



The Newsletter of
First Presbyterian Church
1319 Junction Ave.
Sturgis, SD 57785
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The Good News Letter

July 2020

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Web-Site: www.fpcsturgissd.com
Facebook.com/FirstPresbyterianSturgis

Pastor's Corner

We continue to live in strange times. One thing I want to address is that I've heard some say, "Why did God give us the coronavirus? What is God trying to tell us?" First of all, God is love, and God's nature is of the suffering, sacrificial love revealed in Jesus Christ. God would never bring such a virus upon a world that God created and called good and very good. Second, the question we must ask ourselves is how have we brought about or made worse the presence of this virus? Global warming, unhealthy relationships with other nations, inept organization and a poor response to the virus, and a lack of concern for "the least of these" among us have all contributed to its presence among us.

And it worries me to no end that people do not seem to realize that the virus is really just hitting our area. People do not seem to be as vigilant about wearing masks, gloves and keeping social distances. We are now seeing in states like Florida, Georgia and Texas how "opening" has led to record number of cases in their states. We certainly do not want this to happen in South Dakota or Meade County. I applaud our Session's wisdom in taking this virus seriously.

We can look at this time as a great opportunity, even though it is a more difficult period. We have witnessed some incredible beginnings hopefully to changes in our society that should have been made long ago. The recognition of how much racism there is in our culture is hopefully something we've all seen in the terrible and tragic death of George Floyd. And we have learned about the unjust deaths of so many more—too many—black men and women. Is this the kind of society we want in America? Surely not, and surely God is calling us to something better. We must confront the bigotry in our own hearts first, and then move to eradicate its effects in the world around us. God calls us to repentance and to renewal in our world.

I've asked the Session to join me in a study of "White Privilege," which is one session in a series on racism put out by our denomination. We will look at it at our next stated meeting. By doing so, hopefully we will learn something about ourselves and how we might act differently. We may also see how our church needs to respond in our community and world to injustice around us. Remember that injustice anywhere affects and limits the freedom we all enjoy; and the church has a special calling to stand up for any who suffer from injustice's effects.

God bless you,
Pastor Paul

Church Office Hours

The Church Office will be closed on July 3 in observance of Independence Day.

Rev. Paul Henschen will normally be in the office Monday through Thursday, 9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Office hours for the church secretary are Tuesday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to Noon. Please feel free to give Linda a call with any questions or concerns at 605-347-2395. If you need to reach her after hours, please call her cell at 320-766-5750 and leave a message if she does not pick up.

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 or call Linda on her cell at 320-766-5750.

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

At the time of the newsletter publication, the church building will remain closed for all church and non-church activities. The Session will be meeting periodically to review church activities during the pandemic.

Services will remain being held **on Facebook Live at 10:30 am on Sunday mornings**, <https://www.facebook.com/FirstPresbyterianSturgis> until we are able to gather together again. You can also view the service on our website www.fpcsturgisssd.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 office know at 605-347-2395 and you will be added to the mailing list.

Holy Communion will be observed on July 5th, you are invited to observe communion in your home by the eating of bread and the drinking of juice or other liquid you have available—so please have these on hand. Rev. Paul will do the “words of institution” on Facebook Live.

Session will meet in July

The Session will be meeting periodically to review church activities during the pandemic. The Stated Session Meeting is on Monday, July 20 at 7 pm via Zoom Conference meeting.

Please contact any of the session members with concerns, or give the office a call and Linda will relay the message to those in charge of that committee.

New Skylights

The new skylights are in. If you would like to give a donation towards this project, please put Skylights on the memo line of your check.

These Days

The new These Days for July/August/September have arrived. You are welcomed to stop by the office and pick up a copy.

Rally Breakfast 2020

The decision has been made by the Rally Breakfast Committee to cancel the breakfast for this year, due to the COVID 19 Pandemic. We hope that all of our wonderful volunteers will stay home, and stay healthy during the 80th Sturgis Motorcycle Rally.

Month End Financial Report

As of the end of May, our Month End Financial Report is as follows:

Year to Date Actual Income	\$78,240.06
Year to Date Budgeted Income	\$82,480.00
Plus/Minus	(\$4,239.94)

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.***

Update on continued support of the Kiwanis Food Pantry, Sturgis SD

Summer has arrived and we have much to celebrate. We are blessed to be able to join in worship in our sanctuary once again. Thank you for the continued support you have provided to the Kiwanis Food Pantry during this challenging time.

First Presbyterian Donations:

Total 2018	3164 pounds
Total 2019	2371 pounds
January –March 2020	368 pounds
April , May 2020	81 pounds

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.

July’s suggested items:

July 5	Picnic
July 12	Baking ingredients
July 19	Canned Meat
July 26	Jell-O/Pudding (cups or mix)

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



July 2020

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																																								
<table border="1"> <tr><th colspan="7">Jun 2020</th></tr> <tr><th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th></tr> <tr><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td></tr> <tr><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td></tr> <tr><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td></tr> <tr><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> <table border="1"> <tr><th colspan="7">Aug 2020</th></tr> <tr><th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td></tr> <tr><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td></tr> <tr><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td></tr> <tr><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td></tr> <tr><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>		Jun 2020							S	M	T	W	T	F	S	1	2	3	4	5	6		7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30					Aug 2020							S	M	T	W	T	F	S							1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31						<p>1</p> <p>A~Dan & Marcia Johnston</p> <p>B~Cathie Anderson</p>	<p>2</p> <p>B~Teresa Forbes</p>	<p>3</p> <p>A~Doug & Betty Voorhees</p>	<p>4</p> <p>B~Bob Hill</p>
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<p>5</p> <p>B~Jett Eddings</p> <p>B~Linda Corey</p>	<p>6</p> <p>(If any have been omitted, please call the church and let us know, 347-2395. We want to be accurate)</p>	<p>7</p> <p>A~Randy & Joyce Ehlers</p> <p>B~Howard Hancock</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9</p> <p>B~Drew Gertsch</p>	<p>10</p> <p>A~Jonah & Morgan Pickett</p> <p>B~Sam Namminga</p>	<p>11</p> <p>B~Billy Burditt</p>																																																																																																								
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