



The Call to Worship

The newsletter of First Congregational United Church of Christ

1200 Clark Street, Rapid City SD 57701 (605) 342-5787

Wwww.rcfirstucc.com uccoffice@rushmore.com August, 2018

Women's Fellowship August Rummage Sale

Come one, come all! It's time to join the crew for the August rummage sale! Rooms in the west wing have signs on the doors, so please put your items for the sale only in those rooms that say **Rummage Here**.

If you have items that are too big to handle yourself, or too numerous to fit into your car, please call **Chuck Rounds** at **343-4407** or **519-9368** to arrange for pick up by the crew.

Sale set up will start after church on **Sunday, August 12**. There will be tables in the entry that morning for your donations. In less than an hour, the crew transforms Fellowship Hall into Sale Hall, and the narthex becomes Clothing Central. Work continues all week, **9 - 3 Monday through Thursday**. The rummage sale hours are **8 - 3 on Friday, and 8 - noon on Saturday**. Clean up on Saturday has to happen fast, because Cornerstone Mission pickup of unsold goods is scheduled for 1:15 that afternoon.

Please remember there is **NO bake sale in August**, but if you insist on baking something that week, you can bring it to the church kitchen for workers to feast on during the breaks. Food is **always** welcome!

Many hands do make light work, and there is a job available for every fitness level. If you can't stand for long, we'll provide a stool. If you can't bend or reach, no worries. There will be someone there to jump in and help.

There is a lot of joking and laughter during the week, and we do have fun in the midst of the chaos.



No one would work this hard if it wasn't fun!



Rummage sales provide funds for outreach ministries and support of church activities. They also provide a way for items to be obtained at reasonable prices by those who need and want them. Everyone in the church benefits from the sales. The more volunteers who become involved, the lighter the work load is for all. For more information on how you can become involved, call the church office at **342-5787** or send an email to **uccoffice@rushmore.com**.

Board and Departments

MODERATOR'S MESSAGE by Rob Burton

Capital Improvements Update - Things are changing around our church building this summer, some changes you can see and others hidden from view. Most easily seen and felt will be the de-stratification fans installed in the Sanctuary and the Fellowship Hall. Installation began on July 23rd and should be completed by the time you read this. These fans will help us feel cooler in the summer, and will do a better job of mixing the warm and cold air in the winter so less heat will escape from our thinly insulated ceilings. Less visible will be the replacement of most of the moving parts in our heating system - pumps, valves, motors and couplers. Action Mechanical and Temperature Technologies are both involved, working in the basement to modernize all the components that support our boiler. These activities are projected to begin in August and should be completed in 2-3 weeks. Both companies are aware of our rummage sale activities, so no conflict is expected that week.

Pastoral Leadership Transition Planning - Most of our members know the Pastoral Relations Committee and Board have been discussing retirement planning with Ted and Susan for several months. As it has been decades since our church has changed leaders most of us are not aware of how the process works, what must be done, or who's involved in this process. Our members need to understand and be actively involved in this transition process, given the importance of this change to the life of our church.

Interim Ministry- When a church has departing long-term leadership, such as ours, it is recommended that an interim minister be called rather than immediately searching for new leadership. An interim is a UCC minister serving for a limited timeframe, trained with specific skills to assist the church during the transition of leadership. Interims help churches determine their direction, needs, strengths, weaknesses, and goals prior to beginning the search for a Called Pastor. Interims are typically not candidates for the Called Pastor position. An interim minister is a not simply pulpit supply, tasked only with

keeping the doors open for worship and basic ministry functions. The interim period is an intentional and intensive time of analysis and re-focusing. This planned renewal time provides an opportunity for expert guidance and stabilization. The goal of the interim is to assist the congregation as it moves toward increased health and vitality in preparation for the next chapter in the life of the church.

Finding an interim minister involves assistance from our UCC Tri-State Conference or National office. Per the Conference, finding an interim typically takes about one year. Once called, the length of service for an interim serving a church with departing long-term leadership is typically one month for each year of service by the departing leadership, or in our situation about twenty to twenty-four months. The interim assists but does not participate in the Called Minister Search, and serves until new leadership arrives.

Timing - The key question for our congregation is when to begin the leadership transition process. As you may know, Ted and Susan have suggested the end of May 2020 as their retirement date. In this case, the search for an interim minister would begin in about a year, with the hopes of having the interim in place by May of 2020. In my conversations with a few members, some find this timeframe acceptable while others believe it is in the best interests of our church to pursue an earlier date.

Your Input is Needed - Given the importance of this issue, the Board has recommended gathering wider congregational input regarding the timing of transition process. Board members will be reaching out to discuss this issue with as many congregational members as possible, either by phone or in person. When contacted, you will be asked to respond to one or two questions regarding future direction of the church. Your responses will be kept confidential, and this information will provide the Board with a better sense of how to proceed in the coming months. As always, if you have questions or need more information at this time, please call or text me at **605-391-7790**, or email me at **rsburton@enetis.net**.

Boards and Departments

CHURCH BOARD by Dawn Erk

A couple of the Capital Funds II projects are in full swing. The fans in the Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall have been installed and the components for the Boiler will be ordered soon. A transportation sharing project with First Presbyterian Church has been proposed for Sunday mornings. We will be focusing on Pastoral Leadership Transitioning in the coming months. As planned, an information sheet explaining the transition process will be provided to each member, along with a few questions to consider. Church Board members will be calling and visiting with members of the congregation to get input and views on the subject."

DEPARTMENT OF STEWARDSHIP AND BUDGET

The Dept. of Stewardship and Budget is attempting to determine the need for a shuttle bus service to our church for worship each Sunday morning. A survey is annotated on the back page of this issue of the Call for those

members who are interested in transportation to church. Pledges are down by over \$6000.00 for the calendar year, so we encourage those members who have not fulfilled their pledge obligations to please do so.

DEPARTMENT OF MINISTRIES

Thanks for all the help with the June Cornerstone Mission meal. We will serve a meal for the Cornerstone Mission on **August 31** and we would again like to ask for donations of cookies for dessert. We are also asking for volunteers to serve the meal. To help please contact **Jeff VanCuren** at **716-5157** or vancurenj@gmail.com.

Non-perishable food items and toiletries for Church Response can be dropped off in the grocery cart located in the Fellowship Hall.

DEPARTMENT OF HOSPITALITY

Plans are being made for the annual **Church Birthday Celebration** to be held in late September. Information will be included in the September Call and Sunday bulletins once the final plans are made and a date is chosen.

News from the Church

BLACK HILLS AREA HABITAT FOR HUMANITY FAITH BUILD 2018

First Congregational UCC has agreed to participate in this year's Faith Build. Marcus and his son will participate in the construction of a new affordable Habitat house at 613 Lemmon Ave and move in hopefully before Christmas.



The footings are in and all is ready for volunteer crews to begin. The subfloor and some walls should be done ahead our first build date of **August 25th**.

Todd Eddy or **Tom Berry** will be available in the Fellowship Hall after Sunday services prior to August 25th. Please sign up even if you have no construction experience.

Volunteers on the site need to sign a waiver. We will also need food for the crew. If you are not available for August 25th please indicate on the signup sheets the days/dates that would work for you.

Thrivent Financial is matching donations from the churches involved up to \$64,000. Please make your donations to First Congregational UCC and designate for "Habitat Faith Build." There are Habitat "house banks" at the signup table for all ages to pitch in. **Let's have some fun!**



News from the Church

SPIRITUAL PRACTICES

The next meeting for Spiritual Practices will be on **Tuesday, August 14 at 1:15pm** in the church library.

SAVE THE DATES

Placerville Family Day—Everyone is invited to join church friends for lunch and fun activities at Placerville Camp following worship on **Sunday, September 16**. This event is for ALL AGES, so mark your calendars now and plan to attend!

Fall Women's Retreat—All women of the church (and friends, sisters, daughters and mothers) are welcome to attend! The retreat will be held at Placerville Camp on **Friday, October 12 and Saturday, October 13**.

BREAK THROUGH, INC.

For the past four years I had the opportunity to speak at the North American Indian University at Crazy Horse, SD on the subject of disabilities. This past June was a good experience as there were 30 young students that were engaged with good questions and good comments. We shared stories with each other about disabilities, higher education and the dreams and hopes we all have for our future. These students spend a summer at Crazy Horse and in the Fall will go on to higher education at a college or university full time. It was good to engage with these enthusiastic young people with their own hopes and dreams for the future.”

--Ben D. Anderson, commissioned minister

QUILTS FOR BABIES

The Hopeful Crafters have donated over one hundred quilts to Rapid City Regional Hospital's shaken baby syndrome prevention project, *Cover Me Purple*. These quilts **all** contain purple fabric pieces and parents of all newborns leaving the hospital receive one. Thanks to the Hopeful Crafters and those who provide purple fabric for their support of this project.

PRAYER CHAIN INVITATION

We are a group of people who receive prayer requests and pray for those who have requested prayers. If you would like to pray with us and have your name added to our list, please contact **Sue Maynard** at **342-0111** or **sueandclair@rap.midco.net**. You can choose whether you want to receive prayer requests by email or by phone. Once we have your information, you will begin receiving a list of those desiring our prayers. We would love to include you and everyone is welcome!

COFFEE HOUR HELP

Coffee hosts and dishwashers are needed for **August**. Please sign up in the Fellowship Hall if you can help.

CHURCH OFFICE INFORMATION

The church office summer hours are **Tuesday - Friday** from **9:00am to 3:00pm**. For questions or concerns, contact the church office at **uccoffice@rushmore.com** or **342-5787**. To reach someone outside of office hours, please call **Becky Fleming** at **(605) 484-3194**.

Member News and Notes

BIRTHS

Congratulations to **Molly and Jason Fredrich** on the birth of their daughter, **Evy Lee**, on **June 11** in Longmont, Colorado. Family members include grandparents, **Denise and Jim Webster**, aunt, **Andrea McDermet** and uncle, **Ryan Webster**.



Lynn and Kyle Grauman welcomed baby son, **Anders Kelly**, to the world on **July 27** in Rapid City. Family members include big sister, **Elsa**, big brother, **Coen**, and grandparents, **Pandi and Monty Bollock** and **Laura and Ron Switzer**.

Our congratulations to all!

Member News and Notes

PRAYER CONCERNS

Our sympathy and prayers are with the following families who have recently lost loved ones:

Robert Jonas and family following the death of Robert's wife, **Lavona Jonas**, on July 11 in Rapid City. Services were held on July 17 at First Congregational Church.

The family of **Rev. Jack Batten** following his death on July 28. Services will be held on August 4 at First Congregational Church in Webster Groves, Missouri. Rev. Batten was pastor of First Congregational Church in Rapid City from 1968-1974.

Our thoughts and prayers are with **Marge Pitts**, who is at Westhills Health Care facility for rehab and **Shirley Triggs**, who is at Westhills Health Care for long-term care.

Shut-in church members are in our prayers including: **Joan and John Arneson** and **Don Dodge** at Peaceful Pines; **Maureen Dymock** at the Village at Skyline Pines; **Lois Herndon** at Bella Vista; **Mavis Iverson** at Clarkson Health Care and **Shirley Triggs** at Westhills Health Care.

Our prayers are with the following members, and friends: **Terry Brouillette's** daughter-in-law, **Britney Brouillette**; **Vivian Dittmer**; **Randy Fisher's** sister, **Colette Theel**, **Hazel Heil**; **Jane Ireland's** son-in-law, **Pat Kearney**; **Bob Jeffery**; **Sharon and Don Kendall**; **Chuck Knowlton**; **Jill Kundtz** and **Jill's** sister-in-law, **Mindy**; **Mary Linda and Ted McBride**; **Harold Miller**; **Melanie Palm**; **Patti Rea's** son, **Jeff Anderson**; **Helen Snyder**; **Drew Stephens** and **Oscar Stradinger**.

In Military Service:

Ed and Ginny Ensz's grandson, **Kyle Kloeckl**; **Jane Ireland's** grandson, **Luke Serbousek**; **Ryan Eddy**; **Trent Eddy**; **Arie LaCroix**; **Deb and Bruce Tompkins'** granddaughter, **Briana Gabel-Mackulin**; **Melanie Moore** and **Jakob Nickel**. **Johnathan Nickel** recently left for his second deployment with the Marine Corps. Correspondence may be sent to:

Anchorage
CPL Nickel
3/1 DET 1
Unit 89094
FPO AP 96610-9400
3/1 H&S Company

BIRTHDAYS

The following members and friends have **August** birthdays:

- August 2: **Clair Maynard**
August 4: **Jennifer Bartling, Maureen Dymock**
August 6: **Lynnell Parrott**
August 7: **Rowan Evans, Michael Myers**
August 14: **Pam VanCuren**
August 15: **Lucia Grigg, Shirley Triggs**
August 19: **Kathy Oulman-Johnson**
August 21: **Rich Downs**
August 22: **Morgan LaPoint**
August 23: **Francesca Murano**
August 27: **Lorna Schnabel**
August 29: **Monty Bollock, Wesley Humke**
August 31: **Cam Miller**



50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

We would like to invite you to share with our family in celebration of **Sue and Clair Maynard's 50th Wedding Anniversary** on **August 25th from 2:00-4:30pm** in the Fellowship Hall.

No gifts please, as the gift of your time and presence is the greatest gift of all.

Please feel free to contact **Mindy Nickel** at **342-8280**.

DIRECTORY UPDATES

Irma Becker

133 Texas St #144
Rapid City SD 57701

Arnett and Maralee Dennis

133 Texas St #110
Rapid City SD 57701

Don Dodge

1770 Tablerock Rd #212
Rapid City SD 57701

Shirley Triggs

255 Texas St #12
Rapid City SD 57701

John and Arneson

2761 Belgarde Blvd Apt 100
Rapid City SD 57702



Mission and Outreach

WOODCHUCK SOCIETY

In spite of the many cancellations of work days so far this summer, the Woodchucks have made good progress at cleaning up the wood lot. There is still some sawing of long logs to be done, but we have been able to run 2 splitters on most days, so the piles of unsplit logs continue to shrink. Check out the big stacks of split wood behind the church to witness it for yourself.

We plan to continue the **Tuesday and Saturday morning schedule**, again depending on weather or other circumstances such as the rummage sale. There will be **NO** splitting on **August 14 or 18** so the Woodchucks can become rummage sale workers.

The normal work day at the wood lot **begins at 9:00am and ends at noon**, with a good break half way through the morning. If you'd like more information, or to be on the email list, please contact us at cwskrounds@gmail.com.

BYRON BUFFALO

Byron Buffalo, our Woodchuck delivery partner at Bridger, recently passed away and his wake and funeral were held in Eagle Butte on July 23 and 24. Hundreds of mourners attended the services, and many, many horse riders escorted the casket on a horse-drawn wagon to the Old Agency Building for the wake, and from the highway into Bridger for the burial the following day.

At the give away following the funeral, Chuck and Sybil Rounds were presented a lovely blanket which they accepted on behalf of the Woodchuck Society and First Congregational UCC. It will be hanging in Fellowship Hall along with star quilts that have been gifts from other delivery partners over the years.

In conversation with friends and family at the services, it is readily apparent how deeply his passing will impact the entire community of faith. Such a sudden and unpredicted death has everyone reeling, but there were assurances



that the horse ministry would somehow continue because the kids will not let it die.

Please keep Toni and the family in your prayers, as well as the Dakota Association. If you'd like to read more information on Byron, go to ucc.org and search Byron Buffalo. There will also be a copy of this article on the bulletin board outside of the church office.

Cards for the Buffalo family can be mailed to: PO Box 863, Eagle Butte, SD 57625.

COSTA RICA NEWS

In a recent email from Pastor Dorotea's daughter, Gady shared news of her life and the church. This year Gady's teaching positions are 24 kilometers apart, so she rises at 4:00 every morning to start her day, and has little time to be in better contact with the outside world. Pastor Dorotea has the same dedicated people attending the prayer meetings and Bible studies, and the feeding program is going strong. There are many young children, young mothers, and grandmothers who come to the church for the nutritious meals.

Unfortunately, she also reported that los Guido is more dangerous due to crime, but the family continues to do the work of the Lord. Please keep this dedicated family and other families in los Guido in your prayers.

CLOTHE-A-KID 2018

Thank you to everyone for your generous contributions to Love INC's Clothe-a-Kid program. Your contributions will help **21** children purchase new clothes for school at Kohl's in August!

Love INC needs volunteers to help with the shopping on **August 11 and 18**. If you can help, please contact **Laura Switzer** at **381-3656**. **Thank you!**



Calendar

Fri. August 3

10am – BH Watercolor Group
1pm – Stained Glass Project

Sat. August 4

9am – Woodchucks Wood Splitting

Sun. August 5

9:30am – Worship for All Ages
10:30am – Fellowship
4pm – The Well

Tue. August 7

9am – Woodchucks Wood Splitting
1pm – Craft Day

Thu. August 9

6pm – Dept. of Stewardship and
Budget

Fri. August 10

10am – BH Watercolor Group
1pm – Stained Glass Project

Sat. August 11

9am – Woodchucks Wood Splitting

Sun. August 12

9:30am -- Worship for All Ages
10:30am – Fellowship
11am – Rummage Sale Setup
4pm – The Well

Mon. August 13

9am – Rummage Sale Setup
1:30pm – Westhills Bible and Book
Study

Tue. August 14

9am – Rummage Sale Setup
1:15 – Spiritual Practices

Wed. August 15

9am – Rummage Sale Setup

Thu. August 16

9am – Rummage Sale Setup

Fri. August 17

8am – Rummage Sale

Sat. August 18

8am – Rummage Sale
12pm – Rummage Sale Cleanup

Sun. August 19

9:30am – Worship for All Ages
10:30am – Fellowship
4 – The Well

Tue. Aug 21

9am – Woodchucks Wood Splitting
1pm – Craft Day
1:15pm – Spiritual Practices
7pm – Church Board Meeting

Fri. August 24

10am – BH Watercolor Group
1pm – Stained Glass Project

Sat. August 25

9am – Woodchucks Wood Splitting
10am – Front Porch Suicide Support
Group
2pm – 50th Wedding Celebration

Sun. August 26

9:30am – Worship for All Ages
10:30am – Fellowship
4pm – The Well

Mon. August 27

1:30pm – Westhills Bible and Book
Study

Tue. August 28

9am – Woodchucks Wood Splitting
1pm – Craft Day
1:15pm – Spiritual Practices

Thu. August 30

9am – Mission Meal Preparation

Fri. August 31

10am – BH Watercolor Group
1pm – Stained Glass Project
5pm – Mission Meal

Sun. September 2

9:30 – Worship for All Ages
10:30am – Fellowship
4pm – The Well

Tue. September 4

1pm – Craft Day
1:15pm – Spiritual Practices

Fri. September 7

10am – BH Watercolor Group
1pm – Stained Glass Project

Sun. September 9

9:30am – Worship
10:30am – Fellowship
4pm – The Well

Mon. September 10

1:30pm – Westhills Bible and Book
Study

Tue. September 11

8:30am – Black Hills Retired School
Personnel
1pm – Craft Day
1:15pm – Spiritual Practices

Thu. September 13

4pm – Dept. of Worship
6pm – Dept. of Stewardship and
Budget

Fri. September 14

10am – BH Watercolor Group
1pm – Stained Glass Project



First Congregational
United Church of Christ
1200 Clark Street
Rapid City SD 57701

PROPOSED SHUTTLE TO SUNDAY SERVICE



The Department of Stewardship and Budget is trying to determine the need for shuttle service to church on Sunday only. This program would potentially share vehicles with First Presbyterian downtown.

• Do you need transportation to church? YES NO

• Where do you live? At a facility or at home?
Facility name & address or Home address

• How often would you use transportation to church on Sundays?
Once a month? Twice a month? Every Sunday?

• Are you disabled? YES NO

Notice: These buses provide easy access for walkers but not wheel chairs.

• Write down your name, a phone number and email.

• Give to an usher or someone in the office. If you prefer to call with your response or with a question, dial (605) 342-5787.
No need to fill this out if you do not require transportation.

• Any thoughts or ideas?