



# The Builder

Hello   
AUGUST

2023

The newsletter serving the families & friends of:

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

Worship on Sunday mornings - 10:30am

The Sacrament of Holy Communion & Coffee Fellowship  
the 1st Sunday of each month

Worship and Potluck at Wildwood Park on August 6  
(Communion and Coffee Fellowship will be held on August 13)

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: Hours: 9-2:30, Monday – Thursday

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

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

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

*Before I formed you in the womb  
I knew you, before you were born  
I set you apart...  
Jeremiah 1:5*



Have you ever wondered why you were placed on this planet? Notice what God said to Jeremiah the Prophet: “Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you.” See, the Bible says that you were created for God and not the other way around.

Here’s a couple of questions that might help us clarify this whole thing.

**#1 Why am I here?** Surely you’re like me and have asked yourself this question sometime or another. Ephesians chapter 1, verse 4 says, “*He chose us in Christ even before the foundations of the world.*” The Amplified version of the Bible says He actually picked us out to himself as His own. The Lord our God saw something in you that pleased Him and He picked you to be His son or daughter.

**#2 Does my life matter?** Proverbs 16, verse 4 says, “*The Lord made everything to contribute to its own end and to His purpose.*” (Amplified version) Your life matters because it contributes to God’s ultimate purpose. There is a purpose for our existence and its much larger than what we see here.

Many people in the world are successful and have acquired a great deal of material wealth but they live a miserable life because they have no purpose. The Bible promises in Proverbs chapter 3, verse 6: “*In everything you do, put God first, and He will direct you and crown your efforts with success.*”

Think about it – the best way to know God’s will or purpose for your life is to draw nearer to God. Let me suggest to you that reading the scriptures, praying, and attending worship services is the best way to know that you are in tune with God’s purpose for your life. I hope to see you Sunday morning!

Pastor Tom





# Calendar Of Events

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 Lunch Bunch at Taco John's 11:30 Quilters 1pm	3	4	5
6 <b>Worship and potluck picnic - 10:30am at Wildwood Park</b>  10 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost	7 Food Pantry at UMC 3-5pm	8	9 Lunch Bunch at Hong Kong 11:30 Quilters 1pm	10	11	12
13 Worship/Holy Communion 10:30 Coffee Fellowship  11 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost	14	15 Session will not meet this month	16 Lunch Bunch at Valentino's 11:30am Quilters 1pm	17	18	19
20 Worship 10:30am  12 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost	21 Food Pantry at UMC 3-5pm	22	23 Lunch Bunch at Taco Bell 11:30am Quilters 1pm	24	25	26
27 Worship 10:30am Hunger Offering  13 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost	28	29	30 Lunch Bunch at Runza 11:30am Quilters 1pm	31		

**PLEASE REMEMBER TO INCLUDE YOUR CHURCH IN YOUR REGULAR GIVING!**



and..... **SING! SING! SING!**

I feel like I just said goodbye to the choir for summer break. It is now time to say Welcome Back!

A start date is still being considered but wanted to start getting the congregation thinking about the upcoming Choir season.

Watch the bulletin, emails, texts for the date when we will start practicing again. I hope all current members will consider participating again, as well as new members. We all would love to have new voices join us. We meet 3 to 4 Wednesdays a month and sing in church 2 to 3 Sundays a month. We go from sometime in August through early May.

This is a great time for fellowship and singing to the lord.

I am also considering adding in more special music during the season. I know we have a lot of talent in our church family. Please reach out to me or Jane or Pastor Tom if you would be willing to share your talent with us. We will find a Sunday for you to share with us.

God Bless, and look forward to getting with you all soon!  
Abby



Join the choir this fall, and you will be singing with our ***Singing Grannies!***

Kim Reese and Kristie Dierking graced us with their voices last month and hopes that you, too will help with special music and the choir in the coming weeks!



**Do you know someone in need of prayer? The prayer shawls are such a wonderful way of sharing God's presence with others and a great witness for our church.**

Also...a big thank you to all who make them for us!

Please stop in the office and let Jane (or any of our Deacons) know if you would like to have a prayer shawl for someone.

# The church welcomes Synod School attendees (including our own Julie Hopp! 😊)

by Mike Ferguson | Presbyterian News Service



Combined choirs from Lakeside Presbyterian Church in Storm Lake, Iowa, and Synod School attendees offered two anthems during worship on Sunday. (Photo by Mike Ferguson)

STORM LAKE, Iowa — Members and friends of [Lakeside Presbyterian Church](#) in Storm Lake, Iowa, supersized the church's welcome mat Sunday, welcoming scores of visitors attending this week's [Synod School](#) put on annually by the [Synod of Lakes and Prairies](#).



Our new windows will soon be installed! Funds for this project will primarily come from our endowment and special gifts funds. Any contributions made to help offset the cost of the project would be appreciated. If donating, please make notation that your contribution is for the window project. Your donation will be included on your annual giving statement for 2023. Thank you for your continued support of our church! The Administrative Committee