



MARCH 2018

## “Yucca Breeze”

T H E U N I T E D C H U R C H E S  
O F H O T S P R I N G S

### P A S T O R ' S P U L P I T :

Dear Friends,

The season of Lent is upon us. This special season of the church year is to be a time for reflection, prayer, and study. The goal of Lent is to build a stronger faith and a deeper commitment to being Christ's disciples in the world. My practice has been to choose a particular focus or “theme” for the Lenten season.

This year I have chosen to focus on the Lord's Prayer. This wonderful prayer, given to us by Christ, is the primary example for us to follow in developing our own prayers. It is a source of peace, strength, comfort, encouragement, and hope in many of the circumstances of our lives. It is humbling, yet grand; God-centered, yet personally oriented. It is heart-filled, and yet thought-filled.

Our Lenten focus on the Lord's Prayer will involve a sermon series, special music, and will be the focus of the Adult Sunday School class each Sunday at 8:45 am. Throughout Lent the Lord's prayer will be sung, or said, in a variety of ways.

Our preparation for Easter will be enhanced through an in-depth look at the Lord's Prayer. May we join together in this special season in ways that deepen our faith, expand our spirits, fill our hearts, and enrich our lives.

Yours in Christ,  
*Pastor John*

*Daylight Saving Time begins on March 11. Be sure to set your clocks ahead one hour before going to bed on March 10 to avoid being late for worship.*

## CONCERT COMING!

The 55 member Augustana University Choir will be treating us to a very special concert on Monday, March 12th at 7:00 p.m. at the United Churches. More details later.

**Maundy Thursday Service** The United Churches will observe Maundy Thursday on March 29th, with a Worship Service beginning at 7:00 p.m. Like we did last year, we have invited the people of Prairie View United Methodist Church in Smithwick to join us here.

**Good Friday Service** The United Churches will join with members of Prairie View United Methodist Church and Pastor Mark Johnsen at their church in Smithwick on March 30th, to observe Good Friday beginning at 7:00 p.m. Please plan to join us there on this solemn day.

**Lenten Lunches Continue** Here is the schedule of the remaining Lenten Lunches in March, which will all be served in the United Churches Fellowship Hall on Wednesdays at noon:

March 7th—hosted by Prairie View UMC, Smithwick

March 14th—hosted by St. John's Lutheran Church, Hot Springs

March 21st—hosted by Fountain of Life Assembly of God, Hot Springs

## Special Invitation

A “Palm Sunday, Holy Week, Easter” Program will be presented at United Churches on Palm Sunday, March 25<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. This interactive program will include scripture, music, dance, multimedia, and perhaps skits or poetry that hopefully will be thought-provoking and meaningful to all those in attendance. If you would like to be involved in any way, please contact Rev. Pehrson or Lynn Mason.

## Haiti Mission Team Report

We all returned home safe & healthy! We appreciate all your prayers—we felt them!

This was a very special trip as we got to stay in a resort for two days where we could walk out of our room and into the ocean! Literally! Wonderful food all day long. William & Nathalie had a very beautiful wedding. The colors were blue & yellow. She wore a lovely long white dress & veil. Her mother walked her down the aisle. I was privileged to walk with William, as he is “my son”! They had a Haitian meal of plantains, beans & rice and more after the wedding.

We took the “fly boat” (3 motors on the back for flying over the top of the water!) to the island of LaGonave. We stayed at William & Nathalie’s home. It is a “complex” with the clinic downstairs, neighbors on one side and they live on the top floor with four bedrooms, kitchen, bath and living area. Lots of ventilation! All of our baths were bucket baths, no running water in shower (soon to be hooked up).

We went to the school, “College of Brothers” which is a school we have supported for 3 years. Levi is the principal. They have 3 classes: 1st & 2nd, 3rd & 4th, and 5th & 6th grades. Three teachers, about 20 students in each class. They absolutely loved having us come. Carla always shares a Bible story which they are always very attentive. These kids would not be able to afford school anywhere else. It is not a certified school but they all learn the basics and a lot of Christian classes! We brought enough food for them for two months and then we are sending \$200 a month to feed them 6 days/wk. One of the very best things for me, was dividing the kids into families & giving each family rice, beans, oil & spices to take home! They were so excited and I bet their family was really surprised when they got there. It was extremely satisfying!!

We went to “Washcompae”, a small village with no school, church, or anything. People just live at random & are very poor, walking a long way for water. The road is absolutely rough & bumpy, a terrible road. (Carla has a FitBit watch & when we got there she walked about 20 steps and it said, “Congrats, you have just walked 10,000 steps”.) They were very glad to get the food! We went to LaGonave Alive School & bought 4 doors and painted 3 rooms. It is a very nice school, all new. Hopefully it will be open in September but our mission team while helping with the new school will keep on supporting College of Brothers school. So much need! We had such a good chance to strengthen our relationships with so many and Jerry & Jeanne made many new friends, and Jeanne got to see old ones as well.

The last day after we went to Port Au Prince we shopped at a metal sign place & then took a long drive to the Baptist Mission on top of the mountains. We could see they were strip farming, where they have cut all the trees down. It is good for the ground. It was good to have Jeanne & Jerry there to get their perspective on the land & livestock. Also we played cards every night and all four of us enjoyed each other’s company.

Thank you for all your support. We will go in January of 2019. It is \$2,500.00 total for each person. We already have four going. Pray about it... *maybe its your turn!*

In Christ,

Annie Zwetzig, Carla Richmond, Jerry & Jeanne Wyatt

*P.S. There will be another rummage sale!*

**MARCH Birthdays:**

- 9 Pat Holwell
- Carla Johnson
- 12 Joann Walker
- 13 Delores Hickman
- 17 Jim Hansen
- 24 Ruby Slater
- 25 Mary Jane Cape
- Kevin Cape
- Jim Zwetzig
- 27 Thor Swift



**MARCH Anniversaries:**

- 16 Don/Sheila DeVries



*If your name is not included on the Birthdays and Anniversaries list and you would like it to be added, please contact the church office by email: [uc@gwtc.net](mailto:uc@gwtc.net) or call 745-5640.*



***“Bearly Used” Boutique...***

.....  
 A unique boutique that started with a dream to bring upscale clothing to the community opened its doors on March 16, 2004.

Through the years, people from all walks of life and ages who are entering the work force, attending weddings, graduations, or just looking for clothing for their children for everyday have entered the boutique. Customers may leave with a Bible, and kids may have a bear.

A Beary, Beary big thank you to

Mary Sue Waxler who has been an outstanding helper since the inception of the boutique. Through the years, many wonderful & dedicated people have assisted at the boutique: Mary Sue Waxler, Wanda Agenbroad, Johna Salverson, Beth Messing, Flora Barrett, Letha Johnson, Sally Hageman, Florence Jost, Shelia DeVries, Joann Walker, and Sharon Kalvels.

For more information on future plans and to volunteer in any way, large or small, call Sally Hageman at 745-3802.

THANK YOU to everyone!

God's Blessings,  
**Pat Coffield**

P.S.—And *thank you* to ALL who have contributed “bearly used” clothing to the boutique! You have blessed many with your thoughtfulness.

Please see the back of your March Calendar for a flyer describing a new ministry that the Hot Springs Ministerial Association is offering, Medical Transportation to meet a need in our community.

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**HOT SPRINGS, SD**