

The Trumpeter

Spearfish United Methodist Church

Pastor: Scott McKirdy

Youth Director: Brenda Swanson

Administrative Assistant: Orvette Stepper

JANUARY 2021



Pastor's Page

"Keep Going"

I love it when I can get to say, "I just had an amazing conversation." There is always a story that goes with

that sentence.

So, I was walking down to the church earlier this week on the walking path by Colorado Boulevard. With long legs, I stride at an easy 4 miles per hour. Ahead of me going 3 miles per hour was something I had never seen before: a recumbent bicycle pulling a seven-foot homemade trailer. At 16 degrees with snow falling, it took time to catch up but as I walked past this cyclist... you guessed it... I had an amazing conversation!

In the middle of winter, this cyclist is a man who has spent the last twenty years of his life on this bicycle traveling to just about every corner of the United States. He has been to the east coast three different times and through South Dakota five times. Stop to figure this out. If he is traveling right around 3 miles per hour (or on a really fast day going downhill with a tailwind maybe somewhere around 10 miles per hour), how long does it take a person to travel across the Dakotas? His trailer was seven feet long, three feet wide, and three feet tall. In this ingenious homemade vehicle he had a bed with a small propane heater plus cooking materials. I found out that he simply traveled as far as he could in a day, stopped when he needed to stop, and stayed overnight wherever he was safe and could get permission. When I talked with him on that cold, wintery, Dakota day, he told me he is heading up Highway 85 to North Dakota and from there down to Colorado!

Oh yeah, this was an amazing conversation! I realized a couple things as we parted ways. This is a man for whom time pretty much means nothing. I'm guessing there are weeks when he does not know what day it is or how many miles he has traveled. Tuesday or Saturday is all the same to him. 9:00 in the morning or 3:00 in the afternoon is all the same to him. What he DOES know is where he is going and how to get there. He just keeps pedaling and pulling and moving uphill and down. It doesn't matter how long it takes to get there; it will be as

long as it will be. The point is simply that he gets there. His basic philosophy: Keep going.

Today I am going to take this as a life lesson for us. As a church, as a community, as a state and nation, we are moving together through pandemic and politics and all that 2020 has to throw at us. We are picking up the pieces and moving into a new 2021. We don't know how long it is going to take to get to any semblance of normal. You can't rush this stuff. It will take us as long as it takes us. In the meantime, as a congregation we know where we are going and how to get there. So, we keep going.

So, where are we going? Together, we are traveling as a church into our community to bring God's love, to share Christ's strength, and to live in peace and wholeness. Who are we, and why are we here? "Spearfish United Methodist Church is here to create disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world." We take those words seriously. We are working together to bring healing to those around us and to bring wholeness to our community. We worship. We teach. We care. We reach out. We laugh and cry with our neighbors. Keep going. Keep going. Keep going. This year, in the joy of Christ and the love of God, we listen to the philosophy of a cyclist heading north on Highway 85 in the middle of winter: Keep going!

Pastor Scott

Participation Opportunities

Winter Worship

Throughout this winter we are approaching worship with a sense of adventure in the middle of COVID. We don't know when we will return to our sanctuary, but we do know that we are continuing to worship in our west parking lot at 10:30 AM every Sunday and online each and every week. And with these new styles of worship, we are smiling and laughing together and continuing to

build community. You are invited to join us every Sunday as we park our cars together, tune to 90.5 on the FM dial, and share music, prayer, scripture, and sermon. Along with that we continue to share a hot drink and fresh homemade cookies as you are parked. You don't have to stay home – throw your family in the car and come worship. If you do stay home or are on the road, join us each and every week for worship on our website www.spearfishumc.org, YouTube, or Facebook!



Now more than ever, we are naming the importance of offering small group Bible studies to keep people connected and growing. We are offering studies online on Zoom. All you have to do to join is contact the Bible study leader and you will be sent an online invitation. Currently, we are offering:

- Tuesday afternoon Men's study with Pastor Scott: Online at 5:00 p.m.
- Sunday School with Everett Follette: Online Sunday mornings at 9:00 a.m.
- Children's Church for kids with Katie Clark: Online Sunday



Hello fiends!

Children's church just finished up the Advent season with exploring Adam Hamilton's book *Incarnation*. Families were sent weekly devotionals from this book and were able to study with their families during the Advent season. Children's church did experience a bit of technical difficulties as I traveled back home, but we made it through, and are stronger because of it. I am thankful that we just had our first real technical difficulty now, even though we started online in March. I'd say we are doing pretty good!

Next, we are going to start focusing on the New Year where the months theme is *Rules for Life. Play well. Finish Strong*. As we continue online, ideas are being created to find another activity to get families reconnected in a new way. I look forward to see what this next month and New Year brings.

Volunteer at the Food Pantry

The process of delivering food to the needy may have changed due to the pandemic, but the needy are still receiving food because of dedicated church volunteers like you!

Only working volunteers are allowed in the building now and pre-packed boxes of food are delivered to client vehicles in the parking lot. Health and safety precautions are being followed.

Please call or stop at the church office to sign up to help at the pantry any Monday, Wednesday or Friday the last 2 weeks of January. Volunteers always leave in a good mood so please come join us in outreach to our community.

Marilyn Halse – Food Pantry Board Member

Prayer Partners



Lord, help us to be true to your teachings and to faithfully follow you. Give Pastor Scott insight to shepherd our church families to love and serve others.

Grant us patience and perseverance for this winter of pandemic. Amen

Caring Meal Ministry Cares

We need your help in notifying the church office (642-3457), when there is a need for a meal to be delivered. If you have a need for food to be delivered or if you know of someone that needs this ministry, please call. (during an illness, death or new baby,...). We appreciate your referrals.

“Build others up according to their needs.”
(Ephesians 4:29)

Health Ministry Committee

United Methodist Men

The Methodist Men suspended meetings in October and will begin meeting when the church starts to have services in the sanctuary. Hopefully this will happen in January 2021.

Terry Prante, UMM President

United Methodist Women

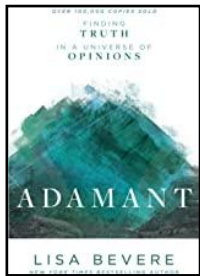
As with everything else in our recent world, United Methodist Women has changed and may never be the same. In spite of that, let's give thanks for the little things that have made us better; especially our appreciation for togetherness that we've shared in new and inventive ways. We will always remember the "old" days, but continue to create the new way of living.

As for now, we are on hold. I'm pleased to announce the return of Debra Richardson as the 2021 UMW chairwoman. Thank you Debra and blessings on your dedication.

Connie Swander-Ericsson

UMW Reading Program— Book of the Month

"ADAMANT: FINDING TRUTH IN A
UNIVERSE OF OPINIONS" by LISA BEVERE



What is truth? This has become the defining question of our time. But while everyone has an opinion, truth, it seems, is getting harder to find. Theologically deep yet intimately accessible, this book will anchor your soul in a raging sea of opinions, giving you a clear sense of direction in a wandering world.

Check it out in the library on the UMW bookshelves.

Dinah's Book Club

Dinah's Book Club will meet Monday, Jan. 11 at noon in the UMC parlor. The book they are reading is *A Spool of Blue Thread* by Anne Tyler. The books are available in the church office.

Children First Update

Children First is ending the year 2020 in a better financial situation than we had anticipated. We are grateful for all who have pledged and donated to CF and for the grants we have received. We are looking forward to 2021 with hope for happy, healthy days ahead!

December has been a much better month for CF regarding COVID cases. Both staff and children have been healthier, and we have had only a few cases of COVID. We are hoping that if we continue being diligent with our efforts to keep COVID at bay, January will be another good month.

To the UMC Congregation

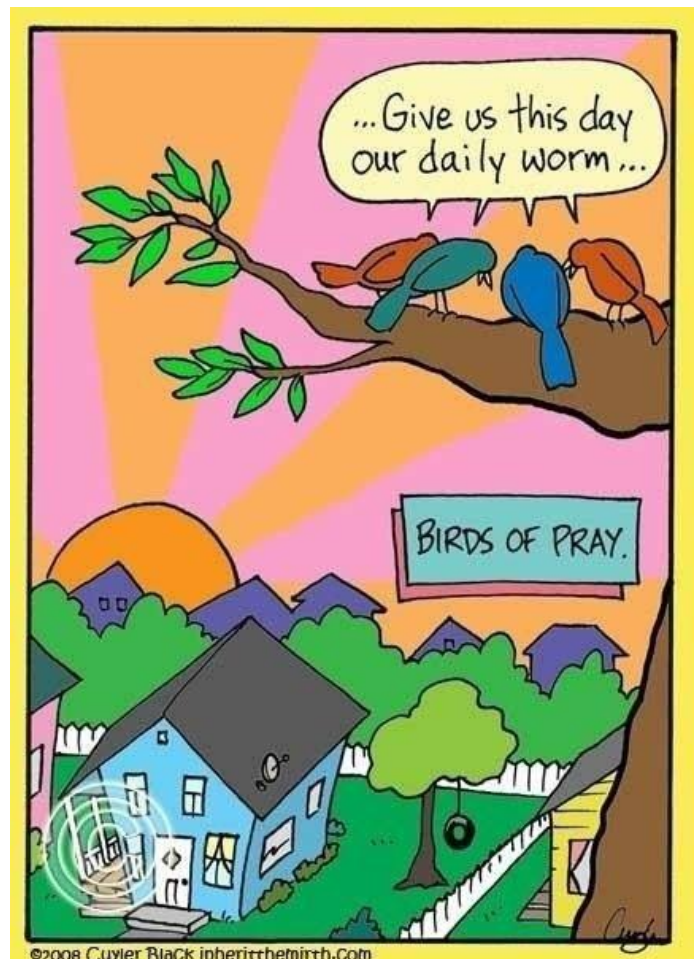


Thank you for the Christmas bonus we received through your generous donations. We really appreciate the Spearfish United Methodist Church members thinking of us this holiday season. Thank you.

Children First Staff

Thank You Congregation!

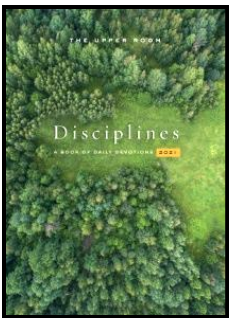
Thank you to those who contributed to the Christmas Staff Bonus fund in December. Because of your generosity the staff was able to have a very nice Christmas Bonus. Thank you also to the Staff/Parish Committee for setting up this offering for all of the church and Children First staff to share.





- Youth groups will meet together from 4-6:00 pm (note change of time) on Wednesdays until further notice. Come when you can! Leave when you need to! Supper at 5:30 pm. Enter at the preschool door. Call or text if the door is locked.
- See the calendar for information on special Wednesday youth group activities: Bob Ross night and Broomball!

Disciplines for 2021



How important is it to have a daily spiritual routine? The habit of reading and reflecting on God's Word daily can bring a much-needed respite from the grind of everyday life. Daily devotional reading is essential to our spiritual growth, and it helps keep our faith alive.

Disciplines invites readers to spend unrushed time with God, reading a lectionary-based scripture passage, reflecting on the author's insights, and thinking about how to apply the truths from the readings to their daily life. This devotional book features 53 authors from diverse backgrounds, including some of the leading Christian thinkers of our time.

These books are available in the church office for \$12.

Council Highlights

December 16, 2020

Discussion items:

- CYFM has reached 20 families with their Advent Candle idea and has similar ideas in the planning stages. Great job keeping our children's church families involved.
- Special thanks to John Swanson for taking over as chairman of the Trustee Committee. They are presently advertising for new tenants for the rooms that Summit Church has vacated at UMCOC.
- Our church will be responsible for operating the Food Pantry for the whole month of January instead of just the first two weeks. Consequently, we will need more volunteers than usual. If you are able to help, please call Bob Oliver, Marilyn Halse or the church office to sign up.
- We continue to offer church services online and in the church parking lot where attendance has been increasing.
- The Health Ministry is not meeting at this time but continues with the prayer squares and cards to people who are ill or need grief follow up. If you know of someone in need of a Caring Meal please contact the church office.
- Peggy Bosch presented the 2021 budgets for the church and the UMCOC. Both were approved. Staff/Parish were to receive a 2.5% raise but have settled for 1.5% because of the way church finances have been affected by COVID. Peggy reported that pledges are up this year.
- So far we have had no COVID related deaths in our congregation even though multiple families and individuals have been ill. Pastor Scott has presided over numerous COVID funerals in the community.
- The Pastor's Discretionary Fund (our help fund) is strong in spite of great need thanks to the generosity of the congregation.
- Our budget is very tight and our 2021 budget has been submitted as a deficit budget. However, we are confident and courageous as we approach the New Year.



Our Church Family

Condolences to the families of:

- *Gerald "Jerry" Spargur*, who died November 30, 2020 and whose services were held Dec. 4 at the National Cemetery.
- *George Opitz*, who died December 6, 2020 and whose graveside service was held at Rose Hill Cemetery on Dec. 9 with Pastor Scott McKirdy presiding.
- *Robert Calhoon*, who died December 4, 2020 and whose memorial service was held at Fidler-Isburg Funeral Chapel on Dec. 17 with Pastor Scott McKirdy officiating.
- *Fay Shields*, who died December 18, 2020 and whose graveside service was held at Rose Hill Cemetery on Dec. 22 with Pastor Scott McKirdy officiating.

MISSIONS

Send Hope Feeding Program



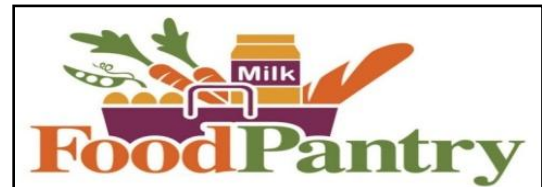
Hungry children break my heart. All those who have traveled with the church's medical teams to Honduras have left part of our hearts there too. Our teams can't travel to Honduras this year because of COVID-19, but we are asking for your help with a very big and important need.

2020 has been a disastrous year in Honduras. First COVID-19 devastated the economy and the already challenged health system in Honduras. Then in November two major hurricanes made landfall in the poor and remote area where we work each year. Thankfully there was little loss of life, but the hurricanes and flooding totally wiped out the bean crop just before harvest and destroyed the rest of the crops and banana trees and killed much of the livestock. Many of the people there are farmers in remote areas, so this means no income for the next year or more. Very little outside aid has arrived in the area so the prospect of increased hunger is real to most of the population.

Send Hope is a Methodist nonprofit organization that hosts our teams when in Honduras. Send Hope

www.send-hope.org has a large malnutrition program supplying food to several hundred Honduras families monthly as well as hundreds more school children each school day. They expect a large increase in demand due to these disasters, but are also faced with less donations for food and supplies this COVID year. One quarter—only 25 cents—provides a Kids against Hunger meal that provides all the nutrients a child or adult needs for one day.

WE have the opportunity to feed lots of hungry children by supporting the January mission of the month, Send Hope feeding program.



We can still use volunteers to work the Food Pantry Monday, Wednesday and Friday the last two weeks of January. Share God's love with others! Call Orvette at the church office to sign up. The pantry can always use:

- Cereals
- Beef Stew
- Canned Spaghetti
- Peanut Butter
- Chunky Soups
- Canned Ravioli

Thank you to all who have volunteered or donated to the pantry this year!

BIRTHDAYS

Gertrude Thompson	01-02	Patty Wood	01-14
Don Miller	01-03	Terry Nagel	01-14
Vic Fondy	01-03	Reagan Niesent	01-17
Heather Brewer	01-03	Hayes haiar	01-18
Noah Harlan	01-04	Beth Garrett	01-19
Christian Burgeson	01-04	Conner Kugler	01-20
Eliana Foltz	01-04	Roger Bell	01-21
Rex Moyer	01-05	Jessica Zanton	01-21
Sasha Pursley	01-05	JoAnne Cleveland	01-22
Alyssa Fall	01-05	Madison Garvin	01-22
Peggy Heckel	01-06	Boaz Foltz	01-22
Hugh Roles	01-06	Emmy Rollin	01-23
Ambrie Zanton	01-07	Kathy Schneider	01-23
Delaney Brown	01-07	Jackson Dana	01-24
Tad Brewer	01-09	Marlyce Huyck	01-28
Frances Sanders	01-10	John Sweaney	01-28
Preston Hazledine	01-10	Jeff Winter	01-28
Virginia Furrow	01-11	Laurie Lloyd	01-30
Holly Heintz	01-11	Paige Larson	01-30
Cheryl Kissack	01-12	Ariana Anderson	01-31
Shirley Halse	01-13	Emmett Kaddatz	01-31

ANNIVERSARIES

Joel & Jodi Johannesen
Don & Peony Hammerquist
Jason & Rebecca Hill

01/01~21 yrs.
01/02~39 yrs.
01/09~12 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 2020

Month	Actual Income	Actual Expenses	Difference
Jan.	30,160.16	46,258.91	-16,098.75
Feb.	35,905.16	31,128.63	4,776.53
Mar.	38,574.09	35,909.00	2,665.09
Apr.	32,135.02	42,990.73	-10,855.71
May	32,638.94	21,644.68	10,994.26
Jun.	26,524.03	31,785.60	-5,261.57
July	32,637.49	34,182.54	-1,545.05
Aug.	31,981.62	33,809.39	-1,827.77
Sept.	27,088.85	32,230.69	-5,141.84
Oct.	32,820.19	40,149.96	-7,329.77
Nov.	39,431.20	32,811.49	6,619.71

DEBT RETIREMENT/CAPITAL FUND 2020

Month	Actual Income	Month	Actual Income
Jan.	53,894.34	Feb.	3,548.74
Mar.	3,809.06	Apr.	3,061.66
May	2,772.50	Jun.	4,672.76
July	3,018.97	Aug.	3,127.64
Sept.	2,746.56	Oct.	3,246.56
Nov.	3,467.66		

CHILDREN FIRST FUND 2020

Month	Actual Income	Month	Actual Income
Jan.	1,152.87	Feb.	3,548.74
Mar.	3,546.33	Apr.	25,809.67
May	4,393.00	Jun.	3,261.00
July	2,041.33	Aug.	1,842.00
Sept.	3,170.33	Oct.	4,025.33
Nov.	2,210.32		

UMCOC 2020

Month	Actual Income	Actual Expenses	Difference
Apr.	4,695.00	7,928.72	-3,233.72
May	3,125.00	2,818.11	307.00
Jun.	5,185.00	2,775.81	2,409.19
July	3,735.00	2,627.80	1,107.20
Aug.	5,080.00	4,461.46	618.54
Sept.	7,815.00	3,346.29	4,468.71
Oct.	3,730.00	4,521.33	-791.33
Nov.	6,510.13	3,823.41	2,686.72

Special Gifts for December

Sounds from Home	\$ 2,000.00
Staff Christmas Fund	4,850.00
Food Pantry	230.00
Honduras Disaster Fund	1,500.00
NH Sources of Support	960.00
Adult Education Fund	106.00
Yoga Charity Fund	175.00
UMCOC Donation	380.00
Garnette Ainsworth Memorial	210.00
Lou Allison Memorial	30.00
Fay Shields Memorial	30.00
Solar Ovens	100.00
Dominican Republic Solar Oven Team	100.00
UMCOR	750.00
Youth Fund	105.00
*TOTAL	\$ 11,526.00

Special Funds for December

Benevolence Fund	\$ 600.00
Pastor's Discretionary	6,164.48
*TOTAL	\$ 6,764.48

Parking Lot Worship for Dec.: 168 (Avg./Wk = 42)
Christmas Eve Parking Lot Worship: 135 people

Look after your armour

Never stop learning from the Bible.
Never stop believing what the Bible says.
Never stop obeying, to the best of your ability, what Jesus tells you to do.

Read and Pray, and then Obey.



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.



2021