



The Builder



DECEMBER - 2025

The newsletter serving the families & friends of:

First Presbyterian Church – 170 Years – 1855-2025

1005 1st Corso - Nebraska City NE 68410

Worship on Sunday mornings - 10:30am

Sunday School classes – Youth 9:15, Adults 9:30am

The Sacrament of Holy Communion and Coffee Fellowship - 1st Sunday of each month

Children's Christmas Program – Sunday December 14

Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship Service – 7pm

Sunday Worship services are posted on our Facebook page:

First Presbyterian Church – Nebraska City Facebook

Keep in touch.....

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

Church Office: Hours: 9-2:30, Monday – Thursday Phone: 402-873-5306, Email: secretary@firstpresnc.org

Church Website: www.firstpresnc.org **Homestead Presbytery website:** www.homesteadpres.org

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Holiday Greetings from Pastor Tom

Advent is a season of expectancy and preparation—and, perhaps surprisingly, the beginning of the Christian calendar. In the church, the year doesn't start with "New Year, New Me," but with the hopeful anticipation of a baby who will come to make all things new.

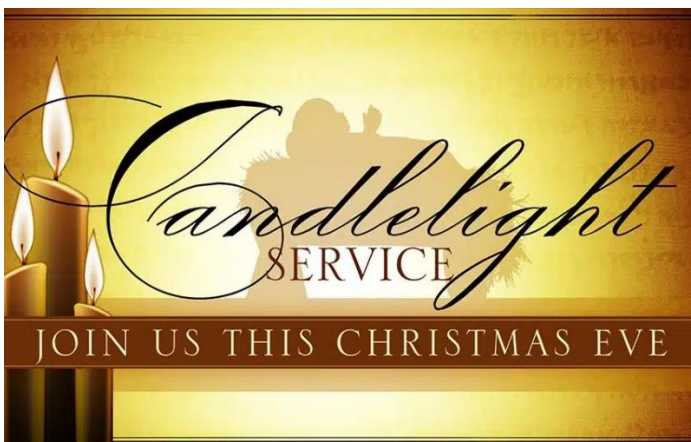
It always ends on December 24, and then Christmas begins and lasts until January 6 (Yes, *those* twelve days). Advent and Christmas are as different as different could be. One is all eager anticipation and the other joyful fulfillment.

What an opportunity we have during this season to sit in wonder and delight at what God has done and is still doing. The coming of Jesus is a fulfillment of a promise that the hungry will be fed, the hurting and suffering will find comfort and compassion, and justice will reign.

The mighty reversal of the world has just begun, and during Advent, we are reminded to look for these promises to be fulfilled, even if we only catch a glimpse.

In recent days Janet and I have enjoyed watching the evening/night sky. We have seen the full moon shining in bright glory. Then came the northern lights, the aurora borealis. What a sight to see. These are heavenly signs to remind us of the glory and power of almighty God, and the promises that are still to come — promises that might look entirely unlike anything we might have planned or imagined renewing our hope.

This Advent and Christmas, may you find yourself surprised and delighted by a God who would come in such fragile form, and may the kingdom of God break into your home, under your tree, around your table, and in your heart. We wish you a very blessed holy season!



First Presbyterian Church
Nebraska City
Wednesday, December 24 – 7pm
All are Welcome!



You are invited!

Our choir will participate in the Annual Advent Recital 2025 on Sunday – December 7 – 6pm at St Mary's Catholic Church. Please join them for this enjoyable evening of music for the Holiday season.



December Birthdays and Anniversaries

- 1 Adam Wilton**
- 4 Josh Martens**
- 4 Pat Wehling**
- 8 Dave LeGrand**
- 10 Bill Peterson**
- 13 JoAnn Martens**
- 14 Randy Martens**
- 19 Lori Koenke**
- 23 Bev McGinnis**
- 24 Nels Wilton**
- 27 Ruth Weddle**
- 28 Keith Dierking**
- 30 Bill & Jean Dammast**
- 31 Gene Mercer**

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 Anniversariy calendar, please don't hesitate to let Jane know!

Please call the office or email your information to:

secretary@firstpresnc.org.

Serving this month:

Organist: Abby Reese Scripture: John James

Greeter: Jane Zimmerman

Facebook/Photographer: Teresa Fields

Sound/Video:

Jayne James, Trent Mangum, Preston Scott, & Marv Zimmerman

Prepare Communion: Trent Mangum

Coffee Fellowship: Adult Sunday School

Please continue prayers for the following church family and friends: Curt & Judy Crain, Wayne Goering, Jan Marion, Carissa Curtis, Pastor Tom & Janet Osborne, Tom Hemphill, Doris Martin, Linda Martin, and for those unable to attend worship in person. Please call or email the office if you have someone to add to this list.



We invite you to bring a poinsettia to church for the Christmas Season in honor of, or in memory of someone special in your life. Bring it anytime during the week when the office is open or on Sunday morning! You may plan to take it with you after Christmas Eve Service on Wednesday, December 24.



Calendar of Events

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Food Pantry UMC 3-5pm	2	3 Lunch Bunch Porter's 11:30 Quilters 1pm Choir practice 7pm	4	5	6
7 Sunday School: Youth 9:15am Adults 9:30 10:30 Worship & Holy Communion 2 nd Sunday of Advent	8	9	10 Lunch Bunch Downtowner 11:30 Quilters 1pm Choir practice 7pm	11	12	13
14 Sunday School: Youth 9:15am Adult 9:30am Worship 10:30 Sunday School Christmas Program Coffee Fellowship 3 rd Sunday of Advent	15 Food Pantry UMC 3-5pm Christmas Boxes will be distributed	16	17 Lunch Bunch Little Ted's 11:30 Quilters 1pm Deacons & Session 6:30	18	19	20
21 Sunday School: Youth 9:15am Adult 9:30am Worship 10:30 4 th Sunday of Advent	22	23	24 Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship Service 7pm	25 	26	27
28 Sunday School: Youth 9:15am Adult 9:30am Worship 10:30 1 st Sunday of Christmas	29	30	31 			



NEBRASKA CITY FOOD PANTRY

Holiday Gift Boxes will be available for a Christmas meal to Food Pantry patrons. Donations of the following will be greatly appreciated:

2 cans corn & green beans - 1 can sweet potatoes - 1 can cranberry sauce – 1 box stuffing

1 box/pkg cornbread mix - 1 envelope gravy mix - 1-2 envelopes of mashed potatoes

Please bring your donations by Sunday December 14. Our Mission Committee will deliver them to the pantry to be distributed on Monday December 15. Thank you in advance!



Special moments in our worship services always include the readers of Holy Scripture, special music and of course, a good sermon! 😊 (Left: Preston on the saxophone and John reading scripture in November)



Operation Christmas Child



Our church has, for many years, joined millions worldwide in the collection of OCC shoeboxes. We take part each year with Samaritan's Purse in shopping for just the right items, filling the boxes and sending them off to numerous destinations in the world, making a more joyful season for countless children, many receiving their first ever gift at Christmas time, along with the good news about our Savior Jesus Christ! This year our congregation filled and delivered 46 boxes. Thank you for being part of this wonderful mission project.

