



Yucca Breeze

THE UNITED CHURCHES OF HOT SPRINGS, SOUTH DAKOTA

Pastor's Pulpit:

August ... ahh ... hot ... humid ... and gloriously warm. In South Dakota, I have learned that one never complains about the weather being too hot. Goodness knows we all know what living this far north means temperature-wise for most of the year. August also begins our national obsession with Football. Pre-season games in the NFL, College games, even High School games are on tap.

One thing I've noticed about football fans (well, actually 5 if we're counting):

- 1) Fans gather together for a collective purpose.
- 2) Many fans dress for the part.
- 3) Fans cheer every time the home team scores and experience anxiety if the other team does the same.
- 4) Fans love to get together before and after the game itself just because they share the same passion.
- 5) Fans look forward every year to the playoffs to see if their team will make it and how far they may go, with the hopes that the home team will bring the championship trophy home.

Not surprisingly, being a Christian, and being a part of a church, really isn't that different in a lot of ways. Think about it.

- 1) Christians gather together for a collective purpose: to worship the One who has called and claimed them and redeemed them from the realm of darkness and made them a child of light. We gather for the collective purpose of worshipping Jesus Christ.
- 2) For the most part we dress the part. It's interesting, but the common phenomenon in church attire is simple: people from non-liturgical, less formal churches, tend to dress up. Folks that attend structured, liturgical churches tend to dress down. Go to any restaurant and watch the Sunday lunch crowd. You can spot those coming from church and yes, you can probably even guess at what kind of church they have attended that morning. People by and large, or at least they used to, dress the part.
- 3) In a lot of ways part of our Christian fellowship is celebratory! Christians celebrate every time a person comes to know Jesus Christ as their personal Savior, or testifies to God's goodness in their lives ... you know when our "team" scores! At the same time, there are always times of anxiety when folks we know go through dark periods ... when the "other team" seems to be winning.

4) Christians, like no other group I have ever met, really do love to get together not just for a simple church service, but many times before and after church itself, mainly because they share the same passion of knowing and being part of the family of God. It's so true! I've always thought if you are a part of a good church and have church friends both in and out of the church, it's almost impossible to lose any weight! Like football fans, our fellowships almost demand and expect that we have lots of munching going on.

5) Christians actually look forward, not every year but every day perhaps, to Jesus coming back: claiming His own, winning life's final battle with Satan, and basically bringing the eternal championship trophy home.

This reminds me of the chorus in the long-standing hymn, "*The Old Rugged Cross*":

*So, I'll cherish the old rugged cross,
Till my trophies at last I lay down,
I will cling to the old rugged cross,
And exchange it some day for a crown.*

Here's the rub: what Jesus wins we will win as well. We will receive our reward for the things that we actually did for Him on this earth. We, because we are children of the King, will receive crowns of glory and trophies that I can't even imagine. But most of all, as Revelation 4:10-11 states, we will get to cast our crowns before Him, lay our trophies at His feet and forever proclaim Him as Our Lord, Our King, Our Savior, Our Brother, not only our Head Coach but our Heart Coach, and spend eternity being with our fellow team mates, living in the ultimate Home field called Heaven.

Blessings, Pastor David



**MONTHLY
MISSION
EMPHASIS
AUGUST
2022**

"Oyate Concern is a Christian ministry working to serve the Lakota people of the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in Oglala, South Dakota (located in southwest South Dakota). We believe in being a part of the community and sharing in the problems and solutions of the community as neighbors and friends. We believe in empowering local leaders and community members to bring life-giving hope and resources into the community. We believe in the ministry of reconciling God and people, and share the gospel to make disciples who are equipped to plant life-giving churches. Our ultimate goal is to raise up indigenous Christian leadership and to empower the community to a stronger, healthier lifestyle spiritually, physically, and emotionally. We seek to fulfill the Great Commission and to empower Lakota believers to lead in the church and

Mission Emphasis Sunday will be August 14th, with our Loose Change Offering being received that day. Offering envelopes will have a line designated for this Mission.





AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

- | | | | |
|----|-----------------|----|---------------|
| 3 | Maggie May | 21 | Judy Hansen |
| 5 | Mark Sullivan | 23 | Nevetta Sieg |
| 6 | Ellaina Nichols | 24 | Robin Wynia |
| 6 | Mary McDill | 25 | Miles Swift |
| 10 | Ralph Sieg | 29 | Wayne Hageman |
| 14 | Richard Bershon | | |
| 19 | Lydia Emery | | |

- 5 Todd & Robin Wynia
- 8 Mike & Lynn Buchholz
- 9 Ed & Pat Cerney
- 13 Jerry & Pat Collogan
- 15 Jim & Annie Zwetzig
- 15 Rich & Stefanie Nelson
- 17 Ralph & Nevetta Sieg
- 21 Gordon & Jean Brooks

If your name is not included on the Birthdays and Anniversaries list and you would like it to be added, please contact the church office by email: uc@gwtc.net or call 745-5640.

THIS AND THAT

BASIC NEEDS & BEARLY USED BOUTIQUES

Boutiques will be open on **SATURDAY, AUGUST 13TH — 10:00 AM to 12 Noon.**

FOOD PANTRY COUNTS:

Number of active clients: 316; Single: 148; Family: 168; Veterans (included in single/family count) 63; New Sign-Ups:70 (12 additions in June); Average days each month: 16.

DONATION & THANK YOU (Received by Bearly Used Boutique)

"Several months ago you gave me clothes I needed but couldn't pay for. This small amount doesn't come close to expressing my gratitude. You helped me start over in life. I know God will bless you for helping so many people."

A HEARTFELT THANK YOU:

Word's cannot express how grateful we are to Pastor David, the orchestra, all of mom's church family and everyone involved for her beautiful celebration of life. We will be eternally grateful. Pam & James Forbord.

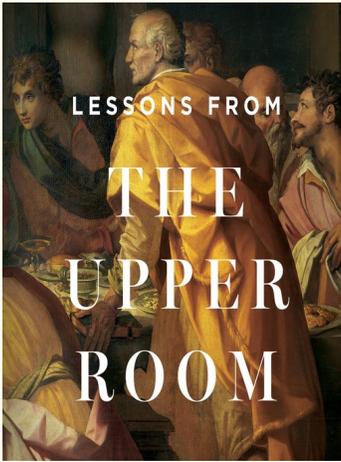
SERMON SERIES / AUGUST:

- | | | |
|-----------|------------------------|----------------|
| August 7 | "There Goes the Judge" | Romans 1:22-32 |
| August 14 | "Even Steven" | Romans 2:1-16 |
| August 21 | "Under My Thumb" | Romans 2:17-29 |
| August 28 | "A Decided Advantage" | Romans 3:1-8 |

WANTED!! — FELLOWSHIP TEAM MEMBERS

- Our Fellowship Team needs 2-3 new members.
- Our duties include preparing and serving cookies for church 4-6 times a year.
- We help with luncheons for funerals, birthdays, or any celebratory occasions. This usually involved 3-4 members working together.
- We also help with setting up and cleaning up for the 5th Sunday potlucks.
- If you are interested, please contact Jeanne Wyatt at 605-424-2633

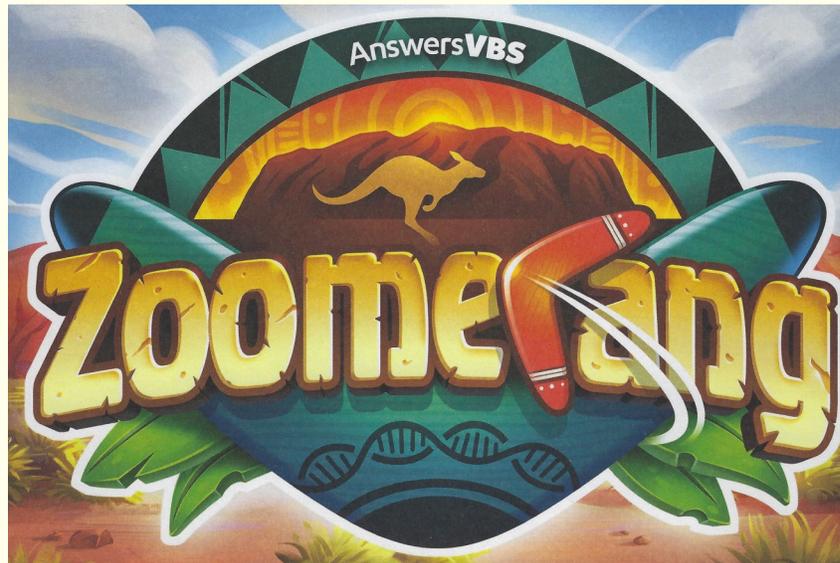




**MARK YOU CALENDARS
FOR THIS UPCOMING STUDY**
LESSONS FROM THE UPPER ROOM
"THE HEART OF THE SAVIOR"
BY DR. SINCLAIR B. FERGUSON
SUNDAY MORNINGS
BEGINNING AUGUST 21, 2022 — 8:30 AM
IN THE FIRESIDE ROOM — WITH PASTOR DAVID

STUDY CONTENTS

1. The Mind of Christ
2. Understanding and Blessing
3. From Trouble to Glory
4. Atmospheric Changes
5. *Via, Veritas, Vita*
6. Threefold Spirit
7. The True Vine
8. Hated but Helped
9. Why? Why? Why?
10. Confusion before Clarity
11. The Heart of Christ Opened
12. The Father's Gift
13. He Prays for Me



SHEF CHURCH VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL!
AUGUST 8-11 — 9:00 AM-Noon
1509 University avenue
Ages Entering Kindergarten — Entering 6th Grade
For more information call: 605-745-6687
Register online at: shefchurch.com

A NOTE FROM THE SPICERS

We are so thankful that Faith Academy (FA) was allowed to have face-to-face classes in February, and that there was no spike in COVID numbers, allowing us to continue to the end of school. COVID numbers dropped so our Alert Level dropped to 1, which has the lowest restrictions. At that level, things opened even more, and we were allowed to do sports at a club level. We still have to wear masks in public and in the classroom, but when playing sports, it was only optional. Plus, we were allowed to do many of our traditional closing events: band, strings, and choir concerts, staff and student parties, and commencement. It was a joy to do it all face-to-face. Praising God for this gift.

Walter is in charge of the Communication Department, a new department that started this school year. Months ago, we bought some new equipment and trained some of our employees. They did an excellent job streaming our closing events for those that could not attend.

Pray for the seniors and all of the staff that are transitioning back to their home countries. Plus, please pray for more staff as there are still some critical positions to be filled. We are trusting God that we will be allowed to do face-to-face classes in August with our regular sports and fine arts programs.

We are thankful that the elections were peaceful at the beginning of May, plus a smooth transition to the newly elected officials in June. We are thankful that the newly elected officials are in favor of face-to-face classes, but we are awaiting the official word.

Now that we are on our school “break,” we took more time to be with the girls from the Butterfly Project: sports/games times, movie nights complete with cheesy popcorn—their favorite, birthday parties complete with presents, ice cream, and cake. Plus, since it has been so hot, we have gone swimming three times. These activities are a big commitment but so much fun and so rewarding! Their smiles are so energizing. We are thankful for this privilege to serve God in this way. These activities that I mention are funded by our personal money. If you would like to contribute to future activities, please email us and we can dedicate those funds to a Butterfly activity. We serve an amazing God and we are thankful for this open door to serve those that have been abused.

Walter is one of the administrators left at FA over the summer, so he still has work to do during the summer. The Head Nurse is on Home Assignment, so Cheryl is now the Head Nurse. With this new hat comes more work, so she too has some summer duties to complete. Pray that we will be intentional to take time off to be refreshed yet use our time wisely to be prepared for the coming school year.

Thank you for your partnership with us. It is through your prayers and support that we are here in the Philippines. Through the hard times and the grand times, it is a joy to serve together.

Blessings,

Walter and Cheryl Spicer



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HOT SPRINGS, SD