

**Rake the Town** is an annual rake-a-thon event coordinated by the Workers on Wheels program at Active Generations in Sioux Falls. This two-day event will engage **over 1,000 volunteers** to rake the yards of 360 elderly and disabled homeowners. Business groups, individuals, families, sports teams, students, scouts, service clubs, etc. are all welcome! Leaf bags, gloves, and bottled water are provided but volunteers are asked to bring their own rakes and when possible, haul the bags to the leaf drop off site. **This year's Rake the Town will be October 27 and 28.**

Rake the Town continues to serve more and more seniors every year thanks to volunteers. **You can join the Rake the Town volunteers by organizing a group of enthusiastic co-workers, students, church members, service groups, and friends and family to help the elderly and disabled in our community.** Teams can register to rake one yard or whatever number works best for the team. Approximately 4 to 6 adults are needed to rake one yard depending upon the size of the yard. Children are welcome to participate if accompanied by an adult. Sign up online at [www.life965.com](http://www.life965.com) (under Hands & Feet Opportunities).

Rake the Town serves individuals within the Sioux Falls city limits over the age of 60 who do not have family available in the area to help with their yard work and are not financially or physically able to do the work themselves. Individuals under 60 with a documented physical disability are also eligible. If you would like to have your yard raked, call the HelpLine by dialing 211, or follow the link on [www.life965.com](http://www.life965.com) (under Hands & Feet Opportunities).

### **Pray for the Persecuted Church: Nepal** **Release of Christians Imprisoned for Praying**

Source: World Watch Monitor

After praying for a mentally ill woman, four Nepali Christians were sentenced in December 2016 to five years in prison for alleged "violence and witchcraft." Thankfully, their sentences were recently overturned and they have all been released. Lali Pun, Bimkali Budha, Ruplal Pariyar and his wife Ganga, were initially found guilty at the District Court in Salyan -- a district in western Nepal -- even though the woman had testified in court that their prayer had ultimately resulted in her healing. A fifth Christian, Rupa Thapa, was found not guilty.

The five had been imprisoned since July 2016 for "witchcraft, forceful imprisonment and violence," despite the presentation of an additional testimony from the healed woman's husband confirming their innocence. Along with being interrogated for these charges, the believers were further questioned at each court hearing to determine if they had made any attempts to convert their alleged victim -- an issue that was not listed on the charge sheet.

The mentally ill woman, Seti, had been sent by her father-in-law, a former Christian, to a local church for prayer with concerns that she was "possessed by demons." Witnesses reported that Seti left the church before the conclusion of the prayer service, and was later found shouting and inflicting harm to herself in a nearby forest.

More than a month later, a local businessman gave an account of the incident to the local media. On the basis of that media report, a complaint was filed against the five Christians, who were then arrested and subsequently sentenced under Nepal's new constitution which outlaws proselytism. Local church leaders announced at the time that they believed the five had been targeted because they were minority Christians.

While we can thank the Lord for the recent release of these imprisoned believers, please join us in praying that they will be strengthened as they recover from the ordeal. Although Christianity is considered a minority religion in their country, we can be assured from God's Word that these believers will be further unified and strengthened through the power of prayer. Despite any threats they may receive from those who oppose their faith, pray that they will continue to be courageous in their ministry service, and that their 'labour of love' will be mightily used to extend God's Kingdom in Nepal.

## **BRANDON VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH**

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# **Sunday, October 8, 2017**

Accompanist: Pam Osmanson and Jan Questad

Greeters: LeeRoy & Ginger Nelson Nursery: Justin & Sara Tiffany

Usher: Mike Kresak Scripture Reader: Pat Lacey

Children's Church: Doris Conradson & Maegan Questad

9:30 am

Worship Service

Welcome, Announcements, and Christian Greetings

Hymn #74....."Majesty"

Prayer of Praise

Offering/Offertory

Doxology (*Hymn #625*) – please stand

Ministry of Music – video

Scripture Reading.....Exodus 20:1-3; 2 Kings 17:35-40

Sermon...“Who is On First?”.....Pastor Randy Battey

Main Points:

I. Know God vv.1-2

II. Exalt God v.3

Prayer Response

Closing Hymn #4.....“How Great Thou Art”

Benediction

Postlude

**\*\*\*Nursery is available for children infant thru 3 years old**  
(Please contact an usher for information and/or direction.)

**\*\*\*Hearing Amplifier Available – Please contact an usher**

**Please join us after the worship service for coffee and treats in the fellowship room.**

## Sunday School for all ages

- Preschool - 1st Grade in the Nursery with LaDell Hanson
- 2<sup>nd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> Grade in the Cubbies room with 2D Gerdes
- 6<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> Grade in Pastor's office with Judy Preston or Erica Skogen
- High School in the Youth room with Mike and Stacy Frost
- Adult Class on I & II Peter in the Fellowship Room with Mike Benson
- Adult Class in Sanctuary video study

## For Your Information and Prayer

- Wednesday: Awana Clubs (HS starts at 6pm, 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> starts at 6:15pm, Preschool-5<sup>th</sup> grade starts at 6:30pm)
- Thursday: 7:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study at Charlotte Rottluff home, 1413 Rushmore Dr (Autumn View II), Brandon
- Saturday: 7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study at the church (breakfast provided)

## Next Sunday: October 15, 2017

- Greeters: Glen & Doris Conradson
- Usher: Doyle Young
- Nursery: Pam Osmanson and Hailey Skogen
- Scripture Reader: Trevor Skogen
- Children's Church: Theresa Friesen and Cade Fox

## Upcoming Events:

- October 22 Spotlight on Missions: Dr. Brandon Steger Family update on mission to Greece and Beirut (August through October in Greece, then five month medical mission in Beirut). We will have a video and LOVE OFFERING.
- October 22 3:30 All Church and Awana family gathering at Cherry Rock Gardens for a 25 minute hayride and corn maze: \$4 per person. Treats and cider will be provided.
- Sunday, November 5: Love Offering for B.V. Food Pantry; International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church
- November 15: Dr. Rick and Debbie Bardin (NAB Cameroon medical missionaries) will be speaking at Awana, everyone is welcome, see Joan for schedule.
- Sunday, November 19: Last day to drop off shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child
- November 29: Shan Reed, (NAB Japan missionary) will be speaking at Awana, everyone is welcome, see Joan for schedule.

**Needed:** weekly snacks for Middle and High School Awana youth. They can be prepackaged or homemade. Please avoid tree nuts and coconuts. You may put items in the treat cupboard east of the fridge. Thank you!

## \*\*\* Praise & Prayer\*\*\*

**Carol Kline**, mother of Theresa Friesen, recovering from a stroke  
**Ron Benson**, brother of Mike Benson, for heart health issues  
**Amanda Benson**, as her sending church, Amanda has asked that we lift her up in prayer as she is in the mission field.  
**Serving Our Country:** Josh Onnen, Air Guard; Chad Carlson, Air Guard (Son-in-law of Carl & Lindy Johnson); Kristina Lee, Air Force (Grandchild of Ray & Dee Olson); Amir Rottluff, Navy (grandson of Charlotte Rottluff)

## Our Prayer Partnership

- Heritage Lutheran Church, Brandon
- Pastor, First Baptist Church, Avon, SD

<b>OUR GIVING:</b>	Sunday, October 1, 2016
General Giving	\$ 2,960.73
Building Fund	\$ 25.00
S. School Materials	\$ 500.00
Furnace Fund	\$ 600.00
<u>Love Offering – Baptist W. Alliance</u>	<u>\$ 167.00</u>
Total	\$ 4,252.73

(Approximately \$2,500 is needed each week to meet expenses)

## Missionary / Church Planter of the Week

### Kristi TenClay, NAB Missionary, Cameroon



Kristi finished a year on home assignment this past summer, so she is back in the midst of the school year, teaching missionary kids and international students at the Rain Forest International School in Yaoundé, Cameroon. Pray for a colleague at RFIS who is navigating through a difficult medical situation.

Pray as well for Kristi's school year and her connection and impact on the students.