



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH UCC
717 Jackson Street
Belle Fourche, SD 57717

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BELLE FOURCHE, SD 57717
PERMIT #38

The Friendly Visitor Newsletter

October 2020

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

Welcome to October. Fall is now officially here and with it, cooler days, and hopefully clearer nights (no more smoke in the air).



Our Annual Conference Meeting is coming up on October 17th. This year because of the pandemic, it will be a Zoom meeting, so anyone can attend virtually (with a \$25 fee to help cover the costs of all the tech involved).

So why do we bother with Conference meetings? Why do we bother with Association meetings? Why do we bother with denominations at all? These are fair questions and ones that I have heard from time to time, even by long standing church members.

Well, firstly, we are a denomination. What is a denomination? I'm glad you asked. Open up your wallet or purse. Look at the green bills in there. Do you see George Washington? That is a one-dollar bill. It is a denomination. Do you see President Lincoln? That is a five-dollar bill. It is a denomination. Do you see Benjamin Franklin? If you were me, the answer would be "of course not". That would be a hundred-dollar bill. It is a denomination. These are all denominations of US currency. None of them are all US currency. Only when they are all gathered together, are they the US currency. The same thing applies to the Christian Faith. There are UCC'ers, Baptists, Lutherans, Mennonites, Roman Catholics, and so many more. But only together do we encompass the whole Christian Faith. No denomination has all the truth, only a part, because God intended for us to work together—each sharing the bit of truth that God has revealed to them. Any church that argues otherwise is behaving as a religion, not a denomination. We are members of the Christian Faith—that's our religion.

In our own denomination, the United Church of Christ, we are, by our polity (by our political structure) a congregational system. We believe firmly that God speaks to each member individually. Only when we gather in congregational meetings, association meetings, conference meetings, national meetings, can we share the bit of revelation that God has given to each of us individually. Only when we come together can we share the wisdom and direction that God has for us. Once the larger body has heard and debated the wisdom, it becomes the wisdom of that larger body. Without our voice, the wisdom that God has imparted to members of the Belle Fourche & St Onge Yoked Parish will be lost. Through our participation, we allow the Word of God to use the Holy Spirit to speak to our larger bodies.

God really is depending on us to be in-the-game denominationally, and as a denomination to participate in the National and World Council of Churches to share God's wisdom with all the people.

We're all in this together...with Christ,

Pastor Chuck Aurand

Scriptures for October

10/04	Matthew 21:33-46	“Crowd Fearers”
10/11	Matthew 22:1-14	“Dress for Success”
10/18	Matthew 22:15-22	“Taxes and the Property of God”
10/25	Matthew 22: 34-46	“Reformation Sunday”



From your Pastoral Search Committee

Greetings from the Search Committee,
As the summer is coming to a close and the fall colors are turning, we too are hoping for closure and “turning over a new leaf”. We are conducting interviews and holding regular meetings to discuss the future of our wonderful and supportive parish. As a committee we have explored multiple profiles and are work diligently to

provide a positive, outgoing, long-term option for the parish to consider. Please watch future newsletters and mailers for more information regarding the proceedings of the committee.

May God Bless,
Austin Bishop, co-moderator



Our Church is Open for All

- † Facemasks are strongly recommended. Although not always comfortable, it has been shown that facemasks protect those around you...from you. We wear facemasks as a sign of love for those around us.
- † We ask that you use hand sanitizer when entering the sanctuary so that germs will be less likely to collect upon surfaces.
- † We will practice social distancing (at least 6 feet apart, except for those living in the same household). To assist with social distancing, we will close every other pew.

REMEMBER OUR SHUT INS

Belle Estate

Al Shaw

Edgewood Vista

Dottie Clarkson-Teague

Sadie Sperb

Judy's Assisted Living

Irene Olson

Key City Assisted Living

Eleanor Schweitzer

Rolling Hills Long Term Care

Betty Anderson

Lydell Koerner

Alyce Voyles

Serenity Corner

Nellie Kidd



LAWN MOWING

Help is needed to mow the lawn each week. If you could please help us out, it would be greatly appreciated.

Please remember that we do have a lawn mower in the shed. You must bring gasoline for the mower. Call the church office for the combination to the shed lock.

The schedule is wide open, so if you would be able to mow, please call the office. The phone number is 605-892-3402. Help is definitely needed for October! **PLEASE HELP!!**

And a great big **THANK YOU** to everyone who donates their time to keep the church lawn looking great!! You are appreciated!!



COMPASSION CUPBOARD

Please remember, to bring food on the first Sunday of each month for the Compassion Cupboard. We also collect grocery receipts from Lynn's Dakota Mart. A box is in the Narthex & Church Office.



What's Your Talent? We want to hear you.

Especially during this time of the COVID virus, we are asking for volunteers to sing or play music for our worship services.

Harmonica or harpsichord, bass or soprano, we want to celebrate you. No one is too young or too old. If you would like to help us out, please call the church office and let us know what Sunday would work for you. We look forward to hearing from you!

Belle Fourche UCC



St. Onge UCC

BIRTHDAYS

Teresa Aspen	1
Adam Koerner	5
Jeri Behringer	5
Mary Ann Wells	7
Nellie Kidd	8
Serena Kokesh	10
John Cooper	11
Darian Reede	18
JoAnn Lange	19
Winter McMahan	22
Braydon Moser	22
Jean Helmer	27

ANNIVERSARIES

Mitch & Jeri Behringer	11
Brian & Teresa Aspen	11

BIRTHDAYS

Tracy Benson	4
Marva Ryther	11
Jackie Crowley	18
Megan Ryther	19
Joe Russell	26
Laurie Fairbanks	28
Dillian Richards	29

ANNIVERSARIES

Tracy & Rodney Benson	6
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First Congregational Church UCC

717 Jackson Street
Belle Fourche, SD 57717
605-892-3402

St Onge UCC

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423 Elm Street
St. Onge, SD 57779
605-642-8980

Email Us: bfsoucc@vastbb.net

Visit Us On-line: www.bfsoucc.org

WE WANT TO
HEAR FROM YOU



Pastor Chuck Aurand

605-569-3131 (cell)
caurand3@gmail.com



October 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Sunday Worship SOUCC 8:30 am BFUCC 10:00 am				1	2	3
World Communion Sunday, Neighbors in Need Offering			Weds Study Group Psalms, 7:00 pm	8	9	UCC Boundary Training for Pastors
11 SOUCC 8:30 am BFUCC 10:00 am	12 Indigenous Peoples' Day	13 Deacon's Meeting, 6:00 pm	14 Weds Study Group Psalms, 7:00 pm	15	16	17 Tri-Conference Annual Meeting via Zoom
18 SOUCC 8:30 am BFUCC 10:00 am	19	20 Trustee's Meeting 7:00 pm	21 Weds Study Group Psalms, 7:00 pm	22	23	24
25 SOUCC 8:30 am BFUCC 10:00 am	26	27	28 Weds Study Group Psalms, 7:00 pm	29	30	31 Reformation Day Halloween

EVENTS

Wednesday Study Group

We are continuing our study of the Book of Psalms. Bring your Bible and get ready to be introduced to this amazing collection of Songs which have inspired people for 6000 years.

Compassion Cupboard

We dedicate food on the first Sunday of each month. Bring your nonperishable food items to the church office, or to the sanctuary on Sunday before worship. Thank you!

