



The Builder

AUGUST

2024

The newsletter serving the families & friends of:

First Presbyterian Church - 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**

Worship and Potluck in the Fellowship Hall – Sunday August 4
(Holy Communion will be served on Sunday August 11)

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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Pastor's Message

When I was a child in elementary school I loved the summer vacation. Back then mother could say to us, "...go outside and play and I'll call you when it is time to eat." I really enjoyed the freedom to be outdoors and do anything (pretty much) that I wanted to do. But eventually the summer season would end. My parents told me I had to go back to school again! I was not happy. Yes, the season was changing, just as I knew it would.

When was the last time that you gave some thought to the seasons? If there is anything we can count on it is the regularity of the seasons. In a world so full of chaos, the unchanging seasons of life give us hope in our restless world.

The apostle Paul in his letter to Timothy (2 Timothy 4:1-2) says, "Preach the Word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching." Timothy was to be ready in season and out of season, constantly prepared to do whatever God is calling him to do.

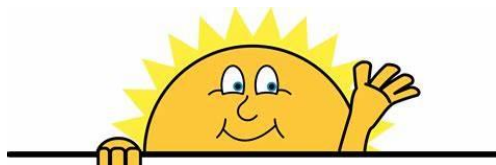
What about us today? Like Timothy, we are commanded to always be ready for God's work ([1 Peter 3:15](#); [1 Corinthians 16:13](#); [Galatians 6:9-10](#)). It is easy to "clock in" and "clock out" of our faith, erroneously believing that we represent God at church but not throughout the week.

This was not an option for Timothy, and it is not an option for us. If you are a Christian, you are a "chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light" ([1 Peter 2:9](#)). Whether we are speaking to a crowd or changing a tire, we should "be ready in season and out of season" to declare His praises and His truth to a watching world.

I encourage you to think about this as we find summer changing to fall once again.

I hope to see you in Church this Sunday!

Pastor Tom





AUGUST BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

- 5 Happy Birthday Linda Martin
- 8 Happy Birthday Janet Osborne
- 16 Happy Birthday Brad Marion
- 17 Happy Birthday Connie Higgins
- 18 Happy Birthday Kim Reese
- 20 Happy Birthday Kaelie Fields
- 23 Happy Birthday Pastor Tom
- 24 Nathan Zaroban
- 26 Happy Birthday Laura Osborne
- 29 Happy Anniversary Ed & Virginia 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 Anniversaries 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 Greeters: Howard Antes Coffee Fellowship: The Osbornes
Scripture: Helen Lundak Acolytes: Youth Facebook/Photographer: Teresa Fields
Sound/Power Point: Jeff Maddox/Jayne James/Marv Zimmerman/Alexis Dierking
Prepare Communion: Abby Reese

Please continue prayers for the following church family and friends: Dee Antes, Janet Hemphill, Jan Bolejack, Curtis Kohout, the Bassinger family, and for those unable to attend worship in person. Please call or email the office if you have someone to add to this list.

Food Pantry for August: Backpack food items would be greatly appreciated. Thank you for your continued support.



Tony and Kim – THANK YOU!

My light fixture is not flashing, weeds are dead, and the flower garden looks great! 😊



Calendar Of Events

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 Worship and Potluck Picnic in the Fellowship Hall 10:30am	5 Food Pantry at UMC 3-5pm	6	7 Lunch Bunch Taco John's 11:30am Quilters 1pm	8	9	10
11 Worship/Holy Communion 10:30 Coffee Fellowship Hosted by the Osbornes	12	13	14 Lunch Bunch Hong Kong 11:30 Quilters 1pm	15	16	17
18 Worship 10:30am	19 Food Pantry at UMC 3-5pm	20	21 Lunch Bunch Valentino's 11:30am Quilters 1pm Session 6:30pm	22	23	24
25 Worship 10:30am Hunger Offering	26	27	28 Lunch Bunch Taco Bell 11:30am Quilters 1pm Choir Practice-7pm	29	30	31



Our **Annual Fall Bazaar** is scheduled for Saturday October 26! 😊

Our annual **Worship and Potluck Picnic in the Park** is scheduled for Sunday, August 4 in the church Fellowship Hall – 10:30am. All are welcome! Plates, flatware, napkins and drinks will be provided. Air conditioned!

Celebration of Life service will be held for Rev. Bob Burdett on Saturday, August 3 at the family home in Van Meter, Iowa. Call the church office for more information.



¹¹ Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. ¹² For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. ¹³ Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. ¹⁴ Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, ¹⁵ and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. ¹⁶ In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. ¹⁷ Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. *Ephesians 6:11-17 NIV.* Randy Martens was a trooper and made a great model for the armor of God! It was a fun demonstration, but also hit the point during one of Pastor Tom's *Life's Little Lessons*.



Below: *Winds of the Plains* provided our Special Music on July 14. Playing their Native American Wind Flutes and other Native American instruments, JoAnn Martens and the rest of the group blessed us with *Morning Has Broken*, *Amazing Grace* and *Kum b Yah*. Very nice. Thank You for joining us that morning!



Save These DATES



It's **Rally Sunday** and it's all about kids and apples! Please join us for a potluck lunch after our Worship Service on Sunday, September 8! Share your favorite apple dish if you wish. Hot dogs and hamburgers will be provided in addition to tableware and drinks. Mark your calendar today!

Fall Bazaar

The Deacons are hosting our annual **Fall Bazaar, Silent Auction, Bake Sale and Salad Luncheon!** Mark your calendars for Saturday, October 26! The quilters are donating another beautiful quilt – don't miss the opportunity to own this one! More details on the bazaar and quilt will be forthcoming!



It's never too early to purchase those treasured items for our **Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes!** Right now, you'll find school supplies at great prices! Shop early and often – let's beat last year's total shoebox count! (Collection date: November 17 – Dedication: November 24)



Our annual **Sunday School Children's Program** is scheduled for Sunday, December 15

(a practice during church school will be held on December 8)