



The Builder



2021

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)*

Our Sunday Worship services 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

Thoughts from Pastor Tom

None of us was around in 1582, of course, but had we been, we might have been disconcerted by the sudden loss of 10 days. Specifically, after going to bed on October 4th, we would have awoken the next morning to discover that it was October 15th.

Actually, no days were lopped off from anybody's lifespan, but the date gap occurred nonetheless. It was the result of a papal edict issued by Pope Gregory XIII to reform the **Julian calendar** then in use to make it match events of the solar and lunar cycles necessary for calculating the date of Easter each year. Gregory's calendar did that primarily by setting the day count so that the vernal equinox was always near March 21, where it had been during the Council of Nicea in A.D. 325. This adjustment required removing 10 days of "drift" that had accumulated in the years since (because a Julian year, at 365.25 days, was slightly longer than an actual year). Gregory also reworked the calendar so that the tabular 14th day of the moon would correspond to the actual full moon.

Initially, the new **Gregorian calendar** held sway only in the Catholic Church and the Papal States, but gradually, it was adopted almost universally for practical reasons, including international communication, transportation and commerce, and we remain on the Gregorian calendar to this day.

The beginning of a new year always brings with it the truism that "time marches on," only now we know that how fast to count its march, depends on whose calendar we are using.

When does time seem to be a source of pressure and/or stress for you? When does time seem to be a blessing? When does time seem to be moving too slowly? When have you felt forced into wasting time? How do you find God in each of those settings?

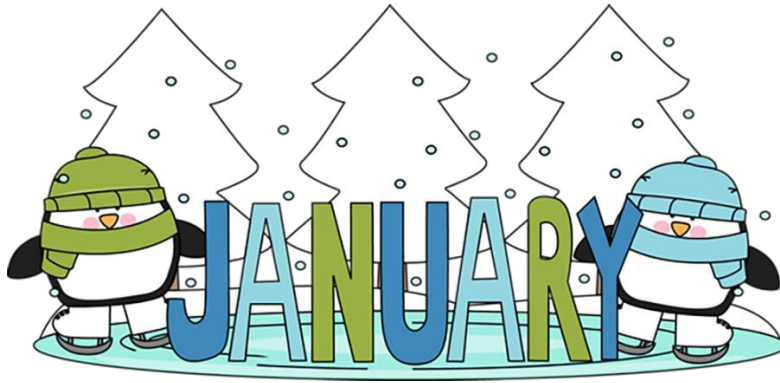
Have you ever thought about regarding time according to **God's calendar**? The Bible speaks of four dimensions: past, present, future and eternity. From your reading of the Bible, which one does it emphasize the most? Why do you think that is?

What is meant by "downtime"? How do you think God views it? Why? Are you good at taking downtime? Do others have to encourage you to take time off?

From your experience, what is the difference between "clock time" and "an opportune time"?

Perhaps most important of all -- how is time related to the call of God upon us? I encourage you to take time to contemplate these things and be sure you are giving God the time you should in your daily life!

Happy New Year! Pastor Tom




Birthdays & Anniversaries

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8 Lilly Frields	9
10	11 John James Norleen Brown	12	13	14 Eunice Fass Mariah Koencke	15 Stephanie Shrader Ky Juilfs	16 Linda Wademan
17	18	19 Jeff Maddox	20	21	22	23
24	25 Shannon Wehling	26 Kate Patton Alexander Frerichs Happy 1 st Birthday!	27	28 Abby Reese	29	30 Jerry Higgins
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

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 	2
3 Worship & Communion 10:30am 2 nd Sunday of Christmas	4 Food Pantry at UMC 3-5pm	5	6	7 Sunday Preview 10am & 7pm	8	9
10 Worship 10:30am Installation of Officers Baptism of the Lord	11	12	13 Deacons, 5:30 Session, 6:30pm	14 Sunday Preview 10am & 7pm	15 Food Bank of Lincoln at UMC 12-1pm	16
17 Worship 10:30am 2 nd Sunday after Epiphany	18 Food Pantry at UMC 3-5pm	19	20	21 Sunday Preview 10am & 7pm	22	23
24 Worship 10:30am Congregational Meeting 3 rd Sunday after Epiphany	25 Committee Meetings	26	27	28 Sunday Preview 10am & 7pm	29	30
31 Worship 10:30am Hunger Offering 4 th Sunday after Epiphany						

Congregational Meeting set for Sunday, January 24.

This meeting will take place immediately following the worship service. The purpose of this annual meeting is to review reports from the various committees and receive the 2021 budget set by our Session.

The Annual Reports for 2020 will be prepared and ready for distribution on Thursday, January 14.



Please pray for the following church family and friends:
Kathy Nelson, Minnie Brown, Loran & Mary Donna Patton,
Carol Swenson, Tom and Janet Hemphill, Kevin Driever,
Howard & Dee Antes, Rev. Bob Burdett, Christine Allgood,
Eileen Thayer.

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



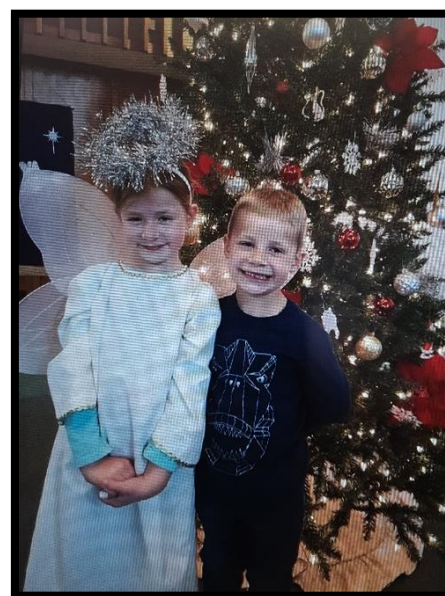
Thank you for your generous donations to our mission projects in 2020: Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes, Christmas Joy Offering, Hunger Offering and our Advent Offering that supports the work of our Board of Deacons.



**Christmas
at
First
Presbyterian
Church**

Children's Christmas Program–2020

Social Distancing Style!



A huge thanks to Ken and Carla Zaroban for organizing, filming and producing the program. Thank you, Barb Zaroban for playing Christmas music during the production! And a big thank you to all of the families that helped with the program by bringing your children to the church for filming! Visit the First Presbyterian Church – Nebraska City Facebook page to see the complete video, hear the music, and hear the children read a Christmas story.

