

THE HERALD



From the Pastor:

May 2017

In this newsletter is an invitation to a class I will be teaching on discipleship. I originally was going to call it a “new member” class, but I prefer using this the word “discipleship.” “Membership” conjures up the image of institutional survival, of keeping an organization going. We need more members to keep our church going. More members mean more volunteers to get the work done that needs to get done and more money to pay the bills and keep the institution going. Thinking of membership in those terms tends to place the focus on the wrong things. In today’s secular world, we evaluate institutions by their size. The more employees a corporation has, the more net sales a corporation has in a year, the better. To be listed as a Fortune 500 company is seen as a bragging point. The Fortune 500 is an annual list compiled and published by Fortune magazine that ranks 500 of the largest U.S. corporations by total revenue.

Membership in the church should not be about institutional survival or numbers. It is about discipleship. If when using the terms membership in the church, we are talking about discipleship, then I am willing to use that term.

The *Book of Order* (constitution) of the Presbyterian Church reads, “Membership in the Church of Jesus Christ is a joy and a privilege. It is also a commitment to participate in Christ’s mission (G-1.0303).” The paragraph goes on to list what such involvement includes. I want to list them for you, to give you some idea what discipleship means in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

Such involvement includes:

- proclaiming the good news in word and deed,
- taking part in the common life and worship of a congregation,
- lifting one another up in prayer, mutual concern and active support,
- studying Scripture and the issues of Christian faith and life,
- supporting the ministry of the church through the giving of money, time and talents,
- demonstrating a new quality of life within and through the church,
- responding to God’s activity in the world through service to others,
- living responsibly in the personal, family, vocational, political, cultural, and social relationships of life,
- working in the world for peace, justice, freedom, and human fulfillment,
- *caring for God’s creation,*
- participating in the governing responsibilities of the church, and
- reviewing and evaluating regularly the integrity of one’s membership, and considering ways in which one’s participation in the worship and service of the church may be increased and made more meaningful.

(*The 2016 General Assembly (national meeting) asked the presbyteries to add this to the meaning of membership. It has been overwhelmingly ratified by the presbyteries.)

If one chooses to participate in the Presbyterian Church, but not be a member, they are “welcome and may participate in the life and worship of the church and receive its pastoral care and instruction (G-1.0404).” Basically, the only difference is that if one is not a member, one cannot vote in congregational meetings or be elected to office in the congregation.

Raymond A. Meester

Pastor Ray will be teaching a class on what it means to be a disciple of Christ from a reformed perspective. (Reformed refers to the Presbyterian Church's perspective of the Christian faith.) The class will include a brief history of the church universal, of Heritage Church, and an explanation of Presbyterian polity (government) and what makes the Presbyterian Church unique from other churches as well as what we all have in common. The class is scheduled for Wednesday nights, June 7, 14, and 21, at 7:00 P.M., in the Gibson Room, and will go no later than 8:30 P.M. There will be refreshments.

This class is for those who are interested in joining the church, for members—or anyone-- wanting to know more about discipleship in the Presbyterian Church.

It would be helpful for know how many plan to attend. Please email Pastor Ray at raymond@heritagepres.org or call the church office at 402.477.3401 if you plan to attend. Please leave a message if no one answers. If you do decide at the last minute you want to come, please feel welcome to come!

If you have questions about membership or the class, please do not hesitate to call Pastor Ray.



JUNE BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

02 J. Mitchell Robertson
04 Jeanne Bonnett
08 Elijah Al-masaudi
11 Jan Crouch
12 Jessica Broeder
12 Mora Singsaas
14 Miranda Smith
16 Robyn Mason
16 Liam Tomas
17 Richard Gibson
19 Larry Brage
19 Corinne Crouch
19 Breannah Weyers
21 David Crawford
25 Brylee Hass
30 Camden Gibson

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

HERITAGE'S FIRST FREecycle

Heritage will be having its first Freecycle event on Sunday, June 4 at 9:30 AM. Please bring items (limit of 3 per person) that you would like to give away. Place items on the table in Fellowship Hall. Anyone can take what they want or need. Please take home any items which you brought that remain at noon or when you leave.

HERITAGE BIRTHDAY CLUB



**Congratulations to new & renewing Heritage Birthday Club Members:
Gene Harmon**

Consider renewing or joining Heritage's Birthday Club. Donations (usually 1 dollar per year of life) are made to our endowment fund.



JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

02 Danny & Tamra Broeder
06 Scott & Lori Helvie
09 Bruce & Ruth Hunzeker (44 years)
11 Raymond & Ramona Meester
12 David & Dawn Thompson
21 Bill & Missy Bahr
28 Larry & Sharon Baker (59 years)



CONGRATULATIONS DENISE LAGUEUX

Denise Lagueux has recently completed her coursework to become a commissioned ruling elder.



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2017 GRADUATES!

Adriana Miller, the daughter of Ron and Leanne Miller, graduated from Lincoln High School. She will be attending the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, this fall.

Samantha Griffin, the daughter of Karen Griffin-Sieber, graduated from Washington University, St. Louis, MO, with a Masters in Mechanical Engineering. She is employed at Boeing in St. Louis.

Kirk Schojdt, our choir director, graduated from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, with a Masters in music. Kirk will be moving to Denver where he will be teaching vocal music in a public high school.



COFFEE CORNER

Stop by our Coffee Corner to pick up a wide variety of coffees, teas, chocolate bars or olive oil. This offers a link between our congregation and people in other countries. By purchasing Fair Trade Products, you show the farmers they have a partner they can trust.



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Circle will have their last meeting before summer break on June 6 at 11:00 AM and they have planned a salad luncheon. All women are invited to attend even if you haven't before.

WOMAN'S RETREAT

Sue Nelson is planning a Woman's retreat. The retreat will take place at Camp Calvin Crest September 22-23. The cost of the trip is dependent on room occupancy. A single room is \$105/pp, a double room is \$90/pp, and a triple room is \$85/pp (includes all meals). Kathy Little will be the guest speaker for the event. If you are interested in signing up for the retreat, or would like more information please contact Sue Nelson.

WE WANT TO SEE YOUR TALENT

As the choir year wraps up, it is time to showcase the talents of the members and guests of Heritage. During the summer, there are several Sunday's in which you can share your time talent with the congregation. If you are interested in signing up for a Sunday, please sign up using the sheet on the door across from the office (the directors' door). If you need accompaniment, please indicate as such so that Pris can connect with you for practice time. We do have the capability to use a sound track as well if you would prefer.

WANTED: FOOD PANTRY WORKERS

If you would be willing to give a couple of hours to help others, please consider volunteering to assist with Wednesday food distributions at the Eastridge Food Pantry. We are in need of volunteers to help 3:00-6:00 pm on the following dates:

- Wednesday, June 21

A sign-up sheet is posted on the Mission bulletin board in the narthex. Training will be provided by Eastridge volunteers at the beginning of each shift. The following items are still needed at the Pantry: Toilet paper, laundry soap, canned chicken, canned dinners like ravioli, sugar, oil, flour, Kleenex, paper towels, feminine products and cold cereal. Your donations are great appreciated.

BEST CHOICE



ONGOING YOUTH FUNDRAISERS PLEASE SAVE BEST CHOICE UPCs AND USED PRINTER CARTRIDGES

We have received a check for \$90.00 for our youth fund. Keep saving Best Choice UPCs! Each Best Choice UPC nets 3 cents for our Youth! Thanks to all who continue to support this mission.



MISSION BINGO 2017

Join the fun this summer with the Mission Committee's BINGO game! BINGO cards are available on the Mission bulletin board. We want to see how many of the 20 different

activities you and/or your family can complete during the summer months. Activities include things you can do at home, at the church or in our community. Some will cost nothing, some will be donations of items, some will ask for donations of money. Hopefully, we have included something for everybody! At the end of the summer, turn in your card for a chance to win a prize. The more BINGO's you have the better your chances!



DUCS (YOUTH GROUP NEWS)

The DUC's learned the meaning behind various parts of the PC(USA) symbol. You can see this amazing art along with the different meanings in the Narthex.

WORSHIP SERVICE

In recent years, summer Worship service times have changed. This year Worship during the summer will continue to be at **10:30 AM.**



God and learn that with God's powers at work, they can be heroes' right where they are because one small choice can make them a SUPERHERO in God's eyes! As always, guest are welcome so invite your friends and become heroes together! Registration is available on the church website at www.HeritagePres.org

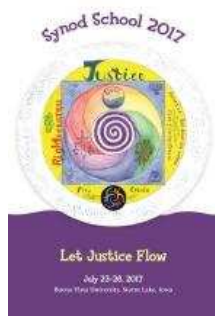
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Heritage will be having Vacation Bible School on June 19-23 at 6:30 to 8:30 PM. The theme for this year will be HERO HEADQUARTERS. At Vacation Bible School kids will join forces with

SYNOD SCHOOL

It is not too late to register for Synod School, which will take place at Buena Vista University in Storm Lake, IA from July 23-28. Course Catalogs are available on the bulletin board or in the Coffee Corner. You can visit the Synod's web site www.lakesandprairies.org

Registration began online on March 1 (www.regonline.com/Synod-School-2017) Registration forms may also be submitted by mail or email to the Synod office.



PC (USA) MISSION CO-WORKER PRESENTATION

Lincoln Westminster Church is hosting an evening of food and fellowship with Mission Co-worker Jim McGill on Friday, June 2, at 6:30 PM. The church is located at 2110 Sheridan Blvd. There will be a potluck supper where Jim will share about the work he and his wife, Jodi, have been doing in Malawi, Africa for 20+ years. This is a great opportunity to hear about the mission work that is being done on our behalf. You are welcome to bring a dish to share, or simply come. Tableware will be provided. Please contact Carolyn Harp – charp3@neb.rr.com or 402-261-6897, or contact Westminster Church 402-475-6702 to reserve your spot at the table.



SPECIAL OFFERINGS
PENTECOST

Investing in Our Greatest Resource

The Pentecost Offering is all about helping young people begin life with a strong start – a solid foundation of faith formed in the first third of life, from childhood through young adulthood. Gifts to the Pentecost Offering unite young people in Christ and inspire them to share their faith, ideas, and unique gifts with the church and the world. This offering will be received until Pentecost Sunday on June 4. Forty percent of this offering can be directed by individual congregations to youth programs in their church or community. This year the mission committee has chosen to direct this portion to the Heritage DUC's so that they can continue to provide activities to the youth of our church

THANKS KIRK!

Kirk Schjodt graduated from UNL with a Master of Music degree. He will be moving to Colorado to pursue his career. On May 21 he was thanked for all his hard work and dedication with the Choirs. He will defiantly be missed! (Pictured: Scott Minks & Kirk Schjodt



CLEANUP BUCKETS AND HYGIENE KITS

Be watching the Mission bulletin board for the list of items that are needed for a cleanup bucket or a hygiene kit. Once you have a list, please select the item(s) that would like to donate and then return them to the church during the month of June. All items will be shipped for use by the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance workers.

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER & ATTENDANCE RECOGNITION

A huge thanks goes out to all our wonderful Sunday School teachers who were recognized during Worship on May 21. Children were also recognized for their attendance at Sunday School, and summer birthdays were celebrated. Sunday School resumes September 10.

LECTIONARY FOR JUNE

June 4 – Acts 2:1-21; Psalm 104:24-34, 35b; 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13; John 20:19-23

June 11 – Genesis 1:1-2:4a; Psalm 8, 2 Corinthians 13:11-13; Matthew 28:16-20

June 18 – Genesis 18:1-15 (21:1-7); Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19; Romans 5:1-8; Matthew 9:35-10:8 (9-23)

June 25 – Genesis 21:8-21; Psalm 86:1-10, 16-17; Romans 6:1b-11; Matthew 10:24-39

SAVE THESE DATES

FREECycle in July-TBA

July 18th-Session meets

July 23rd - 28th-Synod School

August 26th – Quiet Auction and BBQ Fundraiser at Calvin Crest

September 10th –Sunday School begins

September 22-23rd - Women's Retreat at Camp Calvin Crest

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS (MAY 16, 2017)

- Session approved a bid of about \$6,000 to install a rock-covered swale along the north end of the church with perforated drainage tile, and to connect the downspouts to drainage tile, to drain rainwater to the east and east away from the foundation.
- Decided to leave the summer worship time at 10:30 A.M. for the summer months
- Session will be working on updating the Committee job descriptions.
- **CORRECTION TO MAY NEWSLETTER:** Estimated savings on new copier/printer will be \$200-\$250 per month

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**DEADLINE FOR THE
NEXT HERALD**

June 19, 2017

Items received after

this date may not be included!