

Church News

July



What If Sharing Your Faith Meant Just Being Yourself

How does one share the Good News about Jesus Christ with others and yet live a peaceful life?

Our conception, or misconception, is that sharing the gospel message with others is anything but peaceful. We try to become someone we are not and that is stressful. Sharing our faith stories and the story of Jesus can be a very natural and comfortable activity. We do not need to be like some folks we have encountered who are argumentative, pushy, insensitive, and domineering.

Most Christians, rarely share their faith because they don't want to come across as arrogant and do not want people to run from them or be uncomfortable around them. They love people and do not want to offend anyone.

"What if sharing your faith meant just being yourself?" This is the question Jim Henderson asks in his book on Evangelism. Sharing your faith has never been easier. If the gospel really is good news, why do most Christians avoid evangelism? Why is "witnessing" often a negative experience, for both the sender and the receiver? Wouldn't it be great if you could communicate the good news without having to become a spiritual salesperson?

What if you didn't have to make a speech in order to share your

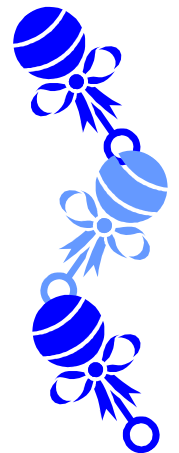
faith? What if you could use everyday experiences to nudge others closer to Jesus? What if the things you're already doing counted as evangelism?

Evangelism can be as normal as asking great questions and paying attention to people who need Jesus. It involves doing things you already do, but with a new purpose. Jesus called attention to the importance of even the smallest acts, saying those who offer "a cup of cold water" will be re-

warded.

We have been looking at evangelism for the rest of us and learning how to share our faith in a way that is as wonderful as a good conversation with a friend. Pray about how God wants you to share his love, forgiveness, and friendship with others in ways that will be inviting for both.

IT'S A BOY!



Madison Plager would like to announce the arrival of her brother, Teagan Michael Turnbull, born June 6, 2011 at 5:30 p.m. He weighed 6#14oz and was 20 1/2" long.

Mom is Erin Plager.

Grandparents are Mike & Sput Turnbull.

Great Grandparents are Nadine and the late Bob Moser and Laura and the late Richard Turnbull.

Who's Who?

2011 Church Officers

United Church Council

Christian Church Reps:

Janet Vetrovsky (Vice-Chair), Dave Williams, Jeff Bice

Presbyterian Church Reps:

Wilma Droge (Chair), Mary Neill (Secretary), Patti Rice

Treasurer: Jill Sunneberg

United Presbyterian Church (USA)

Clerk of Session: Carolyn VanHorne

Treasurer: Mary Miller

Organists: Jeanette Ulmer and Mary Alice Thiemann

Church Pianists: Gail Mach and Carolyn VanHorne

Choir Director: Jeanette Ulmer

Memorial Fund Treasurer: Kris Kubik

Financial Secretary and Benevolence Fund Treasurer:

Mary Neal, Lyle and Wilma Droge

Presbytery Delegates: Vance and Jeanette Ulmer

Officers of the Corporation: President.....Ross Thiemann

Vice President.....Clerk, Carolyn VanHorne

Secretary/Treasurer.....Treasurer, Mary Miller

Session Christian Education Committee:

Kellie Wiers, Alan Strong, Connor Sweeney

Session Worship Committee:

Sherri Smith, Carolyn VanHorne, Charlene Chittick

Session Properties Committee:

Rick Mach, Roger Thiemann, Paul Rogers

Investment Committee:

Byford Metzger, Carolyn VanHorne, Mary Miller

First Christian Church/Disciples of Christ

Moderator: Virginia Mort

Vice Moderator: Jeff Bice

Secretary: Karen Harlow

Treasurer: Anita Lang

Financial Secretary: Janet Vetrovsky

Pianist: Lyanna Ingles

Committee Chair-persons:

Stewardship and Finance, Betsy Williams

Worship, Cheryl Bice

Christian Education, Deb Kerl and Jody Poskochil

Memorial, Roxann Buman and Linna Mort

World Outreach and Evangelism, Karen Harlow

Property, Jeff Bice

Social, Joan Snyder and Millie Troxel

Pastor Duane Westing

From Wilma Droge

Saturday, June 11-Lyle, Colin and I journeyed to Palmyra to help the Presbyterian Church celebrated their **100th Birthday**. It was a nice day to wander and enjoy. Doreen and Leah joined us. While there Lyle, Doreen and Colin made rope for the crafts part.

The main organizer was Pam and she was keeping busy. That evening at the band concert, we met her first cousins from CA, WI, CO who had come to celebrate their dad's 85th birthday (& still plays in the band!) They had spent Friday eve in Palmyra at an evening organized by Pam.

It was a super day!

We enjoy the "new settings" in the Presbyterian Church, new curtains and clean windows. Thanks Gals! (Thanks especially from the "ancient" Mariners.)

Presbyterian Women met June 15 for a morning coffee with Phyllis Wherry. Kerrie Wherry joined us. We had a lovely discussion on Women of the Bible. Next meeting will be August 3 at 2 with the Lutheran Ladies and then to Wilma's for a short meeting.

Dorcas Circle meets June 27, 9:30 a.m. with Mary Neill.

Thanks Wilma!!!

Becker Story told

The Todd Becker Story, a teenager who died because of his alcohol abuse, will be presented at 1:00 PM at PCHS. Then at 7:00 PM everyone is invited to hear Keith Becker, Todd's brother share his testimony of how his brother's death helped lead him to faith in Jesus Christ. There will also be a Christian Band playing. Churches are being asked to be in partnership with this effort by first praying, second following up with youth who have an interest in discipleship through our churches, and finally contributing financially.

July Birthdays & Anniversaries

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 2 Dallas Schilling | 14 Larry Packett |
| Tristan Kramer | 15 Jessie Kerl Wymore |
| 4 Ashley Snook | Garth Brown |
| David Williams | Duane Bowman |
| 6 Keith & Joyce Walsh | 16 Sherri Thomas |
| 7 David Rogers | 18 Jeanette Ulmer |
| 8 Jacob Wiers | 19 Kurt & Deb Benson |
| Dale & Diane Garner | 20 Angela Strong |
| 9 Patrick Miller | 21 Jay & Kim Schilling |
| Danielle McClellan | 22 Dave & Betsy Williams |
| 10 Laura Poskochil | 23 Maxine Maddocks |
| Neala Weddle | 24 Daykon Kramer |
| Joyce Bowman Walsh | 25 Spenser Moore |
| 11 Becky Inglis | 26 Jonathan Schilling |
| Dennis & Deb Bitzer | 28 Susan Moore |
| 12 James Huber | Sharon Snook |
| 13 Janette Kimes | 29 Lowell Packett |

**anniversaries in red*

Praise & Ponder

There are several translations and versions of the Bible. I am told a translation is a word for word translation of the old manuscripts, while a version is putting the meaning of the verse into modern language.

See the following verse 1 John 4:21, in different Bibles.

“And this commandment (charge, order, injunction) we have from Him, that he who loves God shall love his brother (believer) also.” –Amplified

“And this commandment have we from him, That he who loveth God love his brother also.” King James

“And this commandment we have from Him, that the one who loves God should love his brother, also.” New American Standard

“This is the commandment that we get from Him, that whoever loves God loves his brother, too.” Williams, in the language of the people.

“And this is the order He gave us: If you love God, love your brother.” Beck, in the language of today.

“And God himself has said that one must love not only God, but his brother, too.”- The Living Bible, paraphrased.

“This, then is the commandment that Christ gave us: he who loves God must love his brother also” Good News for Modern man, Today's English version.

: “And God himself has commanded that we must love not only him but our Christian brothers and sisters, too”- New Living translation.

No matter the one reads, the meaning is similar in each one.

NEBRASKA DISCIPLE NEWS

FLOOD REPORT

Over 40 volunteers from North Side Christian Church packed up the items belonging to two members whose home is in Crescent, IA. Their furniture and personal items are being stored at the church. CHILD SAVING INSTITUTE STORIES FROM THE PAST CSI President & CEO Peg Harriott spoke to members of the First Christian Church (DOC) in Nebraska City recently about the children and youth served by CSI. She shared information about foster children in need of "forever adoptive homes" and offered stories about kids on the Nebraska Heart Gallery. In the course of her visit, Peg met church member Margie Straw after the service. Ms. Straw informed Peg she had been an aide in CSI's orphanage from 1951 -1953 and had lived upstairs in the agency with seven or eight other young women who also served as aides. Ms. Straw concluded that her work with the babies was "the most rewarding work" she had done in the course of her lifetime. "It was wonderful hearing stories about CSI's history from her," Peg notes.

REVEREND RENÈ' JENSEN'S PILGRIMAGE JOURNEY

During her sabbatical from First Christian Church in Omaha, Rev. Rene' Jensen has been walking 500 miles across northern Spain on the ancient pilgrimage route—El Camino de Santiago. She writes: "We stayed in an old building with adobe walls and beamed ceilings that seemed as if it had been there since the original pilgrims 1,000 years ago. And while the plumbing also seemed original—only a trickle of water in the shower and that mostly cold, two toilets for 40 people---the volunteer hospitaleros who ran the albergue were delightful. Two men with the most beautiful smiles, they spoke only Spanish, but there warm, welcoming faces said everything that was important. And they cooked two enormous pans of paella for us that evening. And in the long run, that is more important than great plumbing!"

FOUNDATION REPORT

The Nebraska Christian Church and Cotner College Foundation recently met with Gary Kidwell, President of the Christian Church Foundation. Dr. Kidwell recommended that the foundation consider some diversification among its assets. As of April 30, 2011 the Foundation managed assets of \$698,099.84. The Regional Church has \$234,506.20 in Permanent Funds and Cotner College has \$462,959.12. Have you considered including the Region or Cotner in your will?

STEWARDSHIP CHALLENGE

Rev. Susan Ellis (NorthSide Christian Church) recently challenged her congregation: "When we fail to give back from what we have been given, we miss out. We miss experiencing the security of knowing that God will provide. Does our security truly rest on our income – our paychecks, our jobs, our investments, our retirement plans? Does financial security make us happy? Is our security dependent on MONEY? Then, where does our faith in God come into play? Where do we live out our trust in God?"

NEBRASKA DISCIPLES TO GATHER AT NASHVILLE

There will be a reception on Tuesday evening (7/12) at General Assembly for Nebraska delegates, visitors and friends. We will meet in the Convention Center Room 110 at 9 p.m. following the evening session. We'll take a group picture and have fun visiting with our friends. This will be a good day to wear Husker red.

REMINDER TO CHURCHES

The June-July-August 2011 INPUT that you received includes the schedule and registration form for the special retreat "Dreaming God's Dream for Nebraska" being held on August 26-27, 2011. At this important re-

treat, led by Dr. Ruth Fletcher, we will gather to envision the Regional Church of the future. We are asking every congregation to send their pastor and at least two representatives. Also, does your church have a choir, praise team, soloist who would be willing to help with music for our three worship times during this Friday-Saturday retreat?

JAZZ AND CHRISTIANITY

St. Paul School of Theology professor Rev. Dr. Eugene Lowery is also an outstanding jazz musician. He will be offering a free concert at First Lutheran Church (1551 So. 20th) in Lincoln on Sunday, June 26th at 7:30 p.m. At the concert he will be exploring the birth of jazz and its unique relationship to Christianity and the black experience. On Monday, June 27th he will present a workshop for clergy: "Talking the Walk: The Narrative Principle of Preaching. For more information or to RSVP call the church at 402-488-0919.

PRAY FOR...

Bellevue Christian Church and Rev. Michael Lincoln . Casilda Luzares who teaches in Japan and ministers to migrant workers from the Phillipines, Malaysia, and Thailand. Camps at Kamp Kaleo this week.

Homestead Presbytery News

Pray for Wahoo Czech Pastor Lonnie Eschliman Here at Wahoo Czech we face what many churches are dealing with; a declining rural and aging population. That makes maintaining our programs difficult. But we continue to celebrate our strong Czech heritage. We rejoice and thank God for what we do have, and we enjoy what we are doing now.

DISCIPLES COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

As your students plan for campus visits this summer, encourage them to include the 14 colleges and universities of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). Our institutions are found from coast to coast. The Christian Church has always had a strong commitment to higher education. After all, from its founding, the church has emphasized individual freedom of interpretation of scripture and an ongoing examination of personal faith commitments. This rational approach to religion brings together faith and reason in response to intellectual and spiritual curiosity.

Barton College – Wilson, NE – barton.edu
 Bethany College – Bethany, WV – bethanywv.edu
 Chapman University – Orange, CA – chapman.edu
 Columbia College – Columbia, MO – ccis.edu
 Culver-Stockton College – Canton, MO – culver.edu
 Drury University – Springfield, MO – drury.edu
 Eureka College – Eureka, IL – eureka.edu
 Hiram College – Hiram, OH – hiram.edu
 Jarvis Christain College – Hawkins, TX – jarvis.edu
 Lynchburg College – Lynchburg, VA – lynchburg.edu
 Midway College – Midway, KY – midway.edu
 Texas Christian University – Fort Worth, TX – tcu.edu
 Transylvania University – Lexington, KY – transy.edu
 William Woods University – Fulton, MO thewoods.edu



Noteworthy

Many thanks to all of the volunteers who are keeping the First Christian Church (DOC) lawn mowed and to Jeff Bice and Larry Bounty for gutting the organ and putting in the new keyboard.

Thank you to Sherry Smith for heading up the effort to replace the curtains downstairs and upstairs. Also to the following for helping: Colleen and Claire Sweeney, Courtney Smith, Joyce Strong, and Patti Rice.

Worship services:

June - Christian Church; July Presbyterian Church; August – Christian Church
Coffee and goodies following worship, and sign up for coming Sundays

Register for Calvin Crest and Kamp Kaleo and Synod School (July 24-29)

Newsletter information is due to Sput Turnbull on the 20th of each month.

Sunday School, 9:00 AM; Youth Group, Thursdays, 3:30 PM;

Bible Study, Wednesdays, 9:30 AM, Pawnee Village

June 25, 10 AM, Crossbridge, DOC Men, all ages, Come tell us what you need

June 26, 2011 3:00 PM, Manor Service

June 27, 10:30 AM, SE Presbyterian Pastors meet in Pawnee City

Manor Services: July 3, August 7 and 28

July 3, Session Meeting, after worship

July 6, Board Meeting, 8:00 PM

August 1-5 Vacation Bible School; 9-12 AM, Monday-Thursday; 3-6:30 PM, Friday (Prog 5:30)

Flooding along Missouri River: There will be an immediate need for Cleaning Buckets as the waters recede, as well as financial assistance. First Presbyterian Church in Norfolk (402-371-1635), First Presbyterian Church in Nebraska City (402-873-5306) and Camp Calvin Crest are collection and distribution sites for cleaning buckets which will go to help those affected by floods. To see what goes into a Cleaning Bucket, view the most recent Homesteader here: <http://homesteadpres.org/wordpress292/wpcontent/uploads/2009/09/20110614homesteader.pdf> If you or your congregation would like to make a financial contribution to flood victims along the Missouri River, please make your check payable to Homestead Presbytery, with a memo: PDA Missouri River Flood.



2012 Mission Yearbook -Order through the Presbytery for \$12.00 each. Alternatively, you can read the Mission Yearbook online at <http://gamc.pcusa.org/ministries/missionyearbook/> To order through the Presbytery, contact the office: hpooffice@homesteadpres.org or (402) 474-0612. Orders must be received by Friday, July 22, and the Yearbooks will be distributed at the August Presbytery meeting.

Jazz and Christianity concert - Sunday, June 26, 7:30 pm. The Rev. Dr. Eugene Lowry, an ordained United Methodist minister from Kansas City, and noted jazz pianist will present a free public concert at Lincoln's First Lutheran Church, 1551 South 70th Street.

The Presbytery Minutes are now available to review at www.homesteadpres.org. If you have any suggested changes, please notify Ray Meester at raymondm.homesteadpres@gmail.com

The Presbyterian Association of Musicians is an organization that offers resources, education and conferences for musicians, pastors and music participants in the reformed tradition of the PC(USA). Visit their website here: www.presbymusic.org

Installation Service: Rev. Sungjae Lee will be installed as the new pastor at Lincoln Korean church on Sunday, June 19th at 5:00 pm. minister are invited to robe and process.

GAIN least coin grant. Interchurch Ministries of Nebraska (IMN) and Church Women United of Nebraska announce receipt of a \$5,000 grant award for Grants to American Indians of Nebraska (GAIN) from the International Committee of the Fellowship of the Least Coin. For more information click here, or contact: Sharon Kalcik @ 402-476-3391 or email im50427@windstream.net

Ordination Exam Readers Needed. If you are an Elder who would be interested in serving the church by being an grader of the ordination exams all candidates for the ministry must pass, please let the Executive Presbyter know. This year the exam graders will meet in Dallas on October 4-6. Contact Doc at 402-613-7565 or richardw@homesteadpres.org


ISRAEL TRIP. The first Homestead Pilgrimage to the Holy Land is shaping up. First week in June 2013. Find out more by going to www.homesteadpres.org and click on 2013 Israel for a printable brochure.

CELEBRATE JESUS JULY

Wednesday, July 6	7 PM	Zion Lutheran Church
Wednesday, July 13	7 PM	Pawnee Village
Wednesday, July 20	7 PM	Pawnee Manor
Wednesday, July 27	7 PM	Zion Lutheran Church

SENCA would like to thank everyone who helped deliver meals on wheels. It was greatly appreciated.

Volunteers Needed



Anyone willing to host or help host coffee after church during July please contact Betsy Spitsner at 402-852-6270 or at betsy1006@gmail.com

Duane, Linda and Rachel Visit Dantay and Gus



Duane, Linda, and Rachel recently visited Dantay and Gus in Jamaica. Dantay, who does not have a mom and dad, introduced them as his mom, dad, and sister. They got to see their home town of Little London, meet their friends, and see where they live. The poverty they live in is shocking.

Sput Turnbull 70556 619th Avenue
Pawnee City, NE 68420
402-852-2392
churchnews.turnbull@gmail.com
Deadline 20th of each month

This newsletter printed especially for: