

February

2023

Yucca
Breeze

THE UNITED CHURCHES, HOT SPRINGS, SOUTH DAKOTA

Pastor's Pulpit:

They say sometimes you win some
Sometimes you lose some
And right now, right now I'm losing bad
I've stood on this stage night after night
Reminding the broken it'll be alright
But right now, oh right now I just can't

It's easy to sing
When there's nothing to bring me down
But what will I say
When I'm held to the flame
Like I am right now

*I know You're able and I know You can
Save through the fire with Your mighty hand
But even if You don't
My hope is You alone*

They say it only takes a little faith
To move a mountain
Well good thing
A little faith is all I have, right now
But God, when You choose
To leave mountains unmovable
Oh give me the strength to be able to sing
It is well with my soul

*I know You're able and I know You can
Save through the fire with Your mighty hand
But even if You don't
My hope is You alone*

*I know the sorrow, and I know the hurt
Would all go away if You'd just say the word
But even if You don't
My hope is You alone*

EVEN

IF

Song by
MercyMe

You've been faithful, You've been good
All of my days
Jesus, I will cling to You
Come what may
'Cause I know You're able
I know You can

*I know You're able and I know You can
Save through the fire with Your mighty hand
But even if You don't
My hope is You alone
I know the sorrow, I know the hurt
Would all go away if You'd just say the word
But even if You don't
My hope is You alone
It is well with my soul
It is well, it is well with my soul*

EVEN
IF
Song by
MercyMe

This particular song has a special meaning to me. When I was about to go into my prostate surgery, one of the last things I said to Bernice as I lay on the gurney getting ready to go into the operating room was: Even if ... even if things did not go well or I did not make it out of surgery, He is the one who has been so good to us throughout our lives ... and if it was my time ... well, even if.

As we come into the month of February when love is in the air and us old codgers try to do something new to let our spouses or kids know just how much they mean to us, why not do the one thing that takes so little effort but means so very, very much: tell them. Tell them how much you appreciate the privilege of having them in your life. Tell them that they are the ones who have made your life worth living. Tell them that without them you'd simply be lost. And even if ... even if this is my year to go home to be with the Lord, that I love you so very much. It might be in a letter — which has a lasting significance, or it might be a voicemail. Or it might be on Valentine's Day, February 14th, along with your flowers and or candy and or whatever, a few words....you might start by saying “even if....”

Blessings, *Pastor David*

Note: Web Link to song on YouTube with testimony by Mercy Me's Brad Millard:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WHosmHnOrb8>

It May Be Cold ... But Summer is Coming!

Summer/Bible Camp information is beginning to arrive in the church office. Below are this summer's dates for Baptist Camp Judson:

Project Camp: May 21-25

June High School Camp: June 18-23

July High School Camp: July 9-15

Junior Camp: July 16-21

Trail Camp: July 16-22

Junior High Camp: July 23-29

College/Young Adult Camp: May 21-25

Family Camp #1: July 2-8

Adult Bible Conference: July 2-8

Family Camp #2: July 30-August 5

Maris Smith will be picking up the different camp materials as they arrive at the church.

Watch for more information as it comes into the office.

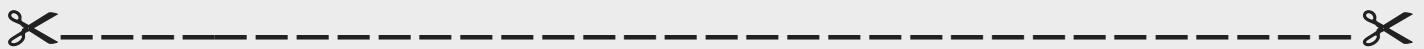
MAY WE HAVE YOUR ATTENTION!!

PRIMARY DISTRIBUTION OF YUCCA BREEZE MOVING TO EMAIL IN MARCH

As a cost-saving measure, this is the final issue of the *Yucca Breeze* newsletter that will be distributed by postal mail.

So, please read and consider the following:

- Prior to **February 21**, please contact the church office to provide or confirm your current email address. (*Please see contact information provided on the form below for our phone number and email address.*)
- **OR**, you may fill out and detach the form below and either: mail it to the church office; drop it in the offering plate on Sunday; or place it in Bernice's mail box outside the church office.
- Beginning with the **MARCH issue** — we will be emailing monthly newsletters to the email address we have on file. The emailed version of the *Yucca Breeze* will be sent as a PDF file and can be viewed or printed in color.
- **If you do not have an email address**, you will be able to pick up your copy at the church. The newsletter is typically available during the week prior to the first of each month. **Newsletters will be located on the two tables on each side of the main door as you enter the Sanctuary.**
- **If you do not have an email and are not able to pick up your copy at the church**, please confirm your mailing address below, and a copy will be postal mailed to you. This also applies to our "special friends" who receive our newsletter each month.
- You may access our current and past newsletters, as well as church calendars, on our website: <https://www.unitedchurcheshotsprings.org/>.
- If you have a QR code app on your phone, simply scan the code to the right and it will take you to the main page of our website. The newsletter and church calendar links are located at the bottom of the opening page.



YUCCA BREEZE CONTACT INFORMATION

Email Will pick up at church Postal Mail (if applicable)

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____

Email: _____

Mailing Address (If Applicable): _____

MAIL TO: The United Churches, 342 N. Garden Street, Hot Springs, SD 57747

CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE: 605-745-5640

EMAIL TO: ucassist@gwtc.net



FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

22 Claude & Karen Bent

5 Carla Richmond
14 Karen Bent
26 Lynn Mason
26 Jon Schuchardt
27 Sheryl Brost

*If your name is not included on the Birthdays and Anniversaries list and you would like it to be added, please contact the church office
by email: uc@gwtc.net or call 745-5640.*

THIS AND THAT

FOOD PANTRY CLIENT PROFILE:

Number of Active Clients (Visited the pantry in 2022)=414; Single=195; Family=219; Veterans (included in single family count)=72; New Sign-Ups (since Jan 1, 2022)=136 (18 additions in Dec.); Average Days Open Each Month=16.

UNITED WOMEN:

The United Women will meet on **Tuesday, February 21st** at 1:30 pm in the Fireside Room. We are continuing our study in the book of Psalms.

CHILDREN'S COAT RACK!!

A children's coat rack been installed in the Children's Nursery outside the church office.

BASIC NEEDS BOUTIQUE NEWS

The **Basic Needs Boutique Team** has been very active this past Fall and Winter assisting our guests with personal care items and household goods. We are currently in need of gently used bath towels, blankets and bed linens. We will gladly accept donations of these items if you have any extras! Donations can be left in the mint green tote located in the Bethany Room of the church. We could not carry forth this ministry in our community without the tremendous support of our church family and community members. A **HUGE** thank you for your generous donations of household items, personal care items and monetary donations! ***The Basic Needs Team***

A NOTE FROM DR. WILLIAM IN HAITI

Medical Clinic Annie Zwetzig is greeting you in the Name of Jesus Christ our Brother and Redeemer. We want to take this special opportunity to thank all of the integrated members of The United Churches for your support during this difficult time we are facing in Haiti.

Thank you for the funds I have received from The United Churches used for: \$2,000 (US) for medicine; \$2,500 (US) for salary for January, February and March; \$2,500 (US) for food we gave away to 120 families.

We are so grateful for your help, and thank you immensely.

With love, Dr. William Hyppolite

FEBRUARY MISSION EMPHASIS OYATE HOPE ACADEMY

O.H.A. NEWS

WHAT'S NEW?

"Greetings from cold and snowy South Dakota! We enter this new calendar year with great excitement and anticipation. As many of you know, we have been spending the past year or more praying, researching, and exploring to determine the direction God would have us move as a school. It was decided that our school, Oyate Concern Christian School, should separate organizationally from Oyate Concern Ministries to become or own nonprofit entity.

Oyate Hope Academy (O.H.A.) is our new name. While we have a name, until the IRS grants us a tax-exempt status, all donations to the school still need to go through Oyate Concern.

As a newly formed nonprofit organization, we are in the process of developing a board of directors to provide us with structure, accountability, and guidance. The number of decisions that need to be made in the next several months seems overwhelming at times, but we know that God is in control and we will continue to trust Him in His timing. Please keep us in your prayers as always."

PRAYER REQUESTS

- Pray for wisdom and spiritual protection for our new Board of Directors; Pray for Divine favor as we interact with the IRS; Pray for new financial partners in our work; Pray for perseverance for our teachers and students when the work gets difficult.*

Mission Emphasis will be Sunday, February 12th. Our February LOOSE CHANGE OFFERING will be gathered on that day. If making a donation to this mission, please write *OYATE CONCERN* on the line below "Mission Offering."

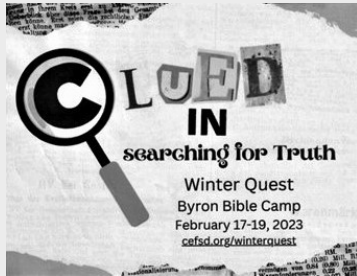
NO OTHER GOSPEL: A NEW TEACHING SERIES FROM DEREK THOMAS BEGINNING SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14TH AT 8:30 AM WITH PASTOR DAVID — IN THE FIRESIDE ROOM

If you get the gospel wrong, you get everything wrong. In first-century Galatia, false teachers infiltrated the church, claiming that faith in Jesus Christ is not enough to be justified in God's sight. Responding to this distortion of the gospel, the Apostle Paul wrote a passionate letter defending the doctrine of justification by faith alone, for he knew what was truly at stake. In this **new video teaching series, Dr. Derek Thomas** walks us through the background, teaching, and importance of Paul's letter to the Galatians. While false gospels drive people to despair, the true gospel frees us to rest in Christ alone for our Salvation.

Study topics are: 1) The Only Gospel; 2) The Apostle's Defense; 3) Threats to the Gospel; 4) Paul Opposes Peter; 5) The Heart of Galatians; 6) Law and Promise; 7) Sons and Heirs; 8) The Cost of Legalism; 9) Set Free in Christ; 10) Standing in Freedom; 11) Walking by the Spirit; 12) Gracious Restoration; 13) Stewards of Grace; 14) Boasting in the Cross.

CHILD EVANGELISM FELLOWSHIP OF SD

A fun weekend of games,
hearing great messages and meeting new people.
Connect with a community of teens
who are on fire to share the story of Jesus!



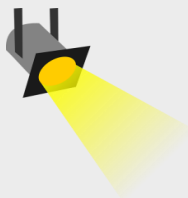
Who: Students 6th grade and up

Where: Byron Bible Camp, Huron, SD

When: February 17-19, 2023

For more information contact Maris Smith.

Registration forms are available on the table in the Bethany Room.



THE UNITED CHURCHES SPOTLIGHT

This year are again spotlighting each of our three denominations:

BAPTIST ... METHODIST ... PRESBYTERIAN

Who we are ... What we believe ... What we do ... How to join.

If you are not already a member of our church, we would like you to become one, but we want you to make an informed decision. In the upcoming weeks, we will continue spotlighting our three denominations. Information on each denomination will be available as handouts in the Sunday bulletins. There are also information booklets on the table in the Bethany Room.

Please explore who each are, what each believe, what each does, and how to join. When you have decided which denomination the Lord may want you to join, and in light of which one best fits you, let the Pastor know. **After the Worship Service on Palm Sunday, April 2nd at 11:15 am, there will be a new member's class in the Fireside Room** where you can come and ask any questions you may have about the differences in each of the denominations, or anything else that may need some final clarification. On **Easter Sunday,**

The United Churches Mid-Winter Banquet & Entertainment

Saturday Evening — March 11th — 6:00 pm

Menu: Prime Rib * Baby Roasted Red Potatoes *

Seasoned Green Beans * with Cobblers for Dessert

Cost: \$25 per person

Entertainment by SOUL

Limited Seating! * Deadline for Reservations: Friday, March 3rd.

To reserve your place:

Call church office: 605.745.5640 or Email: ucassist@gwtc.net

The United Churches
342 N. Garden St.
Hot Springs, SD 57747
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UNITED CHURCHES



HOT SPRINGS, SD