

NEW SONG

Listening for the ways God is working
in the Presbytery of South Dakota.

Presbytery of South Dakota Newsletter | April/May 2019

"In All Your Ways Acknowledge Him" Youth Rally 2019 Celebrates the Journey of Life



By Debra VanOverschelde

Youth Rally 2019 was held March 29-31st with 105 people in attendance. The theme for the weekend was LIFE (life is your journey), featuring Proverbs 3:6: "In all your ways acknowledge him and he will make your paths straight." The main speaker for the weekend was Andrew Bellisle, minister for discipleship and youth at Westminster, Rapid City. Luke Nelson, author/anti-bullying speaker, also spoke to us on Saturday afternoon and was joined by his wife Samantha who is a recording artist—the two of them brought us some beautiful music. The great messages focused on how we all get lost at different times in our life and how important it is to ask for help and find our way to God. Everyone had a great weekend of worship, music, food, and lots of fun.



Florida Mission Trip Report



By Mary Kenner

In March 2019 a small group of South Dakota Presbyterian volunteers joined the Presbytery of Florida and Dogwood Acres Retreat Center near Panama City, Florida to complete some work projects following the October 2018 Hurricane Michael. Darryl Johnson and Mary Kenner (Westminster, Rapid City), Benton Visser (Monroe, SD), and Kevin Veldhuisen (POSD mission coordinator) spent five days at Dogwood Acres building a boardwalk from the Dining Area to the Chapel that had been damaged by the storm; building a 10' x 12' stage at the outdoor worship area; and laid nine pallets of sod to reduce erosion occurring near the dining/chapel area.

Kevin lead a tour to Mexico Beach (area hardest hit by the hurricane) where we observed firsthand the devastation that a category-four hurricane can cause. There is much work to be accomplished and prayers needed in the years to come. We were impressed with the cleanup work that had already been completed at Dogwood Acres by the staff and local volunteers and even more excited that we were part of preparing the Center for use by future volunteers involved in the cleanup through partnership with Presbyterian Disaster Assistance.

A big thank you to SD Presbytery, our home churches, and Dogwood Acres for their support. A special thank you to James and Ben from Dogwood Acres for their southern hospitality.

Sioux Falls Presbyterians Unite for "Fat Sunday" and Ash Wednesday

Our Sioux Falls Presbyterian churches gather together each year for a combined Ash Wednesday worship service. But this year in addition to the service planned by the pastors, a meal and time of fellowship on the Sunday before Ash Wednesday was organized by a group of lay leaders from the different congregations as a way of deepening our relationships and sense of unity in faith and ministry among the churches.

This "Fat Sunday" gathering was held at Westminster and featured a meal of pulled pork, baked beans, coleslaw, and a variety of desserts. At the tables—each of which consisted of attendees from at least two different churches—participants worked together on a quiz about the season of Lent. Altogether about 130 people attended and seemed to really enjoy the gathering.

A few days later the combined Ash Wednesday service was held at First Presbyterian. Leadership of the service was shared by Pastors Nathan Esser and Pat Hammond (First), Chad Ensz (Little Stone), David Halleen (Westminster), Marcus Brooks (Wildflower), and Kristie Berglund (Table of Grace), along with lay leaders from the different congregations who helped with music, serving communion, and other essential tasks and preparations. *continued on page 3*



Register Now for Camp



Visit **www.pioneerrimrock.camp** to register for summer camps, as well as spring and fall retreat options.

Check out these upcoming opportunities:

May 3-5 Women's Retreat

May 24-27 Work Camp

June 9-14 Young Adventure

June 17-21 Traveling Day Camps

June 23-28 Seekers (grades 3-5)

June 28-July 1 You and Me (grades K-2 + adult)

July 4-7 Family Camp

July 7-13 Compass (grades 9-12)

July 14-20 Pathfinder (grades 6-8)

July 21-27 Wilderness

July 29-30 Traveling Day Camps

Want to work at camp? We have openings for this summer, including head cook, assistant to the director, and crew members for counseling, kitchen help, and general maintenance.

Contact Jason at **director@pioneerrimrock.camp** for more information.

Sioux Falls Presbyterians (continued)

Highlights included music from the combined choir (directed by Dan Graber) and the FPC bell chorale, a dialogue-style sermon from Pastors David and Marcus on the tension between the “doom-and-gloom” and “joyful hope” themes that emerge during Lent, and of course the imposition of ashes and celebration of communion.

We are grateful for the spirit of unity that is emerging among our leaders and congregations and we look forward to more opportunities to worship, eat, and serve together in the future.

Raymond Work Project



Ministry Development and Education is organizing a building-refurbishing project at the Raymond Presbyterian Church. The project is scheduled for June 8, starting at 8:30 a.m. Lunch will be provided.

Needed for the project: clean up volunteers, painters, people with basic carpentry skills, or small donations for supplies.

If you are able to help or just have questions, please contact Dick Poppen at 605-854-9286, 605-520-3098, or richardpoppen1@gmail.com.

New Cohort of CREs to Begin Fall 2019

Are you interested in becoming a Commissioned Ruling Elder? The Presbytery of South Dakota will begin a new cohort that will meet at United Presbyterian Church in Willow Lake the second Saturday of each month from September 2019 through May 2020. Contact Carolyn Visser (**cjvisser@hotmail.com**) or Janice Palmer (**jpalmer516@gmail.com**) for more information about the program.



Job Opportunity: POSD Communicator

The Presbytery of South Dakota is seeking a talented individual to communicate information to the wider presbytery in creative ways. This is a part-time position and responsibilities include but are not limited to: preparing print and digital newsletters, updating social media, helping with web updates. If you or someone you know has background in communication or design, and who might be interested in this position, please speak with Brian Jones (millerpresbypastor@gmail.com), as soon as possible.

Adams Scholarship Applications Due May 1

The PW of First Presbyterian Church of Sioux Falls is accepting applications for the Adams Scholarship. This scholarship is awarded each spring to men and women who are pursuing roles in Christian Service (ministry, mission work, church music, Christian Education, etc.). Initial consideration is given to FPC members and thereafter to outside applicants.

The Adams Scholarship originated in 1966 to honor Dr. and Mrs. Clarence Adams. Dr. Adams was senior pastor at First Presbyterian Church from 1939 to 1966. Presbyterian Women created the scholarship in 1966 and have continued to support it through an annual fundraising event. Memorials, bequests, and individual contributions are also welcomed as ongoing opportunity to support our future Christian leaders. Checks or donations can be directed to PW – Adams Scholarship. Scholarship forms are available on our church website www.fpcsiouxfalls.org. Go to Quick Link and click on forms. Applications are also available in the church office. **Completed applications are due May 1, 2019.** If you have any questions, please contact Becky Hillestad, hillestadclan@hotmail.com.



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