

hello November PRESBY-NOTES

November 2023

It is the mission of First Presbyterian Church of Beatrice to know Christ, to make Christ known and to exhibit Christ's love through worship, education, and service.

PASTOR'S PEN

'And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful.' Colossians 3:15

November is the month we are intentional about being thankful. In Paul's letter to the Colossians he reminds them of the importance of peace. It's important to remember the context of this statement. Paul is not referring to peace in the sense of "happy feelings."

In prior verses, he was discussing the need for Christians to tolerate, love, and support each other. In this verse, after mentioning peace, Paul again speaks of the unity Christians have. With Christ as the head, we are all part of a spiritual "body," which is the church. Peace within the body requires peace between its parts. Every group of believers will experience internal conflict at times, but seeking peace will help us resolve issues in the context of Christian love.

The second trait Paul mentions in this verse is simple: an attitude of thanksgiving. Paul mentions thanks multiple times in this letter, showing the importance of gratitude in the Christian life. This is especially true for me this year. While I have not found one person that would like to return to 2020 I would probably not be writing his column if 2020 had not happened. It was during this time I was forced to slow down and could reflect on what was important to me.

With some nudging from Pastor Zac I signed up for the Academy and took my first class, Old Testament. I also gave my first sermon in August of that year. We had begun the Bed Ministry and our Little Pantry was starting to become a reality.

Not only has God walked alongside me but this congregation has also

been right there with me. Each of you has offered me encouragement and made me feel like this was not a totally crazy idea. As I said at my installation to be your pastor, "God does work in mysterious ways!"

I have now been your pastor for five months and like it more every day. I am also continually grateful you were willing to take a chance with me. I know this is not the norm but sometimes thinking outside the box is good.

Please know my door is always open and I would love to have you stop by for a visit about your dreams for First Presbyterian Church. I also want to thank you for being willing to try some new things. We will learn that some will work and some will not but we can say we tried.

I believe we are all on an individual journey of faith and also on a collective journey of faith as a congregation. If I can assist with either of these journeys just let me know. I hope many of you will sign up for the Advent Bible Study beginning on

Wednesday, Nov. 29 at 6 p.m. and continuing on Dec. 6, Dec. 13, and Dec. 20. Please sign the sheet after worship or call the church office. Dinner will be provided.

In closing I want to also say how thankful I am for those I work with each day. Lennie has the difficult task of keeping me organized and within budget while Neil has been wonderful each time I have asked to move worship downstairs which means more work for him and for keeping the church looking welcoming and in tip-top shape. Karen helps each week with the musical selections, lets me add pictures at the last minute to the PowerPoint, and plans engaging children's sermons. They each have many other responsibilities but the ones I listed are just a few of the ways they have helped me.

Wishing each of you a blessed Thanksgiving and I thank God regularly for this opportunity to walk alongside you at First Presbyterian.

God's grace abounds,

Pastor Doris



Thank you to the Confirmation class for the special sign for Pastor Appreciation Day.

- *Thanksgiving dinner is November 12th. A sign up sheet will be provided for members to sign up if they plan on going. Also a sign up sheet will out to sign up for helping with the dinner.
- *An adult Advent Bible study will take place on Wednesday evenings starting November 29th at 6:30 following a 6:00 advent supper for kids and adults.
- *Warren's Table on November 7th. We will be serving casseroles, cookies and volunteers are needed.
- *The holiday parade is December 2nd and the church again will provide hot chocolate outside the church.
- *A nativity set will be given away, one for children and one for adults, at the parade.
- *Looking into opening the church during the parade and having organ music to allow people to warm up.
- *Next stated Session meeting is November 20th at 6:45pm



PRAYERS: Bruce and Ellen Greenwell; Gayle Eskra; Hal Thaut; Maria Ojeda; Connie Dake; Diane Mayer; Bob Hancock; Judy Prebyl; Barb Harrison; and Norma Jean McNamee.

Also: Alyssa Lock (Kristin Jurgens' granddaughter); Shannon Fanning; Vera Lyons; Elmer Cook; Linnel Rials; Skylar Nicola; Elizabeth Shotkoski-Jurgens; Pat Morris; Steve Arneal; Lori Eckert; Jake Frana; Timothy Briskey; Mike Willet; Stan Martin (Gene Martin's brother); Nancy Chalupa; Hope Johns (Maxie Arneal's great granddaughter); Imogene Johnson (Connie Dake's sister); Norma Mitschler (Frank's sister); and Mike Martin (Gene Martin's nephew).



Barrett Paulmeyer	12
Harris Paulmeyer	14
Sue Ann Jedlicka	15
Bette Anne Thaut	18
Neil McConnell	20
Wilma Huff	28



The annual Holiday Dinner will be Sunday, November 12, following worship in Fellowship Hall. The dinner is open to church members and their families and our Christ Church Episcopal friends. If you are willing to cook and prepare a turkey or ham in advance please let Karen Schlueter or Sue Jedlicka know. A free-will offering will be taken to help cover costs. Come and enjoy food and fellowship with your church family.

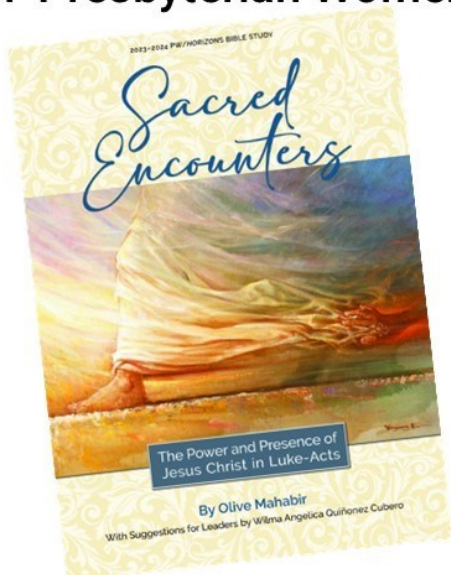


Westminster Guild



Westminster Guild will meet Monday, November 6, at 4:30 p.m. in the church parlor for the monthly covered dish meal and fellowship. All women of the church and friends are welcome.

Join Presbyterian Women



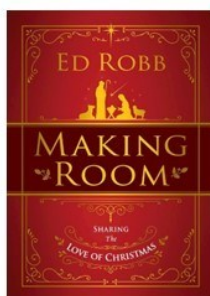
Presbyterian Women will meet on Nov. 8 for a business meeting at 9:30 a.m. and for Bible Study beginning at 10 a.m.

Please join us for fellowship and learn about "The Power and Presence of Jesus Christ in Luke-Acts."

Advent Bible Study

A church wide Advent Bible Study will be held on the four Wednesdays of Advent. The first one will be on Nov. 29 at 6 p.m. Dinner will be provided with the discussion on "Making Room, Sharing the Love of Christmas" to follow.

The youth will practice the first two Wednesdays for the Christmas program while the adults will have Bible Study.



In this book and Advent study, Dr. Ed Robb explores the warmth of welcome at Christmas following interactions with Mary and Joseph, the shepherds, and the magi. Just as Jesus made room in God's kingdom for a host of people that society wanted to leave on the margins, beginning with the appearance of the shepherds, we too should be asking ourselves who we can make room for this Christmas.

Donations help Little Pantry get ready for winter

The Little Pantry continues to be blessed with donations from many members within our church and other people and organizations within our community.



Shirley Brunell is sharing her talents and time by knitting hats for children in need. The only thing she asks for is any yarn that you may have to share. Just drop the yarn off at the church office.



A program about the Little Pantry was presented to ADK (an International Honorary Organization for Women Educators). A collection of food was given by members of ADK.