

THE HERALD



From the Pastor....

James Earl Massey defined preaching as a “burdensome joy.” Writing a sermon each week is a daunting task! Every Saturday night when I go to bed, I ask myself, why did God call me to be a preacher? Why can’t I sleep in tomorrow morning like normal people do! However, when I get to church early on Sunday morning to rehearse, and when it is time for worship to begin, I do find it a joy. Preaching is a challenge but it is also rewarding.

Most of the time, I use the Revised Common Lectionary. The Revised Common Lectionary has assigned readings for each Sunday and the major festivals of the liturgical year. Most Sundays the readings include one from the Old Testament, a psalm, an epistle of the New Testament, and a reading from the gospels. I am not required to use the common lectionary. As Presbyterians, we believe in the connectional church, that is, each local church is a part of the larger church, and not just the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), but the church universal. Using the common lectionary is one way to express the unity of the church. I like to use the common lectionary because there are a lot of worship and sermon resources based on the common lectionary. For example, there are calls to worship, prayers of confession, and other liturgical materials based on the readings for the day. The children’s bulletins are based on the Revised Common Lectionary.

Most of the time I plan my worship services and sermons months in advance. This helps our music staff, Jan and Rachel, to pick music that is appropriate for the Scripture readings each Sunday, and they have done a fantastic job.

Recently there seems to be a lot of interest in the fact that some preachers plagiarize sermons, i.e. they use someone else’s writings, thoughts, or ideas without attribution. There are many sources that will provide preachers with complete sermons. Some require the payment of an annual subscription, others are free, some are sent via “snail mail and others via email or are available on the internet. One time many years ago I had an extremely busy week so I read someone else’s complete sermon. I did inform the congregation. But I will never do that again! I do rely on a lot of different sources to help me with my sermons. I review commentaries, a preaching journal, and other sources for my sermons, and I try to give credit when I do use someone else’s writings or thoughts or ideas. A few years ago the Presbyterian publishing house, Westminster John Knox Press, came out with an excellent commentary series on the Revised Common Lectionary.

I do appreciate your comments, questions, and suggestions about worship and sermons. I do not claim to be a “golden-throated” orator. But I try to do my best, and I am always looking for ways to improve!

Raymond A. Meester

ALL CHURCH PICNIC – FUN FOR ALL!

The picnic will be JULY 17TH at Holmes Park. 4:30 PM.

Chicken will be provided. Each family is asked to bring a side dish or dessert.

There will be games for the children.

Show off your talent by entering the Pie Baking Contest.



July Birthday Greetings

- 02 Lane Gibson
- 03 Audre Nielson
- 03 Kay Schweitzer
- 05 Karli Gaines
- 07 Craig Doering
- 07 Dave Thompson
- 07 Jackson Wade Helms
- 07 Lariah Smith
- 07 Lew Sieber
- 10 Jeanette Emert
- 10 Mary Louise Gillispie
- 11 Wilma Cooper
- 12 Harvey Brown
- 16 Barbara Queen
- 16 Mary Crouch
- 18 Jessica Smith
- 18 Larry Baker
- 23 Loretta Neill
- 24 Katrina Kendle
- 28 Fern Barker
- 29 Adam Bahr
- 30 Raymond Meester
- 30 Theresa Baker

Please notify the church office if your birthday or anniversary was omitted or incorrect so we can make the necessary changes.



July Anniversaries

- 05 Norman and Pat Zink
- 11 Wade and Debbie Kendle
- 25 John and Kelly Jack
- 27 Ken and Cynthia Smetter

PLEASE BE IN PRAYER FOR

Elly Propp at Madonna; "Linda" who has cancer; Joyce with inoperable brain tumor; Marlene who has been fighting cancer has now found a new large tumor on her spine; Margaret Timpone in cancer treatment; Ron Miller's Uncle Charles "Skee" who has cancer; Chanell Carpenter's Grandmother Dorothy is having physical therapy and rehabilitation; Ramona Meester with health issues to neck, back, and arm; Ken & Cynthia Smetter's grandchildren's grandfather, Bob, who had bypass surgery. Please update prayer requests with Marilyn Smith or the church office weekly.



GIVING TABLE JULY 10TH



The Mission Committee will be collecting items for both *Hygiene Kits* and *Cleanup Buckets* during the July 10th Giving Table:

The *Hygiene Kits* will be shipped for use by the PC(USA) Disaster Assistance Center. Each *Hygiene Kit* will include a hand towel, washcloth, wide-tooth comb, nail clipper, bar of soap, toothbrush, and adhesive bandage strips.

The *Cleanup Buckets* will join others collected by our Presbytery to be distributed to those affected by the Missouri flooding. All the *Cleanup Bucket* items will be packed into a 5-gallon bucket with resealable lid: scouring pads, sponges, scrub brush, cleaning towels, laundry detergent, household cleaner, dish soap, clothespins, clothesline, dust masks, latex gloves, work gloves, trash bags and insect repellent.

Check the Weekly or the example in the Narthex for specific size requirements.

Members who can not attend on that date are encouraged to bring items to the church any time through the end of August.



Thanks so very much for your words of support and comfort during my mother's illness and after her death and for the donations to my mother's memorial. She really enjoyed coming to church when she was able to do so, and really missed coming to worship when her health no longer allowed her to come. We sincerely appreciate your thoughtfulness.

Raymond Meester



OUR SYMPATHY AND PRAYERS

TO the family and friends of **Linda Duerksen** who died May 27, 2011. Linda is Willis Duerksen's sister-in-law.

TO the family and friends of **Eveline Meester** who died June 2, 2011. Eveline is Pastor Ray Meester's mother.

TO the family and friends of **Margaret Jean Gray** who died May 30, 2011. Jean is Mike Lagueux's mother.

TO the family and friends of **Mike Brugman** who died June 17, 2011. Mike is the son-in-law of Darrel & Shirley Dively.



Sunday, September 25, 2011 1:00 PM

The Meester Family will be forming a team to raise money for this

walk. Please contact Ramona if you would like to join their team or to make a contribution. Thanks!



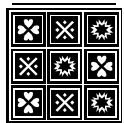
Letter from Eastridge Food Pantry

Thank you for your generous donations to the Eastridge Food Pantry so far this year. Your support makes it possible for us to continue providing emergency food for the people of Lincoln. We write to advise you that we can no longer use empty egg cartons. Items that we always appreciate include: toilet paper, diapers and other baby items, salad dressing, pancake mix, evaporated milk, cold cereal, cake mix, pasta, powdered milk, tuna, toothpaste, laundry detergent, and other laundry items. Thank you again for your continued support.

Kids Against Hunger



Come join other church members as we help feed the hungry round the world...and around the corner! Kids Against Hunger distributes a specially formulated rice-soy casserole meal to starving children in more than 40 countries, and here in Lincoln. Through the *Center For People In Need* and lower-income elementary schools they are able to provide much needed food to those in need. Our job will be to assist with packaging these meals on **SUNDAY, JULY 10, 1-3 PM**. Volunteers (5 years and up) should use the sign-up sheet found on the Mission bulletin board in the narthex.



14th ANNUAL BBQ & QUILT AUCTION

Saturday, August 27, 2011

At Camp Calvin Crest & Conference Center, Fremont, Nebraska. Proceeds benefit various Calvin Crest projects and program. Schedule includes 10 AM Quilts on display; 12-1:30 PM BBQ Lunch (\$8.00 adults \$4.00 children 4-9); 10 AM – 2 PM Silent Auction; 1 PM Quilt Auction in a/c Proett Center



Mark Your Calendars

The Waffleman is coming to Heritage on September 4th. *New this year will be a silent auction!* Please contact Leanne Miller if you are interested in donating for the auction. All proceeds will be directed to the upcoming mission trip by church members.



MISSION TRIP

Would you be interested in working with other church members on a mission team to help those affected by a natural disaster? The Mission Committee would like to organize a team and plan a mission trip for sometime this fall. Due to the many tornado and flood disasters so far this year, we know that such a team will be needed somewhere in the US this fall. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Karen Griffin Sieber.

SUMMER FOCUS

The focus of the Mission Committee during the summer months will be **disaster assistance**:

- We will be putting together *Hygiene Kits* and *Cleanup Buckets* for use by our national church, Packaging food through *The Kids Against Hunger* program,
- Planning a fall mission trip, and using the profits from the Waffleman/Silent Auction event to fund such a mission trip.

Please check out the summer newsletters and the "Weekly" for additional details!



PANDAMANIA!

VBS will be held Saturday, August 6th and Sunday, August 7th from 9:00 AM to 2:00PM. Lunch will be provided. Registration Forms are available online (see last page to May 2011 Newsletter online) or in the office. There is a \$10.00 charge (for registrations received after June 27th) See you in August !!!



Thank you to all who generously gave to this year's Pentecost Offering. \$278.23 was received.



COOKIE FELLOWSHIP 1ST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH JULY 3RD

Join us for cookies and coffee and fellowship after worship.

CHANGE IN SUMMER WORSHIP TIMES

Sundays at 9:30 AM through Sunday, September 4 (Labor Day Weekend). Also, There will be no Sunday School during that time.



THE HERITAGE BOOK CLUB

The book club has selected "One Thousand White Women" by Jim Fergus for discussion at the next meeting on July 11 at 7 PM in the Gibson Room. **Everyone is welcome to attend.** Please direct questions about the book club to Audre Nielson.

Heritage Book Club Selection for discussion at the August 8th meeting will be "The Thirteenth Tale" by Diane Setterfield.



SESSION HIGHLIGHTS - JUNE 12, 2011

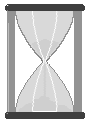
Approved the development of a disaster "mission team" of church members to go on a mission trip to help the victims of a disaster.

Approved a policy encouraging church groups and outside groups to use the flatware, dishes, and cups in the kitchen and to use the dishwasher to wash these items. Money donated from Heritage Fellowship and from the sale of snack trays will be used to buy dishwasher-safe plastic tumblers and plates.

Approved setting up a "guest" account in the church for outside groups to be able to access the internet via Wi-Fi. They will NOT be able to access the church's private network.

NOTE: Remember to check the ONLINE CALENDAR frequently for any changes that might occur!

**DEADLINE FOR THE
NEXT HERALD**



August 15: Articles received after this time may not be included in the Newsletter.