

August
2021



Yucca
Breeze

THE UNITED CHURCHES OF HOT SPRINGS, SD

PASTOR'S PULPIT

The dog days of summer are upon us! Even so, summertime is great! Lots of families travel or spend the summer with relatives and friends. The challenge is: how can I be the very best example of being a Christian when my children or relatives (and especially my grandchildren) come around or I have them staying with me? Below are some ideas. Some are good ... some are OK ... others may be a bit impractical. Still, there are enough ideas listed to get you started thinking and praying.

(By *Natasha Crain* June 20, 2016)

1. Choose a Gospel to read as a family (Matthew, Mark, Luke or John).
2. Pick two chapters per week from "*Keeping Your Kids on God's Side*" to discuss as a family.
3. Watch the "*What's in the Bible?*" DVD series together. This 13-DVD series takes kids all the way through the Bible.
4. Schedule a "questions night" — a time for your family to get together and discuss any questions your kids have about God.
5. Have your kids interview a believer/nonbeliever.
6. Choose a news story with a faith angle to talk about.
7. Find a way to serve others together as a family.
8. Attend Vacation Bible School. VBS is a fun week offered by many churches for kids to play and learn together. And you don't have to just go to the one offered by your church — attend one at another church and get to know more people!
9. Pick a relevant single word to focus on and discuss.
10. Invite your pastor over for dinner. Depending on the size of your church, your kids may never have actually interacted with your pastor. Invite him to dinner and give your kids the opportunity to ask questions they may not want to ask you (or that you may not know how to answer)!
11. Read or watch a debate between a Christian and a nonbeliever. Debates make for great discussion opportunities with older kids.
12. Do an internet research project together. Pick a faith-based subject to Google with your kids (e.g., "Did Jesus exist?").
13. Watch a science DVD series from a Christian perspective. This collection is great: *The Intelligent Design Collection* — *Darwin's Dilemma*, *The Privileged Planet*, *Unlocking the Mystery of Life*.



30 Things You Can
Do This Summer to
Deepen Your Kids'
Faith

14. Learn about Christian persecution worldwide. In many countries, Christians are being persecuted. *Open Doors USA* is one organization that works on raising awareness of this.
15. Encourage your kids to invite a friend to church.
16. Get *The Belief Book* by David McAfee and discuss. This is an atheist book written directly to kids which explains that religious beliefs are just holdovers from ancient people who didn't know how to explain the world. It's filled with inaccurate caricatures of faith and would be an excellent discussion tool for older kids.
17. Introduce logic games.
18. Visit a different church (another denomination *or* religion).
19. Break down the meaning of a worship song.
20. Get a new Bible game to play as a family.
21. Take a family spiritual inventory and act on it accordingly. Have each family member write down what they feel is good about your family's spiritual life and what could use improvement.
22. Write letters to God.
23. Print an internet meme to discuss.
24. Do a Bible timeline activity.
25. Go to a Christian bookstore together and pick out a devotional.
26. Pick a magazine and hunt for examples of the secular worldview throughout the articles. For example, with a teen girl, you could pick a popular teen beauty magazine. Get two copies—one for you, one for her. Have each of you go through and circle examples that are in conflict with a Christian worldview. Compare and discuss.
27. Play "*What would you say if ...*". Here are a few examples: What would you say if your friend's mom said God doesn't exist? What would you say if someone told you the Bible is 2,000 years old, so it's not relevant for our lives today? What would you say if someone told you Christians are hypocrites so they never want to be a Christian? What would you say if someone told you they believe in science, not God?
28. Create a family prayer list.
29. Role-play being an atheist and have your kids try to convince you that Christianity is true. This can be an eye-opening experience for all involved and show you what subjects you should study together going forward.
30. Read a religion research study together and discuss. The Barna Group does a ton of interesting research about religious belief and activities in America. Their studies could lead to many interesting conversations with older kids and trends in our country and what it will mean to them to be a Christian in an increasingly secular world. Here's one research example that just came out: *The End of Absolutes: America's New Moral Code*.

Like I said, some are good ... some are OK ... but the point is you do have influence in the life of the folks you love and who love you. Create a memory! Be about the Lord's business. Be faithful. Be blessed.

Blessings, Pastor David



American Baptist Churches of the Dakotas



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July 16, 2021

Dear Church Families,

Almost a century ago, American Baptist Churches in South Dakota, known as "the Convention", partnered together to realize a vision for Christian camping ministry in the founding of Camp Judson. Through the years **Camp Judson** has experienced much growth and change, yet the ministry of the camp has remained faithful to their primary mission of evangelism.

As God has consistently and abundantly blessed the ministry of Camp Judson, the camp's lodging capacity is now 260 and the dining hall capacity is 300. However, the capacity of chapel is only 120. In order to provide adequate worship and meeting space so Camp Judson remains an exceptional Christian ministry for current and future generations, we are launching a **capital campaign** to raise funds to build a new Roger Williams Lodge. The new Roger Williams Lodge will provide a larger chapel space, multiple meeting rooms, indoor activity space, and modern bathrooms, while remaining the central hub of camp activities.

The Camp Judson Capital Campaign Steering Committee is planning a "**Campaign Kickoff**" event at Camp Judson on Saturday, August 28th at 1:00 PM. The kickoff event will coincide with the SD Men's Round Up weekend, and all churches are invited and welcome to attend.

The Steering Committee is also asking our churches to help find volunteers willing to present campaign information to donors who have previously given gifts to the camp. Brief training sessions, campaign materials, and donor contacts will be provided to the volunteers by Chuck and Tim Hiatt, Campaign Consultants. Pastors and camp contact representatives, please provide volunteer names to Randy abcdakrandy@gmail.com or Kim abcdakkim@gmail.com, by **August 15, 2021**.

Thank you for partnering again to support this fruitful ministry! The theme verse for the campaign is **Exodus 35:21**, "Then everyone whose heart was stirred, and everyone whose spirit was willing, brought the Lord's offering for the work of the tent of meeting..."

Your brother in Christ,

Rev. Randy Rasmussen
Region Executive Minister
American Baptist Churches of the Dakotas

→
**Please
consider
this
announcement
and,
if you
feel led
to volunteer
or donate
to this
ministry effort,
please contact
Garry Strauser
at 890-0658.**



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

**There will be a D2D Organizational Meeting
on Sunday, September 5th
11:15 AM in the Fireside Room.**

**D2D-2 Class will begin on Tuesday, September 7th — 5:30-7:00 PM
D2D-3 Class will begin sometime that week (date to be announced) — 3:00-4:30 PM**



AB MEN'S ROUND UP CAMP JUDSON, SD AUGUST 27-29, 2021

Round Up the Men and Boys!

Round Up the men and boys, and head to Camp Judson for a great weekend to grow in your faith, bond in fellowship, relax, have fun, and eat some great food! No need to preregister, just register between 3:00 – 5:00 PM on Friday, August 27 at Camp Judson.

Costs: \$95 (15 and older); \$70 (ages 6-14); \$ half price for pastors; \$45 one-day rate; FREE (5 and under); Cabins 1, 2, & 3, and Insp. Lodge + \$40 a room.

Weekend schedule on website: www.abc-dakotas.org



Head 'Em Up To:
worship
play
learn
relax
fellowship
eat great food
have a great time!

Guest Speaker:
Rev. Clyde Teel

Separate activities
for the boys!

Contact:

Randy Rasmussen
abcdakrandy@gmail.com
ABC Dakotas
1101 W. 22nd St.
Sioux Falls, SD 57105
605-575-2071
www.abc-dakotas.org

Copies of the
Weekend
Schedule are
available on the
table in the
Bethany Room.

If you are
interested or
have any
questions,
please contact
Garry Strauser.

TWO Upcoming Events at the United Churches

ICE CREAM SOCIAL/FUNDRAISER SUNDAY, AUGUST 8TH (FOLLOWING WORSHIP) IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL

Here's your chance to eat dessert before you go get your lunch! We will be serving ice cream with lots of yummy goodies to go on top. This will be a fundraiser for our Haiti Mission Project Funds which will be used for building an apartment for Dr. William and family on top of the new Annie Zwetzig Clinic (to-date we have received \$2,204.25 toward this fund!).



5TH SUNDAY — INDOOR PICNIC & POTLUCK SUNDAY, AUGUST 29TH — FOLLOWING WORSHIP IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL

Hot Dogs and all the trimmings will be provided. Please bring a "picnic" type side dish to share.

Join us as we gather together for this special fellowship! (Come and try out our new hand sanitizing station.)



AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES



- 5 Todd & Robin Wynia
- 8 Michael & Lynn Buchholz
- 9 Ed & Pat Cerney
- 13 Jerry & Pat Collogan
- 15 Richard & Stefanie Nelson
- 15 Jim & Annie Zwetzig
- 17 Ralph & Nevetta Sieg
- 21 Gordon & Jean Brooks

- 3 Maggie May (104 years young!)
- 5 Mark Sullivan
- 6 Ellaina Nichols
- 6 Mary McDill
- 10 Ralph Sieg
- 14 Richard Bershon
- 19 Lydia Emery
- 21 Judy Hansen
- 23 Nevetta Sieg
- 24 Robin Wynia
- 24 Margaret Lewis
- 25 Miles Swift
- 29 Wayne Hageman

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

AUGUST MISSION EMPHASIS — BASIC NEEDS BOUTIQUE:

Basic Needs Boutique is a mission of the United Churches. We are normally open at the same hours as the Barely Used Boutique during the Spaghetti Supper beginning in the Fall. We purchase personal care items such as: laundry soap; dish soap; shampoo, toilet paper, etc. for families in need. Families may stop and get items to help them stretch their budget. We also have some household items such as blankets; towels; pots and pans; dishes; etc. available to help them as well. The **Loose Change Offering** for this month will be collected on **Sunday, August 8th**. Funds will be used to purchase supplies to stock our shelves. A heartfelt thank you to everyone who supported our chili dinner and silent auction this spring. We were able to purchase enough items for "personal care kits" to be distributed at the Food Pantry for March, May and July.

CAN YOU HELP? The Fellowship Team is updating the call list for those who would be willing to prepare food for funeral lunches and other occasions. If you are interested, please let Jeanne Wyatt know. You may call her at 605-424-2633 (leave a message). You may also call the church office (605-745-5640) or email ucassist@gwtc.net. There are also sign-up sheets located in the Bethany Room and in the Fireside Room. **Thank you!**



On your mark! Get set! Go!
Southern Hills E Free Church is inviting
Our youth, Kindergarten-6th Grade
to join them August 9-12 — From 9am – 12 Noon
For a Vacation Bible School

At *The Incredible Race*, we're off on a race around the world as we discover that no matter where we live, what language we speak, or what we look like, we are all part of the same family! Kids will discover we are all part of the same race, the human race, as they enjoy songs, crafts, games, goodies, and dramas. VBS at *The Incredible Race* will be an amazing adventure filled with excitement, so contact us today!

Register online at shefchurch.com, Or in person at SHEF, 1509 University Ave., Hot Springs.

The United Churches

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UNITED CHURCHES



HOT SPRINGS, SD