



The Builder



February

2020

The newsletter serving the families & friends of:

First Presbyterian Church

1005 1st Corso - Nebraska City NE 68410

Sunday School for all Ages - 9:15am

Sunday Worship - 10:30am

Sunday Sermon Preview - Thursday, 10am & 7pm

Save these dates.....

Come to the Table - Communion is served on the first Sunday each month

Church Pictorial Directory Photo Sessions - Thu - Sat, Feb 6-8

Fellowship Meal - Sunday, February 16

'Strike Up Some Fun' - Sunday School Bowling Party - details on page 5

Ash Wednesday - February 26 - 7pm Worship

Keep in touch.....

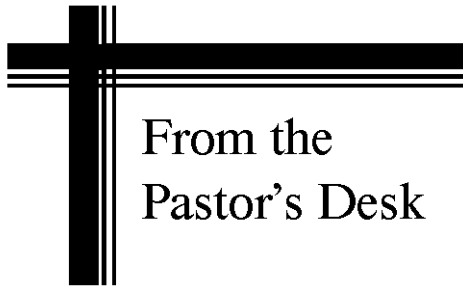
Pastor Tom: Email: presbypastortom@yahoo.com Phone: 402-274-8199

Church Office: Email: secretary@firstpresnc.org Phone: 402-873-5306

Website: www.firstpresnc.org

Facebook: First Presbyterian Church - Nebraska City

Homestead Presbytery website: www.homesteadpres.org



From the Pastor's Desk

First Presbyterian Church Family and Friends,
From the 2019 Annual Report, the following is a message from Pastor Tom:

To me it is a blessing to be serving as pastor of First Presbyterian Church. Janet and I are very appreciative of the way that we continue to be received into the fellowship this church family.

I enjoy telling people about the intergenerational congregation that “I get to serve.” I understand that it is possible for folks to become complacent about the life of a congregation and its membership. I always delight to think about how this congregation, with a diversity of ages and backgrounds, is alive and well--- striving each week to be the hands of Christ reaching out to others with the love of God. Are we perfect? No. But we have an energy and enthusiasm that would be coveted by many churches. It is a privilege for me to be a part of this ministry! Let's never become complacent!

There are several things that lead me to be so happy and proud of our congregation. One is our level of commitment. The attendance even during the winter has held up very well. The participation of members to accomplish needed tasks is worthy of praise. The stewardship of our members helps us continue to provide worship, programs and activities which help us grow numerically and also spiritually. The success of several of our programs should be mentioned. Those include the Annual Rummage Sale, The Holiday Bazaar, the Sunday school, the adult Bible studies on Thursdays, the men's Bible study group, the Deacons projects, the choir performances, and numerous efforts by committees of the Session. I am pleased to be involved in those, and I am proud of the results that all the planning and preparation and hard work produces. God is certainly with us, and for that we give thanks!

We welcomed four new members this past year and it is a joy to see them participating with us each week. I hope you will continue to welcome and show them your Christian love. They are Marvin & Jane Zimmerman, Laura Osborne, and Misty Burdett.

My favorite poet, Helen Steiner Rice, once penned the words that I would like to share with you as we begin another year. It goes like this:

As we start a new year untouched and unmarred,
Unblemished and flawless, unscratched and unscarred;
May we try to do better and accomplish much more,
And be kinder and wiser than in the year before.

This is my prayer for all of us as we continue to be First Presbyterian Church.
Yours in Christ,
Pastor Tom



February

Birthdays & Anniversaries!

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Dee Antes
2	3	4	5	6 Bill Dammast	7	8
9 Eileen Thayer	10 Mike James Kathy Nelson	11 Maisyn Hodges	12	13	14 Brent Shanholtz	15 Mary Cole
16	17	18 Tom Hemphill	19	20 Doris Martin Bunny Shanholtz	21	22
23	24	25 Jim Frerichs Jack Hobbie	26 Tom Cole	27	28	29

If you have additions or corrections to the Birthday and Anniversaries calendar, please don't hesitate to let Jane know! Please call the office or email your information to secretary@firstpresnc.org.

Bible Study





Join Pastor Tom and the others for *Sunday Preview*! These study sessions will assist you in getting more out of the approaching Sunday morning worship service each week. Classes are held every Thursday at both 10am and 7pm giving you a choice of a time that best fits your schedule. These classes are not only Biblical, but historical, informative and enjoyable!

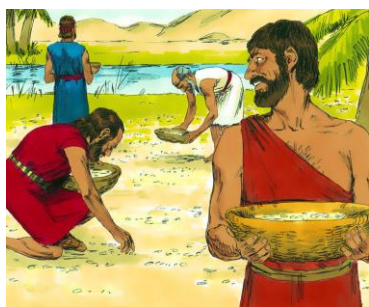
Also - join the men at *Scooters* each Thursday morning at 6:30 for *Men's Study Group* – *all are welcome!*

FEBRUARY

Calendar of Events

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 AA 8am
2 4th Sunday after Epiphany Sunday School 9:15am Worship/ Communion 10:30	3 AA 12pm Food Pantry at UMC 3-5pm	4 AA 12pm	5 Lunch Bunch @ Runza 12pm Quilters 1pm Deacons 5:15pm Session 6:30pm AA 8pm	6 Men's Study Gp at Scooters 6:30am AA 12pm Sunday Preview 10am & 7pm CHURCH 2pm – 9pm	7 PICTORIAL DIRECTORY 2pm – 9pm	8 AA 8am PHOTO SESSIONS 10am – 5pm
9 5th Sunday after Epiphany Sunday School 9:15am & Worship 10:30	10 AA 12pm	11 AA 12pm	12 Lunch Bunch @ El Portal 12pm Quilters 1pm AA 8pm	13 Men's Study Gp at Scooters 6:30am AA 12pm Sunday Preview 10am & 7pm	14	15 AA 8am
16 6th Sunday after Epiphany Sunday School 9:15am Worship 10:30am Fellowship Meal 11:30am	17 AA 12pm Food Pantry at UMC 3-5pm	18 AA 12pm	19 Lunch Bunch @ Central Apple Market 12pm Quilters 1pm AA 8pm	20 Men's Study Gp at Scooters 6:30am AA 12pm Sunday Preview 10am & 7pm	21 Food Bank of Lincoln at First United Methodist Church 12-1pm	22 AA 8am
23  Transfiguration of the Lord Sunday School 9:15am Worship 10:30 Hunger Offering 'Strike Up Some Fun' bowling party	24 AA 12pm	25 AA 12pm	26  Lunch Bunch @ Blake's Cafe 12pm Quilters 1pm Ash Wednesday Worship 7pm AA 8pm	27 Men's Study Gp at Scooters 6:30am AA 12pm Sunday Preview 10am & 7pm	28	29 AA 8am

Stewardship Sampler for February



Exodus 16:11-16, 31 (God provides manna to the Israelites in the wilderness)
The provision of manna to the Israelites wandering in the wilderness is a reminder that God provides abundantly for all of us. The details in this story of 'meat at night and bread in the morning' and the delicious description of the manna offer a unique perspective that God doesn't just give us the bare minimum but provides abundantly. In turn, we are called to share abundantly in our response to God, not just offering the bare minimum, but offering our best.



Thank you to those Elders and Deacons that recently completed their terms of service.
Elders going off Session: Brent Shanholtz, Bill Dammast.
Those going off the Board of Deacons: Rose De Kock, RuthAnn Weddle and Mary Finkner.

We also thank JoAnn Martens for her years of service as our Church Treasurer and welcome Carol Maddox to that position.



Fellowship Meal Sunday - February 16

Watch the Sunday bulletin
and your email for detail information.



Sunday School invites you to 'Strike Up Some Fun' on Sunday, February 23 at Arbor Lanes in Nebraska City. The fun starts at noon and ends at 2ish. Kids will enjoy FREE bowling, shoes, pizza and drink.

Adults will pay-as-you-go.

Join us for this striking fun afternoon!



Every year we celebrate our redemption through the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. Lent is a time to prepare for this celebration and to renew our faith. We begin this holy season on Ash Wednesday by acknowledging our need for repentance and for the mercy and forgiveness proclaimed in the gospel of Jesus Christ.

We begin our Lenten Journey to Easter with the sign of ashes. This ancient sign speaks of the frailty and uncertainty of human life, and marks the penitence of this community of faith.

As the ashes are imposed in the shape of a cross we are to be reminded of our mortality and motivated to get right with God who alone holds the key to eternal life.

Ash Wednesday service will be held February 26 at 7pm, and we encourage you to bring your friends and neighbors.



2020 Photo Directory

You have just a few days to schedule your photo session for our new church directory! Photo sessions will take place on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, February 6, 7 & 8 so check your calendar, then check with either Abby Reese or Jane Zimmerman for more information regarding photo sessions available, photo packages and pricing discounts.



Herman Gawart, Adam Gawart, Nels Wilton, Rev. Bob Burdett, Delores West, Elois Barrett, Christine Allgood, Howard & Dee Antes, Tom & Janet Hemphill, Kevin Driever, Amy Fields, and those serving in the military: Grant Williams, Justyn Curtis, Greg McKnight & Shawn Decker

From Your Administrative Assistant: Please refer to the Annual Report that you received at the Congregational Meeting last month for the most recent record of names, addresses and phone numbers. If you see that a change or changes need to be made, please give me a call in the office so I can make those changes. If you have not been receiving emails from the office, be sure that I have your current email address on file! If I have missed a birthday or anniversary in the newsletter, please bring it to my attention! Thank you so much for your help in setting the records straight! 😊 Jane

Serving our Church in 2020

SESSION: JoAnn Martens, Ed Reed, Tony Reese, Kurt Curtis, Mark Hopp, Stephanie Shrader, Abby Reese, Jan Bolejack and Kristie Dierking

BOARD OF DEACONS: Jean Dammast, Jayne James, Christian Heaton, Tom Weddle, Helen Lundak and Kim Reese

ENDOWMENT: Tony Reese, Mike James, Becky Hodges, Tyler Juilfs, Brent Shanholtz, Jr and Karen Brannon

NOMINATING AT LARGE: Rose De Kock, Connie Driever, Jeff Maddox and Marvin Zimmerman

We appreciate everyone that have agreed to serve in these positions this year and to all of you that help in so many ways in His service each week and on special occasions.

Serving from the Heart

Serving our Church in February.....

Pastor: Rev. Tom Osborne

Greeters/Collection: Tony & Kim Reese

Scripture: JoAnn Martens

Organist/Choir Director: Abby Reese

Acolytes/Collection: Mark & Julie Hopp

Video/Sound: Tom Hemphill

Coffee Fellowship: Kurt and Carissa Curtis

Nursery: Feb 02 Julie Hopp & Christian Heaton

Feb 09 Udine Wilton & Rose De Kock

Feb 16 Becky Hodges & Teresa Fields

Feb 23 Sue LeGrand & Kim Reese

Hunger knows No Seasons – Please Support our local Food Pantry

Be a Sweetheart to many this month! When you're at the grocery store, please pick up just a few extra items for the food pantry. Staples are always appreciated....peanut butter, canned meats, fruits and vegetables. Bring your donations to church any time, and they will be delivered to the Food Pantry at the United Methodist Church. The Pantry is open on the 1st and 3rd Mondays, 3-5pm.



In addition to our local Food Pantry, the Food Bank of Lincoln will sponsor a food distribution at First United Methodist Church- 1023 1st Ave, each month on the 3rd Friday from noon to 1pm. Volunteers are needed. Please call Keitha Thomson at 402-873-7889 if you are willing and able to help. Thank you in advance!