

April 2016

Our JOYFUL Noise

First Presbyterian Church of Britton's Newsletter

Stuff

From Your Pastors' Desk

We have now been living in Britton for two years and four months. That is the longest either of us have lived in one home in our adult lives. And when you live, as we have, in a dorm room or a small apartment there is little room for stuff. But now with our spacious Manse we are starting to collect stuff—stuff that we often forget we have. So when we open that junk drawer or closet that hasn't seen much daylight, we are filled with nagging guilt. Guilt for having so much stuff. Guilt for not cleaning up regularly. And guilt for not taking care of our stuff. So out of guilt we just quickly as possible shut that drawer or door. We believe, more than we care to think about, that stuff and clutter affects our lives.

Brothers and sisters it is time we give ourselves the Grace to get rid of our stuff so we can make room for the real treasures of life: the treasure of spending time with people we love, the treasure of connecting with God and the treasure of serving others. Our stuff is weighing us down with the guilt that we have so much and the fear that one day there will not be enough. It is time we breathe deeply God's amazing grace and break the chains that weigh us down.

As you open your drawers and closets we encourage you to prayerfully ponder two things. First, as you look at each object, think about how this object has blessed your life, or connected you to other people. *(Continue on page 2)*

Preaching Schedule

April 3, 2016

- Rev. Cheryl Khylllep
- Holy Communion

April 10, 2016

- Rev. Bala Khylllep
- Baptism

April 17, 2016

- Rev. Cheryl Khylllep

April 24, 2016

- Rev. Bala Khylllep



Congregants enjoying the youth group fundraising meal for their trip to the Presbyterian Youth Triennium

Keep in Your Prayers...

- Kathy Nelson (Pauline's daughter in law), and her family, as she is terminally ill.
- Elaine Wismer (Mark Wismer's mother) as she undergoes more treatment for her cancer.

Pastors will share Facts, Stories, and Food from India

On Wednesday April 27th at 6 pm Pastor Bala will share pictures and information about his home in India. Afterward we will share a light (not too spicy) Indian meal. Come with your questions and willingness to try new foods! All are welcome!

We are Hosting Presbytery!

Our Church has the honor and pleasure to host the Presbytery of South Dakota Annual Meeting this July 8th and 9th. The meeting will run from Friday at 1pm to noon on Saturday. Because there is limited availability in our local hotels we are hoping to make the option for visiting delegates and pastors to stay in members' homes. If you have an extra room you could spare, please contact Sharon Tisher at (605) 448-5700 who will be arranging the accommodations.

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Did those old boots keep your feet safe? Does that funny little bobble head remind you of a fun family vacation. Allow yourself to feel those emotions. Now second, thank God for providing these fond memories, and ask God how this object could best be used from this day forward. Is it best used sitting in your closet collecting dust or donating it to help someone else? Is throwing it away filling the dump with harmful chemicals or can we find appropriate and safe ways to recycle it? In this way we are not only redeeming our souls but redeeming stuff to be used by God.

Now you are thinking, "Pastors, who has time for all of that." And we would remind you of all the time and energy managing your stuff has taken away from you: cleaning, sorting or fixing. Friends, lets take the time needed so that we are able to free ourselves from the power stuff has on us and live in the goodness of God's Grace.

In Christ,
Pastor Cheryl & Pastor Bala Khyllep

P.S. If you were wondering if this was a shameless plug for donating to our Presbyterian Women's Rummage sale, you would be correct. Please drop off your "Stuff" for the April 14 -15 sale.



Our choir singing during worship on Easter Sunday



Our Church hosted this year's World Day of Prayer on March 4th. The service focused on praying for Cuba with the theme, "Receive Children, Receive Me." The service included the sharing from the perspective of women of all ages in Cuba. Participants were encouraged to make a personal commitment on the back of a jasmine flower, and the entire congregation committed to, "receiving children as Jesus did, so they may freely dream, laugh, dance, and love."



The Presbyterian Women presented a quilt to Tonya Peterson from Safe Harbor during their March meeting on the 17th.

Presbyterian Women

- In April **Team 5** will arrange Sunday Coffee Hour
- **Hope Circle** will meet on April 6th at 2:00pm in the church and will go over chapter seven of the Sermon on the Mount devotional.
- Set-up for Spring Rummage Sale will begin at 9 am on April 14th (Sale will begin at 1 pm)
- The South Dakota Presbyterian Women's gathering will be in Rapid City this year on April 29th and 30th.



Synod School may not sound like fun (who wants to go to school in the summer?) but it *is* fun and maybe exactly what you and your family need.

It is a time to connect: all are welcome from ages 0-99, and a great experience for families to connect with one another. And an opportunity to meet other faithful Christians in our synod who are like us—from small churches and trying to live faithfully.

It is a time to learn: you can not beat the diversity of classes from basket weaving to learning about the conflict in Syria. If you want something to grow in your faith and knowledge or you just want something to refresh and relax you, it is all there.

It is a time to find joy in Christ: from the lively and interactive worship service to arts and crafts outside, you can not ignore the joy that surrounds Synod school. "School" may sound boring but this truly is a time to find joy and laughter in a community of believers.

To learn more visit:
<http://www.lakesandprairies.org/synodschool>
 or pick up information in the church office.



Pictured Above: Church family enjoying table fellowship at the Youth Group's fundraiser dinner.



Pictured Left: Kylie Carlson as Mary Magdelene in the Youth Group skit at the Easter Sunrise Service.

Pastor's Hours:
Tuesday 9:00 am-noon
Wednesday 1:00 pm-5:00 pm
Thursday 9:00 am-noon

Pastor's Contact:
 Manse: 605/448-2417
 Pastor Cheryl's cell: 330/464-5862
 Pastor Bala's cell: 330/749-2061

Secretary's Contact:
 Office: 605/448-2460
 Tomi Hagen's cell: 605/290-6685

Bulletin announcements due to secretary by noon on Wednesday.

We also welcome you to submit newsletter articles. Please submit any articles to the pastors by the third Wednesday of each month.

RUMMAGE SALE

It's time to clean out your closets! Bring your rummage to the church to help support the Mission of the Presbyterian Women. Sale will begin at 2:00 pm on April 14th and will continue on Friday from 9:00am till 1:00pm. All junk is welcome 😊



Children enjoyed games and puzzles led by Carol Anderson after the Congregational Easter Brunch.



First Presbyterian Church

Britton, South Dakota | (605) 448-2460