

December 2021



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

Hey, folks!

I know, I know, I always start out with - "I can't believe it's . . . and another month has passed.

Well, it's finally the last month of 2021 and our biggest holiday is at hand. So much to do this time of year - the shopping, the baking, the cleaning of the house and the decorating. (By the way, a big thank you to those of you who helped decorate our beautiful church!)

Main Street is decorated, stores are busy (and hopefully, many of you shop locally). The Fed-Ex and UPS trucks are also busy delivering the things that aren't available at local businesses. Time is short and last-minute gifts need to be put under the tree.

But as we enter this Advent Season, let us not forget the real meaning of this Holiday - the very greatest gift to all of us - the baby Jesus who grew to a man of stature and eventually gave us the gift of his death on the cross that he might take away all our sins and renew our lives as we now renew ourselves for the coming year.

The pandemic has caused many changes in our lives and we have made adjustments to much of our social events. Do not forget to welcome in our Savior as we gather together, where possible, to celebrate the holy day.

Merry CHRISTmas to all of you!

Jane





PULPIT SUPPLY FOR DECEMBER

Sunday, Dec. 5th – Lance Griese

Communion, Meeting & Pot Luck

Sunday, – Dec 12th – Lance Griese

Sunday, Dec. 19th – Rosemary Heitmann

Sunday, December 26th -- Diane Hoines



Session Notes:

The Session met on Tuesday, November 16th, at 7:00 p.m. with the following summary of the meeting:

1. Approved a potluck dinner following the congregational meeting December 5, 2021.
2. Unable to take communion to residents of Spruce Court and Wheat Crest Hill due to covid restrictions.
3. Approved the 2022 budget for the church.
4. Communion is December 5, 2021 and will be served traditionally.

**Next meeting is December 21st, 2021,
at 7:00 p.m.**

--Lynn Eberhart



**SHARING
BRINGS JOY**
TO US. TO OTHERS. TO GOD.



**Communion will be held on
December 5th, with group #1
serving and communion trays to be
passed. We will also have a
congregational meeting to review
the upcoming budget and elect
officers on that day. We will follow
with a Potluck Luncheon.**



Biblical Texts:

Each one has his or her own gifts from God, one in this way and one in another. (1 Cor 7:7b).

For by His grace we have been saved through faith. It is not of ourselves: it is the gift of God; it is not of works, lest anyone should boast. (Eph 3:8).

Three-year-old “Charlie” was coming to stay at Grandma and Grandpa’s house. Wanting to make her content, we bought lots of “kid food,” like Spaghetti-O’s, Fruit Loops, and Popsicles. Toys and games came out of the closet; a new teddy bear was setting on her bed, and oodles of warm cookies were just out of the oven. The aroma of chocolate chips and gumdrops filled the house.

The last thing our daughter said to Charlie was, “Grammy will spoil you rotten enough. Now, don’t you go fussing or begging for anything, OK?” Charlie nodded and waved “bye” to Mom.

As Charlie settled in, she investigated everything in the house – admiring, asking, reaching out to touch. She kept circling back to the kitchen to smell the

scrumptious cookies, but she did not reach for one. Finally, with a very sweet smile and a quiet voice, she asked, “Grammy, why are all those cookies sitting around doing nothing?”

Pause to think of how much we are like three-year-olds, smelling the wafting aroma of warm cookies? God gives us wonderful gifts – things like faith, hope, grace, peace, love and joy. They are ours just for the taking. And God grants us even more – He also gives us gifts and talents to use for His glory and for the betterment of others – each of us has gifts that we are to use to spread the Word and to improve the world. What are your special gifts?

It’s Advent – time to prepare for the coming of the Christ. Thank heavens He comes again and again, not only at Christmas, but every day of our lives! We don’t even have to ask for His goodness. So, as we receive from God, let us offer to others in response! *(Author unknown)*

Prayer: Thanks be to you, O Lord, for all the many blessings we receive. You give us far more than we want or deserve. Enable us to use all that we have for the sake of the kingdom. And let us never forget the greatest gift of all, the wondrous eternal life waiting for us when our work is finished here. Help us once again this Advent season to receive our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.



Faces in the Pulpit



Rosemary Heitmann

Our Congregation has been blessed to have Rosemary Heitmann in our pulpit from time to time in the past. She comes to us from Lake City where she has been married to her husband, Randy, a farmer, for the past 43 years. The Heitmann's have 3 children, Kelly, Jake and Josh. Rosemary also taught school for 43 years – in New Effington, Sisseton, then retired; then back to Tiospa Zina Tribal school until the pandemic. Her hobbies are: babysitting, caring for her mom, reading and plastic needle point. We look forward to seeing her again in December.

Thank You, Rosemary!

Group Serves at Farrar Funeral



Above, left to right, Vicki Beck, Melanie Jones, Peggy Pearson, Jan Pearson, Mark Wismer, Alan Seibel, Kay Friebe, Bev Seibel, Holly Wismer, Shari Menning, Jill Beaner. Not pictured, Jane Tyler.

The funeral for Frank Farrar, long-time member of our church, was held at the Amacher Auditorium on November 13th, followed by a luncheon in the Arena. The above group put together 400 sandwiches of turkey and beef; made 350 cups of coffee; and did the serving. Salads, cake, lemonade and water were also served. The group worked together as a terrific team. Thanks to all!



Christmas Luncheon



The Women's PWC will host their Christmas luncheon on Wednesday, December 1st, at 12:00 P.M.

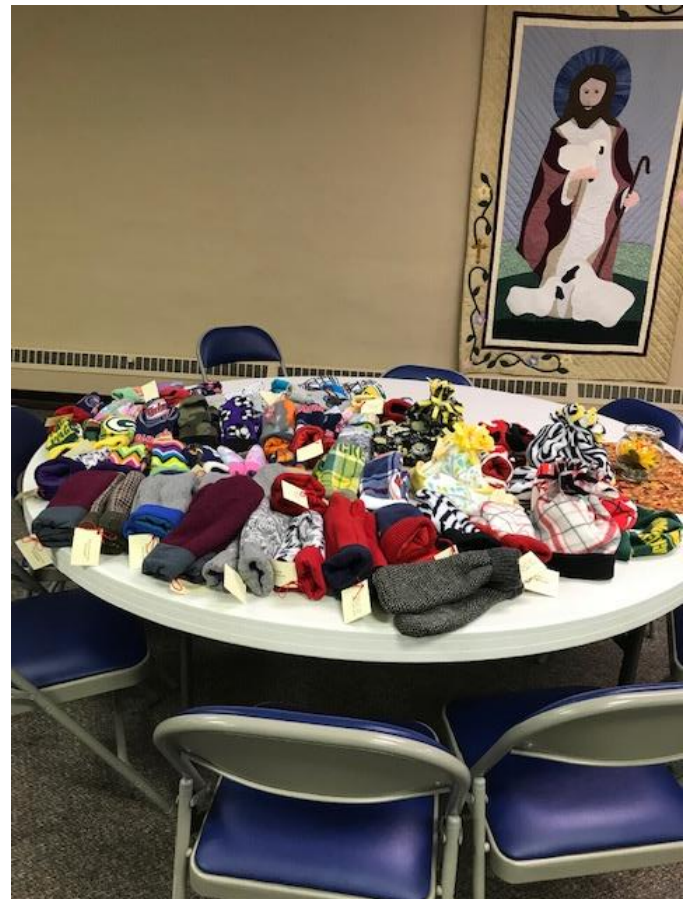
She wrapped him snugly in strips of cloth and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the village inn. (Luke 2:7b New Living Translation).

Do we have room for Christ today? I don't mean at the Inn on Highway 10. Nor do I mean at our house on Christmas Eve, where space is non-existent when twenty of us get together. When Jesus come to live within us, does he have to search and only find small space in a corner somewhere? Sometimes as Christians we convince ourselves that we have made room for him just because we have accepted him. To have room for Christ in our lives is more than that. Do we have room for him in our daily living? In our mind(at the center of our thoughts & not just in the corner of our minds?) In our personal affections? In our future? Will we have room for him, even now, during this advent season? Remember, there will be another advent of Christ; he will come again.

Prayer: Forgive us, Lord, for the times when we have not had room for you. Give us the desire and the discipline to take down the "no vacancy" sign and instead, give you the "Master Suite!"

(Author Unknown)

Warm Mittens to Go



The Sewing ladies were busy during the month of November. Above are 55 pairs of mittens and 7 hats for missions. 12 pair will go to the Britton grade school and the rest will go to a reservation.



SUNDAY SCHOOL

The Sunday School program will be Sunday, December 19th, during worship service.



YOUTH GROUP

The youth of our church—7th-12th grades will be taking part in the Christmas Eve Service on December 24th, at 5:30 P.M.



Please pray for Becky Weber and Crue Mosier. Please pray for Jeanine Jarrett, Leah Luitjens, Deb Mack, Dan Yelkin, Carol Anderson, Alan Grupe, and others in our church & community who continue to undergo cancer treatments; Rhonda Buer; Jim Luitjens; those dealing with Covid and other health concerns; the family of Aaron Miles and others who have lost loved ones.

Greeting Cards on Sale in the Office



The PWC ladies have a **new shipment** of Sympathy Cards and a full line of Greeting Cards for you to choose. Cards are sold by-the-box for \$6.00, and proceeds support the PWC ladies' missions.



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