



The Good News Letter

February 2020

The Newsletter of
First Presbyterian Church
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Pastor's Corner

I am excited about some new events at our church, and I want to tell you about one of them. **During Lent, we will have on Wednesdays a supper meal and a program at 6 pm in the Club Room, beginning on Ash Wednesday, February 26th.** Various committees/groups in the church are begin asked to be in charge of the meal each week, and it is to be something light such as soup and sandwiches. The program will be **"24 Hours That Changed the World"**—a video series in which you will be taken to the Holy Land and learn about Jesus' last hours before and during the crucifixion. The videos are led by Rev. Adam Hamilton, a United Methodist pastor. You can buy a book for the program if you desire on Amazon for about \$11.00, and the book's title is the same as the program. For each Wednesday, we will watch the video (10-15 minutes) and then discuss what we learned.

Also, **the Underground Squad (our youth group) will be leading the singing of praise songs at 5:30 pm** on these Wednesdays. I encourage you to come early, and sing with them and learn some praise songs. The youth will stay for the meal and program, and break off into their own group for discussion time.

On Ash Wednesday, we will participate in **the imposition of ashes** on your forehead if you choose to do so. I will take time after the program for this brief service downstairs in the Club Room. Also, for **Holy Week (April 5-11)** we will not meet on Wednesday, but on **Maundy Thursday**. We will have the meal and then have a worship service, remembering the last meal Jesus spent with his disciples before the crucifixion.

I hope you will make plans to come to this meal and program during Lent. If you've never been to the Holy Land, this will be the next best thing!

God bless you,

Pastor Paul

P.S. This winter we have had to cancel worship services on two Sundays. The procedure for canceling involves me, the pastor, contacting the moderators of the Building and Grounds and the Worship Committees, and together we make the decision. This procedure is from the church's policy manual. If we decide to cancel worship, then we will post the announcement on the church Facebook page, do our best to send out an email to the congregation, and attempt to put the announcement on the three TV stations out of Rapid City. The Deacons have agreed to call persons in the six parish groups to get the word out. Cancellations during the week will follow the same procedure, although generally, if school is cancelled, then so will church activities.

Also, because no offering is taken on those Sundays, I would ask you to please "double up" on your giving for a Sunday to make up for this. We still have to pay the expenses of the church even when we have no worship service.

Church Office Hours

Rev. Paul Henschen will normally be in the office Monday through Thursday, 9:30 a.m. to Noon. Office hours for the church secretary are Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to Noon and 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. 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.

Worship Schedule

9:00 a.m. ~ Christian Education Classes

10:15 a.m. ~ Pre-service coffee and fellowship in the Lobby

10:30 a.m. ~ Worship Service (Communion is celebrated on the first Sunday of each month)

11:30 a.m. ~ Fellowship in the Erskine Club Room

Special Announcements

February 16 ~ Annual Congregational Meeting following the worship service. Potluck following the meeting

February 26 ~ Ash Wednesday – 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. (*with imposition of ashes*) Eat and Meet Lenten Program. This program will continue through Maundy Thursday.

Rev. Paul will preach a sermon series on some of Jesus' parables that teach us about the Kingdom of God. This will run from January 26th to February 23rd.

Lord's Supper in February

We will be celebrating the Lord's Supper on February 2, during our Worship Service. If you are an ordained Elder in the Presbyterian Church, you can serve communion. Elders who are serving are requested to meet in pastor's study 20 minutes prior to the service to go over serving instructions. If you are interested in serving, please sign up a few weeks in advance. There is a sign-up sheet in the Lobby, or you can simply call the church office at 605-347-2395.

Annual Meeting of First Presbyterian Church and potluck meal

On February 16, the First Presbyterian Church of Sturgis South Dakota will hold its Annual Meeting of the Congregation following the worship service. The Ministry of 2019 will be reviewed. There will be discussion, a question and answer time, and opportunities for corrections or amendments. The annual report will be ready for you to review on Sunday, February 9.

Following the meeting there will be a potluck meal in the Erskine Club Room.

Session will meet in February

The Session will hold their Stated Session Meeting on February 17 in the Lee James Parlor. Members are encouraged to come at 6:30 to review the docket if they have not already done so.

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.

Mark your calendars! Feb 26, Ash Wednesday, from 6-7 PM will be our first "Meet and Eat Lenten Gathering;" this gathering will continue on subsequent Wednesdays during Lent. The Eat portion of the Gathering will begin at 6 PM followed by a program by Pastor Paul at 6:30. This first Wednesday will be unique in that the Imposition of Ashes will also be observed. Our fantastic youth will be providing our Ash Wednesday meal and we hope to have other groups lined up for subsequent Wednesdays. Pass the Word and contact Pastor Paul or Dedi LaRue with any questions!

Grief Support Group

The Grief Support Group continues to meet every Monday at noon for one hour here at First Presbyterian Church. Coffee will be on, so bring a sack lunch if you would like. The front door will be open for easy entrance from the parking lot if steps are an issue. If you have questions, please call the church office at 605-347-2395.

Live Streaming and Recordings of Worship Services

Our services are now shown on the church's Facebook page, www.Facebook.com/FirstPresbyterianSturgis. CD recordings of most worship services are available upon request. Please notify the church office if you would like a copy, by calling 605-347-2395.

Lay Leaders

If you feel comfortable reading in front of people and would like to be more involved in our worship service, please consider being a Lay Leader. The church secretary gives you an accurate outline for the first part of the service, and after that you would be reading out of a Leaders Copy bulletin where your parts are clearly marked.

Please consider helping us out. There is a sign-up sheet in the Lobby, or you can give the church office a call and tell Linda what Sunday you would like to sign up for.

If you have questions, please talk to anyone on the Worship Committee. They are Dedi LaRue (CM), Kathy Biesheuvel (CM), Billy Burditt, Brenda Schaffer, Deb Lester, Carolyn Fisher, Bob Looby and Hillary Hill.

Soundboard and Power Point

We are looking for people to help with the soundboard and the power point presentations on Sunday mornings. There will be training for anyone that wants to learn how it is done. If you are interested, please talk to anyone on the Worship Committee. They are listed above.

Underground Squad (US) Youth

The US Youth would like to thank everyone that has volunteered to help serve a meal on Wednesday evenings. This is the schedule that we have through Easter. February 5, Donna Bossman; February 12, Trish Henderson; February 19, US Youth Spaghetti Dinner Fund Raiser, serving from 5:00 p.m. to 6:60 p.m. (Love Offering will be taken to help fund the Triennium 2020); February 26, Ash Wednesday. This year during Lent we will be sharing a meal with the members of First Presbyterian Church at a Eat & Meet Lenten Program. After the meal and the program, we will break into our own group and do an activity. The Youth will help with the meal on the 26th. The rest of Lent will be taken care of by other groups in the congregation.

The US Youth will be working on raising funds for the national Triennium 2022 youth convention that will be held in 3 years. At Monday night's session meeting, it was approved for the youth to have a ***Make Some Noise Loose Change Offering*** one Sunday each month. So please watch for the announcement and bring your loose change to church that Sunday. Let's help our youth ***Make Some Noise!***

The US Youth will be working on a community service project and need the following items at the church no later than February 5, as they will be delivering them to nursing homes on February 12. (1) Ball canning jars or something similar that the kids can paint and make into vases. (2) Spring like flowers for the vases.

Thank you to all that have helped make the US Youth Group a huge success.

Crisis Intervention Shelter Services

(CISS) needs cleaning supplies, shower supplies, towels, paper products, and diapers/wipes. The CISS staff greatly appreciates everything that we as a congregation do for them. There is a collection bin on the upper level of the church, below the Sunday School bulletin board. Thank you to all that have and continue to support this mission.

Presbyterian Women

Presbyterian women will meet in the Lee James Parlor Thursday, February 6, 2020, at 1:30 p.m. Our Bible Study lesson will be Chapter 9, No Strings Attached “Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ.” 2 Corinthians 6:20 NKJV. Our Hostesses are Beth Bauer and Mimi Shewey. Come for the Bible Study, stay for the fellowship.

The front door will be unlocked for easy access if you wish to park in the parking lot.

Deacons Valentine Cookie Delivery

Once again, the Board of Deacons will be assembling cookie trays for Valentine’s Day. The trays will be delivered to homebound members and friends of the church as well as various assisted living and long-term care facilities.

If you would be willing to bake (or buy) cookies to support this project, please take 2-3 dozen to the church February 6-9. The deacons will be assembling the trays after church on Sunday, February 9. If you would be willing to either assist with the assembly or delivery of the trays please join us.

If you have any questions please contact Teresa Forbs, Moderator of the Board of Deacons or the church office.

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

We have entered the year 2020 with many blessings. The generosity of First Presbyterian Church with the donation of food and money touches so many people in the Sturgis area.

Total 2018	3164 pounds
Total 2019	2371 pounds

The Food Pantry is open from 9:00 AM to 1145 AM Monday, Wednesday, and Friday (excluding major holidays). Volunteers are the foundation of this service.

This project is sponsored by The Board of Deacons. Each Sunday a “Food of the Week” will be listed in the bulletin. Members of the congregation are encouraged to bring 1 (or more) of the featured items to church on Sunday. The items will then be transported to the Food Pantry for distribution.

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. The Food Bank received \$4800 in 2019 from this program.

February's suggested items:

February 2	"Souper" Bowl (including stew)
February 9	Peanut Butter
February 16	Jelly
February 23	Canned Meat

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



Northern Hills Connection
TUESDAY, February 18, 2020
12:00 Noon \$10 Inclusive

1st Presbyterian Church Fellowship Room
1319 Junction Ave., Sturgis, SD

SPEAKER:

Dr. Samantha Figgins, DC "Health Source"
speaking about our health

SPECIAL FEATURE

New to You...Fashions & Treasures
Bill & Deborah, Sturgis

MUSIC ~ will be provided

Reservations required, Please call:

Dorothy 645-8542 or Marlene 722-5307
or email: maridel.sprenger@yahoo.com.

Prayer Coffee: Feb. 11th @ 9:00 AM
1213 Charles St., Spearfish

(All women are invited and encouraged to bring a friend)

Affiliated with Stonecroft Ministries
(Women connecting with God, each other,
and their communities)





I would like to express my appreciation to my church family in supporting Gary and me in my recent hospitalization. To those that reached out to Gary directly, I thank you for letting him verbalize his concerns and needs. I personally received texts and phone communication letting me know that we were in your thoughts and prayers. It's so very important knowing that someone else is raising you up in supplication before God's throne. The trials of life are part of God's plan. In times of doubt and fearfulness, I am confident that the Peace of Christ will return to me and that God is still in control.

~ Connie Udell

Thank you to our church family!

Pastor Paul – Thank you for your phone call and prayers and your visits with Dad. Your message was great.

Linda – Thank you for all you did in preparing the funeral power point and for recording the service and coping CDs for the family.

PW – Thank you for providing the meal for us after the funeral/committal service.

Brenda – Thank you for providing music.

Session members – On Sunday evening from 4:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. we had a private family gathering in the Erskine Club Room. We had pizza and root bear floats. Those who wished to go over to kinkades for private viewing were able to do so. We, also, had a time after supper for sharing of memories. My two brothers shared tributes to Dad. It was so nice to be able to use the church facilities for this. I have given the church a \$50.00 check to cover costs of "Building Use"

To our Church Family – Thank you for expressing the love of Christ to Dad and the rest of the Blair family.

~ Nancy (Daughter #3)

Dear Valued Donor.

On behalf of the Board of Directors and the staff at CRISIS Intervention, we want to again thank you so much for your continued support of our efforts to provide help for women, children, and men who enter our shelter.

It is hard to explain how much your support means to everyone involved with the shelter. The need increases while the funds are day to day, so support like your helps keep the shelter open and allows us to provide the services necessary for those who seek our help.

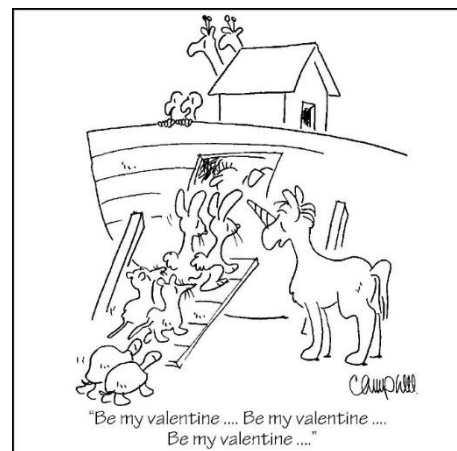
~ CISS Staff and Board of Directors

Presbyterian Women.

Thank you for your donation to the Optimist Toy Drive. It was greatly appreciated.



What did the bat say to his Valentine?
"You're fun to hang around with!"
What did the cat say to his Valentine?
"You're purr-fect for me!"
What did the squirrel say to his Valentine?
"I'm nuts about you!"
What did the drum say to his Valentine?
"My heart beats for you!"



What did the paper clip say to the magnet? "I find you very attractive."

