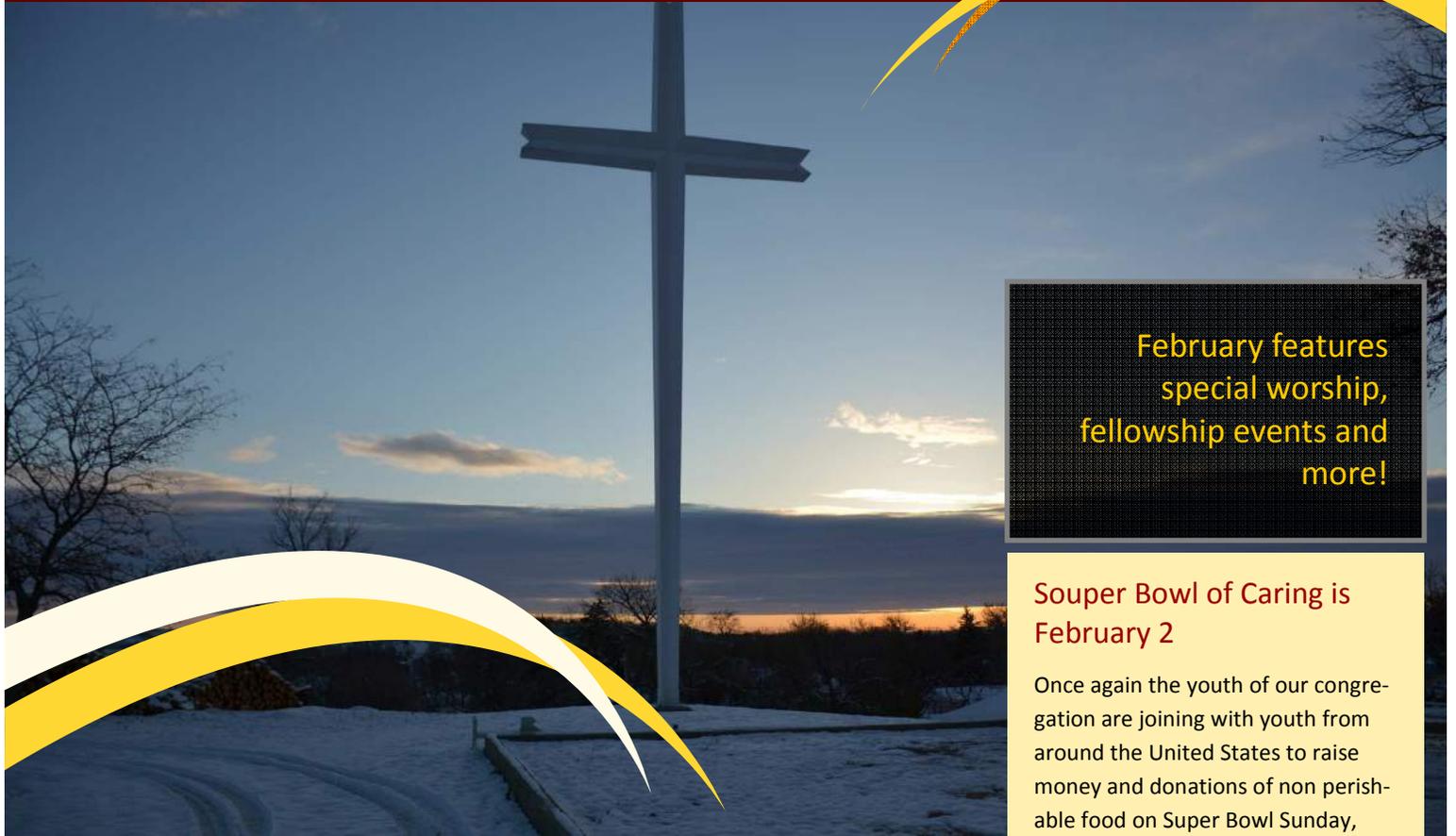


# The Call to Worship

1st Congregational United Church of Christ, Rapid City, South Dakota  
February, 2014



February features  
special worship,  
fellowship events and  
more!

## Souper Bowl of Caring is February 2

Once again the youth of our congregation are joining with youth from around the United States to raise money and donations of non perishable food on Super Bowl Sunday, February 2. No matter which team you're rooting for, we all come out winners when we tackle hunger together. Small gifts can make a big difference. Check out the details on page 12.

## Birthday Sunday is an annual celebration

Sunday, February 16 is our annual all church Birthday Sunday. The Department of Hospitality has arranged for special cakes, special decorations and much more. There will even be a string quartet to provide live music during our fellowship hour. Check out the article on page 2.

## We begin a new year of faith together

February is the month of new officers and new department members for our congregation. Our new Moderator, Gerry Boehrs, is working behind the scenes to help with orientation for all new church officers. Each Department of the church will have special orientation at its February meeting:

- The Department of Worship will meet February 13 at 6:00 pm.
- The Department of Education will meet February 9 at 10:45 am.
- The Department of Ministries will meet February 16 at 8:30 am.
- The Department of Hospitality will meet February 11th at 6:30 pm.
- The Department of Stewardship and Budget will meet Feb. 19 at 6 pm.
- The Department of Building, Equipment & Grounds will meet February 16 at 10:45 am
- The Church Board will meet February 20 at 7 pm.

All Departments will discuss regular meeting dates and set plans in motion for the coming year at their meetings.

Our church is organized around the belief that leadership arises from within the congregation around the priorities of our life together. For more information, check out the annual reports available online or at the church office.

## Epiphany is the Season of Light

### Bright new video projector extends fellowship hall project

Participants in the Annual meeting noticed the new screen and video projector that have been installed in our fellowship hall. The items were purchased with memorial funds to extend the flexibility of the room for multiple purposes. The system can be used to project the worship service from the sanctuary, making the fellowship hall a place for extending our worship. It can also be used to project computer images for classes and congregational meetings. The system is also equipped with a DVD player for movies. It is integrated into the new sound system in the room so all can hear.

### Construction Update

Thanks to the 16 volunteers who helped clean and store the flagstone from the church entryway. The project is at a momentary standstill as we wait for our metal contractor to complete the repairs to the steel beams that hold up the roof. After those repairs are completed, the concrete contractor will get to work taking out old concrete, compacting a proper base and pouring the new entryway. Once the concrete work is completed the new front doors will be installed. And, yes, we are keeping our fish door handles! We apologize for any inconvenience this temporary disruption may cause. During the construction the door opener is inoperable. We hope that those who are able will open the doors for others and that those needing assistance will be able to use cell phones to call the church office so that someone

can come to assist with doors during the construction process.

### All Church Birthday Celebration will be February 16

Everyone has a birthday and everyone deserves a celebration. On February 16, the Department of Hospitality invites all church members to come and celebrate all of the birthdays with special tables for each month of the year, cakes, and party favors. There will be special music in worship and at the fellowship hour including the opportunity to sing the birthday song for everyone!

### Charles Anthony Newton Lindley theological collection will be dedicated February 23

Our church library is a specialized collection featuring many titles that are not available in general libraries. Among the special collections is the Charles Lindley theological collection that contains many special volumes on Christian Education theory and Youth Ministry, as well as a significant peace and justice collection. These books were made available through a generous memorial contribution by Ed and Laura Boyd in memory of Charles Anthony Newton Lindley. Charles was a 1992 graduate of Andover-Newton Theological Seminary who died tragically in 1994.

Special guests, remembrances, prayers and ceremonies will be featured in our celebration of Church Vocations Sunday on February 23 when we dedicate this special collection of books. Activities are planned for the worship service and the fellowship hour following worship.



### A PASTOR'S POINT OF VIEW

We had a wonderful annual meeting. The spirit was good, the presenters were well-prepared and we were able to look forward as well as look back. What more could we ask for?

Well, perhaps one thing. I wish we had done more to say THANK YOU to the members of our congregation. 2013 was a phenomenal year for us.

Our operating budget received more income than we projected. We spent less than we projected. Although we did draw down our reserves, we did so more modestly than we had planned. And in addition, we had an oversubscribed capital funds drive! This is indeed a generous congregation!

The slate of nominees is not just filled, but people have volunteered to share leadership so that we have more than one name in many positions! This is indeed a congregation of leaders!

From where I sit, I am humbled by the generous ways of this wonderful congregation. Thank you all for your faith, your spirit, your generosity, your leadership, and your participation.

How blessed we have been!  
Thanks be unto God!

## FROM THE CHURCH BOARD

At our January meeting, the Board approved a gift from the congregation to Faith Temple, in memory of Evelyn Kelly, who passed away earlier in the month. She was the wife of the pastor and an active leader herself in the congregation that has occupied our former church building for the past fifty years.

The Board also voted to encourage the creative efforts of the stained glass group in turning left-over pieces of stained glass (i.e. too small for window repairs) into works of art, and to receive gladly any donations from the group for the Capital Fund Drive.

Gratitude was expressed to the volunteers whose gifts of time and skill have helped us conserve our financial resources, especially Harold Miller for making additional oak quilt hangers for the fellowship hall, Monty Bullock and Brent Long for installing grounded outlets in both kitchens, and all those who helped remove, haul, and store the slate from outside the front entry.

Since my term as Clerk has ended, this is my last report to you. Thank you for giving me the privilege of serving in this role.

Mary Nelson Keithahn, Past-Clerk

## Organized for Ministry

Our church constitution reflects a unique method of organizing our congregation for ministry. For those who are not familiar with our operational style, here is a quick introduction:

Out of the midst of the congregation arise departments organized around the priorities of our congregation: Worship, Education, Hospitality and Ministries. In addition there are two departments that support our priorities: Stewardship & Budget and Building, Equipment & Grounds. Each department is given authority and autonomy to carry out its responsibilities with the expectation that departments will share and collaborate through the Church Board. Each department is made up of six members with the ability to form task forces and subcommittees as needed.

The work of those departments is coordinated by the Church Board, made up of representatives from each department and members elected at large from the congregation. The Church Board also can form task forces as needed to carry out its work.

The Church Board coordinates, collaborates, plans, develops policies, records the history of the church and reports to the congregation.

The structure is designed to support grass roots mission and ministry, to provide support for new and emerging projects, and to coordinate with a minimum of meetings. Our members want to network and collaborate, but would rather have their time invested in accomplishing ministry than in meetings. The departmental structure encourages teamwork in tackling big projects and support for all of the ministries of the members of our congregation.

## MODERATOR'S MUSINGS

Gerry Boehrs was elected moderator at the annual meeting last Sunday, so this will be my last Call article. Being moderator has been a learning experience for me. It's been a lot of work and I'm proud of what we've accomplished in the past two years. I now have a greater appreciation for all the people - both paid staff and volunteers - who keep our church ministry and mission running smoothly. Thanks to our pastors, staff, department members and board members - it's been a privilege to work with you all.

Becky Umenthum, Past-Moderator

## News and Events

Ours is a busy and exciting community. Here are some of the activities and events going on in our congregation during February.



### SIGN UP TO HOST A FELLOWSHIP HOUR

Most of our members and friends really enjoy the fellowship and refreshments that follow worship each Sunday morning. The opportunity to get to know other church members and to share the news of our lives is a valuable part of building our community.

Some folks, however, don't know that you can sign up to host our fellowship hours. Volunteers are needed to make coffee, serve cookies and wash dishes. Although you are welcome to bring your own favorite treats to share, the Women's Fellowship provides all of the supplies so that members can simply arrive a bit early for worship to set up.

There is a sign up sheet on the table at each fellowship hour and helpers are available to show you the way around the kitchen if it is your first time of volunteering.

For more information, contact the church office at (605) 342-5787.

### Choir Notes

The Choir is busy learning new music for worship and will soon be planning for Lent and then Easter. We continue to work on entrances and cut-offs and a unified blended sound. I still need more basses. If you can help or would like to sing with us, rehearsals are **7pm, Wednesday** and **8:30am, Sunday**. Blessings, Karen Ross

### Good Evening Circle

The Good Evening Circle will once again be offering our hard-to-beat cinnamon rolls on **Sunday, February 9** during fellowship and refreshments following the morning service. We appreciate and thank you for your continued support as we work to support our various missions.

Thanks, Cindy Ledford

### Department of Ministries

The members of the Department of Ministries thank all our wonderful food prep people and the cookie bakers that have contributed so the people who eat at Cornerstone Mission will have good hot meals. Without your generous giving, it would be harder to share these meals with the less fortunate people of our community.

Also, a big Thank You to the cookie bakers for the **United Campus Ministry meal** that we will serve to the SDSM&T students on **February 10th**. It's a great opportunity to relax, chat about school and for us to

invite them to come join us in worship. Thank you, everyone!

### Yankton Scholarship Applications

It's college / seminary scholarship application time. Any student or parent / guardian who would like an application should request one from Karen ([kpeters@sodakucc.org](mailto:kpeters@sodakucc.org)) by **February 15th, 2014**. Karen needs the student's name, year in school, phone #, and e-mail address. Application forms will NOT be sent to churches to be handed out. For more assistance, please call toll free: (866) 665-3661.

### Church Chat

Plan to join us for coffee, refreshments, and lively conversations in the **Fireside Room on Tuesdays, February 4 and February 18**. For more information, contact Bonnie Edwards at 348-3343, Barb Knight at 341-3097 or Georgia O'Connor at 719-9900.

### RC Area Firefighters Bible Study

This group meets **weekly at 5:30pm on Tuesdays**, in the parlor. The topic is "Focus on the Family Truth Project." Contact Monty Bollock at 391-5868 for more information.

### Women's Bible Study

This group continues to meet each **Monday during February**, from **6:30pm - 8pm**. Questions, please contact Sheila Long at 430-0495.

### Spiritual Practices

This group meets in the church library **Tuesdays from 1:15-2:15 pm**, to study the Scriptures, to pray, and to read words of wisdom from spiritual leaders of the past. For more information, contact Kathleen Batchelder at (605) 342-5787.

### UCM Thursday Forums

Thursday Forum schedule, sponsored by the United Campus Ministry, is ready for pickup in the church office. All are invited to join this community forum from 12-1pm each Thursday in the McKeel Room of Surbeck Center, SDSM&T campus. For more information, contact: Kathleen Batchelder (605-342-8720); Ruth Ann Karlen (605-716-1578); Mary Springhetti (605-390-2292); or Erin Schendzielos (605-431-6632).

### Congregational Connections

If you would like to be visited, or know of someone who would like a visit, please contact Kathleen Batchelder at (605) 342-5787. Let's keep connected!

### Westhills Bible & Book Study

Everyone is invited to join the Westhills Bible and Book Study group on Mondays, February 10 and 24 from 1:30 to 3pm in the Aspen Room

### 4th Tuesday Ladies Lunch Group

On **February 25**, plan on joining us at 11:30am for a delicious lunch at Minerva's. For more information, contact Maureen Dymock at (605) 343-5532.

### Women's Fellowship Spring Rummage Sale

The dates for the Women's Fellowship Spring Rummage sale are set. Mark your calendars for **Friday, March 14 and Saturday, March 15** and remember to save your gently used items and donate them to this worthwhile event!

### Craft & Chat Time

Every **Tuesday** is Craft day from **1pm to 3pm in room 24**. There is something for everyone, come and see what fun you can have creating cards, quilts and more. All proceeds go to outreach programs. Last year, over \$500 was raised by the sale of cards alone! For more information, contact Carol Boyles at (605) 348-5697 or Sue Maynard at (605) 798-2140.

### Rescue Stained Glass Project

Learn how to make beautiful stained glass art every **Friday, 1-4pm**. Broken glass has been saved over the years from our church and is now being "rescued" to create stained glass pieces. For more information, please contact Dave Ledford at (605) 341-6809. All proceeds are going to the Capital Improvement Fund.

### Woodchuck Society News

Its time to take a break! Look for updates on activities via email.

### SIGN UP FOR DINNERS FOR SIX OR EIGHT BY FEBRUARY 5

Dinners for Six or Eight offer an excellent opportunity to get to know other member of the congregation in a comfortable, informal atmosphere. Dinners can be hosted in homes or shared at area restaurants. There is flexibility in the size and arrangement of groups.

Participants in the groups get to share a meal and visit about whatever subjects interest the group.

It's not too late to sign up for this year's Dinner for Six or Eight. If you are interested, please call Pat Sutliff at (605) 718-0559 or Kathleen Batchelder at (605) 342-5787 by February 5.

Discipleship is a lifelong journey of learning. **Christian Faith Formation** is an adventure for people of all ages.



## FEBRUARY YOUTH EVENTS

Sunday, February 2: 9:15 am  
Souper Bowl of Caring

Wednesday, February 5, 6:30 pm—Bible Game Night

Wednesday, February 12, 6:30 pm—The Meaning of Love

Wednesday, February 19, 6:00 pm—Destination Unknown

Wednesday, February, 26, 6:30 pm—Masks

Wednesday, March 5, 5:30 pm—Youth gather to prepare for the Ash Wednesday Pancake Supper and worship service. **NOTE THE EARLY MEETING TIME!**

### Sunday School Shares Love

During February, the children and youth of the Sunday School kids will share the message of love. On February 2, the Sunday School classes of all ages will make valentines for the shut-ins and others in our congregation who need a little extra reminder of God's love. This is a popular project with both the creators of the valentines and those who receive them. The children and youth make beautiful, original cards which will be sent to church members in cooperation with Congregational Connections. On February 9, the children will sing and sign "Jesus Loves Me" during worship. This is one of the Sunday School's focus songs for this year and the kids have been working to learn the words and signs for this song. The January book awards will also be given on February 9. February 16 will be a fun day for children, youth and their families! Everyone is invited to join the birthday fun as we celebrate the all-church birthday party in the Fellowship Hall following worship. It's always fun to see who shares a birthday month, and sometimes even the same birth day, with you! Parents can sit with younger children at the table of their birth month, but older children might want to venture out and meet the others who are born in their month. There will be special decorations for each month and LOTS of cake! Plan to enjoy this time with your church family!

### Praying with Jesus

Beginning the first Sunday of Lent, the Sunday School classes will begin a new study called Praying with Jesus. It has the Lord's Prayer as its focus. All ages, from preschool through middle school, will be studying this material and focusing on learning the Lord's Prayer during this season. This material is originally designed to be used in a learning center model, but we will adapt it to our Sunday morning schedule. The elements of the learning center model that include a variety of learning styles and approaches to exploring a topic will be retained. Members of the Department of Education and the Sunday School teachers are looking forward to discovering how this approach will work in the Sunday morning schedule.

### United Church Youth

United Church Youth starts the month of February on Sunday February 2 with the **Souper Bowl of Caring**, collecting nonperishable food and funds to help feed the hungry in Rapid City. February 5 is Bible Game Night. A bit of Trivia, an Apple or two and a few Clues add up for an evening of fun. On February 12, we'll explore The Meaning of Love. That sounds pretty serious, but don't worry! We'll be approaching this serious topic in a light-hearted way. We'll have fun and maybe you'll learn a thing or two about what makes love work.

On February 19, we will head out in search of a Destination Unknown. This month, the host at our destina-



tion will provide dinner and activities. Don't miss the fun of this new destination! On February 26, the youth will make masks as part of the preparations for the Ash Wednesday on March 5. Frequently masks are a part of the Carnival activities, such as Mardi Gras, held just before Lent begins. On February 26, youth will make their own versions of Mardi Gras masks, which they will then use the following week.

### Youth Serve Pancake Supper

Mark your calendars for the Ash Wednesday Pancake Supper on March 5. United Church Youth will cook and serve the Ash Wednesday pancake supper. The season of Lent is often observed as a time of spiritual discipline and "giving up" certain luxuries or treats. The tradition of serving pancakes on Shrove Tuesday, the day before Lent begins, grew out of the need to use up the fats before Lent begins. In our time, we combine the traditions of Shrove Tuesday and Ash Wednesday into one event, first eating pancakes and then moving into worship. Mark your calendars now and share this event with the youth of the church.

### Kerygma

The Kerygma class is now studying "God Calls Leaders." This class is exploring the nature of leadership in the Bible and in our time. How does God call leaders? What makes a good leader? How do we know that the call to lead comes from God? These and

other questions will be explored as this course continues.

### Placerville Camps

It's not too early to start thinking about summer camp! This year the popular Grand Camp has been moved to the first weekend in August. Be sure to note this new time and mark it on the calendars of your grandchildren now before their summer plans are made. Plan to bring your grandkids to beautiful Placerville Camp! There are camps for all ages. Dates for some of the camps are listed below, but the complete schedule for Placerville Camp is available online. You can register online at [placervillecamp.net](http://placervillecamp.net) or stop by the church office for more information and a registration form. Remember that First Congregational Church pays half of the camp fee for our church members.

**Women's Camp:** June 9-13. This camp includes activities for preschoolers. The camp for younger elementary children (grades 2 & 3 completed) also runs at the same time.

**Seekers** (grades 4 & 5 completed)  
June 15-20

**Faith Explorers** (gr 6-8 completed)  
June 22-27

**Crossroads** (gr 9-12 completed)  
July 13-19

**Grand Camp:** August 1-3

For more information on summer camps at Placerville, talk to Susan Huffman or Becky Fleming.

## CHURCH VOCATIONS SUNDAY

Sunday, February 23, our congregation will recognize Church Vocations Sunday with a celebration of all who are called to serve Christ by working in the church. Church workers include not only ministers, but also lay leaders, office administrators, musicians, and volunteers.

Our church is gifted with talented leaders who respond to God's call to work in the church in many different areas from mowing the lawn to collating and folding our newsletter. Other volunteers serve in the library, in the kitchen, at the dishwasher, in the basement maintaining our heating system and many other places throughout our church.

God calls each of us to service and that call is a vocation. Some are called to full-time vocations, others are called to serve with different amounts of time.

Join your church family as we recognize and celebrate the call of God to service within the church on Church Vocations Sunday, February 23!

## MEMBER NEWS AND NOTES

The celebrations and struggles of our members affect us all. Keep these pages handy as part of your regular prayer discipline.



### WHERE'S ELSA?

Remember the old "Where's Waldo" books? Children and adults alike enjoy pouring over the pages looking for the iconic character in his striped shirt. We have our own version of that game. Check out our Annual Report and see how many times you can find our own Elsa Grauman in the 42 page book.

The Annual Reports are a permanent record of the activities and events of our congregation during the past year and they include articles and information about many different aspects of our church life.

Copies of the Annual Reports are available free of charge online or at the church office. The beautiful color pages loaded with photographs were made possible through a generous donation of an anonymous donor.

Thanks to all who wrote and submitted reports and helped us create this beautiful record of our life together.

### Happy Birthday!

The Following members and friends have **February** Birthdays.

**Feb. 1:** Stephanie Nielsen

**Feb. 2:** Henry Bradshaw

**Feb. 4:** Clara Crutcher

**Feb. 5:** Emilee Nickel

**Feb. 7:** Kathleen Grigg

**Feb. 8:** Sybil Rounds

**Feb. 10:** Barbara Staton  
Edith Pace

Randy Daughenbaugh

**Feb. 11:** Marrelyce Seaman

Rob Burton

**Feb. 12:** Chuck Lindly

Jay Davis

**Feb. 14** Alicia Sutliff-Benusis

**Feb. 15:** Mavis Iverson

Jim Webster

Marla Maynard

**Feb. 16:** Alan Kelts

All Church Birthday

**Feb. 17:** Mary Nelson-Keithahn

**Feb. 18:** Laura Boyd

Dave Ledford

Ben Redinius

**Feb. 20:** Buck Anderson

Emily Eckholm

**Feb. 21:** Frances Cox

**Feb. 23:** Dorothy Ankrum

Bruce Wilkinson

Ronald Lawson

**Feb. 24:** Joan Arneson

Kalsy Brinkman

**Feb. 27:** Nola Bentz-Reber

Isabel Bryant

### In Our Prayers

Please keep the father of Rev. Susan Carr and her family in your thoughts and prayers in this difficult time. He has suffered a massive stroke. Rev. Carr is the pastor of our sister church in Pierre.

Our sympathy goes out to the family of Marjorie Pitts, following the death of her sister, Delores "Dory" Weatherax" of Sioux Falls, SD.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Carol Donnenwirth and her family following the death of her brother.

Marvin Bitterman continues to recover following surgery in Minneapolis.

**At Canistota, SD:** Bill Dittmer

**At Yankton, SD:** Marge Raabe

**At Echo Ridge:** Ed Dull

**At Golden Living Centers,**

**Black Hills:** John Arneson

**Bella Vista:** Stan Halla, Kay Wolff

**Prairie Hills:** Jack Humke

**At Westhills Healthcare:**

Joan Ebert

**At Westhills South:** Bryce Smith, Dorothy Ankrum and Shirley Triggs

**At Fountain Springs:**

Orville Zimmerman

**In Military Service:** Kyle Kloeckl (Ed and Ginny Ensz's grandson), Melanie Moore, Adam Johnson (Eunice Johnson's grandson), and all those serving our country.

**Other Church Members at home are in our thoughts and prayers,**

**including:** David Seaman, Barney Nichols, Al Pitts, Dick James, Ward Cheney, Shary Crutcher and Marvin Bitterman.

### **Family and friends of our church**

**members include:** Velma Austin, Michael Ross's mother, undergoing chemo in Tacoma, WA; Mike Lebrun, son of Pat & Gene Lebrun, John Meyers, son of Dorothy Davis; Cheryl Wathen, mother of Gwyn Wathen; Tom Berry's daughter, Melissa Klein; Kathryn Kuhn; Steve Chapin; and Sherre Christensen.

### **Thank You Notes**

We would like to express our deep appreciation and gratitude to the church for its open arms during our time of sadness. Special thanks to the organist, pastor and our wonderful neighbor, Mary Keithahn. Your kindness will always be remembered.

**Sincerely, Pokey Jacobson, Kara Jacobson-Kraft, Pam Jacobson, Tisha Nichols and Family**

Many thanks to our church family and friends for the overwhelming support, get-well and birthday cards for Al and sympathy cards for our family over the loss of my sister. **Sincerely, Marjorie and Al Pitts**

### **I Love My Church**

This winter members of another congregation in town have been proclaiming on television that they love their church. Here's one reason why I love mine: When my next-door neighbor passed away soon after the holidays, his wife asked me to officiate at his funeral, since he had not had a church home in years. After consulting with Ted Huffman, I offered the hospitality of our congregation to the family. Michael Ross re-arranged his schedule so he could play the organ for the service in our sanctuary. Ushers stepped forward to help. Shirley Sackman and the Bereavement Committee prepared a lunch for over a hundred people after the funeral. My neighbors and their family were treated like members of our congregation. What a blessing that was to them in their time of grief and sadness! We are a congregation that truly believes what we say every Sunday in worship: "No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here!" That's why I love my church! **Mary Nelson Keithahn**

### **I LOVE MY CHURCH!**

We are hoping to make "I Love My Church" a regular feature of the call. There are as many different reasons to love our church as there are members and we hope that each member will consider writing a paragraph or two about what is special about our church.

"I Love My Church" articles can be submitted to the church office by e-mail at [uccof-fice@rushmore.com](mailto:uccof-fice@rushmore.com) or brought into the church office at any time.

Start thinking about all of the reasons that you love your church.

## LIFE IN THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Drawn together by the Holy Spirit, the United Church of Christ is a diverse community of Christians joined together as one church.



### A NEW LOOK

The new look of this issue of the call is hard to appreciate if you are reading a paper copy of the document. Our newsletter is being optimized for online distribution with lots of color and other features that cannot be reproduced in a black and white document.

All of this is part of a change in the distribution of The Call. As more and more members receive The Call online and costs of printing continue to rise, we are encouraging as many members as possible to subscribe to our electronic version. You can subscribe by going to our church web site, [www.rcfirstucc.com](http://www.rcfirstucc.com), and clicking on the "Participate" tab. From the menu, select "Subscribe" and you are just a few clicks away from receiving the Call in your inbox each month.

For assistance with subscription, call the church office at (605) 342-5787 or send an e-mail to [uccoffice@rushmore.com](mailto:uccoffice@rushmore.com).

### The South Dakota Conference has a new web site

If you haven't visited [www.sodakucc.org](http://www.sodakucc.org) recently, you have a treat in store. The Conference has a new and re-designed web site with easy access to news about our association, conference events and more. The new web site is designed by our own Dee Anderson who has assumed the role of web designer for the South Dakota Conference.

And, if you have an organization in need of a new web site, contact Dee for information on how she can help.

### Save the Date for the South Dakota Conference Annual meeting

Our congregation is hosting the annual meeting of the South Dakota Conference this June 6-8. The theme for the event is "Ministry in Motion." Keynote Speaker will be Rev. James Moos, Executive Minister for Wider Church Ministries of the United Church of Christ. Unique to this year's gathering will be workshops that focus on grassroots ministries, including opportunities to split wood with the Woodchucks, pound nails with Habitat for Humanity and perhaps join our church crafters in their projects. The annual conference meeting is always an opportunity for fellowship and excellent worship. Most events will be held at our church. Keep watching The Call for more information on this exciting meeting.

### Feed Your Spirit

The United Church of Christ has a wide variety of different ways to feed your spirit when you visit [www.ucc.org](http://www.ucc.org). By selecting the "Feed Your Spirit" link on the home page, you can find a daily devotional and subscribe to a daily e-mail devotional. There is also a section on spiritual practices, a weekly Bible study, a theology blog and much more. You can find a link to the UCC web site at our church's web page, [www.rcfirstucc.com](http://www.rcfirstucc.com). Click on the "Who We Are" menu and follow the link to The United Church of Christ.

### A Church of Extravagant Welcome

Every Sunday we repeat the words, "No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here!" We know that one of the ways that we practice our hospitality is through our worship. Our church is always welcome to those who want to explore their faith, to meet new people, and to strengthen a personal relationship with God.

That extravagant welcome extends beyond our worship service, however. We invite all to join us as partners in mission, not only by participating in special offerings and support of wider church ministries, but by becoming involved in hands-on, grassroots ministries as we seek to serve our neighbors in the name of Jesus Christ.



**Sun Feb 2, 2014**

**Souper Bowl of Caring**

8:30am: Adult Choir Practice  
 9:30am: Worship; Sunday School  
 10:30am: Fellowship & Refreshments  
 11:00am: Sunday School Teachers Meeting

**Mon Feb 3, 2014**

6:30pm: Women's Bible Study

**Tue Feb 4, 2014**

12pm: Church Chat  
 1pm: Craft Day  
 1:15pm: Spiritual Practices  
 5:30pm: RC Area Firefighters Bible Study

**Wed Feb 5, 2014**

9:30am: Kerygma  
 1pm: WF Board Meeting  
 6pm: Bell Choir Practice  
 6:30pm: United Church Youth  
 7pm: Adult Choir Practice

**Thu Feb 6, 2014**

12pm: UCM Thursday Forum

**Fri Feb 7, 2014**

1pm: "Rescue Stained Glass Project"  
 1pm: BH Watercolor Group

**Sat Feb 8, 2014**

10am: Front Porch Suicide Support Group

**Sun Feb 9, 2014**

8:30am: Adult Choir Practice  
 9:30am: Worship; **Children Sing**; Sunday School  
 10:30am: **Good Morning Circle, Cinnamon Rolls**; Fellowship & Refreshments  
 10:45am: Dept. of Education

**Mon Feb 10, 2014**

1:30pm: Westhills Bible & Book Study  
 4:45pm: SDSM&T Mission Meal  
 6:30pm: Women's Bible Study

**Tue Feb 11, 2014**

1pm: Craft Day

**Tue Feb 11, 2014 continued**

1:15pm: Spiritual Practices  
 5:30pm: RC Area Firefighters Bible Study  
 6:30pm: Dept. of Hospitality

**Wed Feb 12, 2014**

9:30am: Kerygma  
 6pm: Bell Choir Practice  
 6:30pm: United Church Youth  
 7pm: Adult Choir Practice

**Thu Feb 13, 2014**

10am: Altar Guild Meeting  
 12pm: UCM Thursday Forum  
 6:00pm: Dept. of Worship

**Fri Feb 14, 2014**

1pm: "Rescue Stained Glass Project"  
 1pm: BH Watercolor Group

**Sun Feb 16, 2014**

8:30am: Adult Choir Practice  
 8:30am: Dept. of Ministries Meeting  
 9:30am: Worship; **Bells**; Sunday School  
 10:30am: **Birthday Sunday**; Fellowship & Refreshments  
 10:45am: Dept. of Building, Grounds & Equipment  
 3:30pm: Jail Ministry

**Mon Feb 17, 2014**

6:30pm: Women's Bible Study

**Tue Feb 18, 2014**

12pm: Church Chat  
 1pm: Craft Day  
 1:15pm: Spiritual Practices  
 5:30pm: RC Area Firefighters Bible Study

**Wed Feb 19, 2014**

**March Call Article Deadline**  
 9:30am: Good Morning Circle  
 6pm: Bell Choir Practice  
 6pm: Dept. of Stewardship & Budget  
 6pm: United Church Youth Destination Unknown  
 6:30pm: Good Evening Circle  
 7pm: Adult Choir Practice

**Thu Feb 20, 2014**

12pm: UCM Thursday Forum  
 7pm: Church Board

**Fri Feb 21, 2014**

1pm: "Rescue Stained Glass Project"  
 1pm: BH Watercolor Group

**Sat Feb 22, 2014**

10am: Front Porch Suicide Support Group

**Sun Feb 23, 2014**

**Charles Anthony Newton Lindley Theological Collection Dedication**  
 8:30am: Adult Choir Practice  
 9:30am: Worship; Sunday School  
 10:30am: Fellowship; Refreshments; Library Dedication

**Mon Feb 24, 2014**

1:30pm: Westhills Bible & Book Study  
 6:30pm: Women's Bible Study

**Tue Feb 25, 2014**

11:30am: 4th Tues. Ladies Lunch  
 1pm: Craft Day  
 1:15pm: Spiritual Practices  
 5:30pm: RC Area Firefighters Bible Study

**Wed Feb 26, 2014**

9:30am: Kerygma  
 4:15pm: Trust Board  
 6pm: Bell Choir Practice  
 6:30pm: United Church Youth  
 7pm: Adult Choir Practice

**Thu Feb 27, 2014**

12pm: UCM Thursday Forum  
 1:30pm: Memoir Writing Workshop

**Fri Feb 28, 2014**

1pm: "Rescue Stained Glass Project"  
 1pm: BH Watercolor Group

**Sun Mar 2, 2014**

8:30am: Adult Choir Practice  
 9:30am: Worship; Sunday School  
 10:30am: Fellowship & Refreshments

**Mon Mar 3, 2014**

6:30pm: Women's Bible Study



1st Congregational  
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