



# Presbyterian Parables

July 2017

First Presbyterian  
Church  
Lexington, Nebraska

Volume 17,  
Issue 7

## BACKPACKS & SCHOOL SUPPLIES

**-BACKPACK AND SCHOOL SUPPLIES DRIVE**—On the table in the narthex are some slips with supplies listed that are needed for the annual Backpack Program for local children sponsored by Community Action Partnership of Mid-Nebraska and Salvation Army. 300 back-packs will be handed out on August 5. If you would like to contribute, please take a slip with the list of supplies. There will be a box in the narthex to collect the supplies.



## WAFFLE BAR

**WAFFLE BAR! Sunday, July 30th** the Welcoming Committee is holding a WAFFLE BAR after church. Funds raised will go towards beautifying the front entryway of the church. Mark your calendars and plan to come and eat some delicious waffles!!



## HELP MAKE NEW CHRISMONS FOR OUR CHRISTMAS TREE!

Do you enjoy working on craft projects? We have purchased wooden Christian symbols (Chrismons) for our Christmas Tree in the Sanctuary. We need help painting and decorating them with beads, pearls, sequins, etc. The first day for this project will be July 20 from 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon. Please mark your calendar. We can use your help. Please let the church office know if you can come and help so we know how many supplies to purchase.



### Inside this issue:

Birthday Club	4
Book Report	7
Church Calendar	10
Committee Schedule	2
Library Report	8
Mission Opportunities	5
Organ Fund Update	1
Pastor Polly's Page	2
PNC Chart	6
Service Committee	5
Serving this month	2
Session notes	9
Thank You	4
Women's Groups	4



**First Presbyterian Church**

PO Box 160

801 N. Lincoln

Lexington NE 68850

(308)324-5507

Fax: (308)324-5508

Email: fpclex@centurylink.net

Website:

www.lexpresbyterian.com

Facebook page:

First Presbyterian Church of Lexington

**Sunday Schedule**

9:00 a.m. - Coffee/Fellowship

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

11:00 a.m. - Coffee

**Church Staff**

Teaching Elder: Rev. Polly Deppen-Williams

Hostess: Linda Anthony

Financial Secretary: Julie Rickertsen

Office Manager: Alice Screws

Joy Ringers Director, Chancel Choir

Director, and Music Coordinator: Holly

Rickertsen

**Ruling Elders**

Dale Biehl Linda Lauby

Karla Denker Steve Luther

Ed Heusinkvelt Mary Reed

Paula Kearney Beth Rogers

Da'Lacy Lans

Clerk of Session: Gene Nansel

**Deacons**

Dorothy Bremer Rhea Musil

Vicki Davis Tom Musil

Marlene DeLap Carol Nelson

Jonelle Lans Lisa Pebley

LaDonna McClure Pat Sherman

Larry Moomey Carol Stock

**Serving in July**

**Head Ushers:** Ed & Sally Heusinkvelt

**Greeters:** Dennis & Yvonne Rickertsen

**Offering Counters:** Fred Nisley and a Properties Volunteer

**Lay Leaders:**

July 2 – Mary Reed

July 9 – Sharon Steinberger

July 16 – Bruce Rickertsen

July 23 – Mary Reed

July 30 – Darlene Malcom

**Nursery Volunteers:**

July 2 – Kamryn Pike

July 9 – Isabella Carlson

July 16 – Abbie Owens

July 23 – Isabella Carlson

July 30 – Jordan Lans

**\*\*\* 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.**

**COMMITTEE SCHEDULE**

Endowment and Gifts – July 18 –5:30 p.m.

Properties Team – July 17 –7:00 p.m.

**SYMPATHY**



**OUR SYMPATHY AND PRAYERS** are with Roy Clark and the Clark family on the death of Roy's wife, Betty Clark on June 24, 2017.

**CONGRATULATIONS!**



**-CONGRATULATIONS!** to Robert and Anna Copper on the birth of their daughter, Berkley Joy, on June 17, 2017. Berkley is the granddaughter of Ed and Sally Heusinkvelt. She joins big brothers Tristen and Tanner at home.

**-CONGRATULATIONS!** Adam and Liz Reed are the proud parents of a baby girl born June 19, 2017. Her name is Emma Grace Reed. She joins sister Lauren and brother Mason at home. Grandma is Mary Reed, great grandma is Marcia Morgan and great aunt is Sarah Taylor



Dear Friends,

At our monthly Session meeting, Linda Lauby shared this devotion. It really spoke to me and I wanted to share it with you.

### Isn't It Strange

Isn't it strange how a 20 dollar bill seems like such a large amount when you donate it to church, but such a small amount when you go shopping?

Isn't it strange how 2 hours seem so long when you're at church, and how short they seem when you're watching a good movie?

Isn't it strange that you can't find a word to say when you're praying, but you have no trouble thinking what to talk about with a friend?

Isn't it strange how difficult and boring it is to read one chapter of the Bible, but how easy it is to read 100 pages of a popular book?

Isn't it strange how everyone wants front-row-tickets to concerts or games, but they do whatever is possible to sit at the last row in Church?

Isn't it strange how we need to know about an event for Church 2-3 weeks before the day so we can include it in our agenda, but we can adjust it for other events at the last minute?

Isn't it strange how difficult it is to learn a fact about God to share it with others, but how easy it is to learn, understand, extend and repeat gossip?

Isn't it strange how we believe everything that magazines and newspapers say, but we question the words in the Bible?

Isn't it strange how everyone wants a place in heaven, but they don't want to believe, do, or say anything to get there?

Isn't it strange how we send jokes in e-mails and they are forwarded right away, but when we are going to send messages about God, we think about it twice before we share it with others?

- Unknown

Grace & peace,

Polly



### 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.



### FAITH CIRCLE

Will meet July 27 at 9:00 a.m. and will continue to meet on the third Thursday, through November 16. In July Carol Stock is hostess, and Marilyn Biehl has the lesson.

THANK YOU!



**THANK YOU** to Deacons Dorothy and Carol for the cookies and visit in honor of our 65th wedding anniversary and also for the recognition during the church service and the many congratulations! We truly appreciate them all. — Swede and Betty Nelson



## 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! If you are willing or able to volunteer, please Contact Sharon Steinberger at 324-2060. **Delivering in** Next delivery date will be July 3-7 .



### LOOSE OFFERINGS

Loose Offerings during the month of July go to the Backpack Program. Over 300 backpacks will be given out to school children. Backpacks will include many school supplies for the children as well. There is a box by the church office for donations. You may pick up a slip from the table in the narthex with a list of needed items printed on it. Folks desiring backpacks for their children must sign up with Martha at Community Action.



### GROCERY CART

**The grocery cart will be in the narthex on the 1st Sunday of every month**, ready for your non-perishable food items for the Lexington Food Pantry. The Lexington Food Pantry serves **many** people in need. Children of the church hand out bags on the 4th Sundays to be filled at home and brought back for the food pantry the following Sunday. **Dale Sherman was able to take 34 food items to the food pantry in June.**

## NEXT UP— SERVICE COMMITTEE GROUP B

Co-Chairs:

Karla Denker	325-1821
Jo Sherman	324-4772
Sharon Steinberger	324-2060
Carol Stock	324-7128



Ardith Bendler	324-4247
Marilyn Biehl	324-4426
Rosalie Bonini	324-5190
Geraldine Bricker	324-3323
Betty Clark	324-6874
Billie Clements	324-2470
Deb Harkless	324-6845
Jean Henderson	324-2236
Evelyn Hutt	324-4874
Doll Nielsen	324-6834
Andrea Nisley	324-3651
Joyce Olsen	785-8172

Barb Poehler	784-3753
Cindy Reutlinger	324-3250
Holly Rickertsen	324-2417
Joyce Rimpley	324-4063
Ann Smets	324-1919
Shirley Smets	324-4333
Becca Walton (w)	324-5651
Jill Williams	785-8131
* Gladys Hodgson	324-3146
* Ellie Kelly	324-2538
* Gail Magnuson	324-3746

# Pastor Search Process

We are on step #

5

8

**Celebration:** The new Pastor begins his/her work at First Presbyterian Church. Thanks be to God!

7

**Nomination:** Schedule the candidate to come preach to the congregation followed by a congregational meeting to vote and approve terms of call.

6

**Interview & Selection:** Interview top candidates in person and hear them preach in a neutral pulpit. Pray and discuss candidates and get approval from COM to extend a call to one candidate.

5

**Review:** Receive PIFs (Personal Information Forms) from matching and self-referrals. Begin to review information on candidates such as sermons and make reference calls. Conduct video conference (Skype) interviews with select candidates.

4

**Search:** The MIF is posted on the PCUSA website to be matched with potential candidates and to receive self-referrals from candidates.

3

**Write MIF:** Write the MIF (Ministry Information Form) which will state the mission and accomplishments of the church and state the qualities we are looking for in a new Pastor. The MIF will be submitted for approval by the Session and the Committee on Ministry (COM) with the Presbytery.

2

**Consult & Learn:** PNC begins regular meetings to be trained and learn about the process for calling a Pastor.

1

**Organization:** PNC (Pastor Nominating Committee) is selected by the Session nominating committee and elected by the congregation.

Our MIF (Ministry Information Form) has been approved by the Committee on Ministry and is now published on the Church Leadership Connection website. We have been matched with 30+ candidates seeking a new call. The committee is in the process of reviewing the candidates and making selections for further interviews. We appreciate your continued prayers as the committee works to discern the next pastor for our church.

**BOOK REVIEW***Seven Desires*

by Mark and Debbie Laaser  
a book report by Jo Sherman

They tell us the reason for the book, "In this book, we want to teach you several things. First, we want to help people understand the seven desires—the desires to be heard and understood, to be affirmed, to be blessed, to be safe, to be touched, to be chosen, and to be included—and we want especially to make clear that they are common to both men and women."

Their second reason for writing the book is "We want to help people see how childhood and adult life experiences teach them about their desires and about getting them met."

"Third, we want to help you reclaim the truth about yourself and your desires. God made you as a unique and wonderful treasure."

"God loves you, and he calls you into relationship with him. ...As Psalm 37:4 puts it, 'Delight yourself in the Lord and he will give you the desires of your heart.'"

They then write about describing each desire, using true experiences from their lives as well as others. We are told of some healthy ways to use these desires in our relationships. We are also given tools to start repairing and rebuilding relationships.

Linda Mintle, the author of *I Married You, Not Your Family* has written this about the Laaser book, "Transparent, practical, and easy to read, this book by the Laasers gets to the heart of intimacy issues and provides a path for spiritual and relationship growth. This book is a must-read if you want to learn how to fulfill God-given desires in healthy ways."

An other famous author, Ruth Graham, tells us her opinion of the book; "*Seven Desires* hits the nail on the head! How many of us walk around with this gnawing sense that things aren't right, but we can't put our finger on what it is? Mark and Debbie Laaser help us identify the core issues and then give practical ways to address our unfulfilled desires."

Someone else has said, "This new take on relationships changes everything! Examining the seven desires we all share, Mark and Debbie Laaser illustrate how men and women are more alike than different. The Laasers look past what separates us to examine what connects us."

This is the way they ended their book, "Reading a book like this is never an end in itself. If all you ever do is read books, your life will not be transformed. We hope that reading this book has inspired you to think about how God has empowered you to live a different, more fulfilling life—regardless of your circumstances or relationships. We pray that you will embrace the truths about who you are: that you are fearfully and wonderfully made, a beloved child of God, a unique treasure who is worthy to be valued. From this truthful place, may you be able to let go of the many unhealthy ways you have coped to comfort yourself. Instead of trusting life or others to provide the seven desires of your heart, you will turn to the only one who can—God."

I found this book to be interesting and very informative. Look for it on the display shelf of our library.

Mark is an author, counselor, and producer of the Faithful & True radio program in the Minnesota area. Debbie, his wife, has also written the book, *Shattered Vows*.



NEW IN OUR CHURCH LIBRARY

THANK YOU to Tom Anthony for books for the library.

CHILDREN

*Love Your Neighbor* by Melody Carlson.....except Tim? Cute story!



COUSELING

*Listening Life, The* by Adam S. McHugh.

In this noisy, distracting world, it is difficult to truly hear. Listening is an essential skill for healthy relationships, both with God and with other people. Listening is at the heart of our spirituality, our relationships and our mission in the world. God himself is the God who hears, and we too can learn to hear what God may be saying, through creation, through Scripture, through people. To learn to be a better listener is to hear what God is doing in you and the world.

Dr. Hughes is a Presbyterian minister who has served at two churches, as a hospice chaplain and as campus staff with InterVarsity Christian Fellowship.

There are so many nuggets of wisdom in this book.

*Seven Desires* by Mark and Debbie Laaser. (See Jo’s review in this newsletter.)

This book explores the common desires God has given us – to be heard, affirmed, blessed, safe, touched, chosen, and included. Using stories, biblical references, and sound psychological principles, the Laasers explain each desire and show us how we seek it and what it feels like to have it truly fulfilled. In doing so, they illustrate how men and women are more alike than different.

Each chapter concludes with “Points To Ponder” which helps to zero in on core meanings and beliefs. This is another book filled with nuggets of wisdom.

FICTION

*Friends of Jesus, The* by Karen Kingsbury.

The stories are fiction that are based on her research of the scriptures, clutter, history and time period of these friends of Jesus: Simon the leper, Martha the broken-hearted, Jarius the two faced leader, Mary Magdalene the demon-possessed, Peter the betrayer and John the arrogant disciple.

HISTORY

*Prairie Force* by James J. Kimble.

This is the story of the Nebraska Scrap metal Drive of World War II. How many of you remember or even participated in this extraordinary event? It became a totally united effort of the people in this country.





**Notes From the June 27, 2017 Session Meeting**

**Communion: June 4, 2017-----65**

**Births: Born to Robert and Anna Copper, on June 17, 2017, a daughter, Berkley Joy Copper, in Cozad, NE.  
Born to Adam and Liz Reed, a daughter, Emma Grace Reed, on June 19, 2017, in Omaha, NE.**

**Deaths: Betty Jane Clark died June 24, 2017. Services were held at First Presbyterian Church, Lexington, NE. The Rev. Polly Deppen-Williams officiated. Inurnment was at Greenwood Cemetery, Lexington, NE.**

**Session approved the following requested changes in membership:**

- David Bader (remove from roll)
- Mitch Denker (remove from roll)
- Chris Denker (remove from roll)
- Nathan Falkinburg (remove from roll)
- John Richman (remove from roll)
- Vicki Richman (remove from roll)
- Nichole Jeppesen (remove from roll)
- Monica Strauss (inactive)

**Previous membership: 278**

**Current membership: 269**

**On Sunday, June 25, 2017 LaDonna McClure and Jonelle Lans were ordained and installed as Deacons.**

**On Sunday, June 25, 2017 Beth Rogers was installed as Elder to complete Roger Biehl's term.**

**Current balances are:**

Balance brought forward 01/01/17	8,800.86
Receipts	94,242.36
Disbursements	108,993.70
Transfers to general fund	11,500.00
Transfers to money market	0.00
Balance as of 06/27/17	5,549.52
Balance of money market fund 06/27/17 \$	50,165.19

**Beth Rogers agreed to join the Nominating Committee as an Elder.**

**Session approved August 29, 2017 at 7:30 p.m. for the next Regular Session Meeting.**



# July 2017

## Monthly Planner



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat																																																																																					
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="border: 1px solid red; background-color: red; color: white; padding: 5px;"> <p style="text-align: center; margin: 0;">Jun 2017</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td></tr> <tr><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td></tr> <tr><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td></tr> <tr><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td></td></tr> </table> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid red; background-color: red; color: white; padding: 5px;"> <p style="text-align: center; margin: 0;">Aug 2017</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td></tr> <tr><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td></tr> <tr><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td></tr> <tr><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td></tr> <tr><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> </div> </div>						S	M	T	W	T	F	S				1	2	3		4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30		S	M	T	W	T	F	S				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31			1
S	M	T	W	T	F	S																																																																																					
			1	2	3																																																																																						
4	5	6	7	8	9	10																																																																																					
11	12	13	14	15	16	17																																																																																					
18	19	20	21	22	23	24																																																																																					
25	26	27	28	29	30																																																																																						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S																																																																																					
			1	2	3	4	5																																																																																				
6	7	8	9	10	11	12																																																																																					
13	14	15	16	17	18	19																																																																																					
20	21	22	23	24	25	26																																																																																					
27	28	29	30	31																																																																																							
<b>2</b> 9:00 AM Fellowship 10:00 AM Worship/ Communion 11:00 AM Coffee	<b>3</b> 10:00 AM Office Staff Meeting	<b>4</b> Church Office Closed 	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>																																																																																					
<b>9</b> 9:00 AM Fellowship 10:00 AM Worship 11:00 AM Coffee	<b>10</b> 10:00 AM Office Staff Meeting	<b>11</b> 11:30 AM Knitting	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>																																																																																					
<b>16</b> 9:00 AM Fellowship 10:00 AM Worship 11:00 AM Coffee	<b>17</b> 10:00 AM Office Staff Meeting 7:00 PM Properties Team	<b>18</b> 11:30 AM Knitting 5:30 PM Endowment/Gifts Team	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 9:00 AM -Noon Chrismon making 	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>																																																																																					
<b>23</b> 9:00 AM Fellowship 10:00 AM Worship 11:00 AM Coffee 11:00 AM Welcoming Team Meeting	<b>24</b> 10:00 AM Office Staff Meeting	<b>25</b> 11:30 AM Knitting	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 9:00 AM Faith Circle	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>																																																																																					
<b>30</b> 9:00 AM Fellowship 10:00 AM Worship 11:00 AM Waffle Bar 	<b>31</b> 10:00 AM Office Staff Meeting																																																																																										