

The Church Mouse

Rev. Ethan Feistner
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Edgar, Ne 68935

Office: 402-224-5905
October 2019

Sunday School 10:00 am
Worship: 11:00am



Church of the Plains
407 North C Street
Edgar, Ne 68935

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From the Pastor's Desk

PASTORAL PONDERINGS.....

October Newsletter 2019

*9 God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. 1 Corinthians 1:9
New Revised Standard Version*

*The Doctor just gave you the news....God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord.*

*The harvest has begun and you don't know how the yield will be....God is faithful; by him you were called into
the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.*

*You need to seek help with your current relationship...God is faithful; by him you were called into the
fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.*

*You want to prioritize your life to better give God honor and praise...God is faithful; by him you were called
into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.*

*You are looking at a healthy new born baby...God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his
Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.*

*You are saying goodbye to a person you love...God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his
Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.*

*The bills keep coming....God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our
Lord.*

*You need help with life, depression, the chaos...God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of
his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.*

The list could go on and on....May the Holy Spirit lead us to remember that God is faithful. God is faithful! God will not let us down. God has our best interest in mind even though it is so hard to see at times. God is faithful! Dear God, help us during those times of unbelief and times of belief. All in all, You are with us! Jesus died for us and rose for us! You love us! God You are faithful!

God's peace!
Pastor Ethan



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Birthdays in October

2...Colton Shuck

4...Mildred Jacobson

10...Jeana Lipovsky, Gayle Peters

11...Olivia Andersen

15...Sherry Shaw and Deloris Springer

16...Carol Beck

17...Kelly Andersen

22...Megan Shaw

25...Linda Moore

27...Karys Liposky

Anniversaries in October

October 4...Travis and Abby Schendt

{ CALENDAR }

OF EVENTS

*If you have anything to add or delete from the bulletin, please call the church and leave it on the answering machine or leave Lisa a note in her drawer at the church. Thanks.

October 2...10:00 coffee at the church
3...Presbyterian Women meet
6...11:00 Pastor Ethan preaches/potluck
7-8 Pastor Ethan gone
7...12:00 Congregate meal
9...10:00 coffee
13...Pastor Appreciation Day
11:00 Pastor Ethan preaches
14...Columbus Day/No meal for Congregate meal
16...Bosses Day
10:00 coffee
8:00 Session meeting
17... 9:00 Comforters meet
20...11:00 Bill Nottage-Tacey
21...12:00 Congregate meal
23...10:00 coffee
26...Youth Group meet
27...11:00 Pastor Ethan preaches
28...12:00 Congregate meal
30...10:00 coffee at the church
31...Halloween!!!

Attendance in September

September 1-21
8-70 First Day of Sunday School
15-30
22-43
29-Services at U.C.C.

Average: 41

Communion Servers

Joe and Kathy McReynolds
Communion: 21

Ushers and Greeters:

October 6... Garry and Mary Steele/Communion
13... Dan and Jeanette Shaw
20... Dave and Sandy Nienkamp
27... Ken and Nancy Overturf

September 2019 Presbyterian Women's Report

Church of the Plains Presbyterian Women met September 5th in the fellowship hall.

Our meeting was opened with prayer by Darlene, she also read a very good article titled "Filling Up On Faith." Nine members were in attendance and we were happy to have Pastor Ethan attend our meeting.

Dixie gave Devotions and Linda read from the Least Coin booklet.

A motion was made and approved to have Rob Sintek to remove and replace the soffit and fascia at the Bargain Bin. The Bargain Bin will pay for these improvements to our building.

The September lesson was "I Know Whom I Have Believed" which was presented as a group project.

After much discussion and deliberating we have decided to disband the Presbyterian Women's Group of the Church of the Plains. Our intent is to continue doing the events we are now doing (if we can get enough help) but do them under the Congregation Life Committee title. The annual events we host are: Guest Day in April, EdgarFest in June, Sandy Creek Teachers Appreciation Lunch in August, and Election Day Soup Supper in November.

The Presbyterian Women's Group has been a vital part of our church of many, many years and we want to thank everyone, both past and present, who was part of our organization and also those of our congregation who were so generous when asked to help us with food and labor. Thanks to you all and may God bless, you!

Moderator Dixie Osborne

Heartland Shared Ministries

Heartland Shared Ministries Rev. Ethan Feistner 402-879-5097

heartlandshared@gmail.com

Salem Lutheran Church, ELCA, Rural Nelson – Superior,
United Church of Christ, Clay Center,
The Church of the Plains, Presbyterian USA, Edgar

SCHEDULE OF WORSHIP for OCTOBER and NOVEMBER

Date	Clay Center UCC	Edgar Presbyterian	Salem Lutheran
10-6-19	9:00 Pastor Ethan	11:00 Pastor Ethan	11:00 pulpit fill
10-13-19	9:00 pulpit fill	11:00 Pastor Ethan	9:00 Pastor Ethan
10-20-19	9:00 Pastor Ethan	11:00 pulpit fill	11:00 Pastor Ethan
10-27-19	9:00 Pastor Ethan	11:00 Pastor Ethan	11:00 pulpit fill
11-3-19	9:00 pulpit fill	9:00 Pastor Ethan	11:00 Pastor Ethan
11-10-19	9:00 Pastor Ethan	11:00 pulpit fill	11:00 Pastor Ethan
11-17-19	9:00 Pastor Ethan	11:00 Pastor Ethan	11:00 pulpit fill
11-24-19	UNION THANKSGIVING SERVICE, 10:30 a.m. at Salem Lutheran		

The Heartland Shared Ministries Youth Group News

We will be going to a Haunted Forest near Salina, Kansas on Saturday, October 26th. We will be leaving around 4:00 pm. The cost is \$10 a piece for the Forest. We will decide on supper on the way there. If you cannot afford it, talk to Pastor Ethan and something will get worked out. You need to let Pastor Ethan know if you are planning on going.

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Pastor Ethan to attend Theo Con

Pastor Ethan will be attending the Nebraska Synod Theo Con Monday, October 7-8 in Kearney, Nebraska. In case of an emergency, call him on his cell phone.

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Thanks!

Thanks to everyone who participated in the HSM joint worship service, servant event and/or potluck dinner, it was a great day!; A day to be the Church. Thanks for being good stewards and for all you do!

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Reminder

Each congregation's treasurer is reminded to submit the total of all contributions to the current expense fund for the period of Nov. 1, 2018 through Oct. 31, 2019 to David Nienkamp, Carol Mueller, and Teresa Sullivan as soon as possible after Oct. 31. The figures are used to determine each congregation's percentage for the 2020 budget year.

Highlights from the Coordinating Council meeting – Heartland Shared Ministries

Sunday, September 8, 2019

The Coordinating Council of Heartland Shared Ministries met for their quarterly meeting on Sunday, September 8, 2019 at 2:00 p.m. at Salem Lutheran Church.

Present were:

UCC, Clay Center: Bob Swanson

Salem Lutheran: Ruth Epley and Carol Mueller

Church of the Plains: David Nienkamp and Greg Shuck

Pastor: Pastor Ethan Feistner

Absent: Jim Eads

Agenda and Minutes: The Agenda was reviewed and approved by consensus vote. A quorum was present. Opening prayer was by Pastor Ethan.

The minutes from the meeting of June 9, 2019 were reviewed and approved.

Financial Report: Financial reports provided by Teresa Sullivan, CPA, were reviewed, discussed, and approved; approved payment to Teresa for services from January, 2019 through August, 2019.

The timeline for reporting current expense receipts for the period of Nov. 1 through Oct. 31 was discussed. Each congregation needs to report the figure for 2019 to David, Teresa, and Carol when it is available but no later than Nov. 24. The figures are used to determine each congregation's percentage share of HSM shared expenses for the coming year and are needed for each congregation to complete their 2020 budget.

Teresa has prepared the tax return for HSM. Carol Mueller, the HSM designated representative, will sign the documentation to e-file the return. Copies of each church's 2018 Schedule K-1 were distributed.

Pastoral Report: Pastor Ethan posed several questions in his pastoral report. How do we think he is doing, how do we think HSM is doing as a parish, how well do we know one another? He expressed concern about summer worship attendance and holiday weekends.

He reviewed plans for the service project in conjunction with the joint worship scheduled for September 29 in Clay Center. A short worship service will be at 10:30 a.m. followed by completing

several project around Clay Center and then joining for lunch back at the church. Those staying at the church will be involved in putting labels on soap bars to be distributed to area motels. The labels contain contact and help information for victims of sex-trafficking. Approved sharing the expense of the S.O.A.P. labels (Save Our Adolescents from Prostitution) between the three congregations. The cost of the project is \$135.00 for the soap and labels.

The UCC in Clay Center will be a drop-off center for Operation Christmas Child.

Pastor Ethan's son is getting married next March. He will be taking off one Sunday and possibly additional days.

Committee to determine pastoral compensation – One from each congregation was appointed to serve on a committee to determine pastoral compensation for 2020. Appointed were Ruth Epley from Salem, Bob Swanson from UCC, and Greg Shuck from Church of the Plains. The committee will meet with Teresa Sullivan who will then transmit the needed information (continued) to the Synod. The amount of compensation will be voted on by each congregation at their annual meeting in January.

Worship Service Schedule - In the beginning of HSM it was agreed that the time of worship would rotate through the churches on a yearly basis. In the ensuing years, the schedule has remained the same.

Recently there has been discussion of beginning a rotation. Pastor Ethan suggested a 9:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m., possibly rotating every six months. It was decided that each Council/Session should discuss the matter before a decision is made.

Pulpit Fill - The way each church handles pulpit fill was discussed. Clay Center and Edgar have been able to secure a pastor who will fill their pulpit every third Sunday. At Salem, the parish secretary contacts and schedules guest speakers. Salem is fortunate to have several lay speakers in the congregation and also has other lay speakers who are scheduled when available.

Expiring terms on Coordinating Council - Expiring four-year terms are Bob Swanson, Carol Mueller, and David Nienkamp. Bob and Carol indicated they do not plan to seek re-election. David has not decided but if he is re-elected he will not serve as the moderator. Other length of terms were discussed, no action taken.

Christmas Eve worship times were discussed. It was agreed to keep the same schedule as last year, Salem at 5:00 p.m., Edgar at 7:00 p.m., and Clay Center at 9:00 p.m.

Logo/Letterhead: The logo and its use was discussed. Pastor Ethan would like to see it incorporated into each congregation's bulletin. The parish secretaries will be contacted.

The matter of liability insurance for the Coordinating Council and the pros and cons of changing the LLC agreement to a non-profit were again tabled pending more information and investigation.

Closing prayer was by Pastor Ethan. The next quarterly meeting is scheduled for November 24 at Salem, following the joint Thanksgiving worship and pot luck lunch.

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HSM Prayer Concerns

Clay Center UCC – Louis Reasland (Sharon’s brother), Mindy Schultz, Donna Carns, Dick Bedlan, Chris Eads, flood victims, First responders and military

Salem Lutheran – Jim Jensen, Wyatt Smidt, Irvin Schleufer, Dixie Osbourne, Ann Linville, Jim Richardsen (brother-in-law of Kevin Wulf), Erin, (daughter of Kevin Wulf’s cousin, injured in a motorcycle accident), Kirby Marr (brother-in-law of Ps. Ethan), Mayz and Remy Bargaen, Brent Jensen, Louise Schultz, Pastor David Miller, Julie Schleufer (daughter-in-law of Irvin and Murlene), Carly Gebers, Krew Anderson, (infant grandson of Barney and Diana Freitag), Vaden Kramer, and Terry Bargaen (Cheryl Mohler’s brother).

Church of the Plains – Kendall Schendt, Jean Swanson, Bryan Taylor, Owen Looper, Harold Reese, Nelva Mays, Martha Wacker, Robin Skinner, Dan Fisher, Jerry Horst, Clark and Deb Stertz, Mary Gunn, Lana Horst, Madilynn Meers, Vergene Gunn, and all who are having surgeries and those being tested for cancer.