



The Builder



September

2026

The newsletter serving the families & friends of:

First Presbyterian Church – 1855 - present
1005 1st Corso - Nebraska City NE 68410
Worship on Sunday mornings - 10:30am

The Sacrament of Holy Communion and Coffee Fellowship - 1st Sunday of each month
Sunday Worship services are posted on our Facebook page:
First Presbyterian Church – Nebraska City Facebook

Rally Sunday - Sunday School for all ages will begin on Sunday September 13
9:15 for children, 9:30 for adults
Join us for Coffee Fellowship following the worship service.

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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What God Wants Me To Do

We ask the question *what does God want me to do?* for a variety of reasons. We may be facing a big life decision and truly want to follow God's plan. Or we may be searching for God and believe that there are steps to follow or rules to keep in order to find Him. Or we may ask, "What does God want me to do?" because we can't find purpose or meaning in our lives and suspect that God is keeping it from us. Whatever motivates the question, the Bible has answers when we are wondering what God wants us to do.

When asking what God wants me to do, remember that we are not human *doings*. We were created in God's image as human *beings* to communicate and walk in harmony with Him ([Genesis 1:27](#)). *Doing* is the result of *being*. Birds sing because they *are* birds; they do not sing in order to *become* birds. They sing, fly, and feather their nests because of who they are. So what God really wants is for all our doings to emanate from our being. He has no interest in grudging actions that have no connection with our hearts. Whatever we do for God must come from a place of overflowing love, worship, and surrender ([Hosea 6:6](#); [12:6](#)).

The first thing God wants us to do is to accept His offer of salvation. We are hopeless in our sin and cannot be good enough to overcome our sin and enter His presence. That's why Jesus came into the world to take the punishment we deserve. When we put our faith in Christ's death and resurrection, we can fulfill our purpose of knowing and glorifying God. God takes on the job of transforming us so that we become more like Jesus.

So, the first answer to the question *what does God want me to do?* is to receive His Son, Jesus, as Lord and Savior, and begin the journey of faith.

After we are saved, what God wants us to do is "grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ" ([2 Peter 3:18](#)). When God adopts us into His family, we begin a new relationship with Him that affects every aspect of our lives. Rather than making decisions to please ourselves, we make decisions that will please the Lord. Those decisions will be supported by the Bible, affirmed through Godly counsel, and acted on through the power of the Holy Spirit. God wants us to impact our world with His message, the gospel.

Jesus answered the question *what does God want me to do?* just before He ascended back into heaven. We call His words the Great Commission: "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely, I am with you always, to the very end of the age" ([Matthew 28:19–20](#)). We can make it easier to do what God wants if we attend worship with fellow believers. I hope to see you on Sunday morning! Pastor Tom



5 Trent Mangum
5 John Wehling
6 Misty Burdett
6 Jeffry Dammast
9 Sharon McElfresh
13 Karen Brannon
13 Larry Brammier
15 Marv Zimmerman
16 Carol Maddox
21 Madison Zaroban
24 Jordan Dierking
27 Ed Reed

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 at 402-873-5306 or email your information to: secretary@firstpresnc.org.

Serving this month: Organist: Abby Reese
 Scripture: Trent Mangum Greeters: Nels & Udine Wilton
 Facebook/Photographer: Teresa Frieids
 Sound/Video: Jayne James & Dean DuVall
 Prepare Communion: Carol Hammond
 Coffee Fellowship: Deacons on September 6
 Sunday School on September 13

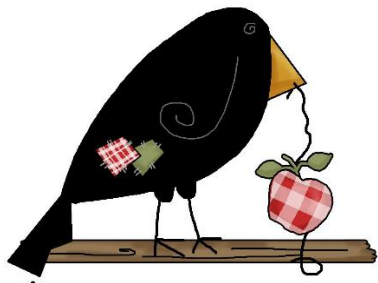
Please continue prayers for the following church family and friends: Kathy Miller, Austin Parker, Max Callen, Nancy Starr, Gertrude Ettleman, Marcia Catalone, Carissa Curtis, Lonnie & Donna Miller, Ashler Roehler, Cindy Jewell and for those unable to attend worship in person. Please call/email the office if you have someone to add to this list.



Our church choir is in full swing! Join us on Wednesday evenings at 7pm and enjoy singing with us this fall and Holiday season!



Laura Osborne was recently recognized by the Nebraska Association of School Boards (NASB) with a Level VII Award for her ongoing commitment to professional development and service as a school board member. Laura has proudly served on the Auburn Public Schools Board of Education for the past 12 years and currently serves as Board President. Congratulations, Laura, on this well-deserved recognition!



September **Calendar of Events**

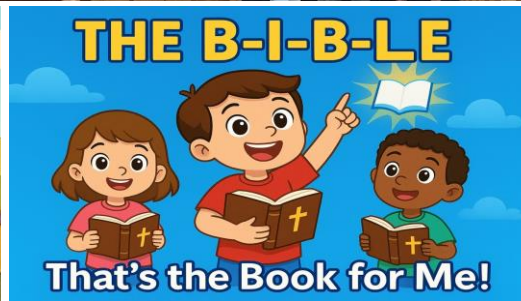
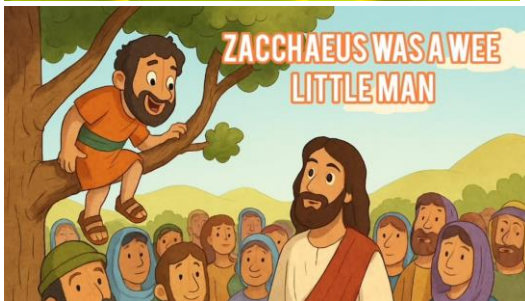
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 Lunch Bunch Valentino's 11:30 Quilters 1pm Choir 7pm	3	4	5
6 Worship and Holy Communion 10:30am Coffee Fellowship 15 th Sunday after Pentecost	7 Food Pantry UMC 3-5pm	8	9 Lunch Bunch Taco Bell 11:30 Quilters 1pm Choir 7pm	10	11	12
13 RALLY SUNDAY Sunday School begins Children 9:15 Adults 9:30 Worship 10:30 Coffee Fellowship 16 th Sunday after Pentecost	14	15	16 Lunch Bunch Runza 11:30 Quilters 1pm Session & Deacons 6:30pm	17	18	19
20 Worship 10:30 17 th Sunday after Pentecost	21 Food Pantry UMC 3-5pm	22	23 Lunch Bunch Pizza Hut 11:30 Quilters 1pm Choir 7pm	24	25	26
27 Worship 10:30am 18 th Sunday after Pentecost	28	29	30 Lunch Bunch El Portal 11:30 Quilters 1pm Choir practice 7pm			

Nebraska City Food Pantry in September: donations Boxed meal starters: Mac & cheese, Ramon noodles, hamburger helper, pizza mix, etc. would be greatly appreciated. Thanks!

I've got the joy, joy, joy, joy down in my heart!.....



We all experienced that joy when John James and grandson Baylor James sang for us during our worship service! It's always a joy when the kids return to school after the summer recess. Tony & Kim Reese's grandchildren, Chase and Rachel, are ready for that day. And it was a very joyful occasion when Kim celebrated her birthday in Kansas City with her family and the Royals!



We learned at a very young age that God made this world. God made the animals and the birds. God made you and me. We learned "Jesus Loves Me, this I know, For the Bible tells me so." When we were young, we memorized, "For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son..." We learned that Jesus is living and dying proof of God's love for you and me and the whole wide world. Friends – this is the most important stuff! This is the stuff that life is made of... and on our birthdays we ought to pause and give thanks to the Lord for all those blessings. But what good is all of that stuff that we learned years ago if we are not wise enough to use today. What will the coming years hold? In many ways, it is up to us. "So, Lord, teach us to count our days so that we may gain a wise heart." (excerpt from Pastor's message 8/23/26)

Join us for Rally Day!

Bee here on Sunday, September 13!



*How sweet are your words to my taste,
sweeter than honey to my mouth! – Psalm 119:103*

Youth Sunday School will **bee buzzing** at 9:15

Adult Sunday School will **bee buzzing** at 9:30

(Helen Lundak and JoAnn Martens will be co-leading with
“Life Lessons from Hebrews” by Max Lucado – All adults are welcome!)

Bee here for Worship at 10:30

Coffee Fellowship

and un-**bee**-lievably great treats after the service

Y’all bee-long here!

Thank you for all of the donations and help with the
rummage sale. We brought in a total of \$593! 😊