

Madison Avenue Church of Christ

Volume 3 Number 32
August 9, 2009

Welcome Visitors!

ELDERS

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DEACONS

Brad Cruse

Herb Davis

MINISTER

Mark Newton

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OFFICE HOURS

Mon-Thur 9:15am-4:00pm

Weekly Services

Sunday

Bible Study: 10:00 a.m.

Worship: 11:00 a.m.

6:00 p.m.*

Wednesday

Bible Classes 7:00 p.m.

No evening worship on the Fourth Sunday of each month.

Weekday Radio Program

"Thinkaboutit" with Charlie Wharton AM 1240 at 6:55 a.m.
thinkaboutit.pierrechurchofchrist.org

323 N Madison Avenue

PO Box 751

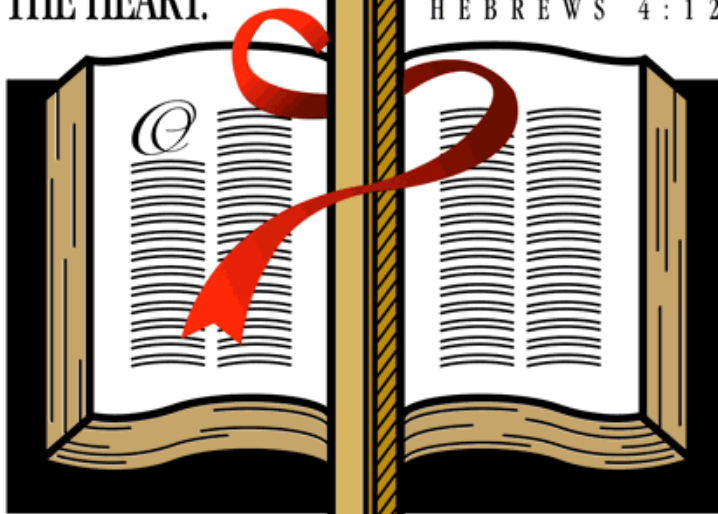
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FOR THE WORD OF GOD IS LIVING &
ACTIVE, SHARPER THAN ANY DOUBLE-
EDGED SWORD,... IT JUDGES THE
THOUGHTS AND ATTITUDES OF
THE HEART.

HEBREWS 4:12





We are so glad that you decided to come and worship with our family today. We hope that you will join in with us as we praise God together in our worship. Whatever your situation in life, we pray that you will find what you need to bring you closer to God. Please take a minute and fill out one of the red visitor cards in the back of the pews and drop it in the collection plate when it comes around — we would greatly appreciate it. Please come back and worship with us again!

A MOMENT WITH MARK

Many years ago in a textile factory there was a sign on the wall which read: “If your threads get tangled, send for the foreman.” One woman who was fairly new was a diligent worker, but her threads got tangled one day. She tried to disentangle them, but her efforts only made matters worse. Finally she gave up and called the foreman. He came and looked for a few moments and then asked: “You have been trying to untangle them yourself, haven’t you?” “Yes,” she replied. “Why didn’t you send for me, according to the instruction?” She shrugged her shoulders and said: “I did my best.” With much tact, yet, with great insight, he quietly said: “Remember that doing your best is sending for me.”

How often in life have we tried to straighten out our own messes, only to make things worse, and certainly not to solve things? We think that a little more human effort, a bit more human wisdom, and a touch of human ingenuity are the solution. But mankind in general and individuals in particular tend to make the same mistakes over and over again. Bad habits remain in place. Errors are repeated. We may even excuse our conduct by saying: “I did my best. Then God gently, yet firmly, reminds us: “Doing your best is calling for me.”

Paul did the best that he could do, but it was not good enough. He mused: “I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate....I can will what is right, but I cannot do it. For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do....Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death?” (Rom. 7:15-24). But Paul had learned that to call on the name of Jesus was the best he could do and the solution to his problem (Rom. 10:9-13).

Grace and Peace ~ Mark

Evangelism Efforts

- “Thinkaboutit” — Radio program with Charlie Wharton, weekdays at 6:55 a.m. on Pierre AM 1240.
- Correspondence Courses
- World Bible School

Works of Benevolence

- Pierre Area Referral Service
- School Backpack Program
- Meals-On-Wheels
- Walk-In Benevolence

Community Outreach

- Habitat for Humanity
- Annual Capital Area Law Enforcement Appreciation Dinner
- Annual South Dakota Peace Officers Memorial Service
- Life-Line Health Screenings
- Church of Christ Booth at the Annual South Dakota State Fair
- Police Chaplain Program
- American Cancer Society Relay for Life
- Community Banquet

Works of Edification

- Bible Classes for All Ages
- Monthly Fellowship Dinners
- Ladies Group Lunches
- Wednesday Night Dinners
- Fifth Sunday Singing Nights

Be of
good courage
and he shall
strengthen
your heart.
Psalm 27:14

News & Notes

UPCOMING EVENTS

- August 15** Bonfire at the Hydes
August 17 Open House at the Curtis'
August 19 Ladies Group Lunch at Perkins.
August 23 Fourth Sunday Fellowship
August 23 Launch of the Online Bible Study Forum

PRAYER LIST

Kevin Yateman, a friend of Justin's, is now home from being deployed in Iraq. Kevin was wounded in action earlier this year.

Michelle Monroe has been going through come challenges this past week. Pray that she will successfully accomplish them all.

Penny Schaefer has been having some health problems.

Linda McBrayer is recovering from a broken foot.

Jennifer Newton is recovering from bronchitis and strep throat.

Virginia Schumaker, a resident here in Pierre, has cancer and has asked for prayers.

Hunter's brother in Iraq.

Linda Turbell has completed her chemotherapy and is awaiting results from a CT scan.

Iva Russell at MaryHouse.

Expecting mothers: Holly Thompson

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Happy Anniversary this week to Charlie & Jeane Wharton (Friday) and Corey & Nancy Huxoll (Friday).



OPEN HOUSE

On Monday, August 17th from 7-9 p.m. there will be an open house at the Curtis' home in celebration of Brad's 50th birthday. Come and have some cake and help celebrate the grand occasion.

NEW ONLINE BIBLE STUDY

Our new Online Bible Study Forum will begin in two weeks. It will be based on the book *The Purpose Driven Church: Growth Without Compromising Your Message or Your Mission* by Rick Warren. This is going to be a great opportunity for us to study together in a self-paced written format. If you are interested in participating in this study, here are a couple of things that you can do to prepare:

- Register for access to the Members Only Area of our website.
- Purchase the book *The Purpose Driven Church*. (There are suggestions in the Members Only Area on how to do this.)
- Download and read the tutorial found in the Members Only Area.

If you have any questions, please see Mark Newton.

SUNDAY BREAKFAST

Every Sunday morning we have a breakfast fellowship, usually coffee, doughnuts, and juice. If you would like to take a Sunday morning and be responsible for provide breakfast, please sign up on the list in the kitchen.

BONFIRE

Saturday, August 15th at 7:30 there will be a bonfire and hot dog roast at the Hyde's place. Bring hot dogs, buns, chips, roasting sticks, s'mores fixings, and some bars, brownies, and/or cookies. There will be outdoor activities to participate in, and there will be a devotional at sunset. See Peggy Hyde for any more details.

TODAY'S SERMON TOPICS

Morning Worship: *Spiritual Wellness — How Well Do You Talk?*

Evening Worship: *This Day is a Day of Good News*

Improper Comparisons

Barney Colson was an elder for University City Church of Christ in Gainesville, Florida, for thirty-three years until his death in 1998. During World War II at the age of twenty-one, Barney Colson was a skipper of an amphibious ship in the South Pacific. His and three other ships had unloaded their cargo on an island near the end of the day. They backed away from the shore and dropped anchor as the sun was setting. An anchor watch was assigned to make sure the ships did not drift. Everyone else went to sleep. When morning light came, all four ships were within sight of one another with about a quarter of a mile of spacing for safety. When Colson questioned the sailor on anchor watch, the sailor pointed to each of the ships nearby. But then Colson asked him: "Where is the island?"

During the night with the limited light available on the dark ocean, the watch had been able to discern the nearby ships. He did not think they were drifting, because the other boats were nearby all night long. What he did not realize was that all four ships had drug their anchors and were drifting together. They drifted over twenty miles, so that the island was completely out of sight over the horizon the next morning. By comparing themselves with one another instead of a fixed point such as the island, they were able to drift all night long while thinking they were securely anchored. When we as humans compare ourselves with one another, we are likely to be deceived into thinking we are doing well. If we are at least average, we think we are making progress, even though we may be drifting away from the standard. If we compare ourselves to a reprobate, even the lukewarm person will be deceived in a smug self-satisfaction.

Paul warned against such comparisons: "We do not dare to classify or compare ourselves with some of those who commend themselves. But when they measure themselves by one another, and compare themselves with one another, they do not show good sense" (2 Cor. 10:12). If we are going to compare ourselves with others, we ought to pick the very best, the holiest, and the most devout persons we know. This will show us where we need to improve and grow. Best of all, we ought to compare ourselves with God and Christ. We ought to strive to be "perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect" (Mt. 5:48; cf. 1 Pet. 1:15-16). Beware of improper comparisons with an inadequate standard.



Worship Assistants

SUNDAY MORNING

Welcome	<i>Charlie Wharton</i>	<i>Brad Curtis</i>
Song Leader	<i>Ed Nill</i>	<i>Justin Newton</i>
First Prayer	<i>Herb Davis</i>	<i>Jeff French</i>
Communion Leader	<i>Justin Newton</i>	<i>Bob Duncan</i>
Communion Servers.....	<i>Taylor Newton</i>	<i>Doug Hackett</i>
	<i>Taylor Hyde</i>	<i>John Rheinbolt</i>
	<i>Alan Hyde</i>	<i>Mack Wyly</i>
	<i>Kris Monroe</i>	<i>Max Cruse</i>
Scripture Reading	<i>Brandon Osbourn</i>	<i>Alan Hyde</i>
Announcements & Closing.....	<i>Brad Curtis</i>	<i>Buford Storrs</i>
Greeters.....	<i>Karen Wyly</i>	<i>Brandon Osbourn</i>
	<i>Peggy Cruse</i>	<i>Becky Osbourn</i>

SUNDAY EVENING

Song Leader	<i>Ed Nill</i>	<i>Justin Newton</i>
Communion/Closing.....	<i>Brad Curtis</i>	<i>Buford Storrs</i>

WEDNESDAY

Songs.....	<i>Ed Nill</i>	<i>Justin Newton</i>
Scripture.....	<i>Justin Newton</i>	<i>Doug Hackett</i>
Closing.....	<i>Ed Nill</i>	<i>Justin Newton</i>

TODAY

AUGUST 16

TODAY

AUGUST 16

AUGUST 12

AUGUST 19



THEN SHALL THE
EARTH YIELD
HER INCREASE;
AND GOD, EVEN
OUR OWN GOD,
SHALL BLESS US.