

April 2022

Our JOYFUL Noise

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



Well, guys, is it windy enough for you? Haven't these been warm, but windy days lately? But we probably need that wind to scare up some April showers. We can be grateful for the snow we have had. The rest of the state is pretty dry and will need the spring rains, as will we.

This Holiday season gives us much to enjoy and be grateful for. Blessings to all,

Jane



PULPIT SUPPLY FOR APRIL:

Sunday, April 3 – Rosemary Heitmann

Sunday, April 10th – Lance Griesse

Maundy Thursday – April 14th

Easter Sunday, April 17th – Lance Griesse

Sunday, April 24th – Lance Griesse



Session Notes:

The Session met on Tuesday, March 15th, at 7:00 p.m. with the following summary of the meeting:

1. Approved a revised wedding policy.
2. Faith and Practice will be working on allocating the 2022 Local Mission Giving funds.
3. The next communion will be held April 14, 2022.
4. Rev. Ruth Clendenin from Aberdeen has been our moderator for session meetings.

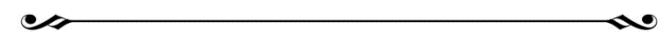
**Next meeting is April 19th, 2022,
at 7:00 p.m.**

--Lynn Eberhart



Scripture Reading: Luke 19:28-40

***Life is full of ups and downs. Glorify
God during the ups
and fully trust in him during the
downs. —Unknown***



Christopher. It's not a common name, but it is not uncommon either. Can you think of some famous "Christophers" from the present day and the past?

Perhaps you thought of Christopher Columbus (15th-century explorer), or the actors Christopher Reeve (Superman), Christopher Plummer, Christopher Walken or Christopher Lee (Count Dracula). Christopher Cross is a singer, and Christopher Wren was the 17th-century architect of St. Paul's Cathedral in London. Of course, there's the fictional Christopher Robin of Winnie-the-Pooh fame, a character based on the real Christopher Robin Milne, the son of the author A.A. Milne.

There's one more Christopher we should mention. This is the name of the young donkey that carried Jesus into Jerusalem. Yes, we have given the little colt this name, but it is not an arbitrary decision. The name "Christopher" means "Christ-bearer." And this animal can teach us a lot, *because she is the creature that carries Christ into the world.*

Today is an opportunity to take the name Christopher (*Christophera*, feminine) as our own. By doing so, we commit to bearing Christ to the world. Being Christopher means:

- Serving Christ. Being a faithful servant can be a burden.
- Serving Christ humbly without caring who gets the glory.
- Following Christ's direction; to go where he wants to go, not where we want to go.
- Not getting spooked by the crowds, the noise, the attention.
- Taking Christ into enemy territory.
- Never asking Christ to "get off our backs."
- Being obedient to the will of the One who holds the reins.

If we can do this and model our lives on the one character in this melodrama that deserves emulation, we will discover the joy that comes from carrying Christ.

We'll know the glory of hearing hosannas, the thrill of close contact with Jesus, the excitement of accepting a challenge and the deep satisfaction of knowing that we are walking in the way of God. There's no better role we could be asked to perform.

—Timothy Merrill

Prayer: O God, may I be a bearer of Christ to the world today and every day. Amen.



The Crown of Thorns placed on our altar for use during this Holiday season was furnished by Faye Symens. The following information explains more about the crown:

The Crown and Its Crafter

The thorn apple trees grow in Central Minnesota ditches and woods. Very early spring is the only time they are available. After it warms up, the thorns turn into twigs and small branches. There is only enough raw material for about 50 crowns a year. In order to get to the bushes, one must crawl on hands and knees to keep from falling into very deep snow. This quiet surrounding and humble position is a time to re-examine my own "thorns" and pray for the future owners of the crowns. Gloves cannot be worn to weave the crowns. Hands are pricked and bleed often. Each stick is my reminder to pray for a blessing for you.

--L. Johnson, Osakis, MN

God said to Adam . . .

“Cursed is the ground because of you. Through painful toil you will eat of it all the days of your life. It will produce thorns and thistles for you, and you will eat the plants of the field. (Gen.3:17,18)

God, the creator, Father of mankind, saw Adam’s sin and cursed the earth and man with thorns and thistles. Romans 3:23 tells us, “All have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God.” We have all sinned and live under a curse. When Jesus wore that crown of thorns, He wore our sinful curse. Matthew 27:28-31 says, “They stripped Him and put a scarlet robe on Him, and then twisted together a crown of thorns and set it on His head. They put a staff in His right hand and knelt in front of Him and mocked Him, “Hail, King of the Jews!” they said. They spat on Him and took the staff and struck Him on the head again and again. After they had mocked Him, they took off the robe and put His own clothes on Him. Then, they led Him away to crucify Him. This was the only

time Jesus was recognized as our King.

You can see by these thorns, the depth of love Jesus has for you. But, God demonstrates His own love for us in this: “While we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.” (Rom 5:8)

These thorns are a symbol of the sinful curse that Jesus willingly bore for you. However, this is not the end... Yes, Jesus suffered and died. But, praise God, He rose out of the curse of sin and death to forgiveness and life eternal.

We too can be free from our curse of sin and have eternal life. It is promised, “If you confess with your mouth Jesus is Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.” (Rom 10:9)

Take a moment now to see the “thorns” in your life and the pain it causes Jesus and you. Ask God to forgive you in Jesus’ name. If you have not asked Jesus into your heart, please take time to do it now. It will be the single most important minute in your eternity. “To all who received

Him (Jesus), to those who believed in His name, He gave the right to become children of God."



Sunday, April 10th, is Palm Sunday. Palms have been ordered and will be in the basement fridge for use on that day.



Maundy Thursday services will be held at 7:00 P.M., Thursday, April 14th, with Communion.



Team # 5 will serve fellowship this month.



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

One Great Hour of Sharing offering will be held on Easter Sunday, April 17th.



The Ladies' PW Spring Rummage Sale will be the following dates:

- **Thursday, April 28th – Set up from 5:00**
- **Apr 29th – Sale from 10:00 – 6:00**
- **Apr 30th – Sale from 9:00 A.M – Noon**

Any volunteer help for set up and take down will be greatly appreciated. Please bring articles for sale to the church basement the week of the sale. Thank you.



SUNDAY SCHOOL

The Sunday School meets every Sunday morning following the worship service.



YOUTH GROUP

The youth of our church—7th-12th grades meet every Wednesday at 6:30 P.M. Bring a friend and come join Lance & Aimee for a fun evening.



Please pray for the people of war-torn Ukraine. Pray for George Kann, Cindy Underberg, Jeanine Jarrett, Leah Luitjens, Deb Mack, Carol Anderson, and others in our church and community who continue to undergo cancer treatments. Please pray for those dealing with Covid and other health concerns; and those who have lost loved ones.



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