



The Builder



2023

The newsletter serving the families & friends of:

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

Gifts of Women Sunday – March 5

Sunday School for all Ages – 9:15am

Worship on Sunday mornings - 10:30

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

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

Keep in touch.....

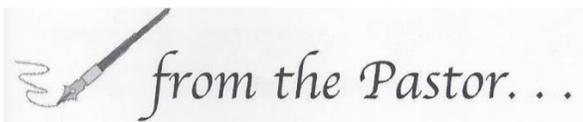
Pastor Tom: Email: presbypastortom@yahoo.com Phone: 402-274-8199

Church Office: Hours: 9-2:30, Monday – Thursday

Email: secretary@firstpresnc.org Phone: 402-873-5306

Church Website: www.firstpresnc.org

Homestead Presbytery website: www.homesteadpres.org



Did you hear about the fellow who bought a new pickup truck? He had only a couple of days when his neighbor woke up to discover that someone had spray painted red all around the sides of this beige truck (for some unknown reason).

Several neighbors went over to console and comfort him in his state of despair over the bad event. He was very upset and was trying to figure out what to do.... probably nothing except a very expensive body shop bill. But fortunately, one of his neighbors told him to get his WD-40 and clean it off.

Out of desperation he tried just a little bit to see if it might work. It removed the unwanted paint beautifully and did not harm his paint job on the truck. Everyone was impressed! WD-40who knew?

Sometimes we walk around with hurt, pain and despair, acting like there is nothing we can do about it. We struggle to find answers to the problems we have, and we know of other people, some of them our friends, who have similar experiences. But there is help. That's what the season of LENT is about. Changes can be made to help alleviate those problems. Spending some time with God in prayer, meditation. and reflection can help you restore your relationship with God and lead a happier life.

EASTER is on the horizon! The Easter message is that when we think everything is lost and there is no hope, God can change all that. God can bring life out of death... hope out of despair. That's why Easter is so important to those who believe and trust in Jesus Christ. God's one and only Son, Jesus Christ, died a horrible death. Then he was buried in a rock tomb that was sealed by the Romans. It was guarded by the Romans as well. But on the third day Christ arose to newness of life. He conquered death and gave all of us hope.

We should join with our neighbors and friends and celebrate this great thing that God has done. So come to church and join in the celebration. Be a part of those who rejoice, because God has wiped away our sins and made us like new again! I look forward to seeing you on Sunday mornings! Happy EASTER!

Pastor Tom

Celebrating in



...

- 10 Happy Birthday Ken Zaroban
- 15 Happy Birthday Tarryn Godsey – Sweet 16!
- 24 Happy Birthday Cheryl Hauptman
- 26 Happy Anniversary Howard and Dee Antes
- 28 Happy Birthday Carol Hammond & Happy Anniversary Brent & Bunny Shanholtz

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

Please continue prayers for the following church family and friends: Janet Osborne, Ed Reed, Marta Calhoun, Larry & Marilyn Brammier, Jan Bolejack, Edith Simmerman, Howard & Dee Antes, Rosanna McSwane, Tom & Janet Hemphill, RuthAnn Weddle's friend Laurette, Laura Osborne's friend, Suzanne, Abbee James' aunt Tami, and for our folks in the Ambassador: Glenis Hopp, Adelene Vock, Kathy Nelson, Foy Thayer, Connie Driever, Loran & Mary Donna Patton

PLEASE REMEMBER TO INCLUDE YOUR CHURCH IN YOUR REGULAR GIVING!



We are asking for donations of jars of peanut butter and jars of jelly for the local food pantry. Bring your contributions to the church during the week or on Sunday morning from now through the end of March. At that time, they will be delivered to the local Food Pantry at First United Methodist Church.



Calendar Of Events

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Lunch Bunch at Valentino's 11:30 Quilters 1pm Choir 7pm	2	3	4
5 Sunday School 9:15am Gifts of Women Sunday Worship/Holy Communion 10:30 Coffee Fellowship 2 nd Sunday in Lent	6 Food Pantry at UMC 3-5pm	7	8 Lunch Bunch at Taco Bell 11:30 Quilters 1pm	9	10	11
12 Sunday School 9:15am Worship 10:30am 3 rd Sunday in Lent	13	14 Deacons - 5:15pm Session – 6:30pm	15 Lunch Bunch at Runza 11:30am Quilters 1pm Choir Practice 7pm	16	17	18
19 Sunday School 9:15 Worship 10:30am 4 th Sunday in Lent	20 Food Pantry at UMC 3-5pm	21	22 Lunch Bunch at El Portal 11:30am Quilters 1pm	23	24	25
26 Sunday School 9:15 Worship 10:30am Hunger Offering 5 th Sunday in Lent	27	28	29 Lunch Bunch at Spring Garden 11:30am Quilters 1pm	30	31	

Serving this month:

Organist: Abby Reese Scripture: Kim Reese & Stephanie Shrader Greeters: Nels & Udine Wilton
 Camera: Marv Zimmerman Acolytes: Youth Sound/Power Point: Jane Zimmerman/Julie Hopp/Kurt Curtis
 Facebook/Photographer: Teresa Fields
 Nursery: Carla Zaroban, Doris Martin, Stephanie Shrader, Abbee James
 Communion: Preparer: Abby Reese Serving: Jan Marion, Kim Reese, Kristie Dierking & JoAnn Martens



Kathy Nelson celebrated her birthday on February 10. Her son Brian visited church with her on the 12th. Pictured with them are Dave and Sue LeGrand.

Kathy mentored Lilly Frields for her confirmation. Lilly sings with the Wesleyan University Choir. Pictured below is Lilly with the choir performing at First Plymouth Church in Lincoln. It was amazing to be with Lilly that morning, but they hated that they missed seeing Kathy that day in church.



The third Sunday in January marks the date for our Annual Congregational Meeting. Pastor Tom moderated the meeting and church treasurer Carol Maddox presented the financial reports for the year. After a short meeting, we enjoyed a potluck dinner and fellowship.





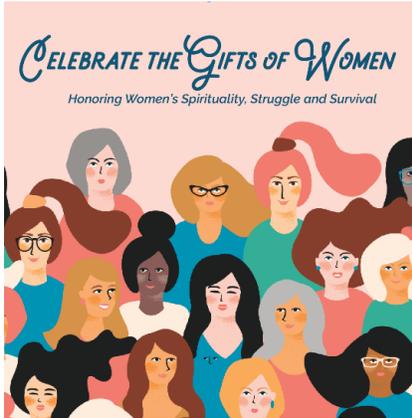
The first of March brings signs of spring and we enter the season of LENT. Our choir is in full swing and the Sunday school children are taking part in the symbols of the season with the presentation of the cross. Each week during the Lenten season, they will add symbols of the season to the cross. Pastor Tom will also present the children with special messages during the season. He always captures their attention with great stories with a scriptural lesson. The last Sunday in each month brings out the Hunger bucket. Coin and cash will be gathered and later distributed to the Food Pantry.



An excerpt from Pastor Tom's great message "Rejoice! It's LENT!": Lent is not a time to regret our faults or to rehearse our failures, as much as it is a time to renew our faith that God is at work creating a promising future out of the mess that we have made of the world and of our lives. Lent is not a time when we are to practice shallow fasting – giving up things we can easily do without. Lent is not a time to fast as much as it is a time to fasten our faith more tightly to the hope-filled promises of God. Lent is a time for us to lift high the cross – lift it high enough to permit the first rays of Easter morning to reflect upon its surface so that the cross might become a beacon of light for all the hopeless, desolate, and despairing people of our world. Lent is a time of renewal and of the restoration of our faith in the redemptive activities of God in history. That's why we can REJOICE....now in this season of LENT. Let us pray; Lord our God, we pray that you will help us during this season of LENT to understand more fully the joy that is ours through our savior Jesus Christ. Help us to nurture a quiet, mature joy that comes through time spent in meditation and contemplation of what You have done for us. Help us all to grow spiritually throughout this season of Lent. In the name of Christ we pray; AMEN.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Gifts of Women Sunday – March 5



Daylight Savings – March 12



Palm Sunday – April 2

10:30am

Maundy Thursday

Worship - April 6, 7pm

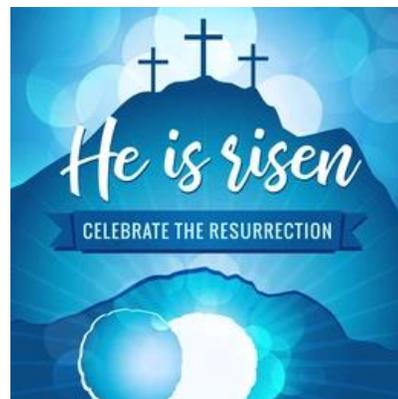


Good Friday Community Worship

Easter Sunday – April 9

First United Methodist Church – April 7, noon

10:30am



The Worship Committee will be serving breakfast on Easter Sunday. Please join them anytime between 8am and 9:30am for food and fellowship! All are welcome!