Belle Fourche United Methodist Church 1804 7th, Belle Fourche SD 57717 www.bellefourcheumc.com 605-892-2405 bfumc@midconetwork.com

Together Again

Worship Services returned to the church with a soft-start worship service on May 24, 2020. Fourteen persons were present and met after service to discuss how the church would reopen for the congregation to attend during this time of the Covid19 pandemic. So far, Butte County has not had any reported cases of the virus. We will return to worship and maintain social distancing of six feet, have hand sanitizer available, and other appropriate measures. We will continue Facebook Live online streaming of worship for those who will continue to watch Worship from home.

Memorial Service

June 23 at 6:30 pm

The church will have a service for those who want to acknowledge the loss of a loved one, whether the person passed away in the last year, or any time before. This will be a meaningful service with the focus on the remembrance of the individual. Tables will be set up front and you may bring a picture or memento of your loved one to place on the table for the time of the service.

Continuing in Ministry

Committees of the Church have continued to do their ministries using online platforms to conduct meetings. Although we have not been able to have Sunday School because of the shut-downs, the Education Committee, has been videoing and also appearing in church for Children's Messages during live stream worship. The Ad Board also held its meeting online. Pastor Sheri has had online "Coffee with the Pastor" meetings. A new bible study is going on through Zoom Meeting along with some attendees being present at the church during the online meeting. Youth Group met weekly online and has resumed regular meetings with safety precautions.

The church office has remained open to be the church to our congregation and to the community and the many needs that come up each day. There has also been some great organization of the Angel Store taking place. Members of the church have helped with the Congregational Care Ministry by calling people, sending cards and notes, and lending a hand where needed.

Together we bring God's love to life.



June Schedule

<u>June 7 – Sunday</u>: 9:45 am – Fellowship on the Front Lawn of the Church.

Please bring a lawn chair and stay 6 feet apart. We will postpone if there is inclement weather.

June 7 – Sunday: 11:45 am – Drive-Through
Communion at the Handicap Driveway

Sundays: 10: 30 am – Worship in the
Sanctuary
and on Facebook Live

Tuesdays: 7:30 am - "Discerning the Voice of God"

Bible Study

Zoom Meeting at home or at the church Videos available online – call for information Or find out how to order a study book

Wednesdays: 4 pm-5:30 pm Youth Group

<u>June 23 – Tuesday</u>: 6:30 pm Memorial Service



Abiding in Christ "Family and Home Life"

"Blessed are those who dwell in your house; they are ever praising you.

Blessed are those whose strength is in you, whose hearts are set on pilgrimage.

They go from strength to strength, till each appears before God in Zion."

Psalm 84:4-5, 7

Summer is here and we're still dealing with the coronavirus. I remember back in March thinking this will hopefully be over by the end of May. This week Gov. Noem extended the State Emergency Order till the end of the year. If this is the first time you're hearing this kind of prognosis and your spirit just deflated, take heart, that was my initial reaction too.

There are all kinds of repercussions that have happened and will happen in the months to come due to Covid-19. One place I think we need to focus on at this point is our family and home life. In the beginning, there was a sense of novelty surrounding the changes in our lifestyles which spawned some good ways of coping like the "Teddy Bear Hunt" and "Hearts around the World," but that novelty has worn off.

Many of us have full lives: spouses, children, grandkids, friends; responsibilities to work/school, home, church, community; and hobbies and interests. But with the virus our rhythms and lifestyles have radically changed. Which leads me to these questions: Are you content or at peace at home? If you live with your spouse, children, extended family, or friends, how are your relationships fairing lately?

In the Psalm above, we see that our dwelling place can be a reflection of God's dwelling place—whether you live in an apartment or a ranch. Does your home reveal your care for the blessing God has given to you? In terms of your relationships with those you live with, is God's love alive and well between you?

Your home and family life is the primary place where God's love and our faith dwell. The church is meant to provide guidance and wisdom, encouragement, and support for our lives with our loved ones.

There is no such thing as a perfect family and yet with God's help and guidance parents can provide strong foundations to life so that their children can go from strength to strength: strength of home to strength in school to strength to their future life with Christ. Consider this important lesson that Jesus taught in his Sermon on the Mount:

"Therefore, everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash." Matthew 7:24-27

As your pastor, I strongly encourage you to embrace this opportunity to center your life and your family life in the Lord. This includes worshipping God regularly as a family with your church family. We will have in-sanctuary worship each Sunday beginning at 10:30 but will also continue to livestream the service on our Facebook

Abiding in Christ (continued)...

page. Look for creative ways to celebrate your family but also constructive ways to build your house upon the rock of faith in our Lord.

This summer we will be making some changes to Sunday mornings. To start with, we are encouraging people to gather before worship in the parking lot for coffee and beverages. This way we can visit with one another prior to worship. I will also be making special plans for activities for the kids that will take place before, during, or after the service. These events won't take long but are meant to be meaningful and fun for them and actually all of us!

I look forward to seeing you in the weeks ahead!

In Christ's Spirit,
Pastor Sheri

Drive-Through
Communion
Sunday June 7
11:45 am

Serving at the Handicap Driveway of the Church Drive up and Pastor will serve you in your car.





Tuesdays: 7:30 am

Zoom Meeting at home or at the church Videos available online – call 210-2909 for information



Musically Speaking

By Pat Engebretson

I need Thee every hour Hymnal - page 397 Matthew 28:20

Annie Hawks wrote the words to this hymn. In her own words, this is how it came to be:
"One day as a young wife and mother of 37 years of age, I was busy with my regular household tasks. Suddenly, I became so filled with the sense of nearess to the Master that, wondering how one could live without Him, either in joy or pain, these words "I need Thee every hour, " were ushered into my mind, the thought at once taking full possession of me."

She gave these words to her pastor, Robert Lowry, who added the melody and the refrain. It was first published in Nov. 1872. The famous evangelist Dwight L. Moody and his song leader, Ira Sankey, discovered the song. It became famous, much to Mrs. Hawk's surprise.

After the death of her husband years later she wrote: "I did not understand at first why this hymn had touched the great throbbing heart of humanity. It was not until long after, when the shadow fell over my way, the shadow of great loss, that I understand something of the comforting power in the words which I had been permitted to give out to others in my hour of sweet serenity and peace."

Who among us has not felt a great need for God? We need him every hour for His help, His guidance, and His presence. He knows our every need. He is our strength in good times and in bad. We have the full assurance that He is always with us.

Mission Offering

The Mission Offering for June is for ARTEMIS HOUSE.

In 1985, the Artemis House was founded by six women to provide services beyond the traditional housing and safety offered by shelters.

In addition to a safe place, fleeing victims from domestic violence also need help and guidance to establish safety for themselves and their children.

The Artemis House in Spearfish is a non-profit agency that helps battered persons and their families in Lawrence, Butte and Harding Counties