



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH UCC

717 Jackson Street

Belle Fourche, SD 57717

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

The Friendly Visitor Newsletter September 2024



Join us this Sunday!

St. Onge UCC 8:30 am

Belle Fourche UCC 10:00 am

Communion on the first Sunday of each month

Services also on Facebook & our webpage: www.bfsoucc.net

The Pastor's Pen

“For those who shaped the Apostles Creed, belief in God is meant to fundamentally change our perspective on the world, on our place in it, and on our own lives.” This quote from Adam Hamilton’s book, *Creed*, gives us a glimpse of what we can learn by exploring our faith, and the history of faith down through the ages.



One of the earliest creeds is from Romans 10:9, “Jesus is Lord.” By the second century another creed was popular and written on the walls of catacombs, “Jesus Christ, Son of God, Savior”. Here the first letter of each word spells out the Greek word for “fish.” Even the illiterate could draw a simple fish, and proclaim their faith. By the end of the second century (or the beginning of the third), the Old Roman Symbol was used. This creed is very similar to the Apostles Creed which was formulated during the fourth century, and is the one we say today.

I guess the real question is what do you believe? Your faith really does inform your day-to-day decisions. Your faith helps to make sense of the really big questions of life.

And we’ll see you in church,

Pastor Chuck Aurand

COFFEE & CONVERSATION FOLLOWING WORSHIP

(And you don’t really have to drink coffee!)

Belle Fourche UCC Sept 1st
St. Onge UCC Sept 15th

Join us for refreshments and refreshing conversation.



Scriptures for September 2024

09/01	Mark 7:1-23	What Defiles a Person?
09/08	Mark 7:24-37	Curing Demons
09/15	Mark 8:27-38	Take Up Your Cross and Follow
09/22	Mark 9:30-37	Afraid to Ask?
09/29	Mark 9:38-50	Losing Your Saltiness

*“whoever gives you a cup of water to drink
because you bear the name of Christ
will by no means lose the reward.*

~Mark 9:41

Edgewood Vista
 Vi Barnes
 Cheri Miller
 Dottie Clarkson-Teague



Judy's Assisted Living
 Irene Olson

Rolling Hills Long Term Care
 Lydell Koerner
 Martin Jones

Monument Health Sturgis Care Center
 Harry Haivala

Sundance Long Term Care & Rehab
 Betty Schnaible

Sandstone Senior Living
 Jack & Mary Ann Wells

Hickory House Apartments
 De Johnson

SEPTEMBER

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Belle Fourche UCC

BIRTHDAYS

Sharon Munyon	6
De Johnson	8
Harlene Hill	9
Lan Fuhrer	10
Gene Embrey	16
Dale Munyon	18
Phyllis Simmons	19
Aiden Voyles	23
Tessa Voyles	24
Jean Kirksey	27
Cherylyn Young	28
Blaine Anderson	29

ANNIVERSARIES

Gary & Jan Stinton	11
Larry & Karen Prager	14
Barb & Gene Embrey	14
John & Kathy King	15

St. Onge UCC

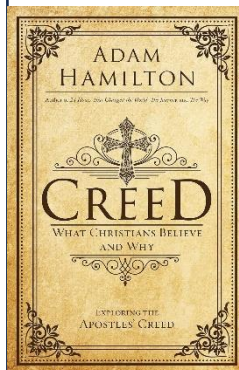
BIRTHDAYS

Bridger Canfield	2
Martin Jones	5
Cherie Miller	19
Patti Aurand	26
Aiden Russell	30

ANNIVERSARIES

none

New Wednesday Study



Beginning Weds, Sept 11th at 7pm.
 Join us in the Comfort Room at the
 Belle Fourche UCC.

You may purchase a copy of
 "Creed" by Adam Hamilton
 from your favorite book retailer.

Join us as we learn about the
 Apostles Creed and the Christian faith.

Bible Quiz



a) „King of kings and Lord of lords“

What is written on the thigh of Jesus in Revelation 19:16?

- a) King of kings and Lord of lords
- b) The very name of God
- c) Nothing, it is where you put your hand for a blessing in the Old Testament.

BF Youth Sunday School



Youth Sunday School returns October 6th.

July 2024 Financials

Beginning balance	44,117.51
Deposits	7384.60
Expenses	6659.58
End of month (July)	44,842.53

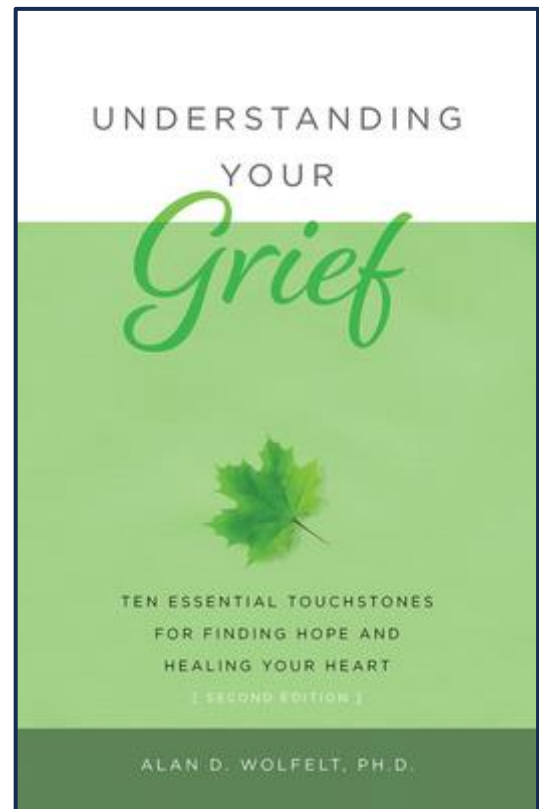
A New 10-Week Bereavement Class and Support Group Is Starting...

This Group is open to anyone who has lost a loved one. Co-sponsored by Stillwater Hospice, Pastor Chuck will facilitate this group meeting in the Spearfish United Church of Christ beginning Thursday, September 5th at 5:00 pm.

We will be reading and discussing Understanding Your Grief by Alan Wofelt. This group is both informative and supportive as we navigate the waters of grief due to loss.

The Spearfish United Church of Christ is located in Spearfish at 920 Main Street. A large parking lot is available behind the church building.

For more information, please contact Pastor Chuck.



Board of Trustees Special Meeting

August 5, 2024 at 5:30 pm

Board Members Present: Kay, Dick, Shawn, Dennis, Lyn, and Carol

The special meeting was called to order by Kay for the purpose of replacing the current Church Property Hazard Insurance Policy.

The current coverage with Guide One will end August 6, 2024. The company has notified us that they will not be renewing our policy.

Kay has been searching for replacement insurance options. Several companies will not provide full coverage including liability coverage. Some companies will not consider covering us because of the day care, even though they have their own insurance coverage. The number of companies who offer insurance coverage for churches has decreased over the last several years.

The only option that had an affordable premium, reasonable deductibles, and full coverage with no need for excess coverage, was through the UCC Church Board. Susan Bacon is the agent providing the quote. They valued the property at \$3 million. The deductible for wind and hail coverage is based on 1% of the property value or \$30,000. The deductible for other claims is \$5,000. The premium quoted is \$8600-\$8700 per year, payable in two semi-annual (6 months) payments.

Our current policy through Guide One had an annual premium of \$7600.00 and a \$10,000.00 deductible.

Motion by Dick to accept the quote from the UCC Church Board and to continue to look for other options. 2nd by Lyn. Discussion about where the funds would come from for the deductible in case of a large claim was entertained. The church has savings in CDs that could be accessed in that event. Motion passed.

In other business, Kay has talked with John Carbajal about the status of the boulevard trees. The second tree from the end is dead and should be removed. The dead branches in the other trees will be trimmed out. John has made an agreement with the City of Belle Fourche to cost-share the project at 50%.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:35pm.

Respectfully submitted by Carol Umenthum, Secretary

Diaconate minutes

July 10th, 2024

Opening Prayer given by Pastor Chuck.

Review of Minutes: Minutes approved as read.

Member in attendance: Colleen A., Harlene H., Miscelle R., Melanie A., Margaret S., Phyllis S., Blake H., and Marilyn H.

REPORTS:

Pastoral Report: Church members visits, June church meeting, visited Hospice patients, weddings, baptism. He was gone July 1 – 7th for Study Leave. Jean Helmer filled in for him. He will be on vacation from July 29th – August 4th with Gail Arnold filling in on the 4th.

Church Attendance (June) - 181 over 5 Sundays.

Shut In Report: Harlene continues to call our shut ins once a month or more. They continue to be very thankful for the calls and being remembered by their church.

OLD BUSINESS:

Communion servers/set up: August 4th Colleen. Need someone to help with September 1st.

Committees: Colleen will be in charge of the fall kick off on September 8th.

Ice Cream/Concert Wednesday: Margaret made mention that there was ice cream did not get announced at the last concert. Colleen spoke with someone about this.

Special music for kick off: Colleen is working on this. If anyone is interested to let her know.

Replacement musician: Colleen is still working on finding someone to fill since Lanelle has resigned.

NEW BUSINESS:

Kick off Sunday: Melanie mentioned that diaconate should provide plates, utensils, napkins, cups instead of everyone bringing their own. Miscelle 2nd, motion carried. We will provide drinks, hamburgers, hot dogs and those attending can bring side dishes and salads.

Church Council: Meeting on July 23rd, discussing by law changes.

Lanelle's resigning: Her last Sunday was in June. She does not want a big fanfare. We did order a music box and will present this to her when she is feeling better and is settled.

Church care: Remember if you are the last one out of the church make certain that all lights are shut off and that the church is locked up. The Sunday Pastor Chuck was gone he got back about 3 hours after church and found it to be unlocked and lights on.

No further business, meeting was adjourned with a prayer by Pastor Chuck.

Next meeting is August 7th at 5:30 pm

Respectfully submitted by,

Marilyn Hespe

Diaconate Minutes, 8/07/2024 (edited)

Members present: Colleen A., Mischelle R., Harlene H., Phyllis S., Melanie A., Pastor Chuck and Marilyn H.

Opening prayer given by Pastor Chuck.

Minutes of previous meeting read and approved.

Pastoral Report: The pastor will lead a new Wednesday evening study on the book, "Creed" beginning September 11th. He will also be leading a 10-week grief group to be held at the Spearfish UCC beginning September 5th.

Church attendance for July: 141

Shut in Report: Harlene continues to call our shut ins at the assisted living/nursing homes. Dottie Clarkson has been placed in Hospice Care. Harry Haivala wanted his church family to know that he is doing fine. Dee Johnson is also doing fine and say "Hi" everyone. Lanelle Cundall is getting ready to move to The Village in Rapid City.

OLD BUSINESS:

Communion for Sept/Oct: Blake set up September and Marilyn will be for October.

If anyone is around and wants to help, that is appreciated.

Replacement musician: Still looking for someone. Melanie A. will check with Connie Parker to see if she is available or knows of someone.

Ice cream proceeds: Colleen does not remember the final total but somewhere around \$400 +.

Fall Kick off - September 8th at Herman Park. Hot dogs provided by Diaconate, Dennis and Phyllis Simmons will provide the beef. Plates, Utensils, drinks, buns provided by Diaconate. Church members asked to bring desserts and/or salads. Will ask John C and Jesse Fox if they can provide grills.

New Members: Scott and Colleen Schuft are received by letter of transfer from Rapid City UCC to our church. This was approved via phone text by all Diaconate members on the 17th of July, 2024.

NEW BUSINESS:

Placerville Sunday: Will hold off again this year but will ask congregation if this is something they want to look at doing next year or just continue with kick off at the local park.

Halloween Spooktacular: This will be held at the Rec Center on Thursday October 31st.

Options to give kids discussed such as bubbles, slap bracelets or something else depending on expense. Melanie indicated that there is approximately 600 kids that attend this event. Also talked about whatever is purchased could be used for the PTO carnival in May.

Hunter Supper- Set for November 9th at the church.

Insurance: Pastor Chuck did advise us that Kay Cooper has finally found an insurance company that is within our budget for coverage. Good news and thank you Kay for all the hard work on getting this taken care of.

Congregational Concerns: There will be a Celebration of Life for Rita Holdhusen on August 31 St at Bowman Hall from 1 —4 pm.

Next meeting: Sept 4th at 5:30 pm.

Closing Prayer: Given by Pastor Chuck. Meeting adjourned.






Respectfully submitted by

Marilyn Hespe



God is still speaking,
UNITED CHURCH
 OF CHRIST

September 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 BF Coffee Hour	2 	3	4 BF Deacons Mtg, 5:30 pm	5 Grief Group, 5pm Spearfish UCC	6	7
8 Fall Kick-off Worship in Herrmann Park, 10:00 am	9 	10 BF Trustee Mtg, 5:30 pm	11 Bible Study, 7pm	12 Grief Group, 5pm Spearfish UCC	13 	14 Out of Darkness Registration, 8 am Walk begins, 8:45 am in Herrmann Pk
15	16	17 BF Council Mtg, 5:00 pm	18 Bible Study, 7pm	19 Grief Group, 5pm Spearfish UCC	20	21
22 	23	24	25 Bible Study, 7pm	26 Grief Group, 5pm Spearfish UCC	27	28
29	30			World Communion Sunday is coming October 6th	Worship Times St Onge 8:30 am BF UCC 10:00 am	Holy Communion First Sunday of each month

EVENTS

Worship in the Park Fall Kick-Off

Join us at the Band Shell in Herrmann Park on Sept 8th at 10:00 am. We will worship and sing with the Pickers band. Afterwards we'll share in a BBQ lunch of burgers and hot dogs.

Note: Both congregations will join in this worship service.

New Wednesday Study

Beginning Sept 11th in the BF Comfort room, we will read Creed: What Christians Believe and Why by Adam Hamilton.

