

March 2017

Our JOYFUL Noise

First Presbyterian Church of Britton's Newsletter

Drawing Close

From Your Pastors' Desk

There seems to be a lot of hype for Lent, but what does Lent even mean? Lent is the liturgical season of the 40 days before Easter (not including Sundays). Lent comes to us from a practice of the early church. It used to be the practice that most people got baptized on Easter, and Lent, the 40 days before Easter, was a time of preparation for baptism, of both learning and repentance. The early church chose for Lent to last 40 days to reflect the 40 days Jesus spent in the wilderness in preparation for his baptism and ministry. While, we no longer practice this cycle of baptisms, Lent is no less significant.

There are many different ways to practice Lent, but ultimately it is all about drawing closer to our God. It is mostly known for a time of fasting or denying oneself from something. For example, the Catholics abstain from eating meat on Fridays, many give up chocolates or sweets, and if you remember we as a congregation sought to eat simply last year. These practices of fasting or self-denial are to help each person recognize the suffering of Christ. While we may not fully comprehend what Christ went through it draws us a bit closer to God. But, fasting isn't the only way to recognize Lent in your own spiritual walk, many choose a new spiritual practice in this time. You could choose daily intentional prayer, reading a particular part of the Bible, or

working to serve others. The opportunities are endless, yet they are and always should be about ways you can get to know the savior of the world more closely.

Lent is a gift. It is a gift of time set apart. Yes, we should always be seeking to be closer to God, but this is a time when we can really focus on that purpose. If you didn't get a chance to start on Ash Wednesday (March 1st) that's okay, you can start now, because the creator of the universe and our savior desperately desires for you to draw close.

In Christ,
Pastor Cheryl & Pastor Bala Khylllep

Preaching Schedule

March 5, 2017

- Rev. Bala Khylllep
- Luke 10:25-42
- 1st Sunday of Lent
- Holy Communion

March 12, 2017

- Rev. Cheryl Khylllep
- Luke 13:1-9, 31-35
- 2nd Sunday of Lent
- Daylight Saving Time

March 19, 2017

- Rev. Bala Khylllep
- Luke 15:1-32
- 3rd Sunday of Lent

March 26, 2017

- Rev. Cheryl Khylllep
- Luke 16:19-31
- 4th Sunday of Lent

Wednesday Night Lenten Services

During the season of Lent, starting March 8th, our church will host a simple soup and bread meal, along with a short worship service, led by the Youth. A meal will be served at 5:30 pm and worship will follow.

Keep in Your Prayers...

David Tieszen (Wayne Tieszen's son) as he is battling a benign brain tumor. Please pray for David Dinger (DeRea Jones' father) who has had sudden heart problems. Also pray for Jim Luitjens who is having health issues.



Pictured Above: Erika Symens being anointed with ashes at our annual Ash Wednesday Service on March 1st.

Exciting Month for Youth Group

Our Youth Group is up to many exciting things this month. Besides leading the Lenten services, they will be traveling to Alexandria for a Ski Trip March 10th. Furthermore, our Youth Group will once again travel to Pierre for the Presbytery of South Dakota Youth Rally that will be held from March 31st to April 2nd. Both Pastors Bala and Cheryl will be there, since they are the keynote speakers for this year's rally. Please uphold them along with Kylie, Parker, Owen and McKenna in your prayers, that they might be blessed by this experience. We will commission the youth in worship on March 26th.

Fundraiser Pancake Dinner

**Sunday, April 9th
After Worship**

Come enjoy a pancake dinner prepared by our Intergenerational mission trip team. This meal will help our members raise money so that they can travel to Camp Rimrock and paint cabins on July 17th – 21st. Thank you for your support!

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Let Justice Flow

Registration is now open!
And Pastor Bala is
teaching a class!!



Pictured Above: Our Intergenerational mission trip team playing a unique form of charades at last month's meeting.

Presbyterian Women

- **World Day of Prayer** March 3rd at 2:00pm at First Lutheran Church.
- In March **Team 1** will arrange Sunday Coffee Hour
- **Sewing Days:** March 9th, 16th, 23rd and 30th.
- **Hope Circle** met Wednesday March 1st and will meet again April 5th to Study 1 Corinthians chapter 4. Mavis Jones will be serving.
- **Pictured below:** You must check out all the beautiful quilts our quilting group has produced this year. They are extraordinary!



First Presbyterian Church
 Britton, South Dakota | (605) 448-2460

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

Office: 605/448-2460

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.

Women's Retreat In the Black Hills March 17-19th

Our Presbyterian Camps are holding a Spring Women's Retreat at Pioneer Lodge in the Black Hills. This year Pastor Cheryl and Holli Hagen will lead the programming. The theme is "Unplugging and Finding Peace" There will be time for reflection and worship, along with an opportunity to try creative ways of journaling. This is open to all women across the state and we already have around 20 women signed up! Please be a part of this incredible fellowship in a beautiful location.

Faith and Calling Meeting will be on March 14th at 7pm.