

## Upcoming Events/Announcements

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

**Our June Mission is Clothe-a-Kid**, helping to purchase clothes for area school children. Although the one-day shopping event is no longer part of the program, parents or guardians can still earn \$100 clothing vouchers for their children after completing Love INC classes. Questions? Contact Jeri Costlow at (605) 209-0720. Mark your gifts "Clothe a Kid."

**Let's Get Ready to Rummage!** Our annual Rummage Sale will be held on July 19 and 20. Begin bringing good, used items for the sale to Classroom B in the CLC on June 29. Volunteers are needed July 16-18 to unpack donations and set up. We need volunteers July 19-20 to sell at the sale and clean up afterwards. Please use the sign-up sheet in the narthex to let us know when you are available to help.

**Help Needed!** Our Board of Trustees is looking for someone with access to large equipment to help move large landscaping rocks and a playground tire onto a flatbed for disposal. If you can help, contact Sandra at (605) 415-0414.

**Our church will be celebrating its 75th anniversary in 2025.** We are looking for a team to plan the celebration, and we are also looking for individuals who are interested in adding to our written archives that chronicled our first 50 years back in 2000. If you are interested in helping or learning more, call Lynne Garcia at (605) 381-2226 or contact the church office.

**Pride in the Park is on Saturday, June 29.** If you would like to sit at Canyon Lake UMC's information table, extend a welcome to our faith family, and hand out ice pops, bubble wands, and stickers, contact Jodi Sugrue at [JodiSugrue@gmail.com](mailto:JodiSugrue@gmail.com)

**Job Opening:** We are looking for a Middle and Senior High Youth Director. This quarter-time position begins in August. Contact the office for an application. The posting closes July 3, 2024.

## Calendar Items & Events

**June 23-29:** Youth Mission Trip

**June 29:** Pride in the Park

**July 2:** Life Line Screening in the CLC

**July 19-20:** CLUMC Rummage Sale

**July 23-25:** Vacation Bible School @ CLUMC

# THE PATH



For the week of  
**June 23, 2024**

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

This week we read through two books, Ecclesiastes and Song of Songs/Solomon. For this week, I (Pastor Stephanie) am using my Study Bibles and providing you with some of the language insights, life applications, and specifically Wesleyan topics that they point out and provide. If you have never used a study bible and would like to learn about what they are, please ask Pastor Stephanie or Pastor Scott.

**Prayer: Lord God, You have given us Your Word through the Old Testament, You have given us Your Word through Jesus' life, and You have given us Your Word through the compilation of the New Testament. Help us to also recognize that You have provided us with those who are knowledgeable to guide us in our own reading and learning of Your Word. Empower us to use all that you have given us, Your scriptures, our traditions, our reason, and our experience, to grow closer to you.**

**Monday 6.24**

**"Habel"**

**Ecclesiastes 1**

In the Hebrew text of this book, the word *habel* is used 37 times. Hebrew terms are highly contextual, and *habel* is translated in several ways throughout the book, *but in* 1:2 and 12:8 the context brings it to mean "pointless." Both verses use the same phrase, "Perfectly pointless. Everything is pointless." As we start Ecclesiastes, how do you feel about

what we are about to read knowing this phrase both starts and ends the text?

**Tuesday 6.25 "Giving Up\*" Ecclesiastes 2**

Sometimes we live for the wrong reasons and pursue the wrong things. When we do this, we keep God on the edge of our lives. Without God, things have no meaning and cannot fill the void that is left. When we choose to give up what we want and give in to what God wants, we will be led to fulfilling, meaningful, and purposeful lives. When have you been faced with the choice between your way and God's way? What did you choose? How did things turn out?

**Wednesday 6.26 "Moral Image of God\*\*" Ecclesiastes 7:29**

For Wesley, the "moral image of God" is the character of God, which is holy-love, while the "natural image of God" refers to God's natural attributes. We are made in the image of God but perhaps we have to choose to live into the moral image of God. We reflect this moral image of God when we are growing in truly knowing, loving, and obeying God. For Wesley, this means we must be constantly in the presence of God to take God in more and more and reflect God out in our life. What do, or can you do, to keep yourself constantly in God's presence?

**Thursday 6.27 "Preparation" Song of Songs**

Today we begin Song of Songs/Solomon. Some love this book, some would choose not to read it. This is love poetry that can be read as using physical love to express human and divine love. It reflects both the relationship that can be had and grown between God (the man) and humanity (the woman) and also the ideal of the love that can exist in our human relationships. Before we start reading, what assumptions or thoughts about this book are you carrying with you either from reading it before or just hearing about it?

**Friday 6.28 "Charity^" Song of Songs**

This entire book is about love in relationship, and the word love is spoken many times. But did you know that love and charity are mostly synonymous? Wesley was worried about how frequently the word charity showed up in Bible translations of his day, fearing people would reduce it down to simply acts of financial assistance instead of seeing it to

also mean caring and sacrificial acts of love. Charity is not simply things we do, or a way we feel, it should be part of who we are. Charity in our lives reflects God's image in us. Think about love and charity, about how we separate them in our world. How can we live to show them together, as one, as we show God to the world?

**Saturday 6.29 "Beauty^^" Song of Songs**

Watch couples who have been married for a long time and who are obviously still in love. They are removed from the appearances and passions of youth, what we would normally see as beauty, but in them we can see the maturing of love and devotion, a different beauty. Watch and you will be convinced that these couples still see each other with breathless wonder that exclaims, "Out of all this world, you have chosen me!" What couples have you known that this seems/seemed true for? How do you think they grew this way?

**Based on The Wesley Study Bible:**

**\*Life Application Topic: Giving Up p. 795**

**\*\*Wesleyan Core Term: Moral Image of God p. 799**

**^Wesleyan Core Term: Charity p. 806**

**^^Wesleyan Core Term: Beauty p. 808**

**Sermon Notes**

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