

November 2020

The Good News Letter

Pastor's Corner



November begins a season of giving and being thankful. At the heart of Christian living and worship is gratitude. We are grateful because God has given us so much—and much more than we can ever repay. First, God has given us life itself. Some people are not happy in life; but one Presbyterian elder says that one thing that brings him happiness is his commitment to tithe. He writes, “It is glorious to have that comforting feeling that we are doing God’s will in a matter so vital as our money making—to know that our tithe, be it large or small, is helping to advance the cause of Christ—to feel that we are really in partnership with God.” (from “I Tithe, Testimonials from Nine Laypersons”).

Second, God has given us the promise of abundant life that has overcome even death itself. God wants us to go after our dreams in life, to live fulfilled lives. We experience pitfalls, tragedy and failure along the way; but the final victory is won in Jesus Christ our Lord. God wants us to live with joy, and we are blessed that today we have so many resources that previous generations did not have—counseling, medication, superior medical treatment, a better understanding and acceptance of mental illness. God wants us to use these resources to help us if we need them so that we may live with confidence and joy.

Third, God has given us a mission in life—a mission that every human being shares. That mission is to show the love of God in all that we do—as I just preached, to follow the Greatest Commandment that Jesus gives us: *Love the Lord your God with all your heart, mind and soul; and Love your neighbor as yourself.* When we make this commandment our goal in life, it does not mean life will be easy. In fact, in some ways it may be harder because our culture does not always appreciate those who seek to love above all else. But God will bless us richly when we love God and our neighbor (as well as ourselves!). God will help us as we strive to love sacrificially, as we seek to live as Jesus did. What greater blessing is that—to know that God is by our side guiding us?

You know the story of the ten lepers that Jesus healed, found in Luke 17:11-19. Ten were healed of their leprosy, but only one of them came back to give thanks—and he was a Samaritan! Jesus commented, “Were not ten made clean? But the other nine, where are they? Was none of them found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?” It is striking that it was the foreigner who returned and gave thanks. We are among the nine, but we can return and give thanks, and show our gratitude to God through our commitment to Christ’s church and through our giving of our talents, time and money. I hope you will join me in this season of gratitude, and be generous in giving thanks to God for all that God has given us.

God bless you richly,

Paul

Pastor Paul

Worship Schedule and Live Streaming of Worship Services during the COVID-19 pandemic



We are meeting in person on Sunday mornings @ 10:30AM. Masks are required and seating is spaced to meet the CDC recommendation of 6' social distancing. You may also join us on **Facebook Live**, <https://www.facebook.com/FirstPresbyterianSturgis>, Sunday mornings @ 10:30AM. The service may also be viewed on our website, www.fpcsturgissd.com, a short time after 11:30 a.m.

If you would like to receive a written copy of the service, please let the church know at 605-347-2395 and you will be added to the mailing list



The Personnel Committee would like to introduce you to our new secretary!!! Welcome to our FPC family, Carla Harrison! Carla has lived in Sturgis for 30 years. She has been married to her husband, Shawn, for 28 years. Shawn is a service tech with Pepsi. They have 2 children. Daughter, Chelsea, is 22 and studying to be a dog groomer. Son, Hunter, is 17 and a junior in high school. He participates in football and wrestling.

A couple of weeks ago you received your time and Talent sheet along with your pledge card. The Finance Committee needs you to return those as soon as possible. We will be working on the budget for 2021 and we need these back within the next week as we work through this budget. Please mail them



The Stated Session Meeting will be on Monday, November 16 at 7 pm via Zoom. Please contact any of the session members with concerns.

Financial Information for January through September 2020

Actual Giving	\$142,688.89	Budget to Date \$148,464.00
Actual Expenses	\$123,032.85	Budget to Date \$149,470.00

Please remember to mail in or come by the office with your gift or pledge. The church bills, salaries and mission giving payments depend on you! **A huge thank you to all that have continued to give to our church.**

*Please note that if we do not meet our budget, some of our giving, such as through the Mission Committee, or programs may be affected for the following year. Please

These Days

The new These Days for October/November/December have arrived! This quarter be inspired & challenged with devotional thoughts on shades of grace; intentional discipleship; season of surprises and more. Pick up your copy in the church office!

Christian Education

Christian education has been working to provide special programming during this unusual time when we are unable to hold our regular Sunday school programming.

This has required some creativity and continued commitment to ensure our lambs are being given spiritual nourishment. It won't surprise you that teachers and youth group leaders have stepped up and are working together to provide lessons and activities.

The Beatitudes is the theme of the lessons for the fall Sunday school program. Special thanks to our Christian Education committee for being the creative force behind developing on-line lessons and crafts. Barb Termes has a knack for recognizing what appeals to the young hearts and minds. The "*bee- attitude*" theme was selected, and a visit to a real beehive with a video was created to kick off the series in September.

Tiffany Anderson, Teresa Forbes, and Michele Loobey-Gertsch has been doing lessons by creating weekly videos. Barb Termes developed crafts, Cassie Hicks makes sure the videos and links are placed on our church website.

The silver lining to the current format is the lessons can be accessed at any time. Parents can log into the website and click on the youth section to find lessons. I invite you to go to the church website at <https://fpcsturgissd.com/> to check out the lessons, crafts, and activities.

You may want to check out the Facebook page for our Sunday school program "*First Presbyterian Church Youth.*" A special shout out to Teresa for setting this up and assisting with weekly updates, such as the Monday Meditation!

The theme for this first semester of Underground Squad is Prayer. The group has been meeting in the City Park for the first few weeks, but due to the change of

weather they are now moving to a Zoom format. The kids brought sack lunches to the park so they still enjoyed a meal together as well as activities.



A private Facebook group was created for the youth, parents, and leaders to access. Please note to be part of the group permission must be given by the administrator of the page. It allows the kids to interact with one another at any time should they want to post something or ask a question.

As we move into the holiday season, we will continue to provide lessons of value and spiritual truth to our youth. We covet your prayers and hope that sooner rather than later we can come together in person.

In Christ,

Michele Loobey-Gertsch

Christian Education

Kiwanis Food Pantry



Thanksgiving is the expression of gratitude for blessings we have received. I am very thankful for your kindness and generosity to the people of Sturgis and the surrounding area. If you wish to make a monetary donation please designate "Food Pantry" on the memo line of your check or offering envelope.

Please feel free to contact me at 605-490-3078 or betty.nettleton@gmail.com if you

have any questions or suggestions. Thank you for your continued support!

Betty Nettleton

Please also continue to save Lynn's Dakota Mart receipts; the money received through this program is utilized for purchase of regularly stocked products at the Food Pantry. For each \$10,000 in receipts the Food Bank receives \$100.

First Presbyterian Donations:

Total 2018	3164 pounds
Total 2019	2371 pounds
January—March 2020	368 pounds
April—June 2020	141 pounds
July—September 2020	188 pounds



To my church family –

Thank you for the \$50 gift card as you acknowledged my 8 years of service as treasurer.

In Christ's love & to His glory,

~Nancy Remington

THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Jeff and Bill Keane



"The sermon was good, but I think you could've used a couple jokes to jazz it up a bit."

from JoyfulNoiseletter.com
Reprinted with permission of Bill Keane

Happy birthday! Happy birthday! Happy birthday!

Birthdays & Anniversaries:

October

11/2 - Reba Loobey
 3 - Richard & Deborah Lester
 Deb Looby
 Landon Schirock
 11/4 – Lisa Baldwin
 11/7 – Tyler Hicks
 11/11 – Cal Corey
 11/12 – Charlie Nonhof
 Thomas Nettleton
 11/13 – Randee Matz
 Sarah Rhoden
 11/14 – Christy Hedderman
 11/17 – Reese Komes
 11/18 – Cassie Hicks
 11/19 – Barbara Hudson
 Colleen Bertolotto
 11/21 – Betty Voorhees
 11/23 – Karen Hinek
 11/26 – Larry Burditt
 11/27 – Jamie Conrad
 11/28 – Madi Jacobsen
 11/30 – Judy Lewis
 Paul Brandt

Rev. Paul Henschen will normally be in the office Monday through Thursday, 9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Carla Harrison is our new church secretary. Her normal office hours are Monday through Friday, 8:00AM-Noon and 1:00-3:00PM. Please feel free to give Carla a call with any questions or concerns at 605-347-2395. If you need to reach her after hours, please call her cell at 605-423-6034 and leave a message if she does not pick up.

The Church Office will be closed for the Thanksgiving Holiday on November 26 and 27.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the secretary's office hours may change from week to week. If you need something, please give the office a call at 605-347-2395.

Phone: 605-347-2395

Email: presbych@rushmore.com

Pastor's Cell: 701-535-0610

Pastor's Email: fpcpastor@vastbb.net

November 2020

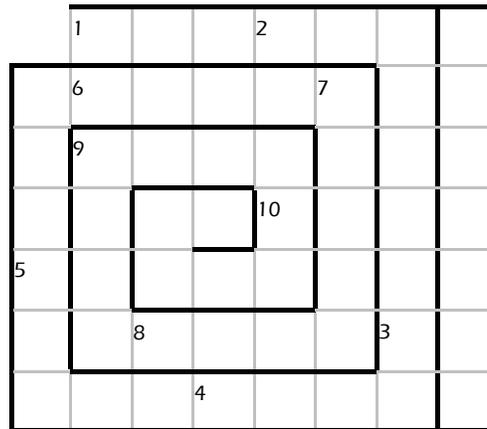
First Presbyterian Church of Sturgis, SD

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 10:30 Worship with Communion Daylight Savings Time Ends – turn your clocks back Parish Three	2 5:00PM Worship Committee 6:00PM Missions Committee	3 5:15PM Deacons	4 4:45PM Chapel Bells 5:30PM Youth Group	5 12:00PM Alli- ance of Church- es @ St Thomas 1:30PM PW Cir- cle	6	7
8 10:30AM Worship Parish Four	9 5:00PM Wel- coming 6:00PM Finance & Personnel	10	11 4:45PM Chapel Bells 5:30PM Youth Group	12	13	14
15 10:30AM Worship Parish Five	16 6:00PM Build- ings & Grounds 7:00PM Stated Session	17	18 4:45PM Chapel Bells 5:30PM Youth Group	19	20	21
22 10:30AM Worship 11:30 AM Congre- gational Meeting— Election of Officers & Pastor’s Terms of Call Parish One	23 8:00AM Dead- line for Newslet- ter Articles	24	25 4:45PM Chapel Bells 5:30PM Youth Group	26 Thanksgiving Day Church office	27 Closed	28 9:00AM Decorate church for Christ- mas-Worship Committee only
First Advent 29 10:30AM Worship –Holy Communion Parish Two	30					

Adam and Eve and the Sneaky Snake

The serpent was the shrewdest of all the wild animals the Lord God had made. One day he asked the woman, "Did God really say you must not eat the fruit from any of the trees in the garden?" Genesis 3:1 (NLT)

Numbered clues appear below the spiral grid. Write the word that matches the clue in the spiral puzzle. The word does not overlap with the next word (marked by the next number) and it must be written in the correct direction (from a lower numbered space to a higher numbered space).



- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. The first woman. | 6. A tall plant with a trunk, limbs and leaves. |
| 2. The male partner in a marriage. | 7. Another word for snake. |
| 3. Something that causes harm; or is bad or wrong. | 8. The first man. |
| 4. The part of a tree that you eat such as Apples and oranges. | 9. Something that is very pleasing and admired |
| 5. A beautiful place where God placed Adam and Eve. | 10. A place where fruit and vegetables are planted. |

GOOD
EVIL

GARDEN
ADAM

TREE
EVE

HUSBAND
FRUIT

EDEN
SERPENT



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Presbyterian Church of Sturgis



1319 Junction Ave.
Sturgis, SD 57785

***Happy
Thanksgiving***

A decorative graphic featuring a cluster of autumn-themed items: several bright orange and red flowers, a yellow cornucopia overflowing with produce, and a single ear of yellow corn. The items are arranged in a circular, overlapping fashion.