

## 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 caring ministries. We love our whole church family and want to ensure that everyone is included, remembered, and loved.

**Youth Group Mission Project:** Canyon Lake and 1st United Methodist Church will be doing a joint youth group mission project together on the evening of Wednesday, April 23 from 6-7pm here at the CLC! If you are a youth or a parent interested in participating, contact Hannah O'Donnell at 605-545-1404.

**A Youth Council:** Our youth program is growing! It is now time for a Youth Planning Council to be created to encourage even more growth. If you are a youth or an adult who is interested in being a supportive part of our planning and meeting process, you are invited to contact our Youth Director, Hannah O'Donnell, to find out more about it. Whether it as a parent, student, staff member, or engaged church member, we are now at a point where we need deeper input and bigger participation. Hannah can be reached at 605-545-1404 or [hannah.odonnell@clumc.com](mailto:hannah.odonnell@clumc.com).

**UWF Spring Salad Luncheon:** Annual Salad Luncheon from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM in the Christian Life Center at Canyon Lake UMC. We are signing up people to bring salads and bars, and people to help set up, serve and clean up afterwards. The cost is \$10.00 for adults, children are free. Please bring your friends and enjoy some good food, fellowship, and door prizes. Our theme is "**Plant Seeds of Faith**". You can find someone in the narthex on Sunday mornings to get on the list or call the church office, 605-348-1080.

### Calendar at a Glance

**Sign up for Summer Camp Early Bird Registration Deadline April 30, 2025!**

**May 3: UWF Annual Salad Luncheon: 11:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. in the CLC**

**May 4: Confirmation**

**May 7: Last Wednesday Night Activities**

**May 10: Soul Care Saturday: 9:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. in the CLC**

**May 11: Last Sunday School/Teacher Recognition/ Teacher Appreciation**

**May 17: Rainbow 5K: 9 A.M. at Old Storybook Island Shelter, 2911 Canyon Lake Drive, Rapid City, SD**

**May 18: Canyon Lake United Methodist Church 75th Anniversary. Pastor Bob Ruedebusch preaching**

**May 19: The Strength We Carry: St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 6:30 P.M., 910 Sioux San Drive, Rapid City, SD**

**May 27: Beginning of Summer Worship Hours**

**May 28: Church Office Closed for Memorial Day**

**May 29: Beginning Summer Office Hours**

# THE PATH



**For the week of  
April 27, 2025**

**Canyon Lake  
United Methodist Church  
Rapid City, SD**

**"Exploring 1 John"**

This week we explore together the small New Testament book of 1 John. This letter was very likely written by the same author as the Gospel according to John. These pages are older than the gospels, so were passed around to the early churches years before the actual Gospel of John. This small book is really important to us in the Wesleyan and Methodist traditions. John Wesley loved 1 John. It was a significant text for many of his sermons through the decades of the eighteenth century. He especially loved to explore the themes of sin, salvation, and repentance. The focus was to keep people living in God's life, Spirit, and grace.

Prayer: Lord, you are our light in the midst of a dark world. In all of our sinning, you continue to walk with us. In the middle of our doubting, you are here with us. In the middle of our searching for truth, you are the Living Truth. Guide us as we learn and grow. Guide us as we search for you. Amen.

**Monday 4.28**

**"Our God Relationship"**

1 John 1

Verse 5 says this: "God is light and there is no darkness in God at all." You would think it would be obvious that as people we would move toward the light as we live in a dark world filled with too much temptation and just plain evil. Sadly, this is not so. We are drawn to the very things that we should be staying away from. So, where do we begin? We start by looking at our relationship with God. What is it that separates you from God? Reread verses 8-9. What are the areas of sin in your life?

**Tuesday 4.29**

**"A Community of Believers"**

1 John 2

Since we are all sinners, it is crucial to know that we are not alone. We live in a community of believers who move toward forgiveness. God's invitation is to love people, not all the stuff around us. In this chapter we are being warned. So, what are the warnings that you hear in chapter 2? Which ones really apply to you?

**Wednesday 4.30**

**"Responding with Holy Lives"**

1 John 3

We as individuals tied together in community move away from sin and toward forgiveness. Being fully aware of our shortfalls, we are learning to love others in the same way that Jesus did. It's a long and difficult lesson to learn. "Lets not love with words or speech but with action and truth." That's what verse 18 says. Who is it your life that you consider to be a living example of this?

**Thursday 5.1**

**"Set Apart"**

1 John 4

Here comes the power of 1 John. Having set up his argument, the author now drives home the issue that we are to love each other. Full stop. Period. No questions. Love. Each. Other. We do this because God first loved us. We do not give love or receive love because anyone has earned it or deserves it. We love because God

first loved us. How is it that you have succeeded in loving others, especially those who are difficult?

**Friday 5.2**

**"Just Love"**

1 John 5

God's command to love. Jesus' example of love. Our prayers of love. Having argued throughout this letter about what to do and how to do it, this last chapter "pulls the trigger" and instructs us (actually more like demands) that we who call ourselves followers of Jesus Christ actually DO follow Jesus in thought, words, and actions. This means not just as individuals but as the community of Christ... The church. We are never in this alone. We are constantly living Christ's love together as a witness into our world.

**Saturday 5.3**

**"A Light Breaks the Darkness"**

Gospel of John 1:1-14

Now, flip back to the beginning of our New Testament to see this same author go into a deep and focused telling of the Jesus story. These first 14 verses of the Gospel of John are called the "Prologue." They set the table for the feast of stories that are about to be shared with these earliest Christians and all of the generations that have lived through the centuries absorbing and living the stories. Can you see similarities between the books? What is it that jumps out at you?



**Sermon Notes**

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