



JULY 2018

“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

“Welcome to My World” Guest Editorial

I could almost write a book about what it's like to be the Administrative “Assistant” to “No One”. Or sometimes to “Everyone”.



Some days it's nice to have the peace and quiet here in the church office, almost relaxing. My biggest satisfaction on those days might be getting to those things that have been on the back burner way too long, or reorganizing some of the old files that were established way before my time here.

Then there are the times when it seems “Everyone” needs something, and I must quickly refer to my “How to Prioritize” manual. But thankfully *Everyone here is so kind and patient with me!* This is why I can still say, *“I Love My Job!”*

It's a wonderful thing to have my “support staff” available for a while on most days, too. Of course I'm referring to our faithful Custodian Pat. What would I ever do without her wealth of knowledge of people and historical information! Not to mention her always cheerful demeanor. We always enjoy a few chuckles.

And speaking of support, I can't say enough about all the help I get from my two “techies”, Jan and Pat. They have faithfully seen me through the joys and struggles of working with old and new computers and all the issues these things entail. (You never know what the next day may bring!)

I'd be remiss if I failed to mention other “regulars” who volunteer their time and talents to the office. Every month my “Breeze Buddies” Mary Sue, Sally, and Darlene (when she is here) come in to assemble the newsletters to be mailed. And when I am out of the office the church is blessed to have coverage by Sandy and Stefanie. When it's time to create a bulletin for Sunday's service, I am so grateful to have help from the Worship Leaders (Richard, Carla, Jerry, Annie, and others) or Lynn-Michelle for music. They are all such a Blessing in what they do here! Let's have a round of applause for all these willing workers who keep the ball rolling here at United Churches! I sure couldn't do it alone.

On another note, ever since we haven't had a full-time pastor here we aren't actively participating in the Hot Springs Ministerial Association's “needy-assistance” ministry. However, that doesn't completely eliminate a few random phone calls or drop-in visits. And I'm always happy to assist in any little way I can. Such as, providing people with a paper listing the other churches in town where they may find a pastor to help, or looking up a phone number for them. Sometimes a cup of coffee, a cookie and a listening ear for a few minutes is the best I can offer, but it seems to help. We want to bless in any way we can, right?

Until next time, God Bless You! — Peg Sperlich, Administrative Assistant

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT: On Sunday, July 1st, the Pastor Nominating Committee will give a report to the congregation during the morning worship service. This will include a full account of the past 18 months' activity, along with new information that has been developing in the last few weeks. Anyone who has concerns or interest in the Pastor Search process should plan to attend and hear this update.

It's CAMP TIME! Camp information is available for each of the denominations, Dakotas United Methodist Camps at Storm Mountain and Lake Poinsett, Pioneer and Rimrock Presbyterian Camp and Retreat Center at Thunderhead Falls, and the Baptist Camp Judson. Please contact a Christian Education Team member or the church office for additional information.

Mark your calendar for our **"5th Sunday Indoor Picnic Potluck"** on July 29th, following our worship service. We will be having hotdogs cooked on the grill. So bring your favorite picnic foods and plan to join us.



The Rummage Sale for Haiti has been rescheduled to July! Set-up is 8 am on Thursday, July 12th. Sale days and times are: Friday 7/13, 12 noon—6 pm, and Saturday 7/14, 8 am—12 noon. Two days only, don't miss it!

Dr. William Hypolite from Haiti will be visiting and the Zwetzig's would like to invite you to a pot luck get together with him at their home, on Wednesday, July 25th at 6 pm. They will furnish the meat. The address is 1343 Sherman Street, Hot Springs.

The 100th Anniversary of the forming of the United Churches will be coming up soon. We are seeking your ideas on how we can celebrate this occasion. A memento of this event, a historical booklet, the invitation of past pastors of the church, pictorial booklet, banquet, etc. Also, a decision on a date for the event. Ground breakings and cornerstone layings were held in the winter time historically.

The combining of the congregations actually began almost two years earlier, in 1918. The Baptists were invited to join the Presbyterians to conserve both fuel and ministers. The pastor of the church at this time was the Reverend Oliver Johnson. In June of 1920, the two churches were invited to join with the Methodist church. The three churches decided to continue to worship together and chose to meet in the sandstone Presbyterian church building on Happy Hollow Street.

Maybe we could get each denomination to gather local information for a booklet. Our library has some great information in the Helen McGee Room.

If you have any suggestions, please call Jerry Collogan at 745-3684. Thank you.

"Thankfulness"

TOSHI, We THANK YOU for giving of yourself to our children in both the nursery and Children's Church. Your gift of caring has been felt by all of us and we will miss you! We wish you well on your new adventure as you spend some time in Japan, then move to Colorado!
--Your Friends at United Churches

We received a graduation announcement for Abigail Spicer, daughter of Walter & Cheryl who are missionaries to the Philippines. Faith Academy Commencement was on June 1st in Manila. Abigail will be attending Calvary University in Kansas City, MO in the fall for one year of Bible. After that, she plans to transfer to another college. She wants to study to be a registered dietician. Please be in prayer for her as she adjusts to life in the US and life on her own. You may contact her at: Abispice25@gmail.com

JULY Birthdays:

8 Chris Kutz
9 Pat Cerney
11 Kristin DeVries Frackowiak
13 Joyce Harper
14 Alex Mason
17 Lois Emery
18 Kallen Kutz
24 Anna Swift
26 Molly Cape



JULY Anniversaries:

6 Dennis/Sherry Mower
23 Owen/Jean Meadows



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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.

“History of Bells” — Part 2:

By Carol Posthumus

In the 17th century, it became fashionable among the aristocracy to ring bells. They enjoyed the physical exercise of pulling the ropes and the intellectual stimulation of the logarithmic patterns of the changes. As you might expect, competitions between villages for "the best bell ringers" began. A book entitled "Rules for Ringing" was written. New patterns were developed and given names indicating their origin such as Grandshire Triples and Bob Major. Some patterns took three or more hours to ring. The competitions usually involved a pub, a big meal, and lots of drinking. There was so much smoking and swearing and even kegs in the bell towers that bell ringing fell in social esteem. Finally, during the Victorian Reform of the Church of England in 1839, control of the bell tower went back to the clergy.



Today, in the U. S. there are approximately 44 change ringing bell towers with traditional rope pulls. It is difficult to maintain the bells plus establish a choir of ringers to pull the ropes. Many church bell towers are campaniles. These are towers with usually 6 stationary bells that are hit with hammers. One person sitting at a keyboard controls the hammers and can play tunes easily.

The bells at United Churches were purchased by Altha Pederson as a memorial to her husband. If we were to buy the 3-octave set today, it would cost \$12,000. The smallest bell we have is \$215 and the largest is \$460. The other expenses of maintaining a bell set are for music, gloves, music, table foam, music and polish. A professional "tuning service" should be done every few years and is pricey at \$1200. The "extras" that make ringing fun are mallets, music stands, and tree stands (*not the deer hunting type*).

NOTE: *If you see the hand bells set up on a Sunday morning, that means Carol will be here for “Fun with Bells”. For more information on the Bell Choir at UC, contact Carol @ 605-484-4117.*

Update on “Lost & Found” - One of the items has been claimed!
The others may now go to the Haiti Rummage Sale.

Please see the back of your July Calendar for an update from Kurt & Carrie Smalley.

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