



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



Congratulations 2026 Graduates

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

May 2026

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

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@sccl-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: sccl-rc.org and click on box to join us online.

Services are archived for viewing.



Reflections Be a Dandelion!



As I gaze out my office window, I see dandelions popping out their bright yellow heads. This means it is time to share my favorite devotion once again. It is worth reading at least once a year. This year as I read it, I think about how we can *see, grow, serve to the glory of God* as dandelions.

DANDELIONS!

No matter how carefully I try to pull one up, I never get the whole thing. The root stays deep in the ground, threatening to grow up and blossom again.

But despite their bad reputation, dandelions are pretty little flowers with their yellow strands all tucked neatly into the center. And truly they are the most beautiful of all flowers when presented clutched in a child's dirty little hand. No one gets yelled at for picking them. Perhaps they grow only to be used and enjoyed by children.

Dandelions are ignored or attacked, never nurtured or cared for, and yet they always bloom profusely. They demand no pampering or special attention to yield their bright blossoms; they pop up in fields, in lawns, and between cracks in the sidewalk, even in the best neighborhoods. Can you imagine trying to grow them in a garden? They'd sneak through the boundaries and pop their sunny yellow faces up in the surrounding lawn. They would never stay put!

Christians should be more like dandelions. Our sunny yellow faces should be a reminder that simple faith has deep roots that are impossible to dislodge. Our vast number would show the world that even though we are not fancy or pampered we are evident everywhere, even in the best neighborhoods.

We should be as easily accessible as a dandelion. Jesus was. We need to get out of our gardens and jump across the boundaries that keep us where people expect to find us. We need to show our sunny yellow faces in all the spots that need a little brightening up – the crack in the sidewalk or the lawn of a country club. (Janice Kempe)

Let those pesky, yellow flowers be a reminder to you this spring and all year long to **be a dandelion**. Dandelion long roots stay deep in the ground. We stay deeply rooted in our faith in the Triune God. Dandelions die within hours of being separated from their roots. We too will die a spiritual death if we are separated or cut from our family of faith. Dandelions are tough and tenacious. They adapt when needed and grow even in the toughest circumstances. Even when the world around us wants to take us out, we persist. We adapt, grow deeper in faith and in our commitment to spread God's love with our sunny yellow faces where ever we are! Thank you, all you dandelions!

Pastor Deb Grismer

SCLC Voting Delegates Needed

It is time once again to gather as members of the South Dakota Synod. At the Synod Assembly we will have a chance to hear from our partners in ministry across the state as well as across the nation, as well as be a part of the annual business meeting of our Synod and Lutherans Outdoors of South Dakota. There will be speakers, displays and a chance to meet other members of our conference and Synod.

SCLC is able to take five voting delegates plus one member 16-21 plus one member who is of non-English origin. SCLC will pay for your registration plus you will receive a stipend to help cover room and board and mileage expenses. If you would like to be nominated to be a voting delegate, please reach out to Pastor Deb or another member of Council.



**SOUTH DAKOTA SYNOD ASSEMBLY
MAY 29-30, 2026
OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
SIOUX FALLS, SD**

Ministry of the Month – Chapel in the Hills

Nestled at the foot of the Black Hills on the west edge of Rapid City, Chapel in the Hills is a peaceful retreat open to all. As a ministry of the South Dakota Synod of the ELCA, it welcomes both visitors and locals seeking God's peace in their busy lives.

Built in 1969 as a dream of Lutheran Vespers radio preacher Dr. Harry Gregerson, the chapel is an exact replica of Norway's Borgund Stave Church. More than 25,000 visitors each year come to explore the church, museum, gift shop, and grounds.

Its mission is to share the gospel through worship, music, weddings, vow renewals, and special events. Evening worship services are held in the summer, and pastors from across the country serve as pastors-in-residence. The Chapel also offers an online store featuring wood carvings and other items. Proceeds from sales, event rentals, and donations support this ministry.

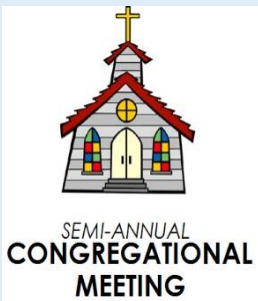
Ministry of the month offering envelopes are available at the back of the church, and online donations can be made through Realm. Our globe offering collected during worship in the month of May will also go toward Chapel in the Hills. For questions, contact the church office at 605.343.4887 or visit <https://www.chapel-in-the-hills.org/index.html>



Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting

May 17, 2026 following Worship

Please plan to attend our semi-annual meeting! Along with learning about the ministries of our congregation, we will be electing Council members, SD Synod Assembly voting members and nominating committee members. We will also vote for the second time to adopt our constitution. It is a great time to be a part of SCLC. We hope to see you there!



Congratulations to our Confirmands!

Jett Dreyer

Jaxon Wright

Makenna Dillavou

Elizabeth Pico

Jack Lintz

Grady Reisner

Cedar Gab

Brooke Novotny

Alexis McDole

Thank you to all who have been a part of their faith journey thus far.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Free Lunch



We strive to be Easter people living out active service to our neighbors. We had a wonderful mix of volunteers serving Free Lunch in April; our faithful congregation members, School of Mines students, and visitors from Germany! Our last Free Lunches of the school year will be **Monday, May 18** and **Tuesday, May 19** as we provide lunch during final exams. The sign-up sheets are available in the Koinonia room, or email responses to Diane are also welcome. bdtschet@gmail.com. We will be seeking desserts for Monday only as we will serve ice cream sundaes on Tuesday.

Book Sale



The Book Sale continues to be a wonderful blessing—so many littles (and adults, too!) enjoying the books. We're grateful for your ongoing support, both in donations and for the continued books that keep coming in. If you're doing some spring cleaning—or anytime you have books to share—feel free to drop them off! Donations have now exceeded \$2,000, and a major purchase so far has been a new projector for the movie room. We appreciate this support so very much!

3rd Saturday Supper

May 16 at 6:15pm

Koinonia Room

Menu: Grilled hot dogs and brats, baked beans, chips.

Worshippers are invited to bring other sides or desserts. 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.



THIRD SATURDAY SUPPER

MEN'S AND WOMEN'S SOFTBALL

Beginning June 1
Must be 16 years old

**MEN: PLAY TUESDAY
LADIES: PLAY MONDAY
FEE: \$35**

Sign up in the Koinonia Room

For more information call the church office

OFFICE: 605-343-4887

SWING

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.



Thank You

Since 1948, West River Mental Health has provided mental health and substance use services across the Black Hills and Western South Dakota. Now a nonprofit serving five locations, they are dedicated to helping individuals and families live full, healthy lives through compassionate care.



As our March Ministry of the Month, our congregation generously donated **\$1,422.22** in support of their work. We are thankful for the ongoing support in our community!

NEW MEMBERS



Jan and Scott



Todd and Deb



Gloria



Todd and Jackie



Greg, Jackson, Chrissy



Donna

WELCOME
New Members



April 27, 2026 Council Meeting

Present: Mandey Tschetter, Nancy Busching, Jona Hagen, Halima Kringen, Gregg Brower, Gary Johnson, Kelly Whiting, PJ Haar, Debra Watson, Ken Bauman, Pastor Deb Grismer

Ministry Mission Plan Updates: (Highlights of Team/Committee Meetings & other ministries)

Education: SCLC Scholarships for \$500 each were given to David Drolc, SoLace Gab, Holly Benson and Emily Stark. A \$250 campership will be given to our seven Bible campers. A curriculum team is being formed to look at updates/improvements to the education resources used.

Youth: The pancake breakfast raised \$600. 125 people were served. Senior recognition will be held on Sunday, May 3. High school youth group hosted an ice cream social for the 8th grade students.

Property Committee: Bids are being sought on the fellowship lighting as well as fixing the sanctuary door and creation window glass. Walk throughs of the building and property continue with minor repairs being made.

Worship: Will be meeting to discuss Easter Sunday worship service times

Outreach: Distributed 151 boxes of food at the Feeding SD Sr Distribution weekend in April. Free lunch for finals will happen May 18th & 19th. A build date of May 30th is being planned for Habitat for Humanity. 10 volunteers are needed. As we look to the future, Pastor Deb encouraged us to begin looking toward neighborhood-based outreach events also.

Fellowship Committee: Tickets have been ordered for the Black Hills Playhouse performance on July 19. April's Third Saturday supper had 39 participants.

Treasurer's Report & Financial Mission Plan Update: Our expenses for January - March, 2026 totaled \$170,116.99. Our year-to-date revenue totaled \$199,983.33. Our current net operating revenue is \$29,866.34. As of April 25, 2026, we have a total of \$368,172.73 in our checking and savings accounts (including money market accounts), \$41,523.42 in our building fund and \$77,925.97 in our memorial fund. The pastor's discretionary has a balance of \$2,039.76.

Membership Updates:

Transferred Out/Request to be removed: Michael & Vicky Bowers, Kili Doerr, Dorothy Gresch, Grace Mack

Transferred In: Donna Arnaud, Gloria Olawsky, Todd & Deb Schultz, Cindy & Rich Kinzley

Baptisms: Jaxon Raymond Wright, Alexis Michelle McDole, Sullivan Kane Ladwig, Jameson Howard Dressler, Baylor Nicolle Wickett

Other Discussion/Decisions:

*Property Committee Ministry Description was affirmed with minor edits.

*Our current ballot for Council member elections includes: Kelly Whiting (Treasurer), Nichole Morse (Secretary), Debra Watson, Halima Kringen, Gregg Brower, Jona Hagen, John Brown and Tobin Porisch

*The updated bylaws were presented to the Council for review.

*Barb Nelson was added to the Personnel Committee.

*Updated Job Descriptions were given to Council members for review.

Next Council Meeting - June 1, 2026 at 6:00 pm

If you have any questions or comments, please don't hesitate to reach out to a member of Council.

Feeding South Dakota

Through the work of our dedicated volunteers, we've distributed 500 boxes over the past three months, corresponding with some fairly mild winter and spring weather. In the meantime, we have renewed our distribution agreement with Feeding South Dakota, and are continuing to work with them to find ways to distribute even more boxes to low-income seniors in our community. In addition to distributing food boxes, we have also distributed numerous applications to the program, which should help us serve even more people in the future.

Starting with April's distribution, we have also modified our shift schedule, changing to 90-minute shifts from our previous 2-hour shifts to better correspond with our typical traffic flows. We are also experimenting with a different configuration of volunteers for our second shift on Saturday, when traffic flows are a bit lighter. Many thanks to all of our fantastic volunteers who fill these roles and help us serve the many people who are in need in our community.

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 May-July 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 about any aspect of our Feeding South Dakota program, please talk to either Diane Tschetter or Tim Shirley. We hope to see you soon at an upcoming distribution!

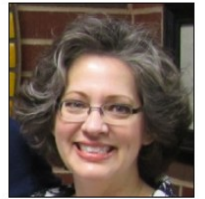


Pieces of Us

As May blooms forth with beautiful colors, the Piecemakers are bringing out our array of vibrant fabrics. We are busy working on many projects for our fall sale including quilts, table runners, aprons, bowl cozies, and so much more. But, we do not forget our commitment to our mission of caring for our brothers and sisters, wherever they may be. We remain focused on those charities that rely on our quilts and monetary donations. In April, we had the pleasure of having Jessica from LSS come and speak with us, after which we donated \$200. Since this was during their match campaign, the total amount received will be \$400. Happy spring to all and remember to "bloom where you are planted."



Director of Worship



Ellen Shirley
ellen@sclc-rc.org

As our program year comes to a close, I would like to extend my sincerest thanks to all of our musicians who offered their musical talents to praise the Lord with their gifts while enhancing our worship services. You help make SCLC a very special place to worship.

Pop-Up Choir returns! Everyone is invited to sing with the choir the second Sunday of the month. All you have to do is show up at 8:30 a.m. on June 14, July 12 and August 9. We will rehearse an "easy-read" anthem for about 20 minutes and then sing it in worship. This is a great way to try us out!

If you are interested in sharing your gifts in worship throughout the summer months, just let me know!!

Throughout history, music (especially vocal music) and the church have had a special relationship with each other. In March, Council decided to continue that tradition by forming a new 'partnership' with the Dakota Choral Union. South Canyon Lutheran Church will be "home" to the Dakota Choral Union for rehearsals and concerts. I am excited for this partnership that continues to bring in community members to our church and to Council for supporting the arts in Rapid City.



On Friday, April 17, SCLC hosted the Rapid City Homeschool Music Concert. The 2-hour, evening program included performances by the Homeschool Concert Band, String Orchestra, Guitar Band, Prelude and Allegro Choirs. There are over one hundred families that participate in the music program. Well done, homeschoolers!

The Dakota Choral Union performed their spring concert at SCLC on Sunday, April 19. The afternoon concert featured a performance of Mozart's *Vesperae solennes de Confessore*, accompanied by a 16-piece orchestra! It was an incredible afternoon of Mozart, Psalms, and lots of cookies!!



CLASS OF 2026



David

Graduating from Stevens High School

Attending Augustana University



SoLace

Graduating from Stevens High School

Attending Augustana University



Holly

Graduating from Stevens High School

Attending Black Hills State University



Bjorn

Graduating from Stevens High School



Emelia

Graduating from Stevens High School

Internship



Will

Graduating from Stevens High School

Electrician Apprenticeship Program



Max

Graduating from Stevens High School

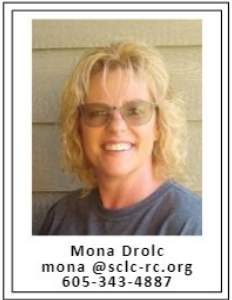
Attending College



Emily

Graduating from Stevens High School

Attending Black Hills State University



May Activities

Senior Class of 2026



Senior Recognition and
Celebration Breakfast
Sunday, May 3rd



Congratulations!

All Faith Formation Education classes will resume again in the Fall, watch your email for information.
There are **summer events and activities** for you so watch for information.

THANK YOU for a fun wonderful Church year!
See you in the Fall.



Sign up for Summer Camp with Lutheran Outdoors
A super fun way to experience God - God's Word Comes Near!
IN THE HILLS.ON THE PRAIRIE.AT THE WATER.
Visit: <https://www.losd.org> for more information and to sign up.



2026 Vacation Bible School with **OLLIE the Seal**
Registration will open soon!
Join us **July 13-16** (M-Th) from 9:00am to 12:00pm,
Ages: 4 yrs. old to 5th Grade (finished)
Looking for Snow Guides and Snow Buddies to assist on this great **Snowball Mountain Challenge** adventure with Ollie and God! Hope to see you...

Milestones:
We completed our first complete year of Milestones Baptism to Graduation

Future Upcoming Events:
Finals Free Lunch (9th-12th)
May 18 & 19
11:30am-12:30pm

SPECIAL EVENTS:
High School Senior Graduations
CONGRATULATIONS!

MOMENTS TO CELEBRATE



Confirmation Students and Mentors tie quilts in preparation for Affirmation of Baptism



SCLC Middle School Youth and Families help stuff prayer bears to be given for the Friend-Ship Preschool Celebration



SCLC High School students participate in the Good Friday Worship Service



Second Grade Milestone—“ABC Scriptures”



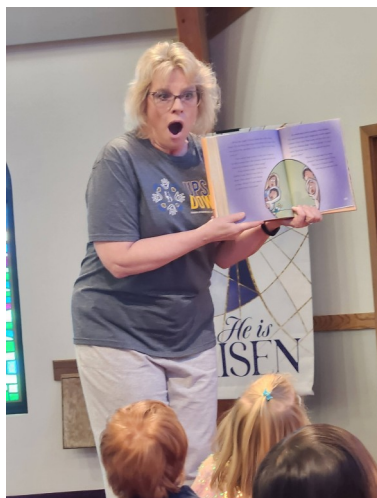
Greetings from Friend-Ship Preschool!

Friend-Ship Preschool is accepting registrations for the 2026-2027 school year.

Friend-Ship Preschool is located at and is a ministry of South Canyon Lutheran Church. Friend-Ship Preschool is a Christian Preschool that follows the South Dakota Early Childhood Learning guidelines.

We offer 3 different program options - Preschool 3s on Tuesday and Thursday mornings, and two options for Pre-Kindergarten (3 mornings or 5 mornings each week).

For more information you can check out our website at friendshippreschoolslc.com or contact Rana by calling the church office at 605-343-4887.



May 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 5:30pm- Worship
3 9am-Worship with HS Graduation Milestone (Live Streamed) 10am-Senior Recognition Breakfast 10:05am- Adult discussion group	4 1pm-2:30pm- Staff Meeting	5 2pm-Worship at St. Martin (Unity Place)	6 7:30am-Men's Bible Study 9:30am- Westhills Village Communion Service 10am-Westhills Village Ruth Circle	7 9am-Piecemakers 6:30pm-Feeding SD Training	8	9 9am-12pm Feeding SD Distribution 5:30pm-Worship with communion
10 Mother's Day 9am-Worship with communion (Live Streamed) 10:05am-Adult discussion group 1-2:30pm-Feeding SD Distribution	11 11am-Friend-Ship preschool end of year program/celebration 1pm-2:30pm- Staff Meeting	12	13 7:30am-Men's Bible Study 9am- Elizabeth Bible Study 6:40pm-Joyful Noise Rehearsal	14 9am-Piecemakers	15 Office Closed for a staff continuing education class	16 8:30am-Book Club 5:30pm- Worship 6:15pm- Third Saturday Night Supper
17 9am-Worship (Live Streamed) 10:00am- Semi-Annual Meeting	18 Finals Free Lunch 1pm-2:30pm- Staff Meeting	19 Finals Free Lunch 1:30pm-Eunice Bible Study	20 7:30am-Men's Bible Study 6:40pm-Joyful Noise Rehearsal	21 9am-Piecemakers	22	23 5:30pm-Worship with communion and Joyful Noise
24 9am- Worship with communion and Joyful Noise (Live Streamed) 10:05am-Adult discussion group	25 Memorial Day Office & Building Closed	26	27 7:30am-Men's Bible Study	28 9am-Piecemakers	29 SD Synod Assembly	30 5:30pm-Worship with communion
31 9am-Worship with communion (Live Streamed) 10:05am-Adult discussion group	June 1 6:00 pm - Church Council Meeting					



South Canyon Lutheran Church

700 44th Street,
Rapid City, SD 57702

Phone: 605-343-4887

Website: www.sclc-rc.org

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May 2026
SCLC Canyon News

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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

Chapel in the Hills

May 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**