

# THE HERALD



*From the Pastor:*

*July 2017*

In the early 1980's, the Presbyterian Church adopted a policy on the authority and interpretation of Scripture. Many controversies in the church were complicated by different ways of interpreting scripture. Thus, the church needed some common ground, on how we interpret Scripture. As a result, the church produced the document entitled "Seven Guidelines for Interpreting Scripture in Matters of Controversy." The following comments on the document are quoted from Dr. Jack Rogers' book, *Reading the Bible and the Confessions: The Presbyterian Way*. Dr. Jack Rogers, a respected theologian, author, seminary professor, and leader in the Presbyterian Church, was a member of Heritage Presbyterian Church in his youth.

1. **RECOGNIZE THAT JESUS CHRIST, THE REDEEMER IS THE CENTER OF SCRIPTURE.** Jesus Christ is not only our Savior, he provides the best insights for interpreting the whole of Scripture. When we recognize Christ as the center of Scripture, we must also recognize that Jesus' teaching and attitudes should be used to interpret the Pauline teachings, and not the other way around.
2. **LET THE FOCUS BE ON THE PLAIN TEXT OF THE SCRIPTURE.** If we are going to study the Bible, study it as it has been given to us. Do not look for what we wish it says. What does it say to us?
3. **DEPEND UPON THE GUIDANCE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IN INTERPRETING AND APPLYING GOD'S MESSAGE.** The Spirit gives us a receptive attitude that allows us to understand and apply the message that is in the plain text. The Spirit helps us to be receptive to the teaching of Scripture, and we must be open to and dependent upon the Spirit's activity in our lives. This also suggests that we be open not only to what God has done and said in the past, but rather on what God is saying to the church today. We cannot assume that what God said in the past is definitive for all time.
4. **BE GUIDED BY THE DOCTRINAL CONSENSUS OF THE CHURCH, WHICH IS THE RULE OF FAITH.** What has been the clear continuity of the Christian message over time, that is the "rule of faith." "Since the guidance of the Holy Spirit is promised to individual Christians for the sake of building up and equipping the community of Christians for its mission in the world, the church's consensus is likely to be more accurate than the opinions of individual persons.' The Scriptures are always to be interpreted by and in the community of the church!
5. **LET ALL INTERPRETATIONS BE IN ACCORD WITH THE "RULE OF LOVE."** Our interpretation is to be rooted in Jesus' twofold commandment to love God and to love our neighbor. Whenever we find someone interpreting Scripture that is demeaning to God or hurtful to people, we can and should question the validity of that interpretation.
6. **REMEMBER THAT INTERPRETATION OF THE BIBLE REQUIRES EARNEST STUDY.** In order for us to understand Scripture, we must understand its historical and cultural context, which varies greatly from book to book. We must be able to make a distinction between something that is found in Scripture just because it was an accepted part of the culture and the new and normative message from God.
7. **SEEK TO INTERPRET A PARTICULAR PASSAGE OF THE BIBLE IN LIGHT OF ALL THE BIBLE.** We are always to interpret the parts by the whole. There is one central unifying theme in Scripture—Creation, Fall, and Redemption in Jesus Christ. Scripture is not just one thing after another. It is a story about a person. It has a saving purpose.

*Raymond A. Meester*



## JULY BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

02 Lane Gibson  
 03 Kay Schweitzer  
 07 Lew Sieber  
 07 Lariah Smith  
 07 Dave Thompson  
 10 Jeanette Emert  
 10 Mary Louise Gillispie  
 16 Amanda Easterly  
 16 Barbara Queen  
 18 Larry Baker  
 18 Jessica Smith  
 21 Abraheem Haas  
 23 Loretta Neill  
 24 Katrina Kendle  
 29 Adam Bahr  
 30 Raymond Meester

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



### HERITAGE BIRTHDAY CLUB

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



### ANNIVERSARIES

05 Norman & Pat Zink (52<sup>nd</sup>)  
 11 Wade & Deb Kendle  
 15 Lane & Leah Gibson



### CONGRATULATIONS TO THESE 2017 GRADUATES!

**Adam Bahr**, grandson of Larry & Sharon Baker, graduated from Lincoln East High School. He will attend SCC in the future.  
**Nathan Ell**, grandson of Sonia Colberg, also graduated from Lincoln East High School.



### COFFEE CORNER

Don't forget to stop by our coffee corner to purchase your various coffee, tea chocolate and olive oil. Soon we will have whole bean coffee available for you to purchase as well!

### THANK YOU!

My Heritage Church family, I want to thank you so much for the wonderful card and all the "congratulations" on my graduation! I am very grateful for my Heritage family and all your support and encouragement. I could do it without you! Thanks again and hope to see everyone soon! Sam Griffin



Feeding the Community

### FOOD PANTRY UPDATE

Food Pantry Update: 98 food and personal care items were delivered to the Food Pantry on June 13. Thank you to those who help the hungry in our community!

BEST CHOICE



70038 35038 5

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

Keep saving Best Choice UPCs! We currently have 317 Best Choice UPCs toward the next 1,000 needed for redemption.

### MISSION SUMMER FOCUS

The Mission Committee is asking for your help this summer as we focus on giving opportunities on various levels – national, church and community:

- June – PDA Cleanup Buckets and Hygiene Kits -- thank you to all who have brought items to be donated to the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance
- **July – School supplies for local schools – take advantage of the school sales for the following items: #2 pencils, Kleenex, hand sanitizer, spiral notebooks (wide or college ruled), loose leaf paper, yellow highlighters, crayons – we will donate them to Randolph Elementary**
- August – Food pantry and backpack program

### ANNUAL MOTHER'S DAY DRIVE

A belated Thank You to those who donated to our annual Mother's Day drive to help the local health department Maternal Child Health program. The 14 bags/boxes of diapers, 6 containers of wipes and \$105.00 will help young families in our community!

## MISSION BINGO!

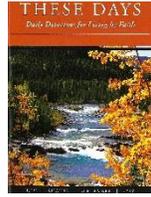


Have you gotten a BINGO yet? If you have not picked up your own card, make sure to join the fun this summer with the Mission Committee's BINGO game! BINGO cards are available on the mission bulletin board in the narthex. See how many of the 20 different activities you and/or your family can complete 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!

## CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to former Heritage Pastor Carl Eskridge for being named one of "30 of Lincoln's Most Influential Men." Carl served Heritage from 1983 until 1992.

### THESE DAYS



The July/August/September issue of *These Days, Daily Devotions for Living by Faith* are now available in the Narthex and the parking lot entrance.

## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Vacation Bible School took place June 19th – 23rd. Children discovered that if they are willing to be used by God in any situation, they can make a difference. With God's power at work, they can be heroes right where they are!



SPECIAL OFFERINGS  
PENTECOST

### PENTECOST OFFERING

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Pentecost Offering! To date, the congregation as donated \$336.00 to this offering with our 40% share (\$134.40) to be directed to the Heritage DUCs to help them continue to provide youth activities.



### HERITAGE FREecycle

Heritage will be having another Freecycle event on Sunday, July 9 at 9:30 AM. Please bring items that you would like to give away and place them 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.** People who participated last time found some great items!

### END OF YEAR & FAREWELL PARTY

Choir members are invited to join others for a year-end/farewell party which will be hosted by Sue & Frances at their home. The event will take place on July 7 with burgers being supplied. Please bring a side dish/dessert to share with others. An email will be sent with additional information, or check on Facebook for details.

VBS 2017  
June 19-23



Opening	6:30-6:50
Rec/Games	6:50-7:15
Lesson	7:15-7:35
Snack	7:35-7:55
Craft	7:55-8:15
Closing	8:15-8:30

VBS Schedule



Snack time!



Outside  
rec/game time

## LECTIONARY FOR JULY

July 2 – Genesis 22:1-14; Psalm 13; Romans 6:12-23; Matthew 10:40-42

July 9 – Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67; Psalm 45:10-17; Romans 7:15-25a; Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

July 16 – Genesis 25:19-34; Psalm 119:105-112; Romans 8:1-11; Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

July 23 – Genesis 28:10-19a; Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24; Romans 8:12-25; Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

July 30 – Genesis 29:15-28; Psalm 105:1-11, 45b; Romans 8:26-39; Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

## SAVE THESE DATES

**August 26<sup>th</sup>** – Quilt Auction and BBQ Fundraiser at Calvin Crest

**September 10<sup>th</sup>** – Sunday School begins

**September 22-23<sup>rd</sup>** - Women's Retreat at Camp Calvin Crest

**October 8<sup>th</sup>** – Lincoln's Annual CROP Hunger Walk

**SESSION WILL MEET JULY 18 AT 6:30 PM**

# THE HERALD

Issued monthly, Issue #7-17

**Heritage Presbyterian Church**

**880 South 35<sup>th</sup> Street**

**Lincoln, NE 68510-3499**

**402-477-3401**

The Rev. Dr. Raymond Meester, Pastor

[www.HeritagePres.org](http://www.HeritagePres.org)

**DEADLINE FOR THE  
NEXT HERALD**

July 24, 2017

Items received after  
this date may not be included!