

A Little Bit of Sunshine

Email: oslc@rushmore.com

Website: www.oslcspearfish.com

March 2025



Dear Friends,

In my personal opinion (which I happen to hold in high regard☺) the month of March leaves a lot to be desired, as a general rule. The weather is usually a roller-coaster of suckiness, from the worst of winter weather to teasing bits of springtime, only to be thrown back into arctic nonsense. Yay. That, and we're still a long way from summer's laid-back vibe... a long way from no school and warm nights and open windows. The one saving grace of March is that it isn't February. That, and with each passing day, we get more daylight. Yes, the days start to really feel like they're getting longer as the sun gets up ever earlier and sets ever later. And that, my friends, is how we know that Easter is coming.

"The first Sunday after the first full moon after the spring equinox..." Repeat until you've got it memorized. That little formula is what determines when we celebrate our Lord's resurrection at Easter each year. (Actually, we celebrate Jesus' resurrection every Sunday, every day, as Christians, but we do recognize one special Easter Festival Day every spring.) The formula, though somewhat convoluted sounding, actually makes some sense. The Christian faith to which we are heirs, expressed in the Western Church of antiquity, was most firmly established in the northern hemisphere. With the sun's passing the equator (or, more correctly stated, as the northern half of the earth tilts back toward the sun) we in this part of the world begin to feel the earth's warming and we know that life is getting ready to spring forth again from the dormant ground. The first full moon of Spring reminds us of the light shining even in the darkest night, even in the face of death. Sounds like Easter to me! Hence, the formula: we celebrate Easter on the first Sunday after the first full moon after the spring equinox.

This year, Easter comes on April 20th. That means that our forty-day season of Lent, that preparatory time of examining our faith and readying ourselves for Easter, begins with Ash Wednesday, March 5th. We get ready for Easter by first admitting our own mortality, our own frailty and the fact that we are people in need of God's grace. (Considering how I generally feel about March, it couldn't be a better fit!) We remember our mortality by marking our foreheads with ashes, and then we go to the table for the Lord's Supper. We admit our need before God, and God gives freely. It's the foundation of our faith as Christians.

Even before we of OSLC started gathering for worship every Wednesday evening during the school year with Wednesday Word, it had been the tradition of our congregation to gather on the Wednesday evenings of the Lenten season. That tradition continues still. During the Wednesday evenings of Lent, we gather for supper beginning at 5:16 P.M., and then move into the sanctuary for a brief time of worship together in the sanctuary at 6:26 P.M. Once again, we will use the **Holden Evening Prayer** liturgy and its beautiful music as the foundation of our time together, letting Jesus' journey to the cross from the Gospel of Luke be our guide.

Plan on joining us this year. Use this time to commit yourself to a deeper examination of your faith and what it means to accompany Jesus through and in the midst of the craziness of this world as it is. It might just be that Easter will spring forth for you in a new way.

Thinking warm thoughts...

Pastor Stephan Sandness

Ash Wednesday

We invite you into the season of Lent by offering you two opportunities for Worship at OSLC on Ash Wednesday, March 5 at 12:00 noon and 6:26 P.M. (Both services are identical... choose whichever works best in your schedule). On this day, we hear our Lord's invitation to a time of self-examination and repentance for the purpose of growing into a deeper understanding of God's grace and unconditional love. We mark our foreheads with the sign of the cross in ashes, reminding us of our mortality and our need for a life that must come from outside of ourselves. In the sacrament of Holy Communion, we're strengthened for the forty-day journey of Lent that will eventually put us at the foot of Jesus' cross on Good Friday.

Make plans to join us either at noon or at 6:26 P.M. to begin this deep dive into God's unbounded grace!

Community Lenten Lunches and Worship Wednesdays

March 12 – April 2
12 noon



at Our Savior's Lutheran Church
**Proceeds benefit the Spearfish
Ministerial Assistance Fund.**

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME



Daylight Saving Time
begins March 9!
Don't forget to set your
clocks ahead!

The "Love Your Neighbor" Jar for the month of March

will benefit World Hunger Appeal

January's Love Your Neighbor Jar raised
\$1,219.17 for Lutheran Social Services.

World Hunger Offerings

Many people in our neighborhoods, country, and world do not have the basic things or opportunities needed for life. Your contributions to ELCA World Hunger make a difference!



A **special offering** for World Hunger will be received in worship on **March 23** with an envelope available in your worship bulletin. Also, your contributions to the **Love Your Neighbor Jar** throughout the month of March will go to ELCA World Hunger.

Thank you for your generous contributions!

Centering Prayer



Tuesdays

March 11, 18, 25, April 1, 8, 15

Please join us during Lent on Tuesdays from 12:15 - 12:45 pm in the sanctuary at Our Savior's Lutheran Church.

Centering Prayer is a form of contemplative prayer—the opening of mind and heart—to God. Come relax and experience this 20-minute meditative prayer form. Questions? Contact Deacon Laura @ 642-3715 or oslc1@rushmore.com

Dear friends,

As we prepare to enter the season of Lent this month, I have been pondering what shape I want that to take in my life this year. Our personal and community calendars and commitments don't slow down, and the stresses of the world around us grow. Some of us might choose to "give something up" during this season in order to turn mind and heart toward God. But for me this year, I am wondering "**what should I add?**" I don't mean that I want a new commitment or addition to my to-do list. I mean "what will my priority be during this introspective and penitential season?"

I have decided to **NOTICE** my highs and lows each day and how God might be at work in both. This faith practice is called **The Examen**. I invite you into conversation with me if you would like to learn more about it.

And, along with your family, I will use the daily Devotions for Lent 2025 "**life renewed**". A copy of the devotional for your family is available on a table by the Sanctuary.

All are welcome to join us for ecumenical gathering for Centering Prayer in the church sanctuary on Tuesdays at 12:15 pm, March 11 through April 15.

God's peace be with you...
~ Deacon Laura Lee Campbell

Treasurer's Report

As of January 31, 2025

Year-to-date Offerings:	\$63,377.14
Year-to-date Expenses:	\$50,456.47
Year-to-date Budget	\$51,554.00

Marthas Gathering Women's Evening Bible Study



Faithfulness, by Denise Rector

Continuing ...

Tuesday, March 18, 6:30 – 7:45 pm

Peter & Cornelius

Tuesday, April 15, 6:30 – 7:45 pm

Jairus and the Woman who is bleeding

As a resource, we use the **Gather** magazine of the Women of the ELCA.

We meet at the church Fireside Room/Library. Questions? Contact oslc1@rushmore.com or 605-642-3715

SonShine Squad

The SonShine Squad will meet on Monday, March 3, 2025 at 9:00 am in the Church Library.



Join us Tuesday evenings at 7pm at The Living Room for the Young Adults Bible Study Group. Come as you are for a night of fellowship and discussion of the Word. We meet every Tuesday at 7:00 PM. Child care can be provided with advanced notice. Reach out to Brady Harr if interested or with questions 605-641-5949 or bwharr@gmail.com.



Senior Ministry

Sunday Morning Transportation

Need a ride to church on Sunday mornings for the 8:30 AM Worship Service?
Call the church office (605-642-3715) by 2 pm Friday afternoon to reserve a ride.

Worship DVD and Bulletin



If you are homebound on Sunday mornings and would like to have a DVD and/or bulletin of worship, please let us know at 605-642-3715.

Confirmation

March Confirmation Calendar:

- March 5: Session 18 (7th & 8th Grade)
- 12: No Confirmation ~ Spring Break
- 19: Session 19 (7th & 8th Grade)
- 26: Final Instruction (7th & 8th Grade)

High School Youth Group

7:10 PM, Wednesday Evenings
The Living Room, 810 N. Yale.

For all freshmen through seniors.

On these gathering nights we discuss matters of faith, life and anything on your mind. It is a great hour of fellowship and faith formation. It is a very informal and meaningful evening and bringing a friend or friends is always welcomed.

Our High School Youth are encouraged to sign-up for reminders by sending a text to: **text @oslcy to the number 81010**
Questions? Please contact Chris Blain at ckblain@gmail.com.

Faith & Care Leaders

Annual Gathering

Thursday, March 6, at The Living Room,
at 5:30 pm

There are a few openings for Leaders in this ministry! Please come to learn more if you are interested. Questions? Contact Deacon Laura at 642-3715



**NEW
Member
Class**

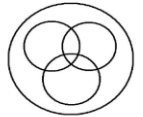
**New Members
to be received
April 13**

at both worship services.

If you are interested in membership at this time, please call the church office at 605-642-3715. New Member orientation is Thursday, April 10 at 5:45 PM.

Friendship Ministry

Extending the love of Christ
from Friend to Friend



Are you in need of:

- Someone who cares?
- Someone who supports?
- Someone who listens?
- Someone who keeps confidentiality?

A Friendship Minister will be there for you.
Call Nancy Christopherson at 605-645-2723.

If you are interested in becoming a Friendship Minister, please call the church office at 605-642-3715. Training is flexible and free.

✂ Pastoral Acts ✂

Baptism

February 2 Luka Clarke Klein, child of Karson & Ellie Klein

February 19 Jace Douglas Werlinger, child of Tasha Keifert & Tyler Werlinger

Wedding

February 23 Lauren Cermack & Tashon Clark



March 2025

World Day of Prayer: March 7, 2025: Belle Fourche Global Methodist Church at 1pm. Car-pooling is available & will be leaving from OSLC at 12:30pm.

March Lenten Lunches information: Our Savior's will host all four Wednesday lunches this year. The work at OSLC will start at 9:30am and lunch is served at Noon. The following is the schedule of who will provide lunch and worship each week.

March 12---Our Savior's Lutheran Church (we will provide lunch, 8 volunteers needed)

March 19---All Angels Episcopal Church (we will help by providing lunch (6-8 volunteers needed)

March 26---United Church of Christ (we will assist so 3-4 volunteers needed)

April 2---United Methodist Church (we will assist so 3-4 volunteers needed)

The **March WELCA Board Meeting is March 5 at 9:30am** at church. If you have any information or questions for the Board please let me know prior to this meeting if possible. Thank you.

Reminder: OSLC Church Circles: Esther, Deborah, and Ruth. We welcome anyone who would like to be part of a Circle to consider joining. Food, fellowship, and spiritual study/discussion are all part of each Circle's monthly meeting. In addition, all of these Circles actively help with the ongoing yearly needs of our church and community.

If you need any information or would like to join any of these circles in 2025 please let me or Deacon Laura Campbell know of your interest as we are glad to have you! Have a warmer and meaningful March!

Marvis Custer, WELCA President
(605) 631-0182
Marvis.custer@gmail.com

Circle Meetings

Circle Study Leaders

March 3, 10:30 AM

Deborah Circle

March 10, 10:30 AM

Leader: Janet Reindl

Hostess: Cheryl Wormstadt

Esther Circle

March 13, 1:00 PM

Leader: Janet Mattison

Hostess: Elaine Ohnstad-Eide

Ruth Circle

March 20, 10:00 AM

Leader: All

Hostess: Loretta Greni



Please remember your Secret Sister during the month of March by mailing a card and keeping her in prayer!



Thank you, Church Family! 77 Kits Made and Shipped!

Often, when natural disasters strike or when war drives families from their homes, our hearts ache with compassion, but we don't know how to help. Providing **Personal Care Kits** (a towel, 2 bars of soap, a toothbrush, sturdy comb and large fingernail clippers), to Lutheran World Relief, offers comfort to those suffering and expresses love to our neighbors in need. LWR Kits are specifically designed to help people coping with poverty, disaster, conflict and more. Good hygiene LWR Kits provide dignity and hope in the direst situations. Thank you-our very compassionate, caring and faithful members of OSLC!

~ **Deborah Circle**



Children's Ministry News



MILESTONE MINISTRY

- * March 2 – Second graders will help Pastor Sandness by leading the congregation in this prayer during either worship service. Please come forward when asked to do so.



Ash Wednesday Soup Supper Campership Fundraiser

Wednesday, March 5, 5:16 pm. Camp families will prepare yummy soups and desserts for supper as a fundraiser for camperships for kids that attend camp from OSLC! Show some **CAMP LOVE** and join us for supper to support this great cause!

CAMP NEWS Registration is open!

- * Please go to www.losd.org and click on Outlaw Ranch and scroll down to see camp dates
- * Available camps include YOUTH CAMP (3rd – 8th grade), ADVENTURE CAMP (8th – 12th grade), FAMILY CAMP for your whole family, and other camp weeks too!
- * As a reminder, every camper from OSLC receives a campership (which is what we call scholarships), regardless of need.
- * First time campers receive a "balance" campership; families are responsible to pay the \$125 deposit for camp and we cover the rest of the balance, up to camp costs before April 15.
- * This year returning campers receive \$300 towards their camp costs. ****New this year****
- * Families will receive \$1000.00 towards a week of Family Camp!! ****New this year****



P.A.S.S. Class

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PASS Class

"**P**arents **A**nd **S**unday **S**chool" or P.A.S.S Class will meet on **March 9, downstairs, at 10^{ish}** and the topic will be "LENT in Your Home"! This class is for parents with children from newborns through 6th grade and beyond.

What do leprechauns put on their hamburgers?

Paddys.



Where do leprechauns play baseball?

In a little league.



What do you get when you cross poison ivy with a four-leaf clover?

A rash of good luck.



Our Savior's Lutheran Church Council Minutes

January 3, 2025 - 6:30 PM

OUR MISSION: Inspired by God's grace, we open our hearts to all in faith, prayer, fellowship, and service through Jesus Christ.

- 1. Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Andy Binder at 6:11 PM. Members present were Deming Haugland, Dave Pummel, Brady Harr, Christina Miles, Reed Haug, Mike Steffen, Karson Klein, Pam Tyma, Sherry Kloeckl, Andy Binder, with Deacon Laura Campbell, and Pastor Stephan Sandness.
- 2. Devotions:** Pastor Stephan shared an opening devotion.
- 3. Approve Agenda:** Christina Miles moved to approve the agenda as presented; Pam Tyma seconded; motion carried.
- 4. Approval of the December Council Minutes:** Christina Miles moved to approve the November Council minutes as presented; Sherry Kloeckl seconded; motion carried.
- 5. Approval of the December Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Dave Pummel presented the treasurer's report provided. December income was \$94,535.81 with expenses of \$52,195.16. Year-to-date income stands at \$639,630.54 with expenses of \$604,734.69. Leaving a year-to-date balance of \$34,895.85, which is far better than last year. Not included in the above expenses is our planned mission support giving of \$9,671.00. Overall, this year has been excellent. Dave did make note we have seen approximately \$35,000 in donations for the fellowship hall heat pump replacement. Pam Tyma moved to approve the report as presented; Karson Klein seconded; motion carried.
- 6. Distribution of Mission Support Fund:** Dave Pummel moved to split this year's mission support fund of \$9,671.00 evenly between St. Dymas of South Dakota, Artemis House, & Woyatan Lutheran's warming bus program. Mike Steffen Second. Discussion pointed out this plan allows for local, regional, and state giving. Motion carried.
- 7. Ministerial Staff Reports:** Deacon Laura and Pastor Stephan shared their gratitude for everyone's servant leadership and guidance over the past year. It was noted we had 1,032 people in total attend our Christmas Eve services. This has been a great end to a year of extraordinarily strong attendance and many new members.
- 8. Committee Reports:** Education council has been communicating and preparing for the spring education season. The Properties committee reports on various repairs and projects around the building with expected heat pump replacement soon.
- 9. Adjourn:** The meeting adjourned by unanimous agreement at 6:31 PM followed by the Lord's Prayer. The next meeting will be held on February 11, 2025.

Respectfully Submitted,
Andy Binder, President



Thank You OSLC Members and Volunteers

February was OSLC month to serve as volunteers at the Spearfish Community Pantry. Corrine Muske and George Vansco, Pantry Board Members representing OSLC, want to thank the following volunteers for assisting us with the distribution of food during the first two weeks of February; Del, Dave, Vern, Dyanne, Nancy, Arnie, Myrna, Laura, Jennifer, Mike, Tim and Julia.

During our two weeks of service, where temperatures never got above single digits, our hearty volunteers provided nutritional assistance to 194 families for a total of 499 people of which 168 were children.

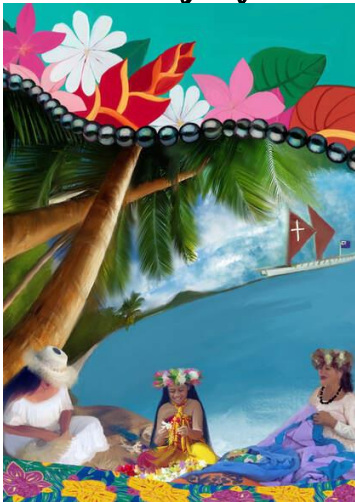
We also wish to express our sincere thanks to those OSLC members who continue to donate food and funds to the Spearfish Community Pantry during these difficult times of increased food prices. Last year OSLC members donated 822 pounds of food to the pantry.



Food Pantry needs for March:

Canned Peaches, Saltine Crackers,
Canned Chicken, Jell-O Gelatin or
Pudding, Canned Carrots or Mixed
Vegetables, Cookies (oreos, chocolate
chip, sugar...)

World Day of Prayer



The World Day of Prayer will be held on March 7 at Global Methodist Church, 1804 7th Avenue, Belle Fourche beginning at 1:00 PM with music by The Pickers, a local western gospel group. The program was written by the World Day of Prayer Committee of the Cook Islands.

EVERYONE is invited to attend.

Scriptures

- March 2** Exodus 34:29-35
Psalm 99
2 Corinthians 3:12--4:2
Luke 9:28-36[37-43a]
- March 9** Deuteronomy 26:1-11
Psalm 91:1-2,9-16
Romans 10:8b-13
Luke 4:1-13
- March 16** Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18
Psalm 27
Philippians 3:17--4:1
Luke 13:31-35
- March 23** Isaiah 55:1-9
Psalm 63:1-8
1 Corinthians 10:1-13
Luke 13:1-9
- March 30** Joshua 5:9-12
Psalm 32
2 Corinthians 5:16-21
Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

FAITH & CARE

Serving in Worship and Fellowship

Every household is encouraged to sign up to serve in various ways on Sunday mornings at **any time throughout the year!**

Servers are needed as:

Welcome center hosts, Snack providers, Ushers, Communion assistants, Coffee Servers



This QR Code link to SignUp Genius will allow you to sign up at your convenience.

Job Descriptions are posted by the Church Kitchen for your information. Questions or need help signing up? Contact Sommerlyn Clausen at 605-381-5422

Office Notes:

The deadline for submission of items for the March newsletter is **Friday, March 21.**

Please send your newsletter items to Lisa at oslc4@rushmore.com

Ways to give electronically:

Scan this code to give online




Scan the code or go to our website, click on the Online Giving button:

Clicking on that button will take you to a secure page on which you can donate to the vital ministries of Our Savior's Lutheran Church directly from a checking or savings account, or using a credit or debit card.

A reminder... Our website contains the monthly newsletter, monthly calendar, and much more...Check it out at: www.oslcspearfish.com.

Has your address or phone number changed? Please let us know at 605-642-3715 or e-mail Julie at oslc@rushmore.com

Prefer not to receive a paper copy of our newsletter? Let us send you an email with a link to our newsletter when it's posted to our website. If you are interested, please send your email address to Julie at oslc@rushmore.com or call us at 605-642-3715. Thank you!

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	Community Lenten Lunches Wednesdays, 12:00 PM @ Our Savior's Lutheran Church March 12, 19, 25, & April 2					1
2 8:30 AM Worship Service 9:45 AM Education Hour 10:45 AM Joyful Journey-led Worship Service	3 9:00 AM SonShine Squad 10:30 AM Circle Study Leaders 1:00 PM Yarn Ministry 6:00 PM Good Shepherd Clinic <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	4 8:30 AM Fix-It Group 9:00 AM Quilting 5:30 PM Education Comm. 7:00 PM Young Adults Bible Study @ The Living Room	5 9:30 AM WELCA Board Mtg. 12:00 PM Ash Wednesday Srv 1:00 PM KidZone 5:15 PM Bell Choir 5:15 PM Confirmation 5:16 PM Ash Wednesday Soup Supper 5:40 PM Wednesday School 6:26 PM Ash Wednesday Worship 7:00 PM Senior Choir 7:10 PM HS Youth @ TLR Ash Wednesday	6 12:00 PM Lunch @ TLR 12:30 PM Quilting 5:30 PM Faith & Care Leaders Annual Gathering @ TLR	7 6:00 AM Christian Business Men's Group at TLR 1:00 PM World Day of Prayer @ Global Methodist Church Belle Fourche <i>Deacon's Day Off</i>	8 8:00 AM Men's Fellowship 
9 8:30 AM Worship Service 9:45 AM Education Hour 10:45 AM Joyful Journey-led Worship Service <i>Daylight Saving Time</i> Begins	10 10:30 AM Deborah Circle 1:00 PM Yarn Ministry 6:00 PM Good Shepherd Clinic <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	11 8:30 AM Fix-It Group 9:00 AM Quilting 12:15 PM Centering Prayer 2:00 PM Two on Tuesday Women's Bible Study 6:00 PM Finance Comm. 6:30 PM Church Council 7:00 PM Young Adults Bible Study @ The Living Room	12 12:00 PM Lenten Lunch - OSLC Serves 5:15 PM Bell Choir NO Confirmation 5:16 PM Lenten Supper NO Wednesday School 6:26 PM Lenten Worship 7:00 PM Senior Choir NO HS Youth	13 12:00 PM Lunch @ TLR 12:30 PM Quilting 1:00 PM Esther Circle	14 6:00 AM Christian Business Men's Group at TLR <i>Deacon's Day Off</i>	15
16 8:30 AM Worship Service 9:45 AM Education Hour 10:45 AM Joyful Journey-led Worship Service	17 10:30 AM Senior Ministry 1:00 PM Yarn Ministry 6:00 PM Good Shepherd Clinic <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	18 8:30 AM Fix-It Group 9:00 AM Quilting 12:15 PM Centering Prayer 6:30 PM Marthas Gathering Women's Evening Bible Study 7:00 PM Young Adults Bible Study @ The Living Room	19 10:00 AM Spearfish Cyn Worship Service 12:00 PM Lenten Lunch 5:15 PM Bell Choir 5:15 PM Confirmation 5:16 PM Lenten Supper 5:40 PM Wednesday School 6:26 PM Lenten Worship 7:00 PM Senior Choir 7:10 PM HS Youth @ TLR	20 10:00 AM Ruth Circle 12:00 PM Lunch @ TLR 12:30 PM Quilting	21 6:00 AM Christian Business Men's Group at TLR 7:00 AM GSC Board Mtg. <i>Deacon's Day Of</i> Newsletter Items Due f	22 8:00 AM Men's Fellowship
23 8:30 AM Worship Service 9:45 AM Education Hour 10:45 AM Joyful Journey-led Worship Service <i>World Hunger</i> Special Offering	24 1:00 PM Yarn Ministry 6:00 PM Good Shepherd Clinic <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	25 8:30 AM Fix-It Group 9:00 AM Quilting 12:15 PM Centering Prayer 2:00 PM Two on Tuesday Women's Bible Study 6:30 PM Friendship Ministry 7:00 PM Young Adults Bible Study @ The Living Room	26 10:45 AM Edgewood Vista Worship Service 12:00 PM Lenten Lunch 5:15 PM Bell Choir 5:15 PM Confirmation 5:16 PM Lenten Supper 5:40 PM Wednesday School 6:26 PM Lenten Worship 7:00 PM Senior Choir 7:10 PM HS Youth @ TLR	27 12:00 PM Lunch @ TLR 12:30 PM Quilting	28 6:00 AM Christian Business Men's Group at TLR <i>Deacon's Day Off</i>	29
30 8:30 AM Worship Service 9:45 AM Education Hour 10:45 AM Joyful Journey-led Worship Service	31 1:00 PM Yarn Ministry 6:00 PM Good Shepherd Clinic <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>					

Our Savior's Lutheran Church

1020 State Street
Spearfish, SD 57783

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



Our Savior's Lutheran Church

1020 State Street
Spearfish, SD 57783

Staff: Stephan Sandness, Senior Pastor
Laura Campbell, Deacon
Beth Nielsen, Director of Children's Ministries
Julie Lee, Office Manager
Lisa Williams, Receptionist

Worship: Sundays 8:30 AM Worship Service
10:45 AM Joyful Journey-led Worship Service
Live stream at 8:30 AM or watch later! Connect through our web site.
Wednesday 6:26 PM Wednesday Word

Church Office located at 1020 State Street
Church Phone Number: 605.642.3715
Kitchen/Quilting Phone Number: 605.722.0660

Office Hours: 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM Monday through Friday

Website: www.oslcspearfish.com
Email: oslc@rushmore.com



Mission Statement: *Inspired by God's grace, we open our hearts to all in faith, prayer, fellowship and service through Jesus Christ.*