

Upcoming Events/Announcements

MUSH Tree- Let's make some nice warm MUSH—not in a bowl but on the CLUMC tree! Some of our neighbors battle cold right now and MUSH WILL help. For the next two weekends, let's decorate CLUMC's MUSH tree with new UNDERWEAR and new winter SOCKS, the most critical clothing needs for homeless adults. (Look for wool blend socks that keep the wearer warm even if they get wet.)

We'll donate your gifts to Cornerstone, HOPE Center, Wellfully, and the Veterans Center.

- Shop locally and bring items during Sunday worship or weekday office hours.
- Give using an envelope or check marked MUSH and a mission volunteer will shop for you
- Shop online and have your purchase shipped directly to CLUMC, 3500 Canyon Lake Drive, Rapid City SD 57702. Snowbirds, this is a great way for you to participate long-distance!

Note: Our school kids are well-supplied thanks to your generosity, but HATS and MITTENS (gloves) for adults are welcomed.

Script Cards are for sale in the back outside the sanctuary or ask a pastor to get them from the safe. When you buy a gift card a percentage of that money goes back to the church for kids and youth ministries!

Painters, we have brightened up 3 daycare rooms with paint downstairs for Westside Preschool. We have 4 to go! February 16 & 17 is our next opportunity to paint 2 more rooms. If you can help, please call Sandra Lashley at 605-415-0414.

Youth Breakfast Fundraiser- TODAY! Sunday, January 29th following the 8:30 worship service. We will be cooking and serving pancakes, sausage, and fruit to the congregation! This is a fundraiser for their trip to Florida for Youth 2023 July 22-29. So mark it on your calendars and come hungry!

Save the Date- We will host a Blood Drive on February 28th

THE PATH

For the week of January 29th

Canyon Lake
United Methodist Church
In Rapid City, SD

“What if Religion Was a Tool, Not a Weapon?”

In its best form, religion and scripture are wonderful tools that help bring wholeness and healing to people's lives. However, religion and scripture can also be weaponized and used to hurt, control, and dehumanize people. So, this week we explore a very specific passage in the Gospel according to Matthew, chapter 23. Jesus had a HUGE bone of contention with the organized religion of his day and along with that the government that ruled over the Jewish people. He was point blank in his accusations aimed at his own faith as it was being used as a weapon against others.

Prayer: God of All People, we praise your name for all that is beautiful in our world. This day we pray for our church, for our Christian religion around the globe, and for each of us as individual people of faith. We pray that we would be your arms and legs, that we would be your eyes and ears, that we would be the people who are constantly seeking to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with you. Amen.

Monday 1.30 “Justice, Kindness, Humility” **Micah 6:6-8**

This passage would have been very familiar to Jesus. He would have had it memorized and internalized. He deeply believed in the walk of faith that followed God while blessing the people around him. How is it that you follow these instructions to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God?

Tuesday 1.31 “Shutting the Door” **Matthew 23:13-14**

It is so common to drive down a street and see a church with the sign on the front that says “Everyone welcome.” Every church wants to be


CANYON LAKE
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

In our worst forms, we can become "whitewashed tombs", bright and clean on the outside to all appearances while being filled with death and destruction on the inside. Throughout this entire chapter, Jesus is meeting head-on the problems he sees in his own religion. What is it that you especially notice in this passage? What would Jesus have to say about our faith as we live it and our church as we gather?

Sermon Notes

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