



# The Builder



**2022**

**The newsletter serving the families & friends of:**

**First Presbyterian Church  
1005 1<sup>st</sup> Corso - Nebraska City NE 68410**

**Worship on Sunday mornings - 10:30**

**The Sacrament of Holy Communion - the 1st Sunday of each month**

**Celebrate our fathers this month! (see page 6)**

**Potluck dinner after church on Sunday June 12!**

**Sunday Worship services are posted on our Facebook page:  
First Presbyterian Church – Nebraska City Facebook**

**Keep in touch.....**

**Pastor Tom:** Email: [presbypastortom@yahoo.com](mailto:presbypastortom@yahoo.com) Phone: 402-274-8199

**Church Office:** Email: [secretary@firstpresnc.org](mailto:secretary@firstpresnc.org) Phone: 402-873-5306

**Church Website:** [www.firstpresnc.org](http://www.firstpresnc.org)

**Church Facebook Page:** First Presbyterian Church – Nebraska City

**Homestead Presbytery website:** [www.homesteadpres.org](http://www.homesteadpres.org)



## THOUGHTS ON THE TRAGEDY AT UVALDE, TEXAS:

On May 24, 2022, a gun man entered an elementary school and began shooting in a 4<sup>th</sup> grade classroom in Uvalde, Texas. The result was 19 children and 2 teachers dead. This tragedy is senseless in every way. It should not have happened. It should not have happened. It leaves me, like so many others, at a loss. I am struck that Jesus, the one who was called Emmanuel – “God with Us” – came to earth as a child as vulnerable as the children in Texas were that day.

I believe that Jesus – God with us – is with the parents in that community now. And I believe he was especially with the children in the Elementary School just as he was over 2,000 years ago when so many innocent babies were slain at the order of King Herod. I believe he was among those who huddled in closets while shots rang out in the schoolhouse.

And even in this horror, I believe God is with us: mourning with us, weeping with us, grieving with us. In this horrific time, we cry out for God to stay by our side. In our grief and sadness, we sob on Christ’s shoulder and beg Our Lord and Savior to hold us close a little while longer.

It’s impossible for me to imagine the grief of those who have lost loved ones in this shooting. I am a parent and a former school teacher. And though I have lost friends and family members, I’ve never had to sit through the news that my daughter or grandson is dead. Yet even so, I grieve. I mourn the deaths of the adults, two teachers, killed in this tragedy as well, but especially, my heart cries in pain at the deaths of the children who were so senselessly murdered.

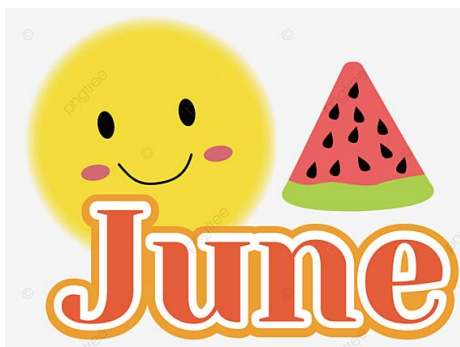
On that day they learned not about numbers, or letters of the alphabet, they learned about evil. And that too tears at my soul.

I am angry at the shooter for his heinous crime. I am angry that he would so viciously prey upon vulnerable children. I am angry at those of his acquaintances and family members who failed to confront him or hold him accountable for the behaviors that I am sure he exhibited that were warning signs of something terrible to come. I am angry at the injustice, that so many families will have to come to grips with the fact, that an innocent and adored loved one was stolen from them.

It is in times like this that we must be able to express our belief in God's radical intentions for humanity: that we be a people who are driven by love and hope.

Let us extend our hearts and minds to each other in faith and serve out of gratitude for our very breath given by God. May God bless us all and be near to us in these difficult and trying times.

## Celebrating in



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- June 3 Happy Birthday, Pam Roker and Edith Simmerman
- 9 Happy Anniversary, Nels & Udine Wilton
- 10 Happy Birthday, Jacob Martens & Landry James
- 15 Happy Birthday, Helen Lundak
- 18 Happy Birthday, Cassidy James
- 19 Happy Birthday, Nick Maddox
- 20 Happy Anniversary Jim & Susie Frerichs
- 21 Happy Birthday, Mary Donna Patton  
Happy Anniversary, Randy & JoAnn Martens
- 22 Happy Birthday, Jan Marion & Marilyn Brammier  
Happy Anniversary, Keith & Kristie Dierking
- 23 Happy Birthday, Rose DeKock
- 24 Happy Anniversary, Ken & Carla Zaroban
- 26 Happy Birthday, Josh Osborne
- 27 Happy Anniversary, Jim & Mary Callen

***Many happy returns to the day of thy birth, may sunshine and gladness be given, and may our dear Father prepare us on earth for the beautiful birthday in heaven!***

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](mailto:secretary@firstpresnc.org)



**Do you have a special musical talent you would like to share? Do you know someone who would like to share their musical talent? If so, please contact Abby Reese at 402-525-2584. Looking to bring special music to our Sunday services this summer.**



# June Calendar Of Events

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Lunch Bunch 11:30am Taco John's Quilters 1pm	2	3	4
5 Worship and Communion 10:30 Followed by Coffee Fellowship & <b>pictures of dad!</b> Day of Pentecost	6 Food Pantry at UMC 3-5pm	7	8 Lunch Bunch 11:30 Hong Kong Quilters 1pm	9	10	11
12 Worship 10:30 <b>Followed by Potluck Dinner</b> Trinity Sunday	13	14	15 Lunch Bunch 11:30am Valentino's Quilters 1pm	16	17 Food Bank of Lincoln 12-1pm	18
19 Worship 10:30 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost	20 Food Pantry at UMC 3-5pm	21	22 Lunch Bunch 11:30am Taco Bell Quilters 1pm	23	24	25
26 Worship 10:30 Hunger Offering 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost	27	28	29 Lunch Bunch 11:30am Runza Quilters 1pm	30		

If you have a favorite Bible passage, a special announcement and/or picture to share, please send them to Jane in the office: [secretary@firstpresnc.org](mailto:secretary@firstpresnc.org)

Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. *Philippians 4:4-7 NIV*





Each Sunday worship service is made extra special by Pastor Tom's Children Time and special music from our choir. The kids are attentive and such a pleasure to watch. A huge thanks to Abby and the choir for another great season of music.



We had a Tea Party in honor of our mothers last month. During coffee fellowship, we enjoyed theme cookies and decorations on the table featuring various teapots, lace and pearls. What a fun touch for the occasion!



Attention Parents and Kids of First Presbyterian Church Session has approved the Church to start up a Youth Group for our kids. This will be a fun way for all of us to get together to learn about stories in the Bible and do fun activities together. Abby Reese will be heading this group and would love to have volunteer help when available. Please be on the lookout for information to be mailed out to the families, as well as in the bulletins. Currently planning to have one maybe two get togethers over the summer, and then we will meet one to two times per month once school starts back up. If you have any questions about this new group, please feel free to contact me, Abby, at 402-525-2584 or via email at [abbyreese158@gmail.com](mailto:abbyreese158@gmail.com).



Please continue prayers for the following church family and friends:

Larry & Marilyn Brammier, Marv and Jane Zimmerman, Jan Bolejack, Teresa Frields, Kathy Nelson, Eileen Thayer, Edith Simmerman, Howard & Dee Antes, Tom & Janet Hemphill, Loran & Mary Donna Patton, friend and former member Rosanna McSwane, RuthAnn Weddle's friend Laurette, Laura Osborne's friend, Suzanne, JoAnn Marten's sister Diann Starr, Dee Antes' son, Matthew Driever, Tony Reese's friend Allan Boyer, Jan Marion's friends, Sue O'Brien, Tom Gress and Karen Driever



Serving this month:

Organist: Abby Reese Scripture: Stephanie Shrader

Greeters: Tony & Kim Reese & Preston

Acolytes: Youth Camera: Marv Zimmerman Power Point: Jane Zimmerman

Facebook/Photographer: Teresa Frields Prepare Communion: Kris Dierking

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP



**Coffee Fellowship after Worship on June 5 - All are welcome!**

**Udine Wilton will host this month.**



Please bring a picture or two of the dad or dads in your life. Share them with us on Sunday, June 5, at coffee fellowship after our worship service. Dads have provided a lot of great times in our life and this is a great opportunity to share those special moments in time with others!



**POTLUCK DINNER**

**Sunday June 12 – All are invited – please join us!**