

# The Chimes

of First Presbyterian Church

August 2016

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

## Greeting from Jay Kim



### Christ is for All.

1 Cor: 9:22 - To the weak I became weak, to win the weak. I have become all things to all people so that by all possible means I might save some.

A few years ago, when I was going to be ordained, my family and I moved to a small town outside of the Kansas City area. Moving from the busiest and most congested city, we all came to like our new small, quiet, family-oriented place.

During this time, we had a chance to meet another new, young family in a restaurant. They had five little kids who were very excited about this town. They seemed to be so curious about the antique shop, baseball field, and even the McDonald's. I had figured they too came from a big city.

To my surprise, they lived in a tiny town with a population of 150 people. They were so ecstatic about the new McDonald's, a few gas stations, and the Chinese restaurant. Since they'd never seen Chinese food before, it was very foreign. Our two families had the same excitement but completely different circumstances.

The truth that Jesus is the Lord is the same,  
and should stay that way.

Jesus becomes a different character to each and every one of us. To some people, He can be a friend, or shepherd. To others, He is a protector or guide. At times, Jesus is my counselor. And other times, He is the creator who is all-powerful. Our Lord comes to us quietly. Sometimes, we find Him in various ways. Even though we experience Him in different ways, there is one thing constant and the same, He is our Lord. And, our happiness, joy, and excitement can only come from Him.

All those various characters Jesus shows us is because He wants to reach out to as many people as possible, and save them. But the truth is that Jesus the Lord is the same, and will stay that way. That will never be changed.

Our Lord might come to you today a little differently than towards me. My way to Him is different than yours. But don't forget that He is Lord. That will stay the same forever.

Jay Kim

# It Takes a Lot of People

Wk	Flowers For Month	Elders Communion	Deacons	Ushers For Month	Greeters	Liturgist	Prayer Team	Children's Message
8/7	K. Essex	1) L. Curtiss 2) S. Fry J. Green	L. Dalbey S. Nelson D. Prella	V. Hughart A. Hughart L. Curtiss M. Goodell C. Clarke	Floyd and Mildred Colwell	Pat Nelson	B. Kendle K. Toedtli	Hannah Weisgerber
8/8	Communion Highland & Crossroads							
8/14	E. Potmesil			Same	Janet Williams	Pat Nelson	S. Kammerer L. Perrin	Pat Dobry
8/21	E. Potmesil			Same	Sunday in the Park	Lyllus Dalbey	K. Hielscher P. Dobry	Manda Clarke
8/28	Open			Same	Vic and Jane Krause	Misty Nollette	B. Kendle R. Hielscher	Kim Hielscher

## **\*\*Men's Breakfast\*\***

Our Men's Life Group will be on vacation for the summer. The next breakfast is scheduled for September 10th. Enjoy your summer men of the church!



## **Coffee and Conversation Sundays**

**8:00 am in the Fellowship Hall**

- Different topic each week
- No wrong answers
- Come join the conversation



## **Statement of Receipts - Fin'l Secretary - July 2016**

Offerings	7/3	7/10	7/17	7/24	7/31	Monthly Total	Bal. Fwd	YTD - 2016
Pledged Offerings	4,451.50	199.50	1,462.50	789.00		6,902.50	52,071.62	58,974.12
Un-pledged Offerings	625.00	350.00	3,150.00	45.00		4,170.00	10,120.00	14,290.00
Loose Offerings	40.00	62.00	20.50	19.36		141.86	800.50	942.36
<b>Total Offerings</b>	<b>\$5,116.50</b>	<b>\$611.50</b>	<b>\$4,633.00</b>	<b>\$853.36</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$11,214.36</b>	<b>\$62,992.12</b>	<b>\$74,206.48</b>

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

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

## **LIVING STONES and WOMEN OF FAITH**

**BIBLE STUDIES** . . .will be meeting together for the last month of the summer. We will be meeting on August 11th at 6:00 p.m. and instead of having Bible Study we will have a potluck dinner and then watch the Christian movie "Miracles From Heaven". Even if you are not a regular attendee of these Bible Studies, please free to attend our "once-a-month" gathering this summer for a blessed time of fellowship and sharing!



## **August Birthdays**

- 2 Amanda Mittan
- Eileen Spencer
- Jean Maxwell
- 3 Axel Evert
- 5 Dennis DeBusk
- Mickey Blair
- 7 Gary Wichman
- 10 Roger Bedient
- 11 Gene Gatti
- 13 Donna Zeller
- 17 Howard Watson
- Steve Lyster
- 21 Matthew Braga
- 22 Helen Iossi
- 23 Damian Haller
- 24 Joshua Foster
- 25 Benjamin Nollette
- 31 Logan Haller



### **Thank You—Thank You...**

Good Morning Circle and Living Stones for the lovely going away party. I received through the monetary gift enough to provide puzzles and books for when the snow flies this winter. The greatest gift and blessing is "YOU" my many friends. Thank you for your love and prayers. If you're ever in Bridgeport stop and we will put the coffee pot on. May God Bless You! **From Laona**

## **Circle Meetings**

**The first meeting in the Fall for Good Morning and Serendipity Circles will be on September 7th, at 9:00 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. respectively. Hostess for Good Morning Circle will be Norma Green and Polly Potmesil at Norma's home...carpool at 8:30 from the church; and, for Serendipity Circle hostesses are J. Tolstedt and S. Fry.**

**C.T. Board be meeting on August 17th at 9:00 a.m. with the hostess to be announced.**

## **August Anniversaries**

- 12 Russ/Pete and Barb Kendle
- 13 Jay and Susan Kim
- 14 Terry and LaDonna Grubbs
- 22 John and Diane Prella
- 31 Larry and Sherrie Curtiss





## Children and Youth News — August 2016

Sunday school is out for the summer, but will be starting again the Sunday after Labor Day. We are so happy to report that Mixie Boots attended Camp Rock this summer, and Caylee Loomis, Corbin Beningo, Jayden Kim and Logan Kim all attended Camp Norwesca. From everything that we hear they all had a great time and are looking forward to camp again next year. We want to thank everyone who donated to the Campership Fund and made this valuable, faith building experience available for our children.

### Operation Christmas Child

You may have noticed that school supplies are already on sale in local stores. Please take advantage of these sales to purchase items to put in our Christmas boxes for "Operation Christmas Child."



We have had wonderful responses from our congregation members to this project, and we would like to fill even more boxes this year than we have in the past.

Because of Laona's move to Bridgeport, Barb Kendle will be taking over the task of coordinating this worthwhile ministry that helps so many needy children who would not receive Christmas gifts or the Gospel message otherwise. Please contact Barb if you would like to act as her assistant in this undertaking!

Wrapped boxes will soon be appearing in the Parlor and we thank you in advance for filling them up. God bless you!

CYM will be meeting on August 7th in conjunction with the Spiritual Formation and Outreach Teams. CYM is always looking for new team members...if you have a heart for Sunday School and would like an opportunity to share ideas for helping ours to grow, please be at the meeting at 10:45 a.m.

Barb Kendle

### Christmas In July?????

...Not quite, but here is a big reason to be thinking about the Christmas Season, even though we are in the middle of a pretty hot summer! There are only 26 days until the first Nebraska football game of the season, 14 days till school starts, and 139 days till Christmas!

Most of us are excited about football starting. Parents can't wait for school to start and the kids wish it was later. Now, I want to talk about Christmas and food baskets. Last year we filled baskets for 20 families. That was a small part of all the baskets given out by the people of Alliance. This year there will probably be more and we will be asked to help more. So, let's start thinking about it now. Presbyterian Women buy ham, eggs, butter, fresh fruit and vegetables, cereal, Jello and canned fruit. Some of this money comes from your donations. The rest comes from the rummage sales. Potatoes, beans, bread, canned vegetables, peanut butter, cake mixes, mittens and hats were donated by the congregation.

Project  
Christmas  
Basket



I know it is only July, but if each of us would set aside a small part of our change to be given for food baskets, think of how much we could have by Christmas. Also, if you are buying non-perishable items, buy one for the food baskets. Just think how many people can be helped at the holidays if we start now.

Thank You!  
Pat Howell

PLEASE JOIN US IN CELEBRATING  
THE WEDDING OF

*Jennifer Sampson  
& Francisco Jacobo*



AUGUST 20TH  
*2016*  
6:00PM

CHADRON STATE PARK  
15951 HIGHWAY 385  
CHADRON, NE

*Reception to follow*

REGISTRIES LOCATED AT  
TARGET & HERBERGERS



## From the Presbyterian Women

By Phyllis Knoflicek

Thanks to those of you who have placed "box tops" and Campbell's Soup Labels in the basket provided on top of the Parlor refrigerator. I collect, trim, count, and send them to Menaul School in Albuquerque, N.M.

Menaul, now incorporated as a non-profit organization with its own board of trustees maintains its Presbyterian relationship and mission through covenant relationships with the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (USA), the Presbytery of Santa Fe and the Synod of the Southwest.

### Some Facts About Menaul:

- The only mid and high school in Albuquerque with a resident student program, Menaul is a co-educational institution of education in grades 6-12, serving 360-370 students a year.
- It is fully accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools and by the New Mexico Department of Education.
- It was established as a Presbyterian mission school in 1881 by Rev. Sheldon Jackson and reopened by Rev. James Menaul in 1896.
- Menaul is one of nine racial ethnic schools and colleges nationwide supported by the Presbyterian Church (USA).

In May I mailed 168 box tops and 169 labels to Menaul School, which, according to Jim Hodges of the school, help to provide things like musical instruments, maps, globes, sports equipment, and a video projector for the science department. The school has a goal of acquiring another of these projectors at the cost of 90,000 labels each. General Mills Box Tops for Education pays Menaul 10 cents for each box top. Since they started collecting they have received over \$15,000.

**As of this year the Campbell's Labels for Education have been discontinued.** Please continue to place box tops in the basket on top of the Parlor refrigerator, and thanks again to everyone for their donations.



### October Soup Festival

Attention all of you chefs! Have you been trying soup recipes so you will have something to share for **Soup Festival 2016**

coming in October? Remember, it should be something soothing for the stomach as well as the soul, and should be a type of soup that freezes well. The challenge is on! Who will make the soup that gets top votes? More info will be available soon!!



It seems Chicken Little may be on to something. My friend Rod Dreher is as sane and stable as anyone I know, and he's saying, in essence, that the sky is falling. I reference his new article in *The American Conservative*, called "The Coming Christian Collapse."

He begins by saying that the two-thirds of millennials who were raised religiously unaffiliated still have no denominational identity today. Unlike previous generations, they're not joining churches as they get older and raise kids.

Second, Rod says, "Millennials, even those who identify as Christians, are shockingly illiterate, both in terms of what the Bible says and more generally regarding what Christianity teaches." This growing biblical illiteracy has led to a moral decline of our young people into consumerism, drug abuse, sexual liberation, and civic and political disengagement.

Third, Rod says that the working class has largely abandoned the church, and that if the middle class follows suit, as appears likely, the church will be in a world of hurt. He quotes the late Michael Spencer, who warned of a coming *evangelical* collapse: "We Evangelicals have failed to pass on to our young people an orthodox form of faith that can take root and survive the secular onslaught."

These are chilling words. We talk a lot on **BreakPoint** about external threats to our souls, and rightly so. But as Abraham Lincoln once said in another context, "If destruction be our lot, we must ourselves be its author and finisher."

Yet I am hopeful, as every Christian must be. As my colleague John Stonestreet says so often, we are part of the grand story of the universe. And God is the author of that story. Yes, as Peter reminds us, we will have to suffer "various trials." But why? "So that the authenticity of [our] faith . . . may result in praise, glory, and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ (1 Peter 1:6-7)".

This is not new. Back in the '30s and '40s, German Christians had to take a clear stand or be absorbed or compromised by evil—and some, like Bonhoeffer, chose the cross. Look at our brothers and sisters in the Middle East. Now, I'm not ready to say we American Christians may soon have to apostasize or die, but I can't help but think of the words of the late Cardinal George, who said he would die in his bed, his successor would die in prison, and his successor will die a martyr in the public square.

So, what do we do? We repent—repent of our sins, the sins of the church, and, yes, the sins of our nation: the sins of pride, racism, sexual libertinism, greed, lust for power, and a callous disregard for human life among them.

Second, we must recommit ourselves to Jesus. We need to seek the mind of Christ, to think and to act as Christians, to know our Bible and to live by it in the power of the Spirit, "making the most of your time, for the days are evil." We must commit anew to forming a biblical worldview and evaluating everything in our lives in light of it.

We must recommit our time and our treasure to evangelism, missions, and Christ's command in Matthew 25 to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, heal the sick, and visit the prisoner. Christian faith is *not* a nice add-on to our agendas, it's the very marrow of our lives.

The question is this: Will we love God with our whole heart, soul, and mind, and our neighbor as ourselves?

But don't be intimidated by the internal and external challenges we face. Remember that God can do very much with very little, and that success doesn't depend on political or cultural power. While the Church may face trials, the gates of hell will *not* prevail, and Christ's victory is assured.

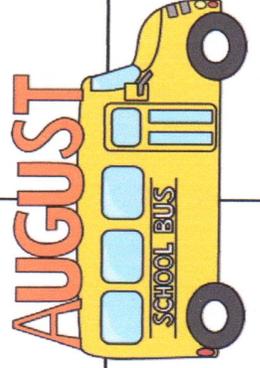
## When the Sky Really Is Falling

### REPENT, AND BE THE CHURCH



By: Eric Metaxas

# August 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 <b>1</b> -8:00 Adult Bible Study -9:30 Worship, Communion -10:45 CYM, SPF, Outreach Meeting		<b>2</b> -6:30 Early Morning Study Group -9:00 EWG at Crossroads -9:00 Missions Meeting	<b>3</b> -12:30 Family Bible Study	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b> -8:00 Adult Bible Study -9:30 Worship, Communion -10:45 CYM, SPF, Outreach Meeting	<b>8</b> -12:45 Communion Crossroads/Highland <b>NO Session Meeting</b>	<b>9</b> -6:30 Early Morning Study Group -9:00 EWG at Crossroads -6:30 Trustees Meeting	<b>10</b> -9:00 CT Meeting Hostess TBA -12:30 Family Bible Study	<b>11</b> -6:00 p Women of Faith and Living Stones—Potluck, Movie Night	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> Presbytery Meeting in LaSalle, CO
<b>Pastor Jay on Vacation</b>						
<b>14</b> <b>DOVES Sunday</b> -8:00 Adult Bible Study -9:30 Worship	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> -6:30 Early Morning Study Group -9:00 EWG at Crossroads	<b>17</b> -12:30 Family Bible Study	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Pastor Jay on Vacation</b>						
<b>21</b> -8:00 Adult Bible Study -9:30 Worship <b>NO Deacons Meeting</b> <b>Presbyterian Picnic in the Park</b> <b>Bridgeport City Park—4:30 P.M.</b>	<b>22</b> -7:30p Prayer and Worship Meeting	<b>23</b> -6:30 Early Morning Study Group -9:00 EWG at Crossroads <b>CHIMES DEADLINE</b>	<b>24</b> -12:30 Family Bible Study	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> -8:00 Adult Bible Study -8:50 Choir Practice -9:30 Worship	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> -12:30 Family Bible Study			

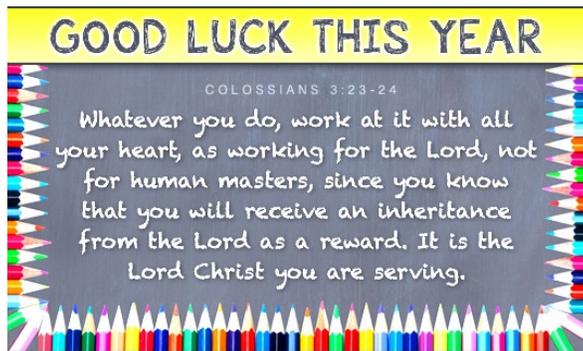
First Presbyterian Church

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Return Service Requested



August 2016

## Thoughts for the Journey—How We Worship...

THE WORSHIP OF GOD IS THE HEART OF THE CHRISTIAN FAITH AND CENTER OF OUR LIFE TOGETHER IN THE CHURCH. The Westminster Shorter Catechism affirms that our chief end in life is “to glorify God and enjoy Him forever.” This places the worship of God at the very center of what it means to be God’s people and makes worship the highest expression we can render to our God-given humanity. Christian worship is a corporate act of the people of God where we gather to realize God’s presence and respond with praise to God’s gift of love to us in Jesus Christ.

The next several months this column will focus individual acts of worship that take place each Sunday.

1. **LIGHTING OF CANDLES**—Those lighting candles are usually referred to as Acolytes. They serve by carrying a torch in a liturgical procession. The light they bear reminds us of God’s pillar of fire that led the children of Israel through the wilderness. Light symbolizes God’s presence in our midst as we worship. As the acolytes recess with lighted torches, we are reminded to carry the light of Christ into the world.
2. **THE PRELUDE AND INTROIT**—Marks the beginning of the service of worship. How we prepare for worship can determine the quality of the experience. In silent prayer and with a meditative spirit, we are invited to prepare ourselves for worship.

**Let’s begin to approach our morning of worship as we enter the Sanctuary—directing our hearts and minds towards our gracious God in order to glorify Him and give ourselves totally to Him in praise and**