



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

March 13, 2026

A Powerful Witness in a Tough Loss



The Watertown Civic Arena was filled with Eagles supporters on Tuesday, March 10, as our boys' varsity basketball team faced the Aberdeen Christian Crusaders in the SoDak 16. The winner would advance to the State "B" Basketball Tournament, scheduled for March 19–21 in Aberdeen.

The game remained competitive throughout, with Aberdeen Christian holding a four-point lead at halftime. The Crusaders pulled ahead in the fourth quarter to secure a 57–43 victory and earn the No. 4 seed in the State Tournament.

We are proud of our Eagles. Following the game, the players graciously congratulated Aberdeen Christian and gathered both teams at center court for prayer. It was a powerful witness to sportsmanship and faith as the players and coaches gave glory to God, whom both teams ultimately represent.

The Eagles finished their season with an impressive 16–7 record. Congratulations to our players, cheerleaders, and coaches on a great season.

QUICK LINKS

[Ark of Faith](#)

[Association Churches](#)

[Athletics](#)

[Career Corner](#)

[Chapel](#)

[Counseling Services](#)

[Eagle Care](#)

[Elementary School](#)

[Middle & High School](#)

[Music](#)

[PTF](#)

[RaiseRight \(aka SCRIP\)](#)

[Upcoming Events](#)

[Women's Bible Study](#)

SPRING FLING WITH THE ARTS: Tuesday, March 17, beginning at 4:15 PM. Come enjoy an evening featuring work from our high school students in the areas of music, art, oral interp, and Spanish. Scan the QR Code or click [HERE](#) for the afternoon schedule.



2026
SPRING FLING
with the Arts

ORAL INTERP **ENSEMBLES**
ESPAÑOL **ART** **SOLOS** **CHOIR**
ORCHESTRA **BAND** **POETRY**

PRESENTED BY:
High School Students at Sioux Falls Lutheran School
Tuesday, March 17
4:15 p.m. Middle & High School Wing
7:00 p.m. Concert: Dr. Vaughn & Joann Meyer Chapel & Performing Arts Center

**SOUP & DESSERT WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE
BY THE BOOSTER CLUB**



SCAN FOR AFTERNOON SCHEDULE



SIOUX FALLS LUTHERAN SCHOOL
Worship • Study • Service

CONCORDIA ST. PAUL'S BAND

Join us for a wonderful musical evening at SFLS on **Thursday, March 19** at 7 PM!

Our High School Band will also be joining the concert to perform a few selections. 🎵



19
March
2026



Performance By
Concordia University, St. Paul's Band
Under the direction of Mr. Aaron Isakson

7 PM | SIOUX FALLS LUTHERAN SCHOOL

Free-will offerings will be collected to help support CSP's music ministries

Hosted by Memorial Lutheran's Music Ministry



PANCAKE BREAKFAST



Join us after church on **Sunday, March 22, from 9:00 AM to 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.



SUPPORT SFLS WITH THE COMMUNITY CARD – in Partnership with First National Bank

The First National Bank in Sioux Falls is excited to offer a Community Card in partnership with Sioux Falls Lutheran School—a simple way to support SFLS through everyday purchases.

The [Community Card](#) works like a debit card, drawing directly from your checking account. When you swipe your card and select the credit option, a portion of each purchase is donated back to Sioux Falls Lutheran School.



It's an easy way to show your school spirit while supporting the mission of SFLS in your daily life.

To request a card or open an account, please contact Emily Schonebaum at (605) 782-5742 to learn more.



RECORD-BREAKING FUNDS RAISED AT CELEBRATE HIS GIFTS GALA

Our sincerest thanks to everyone who supported the 26th Annual Celebrate His Gifts Gala on Saturday, February 28. The evening raised a record amount—over \$274,000—an incredible testament to the faithful generosity of our school family, association congregations, and community. To everyone who attended, donated, volunteered, sponsored, bid, baked, and prayed—THANK YOU. Your generosity is shaping futures and sharing the love of Christ in lasting ways. Visit

www.siouxfallslutheran.com/celebrate-his-gifts-gala to learn more and watch an event recap video.

NEW

SFLS ONLINE SPIRIT WEAR OPEN

Looking to refresh your SFLS gear? Now's your chance!

Our Eagle Spirit Wear online store is open now through Monday, March 23, with something for everyone – **including SFLS spirit wear plus golf and track options just in time for spring activities.**

From cozy sweatshirts to new athletic gear, it's the perfect way to show your Eagle pride wherever you go.

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



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 18, will be led by Pastor Slavens from Memorial 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 *The Thief on the Cross: Faith at the end* based on Luke 23:39-43.

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

3rd Grade Chat & Chapel will also be on Wednesday, March 18. All 3rd grade parents/guardians/family members are welcome to join for fellowship in the commons after drop-off, before the chapel service! More communication will come from your teacher.

Preschool chapel will be held on **Thursday, March 19**, 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 *Mary and Martha*.

Campus Chaplain the week of March 16 is Pastor Slavens from Memorial Lutheran Church.

Chapel Offerings: Our 3rd Quarter offering supporting the work of Missionaries Rev. Jordon and Alison Andreasen serving in Romania totaled \$770.59. We will continue our support of the Andreasens throughout the 4th quarter. Please join us in supporting these missionaries. Through these gifts, we join in God's mission of sharing the love of Jesus with people around the world.

We honor God by serving others!



BUILDING AN ARK OF FAITH FOR OUR YOUNGEST LEARNERS

NEW

Step by step, two by two, we are building an Ark of Faith — a joyful new playground for our littlest disciples. Thanks to the generosity of our donors, each gift, big or small, helps bring this vision to life. From our mighty Elephants to the diligent Ants, every member of our giving Ark is making a lasting impact. Soon, children will have a safe, faith-filled place to laugh, explore, and grow *for generations of tiny disciples*.



Through the month of May, gifts toward the Ark Project can go even further thanks to a \$5,000 matching opportunity through PTF — doubling the impact of your generosity. You can learn more about this match in the PTF section below.



We invite you to climb aboard by scanning the QR code, emailing bmakepeace@sflutherschool for more information, or visiting the early childhood entrance to see the progress firsthand!

PTF (PARENT TEACHER FELLOWSHIP)

Thanks to your generous contributions to our fall fundraiser, the PTF was able to donate \$10,000 toward the new Preschool Ark Initiative playground equipment! You can see the LION representing this gift displayed in the preschool wing vestibule.



Even more exciting — PTF will **match gifts up to \$5,000 through the month of May**, doubling the impact of your support! If you would like to contribute, please scan the QR code in the Ark of Faith section above.

PTF Movie Night : April 11, 2:30PM in the gym (stay tuned for more details)

EAGLE CARE

Please remember that this is SPRING in South Dakota. Day-to-day weather can change overnight. Since we spend time outside, please help your child(ren) stay warm by sending appropriate outdoor clothing. Thank you!

Awareness Topic of the Month: DRUG FACTS

Parents are the first line of defense in preventing youth from beginning to use substances. Be informed and stay curious when talking to your son or daughter. Give them the opportunity to ask questions, seek out information if you are unaware of the answers, and build an environment of open communication with your child. Growing up isn't easy. Unfortunately, the world continues to present new ways for youth to experiment and gain access to information they may not fully understand. Research shows that people who begin using substances before age 15 are about 6.5 times more likely to develop a substance use disorder than those who wait until age 21 or later. Click [HERE](#) for more information.

Why age 21 matters: The brain—especially the parts responsible for judgment, impulse control, and decision-making—continues developing into the early 20s. Using substances earlier increases the chance that the brain's reward system becomes wired toward addiction.

<https://drugfree.org/article/adolescent-substance-use>



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@sflutheranschool.com

RAISERIGHT (AKA SCRIP)

Order Dates by 10 AM	Pick-Up Dates after 11 AM
Monday, March 23	Thursday, March 26
Tuesday, April 7	Friday, April 10
Monday, April 20	Thursday, April 23

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Spring Weather

You gotta love spring in South Dakota! Gorgeous days, rainy days, sunny days, windy days, snowy days... We get a little bit of everything. Students have been asking, so I thought I would share, **April 1** is the day when we can wear shorts again to school. We are almost there!



Middle & High School Spring Open House: Monday, March 23 from 5:00–7:00 PM. Take this opportunity to explore our school, meet our teachers, and attend a Middle or High School Q&A session to learn more about our programs. Whether you're curious about academics, extracurriculars, or school culture, this evening is designed to give you a comprehensive view of what SFLS has to offer.

Register online: bit.ly/sfls-march-open-house-mhs.



HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION: Friday, May 15 at 6:30 PM in the Dr. Vaughn & Joann Meyer Chapel and Performing Arts Center.

ATHLETICS

HIGH BOYS SCHOOL BASKETBALL

The boys basketball team finished their 16-7 season with a trip to the SoDak 16 where they played hard but came up short to Aberdeen Christian. Congratulations to the boys and coaches for a GREAT season!

POWER LIFTING

The SFLS Powerlifting Team had an outstanding performance at the State Meet last Saturday. Eagle lifters broke five state records, and every member of the team achieved a personal record at the meet.



The girls team placed 3rd out of 20 teams. Individual medalists included Kaitlyn Wald (1st place), Anesha Bright (2nd place), Bridget Miller (4th place), Macy Stadheim (5th place), and Elyse Prouty (1st place). Elyse was also honored as the Most Outstanding Female Lifter of the State Meet.

SPRING SPORTS

Students who plan to participate in Track & Field or Golf this spring are required to sign up in [BOUND](#), have a current physical uploaded in BOUND, and pay **prior to your first practice**. Once in the BOUND app, click the drop down "Registration" then click on "Activity". When in your child's account, click the documents tab to check if you have completed all necessary documents.

TRACK & FIELD

First practice for all events: Monday, March 16 at 3:30.



GOLF

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



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. BIRNSTIEHL SFLS	\$185 (includes t-shirt)

Registration is OPEN NOW!

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@sflutheranschool.com or
Monica: finance@sflutheranschool.com



SUMMER CAMP INFORMATION & SIGN UP



Join us for growth and positive interactions.

Many different camps are now open for registration!

2026



Music

[MARCH Middle School Ensemble Calendar](#)

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



MUSIC CONTEST

Congratulations to our 5th–8th grade students who participated in the music contest last week. The judges were very impressed with your professionalism and musical talent! Your music teachers would like to thank you for the time and effort you invested in preparing your pieces.

Well done, and to God be the glory! 🎵

CALLING ALL KINDERGARTEN PARENTS!

We want YOU to join the Kindergarten Spring Program on April 23!

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!](#)

SOUTH DAKOTA MIDDLE SCHOOL ALL-STATE BAND CONCERT

Josiah Newell participated in the South Dakota Middle School All-State Band Concert on Friday, March 6. He spent most of Friday and Saturday morning in rehearsals before performing in the concert at the Mitchell Performing Arts Center on Saturday afternoon.

Thank you, Josiah, for your dedication to our music program. We look forward to you bringing what you learned back to SFLS and continuing to lead and encourage your fellow band members!



High School Spring Semester High School Ensemble dates:

- 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

Virginia Strubbe from Lutheran Family Services will be at Faith Lutheran **Monday, March 23** beginning at **6:30 PM** to lead us to better understanding and helpful strategies for managing anxiety. This is a great opportunity for looking at and dealing with anxiety from a whole-wellness, mind, body, & spirit approach. Click [HERE](#) for additional details.

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

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

[Resurrection](#) - Rev. Chris Ascher

A poster for a 'Puzzle RACE' event. The title 'Puzzle RACE' is prominently displayed in a stylized font. Below the title, the date 'Sunday, March 22nd' and location 'Resurrection Lutheran Church | 5500 W 26th St' are listed. It specifies 'Doors open at 4 | Race starts at 4:30'. A 'Team Info' section lists details: teams of 4, \$60/team, all teams do a 750-piece puzzle, and limited teams sign up now. Handwritten notes mention 'snacks available for purchase!', 'To register: call Sue Baumann at 605-321-5493', and 'Proceeds go towards chaperone fund and youth trips this summer!'. The poster is decorated with 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.

You're invited to a women's Bible study as we walk through *The Ministry of Motherhood* by Sally Clarkson. This encouraging study reminds us that motherhood is a God-given ministry and explores how He works through everyday moments to shape our hearts and homes. Together, we'll focus on building Christ-centered homes, choosing 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 a meaningful time of faith, encouragement, and fellowship — we'd love to have you!

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

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

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

Time: 3PM-5PM.

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@sflutheranschool.com with any questions or concerns.



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

6715 South Boe Lane, Sioux Falls, SD 57108
siouxfallslutheran.com | (605) 335-1923