



September



NEWS AND NOTES

2017

First Presbyterian Church

701 Chicago Avenue, Plattsmouth, Nebraska

9:30am Service

"We exist to love and serve God and to help all people know and experience the love of Jesus Christ."

Matt's Musings ~ September 2017 ~ **"4 Questions"**

A recent article at churchleader.com suggested four questions congregations might ask themselves in the discernment of their God-given mission and ministry:

- 1) What is the faithful thing to do?**
- 2) How much will it cost to do?**
- 3) What will it cost us NOT to do it? (this question is not about money)**
- 4) What guidance does the Jesus of the Gospels offer us?**

Questions 2 and 3 capture our attention, though for different reasons. Question number 2 is often the first question we ask and depending upon the answer, we may never get to any of the other questions. Question 3 might have caused you to pause when you first read it, as it did me. How often do we consider what happens when something doesn't happen? What would have been the potential ramifications if we had decided NOT to have our summer picnics this year or if we had said "No" to the Plattsmouth GED program?

But questions 2 and 3 are not the province solely of churches. Every business, club, organization, government entity, and school will ask some version of those two questions as they operate within their particular context and community.

It is questions 1 and 4 that make these four questions pertinent to the church. What is the faithful thing to do? What guidance does Jesus offer? I would like to submit the following prayer as at least a place to begin as we ask those questions:

Disturb us, O Lord,
when we are too well-pleased with ourselves,
when our dreams have come true because we dreamed too little,
because we sailed too close to the shore.

Disturb us, O Lord,
when with the abundance of things we possess,
we have lost our thirst for the water of life;
when, having fallen in love with time,
we have ceased to dream of eternity,
and in our efforts to build a new earth,
we have allowed our vision of Heaven to grow dim.

Stir us, O Lord,
to dare more boldly,
to venture into wider seas,
where storms show Thy mastery,
where losing sight of land,
we shall find the stars.

In the name of Him who pushed back the horizons
of our hopes and invited the brave to follow. Amen.

In the second chapter of Acts, we read of the birth of the church as Pentecost occurs and the mighty acts of God are declared and heard and responded to. Later on, in the same chapter, we observe the Early Church and the steps they took to be an "ekklesia," an assembly in which the faithful gathered. For the last two thousand years, most churches have organized around the same fundamental principles that united the Early Church in their life together:

Worship
Discipleship (Spiritual formation)
Service (inward and outward)
Community

Starting September 10, we will be taking a closer look at the four fundamentals and what they mean for our "life together" in the 21st century.

September 10: Acts 2:42-47 (The Four Fundamentals)
September 17: Matthew 13:54-58 (The Heart of Worship)
September 24: Matthew 14:13-21 (Service that Goes Beyond)
October 1: Matthew 14:22-33 (Discipleship as Spiritual Formation)
October 8: Matthew 16:21-26 (Community Is Hard Work)

AUGUST ATTENDANCE

August 6 103 Communion 95

August 13 95
August 20 84
August 27 98

COFFEE HOSTS AND HOSTESSES

Darcy Linn, Meridee Lucas, JoAnn Murtha in honor of Darcy's affirmation of faith and Kayden's baptism
Darlene and Elbie Lamb
Sherry and Weldon Condit
Georgia and Terry McCarl for their 50th Anniversary

SEPTEMBER LAY READERS

September 3 Bev Stoehr
September 10 Cheryl Hula
September 17 Steve Wehrbein
September 24 Ted Wehrbein

SEPTEMBER USHERS/GREETERS

September 3 Loretta and Dale Draper, Bonnie and Bill Sullivan
September 10 Loretta and Dale Draper, Bonnie and Bill Sullivan
September 17 Bill Corbin, Jack Fullerton, Kris and Jody Kirk
September 24 Bill Corbin, Jack Fullerton, Kris and Jody Kirk

SEPTEMBER 3, COMMUNION SERVERS:

Cynthia Bronson, Weldon Condit, Cathy Day, Dave Fizette

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL FALL KICK-OFF IS SEPTEMBER 10
CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:45 TO 10:30 AM
FALL KICKOFF SEPTEMBER 10

Thanks to all who helped in any way to the great success of our Vacation Bible School held the very hottest week in July! We had an average of 18 kids per day. I think they enjoyed the variety of activities including great Bible lessons, some fun crafts, an exciting daily video story, singing and playing games. Thanks to my committee, Julie Ludlow, Sarah Ludlow, and Penny Bryant for all their work to make this a fun time for the kids!

Sunday school is offered to pre-school through 4th grade and older siblings of elementary age children. Please bring your children or grandchildren to church. Our Fall Sessions will be on "Growing with Grace". There will be great activities, music, DVD's and wonderful Bible stories. **We can always use helpers to assist during Sunday school, if you like to help with crafts, read Bible verses, sing songs or just observe and help if needed.**

Youth Group will begin on September 17, and will run from 5:30 to 7 pm on Sunday evenings. We are planning to offer two sessions per month and will have the dates on the Church Calendar. Youth Group is open to middle school and high school aged kids and their siblings if a little younger. We will open with a small meal followed by some great activities and good Bible related discussions. **We could use some meal providers and anyone who would just like to join in the fun.**

Adult Sunday school meets 8:15 to 9:15 am in the library. Please think about coming and attending. You will always have some great discussions and learn something, too.

Thanks for supporting our children, youth and the young at heart.

UNLOCKING THE MYSTERIES OF GENESIS

WEDNESDAYS, 10AM AND 6:30PM, BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 13

A 12-part study that's strong in science. Strong in faith. This groundbreaking series presents the science of creation like you've never seen it. This video-driven study will be held on Wednesdays beginning on September 13 at 10:30 am and 7:00 pm (choice of times) in the library. Weekly attendance is not required to attend future studies since each session is independent of each other. RSVP appreciated, but not necessary.

September 13 - "Chaos or Cosmos?" September 20 - "What is Life?" September 27 - "What is Man?"
October 4 - "Buried Clues"

Marv Dorsey will be moderating this program with 1-hour long sessions. If you're interested in attending, please let Marv Dorsey know, 402-417-4662.

NEW MEMBERS AND BAPTISMS

New Members:

July 24, McKayla Coplen; July 24, Caleb Coplen

Reaffirmation of Faith:

August 6, Darcy Dee Linn

Baptisms:

July 9, Landyn Nova Hadraba, son of Jordan Has and Elizabeth Hadraba

August 6, Kayden David Linn, son of Darcy Dee Linn

IN MEMORIAM

ARTHUR SAMUEL SCHLIECHER January 28, 1921 – August 3, 1917

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S CIRCLE

Coordinator: Cheryl Henry

Treasurer: Wanda Hudson Secretary: Sherry Condit

Interpretation of Mission (FUN): Marlene Wehrbein

Opportunity Giving: Eloise Murray and Karen Berkland

1pm on September 20, in the church library.

Hostesses: Sally Babbitt, Karen Berkland, Bev Hirz

Bible Study: Judges 6:1-40; 23:1-16 "Growing Through Doubts"

If you would like to join Circle, we welcome you!



DEACON'S HOG ROAST SEPTEMBER 24

Deacons Annual Hog Roast September 24th following the worship service. We will again support our Huskers by having a Husker-theme. Please bring your appetite and a friend and enjoy some tasty pulled pork sandwiches, baked beans, Cole slaw and homemade desserts all served up by your friendly Deacons. Wear your favorite Husker shirt and come for Sunday service at 9:30am and then stay for some lunch and fellowship. ****Free will donation****See you there!!!

AUDIO RECORDINGS OF THE SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE

Beginning Sunday, Sept. 27th, audio recordings of our Sunday Service will be available for your listening pleasure. The entire service will be uploaded to www.fpcplattsmouth.org and cassette tapes will be available for check out in the church library for those who don't have access to the Internet. Now, no matter where you are or whatever the reason for missing Sunday service, you can still hear Pastor Matt's sermon, the music and everything else involved in Sunday Services. A big thank you to Pastor Matt, Drew McCartney and all the Deacons for making this idea a reality!

MIDDLE SCHOOL TEACHER/STAFF LUNCHEON

School is back in full swing. This marks the third year that the Middle School Partnership team, under the Mission and Evangelism Committee, has provided a taco buffet for Middle School teachers and staff the day before students return to the classrooms. Around 40 teachers enjoyed beef and chicken tacos with all the trimmings. Again, it was a huge success and we received many favorable comments. Of course, this would not have been possible without the support of our congregation. Thank you to all the volunteers who helped set up and serve the meal, and to those who provided all the food. We truly appreciate all your support.

A PRAYER REQUEST BOX

Prayer request cards are at the south entrance of the sanctuary. These requests remain confidential with the prayer chain group unless you wish to have them on our prayer list in the bulletin.

PRAYER CARDS

Each Sunday morning all of us are going to pray for one another. We are going to share our joys and our concerns with one another and we are going to lift them to God in prayer. In the pew pockets on the back of each pew are **yellow prayer cards** for you to fill out and share. During the opening hymn or hymns, ushers will walk the aisles gathering the prayer cards. One of the best ways to be the community of God's people is to share what is going on in our lives. Thank you in advance for sharing what is meaningful to you.

CHICKEN PIE SUPPER OCTOBER 19

This will mark our 118th year of serving the Chicken Pie Supper. This has become an all church project. Please save the date. More details and sign-up sheets will be coming in the October Newsletter and church bulletins.

SUBMISSIONS FOR THE WEBSITE

If you have articles, pictures or any other things you would like posted on our Web Site, please send them to Pastor Matt at first.pc.pastor@gmail.com

GIVING STATEMENTS

Mid-year Giving Statements will be going out in the next couple of weeks. Those who receive emails from the church should receive an email statement and all others will be mailed. Please contact the Finance Committee, either Paul Lambert or Wanda Hudson, if you have any questions.

SEPTEMBER, 2017

BIRTHDAYS

9/1— Norm Geschke
9/2— Ivar Bomberg
9/4— Rod Keil
9/5— Marie Hammons
9/10—Bill Babbitt
9/10—Jim Welstead
9/13—Doug Wehrbein
9/15—Betty Fischer

9/17—Linda Caster
9/17—Drew Bronson
9/17—Ryan Ludlow
9/22—Heather Yenney
9/23—Cory Wehrbein
9/27—Ella Mary Kerns
9/28—Jason Hula

ANNIVERSAIRES

9/5/1992— Rich & Lisa Propst
9/20/1958—Bob & Grace Felthousen
9/23/2006—Ed & Janice Vandenberg

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