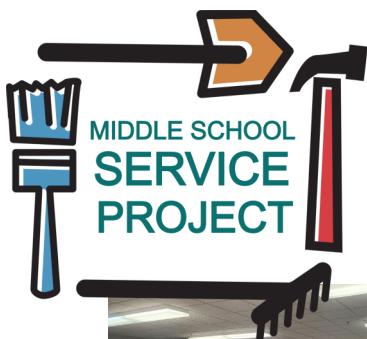
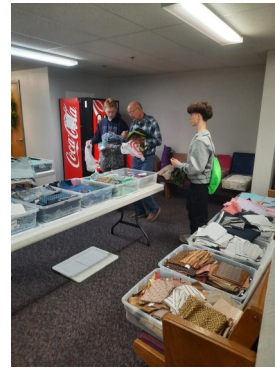
Vendors to include Spearfish Food Pantry, Northern Hills SOS, Alzheimer's Association, Lawrence County Coalition & Others

Pieces of Us

Spring has sprung! Time for new things to bloom and we have been busy planting many seeds this winter in preparation. This month we have confirmation students coming to tie the denim quilts we have ready for them. We have spent the past few months sewing quilts to send to Lutheran World Relief. They in turn send the quilts around the world to people in need. We will have over 50 quilts ready to ship very soon. Along with the donations of \$1600 in January to SCLC youth, Meals on Wheels, Feeding South Dakota, and School of Mines Food Pantry, we also donated in February \$200 each to West River Mental Health, Chapel in the Hills, Passages Transitional Living, and WAVI. In March we chose to donate \$200 each to Habitat for Humanity, Woyaton, and LOVE Inc. The money for these donations comes from the sale in the fall.

Our group has seen some growth with the addition of some new members, some from our church and others from our community. We are excited for their commitment of time and talents. We always welcome new friendships and welcome them with open arms into our fellowship.

Throughout the year, expect to see many colorful and unique quilts inspired by many of our quilters, high school youth and mentors, and church staff. On a couple separate occasions they were given the opportunity to peruse through all of our fabric to find a piece that spoke to them and then find additional pieces to help complete a quilt. These "Inspiration" quilts will be sewn by our quilters and then be displayed, along with the name of the person who inspired them. This is just one way we can help their creativity bloom. We hope to include these quilts in our sale or as donations to our various charities in town.



Feeding South Dakota

The next **Feeding South Dakota** distribution will take place the weekend of **April 11th and 12th**. A change in shift times begins this month. The shifts are now 90 minutes instead of two hours. First distribution is from **9 am to 10:30 am** on Saturday, followed by the second shift from **10:30 am until noon**. The Sunday shift is from **1:00 pm until 2:30 pm**. Training for all new volunteers takes place on Thursday, April 9th at 6:30 pm at church. There are a few tasks still available if you'd like to participate. Please check the sign up sheet in the Koinonia Room, or email Diane. (bdtschet@gmail.com) In March, we had our second highest one day distribution total on Saturday with 146 boxes distributed that day. Thank you to the hearty March crew who served despite the cold weather!



Fellowship Committee

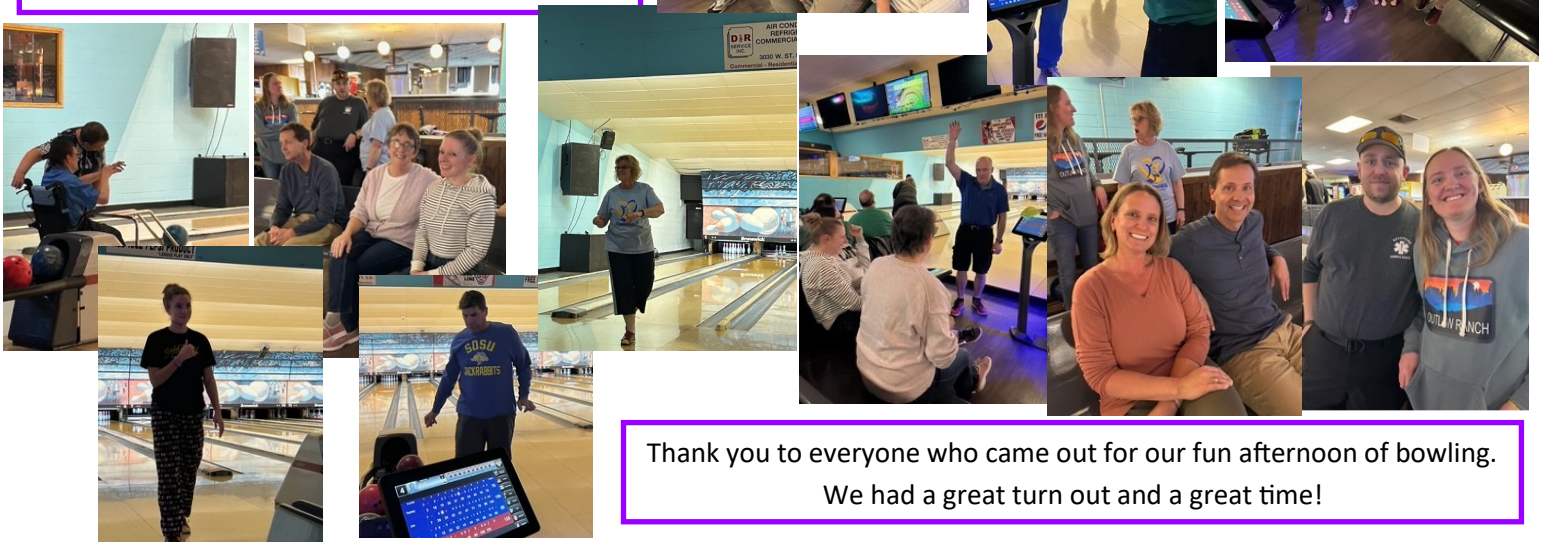
Third Saturday Supper

April 18 at 6:15pm

Koinonia Room

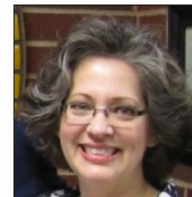
Menu: Breakfast For Supper

The Fellowship Committee is seeking volunteers to bring fruit and desserts for April's third Saturday supper. Please let the church office know if you are willing to bring something for the meal. Even if you don't attend Saturday Night worship we would love for you to join us for supper.



Thank you to everyone who came out for our fun afternoon of bowling. We had a great turn out and a great time!

Director of Worship



Ellen Shirley
ellen@sclc-rc.org

April begins part way through Holy Week. With Palm Sunday behind us, we continue our Holy Week journey with Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Vigil (Saturday 5:30 p.m. worship) Each service is designed to take you through the events of that most holy week, beginning with the Last Supper in the Upper Room and the garden of Gethsemane, the trial of Jesus and his journey with the cross to Golgotha, and finally the emptiness that wants to lean into hope of that in-between time.

Easter will be a glorious celebration of our Risen Lord with the Hand Bell Choir, Kid's Choir, Sanctuary Choir, and trumpet adding to the sounds of the morning! Remember, you have two services to choose from, 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. (The Kid's Choir sings at the 9:00 service only.)

If you've ordered lilies or tulips for Easter, please wait until after the 11:00 a.m. service to take them home.

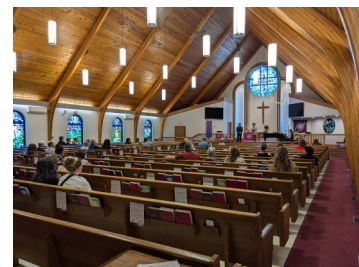
The Dakota Choral Union will offer their last concert of the season at SCLC on Sunday, April 19 at 3:00 p.m. If you happen to notice a pair of tympani in the sanctuary sometime after Easter, they are part of a 15-piece orchestra that will accompany the Choral Union in a presentation of Mozart's *Vesperae solennes de Confessore*; five Psalms and Magnificat sung in Latin and beautifully set to music. DCU, which includes seven members of our own SCLC choir, has been working on this piece for months and the performance is going to be spectacular! The concert will also feature the winners of the Young Vocal Artist Competition that took place at SCLC just a few weeks ago. You are all invited to come and hear our sanctuary filled with the glorious sounds of Mozart. Tickets are \$10 for adults at the door; children and students of all ages are free.



Students from Rapid, Spearfish, Hill City, and Sturgis competed in the Young Vocal Artist Competition March 21, 2026.

Joyful Noise leads music in worship April 25th and 26th.

Lastly, and I can't believe I'm typing this already; our last Wednesday worship service for the school year is April 29th. Communion for Wednesday worship in April will be celebrated on the 15th and 29th.



You are invited to brunch and conversation!

When: Saturday, April 18 at 10:30 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 April 18, 19 & 22.

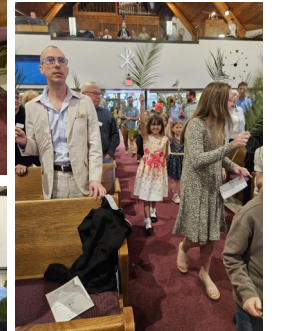
Please call the church office (605-343-4887) to register for the gathering and/or to let us know you wish to join SCLC!



BINGO



PALM Sunday



Baptism





Children, Youth, & Family Ministries

April Activities



Spark Sunday - 10:05am

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

April 5th - Easter Sunday - No Classes

12th - Doubting Thomas

19th - The Road to Emmaus

26th - Early Believers

Last Spark Sunday School

Whirly Wednesday - 6:40pm

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

April 1st - Easter Break - No Classes

8th - Jesus is Risen

15th - Thomas Answers to Jesus

22nd - Road to Emmaus

29th - Last Wednesday Night - Gizzy Pizza



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

April 1st - Easter Break - No Classes

8th - Faith Formation - Movie (6th & 7th)

8th - Confirmation

15th - Service Project or Outing (6th & 7th)

8th - Ice Cream Social with HS

22nd - Service Project or Outing (6th & 7th)

8th - Statement of Faith Projects with High School Youth Group

29th - Last Wednesday Night - GIZZY Pizza Party



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

April 1st - Easter Break - No Classes

8th - Bible Discovery

15th - Ice Cream Social with 8th Grade

22nd - 9th Grade Confirmation Statement of Faith Projects with 8th Grade

29th - Last Wednesday Night - GIZZY Pizza Party



9th Grade Confirmation - 6:40 Wednesday (9th Grade only for April)

April 1st - Easter Break - No Classes

8th or 15th - Tying of Quilts with Piecemakers, Parents, and Mentors

22nd - Mentor Celebration and Presentation of Statement of Faith Projects

26th - Affirmation of Baptism

29th - Last Wednesday Night - GIZZY Pizza Party!



April Milestones:

Sunday, April 19th & Wednesday, April 22nd

2nd Grade Milestone ABC Bible Scriptures

SPECIAL EVENTS:

Sunday, April 26th

Affirmation of Baptism

Future Upcoming Events:

Sunday, May 3rd 2026

Senior Breakfast at 10:00 hosted by our Youth Group

FIRST Communion



Milestones



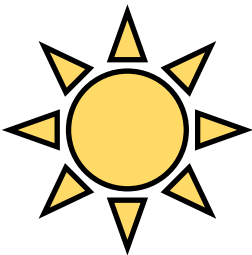
Kids Choir



Greetings from Friend-Ship Preschool!

Hello from Friend-Ship Preschool! The month of March was filled with so much learning and enjoyment. We deeply learned about all things farm related in our Preschool 3's class, while our Pre-K class explored a space unit.

We also read stories and did activities related to this meaningful season of Easter.



Friend-Ship Preschool is currently registering for the 2026-2027 school year. We have openings in our Preschool 3's class and in our Pre-K 5-day class. More information can be found on our website at friendshippreschoolslc.com or contact Rana by calling the church office.



April 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 7:30am-Men's Bible Study	2 Maundy Thursday 9am-Piecemakers 7pm-Maundy Thursday Worship	3 Good Friday 7pm-Good Friday Worship	4 5:30pm- Easter Vigil Worship
5 Easter 9am-Worship with communion. (Live Streamed) 10:05am- Adult discussion group 11am-Worship with communion	6 Office & Building Closed	7 2pm-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/9th grade tying of quilts 7:10pm-Sanctuary Choir	9 9am-Piecemakers 6:30pm-Feeding SD Training	10 3:45pm- Kid's Choir	11 9am-12pm Feeding SD Distribution 5:30pm-Worship with communion
12 9am-Worship with communion (Live Streamed) 10:05am-Adult discussion group 10:05am-Spark Sunday School 1-2:30pm-Feeding SD Distribution	13 1pm-2:30pm- Staff Meeting	14	15 7:30am-Men's Bible Study 5pm- Meal 6pm - Worship with communion 6:40pm-Whirly Wednesday/9th grade tying of quilts 6:40pm-Joyful Noise Rehearsal 7:10pm-Sanctuary Choir	16 9am-Piecemakers	17 3:45pm-Kid's Choir	18 8:30am-Book Club 10:30am-New Member Class with Brunch 5:30pm- Worship 6:15pm- Third Saturday Night Supper
19 9am-Worship with 2nd grade Milestone 10:05am-Adult discussion group 10:05am-Spark Sunday School 3:00pm - DCU Concert at SCLC	20 1pm-2:30pm- Staff Meeting	21 1:30pm-Eunice Bible Study	22 7:30am-Men's Bible Study 5pm-Meal 6pm -Worship with 2nd grade milestone 6:40pm-Whirly Wednesday 6:40pm-Joyful Noise Rehearsal 7:10pm-Sanctuary Choir	23 9am-Piecemakers	24 3:45pm-Kid's Choir	25 9-11am-Church Clean Up 5:30pm-Worship with communion and Joyful Noise
26 9am- Worship with communion and Joyful Noise, Affirmation of Baptism (Live Streamed) 10:05am-Adult discussion group 10:05am-Spark Sunday School	27 1pm-2:30pm-Staff Meeting 6pm-Council Meeting	28	29 7:30am-Men's Bible Study 5pm-Meal 6pm -Worship with communion 6:40pm-Whirly Wednesday 7:10pm-Sanctuary Choir	30 Free Lunch for HS Students and Staff		



South Canyon Lutheran Church

700 44th Street,
Rapid City, SD 57702

Phone: 605-343-4887
Website: www.sclc-rc.org

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April 2026 SCLC Canyon News

South Canyon Lutheran Church

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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

SCLC Campership Fund

April 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**