

First Presbyterian Church

801 N. Lincoln
Lexington NE 68850
(308)324-5507
Fax: (308)324-5508

Email

1stpresbyterian@charterinternet.com

Website

www.lexpresbyterian.com

Regular Sunday Schedule

8:45 a.m. Sunday School
9:00 a.m. Fellowship
10:00 a.m. Worship
11:00 a.m. Coffee time

Church Staff

Pastor: The Rev. Caroline A. Vickery
Hostess: Linda Anthony
Office Manager: Alice Screws
Financial Secretary: Julie Rickertsen
Music Coordinator and
Joy Ringers Director: Connie Smets
Choir Director: Holly Rickertsen

Elders

Fran Acosta-Carlson Roger Biehl
Kirstine Heusinkvelt Sally Heusinkvelt
Dwayne Margritz Judy Moomey
Travis Patocka Mary Reed
Bruce Rickertsen Dennis Rickertsen
Tempie Roberts Dorothy Woodside

Deacons

Marilyn Biehl Jan Gulden
Mickey Hundley Betty Nelson
Swede Nelson Joyce Olsen
Doran Post Pat Post
Dale Sherman Jo Sherman
Bill Smets Shirley Smets



PRESBYTERIAN PARABLES



Volume 10, Issue 5

Dear Friends in Christ,

Q. April showers bring May flowers. What do May flowers bring?

A. Pilgrims :-)

May is a month of beautiful flowers, and of transitions.

Calvin, founder of Calvinist theology and spiritual father of the Presbyterian Church, transitioned to eternal life on May 27, 1564.

The church, the community of Jesus' followers, came to be on **Pentecost** when **God** sent the Holy Spirit to "fire up" the people — Pentecost is the birthday of the church, when the disciples transitioned from a fear-filled group to a powerful church. We celebrate Pentecost on **May 23rd**.

On **May 9th** we will honor graduating seniors who are transitioning to a new phase of life as they graduate from high school. The reception will be on May 9th at 9:00 am, and we will celebrate Quin Roberts, church member, Andrew Rios, Max Maguire and R. J. Seberger, faithful long-time members of LOGOS.

We all transition: from unborn to born, from life to death to eternal life, from high school to college or career, from lonely to befriended. At our baptism, we transition into God's Team, signed, sealed and delivered through Christ. We all go through change. What does not change? God. "Thou changest not, thy compassions they fail not, great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me." Unto me, unto you, unto all of us: God is good. Let's keep those in transition in our prayers, that they will know God's presence and guidance in a special way.

FAQ's (Frequently Asked Questions) regarding my Sabbatical:

◇ Will you be paid during sabbatical; and if so, why?

Yes, I will be paid my regular salary and housing allowance: a vacation is about personal fun, a sabbatical is to read, learn and re-fresh for the good of the church and for me.

◇ When are you leaving and when are you returning?

My last day in the pulpit is June 27th. We'll have a special time of prayer for each other during worship as we transition into this time apart. I'll be back in early September. We'll have a party then to celebrate, to share stories and thank the Sabbatical Care Team.

◇ What are you doing on sabbatical?

Three stages, working from the outside in:

- de-clutter, re-organize office and home — "weeding" my life
- time on Long Beach Island, studying book *Receiving the Day* — "watering" my spirit
- 3 weeks with the Iona Community in Scotland — "rooting" myself in Christ
- also investigating the possibility of a community garden

More questions? Just ask. 😊 More answers will follow in the June newsletter.

Grace and peace,
Pastor Caroline

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COMMITTEE MEETINGS

COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

Worship - May 4, 6:15 pm

Personnel - May 6, 8:00 pm ** note time change

Outreach & Fellowship - May 6, 7:00 pm

Faith Formation - May 4, 7:00 pm **note date change

Mission & Ministry -May 11, 7:00 pm

Properties - May 17, 7:00 pm

Session - May 25, 7:30 pm

OTHER MEETINGS/ACTIVITIES

Clipper Ship Monday, May 10, 6:45 pm **AUCTION**

Grace Circle - May 20, 1:30 pm, in Parlor- lesson leader, Linda Anthony **note change of date

Faith Circle - May 27, at 9:00 am, hostess, Bernice Pebley; lesson, Jonelle Lans

Martha Circle - May 18, 7:30 pm in church Parlor- hostess, Vicki Davis; lesson, Marge Blevins

Men's Group meets Sundays at 8:00 am on May 2, 9, 16 & 23

South Side Bible Study - resumes in Fall

Lectionary Bible Study - Thursdays at 8:30 am in the church Library

LOGOS - resumes in the fall.

Book Study — Tuesday, May 18th at noon

Reception for graduates—May 9th at 9:00 am

Plan ahead—June 3rd at 7:00 pm a seminar by professional organizer, Ellen Hankes.

SERVING IN May

Head Ushers for May: Ed and Sally Heusinkvelt

Greeters: Bill and Shirley Smets

Lay Leaders: May 2 — Jonelle Lans
May 9 — Haley Rogers
May 16 — Isaac Biehl
May 23 — Ross Rogers
May 30 — Rachel Biehl

Offering Counters: LeRoy Sherman and Roger Biehl, members of the Properties Committee

Children's Sermon Volunteers:

May 9 — Pastor Caroline
May 16 — Jonelle Lans
May 23 — Pastor Caroline
May 30 — Bill Smets

Nursery Volunteers:

May 2 — Heather Morin
May 9 — Bricen Margritz
May 16 — Rachel Biehl
May 23 — Courtney Kast
May 30 — Aleah Biehl

SYMPATHY

OUR SYMPATHY AND PRAYERS go to Elinor Gerber and family on the death of Ralph Gerber. Some of you will remember Ralph, who was a pastor here at First Presbyterian Church in the 1950's. For those who want to send a card, Elinor's address is: 17673 W. Acapulco Lane, Surprise, AZ 85388-7701.

CONGRATULATIONS

CONGRATULATIONS to Gabriella Evangelica, daughter of Seth and Tiffany Carlson, who received the sacrament of baptism on Easter Sunday, April 4th. Gabriella was baptized by her grandfather, The Rev. Bruce Carlson.

CONGRATULATIONS to Sarah Sculley who graduates from UNK on May 7th.

UPCOMING EVENTS



HONORING OUR GRADUATES

Sunday, May 9th, we will be honoring our high school graduates at a reception at 9:00 am in Fellowship Hall. Our graduates are: Quin Roberts, a member of our church; and our LOGOS graduates, Max Maguire, Andrew Rios, and R. J. Seberger. Please plan to attend the reception before worship.



P. W. MAY BREAKFAST

The Presbyterian Women's May Breakfast is fast approaching. On Thursday, May 6th, Deb Sund will present a program on raising llamas, so bring a friend to this fun and interesting program. Please call the church office to make your reservation (324-5507) by May 3rd. Breakfast will be served at 9:00 am. A free-will offering will be accepted.



PLUM CREEK DAYS



Our church is planning on entering the Plum Creek Days parade with a float or other type of entry. The parade is June 12th at 10:30 am. and we will be decorating several days earlier in the week. There will be more information provided later, but put it on your calendars now and plan to participate in some way. The theme of this year's parade is "**Full Steam Ahead**". Meetings will be held after worship each Sunday in May. Confirmation youth will sell Floats for the Float after worship on May 23rd to raise funds for materials.



CLIPPER SHIP SILENT AUCTION

Bidding will start on May 2nd and ending at 7:30 p.m. on May 10th. Items will be displayed for two weeks, in the narthex, for your opportunity to bid on a wonderful selection of items.

Everyone is invited to the covered dish supper on May 10th at 6:45 p.m. for a live auction for more food, home canned goods, and gifts. There will be lots of yummy food, followed by the auction. Please join us for a fun evening to raise money for our mission projects.



COLLEGE GRADUATES

If you have a recent college graduate in your family please let the church office know so that we may extend our congratulations! Also, we would appreciate it if you would let us know your college students' new addresses. Thanks!

NEWS

MINISTRY AND MISSION



GROCERY CART/MINISTRY TO HELP THE HUNGRY

The grocery cart is in the narthex each Sunday awaiting your donated food stuffs and money to be distributed to the Food Pantry in Lexington. You can bring your food items or cash whenever it is convenient for you. This is an important ministry in our community.

The loose offerings for April went to helping our youth with mission trips. The Presbyterian Youth Triennium will be held this summer and we will be represented by Kirstine Heusinkvelt, Alaina Mueller and Ross Rogers. **There are slots open for three more youth from our congregation.** Other summer opportunities for youth will include a mission trip for the Confirmation Class and other middle school youth; and the Youth Mission Team.

THE ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING offering raised \$1,393.02 . Your gifts are helping disaster survivors find hope out of the chaos of disasters that have had an impact on their lives, such as the tornadoes in Mississippi.

The Loose Offerings for the first four Sundays in MAY will go to the PENTECOST OFFERING. When you give to the Pentecost Offering you join children, youth, and young adults in their lifelong songs of faith and praise. Your gifts provide both Christian support and exciting opportunities for growth in discipleship. **Forty percent of the Offering is used to minister on behalf of children at risk as designated by each congregation.** Through General Assembly ministries, the remaining 60 percent is used to support, guide, and nurture the faith of Presbyterian young people, call forth a new generation of church leadership, and advocate for children at risk. There has never been a time of greater need for these vital ministries. The Loose Offerings for May 30th will go for float materials so that our whole congregation can participate.

MEG SMITH visited our congregation on April 11. She is the **daughter of Alan and Ellen Smith**, our missionaries in Moscow. She is a freshman at Hastings College and is receiving one of our scholarships that we give to Hastings College. She visited with the Adult Sunday School class. At the church worship service she presented a plaque that was sent to us from our sister church in Monastirschina, Russia. This church thinks of us as a prayer partner and is part of the program that the Smiths work with in Russia. Meg also attended Confirmation Class before returning to Hastings. We hope to welcome her back another time in our church to hear about her summer experiences in Russia.

NEWS

PROPERTIES COMMITTEE



The Properties Committee has completed the remodeling of the restrooms in the Narthex. After seven weeks of work, both the men's and women's restrooms are now handicap accessible. They each have ADA approved stalls and fixtures. The doorways were widened and we disposed of one set of doors. If you haven't seen them, please stop by and check them out.

Properties Committee would like to thank all those involved. Thanks to Stan Gould, architect, for drawing up the plans; to Jones Plumbing for all our plumbing needs; to Steve Latter of Latter Const. for the carpentry work; to Swede Nelson for the electrical work; to 5 Star Flooring for the flooring needs; to LeRoy Sherman, Julie Rickertsen and Mary Reed for tearing up the old flooring; to Carol Stock, Mary Reed, Karla Denker and Steve Latter for painting; to Carol Stock, Karla Denker, Linda Anthony, Julie Rickertsen and Mary Reed for decorating decisions including paint, sinks, fixtures, wall décor, stalls, floor tile, etc. Also thanks to the PW for money for paint and wall décor and a very special thanks to the Barrett bequest that made the whole project possible. Our mission statement says "all are welcome". Now we are also handicap accessible, so that folks with disabilities are truly welcome.



Properties are interested in selling all the old fixtures.

For sale are:

- ◇ A 36" vanity with sink and faucet
- ◇ An 18" x 21" wall hung sink
- ◇ A white standard size toilet
- ◇ A 29" x 42" framed mirror
- ◇ A 18" x 24" mirror
- ◇ 2 matching wall hung lights

Please contact Mary Reed at 324-6598 or Roger Biehl at 324-2529 if you are interested in buying any of these items.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



Vacation Bible School has been scheduled for July 5th through the 9th with Grace Lutheran Church and it will be held at First Presbyterian. Volunteers are needed to provide/serve snacks, lead crafts, make decorations, and tell stories. If you can volunteer contact Da'Lacy Lans!

NEWS



Birthday Club

BIRTHDAY CLUB

Join the Birthday Club: in your "birthday month" contribute \$1.00 (or .10, or a quarter, etc.) for each year of your life so far to the Endowment Fund. Birthday Club envelopes are in the pews. Mark your check "Birthday Club" and put it in the offering plate, or mail it to the church. Recently joining (or re-joining) the Birthday Club:

March: Bruce Rickertsen, Marilyn Biehl

MEALS-ON-WHEELS!



Volunteers from our church help deliver hot meals to the homebound on a regular basis. Many thanks to those who volunteered in April: Pat Sherman, Kay Denker, Pat Post, Dorothy and Lorin Bremer, and Rhea and Tom Musil. New volunteers are always needed! The next delivery date for our volunteers will be May 24th—28th. To volunteer call Mickey Hundley at 785-2359.

SEARCH FOR NEW MUSIC COORDINATOR CHILDREN/YOUTH MUSIC COORDINATOR AND CHURCH ACCOMPANIST



The Personnel Committee is searching for a new Music Coordinator, Children and Youth Coordinator and accompanist. Some of the responsibilities for Music Coordinator include: schedule pianists/organists and special music for summer, fourth Sunday of the month, and special worship services such as Christmas Eve and Holy Week. Interested? Please ask Dave Margritz for a copy of the job description. We're also looking for someone to help our youth put their music skills to work in worship: children/youth music coordinator. And we have an interim accompanist now, so we are looking for a choir accompanist.

SYNOD SCHOOL

Synod School is a learning and personal enrichment experience for people of all ages. We seek to create an environment of hospitality, healing, and hope. The week is designed for laity and clergy, individuals and families. Classes and activities are available for adults, youth, and children. *Grace Notes* is the theme of Synod School -July 25—30, 2010, at Buena Vista University, Storm Lake, Iowa.

Come to:

- ◇ Participate in a unique experience of Christian community as we worship, study, play and live together;
- ◇ To grow in faith through action, relationships, and a centering of the spirit;
- ◇ For continuing education, for a special family experience, or for individual growth;
- ◇ Take it all in, then return home to share and serve.

Visit www.lakesandprairies.org for more information, to view the catalog or to register.

The church office also has a copy of the catalog if you would like to look it over.

THANK YOU



MANY, MANY THANKS to the team of ladies who help get the newsletter out to everyone each month! We appreciate your faithful service to the church. Dorothy Bremer, Jan Blevins, Geraldine Bricker, Evelyn Hutt, helped get the newsletter out at the end of March.

DEAR FRIENDS, thank you for my beautiful prayer mantle. I have been wrapped in a special kind of love. I showed it to all the hospital staff - many nice compliments to your mission. I'm so lucky to be a Presbyterian! The care and love you all have given me is so comforting.

Thank you Presbyterian family for the care and concern you have shown me during my hospitalization and my recovery in Lexington. I greatly appreciate the cards, prayers, caring messages, meals, deacon calls, and visits from Pastor Caroline.

— Sincerely, Judy Moomey



-THANK YOU Dale and Jo for bringing me the very pretty carnation. Also thanks to all who have sent "Get Well" cards. I'm sure glad we are part of such a caring and loving "church family". Thanks again. — Bernice Pebley



-A SPECIAL THANK YOU for putting me on the prayer chain and for all the cards and phone calls I received. I thank each and every one of you. God bless. — Ann DeLaet

-THANK YOU to Tom and Rhea Musil and their "helper bunnies" for the Easter gifts for the children. They made us "hoppy".

-RUTH NISLEY AND FAMILY would like to thank the church family for all the cards and prayers extended to her for her 90th birthday and during her hospital stay.

GROUP NEWS



FAITH CIRCLE will meet on May 27th at 9:00 am. Bernice Pebley will be the hostess and Jonelle Lans will lead the lesson.

GRACE CIRCLE Meets this month on the 3rd Thursday, May 20th, in the Church Parlor.

Linda Anthony is in charge of the lesson.

MARTHA CIRCLE meets on May 18th at 7:30 pm in the church Parlor. The hostess will be Vicki Davis and Marge Blevins will lead the lesson.

SOUTH SIDE BIBLE STUDY is finished for the summer and will resume meeting in the fall.

LECTIONARY BIBLE STUDY meets most Thursday mornings at 8:30 am in the church Library. Everyone is welcome to study the scriptures for the upcoming Sunday.

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP will meet on Tuesday, May 18th at noon to revisit *Wisdom of the Seasons*. The book for June is Mitch Albom's *Have a Little Faith*. In July, Pastor Caroline will read *Receiving the Day* by Dorothy Bass.

LOGOS NEWS

As I write this, we are completing our fifth year of LOGOS. It has been a great year, full of fun, friendship and fellowship, and has deepened our spiritual knowledge. This year we send four seniors on their way with our blessings and prayers. **Quin Roberts, Max Maguire, Andrew Rios,** have been active participants all five years of LOGOS and **R.J. Seberger** for four years, and have all become strong leaders. We will miss them. We would like **to thank the Middle School and Senior High youth** who led the Sunrise Easter Service. Through bell ringing and leading the various parts of worship, they helped achieve a meaningful Easter morning celebration.

The Middle School Bell Brigade provided the introit on April 25th. The elementary children participated in worship on April 11 with their ribbon routine. Their addition to worship was enjoyed and appreciated by everyone. The elementary students will be singing with the adult choir Sunday, May 2, during morning worship. Please join us that morning for worship at 10 a.m.

First Presbyterian children and youth as well as those from other churches and the community have participated in LOGOS this year. Scholarships assisted several students with registration fees. **Thank you to all the young people who attended and became part of our LOGOS family.**

Thank you to the adults who made the weekly commitment in leadership roles and were there each Wednesday. Your dedication helped establish the Christian relationships and learning that occurred during the year. **Thank you also to the many, many members of the First Presbyterian congregation and parents of LOGOS students, both Presbyterian and non-Presbyterian, who have helped during the year.** We appreciate your help and couldn't have done it without you. God has truly blessed all of us during the fifth year of our LOGOS ministry. We look forward to continuing next fall. Listen to your hearts, as God may be calling you to be a LOGOS staff member. Have a great summer!
—Louise Dannehl, LOGOS Director

CHURCH CAMPS

The **2010 HIGHLANDS PRESBYTERIAN CAMP AND RETREAT BROCHURES** are here! Highlands Camp is located in Allenspark, Colorado. You may pick up a copy from the table in the narthex, or register online through the Highlands website at: www.Highlands-camp.org If you register online, you can pay by credit card or you can mail a check to Highlands.

We also have **CAMP CALVIN CREST** brochures available on the table in the narthex. You can check it out online at: www.calvincrest.org. You can register online for this camp as well. Calvin Crest is located near Fremont, Nebraska.





BOOK REVIEW



Beyond the Final Score

By Tom Osborne

A book review by Jo Sherman

In Tom's own words, "I have been blessed to take on a wide variety of roles in my lifetime. I have been a professional athlete, a coach, a congressman, a teacher and an administrator. I have been a leader in various capacities, a public figure, a father and a husband—and a fisherman. It is my hope that, through it all, I have been God's servant."

In one place in the book he talks about his funeral and hopes that someone can honestly say this about him, "Tom tried to serve and honor God. He was a person who did his best to live out his faith. He was not a phony. He did what he said he would do; he was consistent and his word was good."

He has a simple mission statement to share: "My personal mission statement is *serve and honor God in all things.*"

Tom tells us that life is never all good, we all will face some problems along the way. We will have three choices when adversity strikes us. "The first is to quit. The second is to blame someone else. The third is to learn from the experience."

Of his political experiences he has this to say, "I believe that politics is an important business, but it's not for the faint of heart. I'm glad to have moved on to a new role, but I still think often about the many smart, well-intentioned people who want, above all, to do the right thing for their states and for their country...I believe that many of the people who choose a life of public service are motivated by patriotism and a desire to do what's right."

He loves to go fishing and tells of one time he and his daughter, Ann, were in a small boat on Lake McConaughy. Storm clouds rolled in and electricity was in the air. He saw his daughter's finger starting to glow as she cast out her line. He decided then to return quickly to the shore.

"Getting close to God's creation, the more remote the better, puts my life and purpose into perspective."

By his count, he has coached about 2000 young men. He said that one problem he had was that he became so involved with his team, he had to make sure he didn't neglect his own family, a son and two daughters.

He tells of a decision made of not accepting the coaching job at Michigan State University. His five-year old grandson, Will, was crying very hard, and finally managed to say that he didn't want his grandparents to move to Michigan.

Tom said, "That did it for me. There was no way we could leave our children and grandchildren—even for an attractive coaching job."

One last comment he made is, "Championship wins are a wonderful thing, but relationships and family are what life is all about."

NEW BOOKS IN THE LIBRARY

BY DELPHINE ANTHONY

THANK YOU to Gladys Hodgson, Linda Blackman, Dorothy Woodside, and an anonymous donor for books for the library. Please stop by — there's something for everyone!

BIBLE INFORMATION *Bible Clues For The Clueless* by Christopher Hudson, Carol Smith and Valerie Weidemann. Interesting, informative and with a light sense of humor. It's an entertaining way to be versed in the Bible.

CHILDREN *1 2 3 Christmas* by Diane Stortz

CHURCH *Creating A Healthier Church* by Ronald W. Richardson. Mr. Richardson is a pastoral counselor and retired pastor.

FAMILY *If I Could Raise My Kids Again* by William L. Coleman. Frank insights from a parent who's been there.

FICTION *Sixteen Brides* by Stephanie Grace Whitson. The author did research for her book at the Dawson County Museum. The story takes place in Plum Grove, which in reality, is Plum Creek, NE. You might recognize some of the characters!

Garden Of Faith by Lynne Hinton. This is the sequel to "Friendship Cake".

Only The Wind Remembers by Marlo Schalesky. This is based on true events.

The Shack by William Paul Young. (This is a second copy.)

HUMOR *Choosing The Amusing* by Marilyn Meberg

LEADERSHIP *Fish!* by Stephen C. Lundin, Harry Paul and John Christensen. This business bestseller reads like a story but offers a remarkable way to boost morale and improve results in the workplace.

SESSION NOTES

Notes From The March 30, 2010 Session Meeting

Balance brought forward 01/01/10	\$ 5,733.31
Receipts	47,076.70
Disbursements	51,639.71
Transfers to general fund	1,000.00
Transfers to money market	0.00
Balance as of 03/31/10	2,170.30
Balance of money market fund 03/31/10	\$ 31,406.89

Session approved the following guidelines for use of the Washington Street Manse Fund.

1. The Treasurer shall make it known to the Properties Committee that funds are running low and that use of the Washington Street Manse Fund principal may be necessary.
2. Properties will make it known to the congregation that the need has arisen.
3. If the Properties Committee deems in necessary, after the appeal has been made, the Treasurer will be allowed to withdraw up to \$5,000 without further Session approval within three weeks of having notified the committee.
4. The goal shall be to reimburse the fund when possible.

March 7, 2010 Communion served — 120

Ervin W. "Andy" Poehler died March 16, 2010.

Violet Knapple, of Lincoln Nebraska, died March 24, 2010.

Active membership at the end of the meeting-----325

SERVICE COMMITTEE

MAY/JUNE

Co-Chairs:	Jonelle Lans	324-4508		
	Darlene Malcom	324-2131		
	Betty Nelson	324-4133		
	Delphine Anthony	324-4779	Bertha Rickertsen	324-7407
	Jeanne Burns	784-5096	Sharlene Robinson	987-2496
	Linda Graus	324-2345	Beth Rogers	324-6892
	Penny Knapp	324-7345	Charlotte Selk	324-2297
	Da'Lacy Lans	325-4719	Deb Stuchlik	324-2216
	Dian Lauby	324-4115	Sarah Taylor	324-6996
	Atta McCarty	324-2028	Liz Warner	324-4490
	Lisa Pebley	324-2785	Katherine Willets	324-3032
	Rhonda Quimby	324-6724	*Mary Petersen	

