

The Fold
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Pierre, SD 57501

First Baptist Church

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First Baptist Church
 Pierre, SD

Pastor hits the ground running in new home

- By Del Bartels del.bartels@capjournal.com
- May 5, 2021 Updated May 5, 2021



“Up until April I spent my days with 11 year old students. Having 6’6” Monte the Monkey handy helps with upset kids. He is already a hit with the kids, and even some of the adults,” said Pastor Russ Jones. Del Bartels

Pastor Russ didn’t waste any time tending to his flock when he drove into Pierre around supper time on Good Friday and gave his first sermon on Easter. But that’s how the new pastor Russell Jones at First Baptist Church did it.

Jones understands about returning to the flock. He grew up in an extremely hardcore, fundamentalist Southern Baptist church, with his father a deacon. Two things pushed him away.

“It was a watershed moment when I heard that everyone else — not just other religions but other Christian congregations — were going to hell,”

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Jones said. "And, there is no one more self-righteous than me as a teenager."

Jones said he had a stubbornness about him, which he inherited from his grandparents from the "hollers of Kentucky." He experienced career changes over the years — English teacher and a credit card company trainer among them — and moved to Texas to look for any available work in 2010 during the recession.

During an especially strenuous night at work, Jones said he struggled with why life was so hard. He said he felt lost.

"But I knew it was because I was trying to do it myself," he said. "I went to a church, just went, and I was asked to fill in temporarily as a Sunday school teacher. It took a year to admit that was what I was to do."

But Jones wasn't done growing or coming to new realizations.

"The church is teaching in a different way," Jones said. "I was still struggling, and my wife, Victoria, said to me, 'You are not Southern Baptist anymore; that is not you.'"

In Round Rock, Texas, the Peace of Christ (Baptist) Church under the Cooperation of Baptist Fellowship ordained Jones. The First Baptist Church in Pierre is with the American Baptist Churches.

"Central Texas is not quite as rural as Pierre, my town was around 18,000, but I taught in a city a half-hour away about the size of Sioux Falls," Jones said. "That area's economy was driven by Fort Hood, and South Dakota's economy is driven by agriculture. This is my very first full-time pastorship. Before now, I was bi-professional — a school teacher by day and a pastor in the evenings and weekends. Well over 100 hours a week. I felt I was getting consumed. I really hate giving up the classroom, but God gets first dibs."

Still, Jones knows the calling. He already works well over 40 hours per week. He knows that it will increase with future counseling, hospital visits

Birthdays & Anniversaries

BIRTHDAYS

June 5: Liam Auble
 June 8: Opal Kjerstad
 June 9: Wanda Dilley
 Rebecca Hunt
 June 11: Lynda Hart
 Violet Ruppelt
 June 12: Lois Sivage
 June 13: Renee Osterkamp
 June 14: Katie Stager
 June 18: Kylie Light
 Kasey Light
 Tucker Light
 Tiffany Lenneman
 June 19: Bill Griese
 June 24: Keenan Howard
 June 28: Jyles Auble
 July 3: Jenah Manger
 Kaye Ingle
 July 4: Idella Hard
 July 12: Ron Baumgart
 Delcie Hall
 July 15: Jim Knipp
 July 16: Georgina Smith
 Kinsley Smith

July 18: Erin Baumgart
 July 22: Shellie Baumgart
 July 25: Brad Bruns
 Cade Kjerstad
 July 30: Sarah Speek

ANNIVERSARIES

June 5:
 Chase & Tiffany Lenneman
 June 8:
 Jeff & Connie Pierce
 June 13:
 Dave & Mavis Kruger
 June 20:
 Aaron & Anita Tripp
 June 25:
 Brad & Erika Bruns
 July 6:
 Patrick & Desiree Quinn
 July 8:
 Kendall & Sue Light
 July 19:
 Jim & Lori Knipp



Worship Leaders

DATE:	6/6	6/13	6/20	6/27	7/4	7/11	7/18	7/25
Worship Leader	One Hope Ecumenical Worship @ Griffin Park					Paula Weeldreyer		Darrell Kemnitz
Usher						Erika Bruns	Darren Hall	Ken Koistinen
Usher						Brad Bruns	Lori Hall	Joyce Koistinen
Usher						Austin Bruns	Sunny hall	
Children's Moment						Paula Weeldreyer	Delcie Hall	Darrell Kemnitz
Power Point						Jeff Pierce	Laurie Feiler	Cindy Kemnitz
Song Leader						Paula Weeldreyer	Lori Hall	Erika Bruns

Dakotamart Receipts

Please place your receipts in an envelope and put Maxine's name on the front, then place it on the table in the narthex. Thank you for your help.

NOTE: Only Lynn's Dakotamart valid register tapes will be accepted. Tapes that are mutilated and do not contain a legible total will not be accepted.

Please remember to save your receipts... every dollar counts!



Thank God for Little Things

Thank You, God, for little things	The thoughtful, kindly deed;
That often come our way,	Oh make us more aware, dear God
The things we take for granted	Of little daily graces,
But don't mention when we pray...	That come to us with "Sweet Surprise"
The unexpected courtesies,	From never-dreamed-of places.

and emergencies. His deacons can get through to his cell phone — even when set to silent.

"This is an on-call profession," Jones said.

Jones found he felt like he was talking with friends within the first 10 minutes of his Zoom interview for the open pastoral position after Lizette Hunt's retirement.

Jones met most of his congregation during the church's all-day open house, with social distancing for COVID-19. And he even stayed an extra three days during Pierre's last cold snap because Texas managed to have even colder temperatures mixed with blackouts.

In the end, the vote to bring Jones on as the new pastor was unanimous.

"My goal is to retire here," he said. "This is where I want to stay. My wife and I have said we have one more move in us... from our apartment to a house. When we moved down to Texas, I knew no one. Here, we have a built-in support system. Two Pierre couples with trailers drove down to help load our stuff up, and eight more were waiting here to help us unload. It's a church family."

It wasn't easy leaving the stability Jones found in Texas, but his new congregation made it easier on him.

"It's hard to just say goodbye to a stable career and travel a 1,000 miles to take a new one. I took a leap of faith," he said. "This whole process feels like 'coming home' more than anything else."

One Hope Ecumenical Worship, Pierre, SD

Here's the line-up of which church will be taking the lead each Sunday. First UMC & First Congregational UCC will worship in the park each Sunday, while Resurrection Lutheran and First Baptist will join a few Sundays each! We pastors are SO excited to see what God is up to again this summer as we join together in ONE HOPE!

ONE HOPE

2021 Ecumenical Worship in Griffin Park

9:30am each Sunday.

JUNE 6: FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UCC

JUNE 13: FIRST BAPTIST

JUNE 20: RESURRECTION LUTHERAN

JUNE 27: FIRST UNITED METHODIST

JULY 4: JOINT 4TH OF JULY WORSHIP

All are welcome: *bring your lawn chairs!*

OUR CHALLENGE

Our Church should be a witness and show concern
For those seeking The Master for whom they yearn.
Help us, Oh God, to be a church of that kind
To help those who are seeking so they might find.

Let us support Our Church, and make her strong;
There is no better way to overcome Evil and Wrong.
Let us teach our children and guide our youth
So they might know the everlasting truth.

Let us all try and truly endeavor
To be cheerful and willing as we work together.
We know our work is for a mighty cause—
So lets move ahead without a pause.

We are thankful for those who have served The Lord,
But now they have gone for their reward.
Let us be willing to ~~give and sacrifice more,~~
So this reward, too, we might have in store.

It will not matter what creed or race,
Someday we'll meet our Master face to face.

The Master will say, "Life's battle you have won—
Good and Faithful Servants--well done."

*Gordon Baumgart
He wrote it many
years ago.*

I could have retyped this, but it felt more personal this way. LS

The lighter handwriting says: Gordon Baumgart—He wrote it many years ago.

5 Natural Pest Repellents

Mice

Place cotton dipped in peppermint oil near problem areas. Used Kitty litter is another repellent.



Ants

Sprinkle cinnamon, bay leaves, cayenne pepper or baby powder in problem areas along baseboards and windowsills.



Flies

Small sachets of crushed mint placed around the home will discourage flies. So will a potted sweet basil plant.



Cockroaches

Sprinkle equal parts of baking soda and confectioners' sugar in problem areas.



Mosquitoes

Mix 2 teaspoons of apple cider vinegar in a glass of water placed on your deck or balcony or dab lavender oil on your wrists and elbows.



Let's share the news!

Anyone wishing to share information is welcome to send articles, news items, pictures and etc. to the church for use in the upcoming FOLDS.

These can be:

- ⇒ mailed to the church @ Box 105, Pierre, SD 57501,
- ⇒ e-mailed to firstbaptist@midconetwork.com
- ⇒ dropped off at the church with the pastor or secretary.

The deadline for submitting is the **20th** of every month.

**SOUTH DAKOTA
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION**

Bringing philanthropy to life for a stronger South Dakota
P.O. Box 296 | Pierre, SD 57501

April 20, 2021

First Baptist Church
2310 E. Capitol Ave.
Pierre, SD 57501

Dear First Baptist Church:

The South Dakota Community Foundation is pleased to make a grant distribution in the amount of \$1,000.00 to the First Baptist Church.

This grant is made from the John T. & Penny L. Porter Family Fund, a permanently endowed fund within the South Dakota Community Foundation.

As the donors have already received a charitable deduction for the original contribution to the South Dakota Community Foundation, we request that you send only a letter of appreciation to the donors and do not include an IRS receipt.

In keeping with the guidelines of the IRS regarding grants from community foundations, by cashing this check the First Baptist Church certifies that this contribution is explicitly for the furtherance of charitable purposes and that no part of this gift may be used for the benefit of the donor-advisors who recommended that this grant be made.

Please send your acknowledgement of this gift to:

John T. & Penny L. Porter Family Fund
2216 West Cherrywood Circle
Sioux Falls, SD 57108

In any listing of contributions, please show this as a gift from the John T. & Penny L. Porter Family Fund of the South Dakota Community Foundation.

Sincerely,

Kelly Nelson

Kelly Nelson
Program Accountant





April 22, 2021

Dear First Baptist Church,

On behalf of the family of Laura Johnson Frame, please find enclosed a memorial fund gift in the amount of \$1,000.00.

I continue to be blessed each Sunday with your Facebook church service.

Hopefully I will be able to return to experience a church service in the building.

Sincerely,

Charles R.
Frame



This is the day which the Lord hath made;
we will rejoice and be glad in it.
Psalm 118:24

I am happy to be sending you a gift of \$500 in memory of our mom, Helen Rittel.

Mom loved her church and had many friends there through the years. I like to think that those who went to Heaven before her are now rejoicing with her.

With Christian love,

Donna Crandell
and the rest of the
Rittel family