

THE TRUMPETER

Monthly Newsletter from Spearfish United Methodist Church

Pastor Paul Lint



Attention Spearfish United Methodist Church!!!

We are moving forward with going from two services to a single service on **Sundays, beginning October 4th. The service will start at 10:10am!** Yes, you read that right... it will start at 10:10am, with fellowship to follow the service, and Children's Ministry during the service. We pray this single service will flourish and are excited about new possibilities as two come together as one. We envision more people being a part of our praise teams and fellowship, and we look forward to seeing you there!

God Bless,
Kelvin Lower
Administrative Council Chairperson





Prayerfully Pondering

WITH PASTOR PAUL



Pondering The Joy of Together

Acts 2:42-47

“⁴²They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. ⁴³Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. ⁴⁴All the believers were together and had everything in common. ⁴⁵They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. ⁴⁶Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, ⁴⁷praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.”

The leadership of our church family has been thinking, discussing, gathering ideas, and finally planning for our new schedule for Sunday mornings for as long as I have been here. In those discussions, I have also heard that it was being discussed much longer than that. What stuck out to me from all of the discussion was that people wanted to be together more. I can NOT explain to you, at least in any words that I know, how REFRESHING that is and how HOPEFUL it makes me. It feels like the people I love and care for in this world have not valued that in recent years. We have done some pretty painful, uncomfortable, and unkind things to make sure that we are more divided, less respectful of the other, and self-protective in our recent history, and that seems to be true from our families and communities, all the way to our global relationships.

How wonderful to read and hear how people put such a high importance on being with others in worship, having a fuller fellowship time, and feeling more connected, so much so that they are willing to make changes to their normal routine. I think this must be what the Apostles of Jesus were feeling during the first 200 years of Christianity. The reading above from the book of Acts speaks of a community that was changing drastically from what was normal for them, in order to be more together and share life with others, no matter how different or alike they were before they encountered the Good News of Jesus Christ.

We have always used words like, “Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors,” and “Everyone is Welcome,” and, “God so loved the world ...”. This congregation has made space for a weird pastor and family, as well as so many that have been made to feel unwelcome in other places, so I should not be surprised that we as a community have embraced the joy of TOGETHER again in this big change. It very much feels like God moving in powerful ways.

May we ride this wave of joy with the energy and enthusiasm it deserves, because this is a witness to the counter-cultural Gospel in a divided world. May we join our voices in a variety of music, reading scripture, leading prayers, or whatever you may feel called to do. May we share our skills and passions through instrumental music, special music singing groups or individuals, drama opportunities, or new small groups before or after worship. Join the tech team to develop the visual or audio effects for our worship. May we join together in loud and joyful fellowship with either snacks or full meals after we worship together. May this (somewhat uncomfortable) change be yet another gift from God to Spearfish and beyond.

Pastor Paul



**Join us for our new
10:10am Sunday Worship**

**WITH FELLOWSHIP TIME TO FOLLOW
(Beginning Sunday, October 4th)**

EVENTS

Let's Get to Work - Together!

Help us care for the parsonage grounds - and stay for lunch!

You are warmly invited by the Board of Trustees to roll up your sleeves on **Saturday, October 3rd** **beginning at 8:00am** and **lend a hand at the parsonage grounds.** In order to correct drainage issues around the house, the crew will be removing landscape rock, adding fill, and putting the rock back. This will need to be done carefully by hand, so that the grass and irrigation system are not damaged in the process. It will take some time to complete the project. **Please consider carving some time out of your schedule that day.** It would be much appreciated and we look forward to having you join us! Lunch will be provided and we anticipate working until around 3pm. Please call or text Bill Keck, 605.390.2721 if you are able to join the team and help out!

Taize Service



Join us for a prayerful and quiet service, including meditative singing and moments of silence for your own reflection on **Thursday, October 8th at 7:00pm** **in the Sanctuary.** Join us and center your spirit, heart, and mind.

United Women in Faith



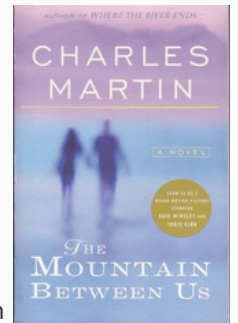
United Women in Faith

United Women in Faith will host a special speaker, Rev. Cindy Coates, on **Saturday, October 10th at 10:00 am** **in the Library.** She will talk about the

non-profit organization for which she is the executive officer, "Ground Works Connect," which designs innovative programs to bring education and agriculture together for a positive impact on the lives of students. She and Children First have been discussing bringing her program of "teaching gardens" to the preschool. We'll get an update on that, and learn more about this organization's ministry. ALL ARE WELCOME! Refreshments will be served.

Dinah's Book Club

The group is reading "**The Mountain Between Us**" by **Charles Martin**, about two strangers stranded in the freezing wilderness after a plane crash, who fight to survive while forming a life-altering emotional bond. Pick up your copy of the book from the office and join them on **Monday, October 12th 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. This month it will be **Sunday, October 18th at 5:00pm**. Dinner will be Chicken Soup with Chocoyotes. Please join us! Contact Kevin Nakajima, 605.210.3984, for more information.



Be A Hero - Donate Blood

Please mark your calendars for **Monday, October 19th, 10:30am - 5:30pm** for the Vitalant Blood Drive. You are encouraged to sign up by visiting **donors.vitalant.org** and entering the code: **Spearfish**, or call Bill Keck. Thank you for helping us care for our community in a meaningful way.
- Bill Keck, 605.390.2721

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. Dress up and join us! Tickets are \$50. You can purchase tickets online at artemishouse.org/tea or by calling 605.642.7525.

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 tablescape for the event.

All Saints Day Weekend of Worship

Our All Saints Worship weekend will take place on **Saturday, October 31 and Sunday, November 1**. You are invited to bring a picture to worship of someone special that you would like to remember, to be displayed up front during the service. Please be sure to collect your picture after worship.

Trunk or Treat at Spearfish UMC



Join us **Saturday, October 31, from 3:00-5:00 p.m.** in the West Entrance Parking Lot for a fun-filled Trunk or Treat at Spearfish UMC! Families and community members are invited to enjoy treats, costumes, and games. Interested in decorating a trunk and handing out candy?

Contact Brianna Billinton brianna.billington@gmail.com or 410-937-2206, to sign up! While you're there, support our Youth Group fundraiser by buying hot dogs, hot chocolate, apple cider, and tasty baked goods. **We hope to see you there for an afternoon of fall fun and community spirit!**

Latest News

Good News Announcement from Staff Parish Relations Committee

The Sunday School program is up and running! We have 2 parents who stepped up to stand in the gap as the Children's Ministry Director position has not been filled.

Beginning October 4, 2026, Sunday School now happens during our one service at 10:10 a.m., following the children's moment. Children begin the service with their parents and then go to the Sunday School areas.

To follow best practices for the safety of our children and volunteers, we are seeking volunteers to be the 2nd adult in the classrooms. We have 2 classrooms and a need for 1-2 volunteers every Sunday. Expectations include: enjoying the children and sitting on a chair. The role of the 2nd adult is to make sure we have appropriate supervision, to be present in case of emergency, and to offer a second account if the need arises.

We are asking all volunteers to:

1. Get a background check.
2. Provide a reference.
3. Be an active member/attendee of Spearfish UMC for a minimum of 6 months.
4. Attend a Safer Sanctuary training session at the church, being offered at the following times:

- **Saturday, October 3rd @ 9:30am - 10:30am**
- **Tuesday, October 6th @ 5:30pm - 6:30pm**
- **Wednesday, October 7th @ 9:30am - 10:30am**

Please consider lending your support to this significant effort by Brianna Billington and Brenda Lint on behalf of our church and our congregation's children. These two lead teachers will provide all the instruction and crafts. They simply need one or two of us to support them each week. If we spread the responsibility and the joy, everyone gains. Sign-up sheets are posted in the Fellowship Hall at the entry table. Join in!

- Staff Parish Relations Committee

United Methodist Men Update

United Methodist Men (UMM) met on September 19th with eight people for French toast, sausage, eggs, hash browns, juice and coffee. **October meetings will be the 3rd and 17th at 8:00 am** in the Fellowship area of the church. We hope you can join us for food and fellowship.

God Bless,

Kelvin Lower, UMM President

A Heartfelt Donation from the Quilters Group

The Spearfish United Methodist Church Quilters group recently donated a beautiful Dignity quilt to Edgewood Vista Healthcare in Spearfish. Edgewood Vista had this to say about the quilt:

"When one of our dear residents reaches the end of their earthly journey, this quilt will gently cover them as they leave our home for the final time; a beautiful gesture of love, dignity, and honor for a life that has meant so much. To the talented hands and caring hearts that created it: **Thank you.** What a beautiful way to honor our residents as they go to live with the angels."

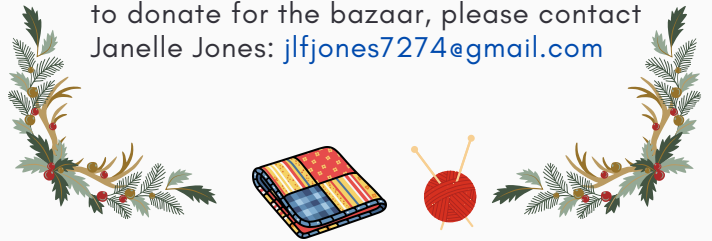
Pictured here are Pastor Paul Lint and Edgewood Vista Director, Erica Hight, receiving the quilt.



Quilters Group Update

The Quilters Group will be hosting their **Quilt & Craft Bazaar on Saturday, November 21st, from 9:00am - 3:00pm in the Fellowship Hall of the church.** There will be home and holiday decor, kitchen crafts, couch cuddler quilts, crocheted baskets, and new quilt patterns & supplies. Come join us and get your holiday shopping done early!

If you have a craft item that you would like to donate for the bazaar, please contact Janelle Jones: jlfjones7274@gmail.com



Teaming Up for Success at the Church Rummage Sale

A huge thank you to our volunteers, our bakers, our donors, and our shoppers! The sale raised over \$4,000, which is a ***new record***! We're so grateful to everyone that participated - we could not have done it without you. Half of the proceeds will go towards the Spearfish UMC General Fund and the other half will be given to Children First, which has been owned and operated by the church since 2008.

Children First donated many items for the Rummage Sale and were also the recipients of alphabet books and activity squares for the children. Pictured above is the Quilters Group along with Nicole Martz, Children First Director, as she receives the items for Children First.



Children's Corner

News from our Friends at the Spearfish Cooperative Preschool

We have had an AMAZING start to our Preschool year! We have a lot of new families, so we are enjoying getting to know all of them. And we are so appreciative of the David family for supplying new sand for the sandbox in the playground for Preschool and the Church children to use.

We will be having our Annual World's Famous Chocolate Bar fundraiser **starting October 1st**. The chocolate bars come in a variety of flavors and are \$2 each, which is sooo reasonable for the Best Chocolate ever! Let us know if you are interested in purchasing some.

Thank you again for supporting our Preschool!

-Spearfish Cooperative Preschool



Updates from our Friends at Children First

Thank you so much for your donations toward Children First (CF) scholarships as a part of September's mission of the month. This special fund disperses about \$4,000 to \$7,000 annually. There are two major investments, one including the Methodist Foundation, that these funds are put into. Only the interest is available to spend and some years that is quite limited.

Children First maintains the guidelines for meeting the needs of families requesting scholarships. Parents always pay a portion of the monthly tuition and they must apply. On the application, some considerations include income, monthly bills, and financial hardships. A family with two children enrolled at CF may spend over \$1,500 per month for tuition depending on the amount of care necessary. As director, Nicole recently shared an example situation where a one-year-old baby had to undergo major surgery at the Children's Hospital in Denver. Because of your help, their family was able to receive two months' worth of tuition so that they may focus on their baby's healing. What a beautiful gift!

We are so grateful that the Quilt and Craft group that meets each Thursday at the Spearfish UMC donated \$500 for the Scholarship fund. They will be hosting their annual craft sale to be held the weekend before Thanksgiving! We are also so grateful that the yoga participants donated about \$1,000 to the scholarship fund.

Thank you all very much for your continued love and generosity!

-Nicole Martz, Children First Director

-Bobbi Looney, Children First Board Chair

Spearfish Community Food Pantry Needs for October

- Saltine Crackers
- Beef Stew or Chili
- Chunky Soups
- Small jars of jelly
- Canned Pasta Sauce
- Canned Peaches or Mandarin Oranges



October Mission of the Month:



Shoebox Christmas



This month, our **Mission Team is partnering with the Youth to prepare Shoebox Christmas gifts** for children across North and South Dakota's reservations and schools. It may seem early for Christmas shopping, but when thousands of boxes are delivered, the process takes some time!

Here's how you can help:

- **Donate an empty shoebox** – regular, decorative, or clear shoebox-sized boxes can be placed on the table in the Fellowship Hall.
- **Fill a shoebox** with new (not used) age-appropriate toys, books, or winter hats, gloves, or mittens.
- **Donate funds** to help the youth purchase additional items to fill boxes.

Please include only brand new items. Please do not include clothing, with the exception of winter hats, gloves, or mittens. **We plan to provide boxes for each of these age groups:** infant; toddler; 3 – 5 yrs; 6 – 8 yrs; 9 – 12 yrs; and 13+ yrs.

The youth will wrap the boxes, label them by age group and gender, and get them ready for distribution. We are excited to bring Christmas joy to children in our Dakotas area!

For monetary donations, **please note "Shoebox Christmas" in the memo line of your check.** The team will use the funds at their discretion to purchase what is needed for the boxes. Please contact Brenda Lint at mamabren3@gmail.com for more information.

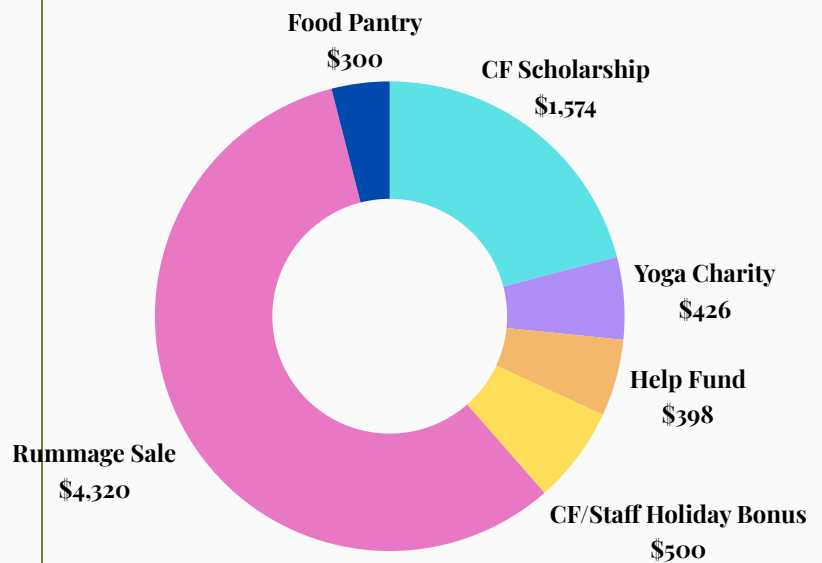


~ Front Page Feature ~

Our September cross was submitted by Sandy Garnett, from her travels in NORWAY. Each month, when possible, 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!

Gifts and Offerings

Special Gifts for Sep 1 – Sep 28, 2026



- Solar Oven: \$125
- Benevolence Fund: \$20
- UMCOR: \$100
- Honduras VIM: \$200
- CF Emergency: \$200
- Worship Attend.(4 wk): 537, avg: 134
- Online Attend.(4 wk): 656, avg: 164



E-banking Options



venmo

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