

# Madison Avenue Church of Christ

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## ELDERS

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## DEACONS

**Brad Cruse**

**Herb Davis**

## MINISTER

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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](http://thinkaboutit.pierrechurchofchrist.org)

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# Welcome Visitors!

WHATEVER IS *true,*  
WHATEVER IS *honorable,*  
WHATEVER IS *just,*  
WHATEVER IS *pure...*  
IF THERE IS ANYTHING  
*worthy of praise,*  
THINK ABOUT THESE THINGS.

PHILIPPIANS 4:8, NRSV



*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**

A woman fell on the stone stairway of the police station in Boston and was severely injured. She was taken to the hospital and examined by a doctor who said to the nurse: “She will not live more than a day.” After the nurse had attended to her for a few hours, the woman told her story.

“I have traveled from California, stopping at every city of importance between San Francisco and Boston, visiting two places always — the police station and the hospital. My boy went away from me and did not tell me where he was going, so I have sold all my property and made this journey to seek him out. Some day he may come into this hospital and if he does, tell him that there were two who never gave him up.”

Evening came and the doctor told the nurse: “It is now but a question of minutes.” The nurse bent over and said: “Tell me the names of the two and I will tell your son if I see him.” With tears in her eyes she replied: “Tell him that the two were God and his mother.” Moments later, she died.

Human analogies are limited in their usefulness to explain God. If we compare God to a father or a mother, those analogies may not work well for someone who had a bad father or mother. In other cases human analogies are highly useful. Imagine the great seeking love of that mother who traveled the length of the country to try to find her son. Think of the shepherd who goes out in search of the one lost sheep (Luke 15:4-7). Think of the hen who gathers her brood under her wings (Matthew 23:37). Think of the father who watches daily for the return of a wayward son (Luke 15:11-32). Think of the husband who takes his unfaithful wife back into his home (Hosea). Truly the seeking, searching love of God is beyond measure: “I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord” (Romans 8:39).

### **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

*Grace and Peace ~ Mark*



# News & Notes

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**TODAY** Fourth Sunday Fellowship  
**TODAY** Launch of the Online Bible Study Forum

## PRAYER LIST

**Holly Thompson** has been very sick the past few days, and has even spent some time in the hospital. Baby is ok, and as of this writing is not on the way.

**Linda McBrayer** is recovering from a broken foot.

**Kelcy Curtis** is also on crutches (or at least us *supposed* to be) and recovering from a foot injury.

**Linda Turbell** is having to go through two more months of chemotherapy.

**Iva Russell** at MaryHouse.

**Expecting mothers:** Holly Thompson

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Happy Birthday this week to Doug Hackett (Monday) and Emily Newton (Friday).

## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Happy Anniversary this week to Bob & Terry Duncan (Wednesday) and Elmer & Judy Reiger (Thursday).

## COLLEGE STUDENTS

Remember our students who are away at college: Rebecca Duncan, Alayna Hyde, Taylor Hyde, Alan Hyde, Michelle Monroe, A.J. Wharton, and Alice Hackett.

## TODAY'S SERMON TOPICS

Morning Worship: *Spiritual Wellness: How Well Do You Give?*

Evening Worship: *No evening services*

## NEW ONLINE BIBLE STUDY

Our new Online Bible Study is unlocked and ready to go. Simply login to our Members Only Area and click "Bible Study Forum." Once you have registered on the forum, you are ready to go. I hope that you take the time be a part of our study. It's not to late to be a part of it, even if you don't have a book. Mark will have a couple extra books available this week, so be sure to see him. You can even start the study late and still benefit from everything that has been said or commented on. So, don't let the fact that you don't have a book yet stop you. And if getting the book is the only thing keeping you from being a part of this study, let Mark know — there are ways we can help. This is going to be a great opportunity to learn from each other, and we can't help but be better for it. If you have questions or need help, please see Mark.

## 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.

## THANK YOU

Thank you to the Hyde's for hosting the bonfire last weekend. Despite the weather, we had a good time. Many dogs were roasted, many hands were warmed (some too much), and many marshmallows gave their all for a S'more.

## FOURTH SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP

Today is our monthly Fourth Sunday Fellowship. Immediately after we dismiss this morning we will be having dinner in the fellowship hall. At about 1:30 we will have a congregational meeting, after which we will dismiss for the day. There will be no evening services.

## SINGING NIGHT

Next Sunday night will be our quarterly singing night.

# Not For Sale

One day a poor girl slipped into the garden of the queen at Balmoral. She approached the gardener and told him that her mother was extremely ill at home and she wanted to take her a flower. Since it was winter, flowers were very rare, but the little girl had seen flowers growing in the queen's greenhouses. She had saved a few pennies and asked the gardener if she could buy a single rose for her mother. The gardener was sympathetic with the little girl's request, but he replied: "The queen has no flowers for sale." The little girl was about to turn away in disappointment and return home.

Unobserved by either the little girl or the gardener, the queen had been listening through a window in the greenhouse. She stepped out and told the girl: "The gardener is quite right, my child. He has no authority to give you the flowers you want, nor does the queen cultivate flowers for sale. But the queen has flowers to give away." From a basket the queen took several rare roses and gave them to the little girl and said: "Take these to your mother with my love, and tell her that the queen sent them. I am the queen."

This story provides a good allegory for the story of salvation. We have a need for pardon for our sins. We can go to various sources and ask for forgiveness, but no human has the authority to cleanse our souls. We can not purchase redemption, because God's grace has not been cultivated for sale. However, if God decides to give his mercy away freely to a sinner, that is his right, especially in light of what Christ achieved in his incarnate life and through his death at Calvary. "The free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Romans 6:23). We "are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus" (Romans 3:24).



## Worship Assistants

### SUNDAY MORNING

	<u>TODAY</u>	<u>AUGUST 30</u>
Welcome .....	<i>Buford Storrs</i> .....	<i>Brad Curtis</i>
Song Leader .....	<i>Brad Curtis</i> .....	<i>Herb Davis</i>
First Prayer .....	<i>Ed Nill</i> .....	<i>Justin Newton</i>
Communion Leader .....	<i>Herb Davis</i> .....	<i>Buford Storrs</i>
Communion Servers.....	<i>Brian Thompson</i> .....	<i>Brad Cruse</i>
	<i>Corey Huxoll</i> .....	<i>Jeff French</i>
	<i>Raury Cruse</i> .....	<i>Brandon Osbourn</i>
	<i>Cole Cruse</i> .....	<i>Kyle Wylly</i>
Scripture Reading .....	<i>Taylor Newton</i> .....	<i>Doug Hackett</i>
Announcements & Closing.....	<i>Charlie Wharton</i> .....	<i>Buford Storrs</i>
Greeters.....	<i>Herb Davis</i> .....	<i>Nancy Huxoll</i>
	<i>Jane Davis</i> .....	<i>Diann Storrs</i>

### SUNDAY EVENING

	<u>TODAY</u>	<u>AUGUST 30</u>
Song Leader .....	<i>No Evening Service</i> ....	<i>Singing Night</i>
Communion/Closing.....	<i>No Evening Service</i> ....	<i>Buford Storrs</i>

### WEDNESDAY

	<u>AUGUST 26</u>	<u>SEPTEMBER 6</u>
Songs.....	<i>Brad Curtis</i> .....	<i>TBA</i>
Scripture.....	<i>Brian Thompson</i> .....	<i>TBA</i>
Closing.....	<i>Brad Curtis</i> .....	<i>TBA</i>



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