



South Canyon Lutheran Church

700 44th Street
Rapid City, SD 57702
605-343-4887
Office Hours:
Mon-Thurs: 9am - 4pm
Fri: 9am - 12pm
Email: info@sclc-rc.org
Website: www.sclc-rc.org

Services Online live on Sundays at 9AM
South Canyon Lutheran YouTube
[Facebook.com/south canyon lutheran](https://www.facebook.com/southcanyonlutheran)
and on our website

IN THE NEWS

SEPTEMBER **2026**

Worship Service Times

Saturdays - 5:30PM

Sundays - 9:00AM

Wednesdays - 6:00PM

Communion - 2nd, 4th, &

5th Sundays & prior

Saturday nights

SCLC-RC





"I was glad when they said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the Lord.'" Psalm 122:1

The season of 'welcome back' is upon us as summer gives way to fall. Welcome back to sports and marching band. Welcome back to school and sweatshirts. Welcome back to faith formation ministry and, for some, welcome back to worship after a busy summer of travel. We are excited to welcome everyone back and we are thankful for those whose smiling faces we have seen in worship throughout the summer. It is an exciting time to be a part of South Canyon Lutheran Church. The Holy Spirit continues to spread its dust inside and outside our church building among and through our community of faith.

The season of 'welcoming back' is a perfect time to stop and reflect on how we welcome others as well as how we practice welcoming hospitality all year long. We have wonderful greeters and ushers which is essential in fostering a welcoming congregation. Remember, though, one doesn't need to be a greeter to say "Hi, welcome to worship. We are so glad you are here." This can and should happen in the parking lot as well as anywhere in the church building. It can happen before, during, or after worship. I would feel horrible if someone came to worship and no one acknowledged their presence or said "Hi" the entire time they were here. It takes a whole congregation to make sure everyone is seen.

A Google search offered the following additional hospitality steps which we can take as a congregation.

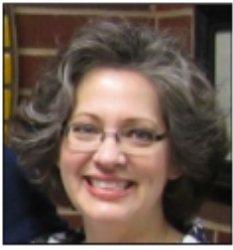
- Greet everyone you meet: Say hello to anyone within ten feet of you*
- Engage in conversation: Make newcomers (and others) feel welcome by asking thoughtful questions and actively listening to their stories.*
- Offer to help: Walk with new guests to their destination, like a classroom or the restroom, instead of just pointing them in the right direction.*
- Use the "Five-Minute" rule: Make an effort to connect with someone new in the minutes right before or right after the service*
- Make guests feel visible and valued: Go beyond a quick 'hi' to show you care by remembering names and continuing conversations beyond the service, if you can.*
- Pay attention to needs: Look for opportunities to serve others, whether it's offering to help someone with their children or providing a meal for a grieving family.*
- Use your gifts and resources: Use the time, money and talents God has given you to serve others and build His kingdom within the church.*
- Practice equity-based hospitality: Be sensitive to the diverse needs of people in your community, including those with food allergies, disabilities, and across different generations and cultures*
- Focus on relationships over perfection: Let go of the need to impress and prioritize cultivating community and genuine connection over creating a perfect atmosphere.*
- Pray for open eyes and hearts: Pray for discernment to understand the needs of others and to be a conduit of God's love and grace, mercy and forgiveness. (Source: AI Overview)*

*And **PLEASE CONTINUE TO WEAR YOUR NAMETAGS.** (If you don't have one, we have blank ones on the board. Feel free to make one.) Sharing your name with others is a great gift of welcome and hospitality. I am still learning names. I want to remember you all by name but I am not there yet. Please help me by continuing to wear your nametag at church whenever possible.*

Welcome back! Thank you for being you, wonderful children of God.

Pastor Deb Grismer

Director of Worship



Ellen Shirley
ellen@sclc-rc.org

Happy September SCLC! This is the month when everything musical starts again, so if you have an inkling to join one of our many ensembles now's the time to do it!

You will always be welcome.

Wednesday, Sept. 2, 5:00 p.m. Wednesday Meals begin followed by Worship (Kid's Choir, Intergenerational Band and Faith Formation begin Sept. 16)

Wednesday Sanctuary Choir is already up and running, we just need you to join us

Wednesday from 7:10 – 8:10 p.m. sanctuary balcony.

Tuesday, Sept. 15, 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. Hand Bell Choir

Wednesday, Sept. 16, 4:30 Kid's Choir

5:45 Intergenerational Band

6:40 Joyful Noise

Usher/Greeter Refresh – It's that time of the year to refresh our Usher and Greeter information. Please reserve Sunday, Sept. 20, for a quick get together after worship.

We'll share our experiences, ideas for improvement, and any other information for the good of the group. Thank you for your service.

You make our Sunday experience more welcoming for everyone!

Also, if you have a favorite hymn that we haven't sung in a long time, please let me know.

If I can find it, I will be happy to plug it into an upcoming service.

Ministry of the Month - LuMin

Lutheran Campus Ministry (LuMin)

supports a food pantry for students at the South Dakota School of Mines. Help us fill the Blessing Basket (shopping cart) with food items. You can also drop off a donation of \$25, \$50, or \$100 (gift card amounts) at the church office, and we will purchase a gift card for LuMin to buy the food and supplies they need most.



This college campus ministry serves at Black Hills State University and School of Mines and strives to build community, deepen faith, expand minds, and inspire service. LuMin has participated in Thanksgiving Basket deliveries, MLK Day of Service, stocking campus food shelves, crochet caps and scarves for the downtown statues, support the Pine Ridge Reconciliation Center, host retreats at Outlaw Ranch and other opportunities to do God's work. Each week, they seek to feed their members, both physically and spiritually and grow together in faith. They meet at both The Room in Spearfish and the Luther House in Rapid City for meals, fellowship and project planning. Offering envelopes are in the back of the church and online donations can be made on Realm, via our website. Contact the church office at 605.343.4887 with questions.

Feeding South Dakota

Feeding South Dakota Update

You may not know this, but our senior box program is technically called the **Commodity Supplemental Food Program**, which is sponsored by the **USDA**. The goal of this program is to provide nutritious food for a well-rounded diet to low-income senior citizens, who might not normally have these foods available.

Each year, the **USDA** allocates a certain number of boxes to the state of South Dakota; agencies like Feeding South Dakota are then enlisted to distribute these boxes through local partners like South Canyon on a monthly basis. Because our state's allocation for the coming year is based in part on the number of boxes we distribute this year, we are working with Feeding South Dakota to get as many boxes as possible to those in need by the end of September, when Feeding South Dakota's fiscal year ends.

We are so very thankful for the efforts of all of our awesome volunteers, who make it possible for South Canyon to meet this critical need in our community. If you would like to volunteer for a future distribution, please sign up on the clipboards in the Koinonia Room. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact either Diane Tschetter or Tim Shirley. Many thanks to you all for blessing this ministry and this community!



thrivent®



Thrivent Members – Thrivent has changed their **Thrivent Choice** program, it has been upgraded making it easier to live generously and support SCLC & Friend-Ship Preschool. Now all members receive Choice Dollars to designate to organizations of their choosing. So, if you've not had any in the past you do now! The timeframe has changed; all Choice Dollars can be designated anytime between Jan 1 through Dec 31 of this year for 2026. There is no longer an opportunity during the first quarter of the following year.

Did you know that most Thrivent members have two opportunities to apply for **Community Action Team cards** 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

Pieces of Us

from the Piecemakers

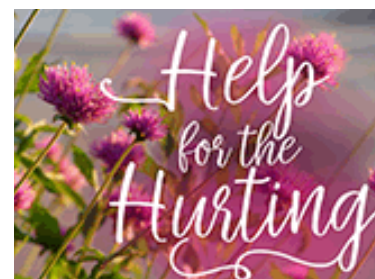
Our Mission: To take care of our brothers and sisters, wherever they may be. For 26 years, that is what we have tried our best to do. We continue to answer the calls of those who reach out to us. The need grows, the pain continues, the sadness is overwhelming, the children are suffering. This past spring we donated 54 quilts to Lutheran World Relief, barely a drop in the bucket of 803,181 quilts and kits delivered last year.

They have now included the United States in the countries who need assistance. July we visited Canyon Hills Center in Spearfish, a facility treating 10 - 17 year olds with emotional, behavioral, and educational challenges. August we donated to Esther's Rising, an organization striving to help young women ages 8 - 18 who have been the victims of trafficking and abuse. We also donated to the Rapid City School system to help pay on the meal debts for those who are unable to pay.

Each year in December we donate 12 quilts and household supplies to New Alternatives, an independent living facility that provides young adults ages 18 - 21 who are living with severe mental illness. During this time we also donate 30 quilts to Wellfully, who is now run by Abbott House Youth Services. They offer psychiatric residential treatment, crisis care center, and addiction recovery program for youth ages 7 - 17.

The quilts are used as a reward for finishing the addiction recovery program. They are wrapped around the youth as a reminder that there are those who love and care for them. Now this August, Wellfully has asked us for more quilts. Their need is great. We donate to many other organizations throughout the year, but those are only a piece of the many who are dedicated to helping our youth. We try to help, even if it is in a small way.

Before joining The Piecemakers, I wasn't aware of most of these organizations and oblivious to the need that surrounds us every day. Most of us are very fortunate to have a safe and stable home life. We don't realize the pain, abuse, neglect, and fear that is being endured behind closed doors. Our communities need us, our children need us, and the need is increasing. We have had a couple of people reach out to us to help provide more quilts to Wellfully/Abbott House. In what way can you help? How can you touch the lives of our children at risk? What can we do together to make a greater impact?



Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully, administering God's grace in it's various forms. 1 Peter 4:10



Piecemakers will be having extended days through September. Thursdays from 8am - 4pm. All help is welcome and no experience is needed.



Children, Youth, & Family Ministries

SEPTEMBER Activities



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

All Faith Formation Education classes resume:
Sunday, September 13th - Spark Sunday School and
Wednesday, September 16th - Whirly Wednesday Faith Formation Night!
Dinner at 5:00pm ~ Worship with Communion at 6:00pm~
Faith Formation from 6:40-7:15pm

2027
Youth Gathering
Informational Meeting
Wednesday, September 9th
Downstairs in the Fellowship Hall
after Worship
for all current 9th-12th Grade
Come find out what
Youth Gathering is all about!
IMAGINE MORE!



WELCOME
BACK!

New to the
Spark Sunday School
LINE-UP!
2-3 yr olds Frolic Family
Sunday School w/Parents
in the Pre-School Room
at 10:15am

Teacher Installation
Sunday, September 13th and
Wednesday, September 16th

Groups for Faith Formation
2-3 yr olds w/Parents
(Sunday only)
Pre-School
K-1 grade
2-3 grade
4-5 grade - Connect

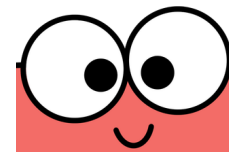
Groups for Middle School Youth
6-7-8 Youth Group
6-7-8 Service Project Group
6-7 Lutheran Yes!
8th Grade Confirmation - t.b.d.

Groups for High School Youth
9-12 Youth Group
9-12 Service Project Group
9-12 Imagine More
9th Grade Confirmation -
Luther's Catechism

Confirmation
8th and 9th Grade
Informational Meeting -
Wednesday, September 23rd
****Affirmation of Baptism****
will be on
Sunday, October 31, 2027



BACK
TO
SCHOOL
BACK
TO
CHURCH



Milestone
Ministry

Sunday, September 23rd &
Wednesday, September 27th
2-3 yr olds will receive
Daily Devotions
4-5 yr olds
(not in kindergarten)
will receive Spark Bibles
Wednesday, September 30th
8th Grade Confirmation
will receive Bibles

SCLC BLOOD DRIVE

Locally we are at a 2-year low for donations and blood products which is very concerning. If there is a time to donate, now is the time to step up and save multiple lives

DATE
Wednesday,
September 2, 2026
3:00pm-5:45pm

LOCATION
South Canyon
Lutheran
Church

**EVERY DONOR WILL GET
ENOUGH POINTS IN THEIR
ACCOUNT TO REDEEM FOR A
\$20 GIFT CARD OF THEIR
CHOICE**

**TO SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT SCAN
THE QR CODE OR CONTACT
AUBREY AT 605-381-9577**



Mark your Calendar!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
7	8	9	10	11	12	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27

MINISTRY FAIR: DISCOVER WHERE GOD CAN USE YOU

GOD HAS GIVEN EACH OF YOU A GIFT
FROM HIS GREAT VARIETY OF SPIRITUAL GIFTS.
USE THEM WELL TO SERVE ONE ANOTHER.
1 PETER 4:10



COME AND SEE THE OPPORTUNITIES AT SCLC TO GROW
YOUR FAITH AND SERVE YOUR COMMUNITY.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12 ~ SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13 ~
AND WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16



Please join us for **GROUND'S CLEAN UP DAY** September 19th from 8:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. We will work on the north and east side of the church to clean up the landscaping and reshape bushes, etc. We would also like to spend some time focusing on the south side of the church and curb appeal. Many hands make light work! So if you have a green thumb or even a purple or plaid thumb – we could use your help! Please bring gloves, lawn bags, clippers/trimmers of all sizes and any other gardening items you think we may need. If September 19th doesn't work for you, but you'd like to pitch in don't hesitate to come in at a different time, just check-in with the office and get to work. Thank you.

Wednesday Meal & Worship Returns!

Join us beginning Wednesday,
September 2 for an evening of
fellowship and worship.

Meal: 5:00 p.m.

Worship: 6:00 p.m.

Faith Formation classes will begin
Wednesday, September 16,
immediately following worship.
We look forward to gathering with
you again this fall!

?? WHAT'S HAPPENING ??

Ups of Downs Family Support Group Night to Dine Fundraiser



You are all invited to join us for the
Night to Dine Fundraiser
on Saturday, October 17th
South Canyon Lutheran Church.
Help us celebrate
Down Syndrome Awareness Month
with our kids and families!

Watch for more info
about menu and
how to purchase
your tickets.

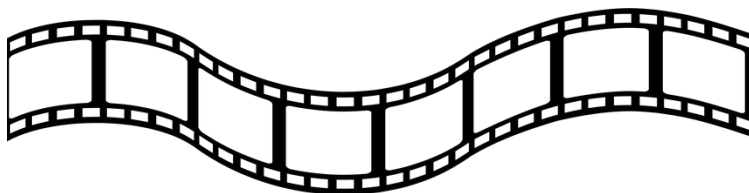


Greetings all,
Where did summer go? Hope you
had an enjoyable summer doing
what you love! Somehow it's time
to gear up for fall and Free Lunch,
where we can show love and
kindness to our high school
students and staff. Tuesday,
September 22, we will host a
Welcome Back Burger Bash. Shifts
are 9:45 am to 11:45 am and 11:40
am to finish. We are looking for a
lot of baked goods, which we are
becoming "famous" for! 😊 Feel
free to sign up soon in the
Koinonia Room, or email me at
your convenience. I'm so thankful
that we have an awesome
"village" supporting this ministry,
as it takes one to nurture our
neighbors in this way! (thanks to
those who have already signed
up) Can't wait to hear from you!
Blessings,
Diane Tschetter



We're getting a new Picture Directory!

Picture appointments will be the week of November 9. We want everyone included - so mark your calendars now! Each family (single, couple, with kids) will receive a free 8x10 and a directory. Anyone willing to help with this endeavor, please contact Kristi at the church office. We will need people to help with appointments, checking people in the day of pictures, and more.



More News You Can Use



Wednesday Night Meals

9/2 Spaghetti Bake

9/9 Chicken Pot Pie

9/16 Pulled Pork Sandwiches

9/23 Chili

9/30 Chicken, Bacon and Potato Casserole



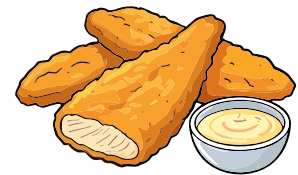
Do you like to knit or crochet? Please consider making prayer shawls. The church supplies the yarn & we have a couple different kinds of patterns. This is such a great ministry, to be able to wrap someone in a shawl representing God's love & support during a difficult time.



Third Saturday Supper

9/17 - Chicken strips

Please bring a side dish or dessert to share



Volunteers and bakers are needed Tuesday, September 22nd for Free Lunch as we love on our high school students and staff. Can you help with the Welcome Back Burger Bash? Please sign up or email Diane. bdtschet@gmail.com



It's time to order next year's offering envelopes! Please be sure to let us know if you would like envelopes. The initial offering covers the cost of the envelope packet, so please order envelopes if you like using them! Questions, contact Kristi at the office: 605-343-4887 or kristi@scrc-rc.org. If you are receiving them now and prefer not to get them, let us know as well.

Feeding SD
All volunteer spots
for September
are filled.
Thanks!



Men's 7:30 Wednesday morning Bible study has changed locations and will now be meeting at Hardees on the corner of 5th and St. Joe





August 24, 2026

Present: Mandey Tschetter, President, Nancy Busching, Vice President, Nichole Morse, Secretary, Kelly Whiting, Treasurer, Jana Hagen, Debra Watson, John Brown, Halima Kringen, Gregg Brower, Pastor Deb Grismer
**Highlights not mentioned elsewhere in the Newsletter.*

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

Education: Curriculum Team met to look at programming for the year. Lutheran Yes! curriculum will be used in 6th grade. The confirmation mentor ministry will be done in September/October of 2027 with Affirmation of Baptism on October 31, 2027 for current 9th graders.

Youth: ELCA Youth Gathering is June 28-July 2, 2027 in Minneapolis. Youth trip to Sioux Falls for SD Youth Conference went well. Youth enjoyed hearing from Pastor Jeff Backer and doing a service project.

Property: Repaired the wall in the game room. Touched up paint on the Feeding SD closet. Removed the concrete curbing that was stacked up by the shed. (Shed has reached its life expectancy.)

Worship: Totals for Sunday worship services for the past years was presented. Additional banners have been ordered for sanctuary to alternate with the white banners hanging on the walls.

Outreach: Feeding SD Senior Box distributions are down over last year. FSD is considering several different solutions for helping qualified recipients receive their boxes. We are looking at becoming a host site for SDSU Extension Office's "Organize This! Legal and Financial Must-haves". A member of our congregation is considering becoming a trained facilitator.

Fellowship: August's Third Saturday Supper had 46 people in attendance. The Stargazing Party needed to be postponed.

Pastor Deb's Report: Pastoral care this month has included one burial, two funerals, hospital visits, home visits, Hospice House visits and office conversations. I attended the ordination service for Nicholas Breining at Woyatan Lutheran on August 14.

Other Discussion/Decisions

- A bid from OnPoint was accepted to redo the fellowship hall lighting.
- The Semi-Annual Meeting date was set for November 15.
- The updated Employee Handbook was given to Council members to read and act upon next month.
- Call committee update - The candidate we have been in conversation with since May has officially pulled their name from our call.
- We are beginning background checks on our employees. Our next step is to run basic background checks on our Faith Formation volunteers.
- We have chosen a company to work with for a new church directory. Pictures will be taken the week of November 9.

Next Council meeting - September 28 at 6:00 pm

If you have any questions or comments, please reach out to a member of Council.



Treasurer's Report & Financial Mission Plan Update

January 1 - July 31, 2026

Account Balances (As of 8/21/2026)

Total Revenue: \$409,765.70

Total General Use Revenue: \$396,267.61

Total General Expenses: \$394,728.56

Net Operating Revenue: \$1,539.05

Checking & Savings Accounts: \$349,779.29

Building Account: \$46,624.89

Memorial Fund: \$78,418.62

Pastor's Discretionary Fund: \$2,121.89

September 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 9:30am Circle of Sisters Bible study	2 7:30am Men's Hardees Bible Study 9:30 am West Hills Village Communion 10am West Hills Village Ruth Circle 3pm Blood Drive 5pm Meal 6pm Worship w/communion 7:10pm Sanctuary Choir	3 8am-4pm Piecemakers extended days	4	5 5:30pm Worship
6 9am Worship 10:05 Adult Discussion	7 Labor Day Office and Building Closed	8 Friend-Ship Preschool begins 9:30am Circle of Sisters Bible Study	9 7:30am Men's Hardees Bible Study Friend-Ship Preschool Starts 9am Elizabeth Bible Study 5pm Meal 6pm Worship 7:10pm Sancturary Choir 2027 ELCA Youth Gathering Meeting after worship	10 8am-4pm Piecemakers extended days	11	12 9am Feeding SD distribution 5:30pm Worship w/communion
13 9am Worship w/communion Spark Sunday School Begins 10:05 Adult Discussion 1pm Feeding SD Distribution	14 1pm staff meeting	15 9:30am Circle of Sisters Bible study 6:30pm Handbells	16 7:30am Men's Hardees Bible Study 4:30pm Kids Choir 5pm Meal 6pm Worship w/ communion Blessing of the BBB 6:40pm Faith Formation begins 6:40pm Joyful Noise 7:10pm Sancturary Choir	17 8am-4pm Piecemakers extended days	18	19 8:30am Church Grounds Clean up 8:30am Book Club 5:30pm Worship 6:15pm 3rd Saturday Supper
20 9am Worship Spark Sunday School 10am usher/greeter training 10:05 Adult Discussion 2pm Worship at St. Martin (Unity Place)	21 1pm Staff Meeting	22 No Bible Study 11am-1pm Free Lunch for High School Students & Staff 6:30pm Handbells	23 7:30am Men's Hardees Bible Study 4:30pm Kids Choir 5pm Meal 6pm Worship 2-5 yr old Milestone Ministry 6:40pm Joyful Noise 6:40pm Faith Formation, 8th & 9th grade confirmation info meeting 7:10pm Sancturary Choir	24 8am-4pm Piecemakers extended days	25	26 5:30pm Worship w/communion
27 9am Worship w/communion 2-5yr old Milestone Ministry Spark Sunday School 10:05 Adult Discussion	28 1pm Staff Meeting 6pm Council Meeting	29 9:30am Circle of Sisters Bible study 6:30pm Handbells	30 7:30am Men's Hardees Bible Study 4:30pm Kids Choir 5pm Meal 6pm Worship w/communion 6:40pm Faith Formation 8th grade Confirmation Bibles 7:10pm Sancturary Choir	Oct 1 Piecemakers	Oct 2	Oct3



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SCLC Canyon News
*See, Grow, Serve to the
Glory of God!*

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**The office is open
Monday-Thursday,
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Fridays 9 AM to Noon,**

Find us on:
facebook.

Pastor Deb Grismer, Senior Pastor

Ellen Shirley, Director of Worship &
Music

Kristi Wellendorf, Office Manager

Mona Drolc, Director of Children,
Youth & Family Ministry

Linda Caron, Admin Assistant

Mandy Mertes, Admin Assistant

Diana Patosa, Kitchen Coordinator



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
LuMin: The Hills

September 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**