



The Builder



AUGUST

2020

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH – NEBRASKA CITY
165 YEARS 1855 – 2020

The newsletter serving the families & friends of:

First Presbyterian Church
1005 1st Corso - Nebraska City NE 68410

*Join us for Worship on Sunday mornings - 10:30
(Social Distancing is practiced)*

Wednesday Devotions and our Sunday Worship are posted on our Facebook page:
First Presbyterian Church – Nebraska City

Keep in touch.....

Pastor Tom: Email: presbypastortom@yahoo.com Phone: 402-274-8199
Church Office: Email: secretary@firstpresnc.org Phone: 402-873-5306
Church Website: www.firstpresnc.org
Church Facebook Page: First Presbyterian Church – Nebraska City
Homestead Presbytery website: www.homesteadpres.org



A Note from Pastor Tom.....

Dear Friends,

This month on August 10th our congregation will have been in existence for 165 years. That seems like a long time to us in this generation and culture. We will recognize our Anniversary on Sunday August 9th during worship.

We will sing some old hymns. We will recognize those who are living who have been members here for over 60 years. I will have a special sermon to help us look forward to the years ahead. And I have invited one of our very own who has become successful in the field of music to come back and provide special music for that morning.

It should be inspirational to look back and forward at the same time. I hope you can join us that morning, August 9th.

As I was reading a brochure from the late 1950's, when the congregation was beginning a campaign to build our present day building. This was written by John Ruskin and was included in the promotional material. I wanted to share it with you.

Only once in a lifetime comes the privilege of helping to build a church that will stand for generations in the community for which it is built. When we build, let us think we build forever. Let it not be for the present delight nor present use alone. Let it be such work as our descendants will thank us for; and let us think as we lay stone upon stone, that the time is come when these stones will be sacred because our hands have touched them, and that men will say as they look upon the labor and the wrought substance of them, "See this our fathers did for us."

Come and join us as we recall some of our history and look forward to a new era of being the First Presbyterian Church in Nebraska City. Blessings – stay healthy – stay safe, Pastor Tom



165 Years

AUGUST

Birthdays & Anniversaries!

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|-------------------|----------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------------|-----|-----|--------------------------|
| | | | | | | 1 |
| 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 Linda Martin | 6 | 7 | 8 Janet Osborne |
| 9 | 10 Katie Frerichs | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 Brad Marion | 17 Connie Higgins | 18 Kim Reese | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 Pastor Tom | 24 Nathan Zaroban | 25 | 26 Laura Osborne Kinley Juilfs | 27 | 28 | 29 Ed & Virginia Reed |
| 30 | 31 | | | | | |

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



Calendar of Events

Please note: all events in **red** & **blue** will take place as scheduled. All entries in black are on hold.

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|--|---------------|---|---|---|--------------|
| First | Presbyterian | Church | Nebraska City | 165 years! | | 1 AA 8am |
| 2 9 th Sunday after Pentecost Worship and Communion 10:30am | 3 AA 12pm Food Pantry at UMC 3-5pm | 4 AA 12pm | 5 Summer Fun Camp! 5:30-7:30pm Devotions on Facebook Lunch Bunch Quilters 1pm AA 8pm | 6 Summer Fun Camp! 5:30-7:30pm Men's Study Group 6:30am/Scooters AA 12pm Sunday Preview 10am & 7pm | 7 | 8 AA 8am |
| 9 Happy 165! First Pres! 10 th Sunday after Pentecost Worship 10:30am | 10 AA 12pm | 11 AA 12pm | 12 Devotions on Facebook Session 6:30pm Lunch Bunch Quilters 1pm AA 8pm | 13 Men's Study Group 6:30am/Scooters AA 12pm Sunday Preview 10am & 7pm | 14 | 15 AA 8am |
| 16 11 th Sunday after Pentecost Worship 10:30am | 17 Public School Starts! AA 12pm Food Pantry at UMC 3-5pm | 18 AA 12pm | 19 Devotions on Facebook Lunch Bunch Quilters 1pm AA 8pm | 20 Men's Study Group 6:30am/Scooters AA 12pm Sunday Preview 10am & 7pm | 21 Food Bank of Lincoln at First United Methodist Church 12-1pm | 22 AA 8am |
| 23 12 th Sunday after Pentecost Worship 10:30am | 24 Committee Meetings AA 12pm | 25 AA 12pm | 26 Devotions on Facebook Lunch Bunch Quilters 1pm AA 8pm | 27 Men's Study Group 6:30am/Scooters AA 12pm Sunday Preview 10am & 7pm | 28 | 29 |
| 30 13 th Sunday after Pentecost Worship 10:30am | 31 AA 12pm | | | | | |

SUMMER FUN CAMP!



All Aboard for Jesus!

First Presbyterian Kids!

Join us on Wednesday, August 5 and Thursday, August 6 for Bible lessons, crafts, games, activities and snacks! 5:30-7:30pm both days. See you soon!



Congratulations to Mr. & Mrs. Fields!

Bryan Fields and Kaelie Moyer were married July 3 at the *Glacial Till Vineyard* in Palmyra. Richard Nakai, Bellevue Christian Center, officiated the ceremony.

Among those in attendance with the wedding party were the groom's parents, Jeff and Teresa Fields, bride's parents, Stan and Jackie Moyer, his grandparents Bill and Bev Sweeney and her grandparents Jack and Shirley Stidd.

Bryan's daughter, Lilly Fields, escorted her father and sang 'Grow Old With Me' for the couple.

The couple resides in Nebraska City. May they have a blessed marriage!

Pictured above: Masks, a sign of the times.....Covid-19, Kaelie's dad constructed the cross for them, and all smiles that day!



165 Years

ABOUNDING IN GRACE,
FAITH AND LOVE

1855 First Presbyterian Church - Nebraska City 2020

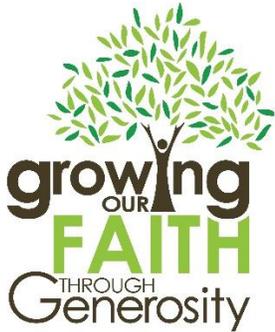
The following have been members of this congregation for 60 years or more of these 165 years.....

| | | |
|---------------------------|------|----------|
| Foy Thayer | 1941 | 79 years |
| Mary Donna Wier Patton | 1944 | 76 |
| Nancy DeLong Hoch | 1949 | 71 |
| Eileen Thayer | 1949 | 71 |
| Kathy Miller Nelson | 1952 | 68 |
| Loran Patton | 1953 | 67 |
| Helen James Lundak | 1956 | 64 |
| Mary Cole | 1956 | 64 |
| Janet Livingston Hemphill | 1959 | 61 |
| Richard Dovey | 1960 | 60 |
| Lonnie Martin | 1960 | 60 |

**Help us celebrate First Presbyterian Church - Nebraska City's
165th Anniversary starting with our worship service on Sunday, August 9.**

We will hear a special message from Pastor Tom and special music by Hannah Dierking Sleyster & Kristie Dierking. There will be recognition of those who have been members for 60 years + and we will go back in time, singing some of the older hymns. We hope that you will join us for this celebration!

Stewardship Sampler for August:



1 Peter 4:8-11 *Love, hospitality and being good stewards of God's grace*

This verse reflects back on the double love command, calling for love. And one way that love is expressed is by giving generously to provide hospitality and serve our 'neighbors'. This verse also reminds us that we are recipients of the incredible gift of God's grace, and we are called to steward that gift by serving others. Ultimately, our giving is one way that we can glorify God and point to God's amazing love and grace for all of us, and that should be cause for generosity and celebration!



Our prayers continue with intensity this month! Pray that we can continue on our daily journey with faith and humor! Pray for an end to this pandemic. Pray for our children and parents as they prepare to go back to school. Pray for our leaders worldwide; our national, state and local leaders. Pray for our first responders, medical staff, our local businesses and school officials, as they struggle to make necessary changes in operations going forward. Pray for those dealing with other ongoing health issues. Please pray also for the following church family and friends: Tom and Janet Hemphill, Lonnie and Doris Martin, Kevin Driever, Rev. Bob Burdett, Christine Allgood, Sean Gleason and Eileen Thayer.

Please email your prayer requests to Jayne James at: thejamesgang777@gmail.com or call her: 402-873-5092



From www.d365.org Daily Devotion, July 23, 2020:

In the world we live in now it is so easy to see an article about injustice or something that causes us to feel that we must respond and then simply hit the infamous "share" button. Passing along information to inform others surely is a good thing. However, when we read today's scripture passage I must wonder: If all I do is "share" and don't take any action, am I really responding faithfully?

Our faith should always call us to action, not just to react. If there is an injustice, we need to work for justice. If there is misinformation, search and share the truth. When there are expressions of hopelessness, a call or personal touch to restore hope should be in order. Even when we can't physically be together, we can still work together as we respond in faith to the needs around us.

May we never let a social media "share" button replace our faithful response to the world around us. Our faith demands nothing less.

Submitted by Dale Tadlock, Coordinator of Youth Programs at Passport Camps



Friends,

It has been a mostly quiet summer at Calvin Crest. With our summer camps cancelled due to COVID-19, it just wasn't the same. We missed having the energy that surrounds the summer camp experience. We missed the excitement as kids of all ages spent time in community growing in their faith. And we missed the joy of watching summer staff develop their leadership capacity during the summer.

And through it all, we've seen God work in many small ways. The extra time has allowed the staff to work on projects of varying sizes. Projects including facility improvements, deep cleaning and extra organizing will be noticed by guests. In addition, we are undertaking the project of completing the digitization of all available camp photos. Look for some of those photos to surface soon from various eras of the 60+ history of Calvin Crest.

If you are missing camp and want to see a few short videos around camp, check out our [Facebook page](#) for the video series called "10 Videos in 10 Places".

Many people are asking how things are going at camp. They almost always are talking about the finances. It's true that we've lost over \$100,000 in income due to cancellations of summer camp and various groups. Many friends of camp have been generous with gifts of all sizes to help get us through this difficult time. The CARES Act's Payroll Protection Program helped subsidize staff initially. Grants through the Presbyteries, Synod and state programs are in the works as well. And, through the generosity of donors and careful management of funds, we still have some reserves to fall back on.

God is Good All The Time! Thank you for your prayers and support.



Guidelines for our Return to Worship Service: If you are feeling ill or have a high-risk health condition, we suggest that you stay home for now. The worship service is posted each week on our church Facebook page: *First Presbyterian Church – Nebraska City*. You may wear a mask to worship, but it is not required. You are asked to sit with your family or close friend. Several pews are roped off to allow for social distancing. Hugs and handshakes are strongly discouraged for the time being. Hand sanitizer is available to use as you enter the building and sanctuary. The order of service will be abbreviated. We will not share the peace as we usually do. There will not be a Children's Time. Please place your offerings in the collection box on the table at the back of the sanctuary either before or after the worship service. We encourage bringing your personal Bible as the Church's Hymnals and Bibles will not be available. The nursery will NOT be available at this time. Children are to stay with their family at all times. The restrooms will be available for use, one occupant at a time. When the service is over, please maintain the 6-foot distancing and do not gather in the sanctuary or narthex. The Church is sanitized by volunteers on Saturdays.

Friends of Faith thrift store needs volunteers. Please call Cindy @ 402-873-6575 if you are able to volunteer for an hour or two....or more!