



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

FEB 27, 2026

CELEBRATE HIS GIFTS GALA

Gala Day Details: Saturday,
February 28 at Sioux Falls Lutheran
School

4:00PM - Doors Open (*Enjoy
Student and Alumni Spotlights, Wine
Pull, Passed Appetizers, and Fellowship*)

5:30PM - Dinner is Served (*Meal catered by Chef Dominique's*)

7:00PM - Gala Program



The online silent auction closed on Thursday, February 26. Closing the online auction before doors open allows gala guests to enjoy this special evening of fellowship and fun.

\$50,000 Matching Gift for Tuition Assistance

We are thrilled to share that we've received a \$100,000 grant from Lutheran Women in Mission (LWML) to support ethnically diverse and/or low-income students. This year, we will receive \$50,000, which means each donation to tuition assistance—both those made online or in person during the reverse auction for tuition assistance at the gala—will be matched dollar-for-dollar up to \$50,000. Matching funds can support any student whose family has demonstrated financial need, helping more children access a Christ-centered education.

Your generosity goes twice as far toward helping us meet our goal of raising \$100,000 for tuition assistance at this year's gala, opening doors for students to grow academically, socially, and spiritually. Together, we can make a lasting impact!

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SCRIP\)](#)

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Can't make it to the gala? Help us reach our matching fund gift by [making a donation online today](#).



**Sioux Falls
Lutheran School
Prom Fundraiser**

GRANDMA'S KUCHEN

18 Flavors!
Homemade!
Freeze Well!

\$18

ORDERS: FEB 9-FEB 27

PICK-UP: MARCH 12

To order, contact any SFLS high school student, or call Melissa at 605-480-2839.
Checks can be made payable to SFLS.

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Join us after church on **Sunday, March 22, from 9:00 AM -1:30 PM** for Chris Cakes! All proceeds from this free will offering breakfast will benefit SFLS Activities.

2025 TAX INFORMATION To find instructions for accessing your 2025 tax information through the FACTS Management System, click [HERE](#). Please consult your tax advisor for questions regarding tax credits and deductions. With any other other questions, contact Monica at finance@sflutherschool.com.

SERVING IN OUR COMMUNITY

On Thursday, March 12, most of our high school students will spend part of the day serving in our community. One of the groups will be going to Legacy Foundation, which is a non-profit organization that helps to provide medical equipment to those who might not be able to afford it through their leasing library. If you have medical equipment at home that you are no longer using, such as **crutches, wheelchairs, foot scooters**, etc, please bring them to school by *Wednesday, March 11*, so that we can deliver those items when we serve there.

NEEDS-BASED VARIABLE TUITION APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN

K-12 Needs-Based Variable Tuition Applications for 2026-27 school year are 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 2026-27 school year.

To apply, please log into or create a TADS account for your family at www.mytads.com 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. **Applications for the 2026-27 school year are due by Friday, May 15.**

If you have any technical questions while submitting your variable tuition application, please feel free to contact TADS support directly at 612-548-3320, 800-477-8237, or TADS-Support@venturedsolutions.com (M-F 7am-5pm CST).

South Dakota Partners in Education (SDPE) K-12 Scholarship Program

In addition to donor-funded variable tuition through SFLS, qualifying families are also eligible to submit their TADS application to the South Dakota Partners in Education (SDPE) K-12 scholarship program. During the 2025-26 school year alone, SFLS families qualified for over \$206,000 in tuition assistance through SDPE, which allowed us to spread our own variable tuition budget even further. If your family qualifies for SDPE and you plan to apply for variable tuition, please plan to submit your application to both entities.

Earn Tuition Credit through RaiseRight

Finally, please also remember that RaiseRight is available as a source of tuition assistance for all early childhood through 12th grade families. Simply buy gift cards for your favorite brands at face value through RaiseRight and use them, instead of cash or other cards, to make purchases. A percentage of each gift card you buy goes directly into an account for your family and gets applied toward your tuition at designated times throughout the course of the school year.

CAREER CORNER



We're hiring a Junior High Track & Field Coach (Spring, 2026), Head Varsity Volleyball Coach, Junior High Football Coach, Middle & High School Science Teacher (Physics emphasis) and an Orchestra Teacher for the 2026–27 school year. Learn more and apply:

siouxfallslutheran.com/careers.

CHAPEL

Chapel for Wednesday, March 4, will be led by Pastor Nix from Christ Lutheran Church in the Meyer Chapel & Performing Arts Center.

This year's theme is Walk by Faith, and this week's focus is *Lent: The Journey to the Cross*. This week's topic is *Peter's Denial and Restoration* based on Luke 22:54-62; John 21:15-19.

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

Preschool chapel will be held on Thursday, March 5, led by Liz Peters, DCE from Memorial Lutheran Church, in the Early Childhood wing, beginning at **8:40 AM** and **9:00 AM**. The theme is **"The Miracles of Jesus"**.

Campus Chaplain the week of March 2 is Liz Peters, DCE from Memorial Lutheran Church.

Chapel Offerings: 3rd Quarter: \$550.20

Our chapel offerings this quarter will support Rev. Jordon and Alison Andreasen, LCMS missionaries serving in Romania. Through our gifts, we help share Jesus' love with people around the world.

We honor God by serving others!



PTF (PARENT TEACHER FELLOWSHIP)

Next PTF meeting: March 9, 5:30 PM

Save the date:

PTF Movie Night : April 11

Stay tuned for more details!!!

K-4 Teacher Conference Meals

PTF will provide dinner for our wonderful teachers during conferences on 3/10 and 3/12. How can YOU help? Please consider signing up for clean-up either night. Thank you!

CONNECT WITH THE PTF ON FACEBOOK



Scan the QR Code with your camera app to go to the GFLS PTF Facebook Page

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E4DA8A722A1F8CE9-62290226-conference>

NEW Beginning *Monday, March 2*, the preschoolers who stay after school with Ms. Gillian Wipf will be moving to a **new classroom location**—Mrs. Fjelstad’s room.

We extend our sincere thanks to Mrs. Brinkman for graciously sharing her classroom over the past several months!

COUNSELING SERVICES

Awareness Topic of the Month:**Alcohol & the Facts: What You Need to Know About Underage Drinking**

Click [here](#) to learn more about the developmental, academic, and legal impacts.

Should you suspect your child is using substances, a substance abuse screening and/or assessment can be scheduled privately at no expense. Contact Barb DeVos who can discreetly schedule a time outside of school hours to meet with your child and/or to give a call if you have questions. Barb DeVos, Contracted School Counselor, is available to support your child’s well-being. Barb is at Sioux Falls Lutheran School *Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays*. bdevos@carrollinstitute.org or bdevos@sflutheralschool.com

RAISERIGHT (AKA SCRIP)

Order Dates by 10 AM	Pick-Up Dates after 11 AM
Monday, March 9	Thursday, March 12
Monday, March 23	Thursday, March 26
Tuesday, April 7	Friday, April 10

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Education Fair

Be sure you have **Thursday, March 26** reserved on your family calendar for our first ever Elementary Education Fair! This evening, from **6:00-8:00 PM**, will be an evening of fellowship and celebration as we all share in the academic accomplishments of our students this school year. Students in Grades 2-5 will all participate and showcase their projects during a specific (yet to be determined) time during the evening. Kindergarten and 1st grade students will have work on display.

We hope all of our families can come out to enjoy community and applaud our students' work!

New 5th Grade Teacher

We are excited to welcome **Mrs. Katy Holm** to our Sioux Falls Lutheran family as a 5th-grade teacher beginning in the fall of 2026. Mrs. Holm has been student teaching in 3rd grade with Mrs. Mlnarik, and she is excited to work alongside Mr. Pinn.

Junior Achievement

Thank you to all of the Junior Achievement volunteers who have been bringing lessons to our students. We appreciate how you bring new perspectives and ideas to our classrooms.

Sioux Falls Lutheran School

Grade	Teacher	JA Volunteer	Employer
K	Serenati Strande	Tasha Jurrens	The First National Bank in Sioux Falls
K	McKenzie Johnson	Britt Strum	The First National Bank in Sioux Falls
1	Britney Vercruysse	Greg Jasmer	Marsh McLennan Agency LLC
1	Amanda Thomas	Janelle Lafrentz	Sammons Financial Group
2	Sierra Geistfeld	Jenna Klepatz	Essential Health
		Mike Klepatz	Holmes Murphy and Associates, Inc.
2	Hiedi Johnson	Scott Johnson	POET, LLC
3	Rachel Borchardt	Troy Weber	PREMIER Bankcard
4	Kristy Bridges	Steven White	International Flavors and Fragrances
4	Alexis Urban	Jackie Klein	Wells Fargo
5	Jon Pinn	Sarah Gilster	Wells Fargo

MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL

Staffing Updates

In preparation for the 2026-27 school year, we want to share a few planned staffing updates with our families.

Mr. Alan West plans to retire at the end of the 2025-26 school year. We are so grateful for the ways Mr. West has plugged into our community and taught our students during the last three years. He has been a great addition to SFLS, and we rejoice that he will have a chance to enjoy a slower pace during retirement.

Mrs. Brenda Shane is also moving on to a new season of life at the end of this school year as she prepares to step away from teaching to care for her new grandchild. We have loved having her back at SFLS this year, and we look forward to having her involved in our school community in a variety of ways in the future. We are excited for her to experience the next season of life with a new generation.

Please join our school staff in thanking these two fantastic teachers for their service at Sioux Falls Lutheran School. We will continue to communicate staffing updates for the 2026-27 school year to you as we have more information to share.

We will be welcoming **Mrs. Ashley Smallfield** as one of our new middle school teachers, who will primarily be teaching ELA. Mrs. Smallfield has taught at SFLS before and has children enrolled in the school. She currently teaches 7th-grade ELA in Sioux Falls. We are excited to add her to our SFLS family!



SAVE THE DATE: SPRING FLING WITH THE ARTS: Tuesday, March 17: 4:30 - 8 PM. More information is coming soon.

Testing and Service Learning

All 9th-11th-grade students will be testing on *Thursday, March 12*. Freshmen and Sophomores will take the PreACT. When testing is complete, the 9th-10th graders will travel off campus to serve in our local community.

Juniors will take the ACT. Due to the new format and test options, this will take the majority of the day. Students will have an extended lunch break before the second half of the test.

The seniors will be serving off-campus all day.

ATHLETICS

Regarding Booster Club Passes and Play offs: All of our regular season games have been completed for the 2025-2026 school year, so the passes that were purchased in the fall are no longer valid. For any playoff games attended (home or away) **all attendees**, including staff and students, will need to purchase admissions, unless you are playing in the game or working the game.

HIGH BOYS SCHOOL BASKETBALL

- Friday, February 27: @ Colman/Egan: C 5:00; JV 6:15; V 7:30
- Tuesday, March 3: Region 3B Round 1, 7 PM Probable Home Game



POWER LIFTING:



- March 7: Power Lifting State Meet at Baltic

NEW

SPRING SPORTS: Students who plan to participate in Track & Field or Golf this spring are required to sign up in BOUND and pay **prior to your first practice.**



GOLF: First practice: March 30 at 3:30 at the Brandon Golf Course.

TRACK & FIELD: There will be staggered starts for practices as follows:

- March 2: Optional pre-season practices begins
- March 16: Practice begins: 3:30 - 5PM.

Parents please make sure you are signed up for [GROUP ME](#) as this will be the #1 communication tool for Track and Field.



SUMMER CAMPS: Check out the new STEM Camp for elementary students AND some changes in the football camps!

Use the QR Code to get you to the registration page. OR use [this link](#). Under Registration, click on Camps. There will be no additional fees added to your registration. Payment is due at time of registration. Questions? Ask Lisa: lasmus@sflutheralschool.com or Monica: finance@sflutheralschool.com

**SUMMER CAMP
INFORMATION & SIGN UP**

Join us for growth and positive interactions.
Many different camps are now open for registration!

BOUND

SFLS 2026 Summer Camps

Activity	Date	Grades: for 26-27 SY	Times	Location	Cost
Drama	June 1-5	5-12	9-11 a.m.; Performance Friday at 7 p.m.	SFLS CPAC	\$100 (includes t-shirt)
Strength & Agility	June 1- July 31 (T/W/Th.)	7-12	7 - 8:30		
		7-12	8:45- 10:15	SFLS Fitness Room	\$185 (includes t-shirt)
Boys & Girls Basketball	June 8-10	K-2	9-10:30 a.m.	SFLS Gym	\$65 (includes t-shirt)
		3-5	10:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m.	SFLS Gym	\$65 (includes t-shirt)
STEM	June 29 - July 1	1-3	9:00 - 10:30 AM	SMART Lab	\$65 (includes t-shirt)
		4-6	10:30AM - 12:00PM		\$65 (includes t-shirt)
Football	June 16-18	9-12	SIGN UP WITH MR. STRANDE	Hamlin HS, Hayti, SD	\$50
	July 7 & 9	3-6	8-9:30 a.m.	Eagle Field	\$50 (includes t-shirt)
	July 7 & 9	7- 8	6:30-8:30 p.m.	Eagle Field	\$50 (includes t-shirt)
	July 7 - 9	9-12	6:30-8:30 p.m.	Eagle Field	\$65 (includes t-shirt)
This HS camp includes: July 8: 8am-4pm 7 on 7 Tournament at the Sanford Sports Complex					
Cheer	July 8-9	4-6	9am-12pm	SFLS Gym	\$65 (includes t-shirt)
	July 10	7-12	9 a.m. - 3 p.m.	SFLS Gym	\$65 (includes t-shirt)
Dance	July 13-16	5-12	9-11:30 a.m.	SFLS Gym	\$65 (includes t-shirt)
Volleyball	July 20-23	9-12	1:00-3:00 p.m.	SFLS Gym	\$65 (includes t-shirt)
		6-8	3:00-4:30 p.m.	SFLS Gym	\$65 (includes t-shirt)
		3-5	4:30-5:30p.m.	SFLS Gym	\$45 (includes t-shirt)
Marching Band (fee includes school year)	July 27-31	6-8	8:00 am - 12:00 pm	SIGN UP WITH SFLS	\$150 (includes t-shirt)
	Aug. 3-7	9-12	8am-3pm	MRS. BIRSTIEHL SFLS	\$185 (includes t-shirt)

Registration is OPEN NOW!

Music

[MARCH Middle School Ensemble Calendar](#)

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



Upcoming Music Events (for students who take music lessons):

- Music Contest - March 5 from 4:00-7:00 PM in the Music Rooms
- 6th Grade Recital - March 11 at 2:00 PM in the Chapel



CONGRATULATIONS to all of the high school band members. All ten ensembles that performed their pieces for the adjudicator on Friday, February 20, received a Superior Rating. The groups that played were: the Brass Choir, the Woodwind Choir, the Trombone Trio, the Saxophone Quintet, the Trumpet Quartet, the Low Brass Trio, the Clarinet Quartet, the Flute Quintet, the Jazz Band, and the Percussion Ensemble, who also actually received a perfect score! Job well done, high school band students! Thank you for striving for excellence, and for sharing your musical gifts!!

High School Spring Semester High School Ensemble dates:

- Saturday, February 28 - Gala- Jazz Band, Small Choir, Trumpet Quartet
- Monday, March 9 - Solo and Small Ensemble Contest at Augustana (Choir only)
- Tuesday, March 17 - Spring Fling for the Arts (All Ensembles)
- Thursday, March 19 - Concordia St. Paul Band Concert at SFLS (SFLS Band will join for 2 pieces)
- Wednesday, April 22 - Large Group Contest (Band and Choir)
- Tuesday, April 28 - Spring Concert (All Ensembles)
- Friday, May 15 - Graduation (Choir, Orchestra, Band)

ASSOCIATION CHURCHES

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

Faith - Rev. Corey Aker & Rev. Jason Rensner

[Lord of Life](#) - Rev. Billy Newell

[Our Redeemer](#) - Rev. Brett Simek

[Resurrection](#) - Rev. Chris Ascher

NEW

A poster for a 'Puzzle Race' event. The title 'Puzzle RACE' is prominently displayed in the center, with 'RACE' in a larger, bold, black font. Below the title, the date 'Sunday, March 22nd' is written. The location is 'Resurrection Lutheran Church | 5500 W 26th St' and the timing is 'Doors open at 4 | Race starts at 4:30'. On the left side, under the heading 'Team Info', there is a list of details: '- Teams of 4', '- \$60/team', '- All teams do same 750 piece puzzle', and '- Limited teams, sign up now!'. On the right side, there are two handwritten-style notes: 'Snacks available for purchase!' and 'To register: call Sue Baumann at 605-321-5493'. At the bottom, another handwritten-style note says 'Proceeds go towards chaperone fund and youth trips this summer!'. The poster is decorated with a border of blue and teal puzzle pieces.

Click [HERE](#) for worship times! The schedule includes details for Lenten & Easter worship services.

SUPPORTING MEMBER

[ZION](#) - Rev. Greg Lehr & Rev. Paul Winckler

UPCOMING EVENTS

Please visit your FACTS family portal calendar or click this [link](#) to our website for upcoming events.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

You're invited to a new women's Bible study beginning March 1 through May 3 as we journey through *The Ministry of Motherhood* by Sally Clarkson. This encouraging study reminds us that motherhood is a God-given ministry and explores how God uses everyday moments to shape our hearts and our homes.

Through Scripture, personal stories, and practical wisdom, we'll focus on building Christ-centered homes, embracing grace over perfection, and finding joy in every season. Whether you're a new mom, seasoned mom, or supporting the next generation, you're welcome.

Join us for this meaningful time of faith, encouragement, and fellowship—we'd love to have you with us!

Sign up Link: <https://form.jotform.com/260408648096060>

Book Link: https://www.amazon.com/dp/1578565820?ref=ppx_yo2ov_dt_b_fed_asin_title

Date/Time: Every other Sunday starting March 1 except for the last week which will be held on May 3 (to not interfere with Mother's Day)! We will meet from 3PM-5PM.

Dates: March 1, March 15, March 29, April 12, April 26, May 3

Location: Sioux Falls Lutheran School

Who: Any mother from any season of motherhood

Questions? Please reach out to Jennifer Reiners at jenn.reiners@gmail.com or 605-370-2831.

Please contact schooloffice@sflutheralschool.com with any questions or concerns.



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

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