



February 2019

“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,

I want to say what a joy it is to be back again leading you in worship and working with all of you in the ongoing ministry at The United Churches! Both Judy and I find this church to be a wonderful congregation full of life and purpose in serving the Lord.

While it seems like it continues to be a long, slow process in finding a called pastor, please be assured the right pastor will come along and be called. Over the years I have seen many churches become impatient with what appears to be a very slow process, only to realize how the process both strengthened the congregation and also ended up with calling the right pastor for their congregation.

Please continue to thank and pray for the Pastor Nominating Committee as they continue their work. Your support of them through this process is highly important. You have good people on the Committee who take their work seriously and will make the right decision in recommending a pastoral candidate to the congregation.

In the meantime, let us all remain committed to the ongoing ministry of The United Churches.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor John

***** News & Announcements *******Presbytery of South Dakota Mission Trip – March 11-16**

The Presbytery of South Dakota is Sponsoring a Mission Trip to the Florida Panhandle where volunteers will help with the cleanup and rebuilding caused by Hurricane Michael. Presbyterian Disaster Assistance is looking for 5-15 volunteers from South Dakota to spend the week of March 11-16 helping to rebuild damaged homes. The cost will be approximately \$500 per participant. However, it is hoped that churches and individuals will help support those who make the trip.

Participants will stay at Dogwood Acres Presbyterian Camp and Retreat Center just north of Panama City, Florida.

If you are interested, please contact Pastor John, or contact the Presbytery Mission Coordinator, Kevin Veldhuisen at 605-595-3908. Information can also be found in the church office.

The deadline to sign up is February 10.

February Adult Bible Study Class

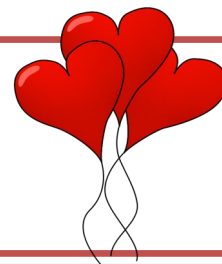
Pastor John will be offering an Adult Bible Study Class on “The Power of Forgiveness” during February. The Class will run from 8:45 to 9:30 A.M. each Sunday morning. Attendees will watch a brief video, followed by researching various Bible verses, then discussion on the meaning and power of forgiveness in our daily lives.

We have received a letter from Neysa Jensen, the daughter of **Wanda McClanahan**, who was a member of United Churches from 1969 to 1980 and worked as the church secretary and as director of education.

Neysa wrote that Wanda died peacefully at her home in Minnesota on January 10, 2019. She was 90 years old. She adds, “The United Churches was my childhood church, along with my brothers Pat and Mike McClanahan. We all have many fond memories there. Especially for me, as I was married in the church in 1984.”

A memorial service for Wanda will be held this summer in Custer, where she and Les lived until 2016, when he passed. Anyone who would like to contact the family can send me an email at this address: neysajensen@gmail.com.

“Bulletin Board” BULLETIN: Pat Collogan, in her never-ending quest to get and keep “stuff” organized in the various storage areas of the church, has discovered and relocated a bunch of materials for bulletin boards. Who out there might be interested in being on a small team to develop a fresh, new bulletin board design for the main entrance of the church? Please call Peg at 745-5640.



FEBRUARY Birthdays:

1 Will Coffield
9 Shirley Leigh
10 Sarah Hart
14 Karen Bent
20 Max Erwin
22 Mary Sewright
26 Jon Schuchardt
Lynn Mason
27 Aron Buchholz
Sheryl Brost



FEBRUARY Anniversaries:

22 Claude/Karen Bent



PAGE 3

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.

(Letter came via email from Hungary for Jesus)

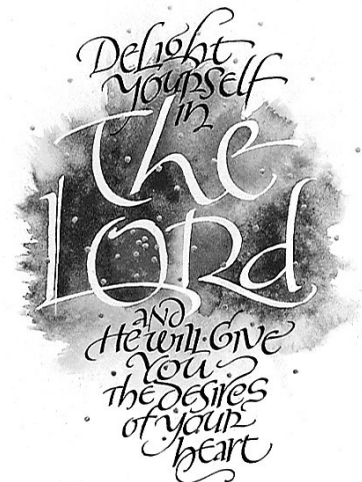
Hello! Here is an update of us so far... We have moved back to the states from Hungary at the end of November since we 'weren't thriving' there. This was pretty sudden for us, so we have been in somewhat of a grieving mode - hence we were very thankful for a quiet Christmas. We are still seeking the Lord as to what He desires us to do next- whether we do ministry of some kind somewhere where English is spoken, or if we go a step further & go back to 'regular' jobs.

We do know that we have the blessing of Pioneers to get Kurt's right knee replaced in January, while we still have insurance (much our lives we haven't). So, thanks to medical tourism, Kurt had this procedure done & as I write, this is his first night 'home' after being discharged! For those who haven't heard of medical tourism, they send you to places that have as good or better care than you get in the states, and it saves the insurance company a bundle! That being said, of all places, we are on Grand Cayman Is.! We will fly back to Colorado at the end of the month.

Other than this, as we seek the Lord out, He is keeping pretty mute about what we are to do after Kurt recovers, so we wait, & pray & wait more. We ask you to do the same for us, adding that we would distinctly hear from Him. We are still with Pioneers & IM through the end of March - we can only hope God will let us know before that time our next steps.

We covet your prayers for both Kurt's recovery and our directions. -- Kurt & Carrie Smalley

[See more Mission News on the back of your February Calendar]



PSALM 37:4

THE Cracker Barrel

- ▶ You cannot spell "church" without U.
- ▶ The Bible, as it is, is for men as they are.
- ▶ Something that's hard to keep under the hat is a big head.
- ▶ Pray for a good harvest, but continue to hoe.
- ▶ A word of advice — don't give it.
- ▶ In prosperity our friends know us; in adversity we know our friends.
- ▶ Intelligence is like a river, the deeper it flows the less noise it makes.

A Christian Should Be

A MIND through which Christ thinks,
A VOICE through which Christ speaks,
A HEART through which Christ loves,
A HAND through which Christ helps.



PSALM 100:5

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