



# The **Trumpeter**

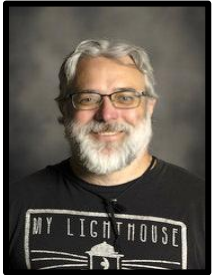
*Spearfish United Methodist Church*

*Pastor: Paul Lint*

*Administrative Assistant: Christine Pierson*

*Editor: Monica Ingalls*

**April 2026**



## **Prayerfully Pondering with Pastor Paul**

### **An Unlikely Savior**

We have been following a book, *An Unlikely Lent*, by Rachel Billups throughout our Journey of Lent. In doing so, we have spent some time with unlikely and often underappreciated characters of the Story of Jesus' final few weeks before his death on a cross. I have appreciated the perspectives and thoughts of the author and the members of Bible Studies and congregation members as we have thought differently together about these people and events.

In many ways, it has been "too real" at times with the backdrop of our own violent and disturbing news cycles. Disciples running away and hiding in locked rooms for fear of the Roman government coming after them, and a foreign visitor being forced to share in Jesus' suffering because he was in the RIGHT place at the RIGHT time echo through our nation's cities where neighbors do their best to care for neighbors hiding in fear. The actions of the chief priests, King Herod, and Pilate motivated by jealousy, disinformation, and the need to protect the Roman Peace did not die with the Roman Empire, but permeate the decisions of world leaders from well before Jesus' death through today. Yet, we also see the unlikely companions and those with unlikely courage who witness to us the value and the need to overcome our fears to live our faith in and love for a God who still loves this world.

The pain of the last few weeks before Good Friday and the consistent pain, fear, and violence of the world we live in make the possibility of a savior seem pretty unlikely. And that is exactly what we have, an unlikely savior. We have a perfect and all-powerful God that fully entered into our human experience to redeem our mess. Jesus loved a world even while that world rejected Jesus. Jesus died a humiliating death to take away our shame,

overcome human mortality, and separate us from our sin. Even knowing all we know 2000 years later, this still seems unlikely.

Maybe our focus on the unlikely will open our eyes to the unlikely blessings, unlikely companions, unlikely challenges, and unlikely strengths that are sprinkled throughout our lives. Maybe we can overcome the pains, fears, and violence of our world with unlikely grace, mercy, love, peace, hope, joy, and faith. I pray that we find ways to get away from the comfortable and expected to experience the power of God in the unlikely.

*Pastor Paul*



## **Join Us for Our Maundy Thursday Worship**

You are warmly invited to join us for our **Maundy Thursday worship service, Thursday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>, at 7:00pm** as we prepare our hearts for the hope of Easter.



The service this year will focus on communion. It will be a service that reminds us that the Last Supper was a meal shared among friends. Communion will be served.



## **A Fun-Filled Easter Egg Hunt**

Bring the kiddos and meet us in the Fellowship Hall on

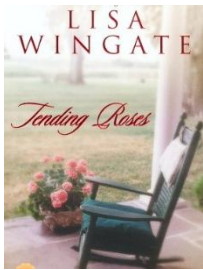
**Easter Sunday, April 5<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am.** We'll head to the playground or the Youth Room (depending on the weather) and hunt for goodie-filled eggs! Everyone is welcome!

## Come and Enjoy Easter Brunch with Us

The Worship Team invites you to join us for an Easter Brunch to be enjoyed during our shared Fellowship time at **10:00am on Sunday, April 5<sup>th</sup>.** We will be serving egg bakes, pastries, fruit, and juice. We hope you can join us!



## Dinah's Book Club



Dinah's Book Club is reading *"Tending Roses"* by Lisa Wingate. The group will meet on **Monday, April 13<sup>th</sup>** in the Parlor at noon. The novel explores themes of family, second chances, and finding happiness by wanting less, and it was inspired by Wingate's own relationship with her grandmother. Books are available in the church office. You are welcome to join them.

## Game Night

Dinner and Game night is a time for people of all ages to gather and enjoy some fellowship and great food 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!



This month it will be **Sunday, April 19<sup>th</sup> at 5:00pm**, and our shared meal will be Beef and Mushroom Stroganoff. Please join us! Contact Kevin Nakajima for more information. [kevinmasanaka@gmail.com](mailto:kevinmasanaka@gmail.com)

## All Hands On Deck!

The Board of Trustees would appreciate your help on **Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup>, from 8:00am – 12:00pm** to spruce up the church grounds and parsonage. The Prayer Garden needs some TLC. We would like to remove the sod and soil under the chain link fence and replace it with



crushed rock to facilitate ease of mowing, as well as removing rotten timbers. The list goes on.

We also need help with the grounds at the parsonage. We need to rebuild three retaining walls after the flood three years ago and the construction of the new deck. To improve drainage around the foundation, the plastic under the river rock needs to be replaced.

We would appreciate the use of a chain saw, two wheel barrows, several 5 and 33 gallon buckets, a few pick up trucks, as well as any landscaping tools that you feel might be helpful in getting these tasks done. If you can provide these items, please call Bill Keck at 605.390.2721. The Board of Trustees sincerely thanks you for your help and will bring coffee and doughnuts to kick things off that morning!

## United Methodist Men



At the time of this report submission, we met on February 21<sup>st</sup> and March 7<sup>th</sup>. Both devotions were presented by Bill Lungren.

Our **April 4<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> meetings** will be at the church from 8:00am until about 9:00am. Come join us for breakfast, fellowship, and a short devotional.

*God Bless,*  
Kelvin Lower, UMM President

## United Women in Faith News

United Women in Faith will meet on **Saturday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> at 10:00am**, with refreshments being served at 9:30am. Pastor Scott

McKirdy will lead a program and discussion on JOY. All are welcome! There will be no UWF meeting in April.



## Become a Hero

Please consider donating blood at the next Spearfish Community Blood Drive, being held at the Spearfish UMC on **Monday, April 27<sup>th</sup> from 10:30am – 5:30pm**. Walk-ins are welcome. Please call Bill Keck for more information, 605-390-2721. New blood donors are welcome. Thank you for helping save lives!



## An Update from Church Council

As you may have noticed, we are no longer including birthdays and anniversaries in the weekly announcements or the Trumpeter. At the February 2026 Administrative Council Meeting, we reviewed our Safe Sanctuary Policy. In doing so, we realized that a visitor could get your personal information from the weekly announcements or the online Trumpeter publication. We want to protect our youth and adults from predators and criminals that could use this information to cause harm or identity theft. It may sound like it is going overboard, but predators and criminals will use any and all information they can to get what they want.

**Please Note:** If you would like your birthday or anniversary listed, please contact Christine at the church office. You will need to let her know every year prior to when your special dates occur.

Our priority is to protect our parishioners.

*Kelvin Lower*

*Administrative Council Chairperson*

## Important Email System Update 📧

We're still experiencing issues with our email system. Our IT person has configured a new domain for bulk email. **Please add: [bulkmail@spfumc.com](mailto:bulkmail@spfumc.com) to your contact list and be sure to mark it as "Not Spam" and/or "Safe Sender" if it ends up in your junk mail folder.** Please note, if you use Outlook, Hotmail, or Live.com, there is a problem unique to the Outlook platform which may take longer to resolve.

## Children First Update

As we welcome the season of spring, our classrooms have been full of growth, curiosity, and joy. The children have been exploring signs of new life through hands-on activities and meaningful time outdoors (Thank you, Lord, for the sun!). It's such a gift to watch them learn and grow each day.



Looking ahead, we are excited to share that we will be partnering with the church for a **Workday on April 25th**. We would love for church members to join us in supporting and caring for our shared spaces. If you are interested in helping or would like more information on how this day will directly support our child care program, please feel free to reach out.

We are so grateful for the continued support of our church family. Thank you for being such an important part of our Children First community! With gratitude,  
~ Nicole Martz, Director [nicmartz@speartown.com](mailto:nicmartz@speartown.com)

## An Update from the Spearfish Cooperative Preschool



We have had another AMAZING month at Preschool. We visited Dr. Amann's dental office and had a mom who works with a dental company come in and help us learn how to keep our teeth healthy.

We celebrated St. Patrick's Day by making Leprechaun traps but had no success AND we even had to clean up the mess he made that silly guy! One student commented "I am just done with this Leprechaun." Ha Ha Ha!! Fun to watch them! We also visited the Quilters group to learn about the letter Q. Thank you, ladies! We truly appreciate your time and thank you for sharing your expertise with us.

We will be working on our Art Show projects soon so THANK YOU SOOO MUCH for the donated clay!! **Our Art Show will be April 16<sup>th</sup> in the Fellowship Hall, 5:30 – 7:00pm.** We hope you can join us!

Thank you so much for allowing us to continue to be here for all these AMAZING FAMILIES we serve!  
~Spearfish Cooperative Preschool  
[spearfishcoopreschool@live.com](mailto:spearfishcoopreschool@live.com)

## CYFM Spring Update – Joyful Celebrations Ahead! 🌻

As we move into the spring season, CYFM is excited to focus on a new Sunday School theme this month: "Block Party: Celebrating Jesus and Joy That Never Ends." Throughout this series, children will explore the joy that comes from belonging to Jesus and learn that no matter what happens, we always have something to be joyful about. Our key verse reminds us of this wonderful truth:

*"Always be joyful because you belong to the Lord. I will say it again. Be joyful!"* — Philippians 4:4

Spring also brings some wonderful opportunities for families and the community to gather together for fun and fellowship. Our **Annual Easter Egg Hunt and Easter Brunch** will take place on **Sunday, April 5th from 10:00am – 10:55am** in the Fellowship Hall. This free event is open to the public and welcomes anyone and everyone of all ages to join us. Participants will gather in

the Fellowship Hall, to be led to either the playground or the youth room, depending on weather, so children can enjoy searching for goodies-filled eggs while families share time together over brunch! If you would like to donate candy, please feel free to drop it off in the church office before Easter Sunday.

Fitting right in with our Sunday School theme, we are also looking forward to our **Annual Community & Family Spring Block Party on Friday, May 1st from 5:00pm –7:00pm**, held indoors in the Fellowship Hall, rain or shine. This evening of family fun will include bouncy castles, free food, carnival games, crafts, and information about upcoming summer opportunities such as camps and Vacation Bible School.

We look forward to celebrating this joyful season together with our church family and the community!  
~ *CYFM Committee*

## Youth Group News



Youth Group spent the month of February talking about Christian love and the way we express that for God and others. We studied 1 Corinthians 13, did some

artwork, and showed love by making birthday baskets for the food pantry. In March we dove into Lent. We discussed the book, "An Unlikely Lent" and we chalked the sidewalk with our representation of church, Lent, and being welcoming.



### April Food Needs:

- Chicken or Beef Broth
- Pork & Beans
- Diced Tomatoes
- Hamburger or Tuna Helper

Monetary donations are appreciated to buy perishable items, such as meat, produce, and dairy products. Thank you for your continued support!



## Black Hills Foster Parents Association

### ~ Our April Mission of the Month ~

The Black Hills Foster Parent Association has been serving foster families for over 50 years and became a 501©(3) nonprofit about 30 years ago. Their mission is to support and encourage foster families and to care for children entering into the foster system, who often have very little of their own.

One of their primary efforts is **providing Welcome Bags to children when they come into care**, often in the middle of the night with just the clothes on their back, which makes it challenging for both the child and the foster family. These bags help children feel cared for and valued during a difficult transition. The Welcome Bags usually include hygiene items, pajamas, a new outfit, underwear, socks, and a new toy or book. As well as donating these items, the organization would also appreciate donations of the duffel bags themselves, in which to place the items. They can also use diaper bags, which they fill with diapers, wipes, and other items when babies are placed into care.

Here is the list of items needed, with the most urgent noted in red below:

- Brushes, combs, hair accessories
- Small duffel bags
- Pajamas
- Underwear (all sizes)
- Travel-size shampoo, conditioner, body wash (kids and teens), deodorant (boys and girls)
- Diaper bags
- Socks (all sizes)
- Women's small underwear
- Small toys, books, stuffed animals
- Diapers and baby wipes
- Newborn – 12 month clothing (boys & girls)

There will be a basket in the Fellowship Hall into which you may place your donations. You can also make a monetary donation and designate your donation as: "BH Foster Parents Association" and if you would like it used for certain items from the list, please note that as well.

There are now over 1,000 children in care in Rapid City and the Northern Hills – more than ever before. **The need continues to grow, and anything you can give is truly a blessing.** If you would like more specific information, please contact: Paula Culver – 605-645-4050. Thank you!



**Special Gifts for March 2026 as of 3/22/26**

Yoga Charity Fund	\$	354.00
Food Pantry		100.00
Ministerial Assoc. Income		693.00
Children First Scholarships		100.00
Solar Oven		25.00
Kitchen Refrigerator		100.00
UMCOR		100.00
Storm Mtn Gloves		30.00
Spearfish Co-op Preschool		808.95
Youth Fund		100.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>2,410.95</b>

**Special Funds for March 2026 as of 3/22/26**

Benevolence Fund	\$	60.00
UMC Help Fund		15.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>75.00</b>

**Worship Attendance for Mar:** 433 (Avg./Wk = 108) (4 wks)

**On-Line Attendance for Feb/Mar:** 611 (Avg./Wk=122) (5 wks)

**E-Giving is EASY**

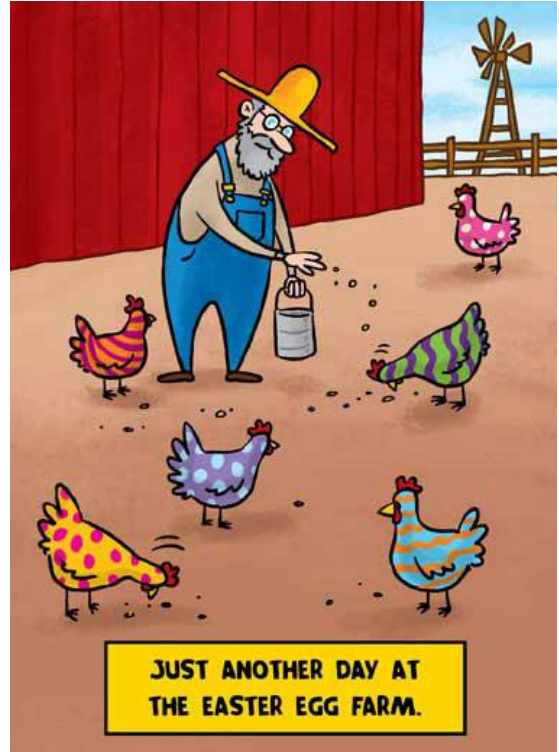
**VENMO** is convenient! Please just scan the QR code to the right with your smartphone to make your gift.



**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 (605) 642-3457 or [finance@spearfishumc.org](mailto:finance@spearfishumc.org).



# THE TRUMPETER



**United Methodist Church**  
845 N. 5<sup>th</sup> St.  
Spearfish, SD 57783  
(605) 642-3457  
**Return Service Requested**

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Permit #45

## Office Hours:

Monday – Thursday, 9am – 4pm

## 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

Saturday Blue Jeans Worship ~ 5:30 p.m.

## E-mail Addresses:

Website: [www.spearfishumc.org](http://www.spearfishumc.org)

Pastor: [paul.lint@spearfishumc.org](mailto:paul.lint@spearfishumc.org)

Administrative Assist.: [office@spearfishumc.org](mailto:office@spearfishumc.org)

Finance: [finance@spearfishumc.org](mailto:finance@spearfishumc.org)

Technology Coordinator: [kevinmasanaka@gmail.com](mailto:kevinmasanaka@gmail.com)

Nursery Supervisor: [carriejoydaily@gmail.com](mailto:carriejoydaily@gmail.com)

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



# April 2026