



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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

**NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION**  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
BELLE FOURCHE, SD 57717  
PERMIT #38

## **The Friendly Visitor Newsletter** **May 2024**



**Pentecost**

**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](http://www.bfsoucc.net)



## The Pastor's Pen

May is finally here! It's gardening time again with a month full of special observances. On May 5<sup>th</sup>, we will celebrate our 5<sup>th</sup> Graders with new Bibles and our High School Graduates as they step out into a larger world. On May 12<sup>th</sup>, Mother's Day is front and center. And on May 19<sup>th</sup>, it is the birthday of the Christian Church:



Pentecost Sunday. We end the month with a celebration of the Trinity and our veterans (Memorial Day) on May 26<sup>th</sup>. Throughout May, our Scripture lessons will be from the Gospel according to John.

Since May is the start of our growing season, consider joining us on Wednesdays in the Belle Fourche Comfort Room for a new look at the Bible—"Six Themes Everyone Should Know about the Bible". The first session on May 1<sup>st</sup> at 7:00pm is about the image of the Garden of Eden in Genesis and the continuation of this theme in the book of Revelation.

May is a merry month where everything feels fresh and new and bursting with joy! Join us each Sunday as we observe this month of celebrating the goodness of God in our world.

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 May 5th**  
**St. Onge UCC May 12th**

**Join us for refreshments and refreshing conversation.**



### **Scriptures for May 2024**

05/05	John 15:9-17	Students and Graduates
05/12	John 17:6-19	Mother's Day
05/19	John 16:4-15	Pentecost Sunday
05/26	John 3:1-17	More than John 3:16

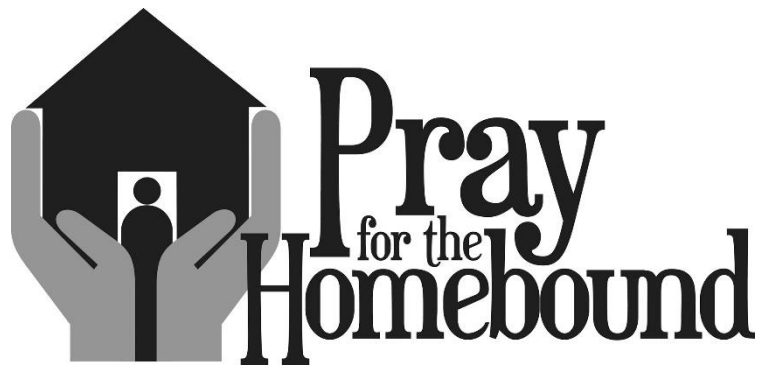
*"So the other disciples told Thomas,  
"We have seen the Lord." John 20:25*

Edgewood Vista  
Vi Barnes  
Cheri Miller  
Betty & Bob Schnaible  
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



Sandstone Senior Living  
Jack & Mary Ann Wells

Hickory House Apartments  
De Johnson



**Belle Fourche UCC**

**BIRTHDAYS**

Jim Scheele	4
Morgan Fuhrer	6
Adrianna Bishop	14
Katrina Hesper	14
Laken Reede	14
Dru Keegan	15
Samantha Hunter	24
Jeff Prager	28

**ANNIVERSARIES**

Cassie & Grant Mason	9
Dale & Sharon Munyon	29

**St. Onge UCC**

**BIRTHDAYS**

Abigail Vissia	3
Andrea Pedersen	10

**ANNIVERSARIES**

Paul & Sheila Steiger	5
-----------------------	---

---

*“Be like a flower and turn your face to the sun.”*

*— Kahlil Gibran*

# Bible Quiz



B. They would dream dreams.

When Peter was speaking to the crowd, what does the Book of Acts (Acts 2:17) state would happen to the old men in the city?

- A. Pour out their Spirit
- B. Dream

## BF Youth Sunday School



Always the First Sunday of each month at 9:30am in the downstairs classroom.

### March 2024 Treasurer's Report

Beginning balance	\$33799.03
Deposits	11597.98
Missions	80.00
Expenses	5139.49
Bal in checking acct.	\$40337.52

Your generous gifts to the  
***Strengthen the Church Offering***  
on May 19th are appreciated.

*Thank you for caring.*

(Additional gifts to the STC offering may be mailed to the church office.)



Graduate  
Recognition

First Congregational  
**Celebrate with us**  
Sunday, May 5th



*Fifth Grade  
Bibles*

## **Board of Trustees Minutes April 16, 2024 (abridged)**

Meeting called to order by Kay at 5:30 pm.

Present: Kay, Shawn, Sandra, Lyn, Dennis, Dick, Carol, and Pastor Chuck

Opening Prayer by Pastor Chuck

Minutes of March 11, 2024 meeting were read and approved as presented.

Financial Reports were presented by Kay. An increase in deposits reflected 5 Sundays including Easter. There were 2 payments in the month from St. Onge. Expenses were down for the month and expenses are under budget for the first quarter of 2024. Motion by Dick, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lyn to approve the financial reports. Motion approved.

Old Business:

The south door into the education building needs new weatherstripping. A 3-piece replacement kit will be purchased and installed.

Discussed the 5 trees on the parkway. Kay will get a firm estimate from John Carbajal once the trees begin to bud and leaf out. Motion by Dennis, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lyn to authorize Kay to call to get on John's schedule and to negotiate the price up to \$1000.00. Motion approved.

Kay reported that the hail damage on the metal flashing on the flat roof of the education building has not been repaired by the roofing contractor. Also discussed a leak that occurred above the organ due to ice under the flashing.

Continued to discuss resurfacing the front steps. Kay will talk to Kevin Fuhrer to get his input regarding contractors and appropriate materials.

New Business:

Pastor Chuck reported the West River Mental Health, a non-profit, grant-funded professional counselling organization, has been using the comfort room as a safe space for their therapist to meet with students and families. Their director is requesting a Memorandum of Understanding stating that they are secondary users of the space and bear responsibility for liability. Motion by Dick, 2<sup>nd</sup> Sandra to authorize Kay to act as the church's representative and sign the Memorandum of Understanding. Motion approved.

Discussion continued regarding the church sign on the front lawn.. Kay will check with the city regarding sign ordinance criteria. She will also talk with the high school shop teacher about the sign. By consensus the Board agreed to pursue options.

Pastor Chuck reported on the progress of work to revise the church by-laws. Kay read the recommended revisions regarding the responsibilities and duties of the Board of Trustees; by consensus the Board agreed to accept the recommended revisions of the By-laws regarding the Trustees.

Discussion regarding the Board of Trustees representative to the Church Council was entertained. The Church Council meets quarterly to share information between the various Boards and the church officers. Kay will be the representative from the Board of Trustees.

Pastor Chuck presented his reimbursement report. Motion to approve by Lyn, 2<sup>nd</sup> Dick. Motion approved.

**Next meeting is May 14, 2024 at 5:30pm**

Closing prayer by Pastor Chuck

Meeting adjourned at 7:20pm

Respectfully submitted by Carol Umenthum, Secretary

## UCC Diaconate meeting 04/03/2024

**Opening prayer:** Given by Pastor Chuck.

**Review of Minutes:** Minutes were read and approved.

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

### REPORTS:

**Pastorl Report:** Cards continue to be sent out for birthdays. Funeral consults, funerals and wedding consults for members and non members were done in Feb/March. Bible study, Lenten services and Holy Week services kept him busy for month of February and March, along with being gone for his son's wedding.

**Attendance for March:** roughly 286 present.

**Shut In Report:** Harlene continues to call our shuts in. Good reports from everyone.

### OLD BUSINESS:

**Communion set up for April/May:** April Melanie/Marilyn, May –Melanie/Aurora. Wine, bread and juice are needed for May's service.

**Duty Sign ups/ Clipboards:** Colleen will send those around on Sunday.

**Committee sign up:** Paper sent around to sign up for different events hosted by Diaconate.

### NEW BUSINESS:

**PTO carnival:** May 3<sup>rd</sup> 5 – 7 pm. Set up is at 4:30. Different games to play discussed. Will contact Sammi Jo to see if corn hole has been taken yet. Shifts would be from 4:30 – 5:45; 5:45 – 7:00. Margaret said she would help

**5<sup>th</sup> grade bibles:** Audrianna B. Will check with the McMahon family to see the ages of the 2 younger kids. Another person to check with is Dianne and Steve Kappas's grandson. Graduating senior Winter M., and Aiden V. Have not heard back on whether Brandon Sanders is going to participate or not. Will celebrate these events on May 5<sup>th</sup> during church followed by refreshments afterwards.

**Congregational concerns:** Work at the Compassion Cupboard on April 30<sup>th</sup> from 9 am to noon. New bible study group to be starting up.

Next meeting will be May 1<sup>st</sup> at 6 pm.

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

Respectfully submitted by



Marilyn Hespe

Ages 3+

May 1, 2024 • Luke 24:46-53

# Jesus Ascends Into Heaven

Jesus came to His disciples a final time.

Find and count the  4 or 5?  3 or 4?



Belle Fourche & St Onge UCC

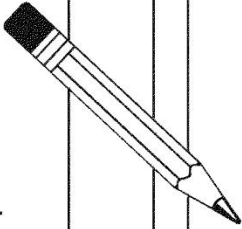
Yoked Parish

717 Jackson Street

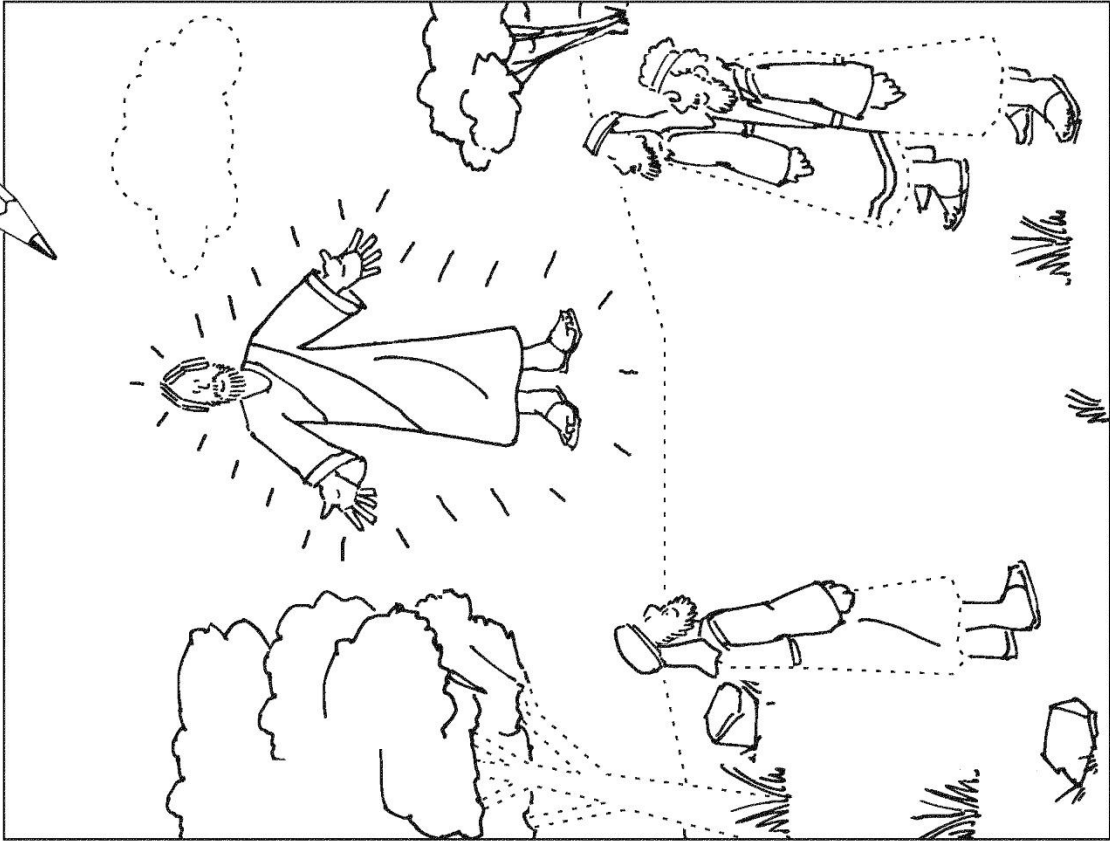
Belle Fourche, SD 57717

ucc.bfso@gmail.com

Jesus was taken up into heaven.



Finish the picture.



*God is still speaking,*  
**UNITED CHURCH  
 OF CHRIST**



# May 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Worship Times</b> St Onge 8:30 am BF UCC 10:00 am			<b>BF Deacons, 6pm</b> <b>BF Bible Study, 7pm</b>	2	PTO Carnival at South Park Elem 5pm	 4
<b>BF Coffee Hour 5</b> <b>(BF) 5th Grade Bible &amp; Senior Recognition</b>	 6	7	<b>BF Bible Study, 7pm</b>	 9	10	11
<b>SO Coffee Hour 12</b> <b>Mother's Day!</b>	13	<b>BF Trustees, 5:30 pm</b>	<b>BF Bible Study, 7pm</b>	16	17	 18
<b>Pentecost Sunday 19</b> Strengthen the Church Offering	20	<b>BF Council Mtg, 5pm</b>	<b>BF Bible Study, 7pm</b>	23	24	25
26	 27	28	<b>BF Bible Study, 7pm</b>	30	31	

# EVENTS

**New Bible Study begins May 1<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 pm**

We are reading, Six Themes in the Bible Everyone Should Know (2019) by Barry A. Ensign-George & Eva Stimson. In six sessions we will review the Bible.

**Pentecost Sunday is May 19th**

We will be celebrating the Spirit as we gather on Pentecost Sunday. On this date we also receive the **Strengthen the Church** special Offering. Help us grow strong churches in South Dakota.

