



Sioux Falls Lutheran School

# EAGLES NEWS



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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

[Mr. James Stubkjaer](#)  
MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL  
ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR

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ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL  
ELEMENTARY STEM DIRECTOR

[Mrs. Brenda Bernard](#)  
PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR

Oct. 17, 2025

## Serving Together: Honoring Our Pastors and Church Workers

*"How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!" ~ Romans 10:15*

This week, we paused to give thanks for the pastors and church workers who faithfully serve alongside us at Sioux Falls Lutheran School. Their ministry reminds



our students—and all of us—that we are united in one body and one mission, called to serve Christ and the world together.

Day after day, these faithful servants invest their hearts and gifts in the life of our school—as high school theology teachers, school chaplains, chapel leaders, coaches, a Development Ambassador, and ministry partners. Their consistent and meaningful presence was recognized as a **gold standard** by our accreditation team—a

reflection of the deep spiritual fabric that runs through every corner at SFLS.

While they may not always be the ones families speak with daily, their steady presence shapes every aspect of our students' lives—teaching, mentoring, cheering, praying, and walking alongside them as they grow in faith and character. Through their daily witness, our students learn what it means to follow Jesus and live as His disciples in an increasingly complex world.

What makes this partnership even more extraordinary is each of them holds a primary call to one of our local LCMS congregations. This shared ministry strengthens the bond between church and school—a partnership rooted in the Gospel and lived out through love, presence, and service. Together, we're cultivating *"sticky faith"*—the kind of enduring faith that grows when children and youth are surrounded by **five or more significant Christian adults** who guide, encourage, and pray for them.

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We thank God for **Liz Peters, Hailey Jo Miller, Pastor Aker, Pastor Ascher, Pastor Lehr, Pastor Newell, Pastor Rensner, Pastor Simek, Pastor Slavens, Pastor Sailer, Pastor Nix, Pastor Shane, Pastor Sutcliffe, Pastor Chera, Pastor Winckler, Jacob Shoup, and Chez Shoup.** Each plays a unique and indelible role in helping our children and teens grow in wisdom, service, and faith.

On Monday, we had the joy of honoring them with a special lunch—complete with Chick-fil-A boxed meals, handmade cards from our students, encouraging words, and prayers of gratitude. It was a heartfelt expression of the deep love and appreciation our school community holds for their daily witness and partnership in ministry.

**Together, they reflect and help fulfill the heart of our mission—to develop capable Christian servant-leaders who are *World Ready and Faith Secure*.**

Please join us in thanking God for these faithful servants—not just this week, but whenever the opportunity arises. Take a moment to express your appreciation, share a word of encouragement, or lift them up in prayer.



May the Lord continue to bless their ministry among us and guide their steps as they bring the Gospel to our students each day—***how beautiful are the feet of those who bring such good news!***

With Gratefulness,  
Tia Esser, Executive Director  
Romans 12:2

## ROBOTICS

**NEW** Interested in supporting the SFLS Robotics Teams? Please consider ordering a jersey. We are anticipating orders being completed mid-November. Thank you for your support.

<https://mrghauff.chipply.com/sflrobotics>

## ADMISSIONS

**Admissions Applications for 2026-27 School Year Now Open:** If you have a child who is *not currently enrolled* at SFLS or *is in this year's wait pool*, please submit a new application by early January. Several classes are already at or near capacity, so applying early is strongly encouraged. Applications will be processed starting in late January, 2026. Apply here: <https://bit.ly/2026-27-admissions-apps>.

Please **do not** submit a new application for children who are currently enrolled at SFLS; re-enrollment information for current students will be emailed in January.

## LOST N' FOUND

Missing a sweatshirt? Stop by our Lost and Found tables—located outside the office and in the high school wing. Cooler days are here, and your cozy gear might be waiting for you!

## FINANCE AND BUSINESS

A special THANK YOU to Brian Hall for providing our sports and events photos this year! Please see the Photo Galleries section below for instructions on downloading sports and activities photos. **For Free!**

For all billing and finance related matters, please contact Mrs. Johnson at [finance@sflutherschool.com](mailto:finance@sflutherschool.com)

## FALL FESTIVAL



### **Fall Festival Volunteers Needed – We Can't Do It Without You!**

Our biggest family event of the year is coming up fast, and we still need helping hands to make it happen! From games and crafts to setup and cleanup, there's a spot for everyone — just 30 minutes of your time makes a huge difference. Let's make this year's Fall Festival unforgettable for our students and families!

 Click [HERE](#) to sign up and join the fun!

Happy Fall! We will be hosting a Treat Trail event at the Fall Festival on October 28. If you would like to decorate a table and pass out treats or trinkets, please let Miss Heather Miller know ([hmillers@sflutherschool.com](mailto:hmillers@sflutherschool.com)). This event runs from 5:30-7:00 PM. Set up will begin at 4:30 PM. We ask that each

table please bring a bag of candy or trinkets to start with. Once you run out, we will resupply you with treats. All table themes must be fun and appropriate for young children.

We are also looking for donations of candy, fruit snacks, or fall-themed trinkets. If you would like to donate something, please bring it to the office or to Miss Miller's room in the early childhood wing.

We hope you will join us as we celebrate the fabulous fall season and the bountiful harvest of blessings that God gives to us.



Explore current openings and discover how your gifts can make a difference on our team:  
[siouxfallslutheran.com/careers](https://siouxfallslutheran.com/careers).

## CHAPEL

**Chaplain** for the week of October 20 is Pastor Simek from Our Redeemer Lutheran Church.

**Chapel** on Wednesday, October 22, is led by Pastor Simek from Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, in the Meyer Chapel & Performing Arts Center. This year's theme is Walk By Faith. This week's topic: Faith in the Everyday Life: Faith that Endures Trials.

- 6-12 chapel at 8:05 AM
- K-5 chapel at 8:50 AM

**Preschool chapel** will be held on Thursday, October 23, led by DCE Liz Peters from Memorial Lutheran Church, in the Early Childhood wing, beginning at 8:40 AM and 9:00 AM. The theme is "Joseph:Forgives".

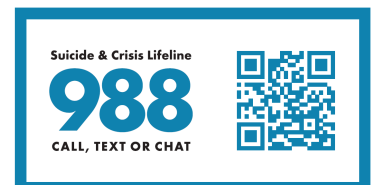
**Chapel Offerings!** First quarter's Chapel offerings are going to Lunch Is Served, Inc., in Sioux Falls, SD. Chapel offering so far has totaled \$769.89. To God be the glory, great things HE has done!



**Mark your calendars:** 4th-12th Grade Veteran's Day Chapel, Tuesday, November 11 at 8:50 AM. Invite Veteran family and friends to Chapel.

## COUNSELING SERVICES

Barb DeVos, Contracted School Counselor, is available to support your child's well-being. Barb is at Sioux Falls Lutheran School Tuesday through Friday. [bdevos@carrollinstitute.org](mailto:bdevos@carrollinstitute.org) or [bdevos@sflutheranschool.com](mailto:bdevos@sflutheranschool.com)



## Help is 3 Numbers Away

**211** maintains a comprehensive database of community resources and provides information and referrals for essential needs like:

- Food
- Housing and Shelter
- Utility Assistance
- Healthcare Services
- Government Services

**211** also can connect people with information and referrals for:

- Transportation
- Legal Services
- Support Groups
- Disaster Aftercare
- Everything Else

**988** provides crisis support for:

- Thoughts of Suicide
- Mental Health Crisis
- Substance Use Crisis
- Emotional Distress

**911** provides first responder dispatch for:

- Medical Emergency
- Fire
- Reporting a Crime
- Disaster Response
- Life-Threatening Situation

**Call for Information and Community Resources**  
**211**

**Call for Suicide Intervention and Crisis Support**  
**988**

**Call for Emergencies**  
**911**

**Whole Person Care**  
Warm Handoff

**Safe2Say South Dakota** is a statewide tip line that allows South Dakota students, school staff, and community members to safely and anonymously report sensitive information that concerns their safety, or the safety of others, including mental health concerns.

**SAFE 2 SAY SOUTH DAKOTA**

SUBMIT A TIP BY CALLING 1-844-373-7233

CLICK HERE TO SUBMIT A TIP

[safe2say.sd.gov](https://safe2say.sd.gov)

## PTF (PARENT-TEACHER-FELLOWSHIP)

### National Box Tops Week – Let’s Earn Big!

Sioux Falls Lutheran School is joining the biggest Box Tops event of the year! From **Oct 1–31**, earn bonus Box Tops with special offers on select products.

#### Highlights:

- **Double Box Tops** on all participating items (Oct 13–19)
- **Buy 4, Earn 20 Bonus Box Tops** (Oct 13–19)
- **Refer a Friend** and earn even more!

Let’s make this our best Box Tops month yet! Click [here](#) for additional information.

Details at [BTFE.com/NBTW](https://BTFE.com/NBTW)

## RAISERIGHT (AKA SCRIP)

Order Dates by 10 AM	Pick-Up Dates after 11 AM
Monday, October 20	Thursday, October 23
Monday, October 27	Thursday, October 30
Monday, November 3	Thursday, November 6
Monday, November 10	Thursday, November 13

## EAGLE CARE

**SAVE THE DATE!!!!!!** Eagle Care will **CLOSE** at **4:30 PM** on **Tuesday, October 28**, for the SFLS Fall Festival.

If you forget to check out your child, we will check them out at 5:00 PM.



## Kindergarten Preview Night—6:00 PM on Monday, November 17

During this special event designed specifically for soon-to-be kindergarteners and their parents, you'll receive the opportunity to meet our kindergarten teachers and elementary principal, visit with other incoming kindergarten families, receive answers to your questions, tour our school building, and discover the value of investing in your child's future at Sioux Falls Lutheran School.

**This event is designed for current SFLS preschoolers and prospective students preparing to enter kindergarten. [Sign up here!](#)**

### WANTED: OUI JARS

Parents, if you have any empty Oui yogurt jars that you would like to part with, we'd like to use them for an upcoming project and would love to take them off your hands! There will be a small box in the office that you can drop them off in or bring them to my room.

Thank you! Mrs. Lunstra (PreK 2's Teacher)



### A friendly reminder from the library!

Students are asked to return or renew their library books each week so others have a chance to enjoy them too. Thank you for helping us keep our shelves full and our stories shared!

### Lockdown Drill

We will practice our lockdown procedures next week. Dr. Newell will talk with each class before the drill. Teachers have also prepared students to know what to do in case of a lockdown. We train very calmly so that we can respond calmly. While it is sad that we live at a time where this is our reality, we are grateful for the many steps we can take to keep our students safe.

### Parent/Teacher Conferences

K-4th Grade Parent/Teacher Conferences will take place on Tuesday, October 21 and Thursday, October 23. Please take the time to [sign-up here](#), come, and visit with your child's teacher. Conferences are a wonderful way for us to connect as we partner together between the home and school to help your child learn and grow.

### Junior Eagles Girls Basketball!

We're excited to invite **3rd–5th grade girls** to be part of our **Junior Eagles Girls Basketball Program!** This is a fun opportunity for our younger Eagles to get involved with the **HS Girls Basketball Team**.

Junior Eagles will:

- Join the team on the court for warm-ups 🏀
- Have their names announced during starting lineups 🎤
- Receive an official **Junior Eagles Girls Basketball t-shirt!** 👕

We have **four home games** this season. Due to the limited number of games, please sign up for **one game only** at this time.

👉 If you're interested, [sign up here](#)

Come cheer, play, and be part of the Eagles spirit! 🦅💙

## MIDDLE SCHOOL

### A friendly reminder from the library! 📚

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## HIGH SCHOOL

### SAVE THE DATES:

- **JOSTENS** will visit with the seniors and sophomores on October 20 at 12 PM. Seniors will receive graduation information, and sophomores will receive information for class jewelry.
- **A USD representative** will visit our High School during WIN time on October 22.
- **NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY** induction ceremony: Monday, October 27 at 6:30 PM.

## ATHLETICS

**GAME TIME VOLUNTEERS:** Please use these links to volunteer at our home [Volleyball](#) games.

### FOOTBALL:

- Friday, October 17: vs St. Mary's at Dells Public, 7 PM
- Thursday, October 23: Round 1 Playoffs TBD

### VOLLEYBALL:

- Monday, October 20: HOME vs Lennox: C 5:00; JV 6:15/VTF **DIG PINK**



- Tuesday, October 21: HOME vs Canistota: MSB 3:30; MSA 4:15; C 5:00; JV 6:15/Varsity to follow
- Thursday, October 23: at Howard: JV 6:15/Varsity to follow

## CROSS COUNTRY:

- Saturday, October 25: State Meet in Huron TBD

**MIDDLE SCHOOL BASKETBALL:** First Practice, Monday, October 27 3:30 PM

**WINTER SPORTS INFORMATION MEETING:** Monday, October 27, 7:30 PM

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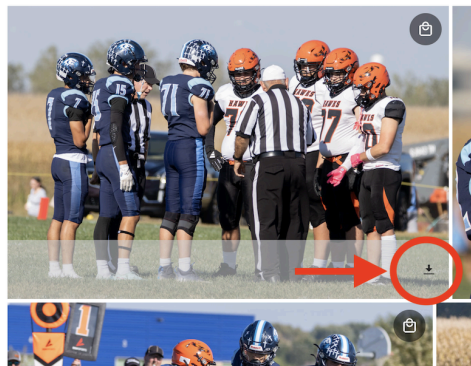
Come cheer, play, and be part of the Eagles spirit! 🦅💙

## PHOTO GALLERIES

**NEW** We are pleased to share that we've partnered with Brian Hall, an SFLS parent and school supporter, to photograph a variety of special events and extracurricular activities throughout the year. Photo galleries of the events he captures will be included below. **Parents are invited to download photos from these galleries at no charge** (please disregard the "buy photos" button on the gallery site). Simply click the download icon at the top of the album to download all the images. Or hover over an image and click on the download icon at the bottom right corner of the image to download the individual photos.

### BRIAN HALL MEDIA

PHOTOGRAPHY | VIDEOGRAPHY | REAL ESTATE MEDIA | ABOUT US | CONTACT US



- [September 26 Football Game, Dance Team & MS Marching Band](#)
- [September 30 Volleyball Game \(Senior Night\)](#)
- [October 3 Football Game, Dance Team & Cheer Leaders](#)

## Music

### [Click or scan to take a look at the SFLS Strings Site!](#)



The SD All-state Chorus members, including the quartet and alternates, attended an All-state Prep day at SDSU on Thursday, Oct 9 in Brookings. The SFLS High School singers joined other students from all over the eastern side of the state for a day of learning music and singing together in the incredible concert hall. Lunch was at the legendary Nick's Burgers in downtown Brookings. Students: Back row: Evelyn Thorn, Kiersten Bjordahl, Josiah Baumann, Caius Bertelsen, Jude Elkins. Front row: Addison Vis, Taylor Miller, and Kaitlyn Wald.



**CONGRATULATIONS** to the High School Marching Eagles! What a fun way to finish our season with a first place trophy in Class A at the March to the Meridian competition in Yankton this last Saturday! And Congrats to the Color Guard ladies! They tied with the Tea Flag Corp as the Best Guard over ALL the entries in the entire parade.

Mrs. Birnstiehl and Mrs. Miller would like to thank all of the students for their dedication to this marching program and for their dedication to excellence. They always brought the energy that was needed, and we prayed that our message from Hebrews 12:1 would be spread through our music and our routine. God heard our prayers, and I know you were a blessing to many. Continue to "run the race" Eagles! JESUS is the PRIZE!!

A special thank you to the parents for all your support and help this marching season, too. We could not have accomplished what we did without you!



## OCTOBER Middle School Ensemble Calendar

### ASSOCIATION CHURCHES



**Memorial** - Rev. Doug Slavens, DCE Hailey Jo Miller and DCE Liz Peters  
Join us October 25, 2025 from 9AM-2PM for the LWML Craft & Vendor Fair

**Faith** - Rev. Corey Aker and Rev. Jason Rensner

**Lord of Life** - Rev. Billy Newell  
Please join us for an LWML [Christian Life Workshop](#) on Saturday, October 18.  
Registration begins at 9AM.

**Our Redeemer** - Rev. Brett Simek

**\*\*Click this [link](#) for all church worship times!\*\***

**Resurrection** - Rev. Chris Ascher

Please join us for our [Annual Soup & Pie Supper](#) on November 2, 4:30-6:30 PM.

### SUPPORTING MEMBER

**ZION** - Rev. Greg Lehr

### BIBLE STUDY

Iron Eagles Men's Group @ SFLS

Dates: Oct 22, 29, Nov 5, 12

Time: 8 PM

Topic: Prayer, works cited: The Prayer Course (Pete Greig, 2023) – 8 wks, free videos (20–25 min) + worksheets. Covers unanswered prayer, listening to God, spiritual warfare, Lord's Prayer.  
Easy flow: video → discussion → pray. <https://prayercourse.org/sessions/>

## BOOSTER CLUB

**Wine & Design:** Join us from 7:00-9:30 PM on Sat, Nov. 8, to create your own campfire creation. Appetizers, wine, mocktails, and supplies provided. Admission is \$50 and may be paid at the door. All proceeds support the SFLS Booster Club. Sign up online to help us plan for supplies: <https://bit.ly/2025-sfls-wine-design>.



The flyer is for a 'Wine & Design' event. It features a purple background with a large, multi-colored starburst in the center containing the text 'You're invited! Wine & Design'. To the right of the starburst is an illustration of a campfire with a yellow flame and orange logs, set against a dark blue night sky with white stars and a crescent moon. Below the starburst, there is a QR code and a small text box with the date and time: '11.08.25 / 7:00-9:30 p.m. SFLS Commons 6715 S. Boe Lne Sioux Falls, SD 57108'. At the bottom, there is a paragraph of text: 'Create your own campfire creation! Appetizers, wine, mocktails, & all supplies provided. Proceeds go to the SFLS Booster Club. ~ \$50/person (Unlimited participants!) ~ RSVP by November 3, 2025 using QR code or contact Booster Club sflsbooster@sflutheranschool.com or (605) 335-1923'.

**You're invited!**  
**Wine & Design**

11.08.25 / 7:00-9:30 p.m.  
SFLS Commons  
6715 S. Boe Lne  
Sioux Falls, SD 57108

Create your own campfire creation!  
Appetizers, wine, mocktails, & all supplies provided.  
Proceeds go to the SFLS Booster Club.  
~ \$50/person (Unlimited participants!) ~  
RSVP by November 3, 2025 using QR code or contact Booster Club  
[sflsbooster@sflutheranschool.com](mailto:sflsbooster@sflutheranschool.com) or (605) 335-1923

Please contact [schooloffice@sflutheranschool.com](mailto:schooloffice@sflutheranschool.com) with any questions or concerns.



**SIOUX FALLS  
LUTHERAN SCHOOL**  
World Ready. Faith Secure.

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