

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.

SHOEBOX CHRISTMAS UPDATE: We have surpassed our goal of 234 boxes for our Shoebox Christmas mission! Boxes delivered on December 5. **Thank you** for continuing to keep this wonderful CLUMC tradition alive!

Our December mission is MUSH – Mittens, Underwear, Socks & Hats. We are collecting WARM mittens, socks, and hats for ADULT men and women. And everyone needs (clean) underwear, too. Thank you for providing some of the "essentials" needed for cold winter days and nights.

This year's Advent sermon series will be based on Amy-Jill Levine's book, ***A Child is Born***. Check out [Cokesbury](#) to learn more about the study and purchase books if you would like to follow along.

Order your poinsettias today to remember or honor your loved ones. They will decorate the sanctuary on Christmas Eve, and you can take a poinsettia home afterward. The cost is \$17. Find poinsettia forms in the office and lobby or call the office to order. The deadline to order poinsettias is December 14.

CLUMC will be holding a **Longest Night service at 5:30 p.m.** on Saturday, December 21. This service is for those who need a quiet moment away from all the hurry and hype of Christmas.

Christmas Eve services will be held on December 24 at 2 p.m. (Family Focused), 4 p.m. (Contemporary), 6 p.m. (Traditional), and 10 p.m. (Candlelight/Acapella).

Calendar at a Glance

December 13: UWF Christmas Brunch Bunch

December 14: Children's Christmas Program

December 21: Longest Night Service @ 5:30 PM

December 24: Christmas Eve Services @ 2 PM, 4 PM, 6 PM, and 10 PM

December 28: One combined Sunday Service @ 9 AM

THE PATH

For the week of
December 14, 2025

Canyon Lake
United Methodist Church
Rapid City, SD

Advent 3

"God's Ability to Provide"

God provides for us in so many ways. God has provided us the breath of life, wisdom, a mind to consider the world around us, and the free will to do as we desire. Of course, God desires for us to follow the path that leads to God. So, God provided for us again. God came to us through Jesus. God's provision is seen throughout the entire Biblical narrative so this week we will jump around a bit to see some of God's many provisions for humanity and for individuals, some of which were asked for, some demanded, and some simply needed.

Prayer: Lord God, creator of all humankind, I bring to you the cares and concerns of all your creatures. Look now to those who cry for help from every corner of the earth, for you alone are able to satisfy our deepest desires. Amen.

In the Exodus story, God has already provided deliverance from slavery to the Hebrew people. Now they find themselves in the desert and fear they will die without food or water. I can understand that fear but would a God who just saved you in miraculous ways, really let that happen now? No. Even in their complaints, even in their fear, God provided. When has God provided for you even in moments when maybe you were less than grateful for past or current provision?



God does not always act in miraculous ways to protect us, but in Daniel's story, we see one instance where God does. Looking at your life, where do you find moments where you can see God's protection on you or those close to you? Are there instances of ordinary protection and also miraculous protection?

This Psalm was a hymn of praise meant for use during the Jewish festivals at the temple. This means it would have been heard often over a person's life. It reminds of things God had done in the past, and it offers continuous praise for those provisions. By using these words through the years, they never stopped thanking God for those moments of provision so long ago. Have you found yourself thanking God repeatedly for moments of provision in your life?

Jesus describes himself as a good shepherd, who offers protection, care, good food, and shelter to his flock. Where in your life do you see God's provision for you in protection, care, food, shelter, or other things?

God is not in the business of withholding things from us simply because. If something we ask for is not given, it is for a reason. Perhaps it was not the right time, or our desire did not line up with God's desire. When have you asked something of God and God did not provide it? When have you asked something of God and God did provide it yet maybe not how you expected?

As part of the believing community, we help to watch over each other. We are called to love others as God has loved each of us. This means that we are to act as Jesus did. If Jesus saw himself as a good shepherd, tending the flock, then we too can provide in similar ways for each other. When has provision from God come through the hands of those around you?

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 9 a.m.- 2 p.m. / Friday 9 a.m.- 12 noon