

Upcoming Events/Announcements

If someone you know has become homebound or has moved to a care center, please let us know so we can include them in our care ministries. We love our whole church family and want to ensure that everyone is included, remembered, and loved.

January's Mission Project: Mommy's Closet aids families with children under five and provides them with diapers, wipes, formula, and other hygiene products. One in four parents/caregivers' reports missing nearly 5 days of work per month because of unmet diaper needs. Donate diapers, wipes and formula. Monetary gifts can be checks or cash (denote 'January Mission Project') or given through the CLUMC website at: clumc.com.

Mush Tree Results – 504 Items. We would like to offer a giant thank you to everyone who participated in the MUSH tree drive!

A huge **THANK YOU** to everyone who donated cereal for the Open-Heart UMC Food Pantry. It has been a huge blessing to the many neighbors in the area. 128 boxes of cereal will be shared from CLUMC.

Calendar at a Glance

January 17: Brunch Bunch 8:30 am in Classroom 1 & 2

January 19: Office Closed (Martin Luther King Day Holiday)

January 17: Dinner for 8, Soup Lunch & White Elephant



For the week of
January 11, 2025
Canyon Lake
United Methodist Church
Rapid City, SD

"What Is Heaven Like?"

As part of our "Burning Questions" series, this week we explore "What Is Heaven Like?" Each of us has some kind of opinion about this, but the fact of the matter is that I have not met anyone in Canyon Lake Church who has actually been there yet. As we explore these topics each week, we are tapping into our sources of Scripture, Tradition, Reason and Experience. (As United Methodists, we know these four sources as "The Wesleyan Quadrilateral".) You will need a very brief definition of these words in order to study this week. We know God through Scripture. It is the bedrock of our faith. We do not all interpret it the same, but it is still our foundation of belief. We know God through Tradition. It is the bedrock of our church community. How we remember and translate our traditions, both old and new is important. We know God through Reason. God gave each of us the gift of a brain and expects us to use it! We know God through Experience. In tradition we learn about faith through what happened to others, but in the experiences that are our own we learn first-hand what God is up to in our own lives.

Prayer: Lord, open our hearts and minds that through Scripture, Tradition, Reason, and Experience we may see you in new and deeper ways. Open our lives that as we learn and grow, we may share God's love with so many others around us. Today, Lord, meet us here. Amen

Monday 1.12 "God Created the Heavens" Isaiah 42:5-7
Looking through the four lenses of Scripture, Tradition, Reason, and Experience, how does this passage teach you and help you understand heaven in a deeper way? Let us be more specific. How does Scripture help you understand heaven? Are there other passages this makes you think of that help you? What Traditions can you think of that relate this passage to understanding heaven? In what ways does reason (thought and logic) bring you deeper comprehension or curiosity? What Experiences have you had personally that help you understand better?

Tuesday 1.13 "This is what heaven looked like when I was in a trance." **Revelation 4:1-5**

The writer of Revelation was absolutely a mystic. The author experienced God during trance-like times. Looking through the four lenses of Scripture, Tradition, Reason, and Experience, how does this passage teach you and help you understand heaven in a deeper way?

Wednesday 1.14 "The Lord's Prayer" Matthew 6:7-10
"Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven."
Jesus was praying for the Kingdom of God to come down to earth, not just for all of us on earth to be transported up to heaven. Looking through the four lenses of Scripture, Tradition, Reason, and Experience how does this passage teach you and help you understand heaven in a deeper way?

Thursday 1.15 "God Made Heaven and Earth" Psalm 121:1-3
All of it! God made all of it! From the tiniest atomic particles to the largest galaxy, God made all of it. The heavens / heaven are staring us in the face. Looking through the four lenses of Scripture, Tradition, Reason, and Experience, how does this passage teach you and help you understand heaven in a deeper way?

Friday 1.16 "Paul on Mars Hill" Acts 17:22-25
Paul was talking with the Greeks in Athens who were a pretty sophisticated group. They believed in their gods, but Paul wanted to take them deeper. You can understand this passage in two different perspective: 1) How did this help the Greeks to understand a Christian concept of God's presence AND the after-life, and 2) How does this help us today? Looking through the four lenses of Scripture, Tradition, Reason, and Experience, how does this passage teach you and help you understand heaven in a deeper way?

Saturday 1.17 "With Jesus in Paradise" Luke 23:39-43
Two thieves hung on the crosses on Golgotha on the day of Jesus' crucifixion. What would their concept of heaven have been in the face of this excruciating dying time? Looking through the four lenses of Scripture, Tradition, Reason, and Experience, how does this passage teach you and help you understand heaven in a deeper way?

Sermon Notes