

February 2026

Our JOYFUL Noise

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



PULPIT SUPPLY:

- Sunday, Feb. 1st – Lance Griese
- Sunday, Feb, 8th – Lance Griese
- Sunday, Feb. 15th – Lance Griese
- Sunday, Feb. 22nd – Rosemary H.



Dear Friends,
February is such a unique little month. First, the month starts with a groundhog looking for his shadow. It's the shortest month of the year and the only month to which we occasionally add a day. It's the month we celebrate love, (Valentine's Day) and the florists and greeting card industry love February. It is also the month we honor presidents, Lincoln and Washington, and it is African American History month.
(continued)

For Christians, February has more significance because February 18th is Ash Wednesday, the day that marks the beginning of Lent. Winter is still sending us cold weather and an occasional snowfall. Stay warm and comfy at home as much as you can! If not, safe travels. Until next month,

--Jane



Session Notes:

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

- Diaper ministry has now supplied diapers to 36 families.
- Installation and ordination of elders and trustees will be February 1.
- Communion will be served on February 15, with POTLUCK following services.
- Next session meeting will be February 17 at 7 pm.

--Jill Beaner

Diaper Ministry continues. We are currently serving some 36 families. Contact Heidi Eimers at 605.216.6065. We continue to need volunteers for upcoming Saturday mornings. Please sign up in the fellowship room.



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We will collect fruit in February for the Food Pantry - either canned or lunch packs.



**Scripture Reading:
Matthew 5:13-20**

13>You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled by men.

14>You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden.

15Neither do people light a lamp and

put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. 16In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.

17"Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. 18I tell you the truth, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished. 19Anyone who breaks one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever practices and teaches these commands will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. 20For I tell you that unless your righteousness surpasses that of the Pharisees and the teachers of the law, you will certainly not enter the kingdom of heaven.

Neither sugar nor salt tastes particularly good by itself. Each is at its best when used to season other things. Love is the same way. Use it to "season" people. —Vera Nazarian

Jesus famously said that we are the salt of the earth. "If salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored?" (v. 13). Let's take a moment to think about saltshakers. They come

in all shapes and sizes. Some are made of fine crystal with silver tops, sitting proudly on a formal dining table. Others are simple glass jars, resting on kitchen counters or tucked away in picnic baskets. Some are fancy. Some are plain. But as receptacles for salt, they all serve the same purpose. But here's the thing: no matter how beautiful or well-made a saltshaker is, it's not doing its job unless it gets shaken. Unless the salt comes out, it doesn't matter how pretty or practical the container is. Salt has to leave the shaker to make a difference. This is the perfect image for what Jesus says in today's reading from the Sermon on the Mount in Matthew 5: "You are the salt of the earth." Not, "You might be," or "Try to be" — but you are. You have enough life experience to honestly say you have been shaken, discombobulated, turned upside down and inside out. You are old enough to know better and, as someone has said, "young enough to want to do it anyway." You are an old salt — and in a good way. You may not be "out and about" like you once were, but you still have salt to share. Your prayers, your wisdom and your quiet encouragement season the lives of others in ways you may not even see or imagine. Jesus doesn't measure saltiness by how public your work is. He sees the quiet influence you carry: the family member you still counsel, the caregiver you bless, the church you pray for. That's salt being poured

out. So don't worry about the shaker. It's not what it used to be, that's for sure! But if you're alive (and clearly you are), you still have salt to share, you're still preserving grace, still bringing out goodness, still making life taste a little more like heaven.

—Timothy Merrill

Prayer: Lord Jesus, thank you for calling me salt, even when I feel poured out. Help me to bless others, not by doing more, but by being faithful where I am. Let my life still season the world with your grace. Amen.



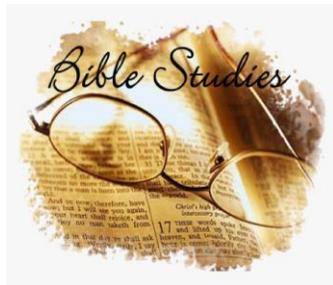
Youth Group will meet the 4th, the 11th, and the 18th, at our church, at 6:30 P.M.

Installation

Installation and Ordination of new Elders will take place on Sunday, February 1st, during worship.



Group #1 will be serving coffee and treats in February. They will also serve at the Manor on February 22nd.



Men's and Women's Bible Study continues on Monday evenings at 7:00 P.M.



The Ladies' Sewing Group will work on the 5th, 12th, 19th and 26th, this month at 9:00 A.M.



Session will meet on Tuesday, February 17th, at 7:00 P.M.



Communion Sunday

And Potluck



Our quarterly communion service will be Sunday, February 15th, during worship.

Following worship, there will be a Potluck dinner in the basement fellowship hall. All are welcome!



Church Choir members are always welcome. Practices are usually held on Sunday mornings prior to worship. If interested, contact Peggy Davidson.



Justine Warburton is currently serving as the current custodian and can be reached at: 605.470.0427 if necessary.

In our thoughts & prayers: Please pray for Sharon Johnson, Jeani Amacher, Vicki Beck, and others dealing with cancer; for those dealing with serious health concerns; for the Furman families and others dealing with the loss of loved ones; and all people around the world dealing with loss and devastation.



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