



Pastor's Corner

There's a Place for You

As we move further into the fall, I have been encouraged by the different ways God is giving people opportunities to grow, connect, and be involved in the life of Tulare United Church. Church is more than what happens for an hour on Sunday morning. Worship is at the center of who we are, but our life together continues as we learn, serve, build relationships, and grow as disciples of Jesus Christ.

Our children and youth are an important part of that. Sunday School continues each Sunday morning, our Youth Group is gathering on the first and third Wednesdays of the month for a meal and time together, and our young people are helping serve our church in different ways. On the third Sunday of each month, our youth serve Coffee Fellowship at 9:30 a.m., and our Sunday School children share during worship.

These aren't simply activities to keep young people busy—they are opportunities for them to know that this is *their church too* and to begin discovering what it means to follow Christ and serve others.

Our Confirmation students are also meeting on the second and fourth Sundays. Confirmation gives us an opportunity to go deeper than simply learning facts about the Bible or the church. We are talking about what Christians believe, why we believe it, how the story of Scripture fits together, and what it actually means to live as a disciple of Jesus Christ. Please continue to pray for these young people as they grow in their faith.

On Sunday mornings, we are continuing our journey through 1 Samuel. One of the things I appreciate about this book is how honest it is about life. We encounter faith and fear, obedience and failure, friendship and jealousy, courage and uncertainty. Through it all, we see that God remains faithful and continues working even when circumstances become complicated.

My hope is that as we walk through these chapters together, we won't simply learn what happened to Samuel, Saul, David, and Jonathan. We will allow God's Word to examine our own hearts and shape the way we live today.

Men - A Place to Be Filled Up and Equipped

One area I especially have a desire to develop is something for the men of our church and community.

So much in our lives is constantly pulling from us. Work, family responsibilities, finances, expectations, schedules, relationships, and the pressures of the world around us all demand something from us. Men are often expected to keep going, carry the load, solve the problem, and have the answer.

My desire is not to create one more thing that takes from men. I want to create something that pours into them.

I believe the Lord desires to establish us, strengthen us, and equip us as men so that we can faithfully live out what we believe—in our homes, our marriages and families, our workplaces, our church, and our community. We need places where men can be encouraged in their faith, develop genuine friendships, learn from one another, and be reminded that we aren't meant to do life alone.



I'm not interested in starting another meeting simply for the sake of putting something else on the calendar. I want us to develop something that actually fills men up and equips them to live out their faith in a world that is constantly pulling from them.

What might that look like? Maybe it's breakfast once a month, coffee, a Bible study, a service project, grilling together, an outdoor activity, or a combination of those things.

Men, what would strengthen you? What would you actually show up for?

If you have an idea or simply think, *"I'd be interested in being part of something like this"* come talk to me. Let's build something together where men can be strengthened in Christ, sharpen one another, and then go back into our homes, workplaces, church, and community better equipped to be the men God has called us to be.

An Invitation to Fellowship

There is one more invitation I want to extend, especially to those I may not see very often.

Sometimes it can be easy to think, *"Pastor is busy,"* or to assume that you need to wait for me to call before we can get together. Please don't feel that way. You are always welcome to reach out and invite me over for a visit.

Maybe you haven't been able to get out to church for a while. Maybe health, transportation, work, or life circumstances have kept you closer to home. Or maybe you would simply enjoy some conversation and fellowship over a cup of coffee. Give me a call. I'd be glad to come sit at your kitchen table, visit in your living room, meet you for coffee, share Communion if desired, or simply spend some time together.

And you don't need to have a particular reason or something wrong before calling the pastor! Fellowship itself is important. Part of being the Church is knowing one another, sharing life together, praying together, and caring for one another beyond Sunday morning.

So, if you're thinking, *"It would be nice to have Pastor stop by sometime,"* please consider this your invitation to reach out.

Put the coffee on and give me a call. I'd love to visit.

Coming in November - *Crazy Love*

We are also planning to begin a new study in November using Francis Chan's book *Crazy Love*. We will gather on the second and fourth Sunday evenings at 6:00 p.m. for group discussion and video teaching. Between gatherings, participants will read the next chapter of the book.

Crazy Love challenges us to think seriously about what it means to love and follow a God whose love for us is beyond anything we deserve. It asks some challenging questions about whether our response to God's love has become comfortable or routine and invites us into a deeper, wholehearted relationship with Christ.

There are 10 chapters, so we will take our time working through the book together. A sign-up sheet will be available on the back table at church so I know who is interested. You can also purchase your own copy of the book online.



As I look at everything happening this fall from Sunday School and Youth Group to Confirmation, worship, our journey through 1 Samuel, the upcoming *Crazy Love* study, opportunities for fellowship, and the possibility of developing a men's group I see a common thread:

We are creating opportunities for people to take another step in their walk with Christ and to grow together as the Body of Christ.

Not everyone will participate in everything, nor should they. But my hope is that everyone can find a place to worship, learn, serve, build relationships, and grow.

So this fall, I encourage you to ask yourself a simple question:

Where might God be inviting me to take my next step?

Maybe it is becoming more consistent in worship. Maybe it is joining a study. Maybe it is encouraging one of our young people. Maybe it is serving somewhere. Maybe it is reaching out for some fellowship. Maybe it is simply sitting down with someone you don't know very well and beginning a friendship.

Whatever that next step may be, don't underestimate what God can do through it.

See you in church or maybe over a cup of coffee!

Blessings,

Pastor Derek
Tulare United Church

Our care facility's residents

Redfield Eastern Star

Ramona Schultz

Dorothy Kopplin

Ardyce McIntyre

Donna Johnson

PO Box 150, Redfield, SD 57469

Legends on Lake Lorraine

Ulla Gatzke

2815 South Westlake Dr. Apt. 439

Sioux Falls, SD 57106

YOUTH GROUP

Meal Sign-Up

FEED THEM. ENCOURAGE THEM. INVEST IN THEM.

A MEAL MAKES A BIG IMPACT!
Providing dinner for Youth Group helps create a welcoming space for students to connect, grow, and belong.

WHEN 1st & 3rd Wednesday Evenings After Labor Day (Exact Time TBD)	WHAT TO PROVIDE A main dish, side, or dessert enough to feed 18-25 students (and leaders!)	YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE Your meal helps students feel loved, welcomed, and cared for!
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CAN YOU HELP?
Choose a date that works for you and sign up today!
We will update the QR code when it is available.

QUESTIONS OR TO SIGN UP:
Kacey Nowell
605-450-0476

Thank you!
FOR SUPPORTING OUR YOUTH!



GREETER/USHER LIST

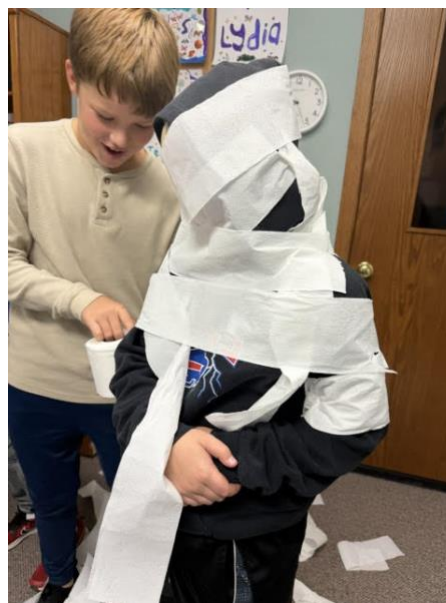
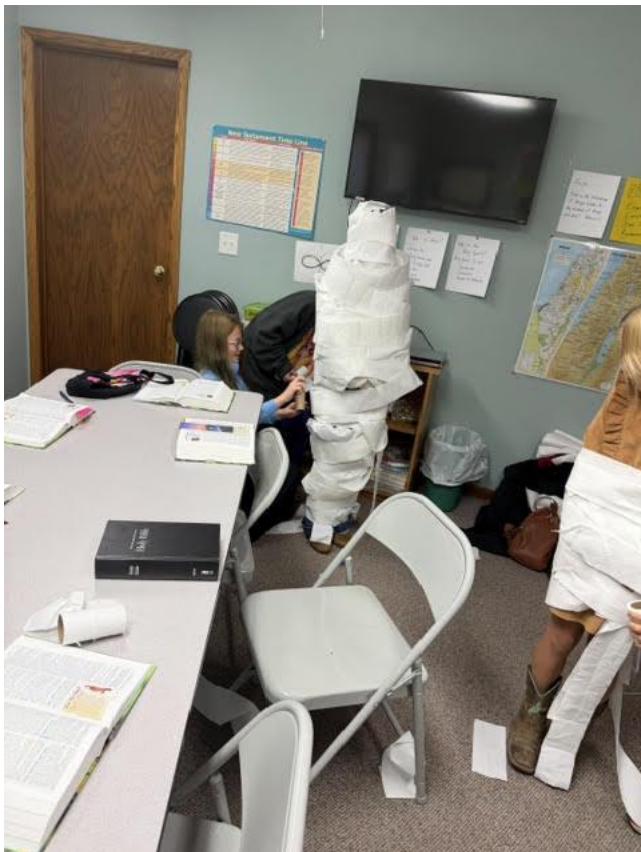
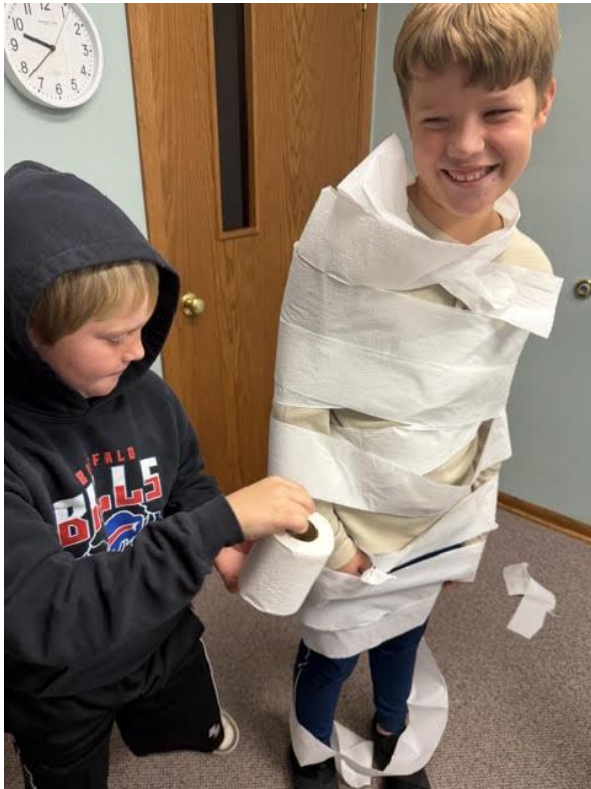
Thank you for ushering at Tulare United Church. Please find a substitute if you cannot usher and call the church office (596-4156).

October 2026

- 4th Sutton & Abby Masat
11th Loren & Cynthia Marzahn
18th Youth Involvement Sunday
25th Tom & Jill Tomsha

October Birthday's & Anniversaries

- October 3 - John Schultz, ***Dwight and Ann Bottum***, Dennis Schultz
October 4 - ***Brian and Pam Hull***, Maci Jens
October 5 - Dorothy Kopplin, Kelly Siebrecht
October 6 - ***Josh & Heidi Becker***
October 7 - Richard Binger, Todd Koester, Trista Cole
October 8 - Doreen Binger, Jean Semmler
October 9 - Christine Michlitsch, Logan Siebrecht
October 10 - ***Mike & Sharol Binger***,
October 11 - ***Nick & Bekah Ihnen***, Tanyan Kloss
October 12 - Ira Bushong, Pastor Derek Runge
October 13 - ***Larry and Kathy Kohnen***, Ann Bottum
October 14 - Kamp Kolda, Grayson Binger, Lee Vannier
October 15 - Kord Kolda
October 16 - Peg Brooker, Kirbee Jo Kolda
October 18 - Ulla Gatzke, Jasmine Banister, Brent Fliehe, ***Lee and Ulla Gatzke***
October 19 - Shane Gross, Jake & Michelle Ames, Anita Bushong
October 20 - Chance Morehouse
October 23 - Jason McIntyre, Haylynn Gordon
October 24 - ***Talisa & Aaron Buchholz***,
October 27 - Brynn Binger
October 28 - ***Robert & Cindy Schultz***
October 29 - ***Jeremy & Amy Bottum***, Nathan Binger, Cody Shields
October 30 - Clay Jens, Dean Kloss, Hunter Cole, Sydnee Stoner, Sienna Stoner
October 31 - Tanner Binger



4/5 Grade Sunday School
October 4th, 2026 "Lazarus"



Your **SUPPORT** Makes **A DIFFERENCE**



Thank you for your faithful generosity!

*Every gift helps us continue sharing God's love,
serving our community, and growing together in faith.*

**SCAN TO GIVE
ONLINE**



Thank you!

GIVE MONTHLY, *Make an Eternal Impact.*



If you are not able to make it to church,
there are several easy and secure ways
to give and continue supporting the
ministry of Tulare United Church.

ALL GIFTS STAY LOCAL.

All the support goes to support the
continued ministry of TUC.

4 WAYS TO GIVE



1. VANCO ONLINE GIVING

Give safely and securely
online using Vanco.
One-time or recurring
gifts can be set up
in just a few minutes.

**SCAN THE QR CODE
ABOVE TO GET STARTED!**



2. SET UP GIVING THROUGH YOUR BANK

Schedule automatic
monthly giving directly
from your bank account.
It's convenient,
reliable, and helps us
plan for the future.



3. IN PERSON

Place your offering in
the giving plate during
worship or drop it off
at the church office.
Every gift—big or small—
makes a difference!



4. BY MAIL

Mail your offering to:
Tulare United Church
PO Box 109
Tulare, SD 57476

*Thank you for your
continued support!*

*"Each one must give as he has decided in his heart,
not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."*

— 2 Corinthians 9:7

TOGETHER, WE CAN DO MORE FOR GOD'S KINGDOM.

Thank you for being a part of the ministry at TUC!





October at TULARE UNITED CHURCH

WORSHIP. GROW. SERVE. BELONG.



OCT
1
THU

Women's Coffee

10:00 am
Fellowship, coffee, and conversation.
All women are welcome!

OCT
1
THU

Football Meal

6:00 pm

OCT
5
MON

Youth Group

6:00 pm – Meal then Youth Group
7th–12th grade are welcome!

OCT
8
THU

Women's Coffee

10:00 am
Fellowship, coffee, and conversation.
All women are welcome!

OCT
11
SUN

Confirmation Class

11:05 am (after worship)

OCT
12
MON

Quilters' Group

10:00 am
All are welcome to come quilt,
fellowship, and serve.

OCT
13
TUE

Coffee with Pastor

10:00 am
Join Pastor for coffee, conversation,
and a time of fellowship.
Eastern Star, Redfield

OCT
14
WED

Church Board Meeting

8:00 pm
All are welcome to attend.

OCT
15
THU

Women's Coffee

10:00 am
Fellowship, coffee, and conversation.
All women are welcome!

OCT
15
THU

Football Meal

6:00 pm

OCT
16
FRI

OCT
17
SAT

OCT
18
SUN

Coffee Fellowship

9:30 am (*Served by the Youth Group*)
Enjoy fellowship and refreshments!
Sunday School Children Sing
10:00 am (during worship)

OCT
19
MON

Star Meeting

7:00 pm

OCT
20
TUE

OCT
21
WED

Youth Group

6:00 pm – **Meal then Youth Group**
7th–12th grade are welcome!

OCT
22
THU

Women's Coffee

10:00 am
Fellowship, coffee, and conversation.
All women are welcome!

OCT
23
FRI

Ernie Couch & Revival

7:00 pm
Hitchcock Methodist Church



OCT
24
SAT

OCT
25
SUN

Confirmation Class

11:05 am (after worship)

OCT
25
SUN

Hitchcock Methodist Church

Fall Bazaar
5:00 – 7:00 pm
Food • Crafts • Fellowship



OCT
26
MON

OCT
27
TUE

Women's Coffee

10:00 am
Fellowship, coffee, and conversation.
All women are welcome!

OCT
28
WED

OCT
29
THU

Women's Coffee

10:00 am
Fellowship, coffee, and conversation.
All women are welcome!

OCT
29
THU

Football Meal

6:00 pm

OCT
30
FRI

OCT
31
SAT

*"Let everything that has breath
praise the LORD!"*

PSALM 150:6



WORSHIP
Sunday 10:00 am



SUNDAY SCHOOL
Sunday 9:00 am



ALL ARE WELCOME!



Church Board Minutes

TUC Board Meeting 9.9.26

The meeting was called to order by Josh at 7:07pm, with everyone present except Jake Miller. Pastor Derek led us in prayer to start the meeting out. Lindsey approved the agenda for the night, with Dave seconding. August meeting minutes were reviewed by all and approved by Spruce, with a second from Lance.

August Financial Report was next on the agenda. It was noted that we are a -\$16,190.55 currently. We are a -\$2,000 backwards for the year. It was discussed that the new laptop was slightly over the budget with the Apple Care plan, but the funds that were used were from the undesignated memorial fund. It was questioned why the undesignated memorial fund only dropped \$1600, and was noted that was another \$1000 that was deposited into this account for Clayton Kloss. Lance approved the financial report, Lindsey with a second.

Nothing new to report from the Pastor-Congregation Relations Committee, the Memorial Committee, or the Worship Committee.

Buildings and Grounds committee noted that the Music Room (SW corner of sanctuary) could use another light and the heater needed a new dial. Lance will get a quote to put another ceiling light in and report back to board. The paint on the curb is also chipping again. This is going to be addressed as well.

Christian Education Committee met last Sunday to discuss the upcoming Sunday School year and Welcome Back potluck on the 13th.

The church still has a bunch of UCC hymnals that we'd like to find new homes for. It was decided that Derek would make an announcement in church for people to help themselves if they'd like one, they'd be available for 2 weeks before disposed of. Starting to think of new hymnals possibly, and some discussion on if we could have members donate/sponsor a hymnal. We will talk about it more in depth as we get closer to the annual meeting.

Potluck for Sunday School kick-off was discussed, and that the youth group was volunteering to help Sharol Binger with her pumpkin patch this weekend. Confirmation also starts on Sunday.

For Pastor's Report, Derek said that he met with Roger Spar the previous day in Watertown and told him he'd like to see him at our annual meeting this year. He will keep in touch with him and will try to schedule the meeting around when Roger will be in the area again.

Next meeting is scheduled for October 14 at 8pm. Lindsey motioned to adjourn with a second from Dave.



A Piece of TUC History — Hymnals Available

We have a number of the **old TUC United Church of Christ hymnals** available for anyone who would like to take one home as a keepsake or for personal use.

The hymnals are located **on the table in the Fellowship Hall** and are available **free to anyone who would like one**. Perhaps you remember singing from these hymnals over the years and would enjoy having one as a small piece of our church's history.

They will be available for a limited time. **Any hymnals remaining after that time will be donated.**

Please feel free to take one home!

Hitchcock Global Methodist Church

Fall Bazaar

Good Food, Great Fellowship,
Homemade Pie!

OCTOBER 25TH
5-7 PM

MEAL, SILENT AUCTION, AUCTION, FISH POND!

To go orders available

Call (605)-266-2135 to order

All are welcome!

Adults	Children ages five to ten	Children under five
\$10.00	\$5.00	FREE



OVER A MILLION COPIES SOLD!

↓↑
crazy love

OVERWHELMED
BY A RELENTLESS
GOD

FRANCIS CHAN
with danae yankoski
Foreword by Chris Tomlin

Join Us This Fall
FOR A STUDY ON CRAZY LOVE



WHEN

2nd and 4th Sunday
evenings at 6:00 PM



FORMAT

Group discussion
for those interested.
All are welcome!



IN BETWEEN

Read one chapter
between meetings.
There are 10 chapters
in total.



AT OUR MEETINGS

We'll watch short videos
and then talk through
the chapter together.



SIGN UP ON THE BACK TABLE

in the church so Pastor Derek knows
who is planning to participate.



GET YOUR BOOK

You can purchase a copy
of Crazy Love online.

Coffee

WITH
**PASTOR
DEREK**



2ND TUESDAYS

Mark your calendar
and join us!



**AT THE OES
NURSING HOME**

Eastern Star Home
Redfield, SD



10:00 AM

Come for a cup of coffee,
stay for good conversation
and encouragement!



All Are Welcome! ♥





The Tulare Journal

www.tulareunitedchurch.com

October
2026

Join Us!



SUNDAY SCHOOL

9:00 a.m.

Pre-School through 12th grade students



WORSHIP SERVICE

10:00 a.m.



ALSO LIVE ON

www.facebook.com/TulareUnitedChurch



Contact Us



Office Hours

Monday – Thursday
9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.



tulareuc@venturecomm.net



tulareucpastor@venturecomm.net



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Tulare, SD 57476

