

The Trumpeter

Spearfish United Methodist Church

Interim Pastor: John Madvig

Administrative Assistant: Orvette Stepper

Editor – Monica Ingalls

JANUARY 2024



Pastor's Page

Beloved—

It's a brand-new year, and that makes it a good time for some brand-new resolutions. Now I'm not saying it's a bad time to break out a few of the old resolutions, like

eating less, exercising more, spending less time on the couch, etc. But I've got a few new ones for us to try.

Here's the first one: Generosity.

I'm leading off the year with this one because it's early, and we need to get started early. I'm going to give you two ways to give; one of them you're expecting, and the other one perhaps not. The one you're expecting has to do with your time, talent, and treasure. Many of us allowed a pandemic to let us slide in our attendance and giving, while the church stepped up to stay in contact even when in-person options weren't possible. I've also seen the willingness of some to watch: to watch church on our TV or computer, to watch others step up to do the work of the church, and to watch the church struggle to make ends meet.

Let's do it differently this year. **Resolution #1:** Let's get ahead of the game with our attendance, participation, and giving.

The second resolution is about hospitality. Evie, Sarah, and I were delighted to be invited to a family Christmas celebration by people who were not our blood relatives, but who considered us "family" enough to join them. The pandemic has exponentially increased loneliness and anxiety, and the cure is not to wait to be invited, but to invite others into our lives, our homes, and our activities.

But yes, I'm also talking about invitations to join us in worship. Here's an interesting question: "What initially brought you to church?"¹

- 6-8% Walked in by own initiative (we really like these people)
- 2-3% Liked a program offered (we evaluate programs this way)
- 8-10% Liked the pastor (who is the least permanent member of the church)

- 3-4% Had a need met by the church (way to go, church!)
- 1-2% Were evangelized (this still happens?)
- 3-4% Attracted by Sunday School (a little child shall lead them)
- 70-85% Invited by a relative or friend (last but not least—need I say more?)

Resolution #2: Let's invite people into our lives and into our church home.

The third resolution has to do with growth. No, not the growth you're experiencing after abandoning your diet for the holidays. I'm talking about growing in our spiritual lives. Perhaps a good place to start would be to take an inventory of our time, especially our time spent with God. We often start this inventory with our (ir-)regular church attendance. That adds up to about one hour per week, and let's be generous and say that it adds up to 40 hours a year. Hmm. Considering that there are 8,760 hours in a year, that's about 0.5% (rounded up) of our time. Don't worry, I'm not going to ask you to become a monk.

Sometimes I get asked how much time I spend in daily prayer, and give a two-part answer. Part one: I'm always asking God for stuff, so that adds up, but it's more like keeping a shopping list than it is nurturing a relationship. Married folks go through seasons when this is their primary form of communication, and if I'm honest, it's sometimes how my relationship goes with God. Part two of my answer is that I try to spend ten to twelve minutes in silent meditation each day, focusing on my relationship with God. Before entering into silence, I will listen to some daily readings from the Bible and read a devotional response. But the silence is what helps most. I could go on about how all the world's noise adds to our anxiety, but let me say instead that ten to twelve minutes of silence helps bring God's peace into my life. And let me finish by saying that I started with two minutes and it took a while to get to twelve.

Resolution #3: Let's spend regular time with God. So there you have it. Three resolutions: Generosity, Hospitality, and Growth.

¹ I found this where everyone finds stuff these days, this time on a website called the Church Trainer Group.

Peace,

Pastor John Madvig

Interim Pastor John Madvig

By the way, Randy Hedge & Friends will be playing here at Spearfish United Methodist Church on Saturday, January 20th at 7pm. We'll have some things to eat and drink and you can hear Randy, Brian, and I play a variety of pop, country, and oldies. More details will be available soon!



Discerning God's Will for the Future

The Children First Task Force invites you to conversation about the relationship of Spearfish United Methodist Church (SUMC) with Children First (CF). A meeting will take place Saturday, February 10, 2024, in the Fellowship Hall, 9-11:00 AM. This will be a process of discerning God's will.

Children First is owned by this church, all CF staff are employed by the church with Melissa Raad, director, hiring and managing about 20-25 employees. CF operates independent of the church with income from tuition (which is increased annually), pledged and unpledged income plus occasional grants, especially during Covid. Expenses include room reimbursement, wages, insurance, and operational costs. CF pays their own custodian and pays for the financial services of Mary Tracy at UMC. The Children First Board operates similar to a school board deciding budget (which begins Sept. 1 each year), wages, tuition, calendar, and policies.

When the church purchased the parking lot, God gave us the building and playground to use. Trustees of SUMC are responsible for the maintenance of all church

property—a parsonage and all of one city block. Structural upkeep for the old school plus playground maintenance and safety are in their care. CF purchases and care for equipment, indoors and out. All CF playground structures were paid for by CF funds or donations.

Decisions generally move from Trustees who decide what needs to be done to the Finance Committee to determine how to pay for it. Council may vote to approve if a project is beyond the budget.

One example of a point of tension was preparing Room 2 (Commodities) to become a classroom for “waddlers.” The room became available unexpectedly February 2023, CF needed it and enrolled families to begin June 1. Due to the tight timeframe and funding, lots of CF staff and volunteers got the room ready. The flooring was a shared project of Trustees and donated funds.

A meeting for “Discerning God's Will for the Future” will take place Saturday, February 10, 2024 in the Fellowship Hall, 9-11:00 AM. Please pray about this reflecting on Matthew 7:7 (NRSV).

ASK, and it will be given you;

SEARCH, and you will find;

KNOCK, and the door will be opened to you.

Seek God's guidance and reflect on the pros and cons of the relationship between SUMC and CF staying the same. Contact Melissa Raad if you have questions about Children First, 605-645-

1131.

Dear God, be with us as we ASK, SEARCH, and KNOCK. May we discern your will. Amen.



Do You Have Fundraising Ideas?



The past year has been full of surprises. The flooding of the parsonage, troubles with the church boiler, a large snow removal bill, and a huge insurance increase. Through it all you have been a generous and faithful congregation. Thank you. Your contributions are essential for Spearfish United Methodist Church to stay engaged in our community.

As we enter a new year, we need your support as we get back to basics. Our 2024 budget is coming up a

little short. Every committee's budget is below last year's and still there is an income gap.

We are pursuing a holistic fundraising campaign for next year and need your help. This campaign will need to be planned, organized, and executed. Where could you help in this endeavor?

We need ideas. Do you have a fundraising idea that is fun, churchy, and possibly an outreach to the community? We need coordination. Are you able to develop and organize an event? We need manpower. Do you have time to volunteer for a Sunday or during the week? Could you commit to just one fundraising event this year?

Contact Colleen McKirdy with your ideas at (605) 269-1054 or at captkeys@speartown.com.

We again thank you for all that you have done and lift up the church in prayers for wisdom and discernment. May the Lord bless you and keep you. Happy New Year.

Finance committee

Children First



All the classes at Children First love it when Miss Vicki comes to read, especially on pajama day!

Thank you to Miss Vicki and Miss Michelle for coming to sing Christmas Carols with us!!

The Children First staff members would like to extend a heart-felt thank you to everyone who so generously donated to our Christmas bonus this year!!



United Methodist Men (UMM)



The Methodist Men (UMM) met for their breakfast and devotions on Dec. 2 & 16. Perry Hansen was in charge of devotions on the 2nd reading from the Upper Room.

At our Dec. 16th meeting Colonel Wyatt Hansen, Perry's son, spoke to the group about his career in the Army and all the places he has been deployed to. He also answered any questions we had about a career in the military.

The Methodist Men will meet again on **January 6 & 20** for breakfast and devotions at 8:00 AM.

Bill Lundgren, President

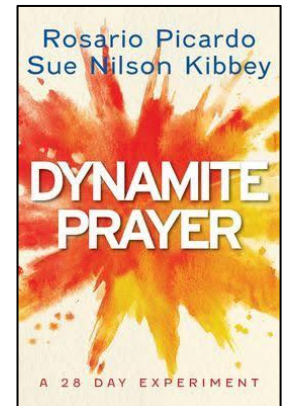
“Dynamite Prayer” Starts January 14

What might happen if we all prayed together daily asking to be shown God's next ideas rather than just our own? When we pray, it's an opportunity to ask God's Spirit to break through and transform our lives, our churches, our neighborhoods, our world.

Dynamis is the New Testament's original Greek word for the resurrection power of God's Spirit. Our English word 'dynamite' gains its origin from this Greek word. When we pray, it's an opportunity to ask God's Spirit to break through and transform our lives and our world.

Begin your 2024 by joining the Dynamite Prayer Initiative. This Dakotas-Minnesota Episcopal Area initiative begins on January 14 and ends February 10, 2024. We will be guided by the book, *Dynamite Prayer*, by Rosario Picardo and Sue Nilson Kibbey. Here is what you can expect:

- **Weekly e-mails with a reflection from a leader in the Dakotas-Minnesota Area.**
 - January 14, Week one: Holy Spirit Impact
 - January 21, Week two: Holy Spirit Presence
 - January 28, Week three: Holy Spirit Power
 - February 4, Week four: Holy Spirit—Our Posture
- **Social media posts throughout each week with videos and inspirational quotes from participants.**
- **As an individual or in a small group daily prayer, guided by the book. Each day contains:**
 - A brief meditation on a verse from Scripture that will help you see how the Spirit's dynamic power has



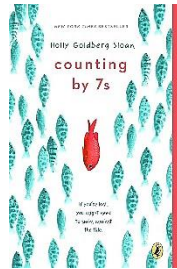
been at work throughout history and in your life today.

- Reflection questions for the day.
- A short breakthrough prayer for the day.
- A prayer word or phrase to help you make breakthrough prayer part of each moment.

Books will be available for purchase for \$15 in January from the church office.

Dinah's Book Club

Dinah's Book Club is reading "Counting by 7s" by Holly Goldberg Sloan. The group will meet on **Monday, January 8** in the parlor at noon. Books are available in the church office. You are welcome to join them.



Taizé Worship



A Taizé worship service will be held **Thursday, January 11 at 7 PM** in the sanctuary at UMC. This is a prayer service in the style of Taizé. Enter into a time of prayer,

quiet reflection and meditative singing. Center your spirit, heart, and mind. Enjoy the quiet. Refresh your soul.

Grief and Loss Group

The "Grief and Loss" Group meets in the church Parlor at **1:00 pm each Thursday** afternoon.

Roberta Hilliger RN and Mental Health

Nurse for 40 years will meet with group to guide discussions. All ages welcome for any grief or loss issues be it involving family, spouse fentanyl issues, Covid losses, ongoing sadness, difficulty in your day and grief. You will get a chance to speak and listen.

We do not have tapes or books or fees. Contact Roberta Hilliger with any questions at 605-389-1884.



December CYFM Update



Here with CYFM, December was a joyous time of learning about the true meaning of the Christmas season with our Sunday School children. We spent the month in Sunday School learning about the story that led up to the birth of God's greatest gift, Jesus, and how God's gift and Jesus' stories and journeys are a reminder to us that we are loved, seen, and supported. This month's Orange Curriculum taught us a lot about feeling that love, knowledge, and joy in our lives through both the easy and tougher times, and the importance of spreading that love, knowledge, and joy to the people around us by sharing Jesus' story and God's love—therefore spreading the gifts God has given us!

This is something we took to heart this month, as our Director of Children's Music, Colleen McKirdy, worked hard with our Sunday School children this month teaching some songs to celebrate Jesus' story and God's love, which we then performed in front of the congregation as a Christmas Concert on December 17 at the 9AM Sunday Service. The 10:30AM service also received thanks and a smaller impromptu concert during the Children's sermon, but we hope that even though it may have been a smaller event, our hearts felt big with love and gratitude towards our church family as we sang a quick song to the congregation! Clara English gave us an extra special gift of sharing a poem with the congregation as well before our 9AM performance, which she did with the most excellent presentation and voice!

This was all our gift of thanks to the congregation for all the support that the church continues to show to our youth events and programs, and this was such a lovely time to share between the congregation and our youngest church members the love, joy and community that can be created and given when we come together in Christ.

Our Sunday School children did not miss out on the gift receiving end either, as we made sure in both services that children received Christmas goodie bags to thank them for being such an important part of our church family, and for being such a gift and joy to the world by

being themselves and continuing to grow to be their favorite selves in the light and love of Christ! Students that joined us in Sunday School on December 17 also got to work on making their own nativity ornament in Sunday School as a keepsake to remember what the Christmas season is all about!



In the spirit of Christmas, in coming together to share joy and love, our Sunday School children were also excited this month to do a **story time collaboration with the Adults with Disabilities Sunday School class**. With Peggy Heckel taking the lead and reading the story of Jesus' birth, we had a little nativity scene where both adults and children worked together to open little presents that add to the nativity scene to slowly uncover the story of Jesus' birth and God's greatest gift. When we got to the last present, we made sure that everyone got a good peek at what the final gift of God's greatest gift was: A mirror to show us that WE are ALL God's greatest gift! We learned the importance of taking in God's story of love by giving the world Jesus, and how in turn God sends us out into the world as well to uniquely spread His love, joy, and knowledge with those around us!

United Women in Faith (UWF)



We will start 2024 with a Business Meeting on Wed., Jan 3 at 10:00 a.m. in the library. Anyone is welcome to attend and bring anything to our attention for our group.

On Wed., Jan. 17 is our **UWF Meeting** with Fellowship time starting at 9:30 a.m. and the meeting starting at 10:00 a.m. in the library. The hostesses are Kathy Harr & Brenda Swanson. The program is in the works so come and be surprised.

On Sunday, Jan. 21 at 3:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall is our **CHOCOLATE FEST**. Bring your favorite chocolate dessert to share, along with the recipe (we will make copies for everyone.) You'll also learn about how chocolate is made and its history. Come to get educated and to CHOC OUT!

We want our Women's Ministry to meet the needs of more women in our congregation and community by providing a fellowship of sharing ourselves with each other doing missions together. A reminder, you don't have to be a member of UWF to participate in any of our meetings but, membership is not just for Methodists but any woman from any denomination is welcome to become a member of United Women in Faith. So, bring a friend and come participate in any or all our gatherings. If you have any questions, you can contact anyone on the Leadership Team which is listed below.

Spearfish United Women in Faith Leadership Team:

- Chair, Debra Richardson 605-580-6846
- Colleen McKirdy 605-269-1054
- Brenda Swanson 605-641-4864
- Emma McKirdy-Wilsey 605-269-1063

Submitted by Debra Richardson, Chair of Spearfish UWF

Chocolate Fest by United Women in Faith



Who needs an excuse to eat chocolate? Of course, none is needed, but you can still come to our Chocolate Fest and share the love of this delicious bean!

Bring your favorite chocolate dessert to share, along with the recipe (we will make copies for everyone), and we'll all O.D. on our favorite food. (You might want to have a salad for lunch, so you don't feel quite so bad about yourself...)

Join us in the Fellowship Hall on **Sunday, January 21 at 3:00 p.m.** You'll also learn about how chocolate is made and its history. Come to get educated and to CHOC OUT!

Submitted by Colleen McKirdy

Thank You from UWF!

Thanks to everyone who donated toys for children for the Salvation Amy to distribute! Eight tubs of toys were delivered! Many happy children will get a new toy for Christmas. Thanks for your generosity.

United Women in Faith

Dinner & Game Night

Dinner And Game night is a time for people of all ages to gather and enjoy some fellowship together. Kevin Nakajima provides a main dish, and you are encouraged to bring sides, non-alcoholic drinks, or just yourselves. Stay for dinner, stay for games, just talk, or all of the

above are encouraged. This month it will be **January 21** at 5pm and will feature a Chicken Tagine. Please join us or contact Kevin Nakajima for more information.

Prayer Partners

Dear God,

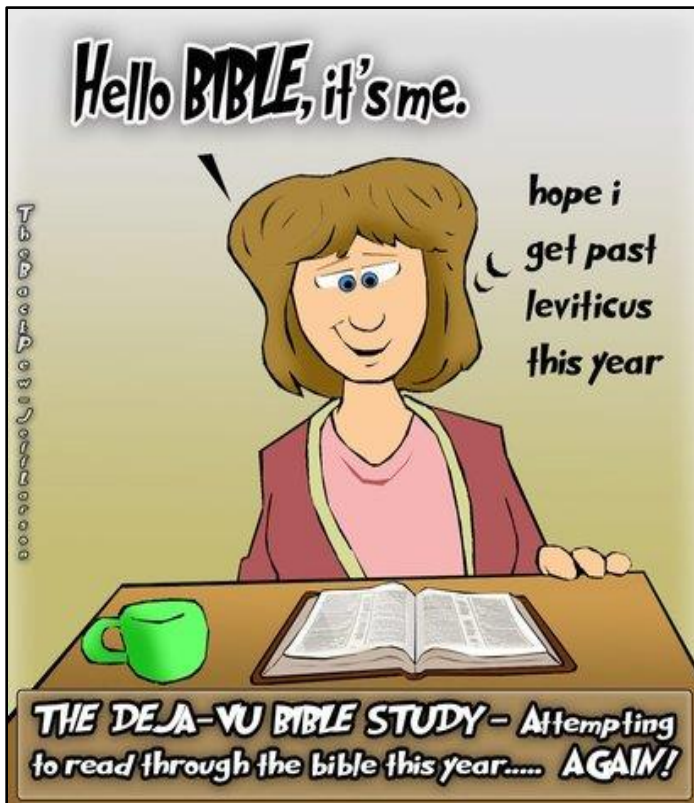
We humbly ASK that your will may be done. Guide us as we search to understand the future possibilities for the relationship of the church with Children First. Lead us, O God, as we reflect on Matthew 7:7 (NRSV).

ASK, and it will be given you;

SEARCH, and you will find;

KNOCK, and the door will be opened to you.

May we discern God's will for the future. Amen.



Council Highlights

December 19, 2023

Motions

- The nomination of Bobbi Looney to SPRC was approved.
- It was approved for Melissa Raad, Children First Director to come and talk to Council in January. It will be a 15-minute Q & A session.
- Benevolent Fund monies were approved for a

family in need of travel and hotel expenses due to an illness. The amount of \$800 was approved.

Discussion Items

UMCOC Budget

- There were two changes to the UMCOC budget. 1) no playground rent 2) no money for a property manager's salary.
- The UMCOC budget was approved.

General Fund Budget

- Projected for next year (\$30,000) income less expenses. Our income is \$30,000 short of our budget.
 - We brainstormed ideas for fundraisers. We would like to have a task force of people to plan fundraisers. This newly formed task force (Finance Task Force) will have their first meeting on January 2 @ 6:30. We may have a separate fundraiser for apportionments.

Pursuing God's Will Together – Book Study

- Chapters 9 & 10 were discussed.

Committee Reports

Children First Task Force (Janelle Jones)

- DISCERNING GOD'S WILL FOR THE FUTURE will be Sat, Feb 10, 2024, Fellowship Hall, 9-11 am.
 - What is the future of the relationship of Children First to Spearfish UMC? One of the discussion questions will be "What are the pros and cons of the relationship staying the same?"
 - Watch the announcements for opportunities to learn more about how CF operates,
 - Melissa Raad has offered to attend any group in the church with information and Q&A. Options include:
 - Finance meeting on Wednesday January 10, 2024 at 6 pm
 - Quilters Thursday, January 25, 2024 at 10 am.

Please pray that God's will may be done.

Stewardship & Finance (Keith Haiar)

Discussion Highlights

- Approved final UMCOC budget from Trustees.
- Reviewed Fall Pledge Drive
- Approved General Fund budget.
- Discussed the \$30,000 fundraising effort needed next year to balance the budget.
- Reassigned Grace Huck Endowment Fund to pay 2023 apportionments.
- Discussed online website, use, and donations.
- Requested year-end report from Children,

Youth, Family committee on Young Life participation and success.

November Treasurer’s Report – Financial Summary

Account	Income	Expenses	Monthly Difference	YTD Difference
Gen. Fund	\$35,210.65	\$40,761.59	-\$5,550.94	-\$46,457.91
UMCOC	\$ 5,595.00	\$ 6,874.87	-\$1,279.87	\$ 3,603.79
Debt/Capital	\$ 3,242.64	\$0.00	\$3,242.64	\$74,219.18
Children 1 st	\$48,739.60	\$48,329.11	\$ 410.49	-\$ 3,177.18

CHURCH OF THE COVERED DISH by Thom Tapp



“Its from our church... we’ve been called up for active duty.”



Mission of the Month

Honduras Medical Mission Team

Except for the 2 COVID years, since 2002 Spearfish UMC has sent 1-2 medical/dental teams a year to Honduras. January 17-28 our team will again be working in the remote southeast section of Honduras, the poorest area of a very poor country.

We stay at the guest house at Send Hope (check out www.send-hope.org) and provide care to Puerto Lempira

and the villagers in nearby areas, and work with local mission and healthcare people whenever possible.

The crops in that area have been wiped out by 2 hurricanes in 2021 and drought in 2022 and 2023. We are told prices for staples such as rice and beans have nearly doubled, increasing hunger, malnutrition and need for medical care.

Team members pay their own way and attempt to raise money for medicine and supplies. Please help by your donations to the January mission of the month and help us treat lots of families in Honduras.

Thank you,

Ron, Gloria, Michelle, Glea, Cindy, Dianne, and Scott



Donations are needed of the following items:

- Ramen Noodles
- Canned Fruits*
- Jams or Jellies
- Peanut Butter*
- Spaghetti Sauce
- Cereals*

*Items needed most



Gertrude Thompson	01-02	Terry Nagel	01-14
Heather Brewer	01-03	Kathy Harr	01-15
Noah Harlan	01-04	Rachel Sheffield	01-17
Eliana Foltz	01-04	Reagan Niesent	01-17
John McCarthy	01-05	Hayes Haiar	01-18
Sandie Hem	01-05	Beth Garrett	01-19
Rex Moyer	01-05	Raya Triplett	01-19
Sasha Pursley	01-05	Gabe Hicks	01-21
Peggy Heckel	01-06	JoAnne Cleveland	01-22
Hugh Roles	01-06	Madison Garvin	01-22
Tad Brewer	01-09	Boaz Foltz	01-22
Hannah Andres	01-09	Emmy Rollin	01-23
Preston Hazledine	01-10	Kathy Schneider	01-23
Cheryl Kissack	01-12	Marlyce Huck	01-28
Shirley Halse	01-13	Emmett Kaddatz	01-31
Patti Wood	01-14		



Joel & Jodi Johannesen	01/01~24 yrs.
Don & Peony Hammerquist	01/02~42 yrs.
Rod & Sandy Garnett	01/04~45 yrs.
Jason & Rebecca Hill	01/09~15 yrs.



Welcome to:

- *Karen McConnell* who joined the church on December 6, 2023 by transferring her membership from another United Methodist Church.

Sympathy to the family of:

- *James Jennings* who died December 12, 2023. A private family memorial service will be held.



You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God.

--2 Corinthians 9:11

Come, Share, Rejoice!

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

DEBT RETIREMENT/CAPITAL FUND			
Month	Actual Income	Month	Actual Income
Jan.	69,029.31	Feb.	2,209.49
Mar.	1,965.29	Apr.	2,435.25
May	2,246.26	Jun.	2,187.73
July	2,368.49	Aug.	4,000.80
Sept.	11,175.55	Oct.	12,561.37
Nov.	3,242.64		

CHILDREN FIRST FUND			
Month	Actual Income	Month	Actual Income
Jan.	47,592.24	Feb.	44,339.49
Mar.	47,676.36	Apr.	45,128.09
May	43,431.58	Jun.	39,600.96
July	33,652.01	Aug.	35,282.68
Sept.	45,372.40	Oct.	44,141.79
Nov.	48,739.60		

Special Gifts for December

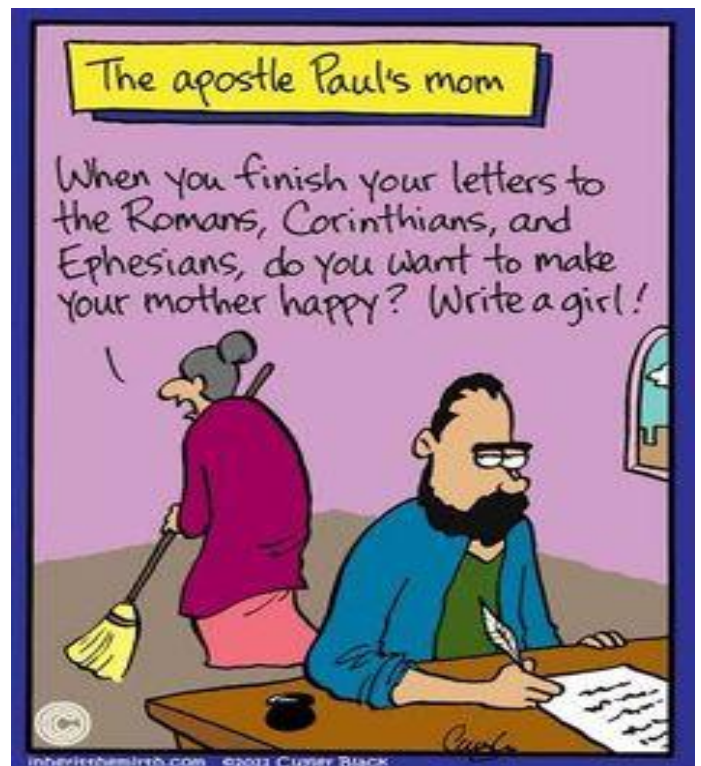
Adult Studies	\$ 286.75
---------------	-----------

UMC Staff Christmas Fund	3,050.00
Yoga Charity Fund	433.00
Honduras VIM Fund	9,004.37
Honduras Cinnamon Rolls	1,464.00
CF Washer Dryer Fund	12,500.00
UMCOC Donations	760.00
Solar Ovens	100.00
Artemis House	875.00
Youth Fund	6.00
TOTAL	\$ 28,479.12

Special Funds for December

Benevolence Fund	\$ 10.00
UMC Help Fund	3,010.60
TOTAL	\$ 3,020.60

*Worship Attendance for Dec.: 825 (Avg./Wk = 206)
 *On-Line Attendance for Dec.: 556 (Avg./Wk=185) (3 wks)



THE TRUMPETER



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

Return Service Requested

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

Sunday Worship:

“The Gathering” ~ 9:00 a.m.

“Sunday School” – 9:20 a.m.

“The Sanctuary” ~ 10:30 a.m.

Nursery care/Van rides to worship
CD’s of worship

Adult Sunday School: 9:20 a.m.

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

E-mail Addresses:



Website: www.spearfishumc.org

Pastor: john.madvig@spearfishumc.org

Administrative Assist.: office@spearfishumc.org

Finance: finance@spearfishumc.org

Technology Coordinator: kevinmasanaka@gmail.com

Bell Choir Director: hcm.kerchel@yahoo.com

Nursery Supervisor: carriejoydaily@gmail.com

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

JANUARY

2024