



Pursue
righteousness, godliness,
FAITH, *love, steadfastness,*
gentleness.

1 Timothy 6:11 ESV

The Herald

From the Pastor's Desk

Shining Stars

On clear evenings I enjoy stepping out on our deck to gaze at the stars. I quickly locate a few familiar constellations but mostly I enjoy the beauty of the stars against the darkness of the night. At times I have driven out of town to be away from even the slight “light pollution” of Hill City. On a clear night the darker the night surroundings the brighter the stars shine. Beautiful!

“Live clean, innocent lives as children of God, shining like bright stars in a world full of crooked and perverse people. 16 Hold firmly to the word of life;” Philippians 2:15-16

Paul invites all who would desire to be known as “children of God”, to “shine like bright stars”!. He goes on to reference the surrounding culture/people as “crooked and perverse” which often feels like a valid description of our world as well. When there is so much anger in people, darkness in how they think and live, God’s children have the opportunity to be bright lights. Inviting lights, guiding lights, hopeful lights. What is more hopeful when lost in darkness than the sight of a light to guide us out of our darkness.

The Apostle Paul indicates we are able to shine this way because “we hold firmly to the word of life” for it truly is our source of life, but we always do it with “pure and innocent lives”. I think Paul tied these thoughts together like this because he knew how difficult it could be to be boldly bright and pleasantly innocent. I still find this challenging and I believe you do as well. But, don’t give up. As our world seems darker, our light can shine even brighter, filled with more hope and grace than ever. You never know who is peering from the darkness being drawn to Jesus as you shine His Light.

Shine!



From the Office Administrator's Desk

On Wednesday, July 27th, Pastor Dennis, Pastor Ben and I (Stephanie) went to a luncheon that was put on by the Family Heritage Alliance. This luncheon was titled, "Life After Roe". "Life After Roe" left us with information on what the Dobbs decision now means for South Dakota and what we must do next, specifically the church. The speakers included: Dale Bartscher—SD Right to Life, Travis Lassetter—BH Pregnancy Center & Damen Woolsey—SD Kids Belong.

Damen's words specifically touched my heart, as he discussed the need for more foster parents, more adoptive parents and more support families in the Rapid City area. As a church, we need to step up and see where God might be calling us in one of those areas. *Is God calling you into one of those areas?* As a mom who has adopted a child out of the foster care system, I know what it means to step out of my comfort zone and be a little scared of the unknown. But, I have also seen God's faithfulness and throughout our whole process I have had to fully rely on Christ for everything I need, growing me closer to Him.

So, is God calling you to be a foster parent? An adoptive parent? Or is He calling you to be a support person for someone who is already doing those things? Please be in prayer about that! Also, please be in prayer for the women who are pregnant and scared, and are considering an abortion. Pray that God would show them the beautiful child He is knitting together in their womb (Psalm 139:13-14).

There are lots of Pro-Life events coming up, here are just few for you to check out and maybe get involved in!

A Celebration of Life Convention—SD Right to Life State Convention

@ First Assembly of God—Rapid City

September 30– October 2nd

Register at: <https://sdrighttolife.org>

Black Hills Pregnancy Center Fall 2022 Fundraiser Dinner

September 15th at the Ramkota Hotel

Speaker: Melissa Ohden, an abortion survivor

www.bhpcpartners.org

More info on SD Kids Belong: www.americaskidsbelong.org/states/sd/

Have You Met?

Adult Name(s): Joe & Angie Panza
Children Name(s) and Ages: Anthony 20 yrs

How did you come to be at The Little White Church and how long have you been attending? **Joe:** We moved to Custer in July '21 and visited LWC in January for the first time and instantly felt welcomed and that it was our church home! **Angie:** Joe and I spent our first 5 months here, searching for a church home. We were becoming discouraged, until we finally discovered Little White Church. We felt so blessed to have found a church family who truly loved Christ!!! We have now been attending Little White Church for 6 months!!



How long have you lived in the Black Hills? Just over 1 year

List some jobs or careers you have had over the years?

Joe: Began in building maintenance, then into construction where I ran my own construction business for several years in MN. As part of our move to SD I knew I wanted to be done with construction. I was hired last November by Custer County as the building & grounds maintenance supervisor. **Angie:** I worked in child care before we brought our son, Anthony, home. Once I became a mom, I was fortunate to be able to stay home and care for Anthony!! We also chose to homeschool for the first 9 years, which kept me pretty busy!

Where did you grow up or places you have lived for a longer duration?

Joe: Grew up in Spokane, WA. Left WA at age 20 for Crown Bible College in MN. I met Angie in '96 and we got married in '98. We lived in the Fergus Falls, MN area for 23+ yrs before moving to Custer.

Angie: I had the privilege of growing up on the family dairy farm in rural MN ~ the same farm that my dad grew up on! I LOVED living on the farm and going to school in a very small community!! My husband, Joe, and I moved back to the area after college and lived there for 23 years before moving to Custer.

Have You Met? - Continued

What is a spiritual story/ testimony you would like to share?

Joe: Our entire move from MN to SD has been one huge God thing. We've talked about moving to the Black Hills for several years, then the one year that God moved us was the year of Covid, crazy real estate prices, skimpy real estate inventory, record high building materials, etc. It was not an easy journey to pack up and move to a new place with new people with no home, no church family and no job, BUT the provision stories seem endless. God had a buyer approach us about purchasing our home without it being listed. He provided a camper (temp home) at the perfect time when campers were nearly impossible

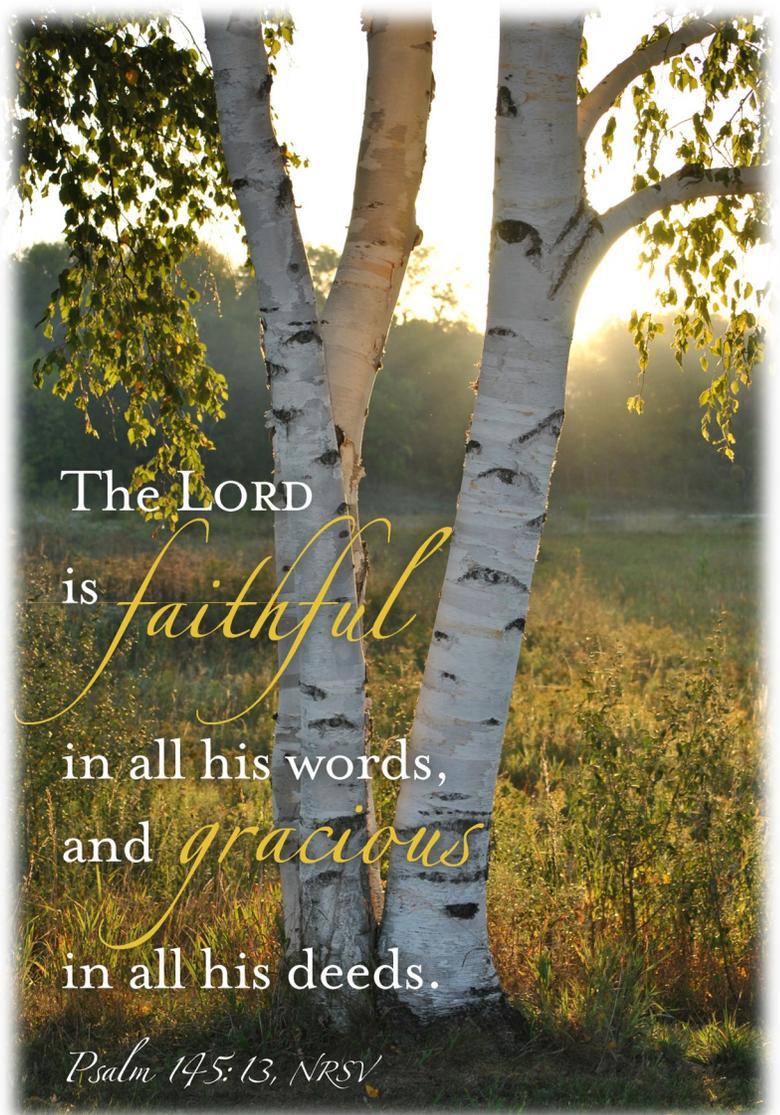
to come by. He led us towards a piece of land that has the most incredible neighbors. Our well was drilled and septic installed when we were told it could be a year plus wait. Lumber prices dropped dramatically to much lower prices during our build. Menards 11% rebate the entire summer!!! After a few disappointing dead ends to job possibilities, God provided me with a job I love. And discovering LWC was an amazing Sunday morning for Angie and I.

Angie: I asked my mom to pray with me when I was very young. I wanted Christ to be my very best friend, and He has been ever since!! I can't imagine having to go through life without Him!!

In what ways have you been involved in ministry or serving over the years?

Joe: Usher for many years, as well as helped with AWANA

Angie: I have been involved in many aspects of children's ministry; Sunday school, children's church, nursery, VBS, AWANA, etc. I have also been involved in world missions (missions' boards and short-term trips).



Have You Met? - Continued

Do you have any special talents or gifts? Joe: Eating pizza

Angie: I have enjoyed teaching over the years.

If you could only use one word to describe God, it would be...

Joe: Amazing!

Angie: Faithful!!!!

What biblical figure best describes you and why? Joe: Not sure, but I've been recently enjoying Exodus. When Moses pleads with God that he is not eloquent and that he is slow of speech and of tongue...I feel that I can really relate to Moses. But God still used him in mighty ways.

Anything else you would like us to know about you?

Joe: I love the woods! Especially 4wheeling, bow hunting, shed hunting and fly fishing.

Angie: I am so very, very thankful that God doesn't let me know what's about to happen in my life ahead of time!! If He did, I think I'd be too scared to take the next step forward! But, as I said before, He is SO, SO faithful to me ~ always!!!

**Joe & Angie were recently voted onto our
Deacon & Deaconess Board for a 3 year term!**

Have You Met?



Want to be featured in

Have You Met???

*Please contact Stephanie at
office@thelittlewhitechurch.net*

"For whatever is born of God overcomes the world: and this is the victory that overcomes the world, even our faith." 1 John 5:4

"Any one or any thing which draws your heart away from God and His authority, is for you "the world." Whatever lessens your estimate of Christ and heavenly things, and hinders practical piety is, for you, "the world"—be it the cares of this life, riches, receiving honor from men, social prestige and pomp, the fear of man lest you be dubbed "peculiar" or "fanatical" is, for you, "the world"—and either you overcome it, or it will fatally overcome you.

The tense of the verb must not be overlooked: Faith which "overcomes the world" (1 John 5:4), not which "has overcome." So far from being an immediate achievement, it is a lifelong business, a prolonged and continuous strife."

A.W. Pink

Our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ. —Philippians 3:20

No matter what your passport says, if you are a Christian, there is no earthly country that can hold you, no borders that can claim, you and no flag that flies above you but Jesus and the Kingdom of Heaven. You have more in common with the believing aboriginal tribesman of Indonesia, the Christian refugee in Africa, the Bedouin brother in Egypt, the Spirit-filled Brazilian housewife, the high rise business person in Hong Kong who bows to pray in Jesus name, than you do your next door neighbors if they don't know Christ as Lord and Savior.

Prayer... Glorious God and Almighty Father, I look forward to the day when people from every language, tribe, nation, and language join the angels and elders around your throne and worship you in joy forever. Make us one, if not here, then soon. We ask you Lord Jesus, please come. Amen.

The Christian is a pilgrim, and life is a Pilgrim's Progress. We do not belong here. This world is 'Vanity Fair' through which we are passing. We do not build permanently here. Keep your eye on your ultimate destiny, remind yourself of who you are. Do not be over-attracted by the Fair, do not spend too much time at any of its stalls as you are passing by. Never forget where you are going, and the family to which you belong. Keep these things in the forefront of your mind says the Bible."

Martyn Lloyd-Jones; *The Christian Warfare*, page 367

"Regeneration means that one has been born again or born from above (Jn. 3:3, 5, 7, . The new birth is the work of God, so that all those who are born again are "born of the Spirit" (Jn. 3:8). Or, as 1 Pet 1:3 says, it is God who "caused us to be born again to a living hope" (1 Pet 1:3). The means God uses to grant such new life is the gospel, for believers "have been born again, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding word of God" (1 Pet. 1:23; cf. Jas. 1:18). Regeneration or being born again is a supernatural birth. Just as we cannot do anything to be born physically – it just happens to us! – so too we cannot do anything to cause our spiritual rebirth." - Pastor Thomas Schreiner

"O Christian, the world is not your friend.

If it is, then you are not God's friend. "

Charles Spurgeon

"Forgetfulness of God's grace is one of the greatest tools in the enemy's war against our souls."

Mark Dever

"One of the most difficult places for the seed of the gospel to take root is in the heart of one who assumes to know the gospel, but has yet to know Jesus."

Stacy L Sanchez

August Librarians: Georgie Neff & Millie Holle

Focus on Missions—Younglife

Young Life Ministry Update

Summer time is a such a sweet season to look back on the year of Young Life ministry. As we have navigated the longevity of ministry in Hill City there is great joy in what the Lord has been doing.

Last year we saw the growth and return of strong clubs on Mondays, fresh new leaders and goodbyes to faithful leaders. Our girls Bible study called campaigners experience tremendous growth and depth throughout the year.

This summer we took 11 high school friends to camp in Missouri. Through heat and humidity we laughed and shared in the richness of God's love and grace.

Our banquet in May was a fun night of hearing students testimony and raising funds for our program. Thank you everyone for contributing.

August 27th we will host our 9th Archery Tournament and look forward to the fun time that event has always been.

A most sincere thank you to all of our prayer partners, sponsors, donors, committee and volunteers who make it possible to share the greatest news in the world with our high school friends in Hill City.



Part 4 of a 5 part definition of worship by William Temple, Archbishop of Canterbury, 1942-1944.

Part 1 was Worship: To quicken [revive] the conscience by the holiness of God; see May newsletter.

Part 2 was Worship: To feed the mind with the truth of God; see June newsletter.

Part 3 was Worship: To purge [purify] the imagination by the beauty of God; see July newsletter.

Part 4: Worship: To open the heart to the love of God.

Receiving the love of God can be an act of worship.

The apostle Paul wrote about this kind of worship in Ephesians 3:17b-19. I have changed his "you" wording to "we."

May our roots go down deep into the soil of God's marvelous love. May we have the power to understand, as all God's people should, how wide, how long, how high and how deep His love really is. May we experience the love of Christ, though it is so great we will never fully understand it. Then we will be filled with the fullness of life and power that comes from God.

LORD, we open up our hearts and let our spirits worship You. Because Your lovingkindness is better than life, we praise and bless You.



Announcements

Ministry to Men Gathering will be held every Sunday at 6 pm here at the church. This is a time for men and their boys to encourage, exhort and disciple each other through a devotion, and prayer specifically for each other. Meetings typically last around a half hour. ?'s, see Andrew Schock.

Ladies Birthday Party – for women with birthdays in July & August!
Monday, August 1st at 6:30 pm at Tanya Siebert's home.
Please RSVP to 605-639-5371

The first Monday of every month, at 7 pm, there will be a Building/New Addition meeting for anyone that wants to get involved in the discussion of a new addition. Next meeting is August 1st.

Baby Shower for Sophia Graham – August 7th at 2 pm.
Sophia is registered at: babylist.com/baby-reg-sophia-graham

We are planning a Ministry Fair for August 21st & 28th, during the Fellowship times. If you are a Ministry Leader in the church and would like to have a table to display what your ministry is about, please contact Pastor Ben or Stephanie in the office.
This is a great time to get volunteer signups as well!

There are quite a few See A Need – Fill a Need Requests (helps for our members) on the board by the library. If you can help with any of them, please contact Stephanie in the office or Jeff Liddell.

Monthly Prayer Call for South Dakota
State Prayer Call: Every 2nd Monday of the Month at 7 am MT
Call 605-313-5337 and access code is 3779638

If you received an email from “Checkr” to perform a background check – it is legit! We are now doing checks online.
Please see Stephanie Larsen if you have ?'s.

Would you like to be added to our church directory?
Please contact Stephanie at 605-574-2426 or email at
office@thelittlewhitechurch.net



Hello Church!

THE YOUTH GROUP NEEDS YOUR HELP!

As you are sorting through your kids closets this summer, consider hanging onto those too small, gently worn kids clothing items and donating them to our first LWC Youth Love INC Community Kids Clothing Exchange!



We would love to accept your donations at our drop off time here at LWC:

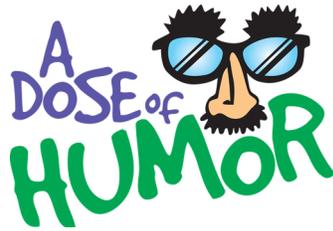
Aug 5, 6, 8, 12 and 13 from 9-11am.

**Plus 2 evening drop offs Aug 5th & 12th,
from 5-7pm.**

Come “shop” the exchanged clothes at our “store” at the Hill City Center on the afternoon and evening of **Friday, Aug 19th from 1:00pm to 8:00pm.**

Everyone is welcome!!

There will be no charge to shop and a free-will donation jar will be available to help us continue work with Love INC in our community.



Q: What do you call a Labrador at the beach in August?

A: A hot dog!

Q: What does a bee do when it's hot?

A: He takes off his yellow jacket

Q: Why do bananas use sun screen?

A: Because they peel.

Q: What do you get when you combine an elephant with a fish?

A: Swimming trunks!

Q: What does the sun drink out of?

A: Sunglasses!

Q: What do you do if you get rejected from a job at a sun screen factory?

A: Reapply!



THE LITTLE WHITE CHURCH

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