

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.

January's Mission Project: Mommy's Closet aids families with children under five and provides them with diapers, wipes, formula, and other hygiene products. One in four parents/caregivers' reports missing nearly 5 days of work per month because of unmet diaper needs. Donate diapers, wipes and formula. Monetary gifts can be checks or cash (denote 'January Mission Project') or given through the CLUMC website at: clumc.com.

Calendar at a Glance

January 17: Brunch Bunch 8:30 am in Classroom 1 & 2.



For the week of
January 4, 2025

Canyon Lake
United Methodist Church
Rapid City, SD

The Bible is a wonderfully complex book. It is filled with stories, history, poetry, and guidance. It is a book that offers us ways of understanding God but also understanding the journey of God's people. One of the things that it offers us is a large collection of the images of God. We sometimes in our direct relationships understand God, our experience of God. But at other times we understand God by learning the metaphors and images that represent and explain God. There are dozens of these in the Bible. This week we will explore just a handful of these in order to gain a deeper understanding.

As Prayer this week, here are the words of the hymn "God of Many Names" in our UM hymnal No. 105:

God of many names, gathered into One, in your glory come and meet us, moving endlessly becoming. God of hovering wings womb and birth of time, joyfully we sing your praises, breath of life in every people. God of wounded hands, web and loom of love, in your glory come and meet us, carpenter of new creation. God of many names, gathered into One joyfully we sing your praises, moving, endlessly becoming: Hush, hush, hallelujah, hallelujah! Shout, shout, hallelujah, hallelujah! Sing, sing, hallelujah, hallelujah! Sing God is love, God is love! Amen!

Monday 1.5**"Creator"****Genesis 1**

In the book of Genesis there is not one story of creation, but two. This first story is actually the newer of the two. In its original Hebrew language, this is a beautiful poem celebrating a God who is not there to punish and destroy us but instead to feed and fulfill us as an integral element of creation. How do you most powerfully see God as Creator in scripture AND in the world around us?

Sermon Notes

Tuesday 1.6**"Refuge, Shield, Deliverer"****Psalm 18:1-15**

This psalm is FILLED with imagery, trying to give us mental pictures of God in multiple ways. Ask yourself: Which of these images do I agree with and are relevant to me? Which of these are NOT relevant to me? Why and why not?

Wednesday 1.7**"Shepherd"****Psalm 23**

This psalm is perhaps the oldest affirmation of faith that many of us carry. Very likely written by King David a millennia before Jesus' birth, the picture and description of God as Shepherd is powerful. How, then, is God YOUR Shepherd?

Thursday 1.8**"Beloved"****Song of Solomon 2:8-17**

The Song of Solomon is the only book of the Bible in which the name of God is not mentioned. Those in both the Jewish and Christian traditions who resonate with this poetry see the relationship of these lovers as representative of God's love with people and the church. "Beloved" God is our Beloved, and we are God's.

Friday 1.9**"Love"****1 John 4:7-21**

The writer of this amazing and beautiful letter (most likely the same person who wrote the Gospel of John), is point blank with us: How dare we claim to love God if we do not love people. God. Is. Love. Period. How do you see these words speaking in your life both accusing and affirming you in your faith walk?

Saturday 1.10**"Bread of Life"****John 6:35-51**

From the very earliest days of our Christianity, we have been living with such rich imagery. Jesus is not just compared to bread but on a much deeper level becomes the reality of life that feeds us. What is it that jumps out at you in this passage? How is it that Christ is YOUR bread of life?

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