

The Chimes

of First Presbyterian Church

April 2017

A monthly newsletter for friends and members of our church...



Don't Sell Yourself Short . . .

Luke 16:10

"He who is faithful in a very little thing is faithful also in much; and he who is unrighteous in a very little thing is unrighteous also in much."

It has been ten years since I wrote my first devotion. In all those years, I rarely missed a week of writing one. Writing devotions has been one of the most precious times for me because it helps deepen my prayer and meditation on the Scripture in a practical setting. During this time of writing, I often sense a subtleness of God's guidance that might not normally grab my attention.

However, the way I began writing devotions was quite simple, humble and unexpected. I would never have imagined it to linger for this long.

It was the year 2007, and I had started a young adult's ministry in Los Angeles. I sent out one simple e-mail. The following was the first devotion I wrote:

"Hi, Kenosis People,

We will commence our meeting this Sunday at the old sanctuary at 12:30. Please join us for fellowship and learning. Lunch will be provided for \$5. Hope to see you there."

Psalm 28 "The Lord is my shepherd, I lack nothing."

Why did I use the Scripture? Actually, I just simply added it to fill up space not really knowing that it would save a person's life.

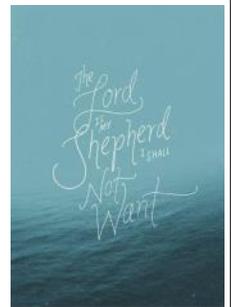
A few weeks later, I received an e-mail from a guy who wanted to meet me for coffee. When I met him, he said that my e-mail saved him from committing suicide. He and his fiancé came from New York, three years before that, and opened a pizza restaurant with an ambition for their future. However, the business wasn't successful and it cause him to file for bankruptcy. After that, his fiancé left him and went back to New York. He lost everything. Before taking his life, he was going to send out an e-mail to his family and friends but then he happened to read the Scripture in my simple e-mail..... "The Lord is my shepherd, I lack nothing."

I felt ashamed because my only motivation for the Scripture was nothing more than just filling up empty space. But mysteriously, it was a life-saving Scripture to someone else. Ever since that time, I have added a different Scripture every Wednesday, as well as adding a few comments on the Scripture.

Something so insignificant by our standards may be substantial to God's standards. You might consider what you do now as inconsequential, so therefore you don't put any value on it. This could be where you stifle God's great plan. **It is your own self-judgment to think of yourself with this low self-esteem.** Our Lord always does His great works regardless of any human measure of what they can do. In your life time, there might be a person whose life is tremendously transformed by your humble advice.

Don't sell yourself short. What you do now is the work of the Lord.

Jay Kim



It Takes a Lot of People

Wk	Flowers For Month	Elders Communion Or Servers	Children's Message	Ushers For Month	Greeters	Liturgist	Prayer Team
4/2	No Flowers Lent	1) M. Jones 2) D. Lurz P. Dobry	Hannah Weisgerber	M. Goodell V. Hughart A. Boots A. Hughart	Marv and Kathie Toedtli	Pastor Jay	Available Prayer Team Members
4/3		Communion Crossroads					
4/9	No Flowers Lent		Amanda Mittan	Same	Sean, Misty, Ben and William Nollette	TBD	Available Prayer Team Members
4/13		1) K. Dobry 2) A. Mittan		Same			
4/16	Kim and Ray Hielscher		Manda Clarke	Same	Steve and Pat Nelson	TBD	Available Prayer Team Members
4/23	Open		Kim Hielscher	Same	Elaine Potmesil	TBD	Available Prayer Team Members
4/30	Open		Pat Dobry	Same	Karla Kutschke	TBD	Available Prayer Team Members

*Remember Maundy Thursday Services on April 13th at 7:00 P.M.,
Easter Sunrise Service at 7:30 A.M. April 16th;
and, Easter Services at 10:30 A.M. April 16th*



Statement of Receipts - Financial Secretary - March 2017

Offerings	3/5	3/12	3/19	3/26			Monthly Total	Bal. Fwd	YTD - 2017
Pledged Offerings	3,465.00	4,812.78	2,067.00				10,344.78	24,643.00	34,987.78
Un-pledged Offerings	426.00	677.00	460.00				1,563.00	2,767.00	4,330.00
Loose Offerings	37.00	28.00	30.00				95.00	216.26	311.26
Total Offerings	\$3,928.00	\$5,517.78	\$2,557.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$12,002.78	\$27,626.26	\$39,629.04

- 515 Emerson Ave. - P.O. Box 396 - Alliance, NE 69301 - (308) 762-1775 - E-Mail: fpca@bbc.net -

- Website: www.alliancefpc.com - Reverend Jay Kim, Pastor -

April Anniversaries

- 4 Ray and Kim Hielscher
- 27 Jess and Manda Clarke
- 29 Gene and Nancy Shaw-Gatti



****Men's Breakfast****

Our Men's Life Group will have their next breakfast on Saturday, April 8th at 8:00 a.m.



**in the Fellowship Hall.
Make sure to bring a friend to breakfast!**

Circle Meetings

Good Morning Circle

Good Morning Circle will be meeting Wednesday, April 5th at 9:00 a.m. at the Church. Elaine Potmesil will be Hostess.

Serendipity Circle.

Serendipity Circle will be meeting Wednesday, April 5th at 1:30 p.m. at the church. Pat Dobry will be Hostess.

C.T. Board

C.T. Board will be meeting on Wednesday, April 19th at 9:00 a.m. at the Church. Hostesses will be Diane Prella and Amy Boots

April Birthdays

- 3 Ron Schlattmann
- 4 Pat Howell
- 4 Jamie Mills Weingart
- 8 Jacci Irwin
- 8 Frank Tolstedt
- 8 Judy Larson
- 10 Insun Colerick
- 11 Kelle Haller
- 12 David Minnick
- 13 Cindy Edwards
- 15 Misty Nollette
- 15 Macala Hood
- 16 Gary Goodell
- 17 Braeden Clarke
- 19 Suzanne Bedient
- 22 Jay Kim
- 28 Helen McConnell
- 28 Kathie Hutchinson
- 29 Emaree Monet Harris



We will not be delivering Meals on Wheels in April. We will announce an alternate month in the near future.

The P.W. Spring Rummage Sale will be held Friday, March 31st from 8:00 am to 6:00 pm., and Saturday April 1st from 8:00 am to Noon. Work-days for the sale will be March 28th-March 30th.



Children and Youth News — April 2017



No fooling, April is here!

Thank you to Colleen Hood, who instructed the children in the Elementary Classroom in March. The children's lessons centered on Elijah. Hannah Weisgerber will be leading the Elementary Classroom in April.

The Lenten "Secret Pals Ministry" began Sunday, March 5th. This annual ministry will conclude this month with the Lenten pal Luncheon on Sunday, April 9th, after the morning worship service. The children, their families, and sponsors will share a meal together after the children discover the identity of their Secret Lenten Pals.

On Easter Sunday, the children will have an Easter Egg Hunt during Sunday School, along with a lesson.

The last Sunday in April we will see a Bible presentation to the third graders of our congregation.

There is still a need for a volunteer to teach the Elementary Classroom in May. If you can help, please contact Barb Kendle at 762-1679.

Some camp information, but not all, for this summer has arrived. Please contact Barb Kendle or Pat in the church office for summer camp information. Start thinking about attending church camp this summer. Camp scholarships will be available again this year.

As mentioned in last month's Chimes, VBS is being planned for Sunday, July 24th through Wednesday, July 26th, for the children of the church. Keep these dates in mind while planning your summer activities so your children can attend. Anyone interested in helping out with VBS, as a lesson leader, providing snacks or treats, etc., please let Pastor Jay, Barb Kendle, or Pat in the church office know.

The CYM Team will meet next, as part of the Spiritual Formation and Outreach Team, on Sunday, May 7th in the Conference Room after worship and fellowship. There WILL NOT be a meeting in April. Join us for egg decorating in the Fellowship Hall on April 2nd at 2:00 pm.

Barb Kendle, CYM Moderator

The young families of the Church will be having a Young Family Picnic (BBQ & Games) on June 25th, at 11:30 am at the Alliance City Park Shelter House.

There is also a Young Family Retreat planned for July 28th to 30th at Lake McConaughy.

Both of these events are planned to encourage our young families to get to know each other better and to experience fellowship in a relaxed and enjoyable setting. We are

hoping that all of our young families will be able to attend, and we ask that you would please pray for and support these upcoming events.



Save The Dates!

Bible Studies and Times:

Sunday—Morning Star—8:00 a.m. (Agents of Babylon)

Sunday—Adult Sunday School —9:00 a.m. (Living With Confidence in a Chaotic World)

Tuesday—Early Morning Bible Study—6:30 a.m. (Escape the Coming Night)

Tuesday—EWG Bible Study—9:00 a.m. (Encounter With God)

Wednesday—Young Family Bible Study—6:30 p.m. (Esther—It's Tough Being a Woman)

Thursday—Women of Faith—9:00 a.m. (Also beginning Esther—It's Tough Being a Woman)

Thursday—Living Stones—2:00 p.m. (Ten Questions Christians are Asking)



This and That . . .

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

The Outreach/CYM/SPF Team invites you to a Sunday afternoon egg decorating party following Worship on Sunday, April 2nd at 2:00 p.m. We will be meeting in the Fellowship Hall.

You will need to bring six or so, hard-boiled eggs; or, blown out and cleaned eggs. Everything else will be supplied for you.

We are planning for a laughing, good time! Please come and bring friends. If you have any questions please call Elaine Potmesil 487-5325.



This is a reminder from the Missions Team that

throughout this Lenten Season you have the opportunity to support The One Great Hour of Sharing, using the envelopes in the pews. This is a Christian effort to empower, provide water, supply food, and give disaster relief where needed. It funds three programs: the Presbyterian Hunger Program, Self-Development of people and Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. Thank you for thinking of others.

Kathie Toedtli, Moderator



What's your treasure? Check off your share of the Main Gift	My Offering	Name _____
		Address _____
		Amount _____

Beginning in 2018 the church will no longer provide offering envelopes. The smallest number of boxes that we can order is 30, and there are always eight or nine boxes left over. We will continue to supply the generic envelopes from Hubbard Press in the pews as long as supplies last, or any regular envelopes that you might have at home will also work to put in the offering plate.

The important thing to remember would be to make sure that if your offering is for anything other than the General Fund...to indicate that on the memo portion of your check.

Stewardship Corner - What Is Your Standard of Measure?

Following is a wonderful story of God's blessing of an unselfish act. Thank you for your unselfishness in giving your tithes and offerings to support the life of this church. God challenges us to test Him through our giving... "Give, and it will be given to you. They will pour into your lap a good measure—pressed down, shaken together, and running over. For by your standard of measure it will be measured to you in return." *What is your standard of measure?* Something to ponder as we return to God a portion of what already belongs to Him...

One day in 2014, Myles Eckert, age 8, found \$20 in the parking lot of a Cracker Barrel restaurant in Maumee, Ohio. He thought about buying a video game, but once inside the restaurant, he decided to give the \$20 to Lt. Col. Frank Daily, a soldier who was dining there with his family. Myles walked up to the man and gave him the money, along with a Post-It Note that said, "Dear Soldier — my dad was a soldier. He's in heaven now. I found this 20 dollars in the parking lot when we got here. We like to pay it forward in my family. It's your lucky day! Thank you for your service. Myles Eckert, a gold star kid." Needless to say, the soldier was stunned and, of course, gave the money away.

But since the story (and several follow-ups) aired on CBS, the small act of kindness by an 8-year-old boy has prompted an outpouring of goodwill and money to Snowball Express, a nonprofit that benefits children of U.S. soldiers killed in active duty. From individual gifts of a few dollars to entertainers' gifts in huge amounts (Gary Sinise gave \$75,000) also prompted Highland Capital Management in Texas to set up a matching grant program for Snowball Express. They pledged to match up to a total \$1 million every donation made in Eckert's name during a two-month period last spring.

Myles Eckert never imagined having \$1 million to help other kids. But he had \$20, and he gave what he had. (Steve Hartman, "Ohio 8-year-old turns \$20 into priceless gift," *CBS News*, February 28, 2014)

F.A.I.T.H & ATTITUDE

JOLENE LICHTY

WHEN
April 1, 2017
5-7 pm

WHERE
The Body Shop
703 Box Butte Avenue

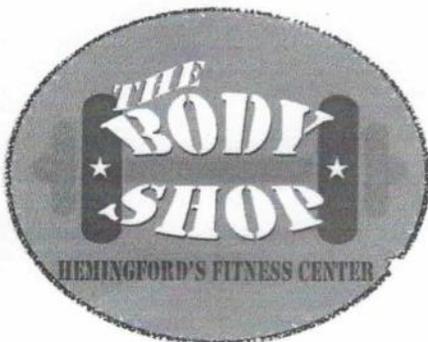


ALL AGES EVENT

Jolene Lichty, a mental health counselor from O'Neill, discovered she had cancer in May 2016. Jolene will share how her cancer has taken her on a journey of F.A.I.T.H. and Attitude. Find out how F.A.I.T.H. and Attitude give us strength for the hard, the unexpected and the unknown. Jolene is Janelle Hansen's sister.

After Jolene's motivational presentation you are encouraged to stay for snacks and drinks.

For further information please contact Lyllus Dalbey at 487-5257



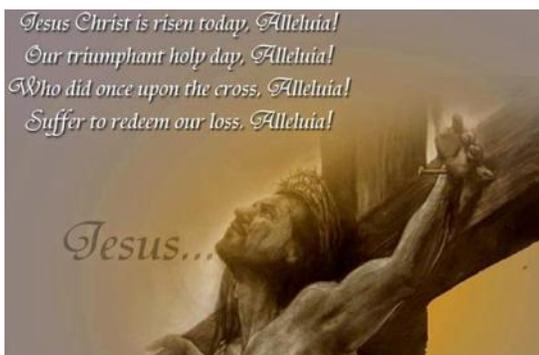
First Presbyterian Church

515 Emerson Avenue

P.O. Box 396

Alliance, NE 69301

Return Service Requested



April 2017

Thoughts for the Journey—An Easter Excerpt from Tim Keller...

The celebration of Easter is not just about looking forward to an eternity with Christ (although that's certainly an important part of it!). As testimonies of those who have accepted Christ into their hearts demonstrates, the power of resurrection is ours right now, in our lives, in our families. Tim Keller sums it up so well:

The difference between knowing Christ and knowing the power of His resurrection is the difference between knowing a person and resembling a person. . .It is not about relationship but about supernatural character growth. When Paul says, "I want to know Him," it means, "I want to be with Him," but when he says, "I want to know the power of His resurrection," it means, "I want to be just like Him." Look at the deadness in your life. Look at the anger. How is that going to be turned into forgiveness? Look at the insecurity. How is that going to be turned into confidence? Look at the self-centeredness. How is that going to be turned into compassion and generosity? How? The answer is that the dead stuff gets taken over by the Spirit of God . . .The minute you decide to receive Jesus as Savior and Lord, the power of the Holy Spirit comes into your life. It's the power of the resurrection—the same thing that raised Jesus from the dead.