



SIoux FALLS LUTHERAN SCHOOL

EAGLES NEWS

World Ready. Faith Secure.



Mrs. Tia Esser
Executive Director

Mrs. Brenda Bernard
Preschool Director

Dr. Kristen Newell
Elementary Principal

Mrs. Liz Slavens
Secondary Academic Principal

Mr. James Stubkjaer
Student Life Director

October 2, 2026



2027–28 NEW STUDENT ADMISSIONS APPLICATIONS ARE OPEN!

[New student admissions applications for the 2027–28 school year](#) are now open. Families interested in enrolling a new student—including siblings of current SFLS students—are encouraged to review the application timeline and admission information. **Check your inbox for an email with the subject line 2027–28 New Student Admissions Applications Are Open!** for important dates, admission priorities, tuition information, and more.

Know a family who may be a great fit for SFLS? Please feel free to share the email with them!



SCHOOLWIDE DRONE PHOTO – OCTOBER 16

As we look ahead to celebrating **50 years of Sioux Falls Lutheran School during the 2027–28 school year**, we want to capture a special photo of the community that makes SFLS what it is today! On **Friday, October 16**, all SFLS students and staff will gather on the blacktop to form **“SFLS” and a cross** for a photo taken from above by a drone.

To help the design stand out from the air, please wear the following colors:



Preschool Students & Staff: Wear WHITE



K–12 Students & Staff: Wear BLUE

Please wear a shirt, sweatshirt, or other top in your assigned color. The contrast between blue and white will help create the **white cross in the center of our formation, surrounded by our SFLS letters in blue!**

QUICK LINKS

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

[Upcoming Events](#)

 **Friday, October 16**

 **We will begin getting students into position at 9:15AM**

 **SFLS Blacktop**

Families do not need to do anything other than help students remember to wear their assigned color that morning. In case weather prevents us from taking the photo, our **rain/weather date will be Friday, October 30.**

We're excited to capture this moment in SFLS history and can't wait to see our entire school community come together!  

Please contact Vania Asmus at vasmus@sflutherschool.com with any questions!

NEW GUEST CHECK-IN PROCEDURE

Beginning Wednesday, October 21, the first day of the second quarter, we will begin checking in **ALL guests** at the front desk when they enter the building.

We already have a secure entry process in place, requiring all guests to “buzz” the office before being allowed through a locked door. We also currently check in most of our guests. However, for larger-attendance events such as chapel, recitals, Grandparents’ Day, and other special events, we have allowed guests to enter without completing the check-in process.

After consulting with safety personnel across the state, we have been advised to check in **ALL guests**, regardless of the size or nature of the event.

This new procedure will also apply to **preschool pick-ups/drop-offs between 8:30AM and 3:00PM.** If you are picking up your preschooler for an appointment or any other reason during this time, please enter through the main entrance and follow the same sign-in/sign-out procedure at the front desk.

While we understand that this may sometimes feel inconvenient, especially when you are a familiar parent or member of our school community, this consistent procedure allows us to uphold our safety practices with integrity. Thank you in advance for your patience, understanding, and partnership as we work to maintain a safe environment and put the safety of our students first.

PICTURE RETAKES

WHEN: Wednesday, October 21 beginning at 8AM in the Reading Area

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. Photo packages may still be purchased online. Detailed instructions for placing an online order are provided [HERE](#).

Please call (605) 362-9221 or email office@schootimephotos.com with any questions.



YEARBOOKS

Did you miss out on ordering a K-8th grade 2025–2026 yearbook for your student? We have extras available!

Yearbooks are \$20 each and can be charged to your FACTS account.

If you'd like to order one for your student(s), please email Mrs. Iverson at miverson@sflutheranschool.com



LOST & FOUND

Our Lost & Found is overflowing! Before buying a replacement, check the tables set up in the High School Wing and outside the office to see if your missing items are there.

If you've misplaced smaller or higher-value items like jewelry, glasses, or a phone, please stop by the office to claim them.



Important Note: Any items left unclaimed by Friday, October 16 will be packed up and donated to St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store on the corner of Ellis Rd. and 41st St. Don't wait—take a look today!

CAREER CORNER



Accounting & Lunch Program Assistant

This full-time, year-round position works closely with our Finance Director and combines accounting and administrative responsibilities with oversight of our school lunch programs. We're especially interested in connecting with candidates who have a background in accounting, bookkeeping, accounts payable/receivable, finance, or related areas.



After School Eagle Care

We're seeking kind, gentle, fun-loving individuals to serve as part-time workers in our after school Eagle Care program Mon-Fri from 3:15-6:00PM. Qualifications: love for serving infants–8th grade students with joy, patience, and care.

Coaching Positions

Middle School Boys Basketball Assistant Coach
Middle School Track Assistant Coach
Middle School Track Head Coach
Middle School Boys Basketball JV Coach
Middle School Girls Basketball Assistant Coach

Other Openings

Substitute Teachers
Volunteer Baby Rockers

Learn more and apply: www.sioxfordslutheran.com/careers.

CHAPEL

Chaplain for the week of October 5 is Pastor Ratcliffe from Blessed Redeemer Lutheran Church.

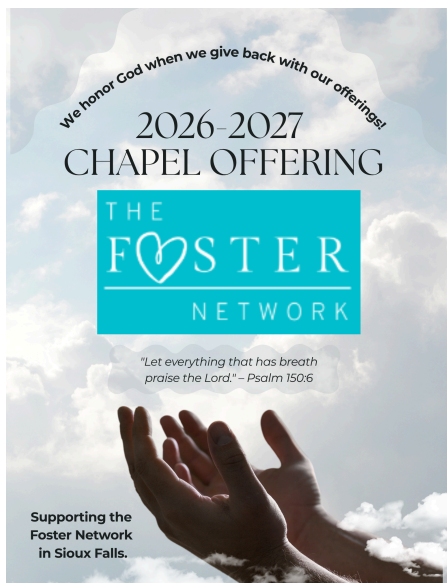
Chapel times for Wednesday, October 7, in the Meyer Chapel & Performing Arts Center, led by Pastor Ratcliffe from Blessed Redeemer Lutheran Church in Brandon. This year's theme is EXTRAordinary. This month's theme is *God Equips the Called; God Provides What We Need*; This week's topic: *God Goes With Us*, based on Joshua 1:9.

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

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

Chapel Offerings This year's offerings will support [The Foster Network](http://TheFosterNetwork.org).

The current offering total is: \$1306.39



Please join us each week by bringing a little of what you have been blessed with in an offering to support the children in the Sioux Falls area who are in need of Foster care. This is one way that **we honor God - by serving others!**

COUNSELING SERVICES

COMMUNITY HEALTH ASSESSMENT SURVEY

The **Sioux Falls Health Department, Avera, Sanford, and the Sioux Falls VA Health Care System** are working together to gather community input about local health and well-being.

Your feedback can help identify community concerns and needs related to **physical and mental health, access to resources, and the social, economic, and environmental factors that affect our community.**

 **Survey open:** September 1–November 30 Take the Survey [HERE](#)

 **Time to complete:** 3–5 minutes

Please note: Carroll Institute is not a partner in this Community Health Assessment.

Contact: Barb DeVos at bdevos@sflutheralschool.com or bdevos@carrollinstitute.com or Direct: 605.681.7993 (confidential voicemail) (Barb's bio [HERE](#)) Claire Daniel at cdaniel@carrollinstitute.org or cdaniel@sflutheralschool.com or Direct: 605.681.7317 (confidential voicemail) (Claire's Bio [HERE](#))

Building Our Foundation—Together - A Message From Our Development Team

RAIN OR SHINE, EAGLES COME HOME

The rain seemed determined to be part of Homecoming Week this year—but it certainly didn't stop our Eagles from coming home!

Alumni returned to campus Wednesday morning to join our students for **Homecoming Chapel**, gathering together in worship and experiencing once again a meaningful part of life at Sioux Falls Lutheran School. It was a special opportunity to welcome familiar faces back while celebrating the faith and mission that have connected generations of Eagles.

By Friday, the rain was still falling, but so was the excitement as we hosted our **first-ever Alumni Homecoming Gathering**. Plans may have shifted indoors, but alumni filled the Upper Room with conversation, laughter, memories, and plenty of Eagle spirit before heading outside for a special halftime recognition at the football game.

Our first alumni Homecoming may have been a little soggy, but we wouldn't have wanted to celebrate it with anyone else. Thank you to all who came home and helped us begin a new tradition of reconnecting and celebrating the people who are part of the SFLS story.





ONCE AN EAGLE, ALWAYS AN EAGLE

EAGLE CARE

Eagle Care will close at 4:45PM on Thursday, October 29 for the Fall Festival.

Eagle Care families, please continue communicating any changes in your child's attendance via email.

If you are in need of drop in care, please email Reid Nusser, Eagle Care Director, at eaglecare@sflutheranschool.com.

FALL FESTIVAL

WHEN: Thursday, October 29, 5:30-7:30PM

🍁🍂 EAGLE FAMILIES... WE NEED YOU!

Do you have a little Fall Festival magic in you? ✨ Or maybe just a love for cookies, prizes, and making kids smile? We're looking for a few awesome Eagle families who would be willing to HEAD UP one of these fun Fall Festival areas:

🍪 **COOKIE WALK** Wondering, "Wait...what exactly is a Cookie Walk?" 🤔 Think Cupcake Walk from last year — but with COOKIES! 🍪🎵 Last year's Cupcake Walk was a HUGE hit, so we're bringing back the fun with a delicious twist!

📋 **GAME PASSES** Help us get our game passes organized and ready so our Eagles can jump from game to game without a hitch! 🎯🏀🎮

🎁 **PRIZES** Someone needs to be the official Keeper of the Prizes. 😊🏆 Help organize all the fun goodies our students will be hoping to take home!

These are perfect opportunities to jump in, be creative, and help make Fall Festival a night our Eagles will be talking about! Interested in taking the lead on one of these? We'd LOVE to have you!

✉️ Reach out to Jabrel at Jabrel17@gmail.com for more details about what each area would involve.

🍁🍪📅🎁 Let's make this Fall Festival FUN, FUN, FUN! 🦅💙

TREAT TRAIL AT THE FALL FESTIVAL: Happy Fall! We will be hosting a Treat Trail event at the Fall Festival. If you would like to decorate a table and pass out treats or trinkets, please let Miss Heather Miller know (hmillers@sflutherschool.com). This event runs from 5:30-7:00PM. Set up will begin at 4:30PM. 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.

PTF (Parent-Teacher-Fellowship)

PTF Meeting

When: October 12

Time: 5:30PM

Where: Upper Room (High School wing)



HOMECOMING: Thanks for showing up in force for your Eagles at Homecoming - despite the rainy weather! PTF enjoyed handing out spirit items to everyone for extra cheer!



FUN RUN: Help us get to our stretch goal of \$55,000! If we make it to our stretch goal the school administrators will do an inflatable costume race at school. We will continue FUN RUN fundraising through October 8 so you can get in any last donations. Thank you for your generosity!

Order Dates by 10 AM	Pick-Up Dates after 11 AM
Monday, October 12	Thursday, October 15
Monday, October 26	Thursday, October 29
Monday, November 9	Thursday, November 12
Monday, November 30	Thursday, December 3

PRESCHOOL

FUN RUN Thank you for all of your time and efforts in helping to raise money for our school. The Fun Run has been a big success! **Help us get to our stretch goal of \$55,000!** To fully fund all of the wonderful plans PTF has for this year, we need to stretch a little further and reach our new goal of \$55,000. Every contribution brings us one step closer to making these plans a reality for our students. There's still time! You can still collect donations through early morning on October 8. The Reward Store will remain open until October 12 for you to select and order your student's prizes.

ELEMENTARY**HEARING SCREENING**

The Sioux Falls Sertoma Club will be here on October 12 to provide hearing screenings for all K-5 and 7th-grade students. We are so grateful for their partnership. In the past, these in-school screenings have served as a helpful early indicator, allowing us to identify students who may benefit from further evaluation and support. If you would like your student to opt out of this screening, please email knewell@sflutherschool.com by October 9.

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PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES

Thank you all for coming to parent-teacher conferences. This time is invaluable as we partner with you to support your student's growth. We loved seeing you!

MIDDLE SCHOOL

HEARING SCREENING

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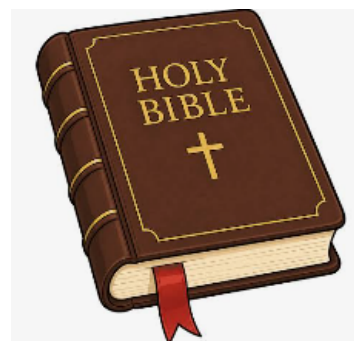
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HIGH SCHOOL

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH NIGHT

Join Concordia University St. Paul for a circuit-wide youth event at Sioux Falls Lutheran School from 6:00-8:00PM on Wednesday, November 4. The evening will include pizza, games, God's word, and a Bible study for parents. **Sign up:** bit.ly/2026-hs-youth.



ACTIVITIES

MIDDLE SCHOOL ONE ACT: Twenty-six 5th - 8th graders are busy getting ready to perform *Gretchen and the Grudge*, by Edith Weiss. Make plans to attend the public performances on Saturday, November 7 at 6:30PM or Sunday, November 8 at 4:30PM. We hope to see you there!

BLOOD DRIVE THANK YOU FROM THE COMMUNITY BLOOD BANK!

Thank you so much for hosting the blood drive! It was a fantastic drive - our team welcomed 23 donors and collected 17 units, a meaningful contribution that could help save up to 51 local patients. What an amazing impact!

We truly appreciate your partnership and look forward to working together again in February. **Mark your calendar for our next blood drive on February 25.**

MARCHING BAND:

- Friday, October 2, MS/HS @ Menno
- Saturday, October 3, HS @ Festival of Bands Parade in Downtown Sioux Falls
 - SFLS will be band #16, stepping off at 9:10
 - [Parade Route](#)

ORAL INTERP: ~~Monday, October 5 at Milbank;~~ Friday, October 23 at Sioux Falls Washington



FELLOWSHIP OF CHRISTIAN ATHLETES: DATE CHANGE: SFLS FCA Huddle will begin in October with the first meeting on Friday, October 9 at 6:45AM. These meetings will be held every-other Friday morning.

ATHLETICS

CROSS COUNTRY:

- Wednesday, October 7: 3PM @ Irene/Wakonda Invite in Irene

FOOTBALL:

- Friday, October 2: NO GAME - BYE week.
- Friday, October 9: vs Estelline/Hendricks at Estelline
- Monday, October 12: MS @ St. Mary's in Dell Rapids

GAME TIME VOLUNTEERS: We have 6 more home volleyball and one remaining home football game.

We cannot run our home games without the help of our volunteers. **We truly appreciate it when you give your time to support our students and help make game nights a success!**

Soar, Eagles! 🦅💙💜

Please use these links to volunteer at our home games. [Football](#) [Volleyball](#)

VOLLEYBALL:

- **Tuesday, October 6:** MS/C/JV/V HOME vs Bridgewater/Emery. Games begin at 3:30
- **Thursday, October 8:** MS/C/JV/V HOME vs Viborg/Hurley. Games begin at 3:30
- **Tuesday, October 13:** MS/C/JV/V HOME vs Beresford. Games begin at 3:30
- **Thursday, October 15:** MS/C/JV/V HOME vs Freeman Public. Games begin at 3:30
- **Monday, October 19:** The Varsity Game that was suspended at Wayverly-South Shore will be finished at 7 PM at the Deubrook High School in White.

WINTER ACTIVITY SIGN UP will be coming soon. Stay tuned for details....

MUSIC



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

[OCTOBER Middle School Ensemble Calendar](#)

Please mark your calendars for the upcoming Marching Eagle Events (please note if they are High School - HS, or Middle School - MS, events):

- Friday, October 2, 2026 - Menno Band Days (BOTH MS and HS bands) 10AM Parade
- Saturday, October 3, 2026 - Festival of Bands in Sioux Falls (ONLY HS band) 8:30AM Parade
- Saturday, October 10, 2026 - March to the Meridian in Yankton - (ONLY HS band)

CONGRATULATIONS to the Middle School Marching Eagles on taking 2nd place at the Beresford Watchdog Marching Festival this last Friday, September 25. The MS Marching Eagles competed against eight other bands in their class. Since the Parker Festival was cancelled due to rain, this was their first competition of the season, and they ROCKED IT! Proud of you Eagles!



AFFILIATE MEMBER

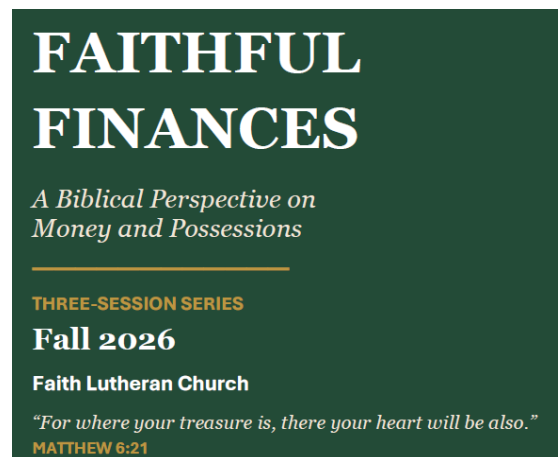
[Risen Savior](#) - Rev. Tanner Sutcliffe

ASSOCIATION CHURCHES

[Faith](#) - Rev. Corey Aker and Rev. Jason Rensner

Join us for a three-session Bible study exploring a faithful, Scripture-centered perspective on finances.

[FAITHFUL FINANCES](#) Oct. 8, Oct. 15, Oct. 22 (7PM)



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

[Memorial](#) - Rev. Doug Slavens, DCE Hailey Jo Miller and DCE Liz Peters

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

[Resurrection](#) - Rev. Chris Ascher

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

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.

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



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LUTHERAN SCHOOL**

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siouxfallslutheran.com | (605) 335-1923