



September 2018

“Yucca Breeze”

THE UNITED CHURCHES OF HOT SPRINGS PASTOR'S PULPIT:

Dear Friends,

***“To everything
Turn, turn, turn
There is a season
Turn, turn, turn
And a time to every purpose under Heaven”***

Chances are that if you are around the same age as me you will recognize the chorus from the song made famous by “The Byrds”, a singing group from the 60’s. It is important to be reminded the words for this song come from the book of Ecclesiastes in the third chapter.

There is indeed a season for every purpose under heaven and those seasons turn from one to another as days lengthen and shorten in the course of the year. As the days are becoming visibly shorter we are very aware seasons are changing. After the slower pace of the summer, schedules are beginning to have more and more days filled in with the activities of the fall. Even in the life of The United Churches things are changing.

Lynn Michelle shared with me she is busy selecting music for the choir to begin to practice as they are about to re-assemble for another season of bringing their music to celebrate the presence of God in our worship services. Carol is in search of about a dozen individuals who will work to learn to play the hand bells to bring their beautiful sounds to God’s ears and ours throughout the fall and into the holiday season. This week I was introduced to the “Bearly Used Boutique” as willing workers were in to begin to prepare it for the guests who will come and be blessed by the items provided there. Plans are in the works to begin to serve spaghetti suppers in a few weeks. And Children’s Church will begin a new season of sharing the love of God with the children of the congregation also. Who knows what else may begin in the weeks which lie ahead. After having empty spots on the church’s calendar for the summer months spaces are starting to be filled in with all these ministries which will touch the lives of members of the congregation and our community.

In the midst of the turning seasons and hustle and bustle of activities, however, there is one important fact which we must always keep before us—all the many ministries and activities which are a part of the life of the church are done for one simple reason and purpose: **To glorify God and help individuals become disciples of Jesus.**

Grace and Peace to you this day,
John McKnight, Jr

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

FROM THE CHRISTIAN EDUCATION TEAM:

Camp follow up to the congregation - Thank you to the United Churches scholarship contributions for supporting 9 children and youth for summer church camp. One youth attended Baptist Camp Judson receiving a full scholarship through the camp. Three elementary children and 5 youth attended partial weeks at the Southern Hills Evangelical Free Church "Camp Hallawasa". All children and youth provided positive feedback of the Christian ministry experience.

A hearty thank you is extended to the Facilities Management team for mounting and connecting the 50" monitor and DVD in the Fireside Room for use primarily by our adult education groups.

Children's church fall season kicks off on September 16. Thank you to all teachers who volunteered during the summer months and welcome back to all teachers for the upcoming children's ministry. Each teacher and CE team member are being asked to elicit others to be teacher volunteers. We are looking forward to your positive response in joining this Christian ministry!

—*Sharon Kalvels*

Women's Bible Study Resumes — You are cordially invited to attend a women's Bible study in the Fireside Room at 9 a.m. on Tuesday, September 18, 2018. The seven week session, "What Matters Most", is a study of Philippians with Karen Ehman, which includes DVDs, a study book, discussions and an enjoyable time of fellowship. Contact Delores Hickman, 745-5338, for more info!

PASTOR SEARCH UPDATE:

The Pastor Nominating Committee would like to report information about the last candidate interviewed.

Although the candidate felt very positively about our church, he regretfully said that he and his wife had decided upon another church position. The pastoral candidate declared that he and his family had been very interested in The United Churches and it was a difficult decision. After much discussion and prayer, they chose another church which they thought would most fit their family.

At this time, the PNC is reaching out to other strong candidates and will continue to update the congregation on our search progress.

The Presbyterian Women's Group is taking a break for September and will not be meeting the first Tuesday of this month. They are "regrouping" and considering how they can better meet the needs of today's women. Please call the church office with your ideas and input. (745-5640) *Thank you!*

CALENDAR CORRECTIONS: "Communion Sunday" and "Loose Change" offering will be on Sunday, September 9th. The Christian Education meeting on Sept. 16th will be at 11:30, not 11:15. (had the calendars printed ahead of these updates, sorry)

"A SMILE IS A CURVE THAT CAN SET THINGS STRAIGHT"

SEPTEMBER Birthdays:

3 Virginia Anderson
Sandy Swenson
10 Mary Puffer
20 Lee Bristol
24 Jerry Collogan
29 Jean Brooks
29 Garry Strauser



SEPTEMBER Anniversaries:

1 Garry & Pat Strauser
16 John & Carla Johnson



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.

Plan to attend a special **“Meet ‘N’ Greet”** with the Rev. John McKnight on Sunday, September 16th immediately following the morning worship service.

There will be plenty of cake, coffee, lemonade, and time to visit and get to know Pastor John a little better. We want him to know how much we appreciate his service here as our current interim pastor.



MEET & GREET



UNITED CHURCHES "BELL CHOIR" News

"Fun with Bells" is over. Now we need eleven (11) dedicated ringers who can attend practice after church on Sundays on a fairly regular basis, starting September 9th through the Christmas season.

Practice will be from 11:15 am to 12 Noon.
If interested, please call Carol Posthumus at 605-484-4117.

“GOOD NEIGHBOR PROJECT” is scheduled!

The Board of Trustees has designated **Saturday, October 6th** as the day for our Community Project effort.

We need the following:

- ♦ Projects that can be completed in one day, such as yard work, light home repair (inside or out)
- ♦ More ideas/suggestions of things we can do
- ♦ We plan to do visitations to shut-ins also
- ♦ Volunteers to help us accomplish these projects



Our emphasis will be on members of our congregation, but we want to do for others also.

Please contact Jerry Wyatt to sign up, or with questions... cell phone: 719-339-5573

Thank you!

REMINDERS: 1) If you have an email address (or a NEW one) and you are *not* receiving the weekly “Reminders & News” emails from the church office, please let us know so we can add you to the Contacts list. 2) Remember to let the office know whenever your mailing address changes. This is especially important if you are one of our “snow birds” and you have two addresses on file with the United Churches. **THANKS MUCH!**

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)

UNITED CHURCHES



HOT SPRINGS, SD