



Presbyterian Parables

September 2018

First Presbyterian
Church
Lexington, Nebraska

Volume 18,
Issue 9

GIVING TEAM FOOD PANTRY CHALLENGE!

-**THE GIVING TEAM** is issuing a challenge to the Congregation!
The challenge is to collect **ONE TON** of non-perishable food items for the Lexington Food Pantry by December 31, 2018!
Food may be dropped off in the grocery cart in the narthex and will be weighed and recorded by the Giving Team. Look for more information and updates as time goes by! VBS collected almost 700 lbs in one week—*what can we do in 4 months!?!?*



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN FALL GATHERING

The Statewide PW Fall Gathering will be held here on September 22nd, beginning at 9:30 a.m. Keynote Speaker, Sue Ingels, from Iowa, will speak about her life-changing PW Global Mission Experience to Indonesia in 2017. Thank Offering will be collected.

To register, please bring \$10 to Julie Rickertsen at PO Box 160, Lexington NE 68850, or drop it off at the church office by September 18. Registration forms are available at the church office if you need one, or can be found in your September issue of The Windmill.



Presbyterian Women are putting together hygiene kits for one of the fun activities. The items in the kit are:

- 1 Hand towel 15" x 28" or 16" x 32" (no fingertip, bath, dish towels or micro-fiber)
- 1 Wash cloth
- 1 Wide Tooth Comb
- 1 Fingernail or toenail clipper
- 1 Bath size soap in wrapper
- 1 Toothbrush in package
- Standard size Band-aids (10 in each kit)

Please bring items to the church by September 16.



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SUNDAY SCHOOL RALLY DAY!!

Sunday School Rally Day is this Sunday, September 9, beginning at 9:00 a.m. Come and join in the fun as we start a new Sunday School year!!



First Presbyterian Church

PO Box 160

801 N. Lincoln

Lexington NE 68850

(308)324-5507

Fax: (308)324-5508

Email: fpclcx@centurylink.net

Website:

www.lexpresbyterian.com

Facebook page:

First Presbyterian Church of Lexington

Summer Sunday Schedule

9:00 a.m. - Coffee/Fellowship

9:30 a.m. - Children's Mini-Sunday School

10:00 a.m. - Worship/nursery provided

11:00 a.m. - Coffee

Church Staff

Teaching Elder: Rev. Eddie Mariel

Hostess: Linda Anthony

Financial Secretary: Julie Rickertsen

Office Manager: Alice Screws

Director of Worship Ministries: Holly Rickertsen

Ruling Elders

Dale Biehl	Mary Reed
Robert Copper	Curt Rickertsen
Ed Heusinkvelt	Beth Rogers
Da'Lacy Lans	Tempie Roberts
Steve Luther	

Clerk of Session: Gene Nansel

Deacons

Linda Anthony	Tom Musil
Dorothy Bremer	Carol Nelson
Jonelle Lans	Pat Sherman
LaDonna McClure	Julie Rickertsen
Larry Moomey	Sharon Steinberger
Rhea Musil	Carol Stock

Serving in September

Head Ushers:

Greeters:

Offering Counters: and a Properties Volunteer

Lay Leaders:

Sept. 2 —
 Sept. 9 —
 Sept. 16 —
 Sept. 23 —
 Sept. 30 —

***** Lay Leaders:** If you switch Sundays with another Lay Leader, please let the church office know by Thursday noon of that week so that the Lay Leader can be listed correctly in the Sunday bulletin.

Nursery Volunteers:

Sept. 2 — Quentin Carlson
 Sept. 9 — Noah Mariel
 Sept. 16 — Isabella Carlson
 Sept. 23 — Jordan Lans
 Sept. 30 — Abbie Owens

COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

Giving Team	— Sept. 6, 7:00 p.m.
Faith Team	— Sept., 7, 6:30 p.m.
Welcoming Team	— Sept. 16, 6:15 p.m.
Properties Team	— Sept. 20, 7:00 p.m.
Personnel Team	— Sept. 21, 6:30 p.m.
Session	— Sept. 21, 7:30 p.m.

SYMPATHY



-OUR SYMPATHY AND PRAYERS are with the family of Don Magnuson, who passed away August 5, 2018.

-OUR SYMPATHY AND PRAYERS are with Valerie and Bryce Martin on the death of their son, Landon. Landon was the grandson of Rose and Bruce Bonini.



EXERPTS FROM EDDIE

Greetings Friends,

As fall approaches and summer ends, the thing that I look most forward to with school starting back up is that the kids have a routine again. This means that Sarah and I have a routine again too. While I thoroughly enjoy having my children home, well when I am home and not working (Sarah deals with them much more than I do), it feels far more chaotic and unstructured. It seems to me that chaos is the opposite of productivity and feeling collected and like I am in a “good place”. So, I like my routines.

Here’s the thing about routines though; in my experience, they seem to be rooted in ruts. Nobody wants to be stuck in a rut. A rut is the metaphorical equivalent of being beneath the surface; of the possibility of becoming stuck and no longer moving anywhere! Not forward, not backward, just stuck. So then, yet again, we find ourselves in this tension between routines that provide for order and structure and not letting them become ruts in which we become so comfortable we simply stop moving forward.

What if there was a different way to talk about routines? What if what we pursued were not so much routines, repeated activities that structures our lives and put us in danger of falling into ruts, but instead was striving to stay in rhythm? God wove rhythms into the very fabric and essence of creation. The sun rises, the sun sets. There are seasons in which animals and the rest of the created order instinctively know what to do. Seasons for storing, hibernating, procreating and birthing. Waves rhythmically lap the shores of beaches and lakes. All these rhythms made for *us* as part of God’s creation that we conveniently ignore or outright rebel against.

God knew that we’d be in open rebellion against the natural rhythms that God created. This is why God gave Israel so many rituals; to keep them in rhythm. Passover; Yom Kippur; Rosh Hashanah; Shabbat; Chanukah. We too can still engage in these rhythms in our own homes and households. Or, create new ones. Do you do a nightly Bible study over dinner? Do you take one evening to reflect upon the week past? Where we succeeded in honoring God by honoring others, and where we failed to honor others and need to confess our sin? Do you NEVER miss a communion Sunday?

Maybe, have your routines, they’re not terrible and truthfully, quite useful! In addition to them, find your rhythm. It’s in rhythm, not routines, that we grow closer to God.

In His Service,
Pastor Eddie



Birthday Club

BIRTHDAY CLUB

JOIN THE BIRTHDAY CLUB! In your birthday month contribute \$1.00 (or 10 cents or a quarter, etc.) for each year of your life so far. The thousands of dollars contributed each year go to the Endowment Fund. The fund generates interest which is divided between Physical Facilities and Outreach Fund. If you would like to contribute, there are specially marked envelopes in the pews, or you can write "Birthday Club" on your check. Cynthia Brinley joined the birthday club in August.

WOMEN'S GROUPS

-SOUTHSIDE BIBLE STUDY will resume meeting



FAITH CIRCLE will meet Sept. 23. Hostess is Marilyn Biehl. The group has the lesson.

MARTHA CIRCLE will resume meeting on September 20th. Carol Nelson is hostess. Lesson leader to be determined.

LOGOS

LOGOS will start again on September 12th. Watch your Sunday bulletin for details. We will be needing volunteers for table parents and kitchen helpers and dessert makers, so please think about where you might be willing to help!

The schedule will be the same: 4:30—6:30 for Kindergarten—5th grades; 6:00-8:00 for 6th-12th grades. Supper for everyone will be at 6:00 pm.

****There will be a parent meeting on Tuesday, September 11 at 6:00 p.m. It is requested that at least one parent of the LOGOS participant(s) be present at this meeting to fill out registration forms for the coming year. For your convenience, a LOGOS registration form is included on the last 2 pages of this newsletter if you are unable to attend.**



THANK YOU

-I WANT TO THANK everyone for the thoughts, prayers and cards for Jon. It means so much to have such a great church family. Jon continues to get better and stronger every day and they say he will make a full recovery. — Alyssa (Evans) Bartholomew



-A VERY SINCERE THANK YOU for your calls, cards sent, and delicious food brought in while Doran was in the hospital and since his return home. Most of all we appreciate your prayers and concerns. We have a wonderful church family. — Doran and Pat Post

-MANY THANKS to our church family for all the prayers, cards and concerns for Ivan and myself these past months. Ivan is in Burlington, Iowa, with our daughter, Terri and son-in-law Ben. He is showing improvement but still a long way to go. Again, our thanks to each and every one. — Jean and Ivan Henderson



MISSION OPPORTUNITIES



MEALS-ON-WHEELS

Once every six weeks we spend a week helping folks get a good hot noon meal, delivered with a friendly face and a smile! Thank you to the following people who helped deliver Meals-On-Wheels . **THANK You** to the folks who delivered MOW's for the church in July, Norm & Jonelle Lans; Swede & Betty Nelson, Karla Denker, Dorothy Woodside, and Pat Sherman. **Our next MOW's delivery will be Sept. 17-21.** If you are able to volunteer, please Contact Sharon Steinberger at 324-2060



LOOSE OFFERINGS

Loose Offerings during the month of September go to our own youth program, LOGOS.



GROCERY CART

The grocery cart is in the narthex ready for your non-perishable food items for the Lexington Food Pantry. The Lexington Food Pantry serves **many** people in need.

The local Food Pantry shelves are always in need of your donations.

SERVICE COMMITTEE GROUP B

Co-Chairs: Karla Denker 325-1821
 Sharon Steinberger 324-2060
 Carol Stock 324-7128



Delphine Anthony	324-4779	Barb Poehler	784-3753
Elsie Barrett	746-0660	Brandy Popken	325-5974
Marilyn Biehl	324-4426	Cindy Reutlinger	324-3250
Rosalie Bonini	324-5190	Holly Rickertsen	324-2417
Billie Clements	324-2470	Joyce Rimpley	324-4063
Deb Harkless	324-6845	Liz Sanderman	325-2342
Jean Henderson	324-2236	Jo Sherman	324-4772
Evelyn Hutt	324-4874	Pat Sherman	324-3701
Da'Lacy Lans	520-3505	Ann Smets	324-1919
Alisa Margritz	324-2678	Shirley Smets	324-4333
Darlene Malcom	325-7577	Becca Walton (w)	324-5651
Rhea Musil	785-8037	Jill Williams	785-8131
Carol Nelson	324-3810	* Gladys Hodgson	
Andrea Nisley	324-3651	* Ellie Kelly	
Joyce Olsen	785-8172	* Bertha Rickertsen	
Lisa Pebley	324-2785		

**THIS ODD AND WONDEROUS CALLING**

by Lillian Daniel and Martin B. Copenhaver

a book report by Jo Sherman

Both of these authors are ordained ministers in the Congregational Church. Lillian has written four books and Martin has authored seven books.

This book is about the public and private lives of these two ministers.

They tell how they wrote the book together, yet apart from each other.

“We liken our chapters to views of a room through a number of different keyholes. Each one reflects on a different aspect of pastoral ministry. In many instances, the chapters do not address ‘topics’ in the usual sense. Rather, the chapters provide different angles of vision on the ministry. In the diversity of subjects, we have sought to reflect the incredible variety of a pastor’s day. We move from comedy to pathos quickly, from story to theology, from scripture to contemporary culture. Much like a pastor’s schedule, the chapters deliberately do not all flow from one to another in an orderly fashion. We think this form is fitting, given the subject matter, because ministry is anything but orderly.

We love this disorderly calling. So from the beginning, we have wanted this book to be appreciative of the ministry, but also hones about its challenges.”

Lillian writes in the first chapter that “practicing our faith is like dance. Each event is unique and unrepeatable, but we are moving in patterns and steps of a tradition and a people.”

An example is given to us about a time Lillian began praying. “A few years into my ministry at the New Haven church, I was sitting in a traffic jam on the highway, on my way back from a meeting in Hartford, late to pick up my children from daycare, a mistake that would result in a fine. It was a small fine, but a bigger reminder that I had tried to pack too much into a day that had no margins. It was a good metaphor for my financial life. I tried to put far too much into a budget that had no margins, and the overflow has ended up in serious credit card debt. There is nothing like being late, broke, stressed out, and in a traffic jam to turn a person to prayer. I prayed for a way out of the cycle.”

Martin tells us that, “God throws us together in the church and says, in essence, ‘Here is where you get a chance to learn how to live with other people, to forgive, and even come to see God in one another.’ After all, if you can find God here, you can find God anywhere.”

It is not coincidence that Jesus said both, ‘Love your neighbor.’ and ‘Love your enemy,’ because often they are the same person.” He also tells us, “The church, like the family, is the place where we learn to live with people we are stuck with. And when we stick together, it is a living reminder of the God who is stuck with us all.”

Martin ends the book with this, “With just one life to live on this earth, I am grateful that God called me to be a pastor. And I am staying.”

Lillian is the senior pastor of the First Congregational Church in Dubuque, IA, after serving in a suburban of Chicago, IL.

Martin is now the president of Andover Newton Theological School in Andover, MA. He had previously served churches as senior pastor in Arizona, Vermont, and Connecticut.



Notes from the August 21, 2018 Session Meeting

Communion: July 22, 2018 -----80 served (Rev. Eddie Mariel's ordination service)
 August 5, 2018----58 served
 Total 138

Deaths:

Gail Magnuson died July 21, 2018 in Lincoln, NE. Funeral services were held at First Presbyterian Church, Lexington, Nebraska, on July 27, 2018. Rev. Eddie Mariel officiated.

Dwight Trautman died July 22, 2018 in Kearney, NE. Funeral services were held at First Presbyterian Church, Lexington, Nebraska, on July 25, 2018. Rev. Eddie Mariel officiated.

Don Magnuson died August 5, 2018, in Lincoln, NE. Funeral services were held at First Presbyterian Church, Lexington, Nebraska on August 11, 2018. Rev. Eddie Mariel officiated.

Transfer: A request was received for Sarah E. Mariel to transfer from Great Bridge Presbyterian Church in Chesapeake, VA, to First Presbyterian Church in Lexington, NE. Certificate of Transfer has been received from Great Bridge dated 7/17/2018. Session approved the transfer and accepted Sarah into membership.

Previous membership-----262

Current membership-----260

Current balances are:

Balance brought forward 01/01/18	8,663.44
Receipts	121,396.57
Disbursements	144,799.10
Transfers to general fund	20,000.00
Transfers to money market	1,732.00
Balance as of 08/21/18	3,528.91
Balance of money market fund 08/21/18 \$	33,285.22

Committee Recommendations:

Properties Team: To approve the bid of \$5,625.00 from Platte Valley Glass and Trailers to replace the top half of the treasurer's office windows and the nursery windows with bronze/bronze thermal panels. The project is to be completed with funding by the Endowments and Gifts Committee. Session approved.

Endowments and Gifts Committee: To fund the remaining \$3,463.77 for the nursery windows from the facilities reserve fund which comes from a share of the interest generated by the permanent Endowment Fund. Session approved.

Faith Team: Resume having Communion on the 1st Sunday of every month. Session approved.

Personnel Team: Director of Worship Ministries position duties and responsibilities were presented for Session approval. The position comes with a \$7,500/year salary with no benefits. Session approved. Curt Rickertsen abstained.

Continued discussion was held concerning visioning and strategic planning. Session members are to find a bible verse during the next month which embodies their ideas about the following question....."Who do we wish to become as a church"?

Next Session meeting is scheduled for September 25, 2018 at 7:30 p.m.
 Da'Lacy Lans is scheduled to give devotions at the September meeting.



September 2018

Monthly Planner



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat																																																																																				
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LOGOS PROGRAM REGISTRATION 2018-19

Date: _____

Youth/child's name _____

Grade _____ Age _____ Date of birth _____

Parent's/Guardian's names _____

Address _____

Email address _____

Home phone _____ Cell _____ Work _____

Best phone # for during LOGOS _____

Emergency contact name _____

Emergency contact phone/pager _____

Parents' church affiliation(s) _____

Persons authorized to pick up child K thru 5 _____

For Youth grades 6-12 (please check all that apply)

_____ my child will drive him/herself/siblings

_____ my child will walk

_____ I will pick up my child

_____ my child may accept a ride from a friend

_____ my child may have passengers in the car

MEDICAL RELEASE

Health problems/allergies your child may have to food, medications, etc.

Special needs/restrictions _____

Physician Name and ph. # _____

Hospitalization Insurance policy and number _____

Authorization for treatment of a minor

My youth/child, named above, has my permission to attend trips and special events sponsored by the LOGOS program meeting at First Presbyterian Church, Lexington, Nebraska. In the event of illness or accident, if the parent or guardian cannot be reached, I authorize the church or its agents to consent to any diagnosis, examination, treatment or hospital care for my child which is deemed advisable by and is rendered under the supervision of a physician. I release the church and its agents from responsibility in the case of an accident or illness in connection with any authorized church activities.

Signature of parent/guardian _____ Date: _____

(please see back)

PHOTO PERMISSION

I hereby authorize First Presbyterian Church, hereafter referred to as "Church," to publish photographs taken during church functions of myself and/or the minor child or children listed below, and our names and likenesses, for use in the First Presbyterian Church's print and online newsletter.

I hereby release and hold harmless First Presbyterian Church from any reasonable expectation of privacy or confidentiality for myself and for the minor child and children listed below associated with the images specified above. Further, I attest that I am the parent or legal guardian of the child or children listed below and that I have full authority to consent and authorize First Presbyterian Church to use their likenesses and names.

I further acknowledge that participation is voluntary and that neither I, the minor child, or minor children will receive financial compensation of any type associated with the taking or publication of these photographs or other Church publications. I acknowledge and agree that publication of said photos confers no rights of ownership or royalties whatsoever.

I hereby release First Presbyterian Church and its employees and any third parties involved in the creation or publication of Church publications, from liability for any claims by me or any third party in connection with my participation or the participation of the minor children listed below.

Authorization:

Printed Name: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Relationship to Children: _____

Names and Ages of Minor Children:

Name: _____ Age: _____

Name: _____ Age: _____

Name: _____ Age: _____