

THE TRUMPETER

Monthly Newsletter from Spearfish United Methodist Church

Pastor Paul Lint



Prayerfully Pondering

WITH PASTOR PAUL

Pondering Foundation

"It often surprises Christians when they discover just how much the Bible talks about money. In fact, there are more than 2,300 verses on money, wealth and possessions. Jesus spoke about money roughly 15% of the time in his preaching, and 11 of his 39 parables. It was his most talked about topic."

- Wealth with Purpose website

The way we steward the resources that we are entrusted is an important part of our faith journey. That is true for individuals, families, local churches, national and global denominations, and The Church. God is the creator, redeemer, and sustainer of all things, which means all things belong to God and we are simply blessed to care for them and use them well.

It is sometimes difficult to see how our stewardship of finances makes a difference. We can easily tell when someone fails, but "successful" stewardship is much more subtle and nuanced. The greedy, hoarding, Ebenezer Scrooge is highlighted as a failure of stewardship. The celebrity's child who has burned through his trust fund and is now bouncing from friend to friend to find a place to sleep and maintain a drug habit sure seems to be failing at stewardship. But what about me, you, or your local church?

There are many good books about this and many of us have read more than one of them. I want to invite us to ponder upon the value of a strong financial foundation as a central reason for the local church to exist. Most of us would name an important ministry or timely outreach, or impactful mission opportunity that explains the value of what the local church has done in our lives. These beautiful moments of generosity shine light into dark places, bring hope to those who

are struggling, or even wake us up to the Goodness of God. Through such intentional and generous outreach, we make huge impacts in the lives of our community and people around the world.

Yet, it is the less-glamorous, consistent stewardship that makes those beautiful moments and missions possible. When we, the faithful, give regularly to the general work of the church, we steward the foundation upon which all those powerful ministries can thrive. Without a trained staff, funded programs, and a safe and comfortable building we would not have the support for our generosity to reach so far.

“The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his field. Though it is the smallest of all seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds come and perch in its branches.” Matthew 13:31-32

May we continue to feed our mustard seeds of faith within the life of the local church so that we can provide the structure and protection for ministries, missions, and outreach, as well as the dozens of community “birds” that perch in our branches for such a wide variety of reasons. We are blessed that we are allowed to be a blessing to others.

Pastor Paul



Taize Service

Join us for a prayerful and quiet service, including meditative singing and moments of silence for your own reflection on **Thursday, September 3rd at 7:00pm in the Sanctuary**. Join us and center your spirit, heart, and mind.



Rummage Sale - Happening Soon!

The Spearfish UMC and Children First Rummage Sale is coming up on **Friday, September 11th, 9am - 5pm and Saturday, September 12th, 8am - 12pm**. This is your opportunity to get rid of unwanted items and to find a new treasure! And grab a freshly baked caramel roll for only \$3, while they last!

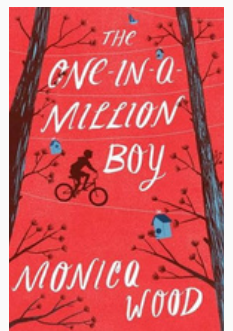
We are grateful for the support of our church members to help us raise money for the church General Fund and for Children First. Items may be brought to the church beginning on September 8th. A friendly reminder, we do not accept tires, TVs, computers, large appliances, treadmills, furniture, or adult clothing.

A special invitation to our bakers out there: we will need help baking the caramel rolls. They can be baked at home and brought to the church on the morning of Friday, September 11th. Please consider helping with this and reach out to Jeanette Keck to volunteer.

Join us on September 11th and 12th and let's make this the biggest and best sale yet!
Questions? Call Jeanette Keck - 605.390.3068.

Dinah's Book Club

The group is reading **"The One-in-a-Million Boy" by Monica Wood**, a touching story about an unlikely friendship between a 104 yr-old woman and a 7 yr-old boy. Pick up your copy of the book from the office and join them on **Monday, September 14th at 12:00pm in the Parlor** for discussion. (Books will be due back on this day.)



Family 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 **Sunday, September 20th at 5:00pm.** Dinner will be Stifado, a Greek beef stew. Please join us or contact Kevin Nakajima, 605.210.3984, for more information.



Afternoon Tea for Artemis House

The Artemis House Afternoon Tea will be held on **Saturday, October 24th from 1:30pm - 3:30pm** in the Fellowship Hall of Spearfish UMC. Join us for an indulgent afternoon of music, fine teas, and sweet treats to benefit the Artemis House Shelter in Spearfish. There will be musical guests, a silent auction, and hat and tablescaping contests. Dress up and join us! Tickets are \$50. You can purchase tickets online at artemishouse.org/tea or by calling 605.642.7525, ext. 216.

Interested in helping? Consider tablescaping a setting for 8 with your favorite china. You will receive a free ticket to attend! Contact Renae Servaty, Director of Artemis House, at renae@artemishouse.org for more information or to volunteer a tablescaping for the event.



Saturday, October 24th, 1:30 - 3:30pm

Latest News

Higher Ground Initiative Retreat

Pastor Paul will be attending the Higher Ground Initiative Retreat coming up in October. The Higher Ground Initiative supports the overall well-being of clergy by focusing on **five interconnected areas of life:** social, financial, physical, emotional, and spiritual health. Clergy serve as meaning-makers and community builders, yet the demands of ministry can also bring significant stress and challenges. Research, including the Duke Clergy Health Initiative, has shown that clergy can experience high rates of stress and depression.

Through Higher Ground, the Dakotas Conference seeks to provide intentional support and resources that help clergy remain healthy, whole, and sustained throughout their ministry. The initiative was originally made possible through a \$925,000 grant received by the Dakotas United Methodist Foundation from the Lilly Endowment's Thriving in Ministry program.

As part of the United Methodist Church's required eight-year assessment process, clergy are invited into a period of reflection, renewal, and personal growth. Higher Ground provides opportunities for clergy to consider their overall well-being, identify goals, and access support such as coaching, counseling, spiritual direction, and other resources tailored to their individual needs. By taking time to care for their own well-being, clergy are better equipped to continue serving their congregations and communities with renewed energy and purpose. Higher Ground reflects the Dakotas Conference's commitment to supporting clergy as whole people throughout the joys and challenges of ministry. We lift up Pastor Paul as he participates and look forward to hearing about his experience!



A Special Thank you to a Special Person

Within our congregation, there are so many wonderful people who faithfully share their time and talents, and this month we want to offer a special thank you to several of them.

For many years, Wednesday worship at Edgewood Vista has been a meaningful ministry of Spearfish United Methodist Church. *A special thank you goes to **Peggy Bosch**, who has faithfully provided music for these services for the past 18 years.* As arthritis in her hands has made playing more difficult, Peggy is stepping back from this role. Her dedication, musical talent, and willingness to share new songs have blessed countless people over the years. In July, we shared in singing several favorite hymns at the Edgewood service, such as "Surely the Presence of the Lord is in This Place", "Precious Lord, Take My Hand", "Shine Jesus Shine", and "Hymn of Promise".

This ministry is made possible by many faithful people. We are grateful that Rita Hicks is willing to serve as piano accompanist as this ministry continues. Carolyn Baker has prepared and handed out song books for at least 12 years, while Janelle Jones has shared scripture and offered worship leadership. We also remember and thank those who have participated over the years, including the Bell Choir and members of the Men's Bible Study.

Peggy's service to the church certainly does not end with her music ministry. She continues to serve as secretary for two committees and Chair of the Stewardship & Finance Committee. Her faithful service — and that of so many others — is a wonderful reminder that sharing our gifts may change over time, but the call to serve continues. Let us celebrate Peggy Bosch and so many others! God knows our hearts and our talents. May we keep sharing them along with our treasure!



United Methodist Men Update

United Methodist Men (UMM) have been taking a break for the last couple months and will resume meetings on **September 19th at 8:00am** in the Fellowship area of the church. We will not be meeting September 5th during Labor Day weekend. We hope you can join us on the 19th for food and fellowship. God Bless,
Kelvin Lower, UMM President

News from our Friends at the Spearfish Cooperative Preschool

We are SO EXCITED to start school! We will have Open Houses the first week in September and **school will start on September 8th.**

We are SO THANKFUL for the volunteers who painted the hallways downstairs. We appreciate you so much! What a great way to start school with a FRESH look!

We appreciate all of your support in helping us offer a much-needed Preschool education to Spearfish and surrounding areas. The families we've helped are so grateful!

-Spearfish Cooperative Preschool



Spearfish Community Food Pantry Needs for September

- Applesauce
- 2# Sugar
- Canned Peas
- Cream of Chicken or Mushroom Soup
- Ramen Noodles
- Cookies or Crackers

~ Front Page Feature ~

Can you guess the location of the cross featured on the first page, submitted by a congregation member? Be the first to call the office **after September 7th** with the correct answer and win a \$5 gift card to Common Grounds!

**** August: Scotland** – submitted by Jayne Brenneisen

Each month, we will feature a church or cross from a different country or a location within the United States. Have a beautiful picture of a cross or church from your own travels? We would love to feature it here!

Do not be anxious about anything,
but in every situation, by prayer and petition,
with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.
And the peace of God, which transcends
all understanding,
will guard your hearts and your minds
in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 4: 6-7



September Mission of the Month:

The Children First Scholarship Fund

Our September Mission of the Month will support **Children First's Scholarship Fund**. This is a fund that is available, through your generous support, to help Children First offer financial assistance to families that need it in order to provide quality Daycare and/or Preschool for one or more of their children.

Over Children First's years of being in existence, these funds have successfully allowed many children the prospect of experiencing all that Children First has to offer, from simply a safe, warm, and caring environment, to exceptional Early Learning opportunities.

Please thoughtfully consider contributing your donations to help families and children who will greatly benefit from them. **Please note "Children First Scholarship Fund" in the memo line of your check.** Please contact Jayne Brenneisen at japbrenn@gmail.com for more information.



Treasurer's Corner

When you think of the Spearfish United Methodist Church, what are the first things that come to mind? For some, it is the immediate feeling of being welcome. The sense of "We're so glad you're here!" abounds in our foyers, through the pews, and around the fellowship tables.

For others, it is the knowledge that there is a safe place to ask for help in times of trouble or need. Our Help Fund, and the people who administer it, provide not only the actual monetary help needed in that moment, but perhaps more importantly, a kind and nonjudgmental interaction with people who genuinely care. Just this month, one recipient of Safeway cards returned to the office to donate earnings from her new job. She so appreciated the help when she needed it, that the first thing she wanted to do was pay it forward.

For others of us, a strong association with this church is major life events like baptisms, weddings, funerals, or holiday celebrations like Christmas Eve and Easter. To have a dedicated space to house those special times is a wonderful gift that we don't take for granted.

What does this church do that matters most to you? What would you most miss if this church wasn't here?

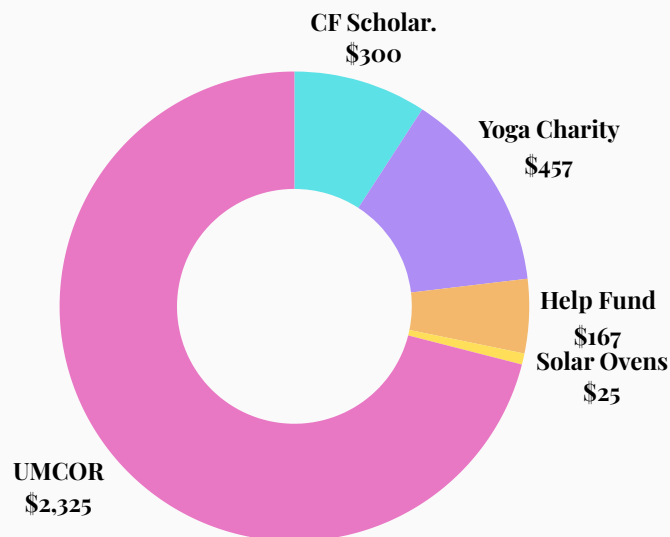
Please consider how you can support the mission and ministries of the church, with your time, and/or your talent, and/or your treasure. Donations of all kinds "keep the lights on" and provide substance for the actions of this body, which gives hands and feet to God's Love in the world.

-Kristen Bell, Treasurer

hello
SEPTEMBER

Gifts and Offerings

Special Gifts for Aug 1 - Aug 24, 2026



- Clothe-A-Kid: \$65
- Worship Attend.(4 wk): 524, avg: 131
- Benevolence Fund: \$10
- Online Attend.(4 wk): 385, avg: 96



E-banking Options



venmo

For more information about our Venmo and Vanco options, please contact Mary Tracy, 605.642.3457.

