

"Yucca Breeze"

December

2017

### THE UNITED CHURCHES OF HOT SPRINGS

## PASTOR'S PULPIT:

Dear Friends,

Some years ago I wrote the lyrics for a song to serve as an interlude piece during a scene change in a church's Sunday School Christmas program. I sang this song as special music in worship last summer. The lyrics to this song combine the themes of Advent, Christmas, Good Friday, and Easter. They speak of personal salvation and social justice, rejection and new life. I thought I would share the words with all of you this December, as a way for each of us to reflect on the meaning of Christ's life in this special time of the year. The title is, "He's the Christ."

> He came to earth at Bethlehem A tiny little boy. He came to give us happiness, Peace, hope, love, and joy.

But the world closed in around him And hung him on the cross. It didn't understand he'd come To seek and save the lost. He's the Christ. He's the Christ!

Now if we turn to him, my friend, He'll help us all to see, That love is what it's all about And joy should always be.

For he was the living Word of God, And he came to give us life. He was call the Prince of Peace 'Cause he came to end our strife. He's the Christ. He's the Christ!

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Then what must be the reason They hung him up to die? Could it be because he was the truth, Who saw right through their lie?

But since he was the Holy One, Who lived among the poor, They believed him not the one To fall down and adore. He's the Christ. He's the Christ!

O come, my friend, and worship him, He's forevermore the King, He came to earth at Bethlehem, And bids us all to sing. He's the Christ. He's the Christ!

May each of you have a merry Christmas. May you remember that "Jesus is the reason for the season", and sense the wonder and beauty of God's presence in your life.

With Christ's love, *Rastor* Sohn

### \*\*\* ANNOUNCEMENTS \*\*\*

## New Adult Study – Reflections on Four Seasonal Hymns for Advent

On Sundays November 26, December 3, 10, and 24 at 8:45, Pastor John will offer a class entitled: "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel", which will focus on the stories and meaning behind four hymns often sung during Advent. There will be no class on Sunday, December 17, as that is the day of the cantata with an early practice. The class is open to all adults interested in learning more about these four hymns.

### **5th Sunday Potluck**

Our first "Fifth Sunday Potluck" was a tasty and congenial time of fellowship! December 31st is the next "Fifth Sunday Potluck", so please plan to join us for a time to nourish body and soul!

# **Our "Angel Tree"**

OUR "ANGEL TREE" - The Angel Tree near the front entrance of church includes <u>our church</u> <u>family children</u> & area Foster kid, ages 1 to 17. So please be generous this Christmas Season & have the gifts returned to the church or the Dept. of Social Services office by Monday, December 18<sup>th</sup>. They do not need to be wrapped, but PLEASE be sure that the tag is with the gift so that it gets to the appropriate child.

# An invitation to serve...

From the Hot Springs Ministerial Association: Susan at the Evans is looking for interested parties that might like, or consent, to drive round the elderly to see the beautiful Christmas lights of Hot Springs this season. If you would be interested in doing this, contact Susan at 745-6133. *Thanks*!!

### **DECEMBER Birthdays:**

| 3  | Duke Mower                     |
|----|--------------------------------|
| 10 | Nancy Cuckler                  |
|    | Bill Waxler                    |
| 10 | $\mathbf{D} + \mathbf{C} = 11$ |

- 13 Pat Collogan
- 15 John Johnson
- 16 Lynn Buchholz
- 17 Jean Meadows
- 18 Mike Buchholz
- 24 Don DeVries
- 26 Claude Bent

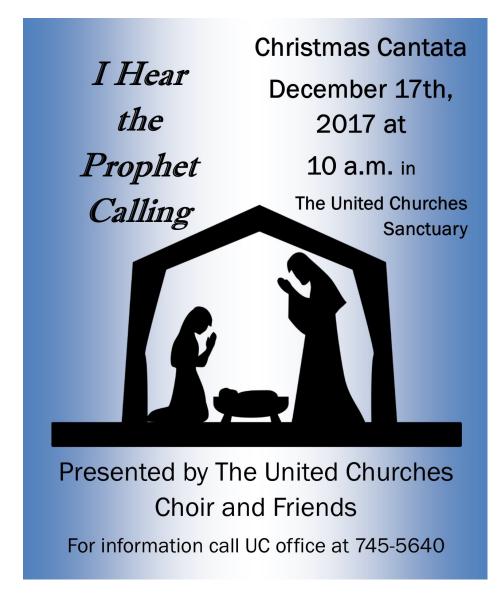


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## **DECEMBER Anniversaries:**



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: <u>uc@gwtc.net</u> or call 745-5640.



## AMERICAN BAPTIST WOMEN QUILT RAFFLE -

The Church of Hope in Pierre is offering tickets for the "Blossoms of Hope" 84"x 92" queen size quilt to support this ministry to women released from prison and seeking a better life. The drawing will take place on 12/17/17 and you need not be present to win! See Jeanne Wyatt for your "Winning" raffle ticket(s), \$5 each or 5 for \$20. She'll be sending tickets in soon. Your support of this ministry is so much appreciated!

The United Churches 342 N. Garden St. Hot Springs, SD 57747 605-745-5640 Email: uc@gwtc.net www.unitedchurcheshotsprings.org Non-Profit Organization U.S. Postage Paid Permit #84 (Return service requested)

