



Mrs. Tia Esser EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR Mr. James Stubkjaer MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR

Dr. Kristen Newell ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL ELEMENTARY STEM DIRECTOR

Mrs. Brenda Bernard PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR



Jan 24, 2025

SFLS LAUNCHES \$600K UPPER ROOM CAMPAIGN IN HONOR OF STEVE AND VICKI JASTRAM



Steve and Vicki Jastram with their children and grandchildren after chapel on January 22.

Thanks to the generosity of Architecture Incorporated, Hoogendoorn Construction, Haugan Heating and Air Conditioning, and countless other

associates and friends, Sioux Falls Lutheran School is well on its way to raising \$600K to build and fully finish the Upper Room—a second story Conference Room/Learning Center, equipped with cutting-edge technology and windows that overlook SFLS's outdoor athletic fields—in honor of Steve and Vicki Jastram.

The sub campaign, which is part of the larger <u>Imagine Immeasurably More capital campaign</u>, was ignited by the leadership team at Architecture Inc., who approached SFLS with a desire to honor Steve and Vicki's exceptional contributions to SFLS.

Steve, as a leader at Architecture Incorporated with decades of experience, has designed countless educational spaces that inspire learning, worship, and community. He has served as the principal architect

QUICK LINKS
Career Corner
<u>Chapel</u>
Counseling Services
<u>PTF</u>
RaiseRight (aka SCRIP)
EagleCare
<u>Elementary</u>
<u>Middle School</u>
High School
<u>Athletics</u>
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Upcoming Events

for many SFLS building projects since the early 1980s. His wife, Vicki, is known for her selfless service, supporting her family and community with love and dedication, including her role at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, her work with the Lutheran Women's Missionary League, her 25-year career at Eye-Site, and as a caregiver to her family. Over the years she has also served SFLS in countless behind-the-scenes ways.

Architecture Incorporated's lead gift of \$100K quickly inspired Hoogendoorn Construction to contribute \$90K to the project and Haugan Heating and Air Conditioning to add another \$45K. This generosity has set SFLS on the path to raise \$600K to complete the Upper Room and address critical needs, including an elevator, carpeting, railings, and other requirements necessary to obtain occupancy approval from the City of Sioux Falls. At the time of this publication, over \$360,000 in cash and pledges have been raised by these lead donors and countless other colleagues, friends, and family.

"This space will be a place of faith, fellowship, and inspiration for generations to come," SFLS Executive Director, Tia Esser, said. "For Steve, the design highlights his favorite architectural feature—a cantilever—a first for him in a school setting. This beautiful space will be a personal tribute to his vision and to the Jastrams' service to our school."

Plans for the Upper Room were unveiled to the Jastrams during middle and high school chapel at SFLS on Wednesday, January 22, with roughly 100 family and friends in attendance. <u>Visit our blog</u> to learn more about the project, watch the reveal, and discover how you can help us reach our \$600K goal to fund the Upper Room in Honor of Steve and Vicki Jastram.

KELO FILMING A COMMERCIAL

KELO will be at our school this Monday, January 27, to film a commercial. It's a great opportunity to showcase our community, so please have your child dress nicely as they might be on camera! Thank you for your support and we're excited to see our school shine!

CAMP OKOBOJI

Registration for the Summer 2025 season is now OPEN! Registration can be completed at <u>campokoboji.org</u>. Have any questions? Contact Liv Simmons, Discipleship Director, at (712) 337-3325 or <u>discipleship.campokoboji@gmail.com</u>.

CAMP OKOBOJI SUMMER 2025

Discipleship Programs

May 30-June 1...Kids' Kamp June 5-8...JOY Camp #1 June 22-26...Cub Week #1 June 29-July 4...July 4 Family Retreat July 6-12...Junior High Week July 10-13...JOY Camp #2 July 13-19...Cub Week #2 July 20-26...Youth Week (High School) July 27-August 1...Family Retreat #1 August 3-8...Family Retreat #2

Other Events

January 24-26...Family Ice Fishing Retreat May 2-4...Spring Volunteer Work Weekend June 8-10...Iowa District West Convention June 14...Camp Okoboji Auxiliary Quilt Auction June 15-21...Minneboji Lutheran Camp May 25-August 31...Sunday Worship 1st Sundays of the Month (May-October)...Brunch October 10-11...Fall Volunteer Work Weekend

For more information and to register, visit **campokoboji.org**

NATIONAL LUTHERAN SCHOOLS WEEK

SFLS will be taking part in a whole school-wide service project to help celebrate National Lutheran Schools Week. We will be collecting personal care items **(please see poster below)** for the Bishop Dudley Hospitality House. Each wing will have donation boxes available for you to drop off your items. We appreciate your efforts in helping support our local community!



REPORT CARDS

Grades K-12...Your student's report card is now available in FACTS. Please log into your Family Portal>left menu, under "Student" heading, click the dropdown arrow>click "Report Card". To switch between students>click the dropdown on the top of the report card. To print>click the "Print" icon in the upper right.

TRIVIA NIGHT

Join us on Saturday, March 8th to test your knowledge and support the 7th graders' epic journey to the Black Hills this September!

Form your dream team of 8, bring your A-game, and help raise funds for food, supplies, and site admissions for their Leadership & Earth Science Trip. Stay tuned for more details—it's going to be a night to remember! Any questions, contact Miss Ockander at <u>mockander@sflutheranschool.com</u>.

9TH ANNUAL SFLS 7TH GRADE CLASS FUNDRAISER TRIVIA NIGHT

Saturday March 8th

SFLS Commons 6:00pm



2024 TAX INFORMATION

Families enrolled at SFLS who used the TADS billing system in 2024 will click <u>HERE</u> for instructions on accessing your tax information. For steps through the FACTS Management system, click <u>HERE</u>. Keep in mind, if you have been billed through TADS and FACTS in 2024, you will need to access both systems. Please consult your tax advisor for questions regarding tax credits and deductions.

2025-26 RE-ENROLLMENT UPDATE

As families with children enrolled at SFLS, you receive the highest enrollment priority for the 2025-26 school year. In order to ensure that we have space to serve your child during the 2025-26 school year, please complete re-enrollment through FACTS no later than Sunday, January 26. Re-enrollment instructions were sent via email on January 6. Please check your inbox (and junk mail box if you don't see an email in your inbox) for instructions. We will begin processing applications for new students during the week of January 27.

If you have a child who is <u>not currently enrolled or is in our wait pool</u> for enrollment, you'll need to complete an <u>admissions application</u> for the 2025-26 school year.

To help your budget planning for the year ahead, **preschool** and **K-12** tuition rates for the 2025-26 school year are now available on our website. In order to maintain and enhance the high-quality experience your children deserve, we require an application fee and enrollment/re-enrollment fee each year. We understand that this may prompt questions, so we'd like to share four reasons why this is an important part of our school's annual process.

1. Securing Your Child's Spot:

Each school year, we work diligently to ensure that our classrooms are properly staffed, our programs are well-resourced, and our facilities are ready to serve. Re-enrollment fees help us project accurate enrollment numbers so we can make informed decisions about class sizes, teacher assignments, and materials, ensuring every student gets the attention they need.

2. Supporting School Operations:

These fees cover essential administrative costs related to the enrollment process, including recordkeeping, processing applications, and maintaining up-to-date technology and software to serve our families efficiently. These steps help us to be proactive in providing a seamless educational experience.

3. Commitment to Growth:

Enrollment fees are an important part of our financial planning. They allow us to invest in new programs, hire and retain excellent faculty, and improve facilities, all while keeping tuition as affordable as possible. The early commitment through this fee strengthens our ability to plan strategically for the upcoming year.

4. Building a Sustainable Future:

Your support through the enrollment process helps ensure that Sioux Falls Lutheran School remains a vibrant place for your children, and future generations, to grow in faith and knowledge. It's an investment not only in your child's education but also in the continued success of our school community.

Application fees are \$25. Enrollment fees for new students (including new students who belong to current families) is \$400 per student; \$200 of that \$400 fee serves as a tuition deposit for the 2025-26 school year. Returning student re-enrollment fees are \$225 per student. We truly value your partnership in this mission and appreciate your understanding of the purpose behind these fees. Our goal is to provide your family with the best educational experience possible, while being good stewards of our resources.

Our deepest thanks for entrusting us with the care and education of your children. It is a joy and honor to serve your family at SFLS, and we encourage you to contact our admissions office with any questions. If you need any assistance logging into your family portal, please feel free to contact FACTS support at 866-441-4637.

Blessings,

Megan Baedke, Director of Community Engagement | Preschool & Kindergarten Admissions Vania Asmus, Admissions & Marketing Coordinator | 1st-12th Grade Admissions

CAREER CORNER

Would you or someone you know make a great addition to our team? We're seeking:

Preschool:

• Substitute assistants: are you interested in being on our call list to assist in one of our classrooms? This could be in infants, toddlers and 3-year-olds to 5-year-olds. With subbing, you have complete flexibility to choose specific days and say yes or no when getting a call. Come have fun with us!

Eagle Care:

- Part-time afternoon assistants. Adults and/or high school age students:
 - Flexible schedule: between 3:15 6:00 PM, Monday through Friday

Please prayerfully consider joining our team and/or sharing these opportunities with someone you believe would be a good fit! Contact Debbie Pankow at <u>dpankow@sflutheranschool.com</u> for more information.

View jobs and application instructions here: www.siouxfallslutheran.com/careers.

CHAPEL

Chapel for National Lutheran Schools Week is on Monday, January 27th:

• K-12: 8:50 AM led by Pastor Slavens from Memorial Lutheran Church

This year's theme is ONE - The Gospel Story is Our Story. This week's topic: The Body of Christ; Called to be One.

Preschool chapel will also be held on Monday, January 27th, led by DCE Liz Peters from Memorial Lutheran Church, in the Early Childhood wing beginning at 8:40 and 9:00 AM.

Campus Chaplain the week of January 27th is Pastor Slavens from Memorial Lutheran Church.

Chapel Offerings for 2nd semester will go to support Lutheran Family Service (LFS). So far we have collected \$182.11. LFS offers the following services:





Pregnancy Help

Adoption Services



Marriage Counseling



Mental Health Counseling



Outreach

COUNSELING SERVICES



PARENT-TEACHER-FELLOWSHIP

The PTF will be handing out Spirit Wear to help you show your school pride at the boys & girls basketball games on Feb. 4th! Whether you're a player, a fan or just there to enjoy the fun, don't miss out on this chance to score some awesome swag. See you there!

- 📅 Date: Tuesday, February 4th
- 🟀 Event: SFLS Basketball Games
- 🎁 Giveaway: Spirit Wear

CONNECT WITH THE PTF ON FACEBOOK



RAISERIGHT (AKA SCRIP)

Order Dates by 10 AM	Pick-Up Dates after 11 AM
Monday, January 27	Thursday, January 30
Monday, February 3	Thursday, February 6
No RaiseRight orders week of February 10	No RaiseRight orders week of February 10

EAGLECARE

We have begun our planning for summer. We will offer care for current SFLS children enrolled in infants-fourth grade. In order to have a group for students in the grades 2-4, we will need to have 8 or more students. We will be in session from Tuesday, May 27 - Friday, August 1, 2025, 7:30 AM - 5:30 PM. Priority will be given to those families who need care four-five days a week for the entire day. Registration will be sent in the middle of February. Questions may be directed to the following email: eaglecare@sflutheranschool.com.

ELEMENTARY

MAP TESTING

Winter MAP testing for our 1st-8th grade students will be completed during the weeks of January 27 and February 3. We look forward to this opportunity to see how our students have grown and learned so far this year. We also use MAP test scores to help us plan for the future in terms of curriculum, programs, and staffing.

CAMP MINNEBOJI

Minneboji is a 7-day/6-night Christian summer camp program for those who are finishing 4th-8th grade that has been enriching lives since 1949. Led by pastoral and lay volunteers from the South Dakota district of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod, Minneboji takes place at the beautiful lakeside facilities of Camp Okoboji – LCMS in Milford, Iowa. The structured week includes large group Bible study, small group Cabin study, music, crafts, games and outdoor activities including swimming and boating as well as evening entertainment. Campers also have daily free periods, when they can simply enjoy God's creation and reconnect with friends old and new.

***PLEASE NOTE:** We filled every available space last year and had a waiting list. In order to guarantee that we have enough counselors to make camp the best possible experience for your camper: **REGISTRATION CLOSES MAY 1, 2025, OR WHEN CAMP IS FULL!**

Here is the link to camp information. 2025 Camp Minneboji Booklet - Hidden and Revealed

MIDDLE SCHOOL

MAP TESTING

Winter MAP testing for our 1st-8th grade students will be completed during the weeks of January 27 and February 3. We look forward to this opportunity to see how our students have grown and learned so far this year. We also use MAP test scores to help us plan for the future in terms of curriculum, programs, and staffing.

INCOMING 9TH GRADE STUDENT REGISTRATION NIGHT

Do you have an incoming 9th grade student? If so, please join us on Monday, February 3rd for our incoming 9th grade student registration night. On this night, new 9th grade students (including current SFLS 8th graders) will have the opportunity to meet together for pizza fellowship and then register for high school classes for the fall of 2025.

The planned schedule is as follows:

- 6:00/6:15 Arrival and pizza fellowship
- 6:30 Mrs. Easterling will give an overview of graduation requirements and diploma types for the state of SD
- 6:45-8:00 Parents/students will meet with Miss Holdorf, Mrs. Slavens, Mrs. Easterling or Mr. Stubkjaer to make a schedule for next year. These meetings should take no more than 15ish minutes each.

Please RSVP on this form: <u>https://forms.gle/mc4CfCsSkrHEXjw96</u> so we can have your schedule template and pizza ready for you!

<u>Here is a link to our High School Course Catalog</u> if you would like to see the types of classes that we offer in the high school here at SFLS.

*If this night does not work for you, please reach out to <u>Mrs. Easterling</u>, our Academic Advisor, for more information and/or a one-on-one registration meeting.

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HIGH SCHOOL

CAMP MINNEBOJI - honors camp for those finishing 9th grade

Honors camp is a capstone experience for up to 40 responsible young ladies and gentlemen who have completed the 9th grade (entering 10th grade in the Fall of 2025). Honors camp is a camp-within-a-camp, following its own schedule for morning and afternoon activities. The week includes special service projects as an opportunity to give back for the blessings campers have received through their time at Minneboji. The program focuses on peer ministry training, team building activities, and overall equipping and strengthening the Christian foundations of young people.

***PLEASE NOTE:** We filled every available space last year and had a waiting list. In order to guarantee that we have enough counselors to make camp the best possible experience for your camper:

REGISTRATION CLOSES MAY 1, 2025, OR WHEN CAMP IS FULL!

Here is the link to camp information. 2025 Camp Minneboji Booklet – Hidden and Revealed

PreACT

Freshmen and Sophomores will take the PreACT and PreACT 8/9 a second time on Thursday, March 13th.

ACT TEST PREP

Juniors will be taking the ACT on March 13th. It is not too early to begin preparing for the test. Did you know there are free **practice tests and resources**? Please let Mrs. Slavens know if you have any questions.

FAFSA

Seniors and parents - the **FAFSA is now open**! Complete the form to apply for financial aid for college, career school or graduate school.

SFLS SCHOLARSHIP HUB

Upcoming 2025 graduates, be sure to check the scholarship hub often as it gets updated with new scholarship opportunities.

ATHLETICS

NON-WINTER SPORTS STRENGTH AND CONDITIONING PROGRAM: All students Tuesdays & Thursdays 3:30 - 4:15

VOLUNTEERS at our home games are key to our ability to host these games. You may find opportunities to volunteer by clicking on **THIS LINK**.

BASKETBALL:

- January 24: JV/V BBB @ Great Plains Lutheran beginning at 6:15
- January 25: Varsity BBB DVC Invite @ Elkton vs. ORR beginning at 10:30
- January 28: JV GBB Home vs. Mitchell Christian @ 5
- January 30: JV/V BBB @ Canton beginning at 6:45
- February 1: Varsity BBB @ Blizzard Buster Classic in Irene
- February 4: JV GBB/JV/VBBB Home vs. Flandreau
 - 3-6 Grade Rising Eagles Mini BB Camp @ 3:30
 - Games: JV GBB @ 5; JV BBB @ 6:15; Varsity to Follow
 - PTF Spirit Wear Give-away

CHRIS'S CAKES ATHLETIC FUNDRAISER

Save the Date: Sunday, March 30, 9:30 AM - 1 PM. More information is coming soon.



Drama



This year's comedic one-act is "Oh, What a Tangled Web" by John R. Carroll. It begins with an impulsive young girl making up a story to help her sister from having to go into work. When she mentions to her sister's boss that there has been a death in the family, many, MANY complications result from the lie! **The high school one-act students will perform for the public on Sunday, January 26 at 4:00 PM. Admission is \$5.** This is the one-act students will perform at the B-1 Region One-Act Contest which will be held at the University of Sioux Falls on Wednesday, January 29, 2025. Sioux Falls Lutheran will compete against six other schools and the top two will qualify for the state competition at SDSU in Brookings February 6-8. Sioux Falls Lutheran performs at 3:00 PM next Wednesday, and anyone is welcome to attend for free! Please pray all students and directors remain healthy and for a fun, educational, and smooth competition!



Music

K-3 100TH DAY OF SCHOOL Bow Hold Challenge

In celebration of the 100th day of school, K-3 students are challenged to practice 100 Round Bow Holds between Friday, February 2 - Thursday, February 8.

KEEP AT EYE OUT FOR MORE INFORMATION FROM MS.TEMPLE!

JANUARY Middle School Ensemble Calendar

Click or scan to take a look at the SFLS Strings Site!



<u>Upcoming Recital Dates (for students taking lessons):</u>

February 10 - 2nd Recital - 2:00 PM

- February 11 3rd Recital 2:00 PM
- February 12 4th Recital 2:00 PM
- February 26 5th Recital 2:00 PM
- February 27 6th Recital 2:00 PM
- March 4 7th Recital 2:00 PM
- March 5 8th Recital 2:00 PM

March 6 - 5th-8th Solo Contest - 4:00-7:00 PM (please note date change from what was originally published)

Elementary and Middle School Concerts:

May 1 - Kindergarten and 3rd Spring Programs

Kindergarten - 12:30 PM 3rd Grade - 2:00 PM

May 12 - 4th-8th Spring Concerts

4th/5th - 6:00 PM 6th-8th - 7:15 PM

CONGRATULATIONS to Caden Nyberg for being chosen for the South Dakota Middle School All-State Band. He has auditioned and made it into All-State Band all three years of his middle school career. Caden had to submit recordings of very rigorous audition materials, and he was chosen for the top Honor Band this year. There were 563 auditions submitted and 196 students were chosen to complete two bands for this event. Caden will spend the day on March 7th in rehearsals, and then be performing in a concert on March 8th in the Mitchell Performing Arts Center. The concert begins at 3:00 PM. There is a \$5.00 admission fee to the concert, and tickets will be available for purchase at the door. Students 18 and under are free. Congratulations, again, Caden!!



High School Music upcoming events:

-Sunday, January 26: Choir and Orchestra will provide music for the worship service at Lord of Life Lutheran Church. Address: 2600 S Sycamore Ave. Students please be at LOL by 8:30 AM.
-Monday, March 10: Spring Fling. 4:00-8:30 (All HS music students)
-Tuesday, April 8: HS Spring Concert 6:30 (All HS music students) -Monday, May 5: Dallas Brass will be here at SFLS to give a concert in the evening and to work with our music students - more details coming soon

-Friday, May 16: SFLS Graduation Ceremony - HS music students will perform

Association Churches

Faith - Rev. Corey Aker and Rev. Jason Rensner

Lord of Life - Rev. Billy Newell

Memorial - Rev. Aaron Asmus, Rev. Doug Slavens, DCE Hailey Jo Miller and DCE Liz Peters

Middle School Cabin Fever Burnoff:

- Sunday, January 26, 6:30-8 PM
- Congregations can RSVP with Hailey Jo: students@memoriallutheran.net
- Groups coming outside of Memorial Lutheran require a chaperone.
- Contact Memorial, 605.335.1923, for more information.



Our Redeemer - Rev. Howard Shane (primary vacancy pastor), Rev. David Morfitt (vacancy pastor)



Resurrection - Rev. Chris Ascher

Click **HERE for all church's worship times**

HIGH SCHOOL SUPPORTING MEMBER

ZION - Rev. Greg Lehr

UPCOMING EVENTS

Please visit your FACTS family portal calendar or click this <u>link</u> to our website for upcoming events.





SIOUX FALLS LUTHERAN SCHOOL World Ready. Faith Secure.

6715 South Boe Lane, Sioux Falls, SD 57108 siouxfallslutheran.com | (605) 335-1923