



# The Builder



## 2024

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**

**September 8 – Sunday School begins at 9:15am**

**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**

**FALL BAZAAR AND SALAD LUNCHEON – SATURDAY OCTOBER 26**

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

**Church Website:** [www.firstpresnc.org](http://www.firstpresnc.org) **Homestead Presbytery website:** [www.homesteadpres.org](http://www.homesteadpres.org)

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## Pastor's Message

For our church to remain vibrant and fruitful, we need the blessing of God. When God blesses a church, miracles happen. Marriages are saved, lives are changed, and people are put back together. When God blesses a church, he dramatically changes people's lives.

That has always been the kind of church I wanted to lead. I'm guessing that's the same kind of church you want to be a part of. So, how do we maintain God's blessing on your church? We do what God has told the church to do.

The church in Acts 2 had all the necessary ingredients for God's blessing. They were using everyone's talents. They were devoted to God's Word. They loved one another deeply.

But above everything else, they prayed. That's the starting point for a church that God blesses. The presence of God's power makes the church different from every other organization. No business or government has the Holy Spirit. He gives us the power to do what we can't do ourselves.

God doesn't expect us to do this on our own. He gives us his power. And how do we get God's power? Well, it's not rocket science. We get it one way: through prayer. Prayer and power have a direct correlation. Much prayer equals much power. Little prayer equals little power. No prayer equals no power.

The early church understood this. Think about the story in Acts chapters 1 and 2. Jesus had died on the cross, God had raised him from the dead, and he had walked on the earth for 40 days. Then he told his followers that they would be his witnesses in *"Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth"* (Acts 1:8 NLT). But for now, they were to wait until Jesus sent his Spirit.

So, the Bible says, *"They all met together and were constantly united in prayer"* (Acts 1:14 NLT). Jesus' followers met for one reason and one reason only: to pray. Then on the tenth day, God sent his Spirit, and miracle after miracle came. Peter preaches the Good News to Jews who had gathered in Jerusalem to celebrate Pentecost. Then, Luke writes, *"A deep sense of awe came over them all, and the apostles performed many miraculous signs and wonders"* (Acts 2:43 NLT).

You know the story. God birthed the church that day. The Bible says 3,000 came to faith in Jesus. The world has never been the same. Our church has a God-sized mission in front of it. Our church can't do what God has called us to do without his power. And you'll never have the power of the early church without the prayer of the early church.

Pray like the early church did. Pray as if your church's impact depends upon it—because it does. Pray for the Lord to bless us with new vitality for the future ahead of us! Pastor Tom



## OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

- 03 Happy Anniversary Jeff & Carol Maddox
- 14 Happy Anniversary Larry & Marilyn Brammier
- 15 Happy Anniversary Tom and Janet Osborne
- 16 Happy Birthday John Shrader
- 17 Happy Birthday Connie Driever
- 19 Happy Birthday Tony Reese & Baylor James
- 22 Happy Birthday Howard Antes
- 24 Happy Birthday Gracelyn Marion
- 26 Happy Birthday Jayne James
- 31 Happy Birthday Cari Godsey

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](mailto:secretary@firstpresnc.org)

Serving this month:

Organist: Abby Reese

Greeter: Preston Scott

Scripture: Karen Brannon

Acolytes: Youth

Facebook/Photographer: Teresa Frields

Sound/Power Point: Jeff Maddox/Kris Dierking/Marv Zimmerman/Alexis Dierking

Prepare Communion: Abby

**Please continue prayers** for the following church family and friends: Pastor Tom & Janet Osborne, Howard & Dee Antes, John Osborne, Jan Bolejack, Jen Stoakes, Edith Simmerman 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 Collection

Food Pantry for October: Donations of soup and crackers would be greatly appreciated. Thank you for your continued support.



# Calendar Of Events

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 Lunch Bunch Porter's 11:30am Quilters 1pm Choir 7pm	3	4	5
6 <b>World Communion</b> Sunday School 9:15 Adults SS 9:30 Worship 10:30 Coffee Fellowship	7 Food Pantry at UMC 3-5pm	8	9 Lunch Bunch Downtown 11:30am Quilters 1pm Choir 7pm	10	11	12
13 Sunday School 9:15 Adult SS 9:30am Worship 10:30	14	15	16 Lunch Bunch Little Ted's 11:30 Quilters 1pm Session 6:30pm Deacons 6:30pm	17	18	19
20 Sunday School 9:15 Adult SS 9:30am Worship 10:30	21 Food Pantry at UMC 3-5pm	22	23 Lunch Bunch The Keeping Room 11:30am Quilters 1pm Choir 7pm	24 Set up for bazaar & salad luncheon 2:30pm	25	26 <b>FALL BAZAAR &amp; SALAD LUNCHEON 8AM – 1PM</b>
27 Sunday School 9:15 Adult SS 9:30am Worship 10:30 Hunger Offering	28	29	30 Lunch Bunch Subway 11:30am Quilters 1pm Choir 7pm	31		



We need you! Join Abby and the choir for fellowship and singing each Wednesday evening at 7. (no practice on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday – Session night) All voices are welcome! Share your talent with your church family, learn some new songs, and have fun!



It's never too early to purchase those treasured items for our **Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes!** 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)



<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/TMQKHG9>

Please take a few minutes to respond to the survey questions. Your participation in this process is very valuable and necessary.

The Elders have tried to make this survey easy to respond to, without taking a lot of your time. We cannot emphasize enough how important your response is to the success of our efforts to find our path to the future of First Presbyterian Church in Nebraska City.

If you have questions about this effort, feel free to visit with Moderator of the Session, Pastor Tom. Together we can be confident about moving into the next chapter of the life of our congregation.



**Rally  
Sunday  
2024!**







Landry James received his first Bible from Pastor Tom and Sunday School Teacher Carla Zaroban.



Everyone joined Landry in playing the Krystal Bells. Both grandfathers, sister, brother, teacher and friends. 😊





Pastor Tom shares his Little Life's Lesson and everyone with him gets in on the lesson.

Hunger Offering is always a show of generosity. Thank you to all for sharing in our donations to the Food Pantry, through our monthly Hunger Offering and with your food donations.

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# Fall Bazaar



The Deacons are hosting our annual **Fall Bazaar and Salad Luncheon**. There will be **Coffee and Homemade Cinnamon Rolls** all morning. There will be **Silent Auction** items to bid on, and **Bake/Craft** items for sale.

There will be a **Salad Luncheon** at 11am. We will ask for contributions from you for some of your favorite yummy salads! Thank you in advance!

Mark your calendars for Saturday, October 26, 8am – 1pm. The quilters are donating **another beautiful quilt** (pictured above) don't miss the opportunity to own this one!

A sign-up sheet for donations of your time and baked goods and/or salads is on the table in the narthex. We welcome all volunteers! Time for crafting and baking! 😊