

**FIRST CHRONICLES**

**August, 2022**

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
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***“If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. This is to my Father’s glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples”***

***– John 15:7-8***

I am in awe of the beauty and wonder of nature. A brief look outside reveals the power and creativity of our God. Just think—when you plant an apple seed, you always get an apple tree. Every time. Further, that tree produces apples, and those apples produce seeds that will produce more apples. Ever wonder why the apple seed doesn’t produce a pear tree? Or a lemon tree? To the Christian, the answer is simple: because God in his creative act ordered it so.

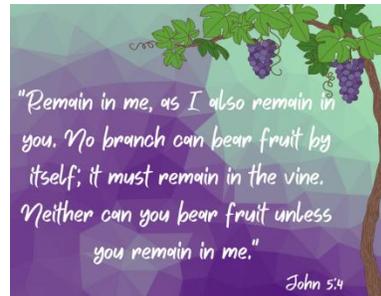
God is a God of order. When he creates something or someone, he creates it for a purpose. When a person places their faith in Christ, God makes him/her into a new creation. This person doesn’t exist apart from everything else. Just as a tree’s roots go down into the ground, so too does a person need to be attached to something to stay healthy. In John 15, Jesus teaches us that HE is the one to whom we need to be attached to be healthy. He is the true vine.

He promises that if we remain in him, we will bear fruit. Then, he repeats that promise negatively—if we don’t remain in Him, we will not be able to bear fruit. In fact, the imperative to abide in him is so important that Jesus states emphatically, “Apart from me, you can do nothing.” As a new creation in Christ, we need to stay close to him through God’s Word.

This is why Jesus teaches in verses 7-8 that a mark of being his disciple is that we bear fruit. Bearing fruit demonstrates that we are remaining in him. What does this fruit look like? Galatians 5:22 tells us that, “the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.” We must ask ourselves, are these growing in our life? If someone observed our lives, would they describe our lives this way?

True disciples bear fruit. However, we must recognize that we should not view this legalistically. Fruit takes time to grow and not all fruit grows the right way the first time. As God changes us through the Holy Spirit, some fruit will grow more quickly, and imperfect fruit will need to be pruned to allow good fruit to grow. Still, we will know the good fruit from the bad by remaining in Christ and studying God’s Word. An apple tree won’t produce lemons. A Christian’s fruit must look increasingly like the fruit of the Spirit.

God is good to change us and make us look more like Christ. It is out of his love for us that he sent Christ in the first place to make us into a new creation. So this month, let’s pay attention to the fruit we bear and pray that God would continue to “garden” us. Our fruit marks us as a disciple—and it glorifies God!



In Christ,  
Jesse

# OUR SCHEDULE!

GREETERS	NURSERY WORKERS
<b>Sunday, August 7</b> Stan & Crystal deBoer Judy Eben	<b>Sunday, August 7</b> Donna DeBoer
<b>Sunday, August 14</b> Harold & Helen Eben	<b>Sunday, August 14</b> Katie DeBoer
<b>Sunday, August 21</b> Doug & Donna DeBoer	<b>Sunday, August 21</b> Kody den Hoed
<b>Sunday, August 28</b> Darren & Julie Kramer	<b>Sunday, August 28</b> Judy Eben

*Thank You  
So Much*

The Bread of Life in George is so grateful for your donations and your help the night of food distribution. You are truly the hands and feet of Jesus! A special thanks to Pastor Sternke and his family and Crystal and Ava deBoer for their help every month! We appreciate each of you! -The Bread of Life Food Pantry and Paul & Kathy Altena

Thank you for the thoughts, prayers, and cards during Alethea's cancer journey and recent passing. Our family is thankful. -Junior Stubbe and Family

We want to thank you for all the love, prayers, food, and other kindness shown to our family during the loss of Kevin. It is so great to be a part of the family of God and experience this type of love. - Lena Ruddy and family

Thank you to Pastor Jesse for his visit while I was in the hospital. Also Thank you to the church for the beautiful flowers and prayers. My doctors and nurses really enjoyed them as well. - Jolene Ackerman



August	5	Harold & JoAnn Schneiderman Joan Boneschans
	9	Jason & Connie Christians
	10	Brent & Ashley Johnson Rachel Busse David Eben
	12	Paul & Sharilyn Reemtsma
	15	Miley denHoed Mike Hagan
	18	Brandon & Marci Jones Ashley VanTubergen
	19	Helen Eben
	22	Ryan & Cricket Arends Lila Walters
	23	Ross & Amber Kooiker
	26	Lexi Cottington Barbie Hagan
	27	LeAnn Doeden
	29	Kayla Reck Dennis Winkowitsch
	30	Jeff Eben Shirley Winkowitsch

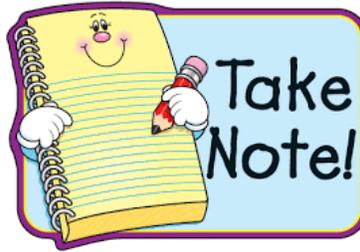


Harlan Moss is the Chaplin at the South Dakota State Penitentiary.

In Harlan's last several newsletters, he shares about those that have been making progress in their walk with the Lord. Harlan has also been able to share Christ with a few new arrivals who in turn, have at one time, heard of Jesus, as well as the Bible. Through his Bible studies, there are more inmates accepting Christ as their Savior and attending Harlan's Bible studies. Harlan expressed his appreciation for those inmates that are spreading the Gospel and sharing Bible studies with new inmates.

If you haven't read the last few months newsletters, we ask that you do and pray for those that Harlan shares his stories about. Continue praying for him as he works with the different prisoners and shares Bible Studies as well as leads more inmates to accept Christ as their Savior.

- Mission Board



- ❖ Deacons, staff, and advisory board, don't forget to mark your calendar for the leadership retreat on August 12 and 13. The deacons and staff will meet Friday from 6:00-9:00 pm. Deacons, staff, and advisory board will meet on Saturday morning from 9:00-12:00 pm. Food will be provided both days.
- ❖ We will be having our Awana Leaders Meeting Sunday, August 14, at 5:00 pm. Please let Donna DeBoer (712-348-4654) know how many from your family will be attending for a pizza supper.
- ❖ Christian Hour Circle will be at Lynette's house Monday, August 15, at 6:30 pm. We will be visiting and having a light lunch. All ladies of the church are invited. Please text Lynette if you are planning to attend.
- ❖ Awana Kick-Off will be Saturday, August 20, at 6:00 pm. Join us for registration and pizza and ice cream. We will be having inflatables and lots of fun! Awana start date will be September 7 from 6:30-8:00.
- ❖ Jesse and Katie would like to host fellowship lunches ("Lunch Bunch") at the parsonage over the next year. Each Sunday of the month, directly after church, they'll provide the main dish and if you come, please bring a side dish. If you are unable to bring a side dish or just forgot, don't worry! We still want you there. To make sure we have enough room and food, and because we want to include everyone in the church, there will be a new sign-up each month. If you already signed up for a previous month, please consider leaving room for others to sign up. We'll be doing this almost every month this year and so there will be plenty of room to participate if you aren't able to on a particular month. We're looking forward to a time of food and fellowship!

## Sunday School Picnic

The Sunday School Picnic will be on Sunday, August 21 following the morning service. Group 1 will work in the kitchen. We will be having grilled hotdogs and hamburgers. Please bring your own salads and desserts to share. We will have inflatables again this year for the kids (and any adventurous adults).

<b>Appointment Committee</b> CE Board	<b>Buying</b> Alyssa den Hoed Donna DeBoer
<b>Inflatables</b> Donna DeBoer Terresa Wagenaar	<b>Bean Bag Tournament</b> Abby and Bradley Kramer Bryan and Rachel Kramer
<b>Lemonade</b> Dennis and Gracia Schrick	<b>Ice Cream Dippers</b> Sunday School Teachers
<b>Table Set up</b> Ushers	<b>Collecting for the Buying Committee</b> Merlyn Winter Daryl Kramer
<b>Kitchen Committee (Group 1)</b> Gracia Schrick Helen Eben LeAnn Doeden Lena Ruddy Lila Walters Pat Johnson Gloria Kruse Joan Boneschans Janelle Kooiker	

## August 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 6:30 PM Youth  7:00 PM Visitation	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 9-12 Youth Group to Valleyfair
<b>7</b> COMMUNION SUNDAY 9:00 Fellowship Time  10:00 AM Worship  6:30 PM Discipleship U	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> 6:00 PM CHC  7:00 PM Deacon Board Meeting	<b>10</b> 6:30 PM Youth  7:00 PM Adult Prayer Meeting and Bible Study	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> Leadership Retreat	<b>13</b> Leadership Retreat
<b>14</b> 9:00 AM Fellowship Time  10:00 AM Worship  5:00 PM Awana Leaders Mtg  6:30 PM Discipleship U	<b>15</b> 6:30 PM CHC @ Lynette's	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 6:30 PM Youth  7:00 PM Visitation	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 6:00 PM Awana Kickoff
<b>21</b> MISSION SUNDAY  10:00 AM Worship  11:15 AM Sunday School Picnic	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> BREAD OF LIFE 6:30 PM Youth  7:00 PM Adult Prayer Meeting and Bible Study	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> Little Rock Corn Show	<b>27</b> Little Rock Corn Show
<b>28</b> 9:00 AM Fellowship Time  10:00 AM Worship  6:30 PM Discipleship U	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> 6:30 PM Youth  7:00 PM Adult Prayer Meeting and Bible Study			