



Sioux Falls Lutheran School

# 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

Oct. 31, 2025

## Supporting Families During SNAP Uncertainty

*"For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink..."* Matt. 25:35



Over the past couple of weeks, I've been responding to common themes from our ParentPulse surveys—thank you for your thoughtful feedback, and please keep it coming! This week, however, I'm taking a little break from that, and instead, share something that's tugging at me. A few days ago, a school supporter reminded me of the opportunity—and the calling—we have to support families struggling to put food on the table and fill lunchboxes. **Yes indeed, we do.**

With the ongoing government shutdown, many families across South Dakota face uncertainty around food security. On November 1st, nearly 75,000 South Dakotans—including 29,000 children—could lose access to **SNAP benefits (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, also known as food stamps)**, leaving families unsure of how they will put food on the table.

At SFLS, we want to support both the broader South Dakota community and our own SFLS families who may be affected by this SNAP disruption. Here's how our school community can help:

- **Donate non-perishable food items** to our **annual Preschool November Food Drive** to support families in need—both in our school and in the surrounding communities.
- **Contribute to chapel offerings**, which support **Feeding South Dakota**, helping families across the state who are struggling with hunger.
- **Reach out confidentially** to Debbie Pankow ([dpankow@sflutheranschool.com](mailto:dpankow@sflutheranschool.com)) if your family is affected and in need of support.

Food insecurity is a growing problem. One in five children in South Dakota are food insecure, and nearly 40,000 children now face hunger. Many of those affected do not even qualify for SNAP. By coming together as a school community, we can make a real difference—for our SFLS families and for our neighbors across the state.

Let's link arms and **fill the preschool wing with donated food items—and the chapel offering plates with generous gifts!** Thank you for your help, as together we provide hope, support, and nourishment for those who need it most.

With Gratefulness,

Tia Esser, Executive Director, Romans 12:2

## QUICK LINKS

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## PICTURE RETAKES

**WHEN:** Thursday, November 6 beginning at 8AM in the Elementary wing

**ORDERING INFORMATION:** Your student will need to bring their original photo packet with them to school that day. After retakes, a new packet will be sent home that will have the instructions to order inside. If you prefer not to order online or missed the open house photo day, paper forms will be available.

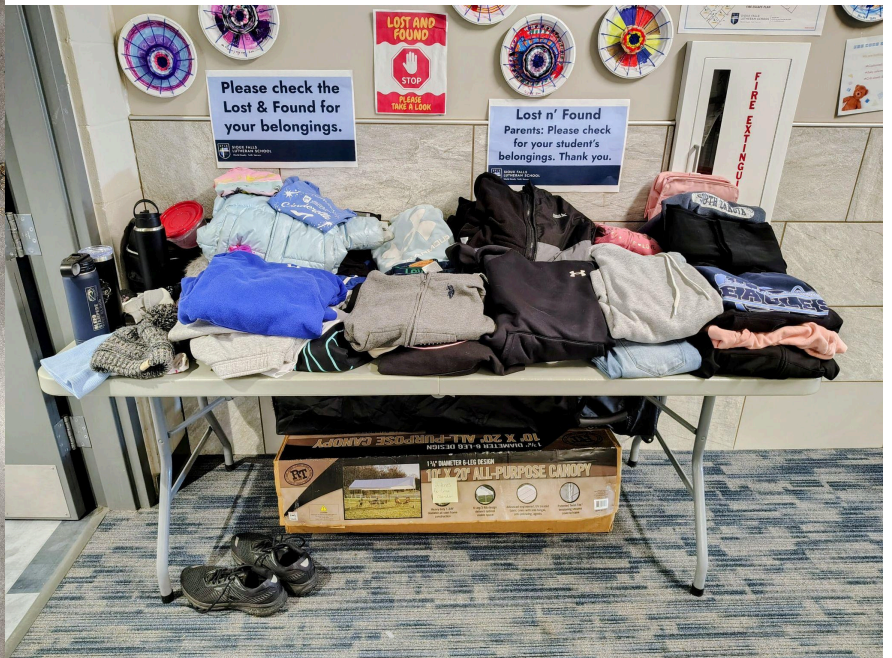
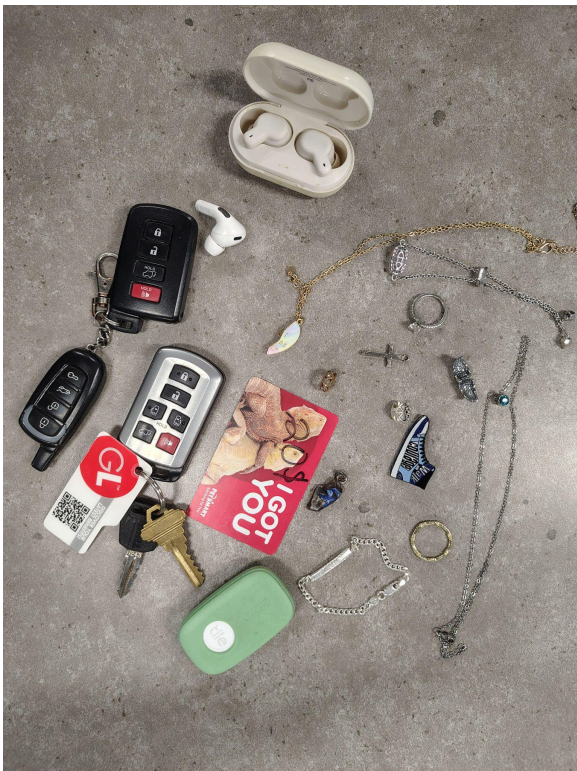
Please call (605) 362-9221 or email [office@schooltimephotos.com](mailto:office@schooltimephotos.com) with any questions.

## YEARBOOKS

If your student is in 1st - 9th grade and did not receive their 2024-2025 yearbook during Back-to-School Night in August, please have them see Mrs. Iverson to pick one up.

## LOST & FOUND

Please visit the Lost & Found table to claim any items by Friday, November 7. After school that day, unclaimed items will be donated. The items in the left picture can be claimed in the office.



## ADMISSIONS

### Invite a Friend to Attend First Look Friday



#### Upcoming dates:

Friday, November 7, 2025

Friday, March 6, 2026

Friday, December 5, 2025

Friday, May 1, 2026

Friday, February 6, 2026

Friday, June 5, 2026

During [First Look Fridays](#), prospective families receive the opportunity to meet our staff and students, tour the school building to observe learning in action, receive answers to their questions, and discover the value of investing in their child's future at Sioux Falls Lutheran School.

Informational presentations start at 9:00 AM with tours to follow. [Sign up here](#).

## ART

### The Art Room Needs Your Help!



We're gathering a few fun supplies for upcoming art projects and would love your donations! Please place items in the donation box outside the art room.

#### **Magazines:**

- Christmas toy catalogs
- *Highlights* or other K–5 magazines
- *Better Homes & Gardens*, *National Geographic*, or similar

#### **Jar Lids:**

- Clean lids from jars (perfect for mini Christmas scenes!)
- Spaghetti sauce lids or similar sizes work great

Thank you for supporting creativity in the art room!

## CAREER CORNER



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 November 3 is Pastor Newell from Lord of Life Lutheran Church.

**Chapel** on Wednesday, November 5, is led by Pastor Newell, in the Meyer Chapel & Performing Arts Center. This year's theme is Walk By Faith. This week's topic: Faith in Everyday Life: Faith in Forgiveness.

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

**Preschool chapel** will be held on Thursday, November 6, 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 "Crossing the Red Sea: God Provides".



**Chapel Offerings:** Our second quarter offering begins with \$110.20 and will go to FEEDING SOUTH DAKOTA.

A graphic for a Veterans Day Chapel. On the left is a blurred American flag. In the center, it says "HONORING ALL WHO SERVED" above "Veterans Day" in a large, stylized script. To the right, in a white box, it says "Tuesday, Nov. 11", "Veterans Day Chapel", and "8:50 a.m.". At the bottom left is the SFLS logo (a shield with a cross and the text "SFLS" and "EST. 1977"). At the bottom right, in a white box, it says "All veterans are invited to join us for Chapel on November 11!".

**Tuesday, Nov. 11**  
**Veterans Day Chapel**  
**8:50 a.m.**

**All veterans are invited to join us  
for Chapel on November 11!**

## COUNSELING SERVICES



### **Early Intervention: The Key to Preventing Risky Choices in Youth**

Most parents assume their teens are not at risk of making high risk choices.

Studies show that parents and caregivers tend to underestimate drug and alcohol use among their own children, while overestimating use among other kids. If parents and trusted adults don't give youth accurate information, their peers will– but may not accurately tell the risks. This is partly because the adolescent developing brain is wired to seek risk. The best prevention is a parent and/or trusted adult to have open, honest conversations and to communicate expectations along with the

facts about substance use. The adolescent brain also develops addiction much quicker than the adult brain. Early Intervention is the key.

Here's how to start the conversation:1: **Introducing the topic.** "I saw some posters in your school about teen drug use. Why do you think people are concerned about that?"2. **Ask open-ended questions.** "Do you know much about vaping? Tell me more about it."3. **Summarize their answers and reflect their feelings to show you're listening.** "You're saying that vaping is becoming a pressure for kids your age. Is that right?"4. **Demonstrate empathy.** "I'm sorry there are such pressures. I'd love to hear if you're willing to share."5. **Ask permission before offering advice.** "May I share some personal experience on that." [The Facts. Your Future. Parent Toolkit](#)



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)

## DRAMA



## PTF (PARENT TEACHER FELLOWSHIP)

**Thank you to everyone who joined us for our Fall Festival!**

We are so grateful for each family who came out to enjoy fellowship, fun, and fall blessings together. It was such a joy to see our school community gathered in laughter and love! We praise God for a wonderful turnout and a beautiful evening filled with smiles and shared moments.

Thank you to our volunteers, staff, and families for helping make this event such a blessing.

**PTF Meeting:** Monday, November 10, 5:30 PM, High School Wing

Order Dates by 10 AM	Pick-Up Dates after 11 AM
Monday, November 3	Thursday, November 6
Monday, November 10	Thursday, November 13
Monday, November 17	Thursday, November 20
No Orders Week of November 24	No Orders Week of November 24

## EAGLE CARE

We welcome Michelle Lemke to our afterschool group. Michelle will be helping with the Infants, One's, and Two's in the afternoons.

## PRESCHOOL

**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, receive answers to your questions about K-12 education, and connect with other families who are planning for kindergarten at SFLS. Above all, you'll discover the value of investing in your child's future at Sioux Falls Lutheran School. Information about our fantastic fives program will also be available.

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

**Walk by Faith: David & Goliath—A Preschool Preview Event**

Saturday, November 22



10:00 AM



Sioux Falls Lutheran School

You're invited to our Walk by Faith: [David & Goliath event](#)—an engaging, faith-filled morning designed for children entering 3, 4, and 5-year-old preschool during the 2026–27 school year! **Current 2, 3, and 4-year-old preschool families are welcome to join in the fun by bringing a friend or neighbor** who's exploring preschool options for next year. It's a wonderful way to introduce new families to our SFLS community!

✉ **Learn more & sign up here:** <https://bit.ly/walk-by-faith-david-goliath>.

*Please register each child who will attend so we can plan supplies and activities accordingly.*

## ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

### Reformation and All Saints Day



Today (October 31) we celebrate the work Martin Luther did to “reform” the church, calling God’s people back to being grounded in scripture. Scripture reminds us that we are saved by grace through faith in Jesus Christ. We are grateful we can put God’s word in the hands of our students and everyday be reminded of God’s love for us.

**November 1** is called “All Saints Day.” On this day we remember the faithful who have gone to heaven before us. We look forward to the day when we gather around God’s throne together again.

### No Shorts November!

Starting on Monday, all K-8 students will be expected to wear pants until April 1. Thank you for partnering with us as we work to keep all students safe and warm.

### Hearing Screening

The Sioux Falls Sertoma will come to SFLS on November 7 to complete hearing screenings for our students in 1st-5th Grade. We are very grateful for this service. We have identified hearing needs in the past that were unknown until these screenings. If you would like your child to opt out of this screening, please notify me at [knewell@sflutherschool.com](mailto:knewell@sflutherschool.com).

### Junior Eagles Girls Basketball - FEW spots left!!



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.

Any questions, please email Mikela Iverson at [miverson@sflutheranschool.com](mailto:miverson@sflutheranschool.com)

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

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

## MIDDLE SCHOOL



### Hearing Screening

The Sioux Falls Sertoma will come to SFLS on November 7 to complete hearing screenings for our students in **7th Grade**. We are very grateful for this service. We have identified hearing needs in the past that were unknown until these screenings. If you would like your child to opt out of this screening, please notify me at [knewell@sflutheranschool.com](mailto:knewell@sflutheranschool.com).

**8th graders**, see opportunity below for joining Senior Youth Night.

## HIGH SCHOOL

### Senior Youth Night:

Students in grades 8-12 are invited to join us for a Senior Youth Night at SFLS from 6:00-8:00 PM on Wednesday, November 5. Sponsored by Concordia University, St. Paul, youth from LCMS congregations across the Sioux Empire will join us for an evening of pizza, fun games and activities, and a special message from Concordia representative Mychal Thom about courses and

opportunities available at CSP. Mychal will also lead a Bible Study for parents on the topic of helping to guide their children in selecting their vocation while youth participate in activities. Please [sign up here](#) if you plan to attend so we know how much pizza to order. We hope to see you there!

**SF YOUTH NIGHT**

**November 5  
6-8pm  
@Sioux Falls  
Lutheran School**

**For High Schoolers:  
Pizza  
Games  
God's Word**

**Parents:**  
There will be a parent  
Bible Study for you too!

**Register  
Here:**

**Sponsored by  
Concordia University  
ST. Paul**

Sioux Falls Lutheran  
6715 S Boe Ln  
Youth Leadership RSVP with Pastor Fiker @ Faith Lutheran  
[postcarder@faithlutheransouthern.org](mailto:postcarder@faithlutheransouthern.org)



## National Honor Society Induction:

Congratulations to the eight new inductees into the SFLS chapter of the National Honor Society! New inductees are Rowen Becker, Erica Boyce, Katelyn Connelly, Jude Elkins, Owen Gilster, Kade Matthies, Alex Smith and Brayden Wille. They join our current members as academic, spiritual, and service leaders in our school and in the community.



## ATHLETICS

### VOLLEYBALL:

- Monday, November 3: Play-in game HOME vs Howard, 6 PM
- Tuesday, November 4: Playoffs Round 1 - Winner of Nov. 3rd plays at Bridgewater Emery; Time TBD
- Thursday, November 6: Playoffs Round 2 - winner of Nov. 4th plays winner of Colman-Egan vs Central/Woonsocket; Time TBD; Winner goes to state

### MIDDLE SCHOOL BASKETBALL Game Schedule:

Boys:				Location & Opponent	Girls:		
11/10/25	Tuesday	5:15/6pm	Boys 7/8	MCM	11/10/25	3:45/4:30	Girls 7/8
11/13/25	Thursday	4:40/5:15pm	Boys 7/8	HOME vs Canistota	11/13/25	3:45 PM	Girls 7&8 combined
11/18/25	Tuesday	5:15/6pm	Boys 7/8	HOME vs Centerville	11/18/25	3:45/4:30	Girls 7/8
11/20/25	Thursday	TBD	Boys 7/8	@ Bridgewater	11/20/25	TBD	Girls 7&8 combined
11/24/25	Monday	5pm	Boys 8 only	HOME vs Mitchell Christian	11/24/25	4 PM	Girls 8 only
12/1/25	Monday	5:15/6pm	Boys A/B	HOME vs Elkton	12/1/25	3:45/4:30	Girls 7/8

	Saturday			@ Alcester/Hudson	12/6/25	TBD	Girls 8 only
12/9/25	Tuesday	TBD	Boys A/B	HOME vs St. Mary's	12/9/25	TBD	Girls 7/8
12/15/25	Monday	5 PM	Boys A/B	HOME vs Alcester/Hudson	12/15/25	4 PM	Girls 7/8
12/16/25	Tuesday	TBD	Boys A/B	@Oldham-Ramona-Rutland			

**JUNIOR EAGLES BASKETBALL!** See the Elementary School Section above.

## MUSIC

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



## **NOVEMBER Middle School Ensemble Calendar**



**Our school has a fun opportunity coming up on Tuesday, November 18. It is SFLS Night at the Skyforce Game!** The High School Pep Band will be playing, the High School Orchestra will play the National Anthem, and our Dance Team will perform at halftime.

They also asked if we would like to have some of our elementary students create a fan tunnel and hold the flag for the National Anthem. We are working on recruiting the max number of younger students for this, which is 120! Game time is 6:30 PM.

All students participating should have already received an email from one of the music teachers. Anyone can order tickets through our link for a discounted price of \$15, with \$5 of that coming back as a donation to the school! So, please plan to attend to help support our school!! SPREAD THE WORD AND SHARE THE LINK!!

Our SFLS ticket link is: <https://www.gofevo.com/event/sflsschoolnight>.

Thanks for joining in the fun and for your support!

## ASSOCIATION CHURCHES

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

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

**Lord of Life** - Rev. Billy Newell

**Our Redeemer** - Rev. Brett Simek

**Resurrection** - Rev. Chris Ascher

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

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

#### SUPPORTING MEMBER

**ZION** - Rev. Greg Lehr

#### BIBLE STUDY

Iron Eagles Men's Group @ SFLS

Dates: 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 poster is for a "Wine & Design" event. It features a purple background with a large, stylized starburst shape in the center containing the text "You're invited! Wine & Design". To the right of the starburst is a small illustration of a campfire with a starry night sky and trees. Below the starburst, the event details are listed: "11.08.25 / 7:00-9:30 p.m.", "SFLS Commons", "6715 S. Boe Lne", and "Sioux Falls, SD 57108". A QR code is located to the left of the event details. At the bottom, the text reads: "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". The SFLS logo is in the top left corner.

**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 or (605) 335-1923



The poster is for the "Suicide & Crisis Lifeline 988". It features a blue background with the text "Suicide & Crisis Lifeline" at the top, "988" in large white numbers in the center, and "CALL, TEXT OR CHAT" at the bottom. To the right of the text is a QR code.

Suicide & Crisis Lifeline  
**988**  
CALL, TEXT OR CHAT

## 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

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

**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

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

**Whole Person Care**

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

**911** provides first responder dispatch for:

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

*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.*



**SOUTH DAKOTA**

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

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



**SIOUX FALLS  
LUTHERAN SCHOOL**

World Ready. Faith Secure.

6715 South Boe Lane, Sioux Falls, SD 57108

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