



The Trumpeter

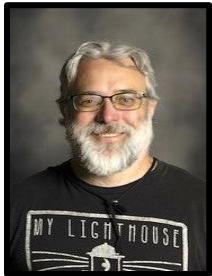
Spearfish United Methodist Church

Pastor: Paul Lint

Administrative Assistants: Orvette Stepper, Christine Pierson

Editor – Monica Ingalls

February 2026



Prayerfully Pondering with Pastor Paul

Belonging

Luke 19: 1-26

There are times in our lives that we are reminded over and over that we do not “fit in.” Whether it is a memory from your time in school or rejection of someone you were interested in dating or repeated job applications and interviews that ended without an offer, you have felt unwanted or unworthy.

Often, we do not consciously recognize our deep desire to belong, but there are reminders to us that make it bubble closer to the surface. Anniversaries of a loss, seeing people who used to be friends having a good time without you, or holidays often highlight feelings of loneliness and isolation.

People want to be seen, heard, and valued and we as the Church are uniquely equipped to provide such community. In the reading from Luke, we are reminded of the gift that is Belonging.

The story of Zaccheus can open our eyes to ways that our distrust, anger, and frustration can set up barriers for people to feel like they can be a part of the saving and transforming love of Jesus. When we see people as part of our community rather than a problem, hear the hopes and dreams of a person, and value each individual as a gift from God with skills, knowledge, experience, and passions, lives can be transformed.

What I really appreciate about the reading from Luke is that the parable of the investors directly follows the story of Zaccheus offering to reinvest his money back into the people he had harmed. We are reminded that as we recognize our place and value to God, we are invited to use our time, our attention, our skills, our stories, our property, our ideas all as investments of what God has entrusted to us.

You belong ... we belong ... make sure others know that each person belongs!

Pastor Paul



Ash Wednesday Service



Our Ash Wednesday service will be on **Wednesday, February 18th at 7:00pm**. You are warmly invited to join us for this sacred beginning to the Lenten season. We will gather

to pause, pray, and remember God's mercy and renewing grace. There will be imposition of ashes offered.

Valentine's Dinner

Celebrate Valentine's Day with your church friends at our Valentine Dinner on **Saturday, February 14, at 6:30 pm** in the Fellowship Hall. Singles and couples are welcome!



Advance tickets are required, so purchase them at worship or in the church office by February 8. The cost is \$20 per person. All proceeds will go to the church's general fund.

The menu will include pasta and sauces, salad, garlic bread, sparkling juice, and dessert. (Gluten free options will be available.) So get gussied up, and celebrate with us in style!

Taizé Worship



A Taizé worship service will be held **Thursday, February 5 at 7:00pm** 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.

Black Hills Balinese Gamelan “Joyful Heart”

We invite you to enjoy this informal celebration of Indonesian music on **Friday, February 6, 6:30pm – 8:00pm**, in the Fellowship Hall. We will perform some of our favorite pieces, teach about Balinese art and life, and invite you all to join us to create the sounds of gamelan! Master Balinese musicians I Made Lasmawan and Ni Kethut Marni dedicated our gamelan instruments in October of 2017 and helped us to bring this wonderful music and special sense of community to the Black Hills, our own little village. This event is free and open to everyone! Contact Rod Garnett for more information – garnett.rodney@gmail.com



United Women in Faith News

With warm drinks, homemade muffins and fresh fruit, the January meeting of UWF launched into the topic of Peace. Lead by Emma, guidelines and grounding techniques were explored for maintaining peace in our lives.



The group also discussed fund-raisers for the upcoming Assembly Meeting May 15-17 in Indianapolis. We currently have two members registered but others are welcome to join. If interested, please contact Emma or Colleen.

New meeting booklets were also discussed and will be coming out soon. If you would like to be added to the United Women in Faith calling list, please let the church office know. All are welcome!

Pastor Paul will lead the February meeting of UWF on **Saturday, February 21st** in the church library beginning at 9:30 a.m. with refreshments and fellowship. Discover what it means to be in community and how we are connected within it. Join us for some great discussion and conversation.

Dinah's Book Club

Dinah's Book Club is reading “*Shelterwood*” by Lisa Wingate. The group will meet on **Monday, February 9** in the parlor at noon. Books are available in the church office. You are welcome to join them.

Spearfish Co-Op Preschool Update

We would like you to know what has been going on in January at the Preschool. We ALL the loved our Christmas festivities but are ready to get back into our routines!!! We are continuing our learning with the letters D for Dinosaur week ROAR!! Letter X marks the spot with the week ending with a Treasure Hunt as we made things to become Pirates AARH!!! (Thank you for allowing us to use the Youth Room for this incredible event!) We will finish out the month with the letters Z and W!!

If you ever have any questions, please ask! We would love to answer them!

~ Lisa Keifert, Spearfish Co-Op Preschool
lisakeifert@gmail.com



Children First Update

This month, Children First would like to highlight the support our Ladybug Room provides to families with infants during their first precious early months. This classroom is led by Grace Raad and students' ages currently range from 1 month to 10 months. Grace, along with support staff Amber, Adia, Avery, Chauntea, Graci, Vicki and Melissa, commit to meeting each infant's individual needs through offering comfort and snuggles, consistency, and meaningful interactions throughout the day. We are grateful for their responsive care and comforting routines, and for the Children First Board members that come to visit on occasion to help rock babies to sleep.

If anyone is interested in assisting in this effort, please feel free to contact the Church office for instructions on how to complete a background check. As always, thank you for your kindness and generosity towards our littles!

~ Nicole Martz, Director



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 **Sunday, February 15 at 5pm**. Dinner will be Cassoeula. Please join us or contact Kevin Nakajima for more information.

kevinmasanaka@gmail.com

What is Going on with the Youth?

The New Year has brought us a great opportunity to focus on transitions and changes in our lives. The Bible is filled with stories of starting over and reminders of how much of a blessing it is that we can start over fresh with Christ not only every year, but every moment.

Youth know the struggles of change and the hardships of having to leave important things behind, and they also know the joy of letting past mistakes be left behind. As we look toward the future may we find joy in the anticipation of what could be with Christ. In the coming weeks we will be looking for service opportunities, preparing for the Winter Connection event put on by the Dakotas Conference Council on Youth Ministries, and exploring our leadership opportunities within the church community.



Trustee Goals for 2026

 As we all know, our home requires routine maintenance to keep it safe, secure, and comfortable. A few examples: heating and air conditioning, plumbing, electrical, windows, painting, landscape, and driveway maintenance. The Spearfish UMC is no different than our home. This maintenance falls under the responsibility of the Board of Trustees (BOT).

Much like with our own homes, sometimes certain tasks and maintenance items must be placed on hold due to lack of time or lack of funds. Our church home is in need of a little TLC (tender loving care) and with your help of prayers, gifts, and services, we can begin to tackle some of the things on the “to-do list”. Here are some items on the list:

- A fresh coat of paint for the basement
- Continued maintenance and TLC for the Memorial Garden and CEC grounds
- Maintenance and TLC for the parsonage and landscape and grounds, including retaining walls and paint on the west side of the parsonage

If you are interested and able to help with any of these tasks, please let the church office or myself know. We would love your assistance!

We anticipate holding a spring clean-up day in April for both the church and the parsonage, which is another great opportunity to lend a helping hand! We will announce the date for this soon.

Additionally, the BOT would like to establish and budget for a yearly HVAC fund to cover larger, anticipated expenses, such as the boilers, the air conditioning units, and parking lot asphalt. The asphalt replacement estimates are over \$200,000. We replaced one of three boilers in 2025 for \$23,000. Any financial contribution to these funds would be much appreciated. And to those who have already contributed, Thank You!

The Trustees do what we can with our time and talent and we owe these folks, along with anyone that serves on a committee or as a volunteer, our utmost gratitude. Thank you for your prayers and your time, talent, and gifts!

- Bill Keck, Chair
605-390-2721; bkeck4815@rap.midco.net



Celebrating a Productive Start to the New Year in CYFM

As we step into a new year, Children, Youth, and Family Ministry (CYFM) is grateful for a productive and encouraging first month filled with preparation, planning, and excitement for what's ahead. This season has been a wonderful reminder that ministry is always growing — shaped by the hands, hearts, and prayers of our church family!

As CYFM continues to move forward, we are excited to invite others to join us in a variety of meaningful and manageable ways. We are always grateful for extra helping hands in our **Sunday School program from 10:00–11:00 AM each Sunday**. All lessons and materials are prepared in advance by Katelyn Smith — we simply need a few additional volunteers to help guide activities, assist students, and support a welcoming environment for our children.

We are also seeking volunteers to help with five-minute children's sermons during the 9:00 AM and 11:00 AM worship services. For anyone who would like support, Katelyn is happy to provide a short script or outline ahead of time. This is a wonderful opportunity to help children feel included and engaged during worship in a simple, approachable way!

In addition, we encourage anyone interested in children and family ministry to join our monthly CYFM meetings, which are now held online on the third Thursday of each month at 7:30 PM. These meetings are open to everyone and are a great space to share ideas, learn about upcoming events, and help shape future programming for children and families. The meeting link can be found on our website at the bottom of the Children's Ministry page:

<https://www.spearfishumc.org/ministries/childrens-ministry/>

Looking ahead, we are eagerly anticipating warmer days and the joy of springtime events. Please mark your calendars for our Annual Easter Egg Hunt on April 5th from 10:00–10:55 AM, and our Community & Family Spring Block Party on Friday, May 1st from 5:00–7:00 PM, held inside the Fellowship Hall. The annual Spring Block Party will feature bouncy castles, free food, carnival games, crafts, and plenty of family fun!

As the year progresses, CYFM looks forward to continued meetings and planning as we prepare even more opportunities for connection and celebration throughout 2026. Be sure to keep an eye out for upcoming information **about Vacation Bible School (VBS) this July** — we can't wait to share what's in store!

Finally, we would like to extend a heartfelt thank-you to all who support CYFM through prayer, encouragement, donations, and volunteering. Your support makes this ministry possible. We pray that this

new year meets each of you with a healthy balance of energy and rest, optimism and purpose, and that through God's guidance, all His children — young and old — continue to grow in faith, love, and community. For any questions, requests, comments or concerns — please feel free to reach out to Katelyn Smith at workksmith@gmail.com!

With gratitude and warmth,
CYFM Committee

United Methodist Men

United Methodist Men (UMM) meetings were January 3rd and 17th. Our January 3rd devotion was presented by Gail Arnold on a project he is working on; training youth to be obedient (Fear of punishment or because of Love in Family). On January 17th Bill Lundgren gave the devotion from the Upper Room.



Our **February 7th** meeting will be at Perkins at 8 am. Our **February 21st** meeting will be at the church from 8 am until about 9 am. Come join us for breakfast, fellowship and a short devotional. Church Fellowship menu is typically scrambled eggs, sausage, juice, coffee, and pancakes or French toast.

*God Bless,
~ Kelvin Lower, UMM President*

A BIG THANK YOU!

For all that you did to bless our staff, including the Pastor and his family over the holidays. We felt your appreciation and support and were blessed by what you gave either individually or through the staff bonus. We look forward to working with you and serving the Spearfish United Methodist Church and community in 2026. God bless you all in this New Year!

~ Pastor Paul and family, and the Spearfish UMC staff



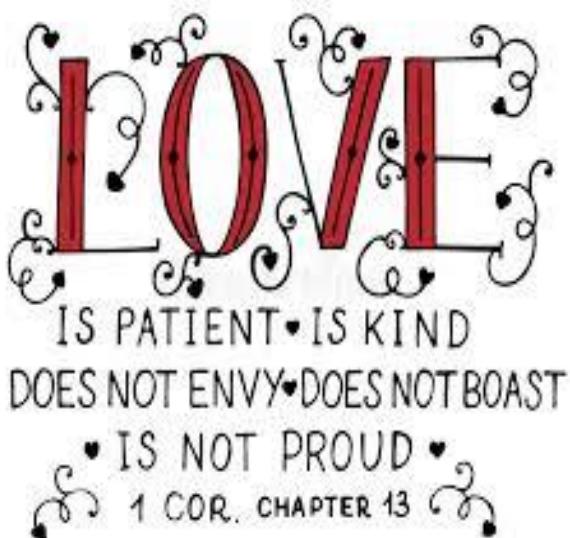
Presentation by Collin and Christa Cantelope, Financial Advisors at Edward Jones

On February 28 2026 at 10:00 AM in the Fellowship Hall Collin and Christa Cantelope, financial advisors with Edward Jones, will be with us for an approximately hour-long presentation. Their main topic will be direct transfer of 401(k) required minimum distributions (RMDs) to charitable organizations and the tax benefit to those who do this. A question-and-answer period will follow. This event is sponsored by the UMC Stewardship & Finance Committee and the public is invited. Coffee and donuts will be served. Please join us!



February Food Needs:

We are well stocked with shelf stable items from various community food drives. We do need money to buy perishable items, such as meat, fish, produce, cheese, eggs, and butter. Thank you for your continued support!



The Help Fund February Mission of the Month



Claudia Little is one of the Help Fund volunteers

HELP Fund is the Mission of the Month for February. Last year we requested sample size personal toiletry items. We had a great response! Since we are almost to the bottom of the tote, we would like to do it again this year. Please help by donating unopened sample-sized shampoo, deodorant, body wash, lotion, combs, toothbrushes, and toothpaste. We will have a basket at the back of the church to collect them along with a piggy bank for those that would like to help us financially.

I've always wondered if any of you would like more information as to what we do at the HELP fund. We are all happy to explain our mission anytime. Our team right now consists of Lane Keil, Claudia Little, Teryl Mattson, Doris Parke, Orvette Stepper, and myself. We thank you, as always, for your continued prayers and support!

~Bonnie Witt



Ed & Leslie Sewell
Lyle Ericsson & Connie Swander-Ericsson
Bob & Debbie Cline

02-14 ~ 34 yrs.
02-17 ~ 25 yrs
02-18 ~ 42 yrs.



Isabella Grosz	02-03	Maren McKirdy-Wilsey	02-18
Roberta Hillinger	02-06	Sandy Prante	02-20
Reese Sheffield	02-06	Jacqueline Milnes	02-21
Doris Parke	02-07	Layne Loup	02-23
Cynthia Bates	02-07	Clara Christensen	02-24
Jessica Jennings	02-09	Ava Peterson	02-24
Paul Lint	02-10	Graham Liming	02-26
Stan Smith	02-14	Grace Lint	02-27
Connie Ericsson	02-15	Terrance Grosz	02-27
Lisa Foltz	02-15	Rachel DeWeese	02-28
Clyde Smith	02-17	Carter Foltz	02-28
John Loux	02-17		

MONEY MATTERS

You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us 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?"

Special Gifts for January 2026

Yoga Charity Fund	\$ 329.00
Honduras VIM Fund	2,865.00
Honduras Cinnamon Rolls	3,022.00
Children First Scholarships	100.00
Ministerial Association Income	500.00
Solar Oven	25.00
Youth Fund	10.00
TOTAL	\$ 6,851.00

Special Funds for January 2026

Benevolence Fund	\$ 10.00
UMC Help Fund	65.00
TOTAL	\$ 75.00

Worship Attendance for Jan.: 559 (Avg./Wk=140) (4 wks)

On-Line Attendance for Jan.: 452 (Avg./Wk=226) (2 wks)

E-Giving is EASY

VENMO is convenient, you just need to Scan the QR code to the right with your smartphone and you can make your gift.



venmo



We have VANCO which allows you to set up sustained giving. If you have any questions about giving in this manner, contact Mary Tracy at the church (605) 642-3457 or at finance@spearfishumc.org.

Treasurer's Corner



Our hearts are full of joy and gratitude to report that December's financials were excellent. The generosity of our congregation was evident as we were able to replenish the Help Fund significantly (all of the offerings received during Christmas Eve service are directed to the Help Fund unless otherwise designated), and catch up on ALL of our apportionments from 3 months' worth of contributions. We celebrate this outpouring of generosity towards the work and mission of this church. Thank you for your faithful giving! Your gifts are creating impact, giving hands and feet to the Love of God for the world.

~ Kristen Bell, Treasurer



THE TRUMPETER



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

“The Gathering” ~ 9:00 a.m.
“Sunday School” – 10:00 a.m.
“The Sanctuary” ~ 11:00 a.m.
Nursery care/Van rides to worship

Adult Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.

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

E-mail Addresses:



Website: www.spearfishumc.org

Pastor: paul.lint@spearfishumc.org

Administrative Assist.: office@spearfishumc.org

Finance: finance@spearfishumc.org

Technology Coordinator: kevinmasanaka@gmail.com

Nursery Supervisor: carriejoydaily@gmail.com

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



2026