



PRESBYTERIAN PARABLES

June 2022

First Presbyterian Church



Volume 22,
Issue 6

EXCERPTS FROM EDDIE

Greetings church,

As we continue to contemplate the theme of “You Are Welcome” here, I wanted to offer yet more wisdom that I came across from Father Rohr on just this topic. To welcome, to include is precisely the work of the embodied Church. As Jesus welcomed and included so-called “misfits” and “vagrants”, so are we called to welcome and include the modern version of the very same. Jesus was never about his own comfort. His Church should not be either. And growth, the topic of the second selection, is never comfortable. And we are called to keep growing and becoming.

“THE SIN OF EXCLUSION”

“Those at the edge of any system and those excluded from any system ironically and invariably hold the secret for the conversion and wholeness of that very group. They always hold the feared, rejected, and denied parts of the group’s soul. We see therefore, why the church was meant to be that group that constantly went to the edges, to the least of the brothers and sisters, and even to the enemy. Jesus was not just a theological genius; he was also a psychological and sociological genius. Therefore, when any church defines itself by exclusion of anybody, it is always wrong. It is avoiding its only vocation, which is to be the Christ. The only groups that Jesus seriously critiques are those who include themselves and exclude others from the always-given grace of God.

Only as the People of God receive the stranger, the sinner, and the immigrant, those who don’t play our game our way, do we discover not only the hidden, feared, and hated parts of our own souls, but also the fullness of Jesus himself. We need them for our own conversion.

The church is always converted when the outcasts are re-invited back into the temple. We see this in Jesus’s common action of sending marginalized people that he has healed back into the village, back to their family, or back to the Temple to show themselves to the priests. It is not just for their re-inclusion and acceptance, but actually for the group itself to be renewed.”

+Adapted from Radical Grace: Daily Meditations, p. 28.

“HOW YOU KEEP GROWING”

“Until you can forgive and include all of the parts - every part belonging, every part forgiven, even the tragic parts now seen as necessary lessons - you cannot come home. The full gift of the final journey is discovering that you are already home. I hope you have seen it in at least some elders in your lifetime. They are at home in their own bodies, their own lives, and their own minds.

When you succeed at your real task, or what I like to call “the task within the task,” then wherever God leads you, it doesn’t really matter. Home is no longer a geographic place. It is a place where everything belongs, everything can be held, and everything is another lesson and another gift. The saint and the true elder grow from everything, even and especially their failures.”

+Adapted from The Odyssey: The Further Journey (Recording).

Meditations taken from “Yes, And ...: Daily Meditations” by Richard Rohr. Copyright 2013, 2019.

In His Service,

Pastor Eddie



First Presbyterian Church

PO Box 160
801 N. Lincoln
Lexington NE 68850

Phone: (308)324-5507
Fax: (308)324-5508

Email: firstchurchlex@gmail.com
Website: www.lexpresbyterian.com

Facebook Page:
[First Presbyterian Church of Lexington](https://www.facebook.com/FirstPresbyterianChurchofLexington)

OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Friday
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
12:30 – 2:30 p.m.

CHURCH STAFF

Teaching Elder – Rev. Eddie Mariel
Dir of Worship Ministries – Holly Rickertsen
Hostess – Linda Anthony
Office Manager – Sarah Mariel
Bookkeeper – Kimmy Schuster

RULING ELDERS

Dr. Fran Carlson Allan McClure
Jeanne Burns Kristin Psota
Sally Heusinkvelt Bruce Rickertsen
Dian Lauby Dan Roberts
Allison Luther

Clerk of Session: Don Anthony

DEACONS

Judy Biehl Rhea Musil
Dorothy Bremer Tom Musil
Loretta Falkinburg Carol Nelson
Steve Falkinburg Tempie Roberts
Chuck Malcom Jo Sherman
Darlene Malcom Sharon Steinberger
LaDonna McClure

SERVING IN JUNE



Ushers: Larry & Sharon Steinberger

Greeters: LaDonna & Allan McClure

Offering Counters: Fred Nisley & a member of Properties

Lay Leaders:

June 5: Andrea Nisley
June 12: Gene Nansel
June 19: Rebecca Burns
June 26: Greta Rickertsen

Children’s Sermon

June 5: Beth Rogers
June 12: TBD
June 19: Gabby Carlson, Layla Mariel, Greta Rickertsen
June 26: Isabella Carlson & Noah Mariel

Loose Offerings during the month of May goes to:
Micah’s House

COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

Mission/Outreach Committee – June 6th, 7:00 p.m.
Faith Committee – June 7th, 7:00 p.m.
Congregational Care Committee – June 16th, 6:00 p.m.
Properties Committee – June 20th, 7:00 p.m.
Personnel Committee – June 21st, 6:30 p.m.
Session – June 28th, 7:00 p.m.

WOMEN’S GROUPS

-SOUTHSIDE BIBLE cancelled until further notice
-FAITH CIRCLE meets June 23rd at 9:30 am. TBD is Hostess & Linda Anthony is leading the lesson.
-MARTHA CIRCLE does not meet in June or July.

SERVICE COMMITTEE UP NEXT:

GROUP B

May 24, 2022 Session Meeting

Regular Session Meeting

Location: Conference Room

Date: May 24, 2022

Time: 7:00 pm

Moderator: Rev. Eddie Mariel

Elders Present: Jeanne Burns, Sally Heusinkvelt, Dian Lauby, Allison Luther, Allan McClure, Kristin Psota, Bruce Rickertsen, Dan Roberts

Elders Excused: Dr. Fran Carlson

Elders Absent:

Others: Don Anthony, Kimmy Schuster

Prayer and Devotions: Allan McClure

Minutes: Minutes of the April 26, 2022 Regular Session meeting approved as presented. Minutes of the May 17, 2022 Correct spelling of Quentin Carlson. Special Session meeting approved as corrected.

Clerk's Report: Communion: 5/1/2022 – 55
 In-Home- 0
 Total 55
 Deaths: 0
 Marriage: 0
 Transfers: 0
 Removal: 0
 Profession of Faith: 5
 Membership: 221

Attendance Report: No report

Financial Report: Received as presented

Balance Brought Forward 01/01/2022	\$19,501.92
Receipts	84,872.96
Disbursements	73,259.13
Balance as of 4/22/2022	\$28,115.74

Kimmy Schuster explained how the financial accounts work and answered questions as to cash flow and budget. Motion to authorize Kimmy to rearrange the special accounts by committee and rename accounts as appropriate. Seconded. Carried.

Pastor's Report: Received as presented

Faith Team: No recommendations

Mission and Outreach: No recommendations

Properties and Endowment and Gifts: No recommendations

Congregational Care: No recommendations

Personnel: No recommendations

Deacons: Received as presented

Other Business: Motion to authorize the bookkeeper with the consent of either the corporate treasurer or the corporate president to withdraw up to \$5,000.00 from the interest in the Manse investment funds to cover monthly expenses. The action is to be reported to Session at the next regular Session meeting. Seconded. Carried.

Next Meeting: June 28, 2022 at 7:00 pm in Conference room

Communion servers for June 5: Allan, Dan, Kristin

Devotions next meeting: Sally Heusinkvelt

Adjourned with prayer by Pastor Mariel

Respectfully submitted: Don Anthony, Clerk of Session

You've Gotta Be Kidding!
Guidepost Editors
A book review by Jo Sherman

In these uncertain times, reading a book about laughter and jokes can give us a feeling of being uplifted and that God doesn't want us to be serious all the time.

Mary Hollingsworth who is the general editor of Guidepost, has not only worked with many well-known authors, but has written more than eighty books herself!

Inside this book, you will find many funny stories, quotes and quips which happen to be true.

These are a few quotes from children:

1. "When your mom is mad at your dad, don't let her brush your hair."
2. "It's only fun to play school when you are the teacher."
3. "Never ask your three-year-old brother to hold a tomato."
4. Don't sneeze when someone is cutting your hair."
5. No matter how hard you try, you can't baptize cats"

Someone has said that, "Most of life's biggest lessons are learned outside the classroom."

This was shared by Tal D. Bonham, "A sailor in a good mood entered the barracks and called out, 'I'll give five dollars to the laziest man here.' Everyone scrambled to his feet and rushed forward to tell how lazy he was except one tall Texan. He drawled, 'Just roll me over and slip it in my pocket.'"

A Yiddish folk saying is given a spot in this book, "If you want to give God a good laugh, tell Him your plans.

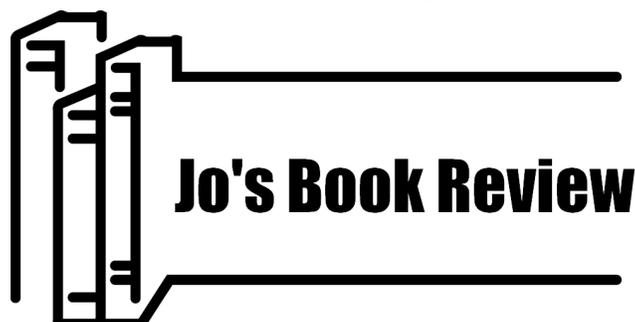
"No matter how painstakingly we plan our lives, take safety precautions, and move ahead carefully, at some point each of us is forced to face the disconcerting realization that...stuff happens. It's how you handle that stuff that is really important."

Michael Hodgkin has contributed this quip, "You know it's going to be a bad day when you wake up in the hospital all trussed up and your insurance agent tells you that your accident policy covers falling off the roof but not hitting the ground."

Franklin P. Adams shared his opinion about a bargain, "Something you can't use at a price you can't resist."

A long time ago Charles H. Spurgeon gave a blessing, " May our mouths be filled with laughter and our tongues with singing."

This is just a sample of the many short writings in this entertaining book published by Guideposts. I hope you will want to read this book which may give you some laughs to brighten your day.



CHURCH NEWS

FINANCIAL REPORT AS OF JUNE 1ST

Operating Receipts — \$79,299.06
 Operating Expenses — \$71,256.08
 Surplus (deficit) — \$8,042.98

Roof Loan Balance — \$33,195.17
 Payments Remaining this Year — \$7,004.27
 Current Roof Fund Balance — \$8,303.49

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Upper LOGOS students are invited to a dessert and movie night at the Mariel's on June 22 from 8pm-10pm.

VBS will take place June 27-July 1 in the afternoons from 3:15-5:30pm. You can register at our website and we still need volunteers.



COMING SOON!

First Presbyterian Church
presents...

Theology *on Tap*

Hosted by:



Sundays at the Canyon Lakes Brewing Company
June 26th to August 14th
at 7:00 pm

We will be reading, studying and discussing "The Wounded Healer" by Henri J.M. Nouwen. Nouwen will help us explore how, in our own woundedness, we can become a source of life for others.

In preparation for our first session, please read the Introduction and Chapter 1, Part 1—approximately 14 pages.

For more information or to reserve your spot—
please contact First Presbyterian Church
Phone: 308-324-5507
Email: firstchurchlex@gmail.com



We have transitioned to digital form for the monthly newsletter. You will be able to receive the newsletter on the website or have it delivered by email. If you do not receive it by email and wish to, please email us at firstchurchlex@gmail.com. If you are currently getting the newsletter mailed to you and wish to continue to receive it by mail, email us or call us to let us know. Thank you.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 <i>7:00 pm—Mid Platte Valley Taekwondo</i>	3	4
5 <i>9:00 am—Coffee/Fellowship Hour</i> <i>10:00 am—Worship</i>	6 <i>Pastor's Day Off</i> <i>11:00 am—Knitting</i> <i>7:00 pm—Mission & Outreach</i> <i>7:00 pm—Mid Platte Valley Taekwondo</i>	7 <i>7:00 pm—Faith Committee</i> <i>7:00 pm—Mid Platte Valley Taekwondo</i>	8	9 <i>7:00 pm—Mid Platte Valley Taekwondo</i>	10	11
12 <i>9:00 am—Coffee/Fellowship Hour</i> <i>10:00 am—Worship</i>	13 <i>Pastor's Day Off</i> <i>11:00 am—Knitting</i> <i>7:00 pm—Mid Platte Valley Taekwondo</i>	14 <i>9:00 am—Office Staff Meeting</i> <i>7:00 pm—Mid Platte Valley Taekwondo</i>	15	16 <i>6:00 pm—Congregational Care Committee</i> <i>7:00 pm—Mid Platte Valley Taekwondo</i>	17	18
19 <i>9:00 am—Coffee/Fellowship Hour</i> <i>10:00 am—Worship</i>	20 <i>Pastor's Day Off</i> <i>11:00 am—Knitting</i> <i>7:00 pm—Properties Committee</i> <i>7:00 pm—Mid Platte Valley Taekwondo</i>	21 <i>9:00 am—Office Staff Meeting</i> <i>6:30 pm—Personnel Committee</i> <i>7:00 pm—Mid Platte Valley Taekwondo</i>	22 <i>8:00 pm—Upper LOGOS Dessert & Movie at the Mariel's</i>	23 <i>9:30 am—Faith Circle</i> <i>7:00 pm—Mid Platte Valley Taekwondo</i>	24	25
26 <i>9:00 am—Coffee/Fellowship Hour</i> <i>10:00 am—Worship</i>	27 <i>Pastor's Day Off</i> <i>11:00 am—Knitting</i> <i>3:15 to 5:30 pm—VBS</i> <i>7:00 pm—Mid Platte Valley Taekwondo</i>	28 <i>9:00 am—Office Staff Meeting</i> <i>3:15 to 5:30 pm—VBS</i> <i>7:00 pm—Session</i> <i>7:00 pm—Mid Platte Valley Taekwondo</i>	29 <i>3:15 to 5:30 pm—VBS</i>	30 <i>3:15 to 5:30 pm—VBS</i> <i>7:00 pm—Mid Platte Valley Taekwondo</i>		