

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

The newsletter of 1st Congregational United Church of Christ of Rapid City, South Dakota

April, 2016



1ST CONGREGATIONAL UCC PROUDLY PRESENTS

BOBBY JO VALENTINE

AN INTIMATE, ACOUSTIC CONCERT OF HOPEFUL FOLK/POP

FRIDAY
APRIL 8
7 PM

"5 OUT OF 5 STARS. BOBBY WRITES WITH A SWEETNESS AND HONESTY WE DON'T HEAR IN ACOUSTIC POP MUSIC. MANY SPEAK OF LOVE AND LONGING, BUT SO FEW SPEAK WITH COMPASSION AND WITH SUCH HEART."
-BRIAN LUCEY
(BLACK KEYS, THE SHINS)

ALL AGES
FREE TO ATTEND
FREEWILL OFFERING
WILL BE RECEIVED

SONGWRITER OF THE YEAR
WEST COAST SONGWRITER'S ASSOCIATION

"...THE NICEST GUY TO EVER PICK UP AN ACOUSTIC GUITAR."
LA WEEKLY

"10 OUT OF 10. A WORLD-CLASS SINGER/SONGWRITER."
-INDIE MUSIC DIGEST

1ST Congregational United Church of Christ
1200 Clark Street, Rapid City, SD 57701 www.rcfirstucc.com

Great Music is Coming!

United Church of Christ musician Bobby Jo Valentine will present a special folk concert for our congregation and friends on Friday, April 8 in the fellowship hall. It will be a fun evening to relax with superb music and an opportunity to share the joys of our congregation with your friends. There will be a free will offering and refreshments will be available. More than just another musical event held at our church, this is a concert held FOR our church. Plan now to participate, prepare to enjoy.

Black Hills JAZZ HYMN FESTIVAL

Sunday, April 10, 2016—3 pm
1st Congregational United Church of Christ
1200 Clark Street, Rapid City

An Afternoon of Jazz

Dan Damon is a Jazz pianist and United Methodist Minister who grew up in Rapid City and is returning to combine with some of the area's best musicians, including our own Jami Lynn, for an afternoon Jazz Hymn Festival on April 10. This festival is being sponsored by several different area churches and musical organizations. A free will offering will be received to support the continuing work of the Hope Center. This will be a superb opportunity to hear some great jazz, sing some old and new hymns, and experience the community of area congregations working together.

Featuring:
Dan Damon, piano
Bruce Ashland, percussion
Shawn Parker, sax & flute
Dick Dittman, trumpet
Mike Rathke, bass
Jami Lynn, vocals

A free will offering will support Hope Center.

HOPE
Center
Helping Others through
Prayer & Encouragement



Sponsored by American Guild of Organists, Black Hills; Emmanuel Episcopal Church; First Congregational United Church of Christ; First United Methodist Church; South Park United Church of Christ; and Trinity Lutheran Church.

Pastor's Ponderings

By Ted Huffman

Holy Week is always a powerful time for me. The dramatic liturgies, the opportunities to reflect on the nature of loss and grief, the regular rhythm of prayer, and the time of preparation for Easter is always an opportunity to focus my attention and renew my faith.

Now we have entered the season of Easter. One of my colleagues once remarked that the reason that Lent is six weeks long and Easter is seven weeks long is that resurrection is a more difficult concept than death. It takes us longer to comprehend the season of Easter. I don't know how true that statement is, but I am grateful for a season to consider and experience the power of resurrection in our lives.

This is a season of new possibilities for our congregation. We remain as busy as we were before, but have found new focus for our work in the joy of the good news that death is not the end.

Join the celebration!

Conference Ministers call for prayer

On March 16, the 39 Conference Ministers and the General Minister and President of the United Church of Christ joined their counterparts in the Episcopal Church known as the House of Bishops in signing a statement calling for church members to pray for our country. This unprecedented action—the leaders of our two denominations joining together—was in response to the political climate in our country. The statement was read in all Episcopal congregations on Palm Sunday. In the United Church of Christ we share information in a different manner. Here is the statement that our leaders have signed:

Statement by the House of Bishops of the Episcopal Church co-signed by the Council of Conference Ministers of the United Church of Christ:

On Good Friday the ruling political forces of the day tortured and executed an innocent man. They sacrificed the weak and the blameless to protect their own status and power. On the third day Jesus was raised from the dead, revealing not only their injustice but also unmasking the lie that might makes right.

In a country still living under the shadow of the lynching tree, we are troubled by the violent forces being released by this season's political rhetoric. Americans are turning against their neighbors, particularly those on the margins of society. They seek to secure their own safety and security at the expense of others. There is legitimate reason to fear where this rhetoric and actions arising from it might take us.

In this moment, we resemble God's children wandering in the wilderness. We, like they, are struggling to find our way. They turned from following God and worshiped a golden calf constructed from their own wealth. The current rhetoric is leading us to construct a modern false idol out of power and privilege. We reject the idolatrous notion that we can ensure the safety of some by sacrificing the hopes of others. No matter where we fall on the political spectrum, we must respect the dignity of every human being and we must seek the common good above all else.

We call for prayer for our country that a spirit of reconciliation will prevail and we will not betray our true selves.

Board and Departments

Church Board By Dona Leavens

The UCC Church Board met on March 15, 2016 with Rob Burton leading the meeting. Andy Knight reported that the pledges are down but that is normal for this time of year. Ted Huffman asked the Board to amend the 2016 budget by \$1700 for wages for part-time employees. Cinnamon Hill has requested extended hours from 12:00pm to 2:00pm for the coming school year. The Board agreed to the extended hours. Cinnamon Hill currently gives a donation of \$9,900 per year. The Board decided to increase their annual donation by \$500 plus an additional \$315 for extended hours. Susan Kelts would like to have an AED installed in the Church. The cost would be about \$1300 and training would be provided. Susan will do some research and get back to the Board. Lutheran Social Services will be holding a benefit dinner on May 1 for aged out foster children with mental health issues. Carol Boyles would like to put the information in The Call and on the bulletin board. The next board meeting will be held at 7:00pm on Tuesday, April 19.

Department of Ministries By Jeannette Hill

Remember that starting in April, grocery cards will only be sold on the first and third Sunday each month. That will be April 3 and April 17 this month.

On **April 4**, we will be providing a meal sponsored by the United Campus Ministry to students at the School of Mines. If you could bake two dozen cookies, it would be appreciated. They can be left in the kitchen on **Sunday, April 3**, when you come to church. We serve about 80 hungry students.

On **Wednesday, April 20 at 9:00am**, our department is planning a tour of the Hope Center which is located downtown next to First United Methodist Church on Kansas City Street. We will learn about all they do to help people in need, and we invite anyone who is interested to join us.

We are pleased that a new member of the Church Response Board is our own **Jeff VanCuren**.

Church Response requests that people donate **CANNED CHICKEN** in the month of April, but any food or toiletries are always welcome.

The Evening Circle is supporting Lutheran Social Services in their efforts to help teens leaving foster care as they transition to independent living. Our department will support the Evening Circle in this project.

Our next meeting will be Sunday, April 17 at 8:30am in Room 24.

Moderator's Musings

By Sheila Long

Spring! What a glorious word to this weary soul. I know I sure am ready for springtime this year. More sunshine and warmer days are signs of new life and bring more energy. Doesn't that sound wonderful? There is lots of energy around church this time of year. From rummage sales, to spring cleaning inside and out and kids (and adults) getting excited about summer break. May you enjoy the springtime season this year to its fullest.

News from the Church

Why Do We Do That?

From the Department of Worship

The Department of Worship has had several recent conversations concerning the use of gluten-free bread for communion. There are several guiding principles that are a part of our consideration: Communion should be inclusive of all. No one should have to forego communion because of an allergy or health condition. And the symbolism of all eating from the same piece of bread is part of the sacrament. On the other hand, the meal is symbolic. It has worked, in the past, for us to have a separate cup for gluten-free bread. We've experimented with offering gluten-free to all worshipers, but we haven't yet arrived at a final solution. We'd love your input. Speak with any member of the Department of Worship to express your opinion. There may be a few more changes yet to come.

Department of Building and Grounds

Members of the Department of Building and Grounds have been busy as evidenced by the list of jobs they have completed since the beginning of 2016:

- Oiled motors for the boiler and air exchanger
- Replaced floor tile/molding/threshold in the janitor's closet
- Took 2 motors to Belle Fourche to be repaired
- Accepted bid from Hagen Glass to replace East door
- Accepted bid for rain gutter and replacement (over outside stairwell)
- Glued up hallway molding in several places
- Contacted Service Tech to fix heat controller in basement (completed)
- Fixed (cleaned/oiled) preschool class room door (west hallway)
- Rain gutter installed over outside stairwell
- Cleaned and waxed the altar area floor
- Picked up 2 motors at Belle Fourche that were checked out

This list is representative of the many jobs this department takes on. When you get a chance, please thank department members **Tom Berry, Monty Bollock, Dave Ledford, Brent Long, Harold Miller and Michael Myers** who keep our church running and looking great inside and out all year long!



Congregation Connections

The Congregation Connections Team is a vital ministry of visitation within our congregation. Team members visit, call, and write our congregation's members who are unable to attend worship or who are having health/life issues and who need encouragement. Our CC Team currently has sixteen members who faithfully reach out to others. We also have a Grief Committee who visits and supports congregation members whose spouse has died. We know and deeply appreciate that many others within our congregation do this precious work of reaching out in love. Actually, our entire congregation works together to stay connected—we rely on updates from all church members. If you, or someone you know, needs extra support and/or visits, please let us know in the church office.

On **Sunday, April 24**, following Fellowship, our Congregation Connections Team will meet in Room 24 to check in, to review our lists, and to enjoy a time of fellowship. Everyone is invited to join us on April 24—we always welcome new folks to the CC Team. For more information, contact Kathleen Batchelder.

News from the Church

Bell Choir News

The First Congregational Bell Choir's final two spring performances will be on **April 3** and **May 1**. The April 3 performance will feature *Festive Rondo* by Michael Helman and *Joyful, Joyful* by Beethoven and arranged by Cynthia Dobrinski. The May 1 performance will feature *I'm just a Poor Wayfaring Stranger* arranged by Tammy Waldrop and *They'll Know We Are Christians By Our Love* arranged by Douglas E. Wagner. The Bell Choir has openings for additional ringers. Anyone interested in joining the group may come to a **Wednesday** night rehearsal at **6:00pm** or call Director **Michael Bossen** at (605) 343-5514 for more information.

Bells of the Hills will present its annual spring concert at **2:00pm** on **Sunday, April 24**, at South Canyon Lutheran Church. First Congregational handbell members **Ryan Webster** and **Michael Bossen** are ringers in the Bells of the Hills.

Memoir Writing Group

The Memoir-Writing Group will meet on **Thursday, April 28, at 1:30pm** at the church. We believe there are stories in everyone's life that are important to preserve for the next generations to hear. Come listen as we share our stories over tea and a treat, and think about what stories you might have to write as a legacy for your family.

Music Scholarships

Application forms are available for three \$1500 music scholarships for Rapid City area students or musicians connected to a musical organization in the city. The scholarship funds are named for organist, Zona White. She played organ at First Congregational UCC for 49 years and taught piano and organ students. She also helped organize the Rapid City Concert Association.

Post-high school students interested in pursuing music studies and adults participating in music-related fields may be eligible for the one-year scholarships. Applicants may be considered even if their primary field of study is not music, but provides training they expect to use in community music groups.

Applications are available online at www.rcfirstucc.org or at the church office. Applications must be received in the church office by **May 31, 2016** and may be e-mailed to uccoffice@rushmore.com or mailed to:

First Congregational Church, 1200 Clark Street, Rapid City SD 57701.

Awards will be finalized by June 15, 2016. For information, call **Lynnell Parrott** at 605-719-9728 or the church office at 605-342-5787.

Church Chat

The Church Chat group will conclude its discussion of Kent Nerburn's book, *The Girl Who Sang to the Buffalo*, on **Tuesday, April 5**. On **Tuesdays, April 19 and May 3**, we will view the video, *Being Mortal*. In our conversation, we will examine death and dying with surgeon and best-selling author Atul Gawande. Everyone is invited. We meet from **noon to 1:00pm in the Fireside Room** on the first and third Tuesdays of the month. For more information, contact **Kathleen Batchelder**.

4th Tuesday Ladies Lunch

For good conversation, food and fun, join the 4th Tuesday Ladies Lunch group at **Minerva's** on **April 26 at 11:30am**.



Education News

Library News

Our Library has acquired Ward Cheney's *A World War II Submarine Sailor's Experience* by Leslie Mullins, daughter of Ward and Dona Cheney. Personal memoirs document "history in the making." We are asking for your help in acquiring more stories of our members or former members who have written their reminiscences in book form or DVD. Please let Sharon Darrow, Ruth Ann Karlen or Eleanore Moe know so we can share these treasures with other members of our congregation. Another treasure acquired recently is *The Secret Adventures of Anonymouse* by Natalie Lynn Rekstad and Sophie Noelle Lynn. Sophie is the granddaughter of Kelton and Hope Lynn (who were long time members of our congregation) and the niece of Sybil Rounds and Sue Maynard. Sophie and her mother, Natalie, created this book to encourage children to do anonymous deeds of kindness. The book is available for check out in the NEW BOOKS section.

Family First on April 6

Come to the Family First night on **Wednesday, April 6 at 5:30 pm**. The first Wednesday family night activities now begin at 5:30 pm to better serve families with young children. The event runs from 5:30-7:00 pm and includes dinner and activities. This is a chance for parents and children to explore stories of faith together and for families in the church to connect with other families.

April's theme is "50 Days of Easter," with stories and activities focused around new life and spring. The evening will include an opening activity, games (outdoors, weather permitting), a story with a message and a brief time of worship. The activities are designed for ages 3-11, but all ages are welcome. The final Family First night for the 2015-2016 year will be held on **Wednesday, May 4 at 5:30 pm**. Mark your calendars and plan to attend the *Family First* nights at First Congregational Church. Friends are welcome, too!

Kerygma Study

The Kerygma study of *Job and the Life of Faith* will resume on Wednesday, April 6, following an unscheduled break which occurred because of the weather. On April 6, we will finish up with the worksheet 2C and then continue with lesson 3. Please come prepared to discuss the third chapter. The remainder of the schedule for this study is:

April 6: Lesson 3, "The Impatience of Job"

April 13: Lesson 4, "When Familiar Answers Fail"

April 20: no class, Good Morning Circle meeting

April 27: Lesson 5, "Closing Arguments"

May 4: Lesson 6, "The Voice from the Whirlwind"

May 11: Lesson 7, "Life Within Limits"

If you would like to join the engaging discussions on Job and the nature of suffering, please speak to Susan Huffman. There is room for you to join in these discussions as we consider Job's response to his suffering and our own responses when bad things happen.

Rapid City Cleanup

It's cleanup time! On **Wednesday, April 20**, United Church Youth will participate in Rapid City cleanup. Our territory begins at Dinosaur Park and runs along Skyline Drive. Last year, we picked up a substantial amount of trash and had fun in the process!

Youth, their parents and family members, young adults, and other willing volunteers are encouraged to help with this effort to beautify our neighborhood and town. It's part of being good citizens and it's part of being good stewards of our



earth. We'll gather at the church at 6:00 for a quick supper before heading up to the Dinosaur Hill parking lot. Everyone is welcome to share in this service project, but because of the traffic along Skyline Drive, it isn't really appropriate for younger children. For more information about Rapid City Cleanup, talk to Susan Huffman or Nick Strampe.

Bowl for Kids' Sake

Calling all youth from grades 5-12! United Church Youth is trying to raise teams to bowl in this year's Bowl for Kids' Sake fundraiser. It's a simple fundraiser. Come to church. Get a pledge form and ask people to sponsor you in the Bowl for Kids' Sake fundraiser. Get \$75 in pledges. Then come, bowl and have fun! The date this year is **Friday, May 6 at 6:00 pm** at Meadowood Lanes. We need at least five bowlers in order to create a team. 5th graders are included in this activity because they'll be participating in any party or prizes we win.

United Church Youth has participated in Big Brothers/Big Sisters fundraiser, Bowl for Kids' Sake, since 2002. The funds raised help Big Brothers/Big Sisters match kids who need a little extra adult attention in their lives with caring adults. Perhaps a young boy from a single parent family needs a male role-model in his life. Or maybe the need is for homework help though the school mentoring program or support and encouragement for a new mother. These are areas where Big Brothers/Big Sisters can help.

Talk to Susan Huffman, Emily Eckholm or Nick Strampe for more information.

Placerville Camps

Summer will be here before we know it, so look at your calendar now and register for summer camp! There are opportunities for all ages to learn and grow in faith. **Women's Camp** and **Shining Stars** (for kids who completed grades 2 or 3) runs **June 6-10**.

These camps provide an opportunity for moms and kids to experience camp. Childcare is provided for kids up through first grade. Or how about **Grand Camp**? It's a great time for grandparents and grandchildren to share stories of faith and bond through experiences in the beautiful outdoors. Camps are also available for youth from grades 4-12 and for family groups. **First Congregational Church pays half of ALL registration costs for Placerville.** For more information, go to: www.placervillecamp.net or talk to Becky Fleming or Susan Huffman.

News from the Church

Favorite Part of Church

by **Becky Fleming**

Favorite Part of Church, you ask? Of course, it is the spirituality... well, the sermons are great...our music is outstanding... I love visiting in the Fellowship Hall... OK, OK ...it really is the **coffee and cookies!** The coffee and cookies draw me to church each week! First Congregational United Church of Christ needs your help! We need people who are able to arrive before church and prepare the **coffee and cookies**, keep an eye on the trays and drinks during the fellowship time, and we need people willing to do the dishes.

If you have never done this, there are many people willing to help, and the instructions in the kitchen are great! If you have any questions, ask anyone in the kitchen on Sunday and they will be happy to show you the ropes.

Help continue our tradition of fellowship by signing up today!

Women's Spring Luncheon

Everyone is invited to enjoy a delicious lunch while helping others at the "Spring into Spring Cleaning Spring Luncheon" on **Saturday, May 7, 2016** at **11:30am**. As always, guests are welcome.

When signing up for the luncheon, you will receive a list of items needed by Lutheran Social Services' New Alternatives program which assists young people who are aging out of foster care and need many supplies in order to live independently.

Watch for these items when doing your spring cleaning and bring any you would like to donate to the luncheon.

Tickets will be available for sale in the Fellowship Hall following worship on **April 10, 17, 24 and May 1**. Cost is **\$10.00**. You may also contact **Laura Switzer** at **399-9925**, **Kathy Oulman Johnson** at **209-3595** or the church office.



Kitchen Cleaning

Women's Fellowship invites everyone to come help clean the kitchen on **Monday, April 4th** at **9:30am**.



South Dakota Conference Annual Meeting

All delegates, authorized ministers and visitors are invited to the Annual Meeting of the South Dakota Conference, UCC. The meeting will be held **June 3 through 5** at First Congregational Church in Belle Fourche.

The theme of this year's conference is "**Visionary Leadership.**"

The meeting will feature keynote speaker, **Rev. DaVita McCallister**, Associate Conference Minister of the Connecticut Conference.

South Dakota Conference Minister, **Rev. Gordon Rankin**, will be addressing new visions for our conference as well as preaching during the Sunday morning worship. Moderator **Toni Buffalo** will guide the business sessions, including acting on the Tri-Conference (Nebraska, Iowa, and South Dakota) "One Staff" proposal. More information and registration forms (**due May 1**) are available on the South Dakota Conference website: **sodakucc.org**.

Member News and Notes

Prayer Concerns

Our sympathy goes out to **Julie and Rob Burton**, following the death of Julie's father, **Charles G. Paulsen**, on March 8; **Sheila and Brent Long**, following the death of Sheila's mother, **Debbie Torrey**, on March 13; **Barney Nichols** following the death of his father, **Elwyn Nichols** on March 25 and **Tom Berry** and family following the death of his sister-in-law.

Please hold **Lisa and Joe Trana** and family in your prayers as Joe's father, **Dan Trana**, receives hospice care.

Our prayers are with the following church members who have been recently hospitalized: **Ed Boyd**; **Carol Donnenwirth**; **Al Dymock**; **Bob Franson**; **Ida Muree St. Pierre**; **Elena Van Pelt** and **Maralee Dennis** and **Kay Hoffman** who now are at Westhills Health Care.

Other church members are in our prayers including: **Mavis Iverson** at Clarkson Health Care; **John Arneson** at Echo Ridge; and **Ida Muree St. Pierre** and **Shirley Triggs** at Westhills South.

Our prayers are with the following members, families and friends: **Marvin Bitterman**; **Laura and Ed Boyd's** granddaughter-in-law, **Leydy Boyd**; **Laura Boyd's** brother, **John Winder**; **Carol Boyles'** brother, **Rex Hammon**; **Jill Kundtz's** sister-in-law, **Mindy**; **Ted McBride**; **Patsy Parkin-Valandra's** daughter-in-law,

Angie Parkin; **Jane Seaton's** daughter, **Gail Johnson**; **Rev. Don Stoebner** and his wife and caregiver, **Rosie**; **Deb Tompkins'** nephew; brothers, **Bob Hills** and **Joe Hills**; and friend, **Barb Reynolds**; and **Mae Louise Zeise**.

In Military Service:

Ed and Ginny Ensz's grandson, **Kyle Kloeckl**; **Melanie Moore**, **Johnathan Nickel** and all serving our country.

Thank you

Thank you to all the people who helped make Ed's 100th birthday a memorable day and week. What a wonderful congregation we have!

Ed and Laura Boyd

Thank you to everyone for their prayers, concerns and flowers following the passing of my father.

Julie Burton

Congratulations

Jason Dannenbring received the First Responder Heroes award from the American Red Cross. Jason and four other Water Rescue Team members were recognized for saving a family from fast-moving flood waters near Oglala, SD in May, 2015.

Congratulations to **Sharon and Kevin Sandmeier** who welcomed their granddaughter, **Jordynn**, to the world on March 22. Proud family members include parents, Jenny and Josh Schweppe and big brother, Jaymeson.

Happy Birthday

The following members and friends have **April** birthdays:

April 1: Andy Knight

April 3: Brendan Lyons

April 4: George Bentz
Laura Smith

April 6: Corrin Burke,
Joshua Krauter
Jakob Nickel

April 7: Heather Heinert

April 8: Tish Wilkinson

April 9: Peggy Nielsen

April 12: Lynn Grauman
Sarah Knight
Nick Strampe

April 14: Pat Sutliff
Lisa Trana

April 15: Roberta Gallentine
Salim Golden
Marjorie Sagen

April 18: Elizabeth Nash

April 19: Jeanne Berry
Jack Humke
Olivia Perli

April 20: Cyrus Cox
Courtney Strampe

April 21: Robin Franson
Dick Green
Brad Heinert

April 22: Marvin McMacken

April 26: Tracy Downs
Bertie Roberts

April 28: Aerika Snoozy

April 29: Kent Osmera

Mission and Outreach

Circle Supports New Alternatives

The Good Evening Circle has been providing items to Lutheran Social Services' New Alternatives program which assists young people who are aging out of foster care and need many supplies in order to begin to live independently.

Members of our congregation can support this program by participating in the Women's Fellowship Spring Luncheon.

A benefit dinner will raise funds for this and other programs on May 1.

For more information, see the flyer on the bulletin board or contact Carol Boyles.

Los Guido News

Programs are going well at our sister church in los Guido, Costa Rica. The Club de Niños (children's club) is meeting weekly and enjoying birthday celebrations, crafts, and walks. The club has welcomed a new boy, named Manfred, who has brought new game ideas to the group.

On Easter Sunday the congregation planned to meet at an outdoor location, possibly a river, and planned to have some baptisms that day as well.

Sarvia Huamani, Pastor Dorotea's daughter, sends her blessings and thanks the congregation for our continued support of the church's programs.

Woodchuck Society News

Woodchucks are continuing work at the wood pile on **Tuesdays and Saturdays in April**. Work starts at **9:00am** and continues until **noon**, with a snack break about half way through. We have made a good start on split wood for deliveries next fall, but need a lot more to meet the need.

Please consider joining the group on a work day. We suggest long sleeves and work gloves, a cheerful attitude, and a desire to be part of a great team.

Our rule is: we do what we can, when we can, for as long as we can; if you can offer an hour or two we appreciate it! See you at the wood pile.

March Rummage Sale

Thank you to everyone who helped during the weeklong rummage sale in March. From set up on Sunday to tear down the next Saturday, help was abundant and cheerful. There were many workers who came every day. Some stayed all day, some for a few hours. The work is not nearly as hard when you work with such great people.

The profit from the sale was **\$7,079.55**, which makes it the biggest March sale and the second biggest of all sales. Other organizations that benefitted from sale items included the Hot Springs VA, the Humane Society, Keystone School (they received some old books), Readiatrics and Cornerstone Mission.

Please mark your calendars for the next sale, which will start with setup after church on **August 14**, with the sale taking place on **August 19 and 20**.

We look forward to working with you again!

Save the Date—Saturday, June 4

Volunteers and participants are needed for the 4 Directions-5K Run/Walk and Community Unity Celebration from **8:00am-2:00pm** at the Memorial Park Bandshell. See the bulletin board or contact Jill Kundtz for more information.

April Calendar

Fri Apr 1, 2016

1pm Stained Glass Project
1pm BH Watercolor Group

Sat Apr 2, 2016

9am Woodchucks Wood Splitting

Sun Apr 3, 2016

8am Bell Choir Practice
8:45am Adult Choir Practice
9:30am Worship For All Ages
10:30am Fellowship
3:00pm BHCMS Concert—
Michelle Cann
4pm The Well

Mon Apr 4, 2016

6pm Evening Rotary Group

Tue Apr 5, 2016

9am Woodchucks Wood Splitting
10:30am Staff Meeting
12pm Church Chat
1pm Craft Day
1:15pm Spiritual Practices

Wed Apr 6, 2016

9:30am Kerygma
11:30am WF Board Meeting
5:30pm Family First Night
6pm Bell Choir Practice
6pm Department of Hospitality
7pm Adult Choir Practice

Fri Apr 8, 2016

1pm Stained Glass Project
1pm BH Watercolor Group
7pm Bobby Jo Valentine Concert

Sat Apr 9, 2016

9am Woodchucks Wood Splitting

Sun Apr 10, 2016

8:30am Adult Choir Practice
9:30am Worship and Sunday
School
10:30am Fellowship
10:45am Dept. of Education
3pm Jazz Hymn Festival
4pm The Well

Mon Apr 11, 2016

1:30pm Westhills Bible and Book
Study
6pm Evening Rotary Group

Tue Apr 12, 2016

8:15am BH Retired School
Personnel
9am Woodchucks Wood Splitting
10:30am Staff Meeting
1pm Craft Day
1:15pm Spiritual Practices
4pm Department of Worship

Wed Apr 13, 2016

9:30am Kerygma
6pm Bell Choir Practice
6pm Stewardship and Budget
6:30pm United Church Youth

7pm Adult Choir Practice

Thu Apr 14, 2016

9am Cinnamon Hill Open House
10am Altar Guild Meeting

Fri Apr 15, 2016

9am Cinnamon Hill Open House
1pm Stained Glass Project
1pm BH Watercolor Group
2pm Young Vocalists Artist
Competition Rehearsal

Sat Apr 16, 2016

8am Young Vocalists Artist
Competition
9am Woodchucks Wood Splitting

Sun Apr 17, 2016

8:30am Adult Choir Practice
8:30am Department of Ministries
9:30am Worship and Sunday
School
10:30am Fellowship and
Altar Guild Scrap Book
3:30pm Jail Ministry
4pm The Well

Tue Apr 19, 2016

9am Woodchucks Wood Splitting
10:30am Staff Meeting
12pm Church Chat
1pm Craft Day
1:15pm Spiritual Practices
4:15pm 1st Congregational Trust
7pm Church Board Meeting

Wed Apr 20, 2016

9:30am Good Morning Circle
6pm Bell Choir Practice
6pm United Church Youth-
Rapid City Cleanup
6:30pm Good Evening Circle
7pm Adult Choir Practice

Fri Apr 22, 2016

1pm Stained Glass Project
1pm BH Watercolor Group

Sat Apr 23, 2016

9am Woodchucks Wood Splitting
10am Survivors of Suicide Support
Group

Sun Apr 24, 2016

8:30am Adult Choir Practice
9:30am Worship and Sunday
School
10:30am Fellowship/Administrative
Colleague/Julie Burton
Recognition
11:00am Congregation
Connections Meeting
3pm BHCMS Concert--
Axiom Brass Quintet
3:30pm Jail Ministry
4pm The Well

Mon Apr 25, 2016

1:30pm Westhills Bible and Book
Study

Tue Apr 26, 2016

9am Woodchucks Wood Splitting
10am PEO meeting
10:30am Staff Meeting
11:30am 4th Tuesday Ladies
Lunch
1pm Craft Day
1:15pm Spiritual Practices

Wed Apr 27, 2016

9:30am Kerygma
6pm Bell Choir Practice
6:30pm United Church Youth
7pm Adult Choir Practice

Thu Apr 28, 2016

1:30pm Memoir Writing Group

Fri Apr 29, 2016

1pm Stained Glass Project
1pm BH Watercolor Group
TBA Vrooman Wedding Rehearsal

Sat Apr 30, 2016

9am Woodchucks Wood Splitting
12pm Vrooman Wedding

Sun May 1, 2016

8am Choir Practice
8:30am Adult Choir Practice
9:30am Worship For All Ages
10:30am Fellowship
4pm The Well

Mon May 2, 2016

6pm Evening Rotary Group

Tue May 3, 2016

9am Woodchucks Wood Splitting
10:30am Staff Meeting
12pm Church Chat
1pm Craft Day
1:15pm Spiritual Practices

Wed May 4, 2016

11:30am WF Board Meeting
5:30pm Family First Night
6pm Department of Hospitality
7pm Adult Choir Practice

Fri May 6, 2016

1pm Stained Glass Project
1pm BH Watercolor Group
6pm Bowl for Kids' Sake

Sat May 7, 2016

9am Woodchucks Wood Splitting
11:30am Women's Spring
Luncheon



1st Congregational
United Church of Christ
1200 Clark Street

Contact Us

We'd love to talk to you
and share additional news
of our congregation.

You can contact us with
questions or comments at:

1st Congregational
United Church of Christ
1200 Clark Street
Rapid City, SD 57702

(605) 342-5787

uccoffice@rushmore.com

www.rcfirstucc.com

April 24 event will honor our Administrative Colleagues

Our church is blessed with very capable and dedicated people in the church office. Whether you refer to them as “church secretaries,” “administrative professionals” or “administrative colleagues,” as we do in our bulletins, they are the unsung heroes of our church—the ones who help pastors and parishioners, deal with bills and bulletins, and generally keep our congregation running. And truthfully, we don’t very often take time to say “THANKS” to these patient employees for all they do. This year, on Sunday, April 24, we’ll have a special coffee hour honoring our Administrative Colleagues: Julie Burton, Laura Switzer and Pam VanCuren. It will offer an opportunity to say “thank you” to Julie who is “retiring,” or maybe “semi-retiring” since she will still be helping out on occasion. Julie has worked in the church office since the summer of 2011 and we appreciate all her service! We’ll also welcome Pam VanCuren, the newest team of the team, and thank Laura Switzer. All three are dedicated to making our church work. Come say, “THANK YOU!”