



Yucca Breeze

THE UNITED CHURCHES OF HOT SPRINGS, SOUTH DAKOTA

Pastor's Pulpit:

"I know for certain
that we never lose the people we love,
even to death.
They continue to participate in every act,
thought and decision we make.
Their love leaves an indelible imprint
in our memories.
We find comfort in knowing
that our lives have been enriched
by having shared their love."

*"Their Love Leaves an
Indelible Imprint"*
By Leo Buscaglia

A month ago my mother passed away. She had been ill for some time. Dementia had robbed her, and us, of so much time we could have spent together, doing so many things that we could, should, or may have done. I can honestly say that the above poem is so very true. My life was, and is, richer, fuller, and more meaningful because of her. I had the privilege of being with her in her last moments and was holding her hand as she let mine go and grabbed the hand of Jesus.

This Mother's Day will be a time of reflection and wading through the feelings associated with grief. I miss my Mom. But it's not that I *had* a mom, or I have *lost* her, or she's *gone*. I get the meaning and the sentiments associated with these sayings. But each is only a half-truth! First, my mother was a devout Christian woman. For years her daily apparel always included her "buttons for Jesus." She wore them not only as a witness, but also a statement of who she was. I knew the first time I visited her and she was not wearing them anymore, that in a way, my Mom had already left us. But I must say ... that it's not that I *had* a mom ... I still have her. She is simply in a better, a much better place. I can still look forward to continuing my visits to her, but that will have to wait for a little while.

Until then I'm sure she is catching up with her own folks and spending quality time with them and others who had meant so much in her life: her brother, her Gram, her friends. Also, I have hardly *lost* her. I know where she's at!

(Continued on next page)

I also can see her, even now, in the portals of my memories. Her words and mannerisms are still crystal clear. The way she talked is still fresh in my thoughts. Her smile, her gestures, none of these are lost; except of course that now they are reserved for the past and the future—they are only really absent in the physical present.

And finally, is she really *gone*? I prefer to think that she has just stepped up the road a way and is waiting for us to catch up to her. I know that over time even these memories will begin to fade. I will struggle to remember so much, and so many little things. But *had*? No, I still and will always have. *Lost*? Jesus found her long ago, just like He did me. And I think He'll just keep her company until I get there. *Gone*? Only in the sense that I can't call her and tell her this year, "Happy Mother's Day."

May all of us spend time this Mother's Day, in reverent giving of thanks for those we have the privilege of calling, Mother.

Blessings,

Pastor David

2022 NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

Thursday, May 5th

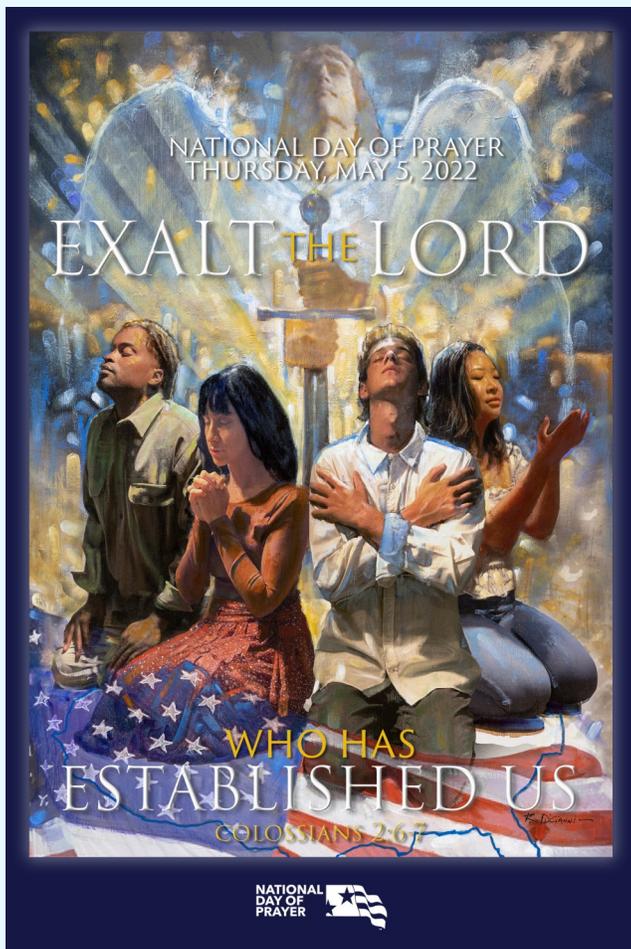
**This Year's Theme:
A CALL TO PRAISE IN PRAYER**

**"EXALT THE LORD, WHO HAS
ESTABLISHED US"**

Based on Colossians 2:6-7 (NASB)

"This theme is set against the backdrop of an inspiring painting created exclusively for the National Day of Prayer by renowned Christian artist, Ron DiCianni. The image illustrates God's people joining His angels in EXALTING Him as we pray, because He is God Almighty.

We have bold access to His throne and passionate confidence as we pray – because HE HAS ESTABLISHED US in this nation and is working in the heavenlies to accomplish all that He has purposed – as we PRAY FOR AMERICA!"





MAY ANNIVERSARIES

- 14 Mark & Carol Posthumus
23 Ryan & Sandra Nichols

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 3 Dean Cape | 19 Ellen Heafner |
| 4 Kolbylee Kutz | 20 Sherry Mower |
| 6 Katelin Wynia | 20 Taylor Sun Bear |
| 8 Pat Strauser | 21 Jeanne Donnell |
| 9 Jamie Cantu | 22 Jill Evangelista |
| 10 Nancy Nilsen | 22 Peg Sperlich |
| 14 Sally Hageman | 24 Summer Humbracht |
| 14 Calla Hanson | 26 Randy Schur |
| 14 Julianna White Face | 28 Leon Melstad |
| 15 Myrna Wilson | 28 Tom Hofer |
| 16 Ginny Coates | 30 Alecia Evangelista |
| 19 Jeanne Wyatt | |

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

THANK YOU FROM BHSU CONCERT CHOIR:

We have received a thank you note from the Black Hills State University Concert Choir. This note was signed by all the choir members, and has been posted on the bulletin board in the Bethany Room.

FOOD PANTRY CLIENT PROFILE:

Number of Active Clients (visited the pantry in 2022): 255; Single: 117; Family: 138; Veterans (included in single/family count): 52. New sign ups (since January 1, 2022): 35.

MAY SUNDAY SERMON SERIES:

- 1 "The Kiss of Death" — Mark 14:42-52
- 8 "Time of Trial" — Mark 14:53-72
- 15 "Lightness of Pilate" — Mark 15:1-15
- 22 "Torment At Such a High Level" — Mark 15:16-33
- 29 *5th Sunday Music Celebration*

UNITED WOMEN'S GATHERING GROUP:

Will have their next monthly meeting on **Tuesday, May 17th 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.

PLEASE SAVE THOSE RECEIPTS!

Our Missions Team is collecting receipts from: ***Lynn's Dakotamart ... Lynn's Dakotamart Pharmacy ... and Lynn's Gas.*** The collection container for the receipts is located on the pass through counter between the kitchen and Fellowship Hall. Proceeds from receipt collection will go to our Good News Club.

BASIC NEEDS & BEARLY USED BOUTIQUES:

Our Basic Needs and Bearly Used Boutiques will be open on **SATURDAY, MAY 14TH, FROM 10:00 AM—12:00 NOON.**

MAY MISSION EMPHASIS

The mission emphasis for loose change and mission offerings for the month of May is **Summer Bible/Church Camp Scholarships**. Summer Church/Bible Camp has traditionally been for youth. At Camp Judson, there is Junior Camp for grades 4-6; Trail Camp for grades 7 and up; and High School Camp for grades 9-12. There is a Project Camp for grades 9 and up; and a Day Camp for ages 5-12 that helps introduce children to camp. Campership has expanded at Camp Judson and includes Adult camps: College and Young Adult; Adult Bible Conference (adults of all ages); and Family Camp (price varies with family size). There are other Church/Bible camps in the area. Soooo, expand your horizons; if you long for the campfire, and the comradery of summer camp, consider the options. Camp Scholarships are through the Christian Education Team (at United Churches). Other scholarships may be available through Camp Judson. The mission of Camp Scholarships supports the Gospel message to our youth and adults! Our Loose Change offering will be received on Sunday, May 15th. Giving envelopes will have line designated for this mission emphasis.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!



**COME JOIN US — THURSDAY, MAY 5TH
CENTENNIAL PARK — 12:00 NOON**

Bring a chair and share in the fellowship

Soup and Bread will be provided following the service

Conducted by the Hot Springs Ministerial Association

The National Day of Prayer is an annual observance, inviting people of all faiths to pray for the nation. It was created in 1952 by a joint resolution of the U. S. Congress, and signed into law by President Harry S. Truman.

**MAKE PLANS TO JOIN US FOR OUR
5TH SUNDAY MUSIC CELEBRATION**

SUNDAY, MAY 29TH

10:00 AM AT THE UNITED CHURCHES

BE SURE TO INVITE A FRIEND!



Our 5th Sunday Worship Service will be followed by an all-church potluck in the Fellowship Hall. Bring your favorite Potluck Food to share and join in a time of great food and blessed fellowship!!!

The United Churches
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UNITED CHURCHES



HOT SPRINGS, SD