

May, 2021

Our JOYFUL Noise

The Monthly Newsletter of First Presbyterian Church of Britton SD
Church Office: 605 448 2460; Jane's cell: 470 0578



Ladies of the church send May Day cards to many in the community who are no longer able to attend services, but are remembered in our hearts.



Sunday, May 2nd, we will confirm three of our youth : McKenna Heer, Ty Fagerland and Collin Beaner. These three have been receiving lessons from Lance Griese and Paul Symens these past months and with the approval of Session, will become church members confirmed before the congregation. We will also be confirming Jeris Stark, from the Methodist Church at this time.

April turned out to be a bit colder than we were expecting, but we did get some much-needed rain. Now it is time for the greenhouses to open and the gardens to get planted (after the frosts). God begins to paint His beautiful masterpiece. Enjoy the coming of spring and have a blessed May!

Jane



6 Ways to 'Pray Without Ceasing'

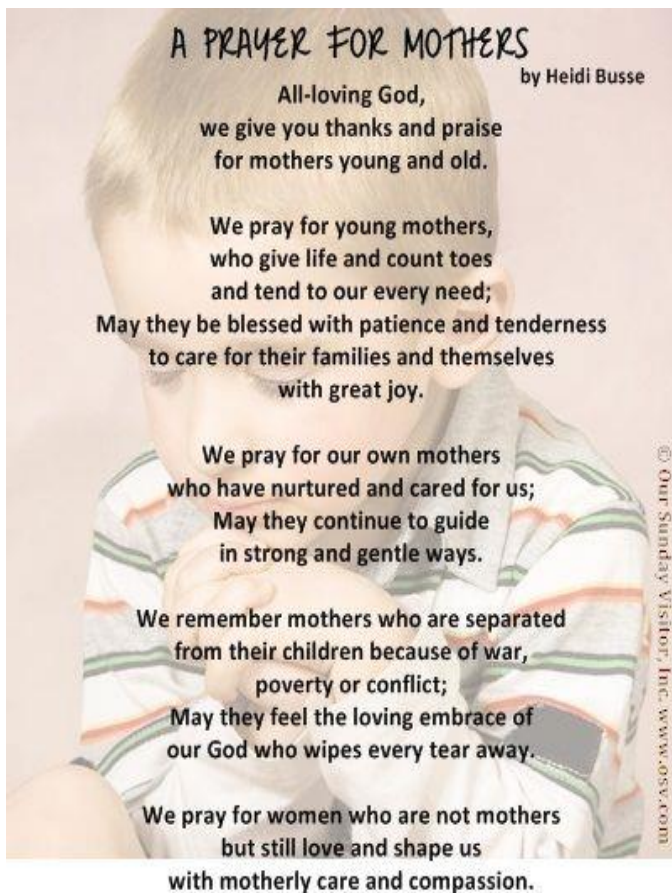
That biblical phrase can feel intimidating—*how do I do that?* But here are a few ways to try.

by **Rick Hamlin** Posted
in **How to Pray**, Mar 31, 2021



It's there in the letter Paul wrote to the Thessalonians, that intimidating phrase, "pray without ceasing" or "pray continually." I read it and wonder, "Is that really possible?" If so, how? Here are a few ways I try.

1) *Love God with all your heart, mind and soul.* When Jesus emphasized the importance of this commandment, it's about priorities. What matters most in my life? How do I measure success? Where do I seek and find happiness?



We remember mothers, grandmothers & great grandmothers who are no longer with us but who live forever in our memory and nourish us with their love.
Amen.

Love is so much bigger in God's world than it is in our mundane lives. We're supposed to do it all the time, and [this feels to me like praying](#).

Continually. Living a life that puts our love of God—and loving our neighbor as ourselves—first. Every action, every reflection, every thought has the potential to be part of this BIG prayer.

2) *Don't limit your notions of prayer.* [Prayer is conversation with God](#). And mind you, silence is certainly an enriching part of any conversation—think of how we use that phrase “a comfortable silence” to describe the quiet between two people who know each other well.

When we're with our loved ones we communicate so much without words. A sigh, a shrug, an embrace, a willingness to help. “Here, let me do that,” we say. Or we simply do it. By all means, use verbal prayer in your communication with the Lord. But don't forget how much can be said without any words at all. Continually.

3) *Give yourself moments of silence.* Sit for a moment. Close your eyes. Listen to your breath. Breathe in

God's love...and breathe out some of the distractions that can so easily get in the way of a loving relationship. With God and those “neighbors” of ours.

Once again, silence doesn't mean you're saying nothing. [It's keeping the focus in the right place](#).

4) *Use your body in prayer.* I think of the old high school football cheer we used to say, “Lean to the left, lean to the right, come on team, fight, fight, fight.” We moved in the bleachers as we said it. Life is full of movement—we walk, we climb stairs, we sit, we stand, we lean, we bend. As you feel your body moving, [feel the Creator work through you](#).

Sitting there in front of the computer. Pause and put your hands on the opposite shoulders or around your waist. Give yourself a hug. From God.

5) *Give thanks.* That very verse in Thessalonians is followed by the lovely admonishment: [“give thanks in all circumstances...”](#) It's that “all” that often causes us to stumble. But think of the trials and setbacks Paul himself

suffered. If he could give thanks in all things, can't I?

The most thankful people are not necessarily the ones you expect. Volunteering at our church's soup kitchen, I've gotten to know some of our regular guests. I can't begin to fathom the misfortunes and losses they've suffered. And yet, they are the most grateful people I've ever met. As one of them said to me recently, "God is here." Thankful without ceasing.

6) *Let go.* Living a life of constant prayer means living the Lord's Prayer, backwards and forwards, especially that challenge of "Thy will be done." Acceptance. Seeing that God's will—[greater than we might imagine](#) is at work. Pray that without ceasing.



PULPIT SUPPLY FOR MAY:

Sunday, May 2nd – Lance Griesse
(Confirmation Sunday)
Wednesday, May 5th – Lance Griesse
(Baccalaureate – 6:00 P.M.)
Sunday, May 9th – Lance Griesse
(New Members and Baptism)
Sunday, May 16th – Lance Griesse
(Honor Senior Day – McKenna Carlson)
Sunday, May 23rd – Lance Griesse
Sunday, May 30th – Diane Hoines





Session Notes:

The Session met on Tuesday, April 20th, at 7:00 p.m. with the following summary of the meeting:

1. Approved Kevin and Trisha Kraft to become members of the church May 9, 2021.
2. Approved baptism for Katie Kraft, daughter of Kevin and Trisha Kraft, on May 9, 2021.
3. Approved receiving confirmation members McKenna Heer, Jeris Stark, Collin Beaner, and Ty Fagerland into the membership of the church on May 2, 2021, with cake to follow in the fellowship hall.
4. Approved resuming coffee fellowship in the basement of the church beginning May 2, 2021.
5. Approved May 16, 2021 as senior recognition Sunday with cake to follow in the fellowship hall.
6. Approved baccalaureate services in our church on Wednesday, May 5, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. with a meal to follow at First Lutheran Church.

7. Approved summer worship time to stay at 10:00 a.m.
8. Approved the ladies quilting group to use the basement of our church May 17, 2021.
9. Reviewed a quarterly treasurer's report.
10. Approved removing the tape on the pews because of covid distancing, beginning April 25, 2021 with masks and hand sanitizer available.
11. Approved discontinuing live streaming church services on Facebook May 16, 2021 and a recorded version would be available for posting on a you tube link.
12. Approved the Warren Symens family use of the church for 2022 graduation celebration.
13. The next meeting is May 18, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

--Lynn Eberhart





SHARING BRINGS JOY

TO US. TO OTHERS. TO GOD.

Sunday School will end for the summer on May 9th.



Please remember that the church is counting on your gifts, pledges and assistance during these trying times.

So, as you are able, please forward your gifts to:

PO Box 127, Britton, SD 57430.

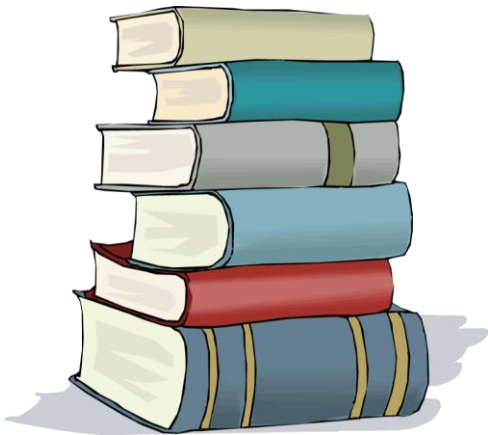
You may also give your gifts by going to our web site (fpcbritton.com) and hitting the 'giving' button which will take you to the site for setting up your profile to make a secure one-time gift or a repeating gift through the Presbyterian Foundation to First Presbyterian Church, Britton.

- Jeani Amacher, Carol Anderson and Ron Jarrett, dealing with cancer.
- Lorena Johnson, recovering from hip surgery at Wheatcrest.
- Lance and Aimee's grandson, Crue.
- Judy Gulleeson, diagnosed with a brain tumor.
- Others who may be suffering with Covid-19.
- And continue to pray for those with lingering health concerns.



**Check out the selection of
greeting cards available in the
secretary's office!**

Check Out Our Library !



An excellent selection of Christian books is
available in the two bookcases in the
overflow room of the sanctuary. A few
new books have recently been added—
Added more this week!

Also, the area of couches in the overflow
room makes a nice, quiet place for reading
and coffee... during the week.
This is your church – enjoy it!

REMEMBER THOSE WHO SERVED



ALL GAVE SOME, SOME GAVE ALL

**If you have items of input, or
ideas for improvement in this
newsletter, please contact Jane at
the office, 448.2460 or on her cell
at 470.0578.**

**Additions are always appreciated!
Just curious – has anyone looked
at our web page lately?**



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