

The Trumpeter

Spearfish United Methodist Church

Pastor: Scott McKirdy

Youth Director: Brenda Swanson

Administrative Assistant: Orvette Stepper

Editors: Jane Carlstrom & Doris Horner

DECEMBER 2019



Pastor's Page

"Light of the World"

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things

were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of all people." – John 1: 1-4

It is no accident that we celebrate Christmas on December 25. Although we do not know the exact date of Jesus' birth, we do know that it was not in the middle of winter. In the gospels it talks about the shepherds being out in the fields with their sheep. They were only out in the fields while there was grass to graze on in the spring and summer. We're not sure just when he was born, but it wasn't December. So why then Christmas on the 25th of this month? Because the early church leaders chose the darkest moment of the year to celebrate the coming of Christ into this world. In Mark there is no birth story. In Matthew and Luke Jesus came as a baby born in a manger. But in John Jesus comes as a light shattering the darkness. There it is! That's why we celebrate now.

But let me go a step further. Why specifically the 25th? The winter solstice, the shortest and darkest day of the entire year, is December 21. For the three days following that it seems that the sun has been frozen in time, and then on the 25th comes the moment when for the first time you can tell that the days are lengthening. The sun is reborn and the spring with all of its rebirth of new creation energy is on the way.

This is what we celebrate: the light of the world in Jesus Christ. All through this month in worship we celebrate new life in our lives, new life in our families, new life in the midst of our sorrow, new life with all that life has to throw at us.

This is a time for celebration with all the festivities of culture surrounding us. Bring on the tree! Bring on the gifts! Bring on the parties, and the food, and all the good stuff. Bring on the celebration, but this month remember that's not what it's all about. Always keep in

heart and mind that before the celebration for thousands of years has come the darkness. Our true celebration is the light of the world that shatters that darkness!

Pastor Scott

Participation Opportunities



Taizé and Longest Night Services

Thursday, Dec. 5, 12 & 19 – 7:00 PM

A service of prayer, healing, remembrance. Come experience the season thru silence, scripture, prayer and music.

Christmas Dinner

Sunday, Dec. 8 – 11:30 AM

Come together for an all-church Prime Rib or Chicken Dinner with the trimmings and dessert. Adults \$15, Children \$8 and Families with Children \$45. Tickets available in the church office.

UMW Christmas Brunch

Saturday, Dec. 14 – 10:30 AM

It's a time of FREE food, fun, fellowship and an opportunity to connect. Please RSVP by Dec. 10 by calling the church at 642-3457 or Connie Swander-Ericsson at 307-281-2042.

Parent's Day Out

Saturday, Dec. 14 – 1-4:00 PM

Youth are invited to help babysit while parents go shopping. There is no charge to families for this event.

UMC Christmas Program Sunday, Dec. 15 – 8:15 AM

Children's Christmas Program. Everyone is welcome. Bring your family, friends, and neighbors.

Christmas Caroling Sunday, Dec. 22 – 3:00 PM

We're hitching up the hay wagon for a fun afternoon of Christmas caroling. Meet at the church and dress appropriately for the outdoor weather. Everyone welcome as we spread some Christmas cheer.



Christmas Eve Tuesday, Dec. 24 at UMC

We invite you, your family, friends, neighbors and your co-workers to come worship on this amazing day and evening.

12:00 Noon:

A joyous traditional service. There is a light lunch following. This service is perfect for those who don't like to go out at night and for families who love to come together with the youngest of children and the oldest of grandparents.

5:00 PM:

A traditional family candlelight Christmas Eve service with music shared on organ and with choir.

7:30 PM:

An acoustic guitar service led by our Blue Jean Worship team, this service is lit by candle light and is very intimate as it is held in our Fellowship Hall.



Year-End Bonuses for Staff

Year-End Bonuses for Staff are a tradition of Spearfish UMC. The funds are contributions from members and friends and are distributed to UMC staff and employees at Children First. There are now 37 employees this year. These funds will be distributed mid-December so all donations are requested by December 16.



Thank you, Staff-Parish Committee

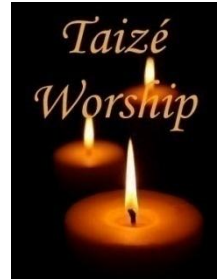
Taizé during Advent

- **December 5 & 12 at 7 PM**
- **The Longest Night service December 19 at 7 PM**
(this will be in the style of Taizé but will have a short message).

What is Taizé?

Taizé prayer is an ecumenical form of prayer for Christians of all traditions. It is unique in that it includes short repetitive songs that lend themselves to a meditative spirit, scripture reading and an extended moment of silence. Brother John, a Taizé monk describes it as... "a time to rest in God, to let the words listened to and sung penetrate one's being."

Come enjoy a few peaceful moments during this busy holiday season to rest in the joy that is Christ Jesus.



Holiday Family Movie Nights Dec. 6, 20 & 29



Rise of the Guardians

Come join us on Friday, December 6 from 7 to 9 p.m. for a free family movie night! We will be showing Dreamworks' "Rise of the Guardians"! Pitch Black, AKA The Boogeyman, feeds on fear and lives in darkness. In an effort to gain strength and take over the world, he begins an attack on the hopes, dreams, and happiness of the children of the world. Enter the Guardians. Made up of Santa Claus, the Tooth Fairy, the Easter Bunny, and the Sandman, they are tasked by The Man in the Moon with protecting children from all that is dark in this world. Pitch's plan proves to be too much for them, so a new guardian is named, Jack Frost. Jack has no memory of his past and refuses to become a Guardian. Thus the battle for Jack's past and the souls of the children of the world begins. Rated PG for thematic elements and some mildly scary action. Some holiday snacks will be provided.

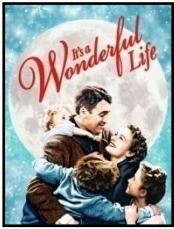
White Christmas

Come join us on Friday, December 20, from 7 to 9 p.m. for a quintessential Christmas classic, "White Christmas"! A revue of the music of Irving Berlin, it follows two World War II army comrades who become a successful and famous performing duo. Through various conniving acts and many musical numbers they meet a pair of performing sisters who are next performing at an



inn in Vermont and follow them there. Various misunderstandings and heartwarming events follow. It is Not Rated. Some holiday snacks will be provided.

New Year's Game Night and "It's A Wonderful Life"



Join us from 5 to 8 p.m. on Sunday, December 29 for New Year's Game Night and "It's A Wonderful Life"! We will start with a potluck dinner of holiday and/or finger food! Bring a dish to share or just bring yourself. Then those who would like to play games can set up in the Fellowship Hall while the movie will be shown in the Sanctuary. In "It's A Wonderful Life", an angel is sent from heaven to help a desperately frustrated businessman by showing him what life would have been like if he had never existed. Rated PG for thematic elements, smoking, and some violence.

Children First

November 15 was *Muffins with Moms* in the church fellowship hall. Several moms, grandmas and aunts and children spent time together that morning sharing a muffin and good conversation. Thank you to everyone that made this happen.



Melissa Raad and Sarah Hazledine attended the annual conference for the National Association for the Education of Young Children in Nashville, Tennessee.



This was a week full of learning the latest information and knowledge about best practices in early education. We are bringing back many new and innovative

ideas to our staff which will allow us to continue to provide the best educational environment for our teachers and students.

Christmas Dinner Just Ahead!

Mark your calendars for Sunday, December 8th for the annual Christmas dinner served by the youth following the 10:30 worship service.



Tickets are available now!
Adult tickets - \$15, children (12 & under) \$8 and family (with children) tickets are \$45.

The menu will be prime rib/chicken parmesan, garlic potatoes, dinner roll, green beans, and pie.

All proceeds will go to youth summer missions and camps.

Investment Funds Available

Did you know that Spearfish UMC has an investment account with the United Methodist Foundation at the Conference office in Mitchell? As the investment grows, a portion of the growth is withdrawn and made available for any off-budget church project. This year the available amount is \$776.14.



Any committee or other entity of the church can ask for this money for their project by submitting a request in writing or in person to the Stewardship and Finance Committee. The Committee will consider all requests and make the decision as to how this money is disbursed. ***Please have all requests in by December 11 2019.***

Charge Conference & Potluck

We will have a Potluck dinner on Monday, Dec. 16 at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall followed by our Annual Charge Conference meeting at 6:30 p.m. At this meeting we will be discussing some of the really important "nuts n' bolts" issues that affect the life of our church. We will be looking at our 2020 budget and nominations report.

We will be talking about the new pillars of planning that are foundational for our church programming for the next three years. There will be opportunity for questions and discussion on local, annual conference, and global issues. You are invited to come and learn more!

Children's Church

Hello Friends! December is fast approaching! We had a successful November. Throughout November we

gave out 4th grade bibles and we had our training day. With December coming right around the corner we will be looking forward to learning about Joy. The children are also starting to prepare for the children's Christmas program on December 15th. I look forward to what December has in store for us!



United Methodist Women (UMW)

Merry Christmas Methodist women and all women everywhere. We've already started the plunge into the merriest of seasons with another successful Thanksgiving bake sale. Thanks to Shirley Doten for her hard work and our amazing church for your participation.



Keep in mind the UMW CHRISTMAS BRUNCH, Saturday, December 14 at 10:30 a.m. It's a time of FREE food, fun, fellowship and an opportunity to connect. **Please RSVP by Dec. 10** by calling the church at 642-3457 or Connie Swander-Ericsson at 307-281-2042.

As we prepare for this Holy Season, keep in mind those less fortunate; the hurting, crying, grieving, lonely, or lost. Remember to give the greatest gift of all. LOVE!

December's Advent Bible Study

Light of the World: A Beginner's Guide to Advent will be our congregation's Bible study and worship series as we approach Christmas. This study is written by Amy Jill Levine and guides us into the Christmas season.

- Mondays at 10:45 a.m. with Ellen Plocek in the Library (begins 11/25)
- Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m. with Everett Follette in the Library (begins 12/3)
- Tuesdays at 12:00 p.m. with Rod Garnett in the Library (begins 12/3)

Contact Pastor Scott or the church office if you would like to have a study at a different time, day or place.

Northern Hills Sources of Support

Northern Hills Sources of Support (SOS) was the recent recipient of a \$10,000 donation from the philanthropic group *100+ Women in Spearfish Who Care*.



This donation will allow us to further our mission of creating a poverty-aware community that builds strong and supportive relationships with those in need. It also serves as a very meaningful and heart-felt boost to the confidence and motivation of the SOS team. It is a powerful step into the community to be accepted and deemed worthy of such a generous donation.

Christine Pierson was hired as Executive Director of SOS in June of this year and has begun outreach with area non-profits in Spearfish, Belle Fourche and Lead/Deadwood. She is also meeting one-on-one with those in need and building not just relationships, but friendships, whilst guiding them to the services they need and offering support along their journey. She has helped several individuals struggling with housing needs, addiction issues, medical conditions and food insecurity.

SOS seeks to shed light on the very real and very deep issues of poverty, homelessness and hunger in our Northern Hills communities. Raising awareness about these issues on a local level fosters healthier, more informed views about those in need. Breaking stigmas and judgments held against those in need is a necessary and natural outcome of the work that SOS is doing. We are also partnering with other non-profits to build awareness about their services and to identify and fill gaps in services. Additionally, we are connecting volunteers in our community with powerful and meaningful ways to give back.

We have two events coming up to raise poverty awareness and also to raise funds for our SOS mission.

On Tuesday, December 3rd from 5p.m. – 7p.m. on the corner of Jackson Blvd and 3rd Street we will hold a fundraising event in conjunction with *SD Day of Giving*. The SOS theme for this event is “Breaking Down Barriers”. Come down and visit with the SOS team to learn more about our mission and how we can all work together to break down barriers! We will have coffee and hot cocoa to keep you warm!

Our second event will be our 2020 Hunger Banquet, to be held on Tuesday, January 28th, 2020. If you missed this event last year, be sure to attend! It is a very moving and eye-opening experience about what hunger feels like, with local statistics and stories to further the impact of this experience. If you would like to attend or volunteer at this event, call Christine Pierson at 605-920-1975.

Having first started as a Spearfish UMC church committee, we’re thrilled with the progress, growth and acceptance of SOS in our Northern Hills communities. We have always appreciated UMC’s continued support and encouragement of the work we are doing. We are powerfully reaching beyond the walls of the church and truly serving others and YOU have all played a huge part in this experience! Thank you!

For more information and updates about Northern Hills SOS, visit www.northernhillsSOS.org or follow them on Facebook@northernhillsSOS. You can also reach Christine Pierson at 605-920-1975.



Dinah’s Book Club

The book club will meet Monday, December 9 at noon in the UMC parlor. The group will be reading and discussing *The Lakota Way* by Joseph Marshall. The books may be picked up in the church office.

Cinnamon Rolls are Coming Again!



Yummy Honduras team cinnamon rolls are coming again after services the weekend of January 5. This is the main fundraiser for the Honduras medical/dental mission team, and all donations are used to buy the medicine and supplies for our January and February mission teams to Honduras. Thank you for your support.



- Five youth and three adults from Spearfish UMC joined with almost 400 others from around the Dakotas for DakYouth in Aberdeen! Great speakers, worship, workshops and fellowship!
- Youth were able to send 22 Christmas shoeboxes to the reservations with the help of our congregation. Thanks especially to Ambrie for her bake sale which earned money for 14 shoeboxes! We have a generous church!
- Youth and families are welcome to December **movie and game nights!** Enjoy some fun Christmas movies and tasty treats!
- **Parents Day Out** for Christmas shopping is coming Saturday, December 14 from 1-4 pm. **Youth are invited** to help babysit while parents go shopping. There is no charge to families for this event.
- An area youth overnight is being planned. Stay tuned for details!

Thank You

Thanks to all who attended and shopped the Craft Sale held by the Quilt and Craft group. Your purchases and attendance was much appreciated.

MISSIONS

The HOPE Center in Rapid City is our Mission of the Month for December. It offers services to people in need, such as a mail center where individuals without an address may receive mail, a phone center that offers



individuals a way to receive messages and make local/long distance phone calls, and a storage center for individuals to store a small amount of personal belongings and important documents.

It establishes relationships with the disadvantaged in the community and hopes to be able to offer lifestyle alternatives and a way out of poverty. They do this daily by providing appropriate referrals to partner agencies in the Rapid City area. Discover more about the HOPE Center by going to hopecenterrapidcity.org.

Christmas Eve's Mission Focus is the Pastor's Discretionary Fund

What do jewelry stores, charities and our church all have in common? Jewelry stores and charities, it is said, do about 90% of their business in the last month of the year. Perhaps jewelry stores do most of their business in December as people buy expensive jewelry to make themselves or others they love feel good. And perhaps charities get more donations during the Christmas season as people remember there are others less fortunate than themselves.



We at Spearfish UMC are no different than jewelry stores and charities. Specifically, on one day in December – Christmas Eve – we give everything offered to one mission or charity. The Christmas Eve Service offering goes entirely to the Pastor's Discretionary Fund, and we then hope and pray it is enough to last until the next Christmas Eve service. This fund is also one focus of our Mission-of-the-Month. As most of you already know, the Pastor's Discretionary Fund is used by our congregation to immediately provide assistance to anyone who knocks at our door. It has been used to buy food, gasoline, medicine, emergency car repairs, a room for the night, a bus ticket...almost anything that is needed immediately to help someone.

And so we ask that you prayerfully consider giving this whole month of December and on Christmas Eve to help make someone's life a little better.



December Food Pantry Needs

- 2 lb. Bag of Sugar
- Mashed Potatoes
- Potatoes – Canned
- Quick Oatmeal
- Apple Juice
- Pancake Syrup

Our Church Family

Condolences to the family of:

- *Joann Follette*, who died November 18, 2019 and whose memorial service was held Nov. 26 at 10:30 a.m. at the church with Pastor Scott McKirdy officiating.

BIRTHDAYS

Breanna Hawkins	12-01	Asher Foltz	12-13
Bob Baker	12-02	Emily English	12-13
Janet Ladson	12-02	Bernice Abraham	12-14
Kathy Bonnema	12-02	Sheri Perry	12-16
Marland Linafelter	12-03	Landree Ayer	12-16
Steve Bailey	12-03	Laura Lloyd-Smith	12-17
Isabell Jensen	12-03	Katie Clark	12-17
Helen Royall-McKeown	12-04	Lonnie TeBeest	12-18
Austin Kaddatz	12-04	Marty Davis	12-18
Kellan Alfstad	12-04	Floyd "Buzz" Stiles	12-19
Connie Eisma	12-05	Cal Hayenga	12-19
Jenn Tobin	12-05	Logan Burke	12-19
Victoria Brill	12-05	John Havemeier	12-19
Debra Richardson	12-06	Malaya Naescher	12-21
Carson Krogman	12-06	Cherry Hansen	12-24
Josephine Boyer	12-07	Wade Beringer	12-24
Jesse Czapplewski	12-07	Penny Louks	12-27
Jodi Johannesen	12-08	Harlan Horst	12-28
Donald Keil	12-10	Gary Loudner	12-29
Bill Bosch	12-10	Barry Wood	12-29
Kaylee Johannesen	12-10	Margo Carnahan	12-31
Tara Niesent	12-11	Bev Hill	12-31

ANNIVERSARIES

Bob & Norma Perry	12/05~17 yrs.
Morie & Margo Carnahan	12/21~49 yrs.
John & Kim Tollison	12/21~34 yrs.
Terry & Jean Downing	12/22
Randy & Greta Stewart	12/28~44 yrs.
Mark & Mary Tracy	12/30~40 yrs.

FINANCES

Come, Share, Rejoice!

"Will you be loyal to the United Methodist Church, and uphold it by your prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness?"

GENERAL FUND 2019

Month	Actual Income	Actual Expenses	Difference
Jan.	34,146.37	38,646.63	-4,500.26
Feb.	32,314.14	29,699.48	2,509.99
Mar.	39,914.00	37,192.46	2,721.54
Apr.	39,090.19	38,279.60	810.59
May	34,799.73	30,196.68	4,603.05
June	37,094.03	32,358.53	4,735.50
July	35,064.05	34,669.89	394.16
Aug.	38,609.31	44,675.17	-6,155.86
Sept.	36,389.36	33,191.23	3,198.13
Oct.	37,631.14	41,452.61	-3,821.47

DEBT RETIREMENT/CAPITAL FUND 2019

Month	Actual Income	Month	Actual Income
Jan.	3,101.09	Feb.	2,594.00
Mar.	4,085.00	Apr.	2,910.00
May	10,475.87	June	150,009.68
July	3,663.18	Aug.	3,081.54
Sept.	3,203.63	Oct.	3,235.16

Worship Attendance for Nov.: 998 (Avg/Wk = 249)

Sunday School Attendance for Nov.: 125 (Avg/Wk = 31)

Special Gifts for November

Investment Fund	\$ 8,000.00
Food Pantry	80.00
Sprinkler System	220.00
Adult Studies	231.73
Yoga Charity Fund	630.00
Adult Choir Fund	100.00
Children First Scholarships	100.00
Children First Donations	400.00
Joann Hoffman Memorial	1,265.00
Joann Follette Memorial	50.00
United Methodist Student Day	169.00
Honduras Cinnamon Rolls	1650.00
Solar Ovens	100.00
Bishop's Thanksgiving Offering	725.00
Cornerstone Mission	830.00
Youth Missions	521.16
Youth Fund	3,735.00
TOTAL	\$ 18,906.89

Special Funds for November

Benevolence Fund	\$ 445.00
Pastor's Discretionary	315.00
TOTAL	\$ 760.00

End-of-Year Giving

All contributions that you wish to count for 2019 must be in the church office or post marked by December 31.

WHY SANTA HAS REINDEER INSTEAD OF CATS



THE TRUMPETER

United Methodist Church

845 N. 5th St.
Spearfish, SD 57783
(605) 642-3457

Non-Profit Org.
US Postage Paid
Spearfish SD 57783
Permit #45

Return Service Requested

Sunday Worship:

“The Gathering” ~ 8:15 a.m.
“Children’s Church” – 8:30 & 10:45 a.m.
“The Sanctuary” ~ 10:30 a.m.
Nursery care/Van rides to worship
CD’s of worship

Sunday School: 9:25 a.m.

Saturday “Blue Jean” Worship ~ 5:30 p.m.

E-mail Addresses:

Website: www.spearfishumc.org



Pastor: scott.mckirdy@spearfishumc.org

Administrative Assist.: office@spearfishumc.org

Youth Director: brenda.swanson@spearfishumc.org

Finance: finance@spearfishumc.org

Bell Choir Director: hcm.kerchel@yahoo.com

Nursery Supervisor: carriejoydaily@gmail.com

Call the church office for more information at 642-3457.



2019