



The Breeze

THE UNITED CHURCHES OF HOT SPRINGS, SD

Pastor's Pulpit:

As we enter the month of March, we also enter the Season of Lent. But, really, what is Lent? Krisan Marotta penned a brief primer of the subject:

What is Lent?

Lent is the six-week season in the church calendar beginning on Ash Wednesday and ending Easter Sunday. Ash Wednesday is named for the practice of placing ashes on the forehead as a sign of repentance to God. Easter Sunday celebrates the Resurrection of Jesus Christ on the third day after His crucifixion. Lent commemorates the 40 days Jesus spent fasting in the wilderness before beginning of His public ministry. In most Western traditions, Sundays are not counted as part of Lent (hence it is 40 days within a 46-day period). Lent is generally recognized as a time for Christians to prepare for Easter through reflection, repentance and prayer. While many Christians from many denominations observe Lent, the choice of how and whether to observe Lent is typically left to the individual.



How do Christians observe Lent?

Practices vary from church to church but include:

- Many churches offer special services that focus on our need for a Savior, the necessity of repentance and/or the work of Jesus Christ. For example, during **Ash Wednesday** services believers mark their foreheads with ash as a symbol of sorrow and mourning over their sin. **Maundy Thursday** services commemorate the Last Supper which is the last time Jesus celebrated Passover with the apostles, and **Good Friday** services commemorate Jesus' death on the cross in our place.
- Some Christians choose to give up a habit or behavior during Lent in order to focus on their need for repentance. This self-denial could be as simple as foregoing chocolate or a disciplined program of fasting.
- Some Christians read a special devotional series or Scripture designed to further their understanding of the meaning of the cross and **Easter Sunday**.

(Continued on next page)

Of course, we will be observing Lent this year at our beloved church. Won't you consider sacrificing some of your time and joining together with our true brothers and sisters each Wednesday at Noon (March 9, 16, 23, 30, Apr 6) for our Lenten Soup Luncheons? Each Wednesday a different church will provide the meal here at the United Churches. It is a good time to eat, to pray, to be together, and to ponder the question: "Just what did Jesus do for me ... and better yet, why?"

Then, why not join later in the day with our church family for 6 Wednesday evening Lenten Services (6:30 pm-7:15 pm) here in our Sanctuary. The services are short but reflective, liturgical and Spirit-inspired. Most of all, each of our services are meant to be Christ-honoring.

We will also be observing Maundy Thursday (April 14) here at The United Churches with folks from Prairie View United Methodist Church, and then Good Friday (April 15) there at Prairie View. Then ... there is Easter Morning.

Lent is somewhat of an extension of the Christmas season. It is an exchange of gifts: as we extend to Christ the gift of our time to consider Him, He extends the gift of His Presence to encourage us. It is a very special and holy time of the year.

Blessings and Peace, *Pastor David*

In View of God's Mercy ***a Series of Services for the Season of Lent***

Ash Wednesday, March 2ND

Mercy in Ashes — Joel 2:13 — As we are marked with ashes on this day, a reminder to us of our sins, we are reminded, too, of the mercy of our God who lifts us from our ashes to new life in Christ.

Week One, March 9TH

Mercy in Temptation — 1 Corinthians 10:13 — In the midst of temptation, our merciful God provides us with a way out through His Son, who was tempted just as we are, yet without sin.

Week Two, March 16TH

Mercy in Suffering — 1 Peter 2:23 — No life without suffering, but our sufferings are not worth comparing to the glory to be revealed to us in Jesus by God's great mercy.

Week Three, March 23RD

Mercy in Betrayal — 1 Peter 3:11 — Though we may turn away from our God again and again, our Lord continues to call us back into His merciful arms for Jesus' sake.

Week Four, Marchth

Mercy in Relationships — Ephesians 4:32 — Within the communities God has placed us, we are given the grace to treat one another as Christ has cared for us in His love and mercy.

Week Five, April 6th

Mercy in Service — Hebrews 6:10 — In response to God's kindness to us in Jesus, we serve in mercy the needs of those around us by Christ's example.

The Sunday Morning — 8:30 AM — "Sensibles" Class
With Pastor David will be presenting a new series:

"KNOWING SCRIPTURE"

Beginning March 6, 2022

A TOOL TO SHARPEN YOUR SCRIPTURE STUDY

Knowing Scripture shows us that it is the privilege and duty of every believer to diligently study God's Word. It reminds us that along with this privilege comes the responsibility to interpret the Bible correctly. Dr. R.C. Sproul teaches that interpreting Scripture, like all sciences, is governed by rules. He lays out the basic guidelines for correctly understanding, interpreting, and applying Scripture, using time-tested principles from Scripture to show how to find the true meaning of the contents. This series is a great study tool for both beginning and long-time Bible readers.

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| 1. Why Study the Bible? | 7. Reading the Bible Existentially |
| 2. Private Interpretation | 8. The Historical Narrative |
| 3. The Science of Interpretation | 9. The Explicit & The Implicit |
| 4. Literal Interpretation | 10. Parallelisms |
| 5. Literary Forms (Part 1) | 11. Scripture & Culture |
| 6. Literary Forms (Part 2) | 12. Principles vs. Custom |



Dr. R.C. Sproul was founder of Ligonier Ministries, founding pastor Saint Andrew's Chapel in Sanford, Florida, first president of Reformation Bible College, executive editor of *Tabletalk* magazine, and author of more than one hundred books. He was recognized throughout the world for his articulate defense of the inerrancy of Scripture and the need for God's people to stand with conviction upon His Word.

Everyone is invited and encouraged to join us.



UPDATE!!!!

The next **D2D-1** *beginning class* will start in September. **However, we will begin a new D2D-2 class on March 21st.** If you have completed D2D-1 and wish to be included in this group, please let Pastor David know.



THE UNITED CHURCHES SPOTLIGHT

In March we will be spotlighting our Presbyterian denomination

Learn: Who we are ... What we believe ... What we do ... How to join.

On Sunday, April 10, 2022, we invite you to join in a New Member class (11:15-11:45 AM) to answer any lingering questions you may have. Then on Sunday, April 17th, we would consider it a great privilege and pleasure to welcome you into your new church family!

Your Denominational Representatives:

Garry Strauser, Baptist; Marce Largent, Methodist; Nancy Cape, Presbyterian

May the road rise up to meet you. May the wind be always at your back. May the sun shine warm upon your face; the rains fall soft upon your fields and until we meet again, may God hold you in the palm of His hand. ~ Traditional Gaelic Blessing



MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

None Listed

3 Don Olstad	13 Delores Hickman
3 Susan Trobee	25 Jim Zwetzig
5 Nolen Humbracht	25 Mary Jane Cape
9 Carla Johnson	27 Thor Swift
12 Sean Cape	27 Kevin Cape
12 Joann Walker	30 Carol Posthumus

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 or call 745-5640.

THIS AND THAT

BOUTIQUES OPEN:

Our "Basic Needs Boutique" and "Bearly Used Boutique" will be open on Saturday, March 12th from 10:00 AM—12:00 Noon.

FOOD PANTRY CLIENT PROFILE:

Number of Active Clients (visited the pantry in 2022): 176; Single: 82; Family: 94; Veterans (included in single/family count): 39. New sign ups (since January 1, 2022): 14.

MARCH MISSION EMPHASIS: LaGonava Alive! Hope. Health. Happiness. A Haiti Mission.

Weekly giving envelopes will have a line designated for this offering. Mission Emphasis Sunday will be on March 13th and our "Loose Change Offering" will be received during that service. Watch for more details.

MARCH SUNDAY SERMON SERIES:

6	"All of it on Olivet: Part 3"	Mark 13:24-27
13	"Pass Over That Lamb"	Mark 14:1-9
20	"Last Supper"	Mark 14:10-28
27	"Two, Two: Two in One"	Mark 14:27-42

LENTEN LUNCHESES:

Will begin Wednesday, March 9th, from 12:00 Noon to 1:00 PM. The United Churches will be providing the food for the first luncheon, and other churches will follow. *If you can help by providing a large crockpot of soup on Wednesday, March 9th, please let Jeanne Wyatt know.*

YOUTH BIBLE STUDY BEING LED BY ELLE LOVETT:

All Teenagers are welcome to join them on Friday mornings at 10:00 a.m. for a youth-led Bible Study. They will normally meet at The United Churches in the Fellowship Hall, or at the Upper Crust Bakery. First-time attenders please contact Patrick DeSmet for current location, Text 605.891.8148.

UNITED WOMEN'S GATHERING GROUP:

Will have their next monthly meeting on Tuesday, March 15th at 1:30 PM — in the Fireside Room. All women are invited to join us for a time of: spiritual nourishment, prayer, encouragement, fellowship, and sharing. We are continuing our study in the book of Psalms and you can join in anytime! Please see Bernice Cook if you need a book.

SATURDAY, MARCH 12th ... Don't forget to set your clocks forward one hour when you go to bed!





The Voice of the Martyrs

THE HEART OF THE GOSPEL IS FORGIVENESS

SABINA

TORTURED FOR CHRIST

THE NAZI YEARS

Showing at The United Churches
Friday Evening – March 4th
6:30 PM
In the Church Sanctuary

PARALLEL RATED
FOR THEMATIC CONTENT,
SOME DISTURBING
IMAGES AND VIOLENCE.
PG-13
Some Material May Be Inappropriate for Children Under 13

PRIVATE SCREENING — OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Great character is sometimes forged amid great turmoil. *Sabina: Tortured for Christ, the Nazi Years* is the story of how God's love transformed an ambitious, atheistic hedonist into one of the greatest Christian women of the 20th century. The film opens with Sabina Wurmbrand risking her life to show Christ's love to a trio of Nazi soldiers. Why? Why would a Jewish Christian risk her life to help her enemies – members of the army that killed her entire family? Experience the amazing true story that has redefined the concepts of love and forgiveness for millions around the world.



Richard Wurmbrand
1909-2001

Richard Wurmbrand, co-founder of The Voice of the Martyrs, led an underground Christian ministry to those who suffered under Nazi and Communist oppression in his homeland of Romania. His Christian witness led to 14 years of imprisonment and torture in a Communist prison.



Sabina (Oster) Wurmbrand
1913-2000

Sabina, The Voice of the Martyrs' co-founder, advanced God's kingdom in Romania amid Nazi and Communist oppression.

She carried on intense missionary work with her husband, Richard, continuing the work during his imprisonment. She suffered three years of prison and forced labor for her bold faith.

Additional seating will be available in our Bethany Room and the Fireside Room.

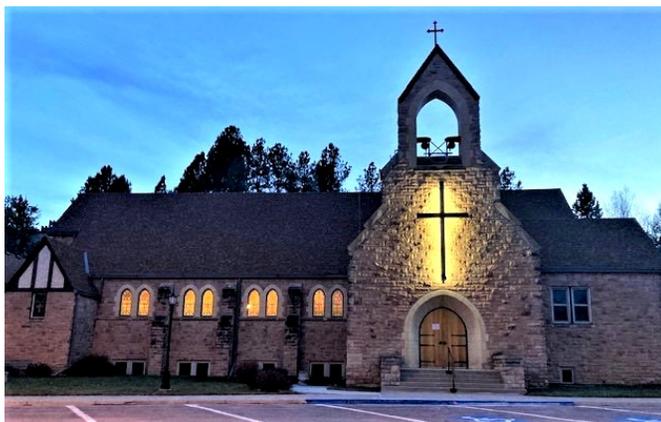
CHILD CARE:

We are happy to announce that the Board of Trustees has approved Elle Lovett to provide childcare services in our Nursery during our Movie Nights at the church. This will include during the weekly Friday evening showing of "The Chosen" with the discussion time, **as well as during the special screening of the "Sabina" movie at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, March 4th** (no "Chosen" that evening). Garry and Pat Strauser will be assisting and supervising the children along with Elle. This service is being offered for a free-will donation to Elle. Please share this information with those you know who may appreciate this opportunity.

The United Churches
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Non-Profit Organization
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UNITED CHURCHES



HOT SPRINGS, SD