

**Visitor's Guide**  
**For Worship at**  
**St. Dysmas Lutheran Church**  
**South Dakota State Penitentiary (SDSP)**  
**1600 North Drive, Sioux Falls, SD**  
**605-338-1735**

**PLEASE BE IN PRISON LOBBY A FEW MINUTES BEFORE 6:00PM**  
**WITH YOUR DRIVERS LICENSE OR GOVERNMENT ISSUED PICTURE ID.**

**The name on your DOC Access form must appear exactly as it does on your driver's license**

- **Your visit to a St. Dysmas** is important to the men. They greatly appreciate your attendance! It is a way for them to maintain contact with the outside world, worship with fellow Christians and realize they have not been forgotten. And, it is a way for Christians to fulfill the directives of our Lord in Matthew 25 and Hebrews 13 to visit those in prison.
- **A maximum of 25 visitors** are allowed to worship with St. Dysmas each Thursday within the walls of the SDSP in Sioux Falls. Visitors are considered volunteers and are **REQUIRED** to complete:
  1. A DOC Access Approval Form
  2. A Release and Waiver of Liability form.
- **Visitors** must be at least **18 years** of age.
- **Completed forms** must be returned to the St. Dysmas office two weeks and two days prior to the visit. The forms can be:
  1. Scanned and emailed to: [info@stdysmas.com](mailto:info@stdysmas.com)
  2. Faxed to: 605-336-8660
  3. Mailed to St. Dysmas Lutheran Church, 1300 E 10th St., Sioux Falls, SD 57103.
- **Visitors** must be in the prison lobby **before 6:00 p.m.** with a picture ID (Driver's license or Governments issued ID). No one is allowed inside without picture identification.
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- **Pat-down searches are now required for all visitors. They will be done by someone of the same gender. This is a new policy as of September, 2015.** Please read all these guidelines carefully. There are a few changes but the biggest change is that the guidelines are now rigorously enforced.
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- Please be quiet in the sally port. If the officer needs to say something it is difficult to talk over others through the glass.
- **Items for special music or presentations** must be approved in advance. Please send a list of any equipment, props or items to be used to the St. Dysmas office with the completed visitor access forms.
- **Except for approved items** (above), visitors cannot bring anything in to an inmate or staff person. Nor can anything can be taken out for them. Such action by a visitor/volunteer will severely jeopardize the St. Dysmas Ministry.
- Pockets must be emptied of keys, wallets, pens, knives, cell phones, candy/cough drops/gum. **Any meds you MUST have with you must be pre-approved.**

- **Items not allowed to be taken into prison:** No gum, food, cameras, purses, coats, pocket knives, tobacco products, **watches**, cell phones, beepers, or any other type of wireless or electronic devices, (even if turned off or set to vibrate). They can be left in the car, prison coat room or checked into a locker in the lobby (cost is 25¢).
- **Dress code** for prison visits is conservative. Clothing **NOT ALLOWED:** Hats or any headwear (including bandanas), hooded sweatshirts, open toed shoes, flip flops, tops of the following nature - tank, spaghetti strap, midriff, tube, shoulder-less, back-less, halter, or low cut. Revealing shorts, stretch or **Yoga pants**, tight jeans, dresses shorter than mid thigh, low-rise pants which allow skin or undergarments to be seen may be deemed inappropriate by staff.
- **Visitors** should sit among the men in small groups of two to three people.
- **A handshake** is the only allowed physical contact between a visitor and inmate.
- **DO NOT:** ask inmates why they are incarcerated, ask for, or accept, an inmate's mailing address, offer help or promise favors, **give out your personal information** such as your full name, address or phone numbers to inmates. There are proper channels for inmates and families if they need help.
- **A restroom** is available at the bottom of the stairs in the prison lobby
- **Visitors are invited** to join the pastor and former inmates following the service for supper, conversation, and a time of fellowship at the **Fryn' Pan, 2708 E 10<sup>th</sup> St., Sioux Falls**. Each person pays their own expense. This time provides a chance to visit about your prison experience and an opportunity to ask questions about prison life and learn more about the St. Dysmas ministry. If you plan on joining us at the Fryn' Pan, please check yes below so we can tell them how many to expect.
- **Your visit** to worship with St. Dysmas Congregation is important to the men & they greatly appreciate your attendance!
- **Please read, sign, and submit this page of WITH YOUR ACCESS & WAIVER FORMS.**
- Questions? Call St. Dysmas office at (605)338-1735 or Pastor Bob Chell's cell phone at (605)690-7870

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Yes I plan to go to the Fryn' Pan \_\_\_\_\_

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 Print Your Name Here

Occasionally we have churches or individuals not able to attend. In an effort to utilize the privilege to fill the service with 25 guests may we email or call you when there are openings should you want to join us again? If so, mark yes and please provide your email. Thank You!!

\_\_\_\_\_ **Yes, please notify me of any additional openings so that I may attend again.**

**My email address is:** \_\_\_\_\_

**My preferred phone number:** \_\_\_\_\_