

The Chimes

of First Presbyterian Church

June 2017

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



Restore Our True Image...

Luke 15:17-18.....When he came to his senses, he said, "How many of my father's hired servants have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you."



I love to watch the "Antique Roadshow". The nature of the show could be compared to Forrest Gump's box of chocolates - "You never know what you're gonna get." In one episode, a lady brought an old chest inherited from her grandmother, thinking it was valuable. She said it's probably 150 years old, but it was in good shape and color. Its shine hadn't faded in a long time. Then the expert asked if it ever got repainted and the lady replied that it had. Her husband put on a new wood finish to protect the color. Immediately, the expert sighed deeply and said that the coat knocked down the value because a certified expert didn't restore it to its original color. Restoring an antique wooden surface needs to be done by professionals in order to protect the value.

God is our professional. He is the original restorer of you and I. He has given us the wonderful privilege to call Him "Abba Father." We are His children who are created in His image. However, we have lost our value and status, or haven't recognized it in the first place because we've been subjected to worldly temptation and authority. Restoring our original status begins with the process of identifying where we are now. This is the story of the prodigal son. There are a few ways to understand the story of the prodigal son, such as "God's love for us never fades no matter what"; "Our Lord wants us to come back to Him"; or, "Our sins are forgiven by God."

However, the text conveys the son's humble claim on the loss of his original status - he is his father's son. His status can be restored through his recognition of the pitiable position that he is now in.

We are created in the image of God. Our Lord calls us His children by giving us His Spirit inside of us. This wonderful privilege can be restored within us when we truly see and accept our sinful nature - that we are subject to corruption and destruction. It was Jesus' death and resurrection that restored us to our original status.

The reason that our Lord came in human form to earth was to disclose our sinful nature, (i.e. our weaknesses and fragility) and to inform us that we should respond to God's impending request to surrender to His authority. All those healing acts of the Lord towards the poor and sick demonstrate Jesus exercising His responsibility to take our sins upon Himself, and to make us aware of our enslaved condition, so He can restore us to God's original intention: We've been created in the image of God, thus, we are drawn to Him with all we have.

God's provision comes to us when we are aware of our weaknesses and the vulnerability of our existence. At that point God will remove the gravity of our burdens and restore our rights as His children.

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
6/4	Floyd and Mildred Colwell	1) D. Lurz 2) J. Butzine M. Jones K. Essex C. Furrow Pastor Jay	Hannah Weisgerber	L. Curtiss A. Hughart V. Hughart M. Goodell	Lloyd and Pat Howell	TBD	Available Prayer Team Members
6/5		Communion Crossroads					
6/11	Open		Amanda Mittan	Same	Larry and Lyllus Dalbey	TBD	Available Prayer Team Members
6/18	Janet Williams		Manda Clarke	Same	Al and Georgia Heckman	TBD	Available Prayer Team Members
6/25	Open		Kim Hielscher	Same	Floyd and Mildred Colwell	TBD	Available Prayer Team Members

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

Our Men's Life Group has adjourned for the Summer and will not meet again until Saturday, September 9th at 8:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Make sure to bring a friend to breakfast!



Laona Perrin sends her thanks to all of you who prayed for her, sent her cards and visited her during and after, her stay in the hospital. She is especially thankful for your prayers...she wants you to know that God honored your prayers and that His blessings were upon her.

Statement of Receipts - May 2017

Offerings	5/7	5/14	5/21	5/28			Monthly Total	Bal. Fwd	YTD - 2017
Pledged Offerings	4,896.00	892.00	597.00				6,385.00	44,875.78	51,260.78
Un-pledged Offerings	877.00	195.00	115.00				1,187.00	5,575.00	6,762.00
Loose Offerings	12.00	43.00	32.00				87.00	521.26	608.26
Total Offerings	\$5,785.00	\$1,130.00	\$744.00	\$0.00			\$7,659.00	\$50,972.04	\$58,631.04

June Anniversaries

- 1 Larry and Karen Debus
- 1 Floyd and Mildred Colwell
- 7 Ron and Janet Schlattmann
- 10 Kent and Jill Green
- 11 Moose and Sheila Walker
- 11 Chad and Amber Kelley
- 12 John and Connie Hansen
- 14 Brandon and Whitney Baldwin
- 24 Mike and Shari Nason
- 24 Matt and Lori Redecker
- 29 Al and Georgia Heckman
- 29 Steve and Pat Nelson



Joyce Lawrence sends out her heartfelt thanks to all of you who sent birthday cards and wishes to her for her 80th Birthday. She is blessed to

have so many friends who remembered her on her special day. God bless you all!

Circle Meetings

Good Morning Circle and Serendipity Circle are on hiatus for the summer and will resume meeting again on the 6th of September. Please watch the August Chimes for information on meeting places and hostesses.

C.T. Board will not be meeting during the months of June and July. They will resume meeting on August 16th with Linda Johannes as Hostess. Please check with your Moderator, Betty Blakey, for the meeting location.

June Birthdays

- 1 Mary Goodell
- 3 Janet Williams
- 3 Andrew Oseles
- 4 Anna L. Hughart
- 7 Connie Hansen
- 7 Corbin Benigno
- 8 Alison Green
- 9 Aaron Goodell
- 11 Gayle Redecker
- 11 Rob Hood
- 12 Mixie Boots
- 19 Kent Green
- 20 Mildred Duhon
- 21 LaDonna Grubbs
- 22 Amy Boots
- 23 Doris Hamilton
- 24 Caylee Loomis
- 25 Larry Curtiss
- 26 John Sampson
- 27 Karel Essex
- 27 Diane Foland
- 27 Jeff Leever
- 30 Margaret Wichman



Our congregation will be delivering Meals on Wheels in July. If you can help with this ministry, please sign up on the calendar that is posted on the bulletin board in the Narthex.

Children and Youth News — June 2017

Summer is around the corner. Sunday School will take a hiatus for the summer months, resuming in September. Helen McConnell led the Elementary Classroom in May. Thank you Helen and Gayle Redecker for volunteering to teach two-months each this past Sunday School year.



Actually, our children are blessed by all our teachers who share their love for God with the children each Sunday. These women were recognized for their faithfulness in teaching God's Word to the children on Mother's Day. Our Sunday School Teachers this past Sunday School year (September through May) were: Jill Green, Helen McConnell, Gayle Redecker, Misty Nollette, Manda Clarke, Colleen Hood, Hannah Weisgerber and Barbara Kendle.

On May 7th, Emily Green was introduced as the Congregation's lone high school senior for 2017. Annie Hughart was also honored for her college graduation. The Congregation shared in a cake reception for the girls after morning Worship.



Planning for Vacation Bible School is underway. July 23rd to the 26th will be here before we know it. Many hands will be needed. Perhaps there is a way that you can help out? Please contact Pat in the Office or Barb Kendle if you can give us any time or assistance at all in producing this program. This year we are opening VBS to children of our church only and we have approximately ten children committed to coming. Next year we are hoping to be more ambitious and open the program to the community. We will definitely be listening for God's leading in this area.

We have one child signed up to go to Summer Camp so far. There is camp information on the library table in the parlor. Please check it out and let Pat in the office know if your child wants to sign up. There are still Camp Scholarships available.



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. (On break until September)

Sunday—Adult Sunday School —8:00 a.m. Coffee and Conversation With Helen McConnell

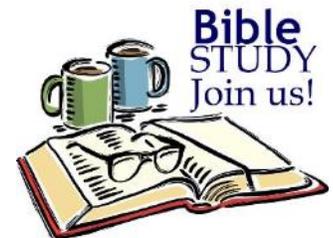
Tuesday—Early Morning Bible Study—6:30 a.m. (Escape the Coming Night)

Tuesday—EWG Bible Study—9:00 a.m. (On break until September)

Wednesday—Young Family Bible Study—6:30 p.m. (Calm My Anxious Heart—Linda Dillow)

Thursday—Women of Faith—9:00 a.m. (On Break Until September)

Thursday—Living Stones—2:00 p.m. Summer Schedule, Meeting the 1st Sunday of Each Month for Afternoon at the Movies!





Important Information from Your Trustees Concerning Emergency Equipment



The Church's eight fire extinguishers have just been serviced and inspected. This seems to be a good time to remind everyone of where they are.

The first one is behind the partial wall as you enter the main north door to the church. It is easily visible if you are looking at the choir robes.

The closest one to the parlor kitchen is on the wall beside the custodian's closet.

The last extinguisher on the main floor is on the wall beside the staircase leading upstairs to the Fellowship Hall.

There are two units upstairs. Both are in the kitchen. One is above the deep sink on the west wall and one is on the north wall beside the coffee pots.

There are also two units on the Sunday School Room floor. The first is in the corridor itself on the north wall beside the men's bathroom. If the fire door is accidentally left open this extinguisher will be hidden and the door must be closed to reach it. The second unit is outside the corridor itself on the south wall of the landing at the bottom of the stairs.

The last unit is at the bottom of the staircase leading to the basement and the boiler room.

In the case of a fire remember that getting everyone out of the building is the most important task. Once outside phone 911 for the fire department. The fire alarms in the building are not working.

From Your Friends on the Building and Grounds Committee

Stewardship Corner - Ten Bad Excuses Christians Use to Leave the Church...

Being a good steward in your church is not just about giving the church your financial support—but also supporting the church with your presence. The following is part one of an excellent Facebook article by Cortney Whiting who received her Masters of Theology Degree from Dallas Theological Seminary. You can find her at www.unveilinggraces.blogspot.com. She offers us some great advice.

According to churchleaders.com, less than 20 percent of Americans regularly attend church. As a believer, I have a bittersweet relationship with the Church. In fact, there have been several times where I have wanted to quit attending church altogether. Considering both the current trend and my own prior feelings, I decided to look at some of the excuses I made to leave the church and why I decided to disregard those excuses.

1. **The Church is full of hypocrites**—Talk with most anyone who has made an excuse not to go to church and chances are they have used the hypocrite justification. I am no different. I remember once in my rebellious college years not wanting to go for that reason. However, God reminded me that I was just as hypocritical as my accused. (**Romans 3:23**) states we have all sinned. Therefore, why am I so quick to point my finger at other believers.
2. **I won't know anyone. No one will like me**—When looking for a church, this is a common excuse. No one wants to feel like a wallflower and the first time walking into a new place is uncomfortable. However, I started thinking differently about the "newness" of church. As a believer, I belong to the Body of Christ (**1 Corinthians 12:27**). Therefore, I am not an outsider. Wherever I am worshipping, I am with my brother and sisters in Christ. I therefore committed myself to hold my head up and engage the people I met. It made my experience much more welcoming.
3. **I'm tired and I don't want to go**—Some nights, I stay up too late. My husband and I finally have a date night or a child decides they do not want to go to bed. The following morning, I think of how I can convince the rest of my family how to stay home. However, on these mornings, after a hot shower and a dose of caffeine, I find that God had a purpose for my attendance in worship on those mornings (**1 Chronicles 16:11**).
4. **I have other obligations on Sunday. I have more important things to do**—When I was in college, I waited tables to earn extra income. Oftentimes, my managers scheduled me to work on Sundays. Most weeks, I could juggle my schedule and continue to make worship a priority. I donned a choir robe early in the morning and quickly changed into my apron before the lunch rush. Today, more activities occur on Sundays during the typical worship hour. However, our family continues to prioritize weekly worship (**Matthew 6:33**). If we have to sacrifice activities or rearrange service times to accommodate, we will adjust.

Stay tuned for part two in the July issue of the Chimes

PRACTICAL NEWS ABOUT THE UPCOMING ECLIPSE...ECLIPSE GLASSES AND THE GREAT AMERICAN ECLIPSE AUGUST 21, 2017

“Don’t look directly at the sun! You can go blind!”

Actually, that’s true. Your retina, in the back of your eyeball, is light sensitive, and looking directly at the sun can damage rods and cones. Too much intense light can cause blindness, temporary or permanent. So you never look directly at the sun. But during an eclipse, you *want* to look directly at the sun, because you want to see it disappear. Then you want to enjoy the corona, the special light show that will surround the dark hole that is the moon blocking the sun. What is the solution?

Special eclipse sunglasses. **These are NOT Sunglasses. They are 1,000 times darker than sunglasses.** And what do they cost? You can get the really stylish ones that are cardboard with special plastic lenses for \$2.00 at the Chamber office. And yes, they work great! Maybe you’ll attend an event where the glasses are given away. If you don’t like glasses, you can get eclipse viewers, 3x5 cards with the special extra-dark plastic material that allows direct viewing of the sun.

Welder’s glass. Yes, you can wear a welding helmet – looking pretty spacey! But the glass has to be number 14 welder’s glass to protect your eyes. The standard green welding glass doesn’t do enough to protect your eyes from the infrared light.



But guess what! When the sun is fully eclipsed (two and a half minutes in Alliance) you get to **take your special glasses off!** (Do this when you see the Diamond Ring.) You’ll see the black hole in the sky, surrounded by the sun’s corona. This looks different with every eclipse, depending on the sun’s magnetic field and activity. You’ll see red dots, then beautiful silver arcs. You’ll also get to see stars and planets. People will be yelling, laughing, crying. This is so awe-inspiring that people travel all around the world to experience it.

PINHOLE PROJECTORS...THE PARTIAL ECLIPSE IS TAKING A LONG TIME

In Alliance on August 21, 2017, we’ll be having a total eclipse of the sun! The partial eclipse will begin at 10:27 am, as the moon slowly moves between the sun and the earth. Totality is at 11:49 am and will last two minutes, thirty seconds. Then we have a partial eclipse again which will end at 1:16 pm, when the moon will no longer be blocking any of the sun.

During the hour and twenty minutes before and after the eclipse, you’ll need your special glasses on to watch as the partial eclipse slowly gets larger, then smaller. That’s a long time, especially for children. So how do you make sure everyone gets the most out of this amazing experience? The answer – make different kinds of pinhole projectors!

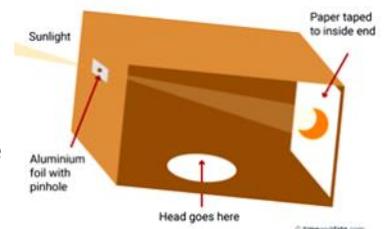
Two white paper plates (or sheets of white cardboard). Use a thumbtack or pin to make a hole in one of the plates. Stand with your back to the sun. Hold the plate with the hole high above your shoulder. Hold the other plate low in front of you. Line them up so the eclipse shows on the plate. (It will be backwards and upside down.)

Find objects that will let the sun shine through holes: maybe trees where the light shines through the leaves, or cross your fingers so they make x’s, or maybe you can borrow a colander or slotted spoon from the kitchen. Look at the ground under them and see lots of partial eclipses. If you put a sheet of white cardboard under them, the images will be sharper.

Make a tube pinhole projector. You need a long box (at least six feet long), a piece of aluminum foil, a pin, and a sheet of white paper. The length of the box is important: the longer the box, the bigger your image of the sun will be. If you can’t find a long box or tube, you can tape together two or more shorter ones using duct tape. Cut a one-inch hole in the center of one end of the box. Tape a piece of foil over the hole, then poke a small hole in the foil with a pin. At the other end of the tube, cut a good-sized viewing hole in the side of the box. Put a piece of white paper at the end of the box, right inside the viewing hole. This is the screen where the image of the sun will appear.

To use your viewer, point the pinhole end of the box right at the sun. To aim it, move it around until you see a round spot of light on the paper at the other end—that’s your pinhole image of the sun! If you have trouble aiming your viewer, look at the shadow of the box on the ground. Move it until the shadow is as small as possible—that is, until it looks like the end of the box, and the sides are not casting a shadow. Do not look through the pinhole at the sun! Look only at the image on the paper.

Make a “Head in a Box” pinhole projector. You need a cardboard box big enough to fit over your head, and at least 24 inches long. Tape a sheet of white paper on the inside of the right side of the box. Tape the box shut. Then cut a hole big enough for your head in the bottom of the box. Cut a 1 x 2 inch hole in the left hand side of the box. Tape a piece of foil over that hole, and punch a small hole in it with a tack or pin. Decorate the box if you want, and you’re ready to go!



REMEMBER – you cannot look directly at the sun during a partial eclipse, but you can during the total eclipse!

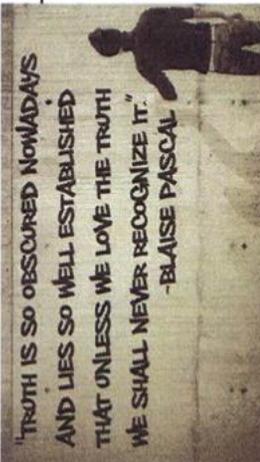
Patricia Jones, Alliance Public Library

- 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 -



June 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 -2:00p Living Stones	2	3
4 DAY OF PENTECOST -8:00 Adult Bible Study -9:30 Worship, Communion -10:45 CYM, SPF, Outreach Mtg	5 12:45p Communion at Crossroads	6 -6:30 Early Morning Study Group -9:00 EWG at Crossroads -9:00 Missions Team Mtg	7 -6:30p Family Bible Study	8	9	10
11 DOVES Sunday -8:00 Coffee and Conversation -9:30 Worship --Bring Prayers to Microphone	12 -7:00p Session Meeting	13 -6:30 Early Morning Study Group -9:00 EWG at Crossroads -6:30p Trustees Meeting	14 -2:30 Choir Practice -6:30p Family Bible Study	15	16	17
18 -8:00 Coffee and Conversation -8:50 Choir Practice -9:30 Worship -10:45 Deacons Meeting FATHERS DAY!	19 Pastor Jay picking up his family in Denver.	20 -6:30 Early Morning Study Group -9:00 EWG at Crossroads Chimes Deadline	21 -6:30p Family Bible Study	22	23	24
				Pat Vacation		
25 -8:00 Coffee and Conversation -9:30 Worship Young Family Barbecue at the Alliance City Park 11:30 A.M.	26 -11:30 -Ladie's Luncheon At Arbys -7:30p Prayer and Worship Mtg.	27 -6:30 Early Morning Study Group -9:00 EWG at Crossroads	28 -6:30p Family Bible Study	29	30	
				Pat Vacation		

First Presbyterian Church
515 Emerson Avenue
P.O. Box 396
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Return Service Requested



June 2017

Thoughts for the Journey—God’s Itinerary...Dr. David Jeremiah...

And in Your book they all were written, the days fashioned for me, when as yet there were none of them.

Psalm 139:16b

If a vacationer can afford it, concierge-type travel services can plan and provide for every day—actually, every hour—of an itinerary. From the moment you are picked up at your door until the moment you return, your trip has been planned and executed in detail. For some, eliminating the serendipitous, unplanned moments from a trip removes all the fun. For others, security and not worrying about details is worth the price.

Life as a child of God provides that kind of security. Psalm 139:16 says that God has written down all the days created for us before a single day has come to pass. And Philippians 4:19 says that “my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.” That covers the big picture and the details of our trip to heaven. God has arranged the itinerary—the order of our days—and has planned to meet all our needs along the way. So what is there to fear about the future?

Do you know what the future holds? Do you have everything today that you will need in the future? “No” to both questions. But God has already answered “Yes” to both in His Word. We must have faith and courage.

Never be afraid to trust an unknown future to a known God—Corrie ten Boom