

# The Call to Worship

1st Congregational United Church of Christ, Rapid City, South Dakota

January 2015



A New Year promises  
new adventures in faith  
for our church!

## 136th Annual Meeting will be January 25

The 136th Annual Meeting of First Congregational United Church of Christ of Rapid City, South Dakota will be held Sunday, January 25 following worship in the church fellowship hall. Among business slated for the meeting is the election of officers for the coming year, adoption of the budget, receipt of reports and discussion of a proposed capital funds drive.

Copies of the 2014 Annual Report will be available for church members to pick up by Sunday, January 18.

Our heritage as a congregation includes a strong tradition of lay leadership and control of the significant decisions of our congregation. Members hold control of the congregation's leadership, financial resources, building and grounds and set priorities and plan programs for the effective operation of the church.

Annual meetings are an excellent opportunity for members to learn more about our congregation and participate in setting its direction for the year.

## Epiphany Opportunities

Epiphany is the season of light in the church and a new year on the calendar offers new opportunities to become involved in the life and ministries of our congregation. Check out several opportunities and events in the article on page 2 of this issue of The Call.

## Boards and Departments

This issue of The Call contains two pages of information and news from our Boards and Departments. Annual reports will be available on January 18, but in the meantime you can keep up with our church leaders by checking out the articles on pages 3 and 4.

## Epiphany is a Season of Light

A new season with new opportunities for ministry

The prologue to the Gospel of John declares, “The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.” The season between Christmas and Lent is called Epiphany and is a celebration of God’s gift of light to the whole world. In our congregation, there are new opportunities to become engaged in ministry and mission in this season.

**PLACING CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS IN STORAGE—SATURDAY, JANUARY 10, 9AM.** Everyone is invited to join in the fun of taking down the Sanctuary Christmas tree, putting away the Advent Wreath and preparing our sanctuary for our Epiphany Season. Working together is one way to get to know other members of the congregation better and there is always a way for everyone to help when we take the angels off the tree and carefully place them in storage for the year.

**WEDNESDAY CHOIR PRACTICE: BELLS AT 6, VOICES AT 7.** A new year is a good time to join one of the excellent music groups that provide music for our worship. Our bell choir rehearses Wednesdays at 6 pm. Our adult choir rehearses at 7 pm. In addition, we are looking for people to participate in occasional worship arts including dramatic reading, Orff instruments, leading special music and other events. Speak to Bell Choir director Michael Bossen, Vocal Choir director Becky Umenthum, or one of our pastors for more information on how you can become involved.

**VOLUNTEER TO TEACH IN OUR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAMS.** There are many opportunities to become engaged in teaching and learning in our congregation. Speak with Susan Huffman on how you might become involved by volunteering for one of our programs.

**PARTICIPATE IN OUR ANNUAL MEETING ON JANUARY 25.** One of the best ways to learn about how our congregation operates is to attend our annual meeting. You’ll get to see our church at work with our lay moderator running the meeting and input welcomed from all of our members. Visitors are always welcome to attend our meetings and learn more about our congregation.

**JOIN IN EPIPHANY WORSHIP.** The season of Epiphany is short. Transfiguration Sunday is February 15 this year. That means just 5 Sundays of Epiphany and each is special. January 11 is the day we celebrate the baptism of Christ. We will also commission our Costa Rica missionaries as they prepare to journey to our sister church for Vacation Bible School. Themes of light and life are infused in all of the services of Epiphany and each has a special mission focus to remind us of how we are called to share the light of Christ with the world.

Indeed the light does shine in the darkness and you are called to live in the light. Join your church in its Epiphany celebrations.



### A PASTOR'S POINT OF VIEW

After our 7 pm Christmas Eve service, I was giving my thanks to the youth who participated in the living nativity and I was aware of the passage of time. It may be nothing more than the sentimentality of an old fool, but it is easy for me to remember when the young woman portraying Mary was an infant herself.

Our congregation is constantly changing. Babies are born. Children grow up. We celebrate marriages. We gather for funerals at the ends of lives faithfully lived. Church leaders serve with faith and dedication and new leaders emerge to follow them. Families move to other communities. New families come to our church. Each time we gather, we are a unique congregation.

I, perhaps too smugly, commented to a colleague on the occasion of their congregation's centennial last year, “Oh yea, it's the centennial of the third building our congregation owned this year, too.”

There is no special name for the 136th anniversary. But it does seem significant to me. God has called us to long term dedication and service in this community, and there is more to come!



## FROM THE CHURCH

**BOARD** by Eileen Rossow, clerk

The Church Board met on Tuesday, December 16, with Gerry Boehrs, Moderator, conducting the meeting. We are still in search of a new choir director. Please contact Laura Switzer in the church office with any leads. Our dedicated and generous Becky Umenthum, has agreed to continue as acting interim director. The Department of Stewardship and Budget is requesting that you turn in your pledges for 2015. Our pledges are still short of our needed budget for 2015. As reported last month, the **Annual Meeting is set for January 25th** after church services. In order to have the Annual Report ready for distribution January 18th, the following deadlines have been set. Department and Committee Reports to be published in the Annual Report are due in the church office **January 11, 2015**. Financials for the Annual Report are due **January 14, 2015**. All nominations for department and committee positions are due **January 14, 2015**. If you would be interested in serving on a department or committee, please contact Gerry Boehrs or the church office. The Women's Fellowship Craft Sale was a huge success. Thank you to all who participated. The next board meeting will be **January 20, 2015**.

## Boards and Departments

### Annual Meeting

The Church Board has issued the call for the 136th Annual Meeting of 1st Congregational United Church of Christ to be held following worship on Sunday, **January 25**. Copies of the annual report of the congregation will be available on the church web site as well as in printed form by **Sunday, January 18**.

In order for annual reports to be compiled and prepared for distribution, all officers, Departments, fellowships and boards of the church are requested to submit their annual reports to the church office no later than **Sunday, January 11**.

### Department of Hospitality

by Kyle Grauman

In late November, the Department of Hospitality hosted a children's holiday activity day. We had several children and parents come and enjoy games, movies, music, sing-a-longs, pizza and snacks. The Hospitality department would like to make these activity days a more frequent occurrence throughout the year.

The welcome bags are now available every Sunday for visitors. They contain excellent information on our church and the many activities, groups and services our congregation and pas-

tors have to offer. If you bring a visitor, please encourage them to take a bag before leaving. If any groups affiliated with our congregation would like to put additional information in the welcome bags please contact Heather Heinert or any of the department members.

Department members whose terms end in January 2015 are Patsy Valandra and Kyle Grauman. We want to thank Patsy for the many hours she devoted to making our church a welcoming place for the congregation and its visitors. The next department meeting will be on **Tuesday, January 13 at 6:30pm**.

See page 4 for more reports.

## MODERATOR'S MUSINGS

by Gerry Boehrs

We are in the process of nominating incoming officers for 2015, so it's a good time to explain how we do that, and to report on our progress. There are normally two people to be replaced from each Dept., plus one Congregational Representative, or about 13 total. The nominating committee responsible for recruiting new officers is made up of five people: the Moderator, the Asst. Moderator, and all three Congregational Reps. We seek suggestions from Dept. Chairpersons, Pastors, and anyone else in the congregation, but only the nominating committee determines who will be asked to serve and makes the contacts. It is important work to recruit the leaders of the church, and not always easy. Some are unable or unwilling to serve for a variety of reasons, so we have to be prepared for turndowns. But, like all God's work, it is rewarding, as well. Besides myself, the nominating committee this year includes: Sheila Long, Carol Boyles, Cindy Ledford and Kevin Sandmeier. They are a strong, positive, and effective team that is getting good results. We are well ahead of our pace in past years with only one or two unfilled at this time, and we will be ready with a strong slate for the annual meeting.

## News and Events

Board and Department news continues on page 4.

News of church events and activities begins on page 5.



### OCWM at work

Each year, when we take a look at our church budget one of our benevolences always stands out. The item is labeled OCWM. The letters stand for "Our Church's Wider Mission." It is the way that we participate in the ministries of the United Church of Christ in the Conference, national and international settings of our church. In our case, most of that wider mission is the work of the South Dakota Conference.

In the past few months we have been very aware of the work of our Conference as our Conference Minister has officiated at funerals for members of pastors' families in Mobridge and Pierre. The strong pastoral presence is essential to keeping our ministers and congregations healthy.

Our Church's Wider Mission is one way that we participate with and remain connected to our sister congregations in South Dakota and around the world.

### Department of Ministries

In the month of December, we continued to sell food coupons to support the meals we serve in the community. We presented the congregation with some background information about **The Veterans of the Cross and The Emergency Fund** that our church supports. An offering was accepted at the worship service on Dec. 21.

On January 30, our department will be preparing and serving meals at the Cornerstone Mission. Then, in early February, we will serve sloppy joes, etc. to the students at the School of Mines. We invite you to join us in any part of the food preparation, transporting, or serving of the meals. Contact either Pat Wheaton or any other department member for this meaningful giving from our church.

Georgia and Michael O'Connor and Robin Franson have completed their three years of service on this department. They all agree the work was made easier for the willing volunteers and bakers of our church. A big Thank You to each one!!

### Department of Worship

The Department of Worship would like to thank everyone who contributed their time and talents to our worship services during the Advent and Christmas seasons. This would include the adult choir, the bell choir, the Altar Guild, many soloists and instrumentalists, our organist, our pastoral staff and the children and youth who led worship on Dec. 14 and participated in the Christmas Eve

Service. Your efforts created truly inspirational worship experiences. Thank you one and all.

Department members whose terms end in January are Jane Ireland, Bertie Roberts, Tish Wilkinson and Laura Switzer. We thank them for their service. The Department of Worship will meet on **Jan. 8 at 4:30pm**.

### Adult Choir News

Everyone is invited all to share their musical talents with the congregation! Opportunities to do this include: singing in the adult choir, and singing and/or playing musical instruments on "Worship for All Ages Sundays."

**Even if you are unable to sing every Sunday, we'd love to have you join us when you are available.**

For more information, please call Becky Umenthum at 716-9099.

### Altar Guild Request

Have you ever considered providing flowers on the altar for a Sunday worship service? The Altar Guild is responsible for decorating the altar and depends on volunteers to provide the bouquets. We have the need for volunteers to provide flowers on the following Sundays in **2015**:

**February 22, May 24 and 31,**

**June 28, and August 16 and 30.**

Also, **January 10 and 17** are available in **2016**. If you would like to sign up for any of these dates, please contact Sharon Darrow at 716-6687 or [sdarrow42@hotmail.com](mailto:sdarrow42@hotmail.com).



## Angels of Los Guido

Thank you so much to everyone who has made a donation to the Angels of los Guido this year. Your continued support makes it possible for children to attend school with the required texts, uniforms, shoes, etc. It also provides healthy and safe activities for the children who look to our sister church for love and acceptance. We are proud to say that 100% of your donation goes directly to Pastor Dorotea who knows her community so well and can direct the money where it will do the most good.

Thanks to Becky Fleming for taking care of the display and thank you's this year. She's been a great help! We will leave for Costa Rica on January 14 and will send photos and news during our stay. You are a wonderful congregation of very caring and supportive friends. We are so proud to call First Congregational United Church of Christ our home.

*Sybil and Chuck Rounds*

## 2014 Annual Reports

### Annual Reports are due in the church office on Sunday, Jan. 11.

Samples of previous year's reports are available at [www.rcfirstucc.org](http://www.rcfirstucc.org). Click on the Annual Reports tab at the top of the page. Drop off at the church office or email:  
[uccoffice@rushmore.com](mailto:uccoffice@rushmore.com).

## Offering Envelopes

For your convenience, offering envelopes are located in the pews. Ge-

neric weekly or monthly envelopes are available in the narthex.

## Disability Ministry Blog

A new disability ministry blog can be found by clicking on the "Blogger" link on the main page of the South Dakota UCC Conference website at: [www.sodakucc.org](http://www.sodakucc.org). The site allows visitors to make comments, add stories, or new ideas. If you want to make a New Post, please email Dee Anderson at [60dewl@gmail.com](mailto:60dewl@gmail.com) and she will put your post up.

## Anniversary Open House

Congratulations to Deb and Bruce Tompkins who celebrate their **40th** wedding anniversary on Jan. 18. All members of the church are invited to their **Open House on Saturday, January 17 from 2-4pm** in the Fellowship Hall.

## Celebration of Motherhood

Women of First Congregational, you are cordially invited to a Celebration of Motherhood honoring our five expectant mothers. This celebration will take place on **Sunday, January 25** after the Annual Meeting in the Fellowship Hall.

Your presence is the greatest gift of all; please plan on coming so that you can share a brief time with our Moms to be. If you choose to bring a gift please remember that we wish to honor each of these mothers equally; Jenny Deidrich, Lisa Trana, Alicia Sutliff-Benusis, Jenna Cruz and Salim (Fisher) Golden. A light lunch will be served.

## Thursday Forum Topics

Thursday Forum, sponsored by United Campus Ministry, will resume in January for a semester of timely topics and vital issues. We meet **noon to 1pm each Thursday** in the McKeel Room of Surbeck Center on the SDSM&T campus.

Speakers for January are the following:

**January 15**—Chris Heacock, president of the B. H. Literacy Council.

**January 22**—John Kanta, of SD Dept. of Game, Fish, and Parks, will speak about mountain lions in the Black Hills.

**January 29**—Karen Hall, engineer and author, will talk about Writing about Our Fundamental Industries.

For more information about Thursday Forum, contact Kathleen Batchelder, Ruth Ann Karlen, or Lois Moore.

Have you made a “resolution” for the new year? It’s a good time to resolve to learn and grow in faith this year!



## Epiphany is:

- January 6 each year
- the 12th day of Christmas
- “The Feast of the Three Kings;” the traditional day to celebrate the arrival of the magi
- The commemoration of the manifestation of Christ to the gentiles
- An enlightening realization that allows a situation to be understood at a deeper level
- A season in the church, when we celebrate the coming of Christ to the whole world

## Souper Bowl of Caring

Join the movement that's 25 years strong! Since 1990, young people have been teaming up to collect funds and food for local charities. In January of 1990, the Souper Bowl of Caring started with a simple prayer, *“Lord, as we enjoy the Super Bowl football game, help us to be mindful of those without even a bowl of soup to eat.”* From that prayer, a movement started. Beginning in Columbia, South Carolina, youth groups began to use the Super Bowl weekend as a time to raise awareness about hunger and to collect food for local food banks and soup kitchens across the country. In total, more than \$100 million has been collected. Our youth group has been a part of this movement. This year, Souper Bowl of Caring Sunday is **February 1**. No matter which football team is your favorite, you can help support the Souper Bowl of Caring. Pick up nonperishable food items to donate. All food and funds will be donated to Church Response. Thank you for caring!

## United Church Youth

**January 7, 6:00 pm**

### All church Epiphany Celebration

On January 7, United Church Youth joined in the all-church celebration of the arrival of the three kings.

**January 14, 6:30 pm**

## Souper Bowl of Caring

*Souper Bowl of Caring* is one of the mission projects supported by United Church Youth. Over the years, the youth group has shared skits, built a

castle of canned food, made posters, held a hunger strike. . . What can we do to draw attention to the Souper Bowl of Caring this year? Bring your ideas to inspire our congregation to aid the hungry in our community. Let's do a super job of supporting this year's Souper Bowl of Caring!

**January 21, 6:00 pm**

## Destination Unknown

Join us for the first Destination Unknown of 2015. Remember that UCY meets half an hour earlier on Destination Unknown weeks. We start at 6:00 pm and end up back at the church at 8:00 pm. Bring your friends and your adventurous spirit. Dinner is included. We conclude at the church at 8:00 pm. Don't miss it!

**January 28, 6:30 pm**

## Talkin' Trash

Beth Anne Ferley, the Recycling Education Coordinator from the city of Rapid City, was scheduled to be our guest in November. Due to bad weather, we had to reschedule her visit. We'll learn what happens to trash, what can be recycled and how to live in the mountains of trash—physical and spiritual—that surround us. Although it may not seem like an “attractive” theme to explore, learning about recycling and the ways we can participate in taking care of our community is a great topic for concerned Christians!



## Adult Education

Although it feels like Christmas is just past, Lent will soon be upon us. With Lent, come opportunities for Adult Education. Plans are now being formulated for a Lenten Kerygma Study on Wednesday mornings and for a Lenten Bible Study at a time convenient for those in the work force. Sunday morning Adult Discussion topics are also being scheduled for this spring. First up, Monty Bollock will share his story of learning to read as an adult. Watch the next issue of the *Call* for the schedule and topics.

## Sunday School

Sunday School classes for children and youth from age 3 through grade 8 resume on Sunday, January 11. All classes continue their study of *Shine: Living in God's Light*. The focus on living in God's light is a very appropriate one for the season of Epiphany and we are looking forward to helping our young learners discover ways that they can "shine."

This fall, Pandi Bollock, Sharon Darrow, Jenny Seals, Lynn Grauman, and Becky Fleming have been teaching the Sunday School classes. Patti Rea has been assisting with the Sunday School music. This same group of dedicated volunteers will be continuing to teach this winter. We are grateful to these teachers for their time and their dedication to the children and youth of the church! Thank you for your time and commitment to the educational ministry of the church.

## Stepping Stones

In September of 2014, the Department of Education instituted a new program called "Stepping Stones," designed to help strengthen the home-church connection. This program is intended to strengthen church attendance and participation, as well as to draw positive connections between the child's experiences at home and their experiences at church. In September, Bibles and Bible story books were presented. In October, the one-year-olds received a prayer lamb and a tot-sized book of the twenty-third psalm. In November, the two-year-olds received a comfort cross. Both of these items were made by crafters in our congregation. December was the month to honor those who were less than one year old when our school year began with the gift of a cradle cross. That recognition was a special time when young Steel Cruz came forward with four generations of his family, including his brother, Jayce Angel; his parents, Dave and Jenna Cruz; his grandparents, Charlie and Patti Rea; and his great-grandfather, John Arneson. Great-grandmother Joan Arneson was also in attendance, singing with the choir in the choir loft. That was a tangible example of church-family connection! The next Stepping Stone recognition will be held on Sunday, February 1. Five-year-olds and kindergartners will be recognized at that time. Second and third graders will be recognized in March. To date, we have received positive feedback on this program.

## UCC One Read

*Hot Dogs & Hamburgers: Unlocking Life's Potential by Inspiring Literacy at Any Age* is the UCC "one read" book. Copies are available in the narthex for those who are interested in picking up this book. Monty Bollock shared part of his story of learning to read at the recent Church Chat. Monty will also be sharing his story on an upcoming Sunday morning. Literacy in our day and age is a justice issue since the ability to read and write opens many doors including job opportunities, voting rights, and home ownership. Pick up a copy of *Hot Dogs and Hamburgers* and read this inspiring book about literacy and issues of justice. Together, we can learn more about this issue. For more information on the UCC "One Read," talk to Susan, Ted or Kathleen.

## MEMBER NEWS AND NOTES

If you have any birthday, prayer concerns or directory updates needed, please contact the church office at 342-5787 or [uccoffice@rushmore.com](mailto:uccoffice@rushmore.com).



### SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY

The Yankton College Scholarship Program awards scholarships to deserving high school seniors and post-graduate students each year to use at an accredited college or university.

You can learn more about Yankton College Scholarships by following the "Scholarships and Grants" link at the top of our church web page at [rcfir-stucc.com](http://rcfir-stucc.com). While you are there, check out the other scholarship and grants offered by our congregation.

Scholarship applications are also available online at: [www.yanktoncollege.org](http://www.yanktoncollege.org). February 20 is the application deadline.

### Happy Birthday

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

- January 1:** Karen Boehrs  
Layne Martin
- January 2:** Donald Gustin
- January 3:** Marcella Knispel  
Cindy Ledford
- January 5:** Don Hansen
- January 7:** Irma Becker
- January 12:** Lindsay Wathen
- January 14:** Jeannette Hill
- January 15:** Carol Donnenwirth
- January 16:** Kyle Grauman
- January 17:** Cindy Bryan
- January 18:** Aubrie Darrow  
Ronald Hill
- January 19:** Ron Comley  
Rob Knight  
Chuck Knowlton
- January 20:** Velma Speck
- January 21:** Adam Koehn  
Mary Mead
- January 23:** Keith Alexander  
Harold Miller  
Al Pitts
- January 24:** Robin Eddy
- January 25:** Carol Boyles  
Audrey Perli
- January 26:** Eleanore Moe
- January 29:** Marilyn Lindly

### In Our Prayers

Please hold in your thoughts and prayers the family of **Keith and Deb Kraft** following the death of their son, Ben, on Dec. 7. Keith is the pastor of the UCC in Mobridge, SD and nephew of the late Dorothy Ankrum. Our sympathy and prayers go out to the family of **Jim, Kathy and Jason Dannenbring** following the death of

Kathy's mother, Lillian Wuertzer, on December 7.

We hold the family of **Bryce Smith** in prayer following his death.

Our prayers also go out to **Winifred Boub** following the death of her husband, Jerry. Winifred is the director of the Dakota Association.

Please hold **Dawn Erk** and family in your prayers following the death of Dawn's younger brother, Ronald Heil, on December 24.

Our thoughts and prayers are with **Mary Linda and Ted McBride** following the death of their son-in-law, Daniel Williams on December 27.

We hold **Sara and Kurtis Switzer** in our prayers following the loss of their daughter, **Willow**, who was stillborn on December 30. Family members in our congregation include grandparents, **Laura and Ron Switzer** and aunt and uncle, **Lynn and Kyle Grauman**. Our prayers are with them all.

Our prayers also go out to **Reverend Susan Carr** following the death of her husband, Ellis Carr on January 1. Susan is the pastor of the UCC in Pierre, SD.

### Other church members are in our prayers, including:

Marvin Bitterman, Bill Dittmer, Don Dodge, Ed Dull, Myron Mason, Barney Nichols, Deb Tompkins and Ron Lawson as he makes a move to Nevada.

**At Canistota, SD:** Bill Dittmer

**At Echo Ridge:** John Arneson

**At New Underwood:** Ed Dull, and Gordon Magnusson



**At Westhills South:** Shirley Triggs  
**At Golden Living Center, Bella Vista:** Kay Wolff  
**Please also hold the following family and friends of our church members in your prayers:**

Gwyn Wathen's mother, Cheryl Wathen, Carol Boyles' brother, Terry Hammon and Rev. Don Stoebner of South Park UCC.

#### **In Military Service:**

Kyle Kloeckl (Ed and Ginny Ensz's grandson), and Melanie Moore, all serving our country.

#### **Thank You**

Thanks to all of you who bought our gifts during the craft fair. We were able to donate over \$1,100 to our church's Phase 2 project. Please give us feedback on items you would like to have available for our next craft sale.

#### *The Crafters & Stain Glass Group*

Our son-in-law Dan Williams was very brave and accepting of his pending death. We are grateful for the UCC Prayer Chain's assistance in helping his family to also be brave as his health declined. We appreciate, too, the announcement of his passing in the January 4 Sunday program.

#### *Ted and Mary Linda McBride*

Thank you to our church family for your love, prayers and support.

#### *The Ward Cheney Family*

Thank you to everyone for all your prayers and kind and loving words. Your support has meant so much to our family. Blessings to you all.

#### *The Switzer Family*

#### **Congratulations**

Congratulations to **Charlie and Wendy Rounds** on the birth of their daughter, **Holly**, born December 18. Proud family members include: grandparents, **Chuck and Sybil Rounds** and aunt and uncle, **Becky and Jim Fleming**.

#### **Welcome**

**Jim and Kathy Dannenbring** were welcomed into membership on December 28. They came to First Congregational Church through their son, Jason. Jim is a self-employed contractor. Kathy is a homemaker whose hobby is baking.

#### **Love INC (Love in the Name of Christ)**

Love INC's Clearinghouse is looking for 2 or 3 volunteers to schedule a one-time service opportunity delivering furniture with an experienced guide. This would be a great opportunity to do some hands on ministry and an opportunity to invite people to visit First Congregational Church.

The Clearinghouse also is looking for churches to commit to one evening a month to help with deliveries. Contact Love INC for more information at 718-5683.

#### **Cornerstone Rescue Mission**

The Cornerstone Rescue Mission will be holding its annual Bird & Bison Banquet on **Saturday, March 7** at the Rushmore Plaza Civic Center. The Rescue Mission is seeking donations of items to be auctioned off during a silent auction.

If interested, see the newsletter on the church bulletin board, or contact Deb at 718-8712.

#### **DIRECTORY UPDATES**

##### **Kathy Oulman-Johnson**

add cell: 605-209-3595  
 (remove her home phone)

##### **Cecil Bassett** cell: 605-280-3538

##### **Judy Bassett** cell: 605-295-0275

##### **Jane Seaton**

3906 Jackson Blvd.  
 Rapid City, SD 57702  
 443-805-4237

##### **Chuck Knowlton, Lynnell & Linda Parrott**

255 Texas, Apt. F213  
 Rapid City, SD 57701  
 hm: 605-719-9728

##### **James & Kathy Dannenbring**

P.O. Box 592  
 408 N. Wallace  
 Parkston, SD 57366  
 hm: 605-928-7584

##### **Tim & Collette Smith**

PO Box 538  
 Box Elder, SD 57719  
 hm: 605-923-1876

## CHURCH EVENTS

Start something new in 2015, participate in one of the following groups or activities listed below.



### Dinner for Six or Eight

Dinner for Six or Eight is a marvelous way to become better acquainted with fellow church members. Sign up for the "2015 Season" of Dinner for Six or Eight in Fellowship Hall during **January**. You will be able to choose a group of six or eight, and then your group can decide how to proceed with meeting in each other's homes or with meeting at a restaurant throughout the year. Our church family is delightful—and it is always good to know each other better.

For more information, contact Kathleen Batchelder.

### **Stained Glass Project**

Learn how to make beautiful stained glass art. Broken glass from our church is being "rescued" to create stained glass pieces. All proceeds go to the Capital Improvement Fund. This group meets on **Fridays from 1:00- 4:00pm**. For more information, contact Dave Ledford at 341-6809.

### **Crafters**

Crafters will continue to meet every **Tuesday at 1pm**, unless otherwise notified. Come and see what fun you can have creating cards, quilts and more. All proceeds go to outreach programs. Contact Carol Boyles or Sue Maynard.

### **Church Chat—January 6 and 20**

Monty Bollock will speak about his experience with adult literacy at Church Chat on **Tuesday, January 6, noon to 1pm** in the Fireside Room. As we wrap up our conversation about Rob Shindler's book [Hot-dogs and Hamburgers: Unlocking Life's Potential by Inspiring Literacy at Any Age](#), we will discuss the impact of literacy as an issue of personal achievement and of social justice. For more information, contact Bonnie Edwards, Barb Knight, or Georgia O'Connor.

### **Women's Bible Study**

The women's bible study will be doing a 7-week study of [The God We Can Know, Exploring the "I Am" Sayings of Jesus](#) by Rob Fuquay. One by one, Jesus' statements not only grab our imagination by revealing more about his purpose, but they also shape our

own Christian identity and connect us to the God of Moses, the Great "I Am." Please join us Monday nights, starting **January 12, 2015, from 6:30pm to 8:00pm** in the Fellowship Hall. Any questions, contact Sheila Long at 430-0495.

### **Westhills Bible & Book Study Group**

Are you looking for a Bible and book study group for the new year? You do not need to be a resident of Westhills Village to participate in our lively discussion group the second and fourth Mondays of each month. We are currently discussing Paul's Letter to the Romans and Paul Jones's book [The Church's Seven Deadly Secrets: Identity Theft from Within](#). You are welcome to join us on **January 12 and 26, from 1:30-3:00pm**, in the Aspen Room of Westhills Village. Questions? Contact Kathleen Batchelder.

### **Memoir Writing Group**

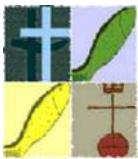
The Memoir Writing Group will meet **Thursday, January 22, at 1:30pm** in the church parlor. Everyone is invited to come share a written story from your life, or just come to listen and have a cup of tea. The group meets the 4th Thursday of each month unless it is a holiday. For more information, contact Mary Keithahn at 716-2141.

### **4th Tuesday Ladies Lunch Group**

Calling all ladies who like good lunch, good company, and good conversation! Our Fourth Tuesday Ladies Lunch Group will meet **Tuesday, January 27 at 11:30am** at Minerva's Restaurant. For more information, contact Maureen Dymock.

# January

<b>Wed Jan 7, 2015</b>	<b>Wed Jan 14, 2015</b>	<b>Sat Jan 24, 2015</b>
11:30am - WF Board Meeting	6pm - Bell Choir Practice	9am - Rotary Training
5:30pm - S&B Budget @ KT	6:30pm - UCY "Souper Bowl of Caring"	10am - Front Porch Group
6pm - All Church Epiphany Festival	7pm - Adult Choir Practice	<b>Sun Jan 25, 2015</b>
6pm - Bell Choir Practice	<b>Thu Jan 15, 2015</b>	8:30am - Adult Choir Practice
7pm - Adult Choir Practice	12pm - UCM Thursday Forum	9:30am - Worship & Sunday School
<b>Thu Jan 8, 2015</b>	Fri Jan 16, 2015	10:30am - Annual Meeting
10am - Altar Guild Meeting	1pm - Stained Glass	10:30am - Fellowship
4:30pm - Dept. of Worship	1pm - BH Watercolor Group	11:45am - Celebration of Motherhood
<b>Fri Jan 9, 2015</b>	<b>Sat Jan 17, 2015</b>	<b>Mon Jan 26, 2015</b>
1pm - Stained Glass	2pm - Deb & Bruce Tompkins Open House	1:30pm - Westhills Bible & Book Study
1pm - BH Watercolor Group	<b>Sun Jan 18, 2015</b>	6:30pm - Women's Bible Study
<b>Sat Jan 10, 2015</b>	8:30am - Adult Choir Practice	<b>Tue Jan 27, 2015</b>
9am - Christmas Decorations In Storage	8:30am - Dept. of Ministries	11:30am - 4th Ladies Tuesday Lunch
9am - Rotary Training	9:30am - Worship & Sunday School	1pm - Craft Day
<b>Sun Jan 11, 2015</b>	10:30am - Fellowship	1:15pm - Spiritual Practices
<i>Deadline Annual Reports, Articles &amp; Nominations</i>	3:30pm - Jail Ministry	<b>Wed Jan 28, 2015</b>
8:30am - Adult Choir Practice	<b>Mon Jan 19, 2015</b>	4:15pm - Trust Board
9:30am - Worship, Sunday School, Commission Chuck & Sybil to Costa Rica	6:30pm - Women's Bible Study	6pm - Bell Choir Practice
10:30am - Church Board Budget Approval Meeting	<b>Tue Jan 20, 2015</b>	6:30pm - UCY Talkin' Trash
10:30am - Fellowship	12pm - Church Chat	7pm - Adult Choir Practice
10:45am - Dept. of Education	1pm - Craft Day	<b>Thu Jan 29, 2015</b>
<b>Mon Jan 12, 2015</b>	1:15pm - Spiritual Practices	12pm - UCM Thursday Forum
1:30pm - Westhills Bible & Book Study	7pm - Church Board Meeting	<b>Fri Jan 30, 2015</b>
6:30pm - Women's Bible Study	<b>Wed Jan 21, 2015</b>	1pm - Stained Glass
<b>Tue Jan 13, 2015</b>	6pm - Bell Choir Practice	1pm - BH Watercolor Group
1pm - Craft Day	6pm - Dept. of Stewardship & Budget	5pm - Mission Meal
1:15pm - Spiritual Practices	6pm - UCY Destination Unkown	<b>Sun Feb 1, 2015</b>
6:30pm - Dept. of Hospitality	7pm - Adult Choir Practice	8:30am - Adult Choir Practice
	<b>Thu Jan 22, 2015</b>	9:30am - Worship For All Ages; Souper Bowl of Caring
	<i>Deadline for February Call</i>	10:30am - Fellowship
	12pm - UCM Thursday Forum	
	1:30pm - Memoir Writing Group	
	<b>Fri Jan 23, 2015</b>	
	1pm - Stained Glass	
	1pm - BH Watercolor Group	



1st Congregational

United Church of Christ

1200 Clark Street

Rapid City, SD 57701

NON-PROFIT

US POSTAGE

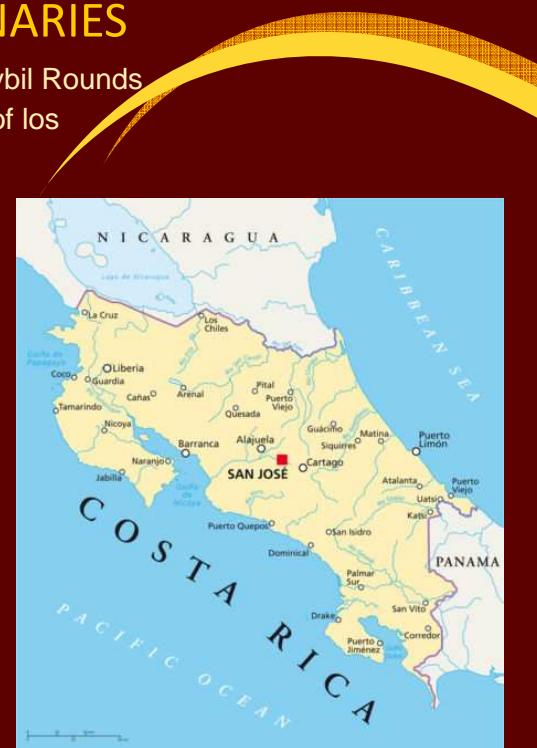
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RAPID CITY SD

## COMMISSIONING OUR COSTA RICA MISSIONARIES

On Sunday, January 11, we will once again commission Chuck and Sybil Rounds for their travel to our sister Church, The Community Christian Church of los Guido in Costa Rica. While in Costa Rica the Rounds will carry our greetings to Pastor Dorotea and the people of the church and participate in the annual Vacation Bible School. As usual, they will hear the reports on the ministries of the congregation for the past year and deliver our annual Angels of los Guido funds to Pastor Dorotea for use in the church. Of special interest will be the reports of the feeding program.



Join us for this special service of dedication and worship.