EAGLES NEWS

Mrs. Tia Esser
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Mr. James Stubkjaer

MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR

Dr. Kristen Newell
ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL
ELEMENTARY STEM DIRECTOR

Mrs. Brenda Bernard
PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR



Apr 4, 2025

STRENGTHENING OUR SFLS FAMILY: SHARE THE GIFT OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION WITH FAMILY & FRIENDS & RECEIVE TUITION CREDIT!

Dear Sioux Falls Lutheran School Family,

Last week, I shared an update on enrollment and asked for your help in spreading the word about our school. Since then, we've continued to see interest and movement, and as I mentioned, the vast majority of our new enrollments come from you—our SFLS families—who share your positive experiences with family, friends, neighbors, and colleagues. Your enthusiasm and advocacy make an incredible impact, and we are deeply grateful. Keep reading, because we have a special way to encourage new families to enroll; and to thank you for your ongoing support!

Navigating Uncertain Times

We recognize that economic uncertainty is leading some families to delay school decisions, particularly in our 4- and 5-year-old preschool programs. Yet, we also know that in times of uncertainty, families long for stability—a place where their children can grow, learn, and be nurtured in faith. At the

QUICK LINKS

Career Corner

Chapel

Counseling Services

PTF

RaiseRight (aka SCRIP)

Eagle Care

Elementary

Middle School

High School

Athletics

Drama

Music

Association Churches

Upcoming Events



same time, as families navigate financial challenges, they are seeking both affordability and excellence in education.

At Sioux Falls Lutheran School, we are committed to providing both. Through needs-based tuition assistance, RaiseRight, and SD Partners in Education, we strive to make tuition accessible while maintaining the highest standards of Christ-centered education. We want to ensure that every family seeking a strong, faith-filled educational environment can find a place within our community.

Why Does Enrollment Matter?

SFLS is more than just a school—it's a beacon of faith and learning where children are deeply known, loved, and nurtured. A strong preschool program and steady enrollment across all grade levels strengthen our entire school community, allowing us to continue offering robust academic programs, multi-age learning experiences, and an affordable Christian education for all families. Most importantly, it enables us to carry out our mission: preparing students to be **World Ready, Faith Secure.**

How You Can Help

If you know a family seeking a strong educational start for their 4-year-old or 5-year-old—or if you know of students in other grades* looking for a Christ-centered school home—please share your SFLS story with them. Time and again, we hear that personal recommendations make all the difference. Your voice and firsthand experiences are the most powerful tools in helping others discover the SFLS difference.



We know these are challenging times, but we trust in God's provision. As Philippians 4:19 reminds us, "And my God will supply every need of yours according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus." With faith in His plan and the strength of our SFLS community, we are confident that He will continue to bless our school and the families we serve.

A Special Thank You—\$500 Tuition Credit for Referrals

To express our gratitude, we are offering a **\$500 tuition credit** for both the referring and newly enrolled families. When a new full-time preschool or K-12 student enrolls for the 2025-26 school year through your direct referral, meets all admissions requirements, and remains enrolled for the entire school year, both families will receive a **\$500 tuition credit on April 15, 2026.**

Thank you for your prayers, encouragement, and unwavering support. We couldn't do this without you. Together, we will continue building a thriving school where children experience the love of Christ and the joy of learning every day.

With Gratefulness,

Mrs. Tia Esser, Executive Director Romans 12:2

*We currently have space in all classrooms except the following: Infants, 1's, 2's, 3's, Kindergarten & 2nd Grade

BOOK SALE

Sioux Falls Lutheran School Annual Used Book Sale August 13-16

Money raised goes to Tuition Assistance Fund

- Donation boxes will start at SFLS on May 12
- Donation boxes will start at Memorial Church on May 27
- Donation trailer for Kingswood Rummage leftovers will be at Resurrection Church on May 3
- Donations accepted include (but not limited to): Adult books, Fiction and Nonfiction, Children's
 Books, Board Books, Cook Books, Do It Yourself Books, Vintage Books, Comic Books, Music
 Books, Sheet Music, Coloring Books, Text Books, Religious Books, Bibles, Science Fiction,
 Westerns, How-To Books, History Books, Poetry Books, Informational Books, puzzles, board games,
 records, CDs, DVDs and so much more.



LOST & FOUND TABLE

Stop by the table outside the school office to claim your items! And also, please have your student check the locker room. There will be a cleanout happening and then everything that is left will be donated to St. Vincent de Paul (northeast corner of 41st St. & Tea-Ellis road) after school on Wednesday, April 16th.





BASKET BINGO NEXT FRIDAY, April 11!



Bring your friends and family - all ages welcome - for a night of fun and laughter. Winners will receive unique basket prizes!

BLOOD MOBILE coming April 10:

Donors will receive a \$10 Gift Card from Dairy Queen!

Please click this link or use the QR code to sign up for a time to donate. Walk-ins are welcome too.



NEEDS-BASED VARIABLE TUITION APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN

The K-12 needs-based variable tuition application window for the 2025-26 school year is now open through TADS. Thanks to our expanding list of generous donors who continue to graciously invest in our mission through donations to our needs-based variable tuition fund, we are preparing to award up to \$400,000 in needs-based variable tuition to qualifying families during the 2025-26 school year.

<u>Families that have received variable tuition funds in years past must reapply annually.</u> Applications for the 2025-26 school year are due by May 15, 2025.

To apply, please log into or create a TADS account for your family at <u>www.mytads.com</u> by clicking on "Financial Aid Assessment." TADS will provide a complete list of required documentation before you begin your application, but please know that items like your previous year's tax return are required.

If your family has received funds through the <u>South Dakota Partners in Education (SDPE) tax-credit</u> <u>scholarship program</u> for the past three years, you must reapply for those funds this year as well by sending your application to both SFLS and SDPE.

If you have any technical questions while submitting your variable tuition application, please feel free to contact TDS support directly at 800-477-8237 or support@tads.com (M-F 7 AM - 8 PM CST).

VOLLEYBALL FUNDRAISER



Join us for a community care event to support

Sioux Falls Lutheran Volleyball

April 22nd | 4PM - 8PM Chick-fil-A Empire Place

Mobile Order Code: SFLVB25



25%
of all mobile orders with code, and marked catering orders in-person dine-in, carry-out, or drive-thru orders will go to the organization!

Must mention Community Care Night when placing order.

2024 TAX INFORMATION

Families enrolled at SFLS who used the TADS billing system in 2024 will click **HERE** for instructions on accessing your tax information. For steps through the FACTS Management system, click **HERE**. Keep in mind, if you have been billed through TADS and FACTS in 2024, you will need to access both systems. Please consult your tax advisor for questions regarding tax credits and deductions.

CAREER CORNER

Would you or someone you know make a great addition to our team? We're seeking:

Preschool:

• **Substitute assistants:** Are you interested in being on our call list to assist in one of our classrooms? This could be in infants, toddlers and 3-year-olds to 5-year-olds. With subbing, you have complete flexibility to choose specific days and say yes or no when getting a call. Come have fun with us!

Middle School:

• English Language Arts & Homeroom Teacher: Do you love literature, grammar, and guiding young minds through the power of words? Are you excited about building relationships, fostering faith, and creating a learning environment where students can grow academically and spiritually? Sioux Falls Lutheran School is looking for a passionate Middle School ELA Teacher & Homeroom Leader to join our team commencing with the 2025-26 school year!

Eagle Care:

- Part-time afternoon assistants: Adults and/or high school age students:
 - o Flexible schedule: between 3:15 6:00 PM, Monday through Friday

Office:

• Full-Time Administrative Assistant: The ideal candidate will be a loving, Christian role model who, under the direction of the Preschool & Elementary Principals, or their designees, performs a variety of clerical and support work involving both specific routines and broadly defined policies and procedures. The individual will greet and interact with the public with friendly, outgoing service; work cooperatively with staff, students, and parents; and perform other related duties as assigned.

Please prayerfully consider joining our team and/or sharing these opportunities with someone you believe would be a good fit! Contact Debbie Pankow at dpankow@sflutheranschool.com for more information.

View jobs and application instructions here: www.siouxfallslutheran.com/careers.

CHAPEL

Chapel times for Wednesday, April 9th, led by Pastor Asmus from Memorial Lutheran Church:

6-12 chapel: 8:10 AMK-5 chapel: 8:50 AM

This year's theme is ONE - The Gospel Story is Our Story. This week's topic: Armor of God; Breastplate of Righteousness.

Preschool chapel will also be held on Wednesday, April 9th, led by DCE Liz Peters from Memorial Lutheran Church, in the Early Childhood wing beginning at 8:40 and 9:00 AM. This week's theme: *Palm Sunday*.

Campus Chaplain the week of April 7th, is Pastor Asmus from Memorial Lutheran Church.

Chapel Offerings for 2nd semester will go to support Lutheran Family Service (LFS). So far we have collected **\$867.44**

LFS offers the following services:



Pregnancy Help



Adoption Services



Marriage Counseling

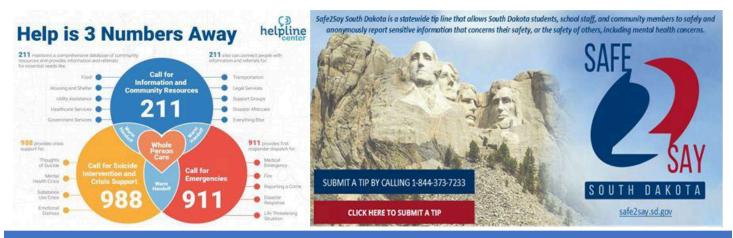


Mental Health Counseling



Outreach

COUNSELING SERVICES



PTF (PARENT-TEACHER-FELLOWSHIP)

CONNECT WITH THE PTF ON FACEBOOK



RAISERIGHT (AKA SCRIP)

Order Dates by 10 AM	Pick-Up Dates after 11 AM	
Monday, April 7	Thursday, April 10	
No RaiseRight Orders Week of April 14	No RaiseRight Orders Week of April 14	
Tuesday, April 22	Friday, April 25	

EAGLE CARE

Please plan ahead. Our last day of school is Tuesday, May 20, 2025, preschool will be dismissed at 11 and K-12 at 11:30 AM. We will only have morning Eagle Care that day. Summer Eagle Care will begin on Tuesday, May 27, 2025.

ELEMENTARY

Next week is Severe Weather Awareness week in South Dakota. We will use this week to do one of our required tornado drills. We will do this on the same day as a fire drill to help minimize classroom disruption. Our students do a great job training in a calm manner. Practicing these drills helps us to be prepared to respond to unknown situations with peace and calm.

MIDDLE SCHOOL

SMARTWATCH REMINDER

Students are not allowed to wear **smartwatches** during the school day. This is a distraction that we can minimize to provide a productive learning environment. If you need to message your student, please go through the office (605) 335-1923 or email your student's homeroom teacher.

HIGH SCHOOL

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION:





OUR CUP RUNNETH OVER CAFE HOURS:

- Tuesdays and Thursdays after school until 4:00 PM
- Wednesdays and Fridays before school from 7:00 7:50
- Check out our instagram for new items!

PROM '25: ENCHANTED ENDOR Saturday, April 5

• 6 PM: Grand March

• 6:30: Dinner & Murder Mystery

• 9:30: Dance

11:30: Games & Movies1:30: Clean up & go home

ATHLETICS

GOLF

Thursday, April 17: Varsity Golf @ Yankton Tuesday, April 22: Varsity Golf @ Chester Monday, April 28: JV Golf @ Garretson

TRACK & FIELD

Monday, April 14: MS Track @ Centerville Tuesday, April 15: HS Track @ Centerville Thursday, April 24: HS Track @ Freeman Monday, April 28: MS Track @ Chester

ACTIVITIES RECOGNITION NIGHT: Tuesday, April 29

FAITH & HOOPS SHOWDOWN

Join students, family, and friends TONIGHT as they cheer for their favorite team when our high school basketball teams face their pastors, church workers, teachers, and coaches!

TODAY: Friday, April 4Doors open at 6:30 PM

Admission \$: Free-Will Donations

 Schedule: Women's Game @ 7 PM - Intermission - Men's Game

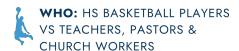
 Women's & Men's games will have 5-minute quarters and a 10-minute half-time

Limited concessions will be available

All proceeds will go towards purchasing a shooting machine for the high school basketball programs.











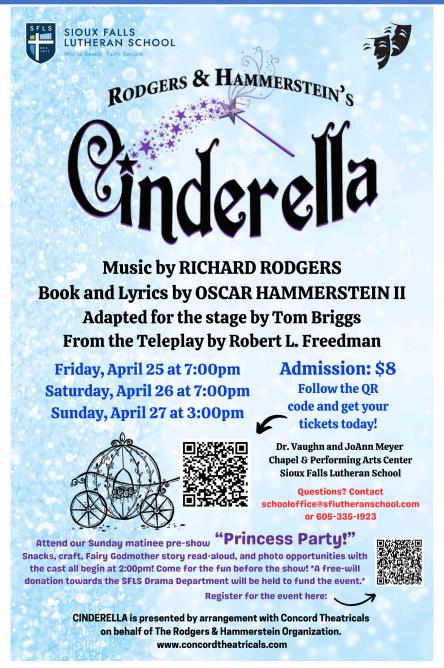


2025 SFLS Summer Camps

Activity	Date	Grades	Times	Location	Cost
Volleyball	June 2-5	8-12	1:00-3:00 p.m.	SFLS Gym	\$60 (includes t-shirt)
		5-7	3:00-4:30 p.m.	SFLS Gym	\$60 (includes t-shirt)
		2-4	4:30-5:30p.m.	SFLS Gym	\$40 (includes t-shirt)
Drama	June 2-6	5-12	9-11 a.m.; Performance Friday at 7 p.m.	SFLS CPAC	\$100 (includes t-shirt)
	June 16-19	9-12	Sign up with Mr. Strande	Hamlin HS, Bryant, SD	\$50
	June 27	9-12	DRSM/Garretson HS Team Camp	Garretson	Free
	July 8-10	3-6	8-9:30 a.m.	Eagle Field	\$60 (includes t-shirt)
	July 8-10	7-12	6:30-8:30 p.m.	Eagle Field	\$60 (includes t-shirt)
Strength & Agility June	June2- July 31	7-12	7 - 8:20		
	(T/W/Th.)	7-12	8:40 - 10:00	SFLS Fitness Room	\$175 (includes t-shirt)
Boys & Girls Basketball Ju	June 9-11	K-2	9-10:30 a.m.	SFLS Gym	\$60
		3-5	10:45 a.m12:15 p.m.	SFLS Gym	\$60
		6-8	1:15-2:45pm	SFLS Gym	\$60
Marching Band	July 28- Aug. 1	6-8	For SFLS band students. More information	SFLS School	TBD
	Aug.4-8	9-12	to come from Mrs. Birnstiehl at a later date.	SFLS School	TBD
Cheer	June 11-13	4-6	9-11 a.m.	SFLS Gym	\$60 (includes t-shirt)
	June 27	7-12	9 a.m 3 p.m.	SFLS Gym	\$60 (includes t-shirt)
Dance	July 14-17	5-12	9-11:30 a.m.	SFLS Gym	\$60 (includes t-shirt)

Sign up for these summer camps by April 23: <u>Volleyball</u>; <u>Drama</u>; <u>Football</u>; <u>Strength & Agility</u>; <u>Basketball</u>; <u>Cheer</u>; <u>Dance</u>. After April 23, there is no guarantee you will receive a t-shirt. Marching Band registration will come directly from Mrs. Birnstiehl when competition schedules are set.

DRAMA



Tickets can be reserved and paid for ahead of time at this link.

Music

APRIL Middle School Ensemble Calendar

Click or scan to take a look at the SFLS Strings Site!





Calling All Kindergarten Parents!

We want YOU to join the Kindergarten spring program on May 1! If you play an instrument and are interested in accompanying your child's violin performance for the spring program, please reach out to Ms. Temple!

Elementary and Middle School Concerts:

May 1 - Kindergarten and 3rd Spring Programs

Kindergarten - 12:30 PM

3rd Grade - 2:00 PM

May 12 - 4th-8th Spring Concerts

4th/5th - 6:00 PM

6th-8th - 7:15 PM

High School Music Upcoming Events:

- Tuesday, April 8: HS Spring Concert 6:30 PM (all HS music students)
- Monday, May 5: Dallas Brass will be here at SFLS to give a concert in the evening and to work with our music students
- Friday, May 16: SFLS Graduation Ceremony HS music students will perform

DALLAS BRASS AT SFLS

On Monday, May 5th, our band, choir, and orchestra students will get the once-in-a-lifetime chance to perform with this world-renowned ensemble — right here in the SFLS Gymnasium!

Thanks to generous donors, tickets are discounted and on sale now!

In Concert at SFLS
Monday, May 5
7:00pm

Saye the date for an unforgettable performance

Save the date for an unforgettable performance by Dallas Brass and SFLS students.

Don't miss this incredible night

of music that celebrates our students using their God-given gifts.

Seating is tiered with floor and bleacher options (stadium chairs welcome!).

Association Churches

Faith - Rev. Corey Aker and Rev. Jason Rensner

Lord of Life - Rev. Billy Newell

Memorial - Rev. Aaron Asmus, Rev. Doug Slavens, DCE Hailey Jo Miller and DCE Liz Peters



Our Redeemer - Rev. Brett Simek

Resurrection - Rev. Chris Ascher

Click HERE for all church's worship times

HIGH SCHOOL SUPPORTING MEMBER

ZION - Rev. Greg Lehr

UPCOMING EVENTS

Please visit your FACTS family portal calendar or click this <u>link</u> to our website for upcoming events.

