

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.

Our January mission will be soup packets. CLUMC Volunteers will assemble 500-600 packets of soup mix for the recipients of Church Response. Your monetary donations will buy the necessary supplies. On January 9, 16, 23 and 30 (all Thursdays) from 1-4 p.m., we will come together to package the soup ingredients in the CLC Gym. If you would like to assist, please join us. Questions can be directed to Candy Benne @ 605-490-5007. Remember... ***Comfort in a Bowl, Soup for the Soul.*** Mark your check or gift "soup packets."

Canyon Lake UMC Celebrates 75 Years! Next weekend (Jan. 11 & 12), we will kick off a year full of 75th Anniversary celebrations! Special guest Pastor Kent Millard will preach on Sunday, January 12. In between Sunday services, please drop by the Christian Life Center for an informal time of fellowship with coffee and light snacks. We will also have a time of fellowship and snacks following our Saturday evening service.

BEWARE OF SCAMS! We have been made aware that an unknown individual, claiming to be Pastor Scott, has asked **SEVERAL MEMBERS** of our congregation to purchase gift cards for him. If you receive an email or text message that asks you to click a link, that asks for you to send gift cards or cash, or that seems suspicious in any way, **PLEASE DO NOT RESPOND.** We will never ask for help in this way. If you are ever unsure about the legitimacy of emails or text messages that seem to be coming from a pastor or anyone here at the church, please call the church office and we can help you sort it out.

Changes are coming to online worship! Beginning Sunday, January 5, we will release a pre-recorded online service at 8:30 a.m. This service will no longer be a livestream of our Sunday in person worship. When special services occur (such as those with guest speakers or on holidays), we will generally still release this new pre-recorded format, but we will also do a livestream of the 10:45 a.m. in person service.

Calendar at a Glance

January 5: No Children's or Youth Sunday School

January 7: GetUp&Go from 7-9 a.m. in the Coffee Café

January 11 & 12: 75th Anniversary Kickoff Celebrations

January 12: Pastor Kent Millard preaching

January 28: Blood Drive in Christian Life Center

THE PATH



For the week of
January 5, 2025
Canyon Lake
United Methodist Church
Rapid City, SD

Covenant

As we celebrated the Wesleyan Covenant Renewal Service this past weekend, this week we explore covenants in the Bible. It is helpful to remember that a promise is one-sided: "I promise to do this for you." On the other hand, a covenant is two-sided: "You will do this for me, and I will do this for you." There are many covenants found throughout scripture. Let's explore.

Prayer: God of All Creation, you are our covenant God. As in millennia past, you walk with us today as you walked with our ancestors throughout the most ancient generations. Use us, Lord, to help create your kingdom here in our world and even our own communities. May your love shine through the covenants in which we participate.

Monday 1.6 "The Ancient Jews" Deuteronomy 31:9-13
Moses gave the instructions to the ancient priests. He gave instructions how to live as a people in covenant with God. They listened to it being read out loud. What were some of those instructions?

Tuesday 1.7 "Josiah's Reforms" 2 Kings 23:1-3
The ancient covenant from yesterday's reading was eventually neglected and even forgotten. Centuries later, Israel had a new king, Josiah. He helped institute a renovation of the Temple. In a strange twist, during the renovation work, a copy of the Law (the Covenant) was found inside an old wall. Josiah declared a holiday, gathered the people, and read the scroll out loud to them. God was again to be claimed as their God, and the people were called to keep the commands once again.

Wednesday 1.8 "A New Covenant" Jeremiah 31:31-34
Again, centuries later, the people were called back into covenant with God, this time by Jeremiah. This time it took a new form. In verse 33, the Lord says, "I will put my instructions within them and engrave them on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people." The Covenant is to be carried deeply inside the heart and mind of each person.

Thursday 1.9 "Covenant as Celebration" Psalm 50:1-15
In this joyful Psalm, the author reminds people that a covenant isn't about keeping every little jot and tittle of the Law. Their faith was not about who could offer the best animal for sacrifice but rather about everyone offering a sacrifice that was thanksgiving for all that God had been doing throughout the ages.

Friday 1.10 "You will be holy" 1 Peter 1:13-21
This author calls the people in a different way. They were reminded of covenant by remembering that they are God's children. And in verse 16, hear the words of covenant invitation "You will be holy, because I am holy."

A promise is one-sided. A covenant is two-sided. We are called to fulfill our side of the bargain.

Saturday 1.11 "The True Vine"
The word "covenant" is not used in this passage, but using the powerful imagery of a vine with branches and fruit, the exact same truth is shared again. "I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will produce much fruit." (vs 5) How do you see yourself living in covenant with God?



Sermon Notes
