



Yucca Breeze

THE UNITED CHURCHES OF HOT SPRINGS, SD

PASTOR'S PULPIT :

1. August was once the 6th month

In the Roman calendar, August was known as "Sextilis", the Latin word for 6. It wasn't until 700 BC when January and February were added to the calendar, that August was bumped down to become the 8th month of the year.

2. How many days are in August?

Come on, August! Make a choice! The number of days in August has changed many times. First it was 30 days ... then 31. When January and February came onto the scene, August got reduced to 29 days. Then, Julius Caesar changed it back to 31. Thankfully it has remained that way ever since.

3. August has an identity crisis.

It was in 8 BC when Sextilis was dropped and Augustus became the official name. The month was named in honor of Augustus Caesar, the Roman emperor and adopted son of Julius Caesar. Eventually, Augustus was shortened to simply, August.

4. The underrated birthstone of August

Peridot is a stunning green gem that is forged in lava. While it may not be the most well-known of the birthstones, its stunning range of color from electric grass to subtle olive, will make anyone green with envy.

5. August is the month of...

Sandwiches! This makes sense because the sandwich was invented in August of 1762 when the Earl of Sandwich (John Montagu, 4th Earl of Sandwich) requested two pieces of bread with meat inside. But shouldn't the cook who made the sandwich get the credit? Either way, most folk enjoy a good sandwich.

6. The birth flowers of August

August is represented by two unique and spectacular flowers. The first is the gladiolus. A bright and vivacious flower that is also known as the sword lily as it grows in long stalks. The second is the poppy, which we know to represent remembrance, but also creativity and imagination.

7. A boy or girl named August

August is a popular first name in some countries. In Sweden, August is often among the top 50 boys' names each year. In the US, August is the 155th most popular boy's name. But girls can be named August too! It is the 856th most popular girls name in the US.

7
FUN FACTS
ABOUT
AUGUST

**7
Facts or
Promises given
by Jesus to those
who follow Him.**

1. Life

“Then Jesus said to his disciples, ‘Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it’” (Matthew 16:24-25, New International Version). It seems like an incredible contradiction, but we will only find life when we quit pursuing it. When we stop chasing the things we believe will bring us life and instead, pursue the creator of life, we discover life as it was designed to be (John 10:10).

2. Acceptance

“All those the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never drive away” (John 6:37, NIV). Charles Spurgeon once called this one of his favorite verses. In this passage, we discover Christ’s assurance that he will not send those who come to him away. We see this acceptance peppered throughout his interactions in the Gospels. If we come to him, we will find him waiting with open arms. Christ’s invitation extends to everyone, and he accepts all those who follow him.

3. Reward

“Truly I tell you,” Jesus replied, “no one who has left home or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields for me and the gospel will fail to receive a hundred times as much in this present age: homes, brothers, sisters, mothers, children and fields-along with persecutions-and in the age to come eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last first” (Mark 10:29-31, NIV). Following Jesus requires sacrifice. There are times when the immediate benefit of going our own way may appear to outweigh the potential gains of obedience. Jesus wants us to know that our sacrifices aren’t in vain and there’s nothing we can surrender that exceeds what’s attained in following Him.

4. Revelation

“Whoever has my commands and keeps them is the one who loves me. The one who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love them and show myself to them” (John 14:21, NIV). When you get down to it, there’s an element of God’s truth that one can only understand from the inside. All the arguments and proofs for God’s existence pale in comparison to actually experiencing a relationship with God through Christ. Jesus promises us that, when we obey him, he will manifest himself to us.

5. Friendship with God

“You are my friends if you do what I command. I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master’s business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you” (John 15:14-15, NIV). Jesus came to reconcile God to mankind. The surprise there isn’t just that a bridge would be built between God and humanity; it’s that we would enter this relationship as friends. Yet, this is exactly what Jesus promises us. The Bible has a lot to say about friendship, and this is one of them.

6. Joy

“As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commands and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete” (John 15:9-11, NIV). We’re instructed to continually exist in God’s love, and he tells us that we can do that by keeping his commands. Our obedience keeps the relationship alive and active, allowing us to remain in his love.

Why does he want to securely stay in this relationship? So our joy will remain full. Jesus promises us that joy is a byproduct of remaining in God’s love.

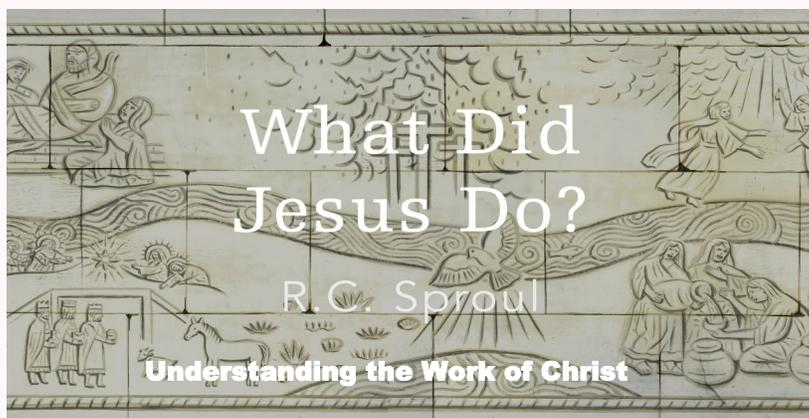
7. Trials

“In fact, everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted” (2 Timothy 3:12, NIV). When you get down to it, following Jesus puts you at odds with the world. This persecution can vary in extremes. Some that belong to Jesus will lose friends, family, jobs, opportunities, maybe even their lives. This truth is partially why these other promises exist. It’s as if God is saying, “Following me will be a struggle, but here are the things I will promise those who persevere.” Jesus says it this way: “Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me” (Matthew 5:10-11).

Facts are facts!

Blessings,

Pastor David



**The Sunday Morning
"Sensibles" Class
will begin a
NEW BIBLE STUDY!
"What Did Jesus Do?"
Sunday, August 13th
8:30 am
In the Fireside Room
Facilitated by Sharon Kalvels**

When Jesus approached John the Baptist to be baptized, John initially objected. But Jesus responded by saying that it was necessary “to fulfill all righteousness.” (Matt. 3:15) Why was this act—and others like it—so important? Most Christians understand the importance of Christ’s atoning sacrifice and the significance of his resurrection. But how many comprehend the significance of the life Jesus led prior to the crowning weeks of the passion? In this teaching series, R.C. Sproul uncovers what it means for Christ to be the “second Adam”—and what this means for believers today.

**7 Facts or
Promises given
by Jesus to
those who follow
Him.**

AUGUST MISSION EMPHASIS



The Voice of the Martyrs

The Voice of the Martyrs (VOM) is a missionary organization that serves persecuted Christians in the world's most difficult and dangerous places to be a Christian. **Richard and Sabina Wurmbbrand** founded VOM after being imprisoned for their Christian witness in Communist Romania. For more than 50 years, VOM has been dedicated to inspiring all believers to a biblical faith by encouraging their commitment to Christ and the fulfillment of His Great Commission no matter the cost.



Provide help for those who have suffered persecution themselves or for the families of Christians imprisoned or killed because of their witness. Such help will assist in the immediate aftermath of a persecution event and in meeting ongoing or long-term needs. Your gift may be used to assist with needs like these:

- living expenses
- children's educational needs
- relocation within a nation
- legal assistance
- vocational training





**Disciple to Disciple
Informational and Organizational Meeting
Sunday, September 3rd
11:15 am — Noon
In the Fireside Room**

Course Description:

"Disciple to Disciple" is a 33-week course (3 x 11 weekly classes) spread throughout a year, that has always been on my heart as more than a few Christians feel they:

- 1) Have not had the opportunity to really develop the primary and solid Christian habits that can be life changing and fruitful for the Kingdom of God;
- 2) Don't really know how to share with someone about how Jesus Christ became real to them;
- 3) Don't know what to say when talking to someone about Christ and the offer of salvation;
- 4) Are feeling guilty because of all the above! and
- 5) Have always wanted to grow deeper in their own faith but haven't found the means, material or mentor(s) that could guide them through the process.

More detailed information will be provided at this meeting, or go to our church website and click on the "D2D" button at the bottom of the Home page.



**Saturday, August 26th
9:00 am to 2 pm / Church Basement
Donations will benefit Youth Programs of
The United Churches of Hot Springs
Donations of items may be made weekdays
between the hours of 8:30 am and 12:30 pm
or
for pickup - call Maris Smith - 605-7431-5480**

(No Clothing Please!)



AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES



- 3 Maggie May (106 years young!)
- 5 Mark Sullivan
- 6 Ellaina Nichols
- 10 Ralph Sieg
- 14 Richard Bershon
- 19 Lydia Emery
- 21 Judy Hansen
- 23 Nevetta Sieg
- 24 Robin Wynia
- 25 Miles Swift
- 29 Wayne Hageman

- 5 Todd & Robin Wynia
- 8 Michael & Lynn Buchholz
- 9 Ed & Pat Cerney
- 13 Jerry & Pat Collogan
- 15 Richard & Stefanie Nelson
- 15 Jim & Annie Zwetzig
- 17 Ralph & Nevetta Sieg
- 21 Gordon & Jean Brooks

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

United Women:

The United Women will meet on Tuesday, August 15th at 1:30 pm in the Fireside Room.

Vacation Time:

Pastor David will be on vacation from Monday, July 31st through Sunday, August 20th. If you have any needs, please contact the church office.



Reminder!!!!

Fifth Sunday Music Celebration
This Sunday, 10:00 am in the Sanctuary
Special Music provided by:
John Culbertson, Richard Brainard
and Bonnie Keiswetter

Followed by:

All-Church Potluck
In the Fellowship Hall
Fried Chicken will be provided
Please bring a side dish (salad, veggies, etc.) or a
dessert to share.

