



Cross Currents

Volume 57 Issue 5

May, 2016

**PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH OF THE CROSS**
1517 South 114th St
Omaha NE 68144-1799

PHONE: 402-333-7466
Fax: 402-697-9084

WORSHIP
9:00 & 11:10 A.M.
Education 10:00 a.m.

SUMMER WORSHIP
JUNE THROUGH
LABOR DAY
ONE SERVICE AT 10:00 A.M
NO EDUCATION

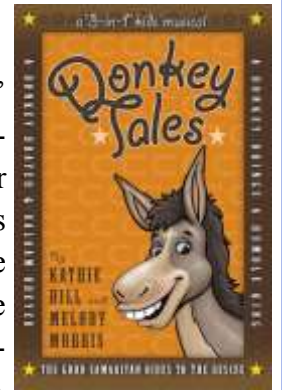
WWW.CHURCHOFTHECROSSOMAHA.ORG

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CHILDREN'S CHOIR "DONKEY TALES"

Thank You to all who came and enjoyed the youth choirs' "Donkey Tales"! It was a fantastic afternoon of stories and music and fun - and your support added \$1183.47 to the Junior High Mission Fund for this summer's trip! WOW! Tremendous applause goes to the kids, their families and friends, and the church staff that helped and encouraged us all the way to the finale! Thank you for sharing your time, your energy, your enthusiasm, and your talent so generously with us all. **WHAT A TEAM!**





(Mothers of Preschool Children)

Registration forms are available at the Information Center.

MOPS membership includes MomSense Magazine, Weekly Mom-email, a MOPS Reusable Shopping Bag, MOPS Bookmark and Magnet and Exclusive Access to MYMOPS Online

Childcare is provided for meetings.

If interested in joining MOPS contact Sheri Sessions, 402-333-7466 or ssessions@pcoc.us or Amanda Stalnaker 402-214-9663 or astalnaker@mpsomaha.org

Director, Sunbeams
Betty Baddley

Director, Credo Choir
Kristi Treu

Director, Carol Choir
Holly Baddley

Carillon Choir
Kristi Treu

Chamber and
Alleluia Singers, Trinity
Brass, CrossChords
Kristi Treu

Director, Youth Bell
Choir
Anne Laws

Orchestra
Patty Ritchie

Www.vesperconcerts.org

MUSIC

ANNOUNCING: The first annual Youth Choir Festival at Presbyterian Church of the Cross. Express your faith with other youth from the Omaha metro area while singing choral music in a variety of styles.

WHEN: June 20-26

Rehearsals 6:30 – 9:00 pm Monday through Friday

Rehearsal Saturday morning with professional jazz combo 10:00 am

Sunday worship service at 10:00; afternoon or evening concert TBA

WHO: Youth ages incoming 9th graders through graduated 12th graders

COST: \$35 for music and a t-shirt

Registration forms can be found at www.churchofthecrossomaha.org or by contacting Kristi Treu.

PLEASE TELL ALL OF THE YOUTH IN YOUR LIVES ABOUT THIS EXCITING OPPORTUNITY.



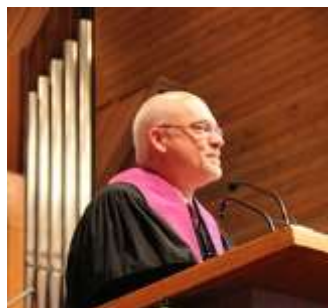
SUMMER CHOIR

It's time for Summer Choir! This is a low-stress, no-commitment opportunity to sing in the choir. Meet at 9:00 in the choir room for a short rehearsal and then sing at the 10:00 worship service. Youth, families, relatives, summer visitors... all are welcome. The dates are June 19th, July 17th, and August 14th.

MAY MUSIC SCHEDULE

May 1 st	9:00 & 11:10	Credo Choir, Youth Orchestra
May 8 th	9:00	Chamber Singers
	11:10	Men's Chorus
May 15 th	9:00 & 11:10	Carillon Bells
May 22 nd	9:00	Alleluia Singers
	11:10	Kyle Sandall, bass
May 29 th	10:00	Trombone Quartet, Alleluia Singers

A letter from your Pastor



“Why I Need the Body of Christ”
by Marshall Zieman, Pastor and Head of Staff

“No man is an island,” was what John Donne so famously once said. Our modern society may beg to differ. Our world seems much more “me” focused than “we” focused. We look for ways to enhance our own personal agendas. We strive for ways to achieve more and get ahead. As the political season heats up, we are asked to choose sides (and draw swords).

We are given lots of choices in life, and the pundits on both extremes will tell us in no uncertain terms why their way is PERFECT and any other way is AWFUL. Our society seems to polarize us more, pulling us in different directions farther apart from each other.

Can the church offer something different?

The early New Testament church was cosmopolitan in nature. Meeting under one roof, sometimes meeting in someone’s home, were found together the rich and the poor, slaves and slave owners, Greeks and Jews, men and women gathering together from all walks of life. Since there weren’t a lot of church choices in those days (no denominations or 10 churches in one town), when you became a follower of Christ you found your nearest church and joined the group. The group took you in, and yet the members of the group were not necessarily all alike. Their focus was on Jesus, who rose from the dead and whose Spirit lived in them. They became God’s New Society. They were a varied mix of different individuals, but they didn’t see themselves as little islands. Together, they formed a body, the body of Christ in their town.

Together, we all form the body of Christ at Church of the Cross, and every member of this body is important. We share a lot of things in common, but we are not all alike. We bring different skills and gifts to the body while holding different opinions. Our Study on Christian Marriage is one example of this – we are experiencing what it means to walk hand in hand even when we don’t always see eye to eye. We are learning how our own perceptions can influence our opinions. We are learning how to listen to others, even when our opinions may differ. We are learning how to search the Scriptures, to listen to the Spirit, to pray more, and to seek a humble spirit ourselves.

In Jesus’ great prayer in John 17 he prays for his followers as he is about to go to the cross. He does not pray that we may all be the same, but that we may all be one – that we may love one another despite our differences that could divide us.

Besides your nearly universal love for your beloved ‘Huskies (Go Big Red!), our church is made up of folks who are not all alike, and that can be a very good thing, provided we see ourselves as one body, made up of different parts, with different purposes and strengths. We all need to be part of a body made up of different parts, “because no man is an island.”

Your pastor and friend,

Marshall Zieman

Pastor
Marshall Zieman, D. Min.
Ext 1-marshall@pcoc.us

Associate Pastor
Lynda Dinsdale, M.Div.
Ext. 2—lynda@pcoc.us

Minister of Music
Kristi Treu, M. M.
Ext. 5—kristi@pcoc.us

Director of Christian Education
Sheri Sessions
Ext. 4—ssessions@pcoc.us

Organist/Vesper Concert
Director
Dana Sloan, M.M.
Ext. 7-dana.sloan@pcoc.us

Business Administrator
Rock Sumner
Ext. 6—rock@pcoc.us

Administrative Assistant
Julie Hansen
Ext 3-
churchofthecross@pcoc.us

www.churchofthecrossomaha.org

Upcoming Events:

May 1st
Youth Sunday

May 22nd
CE Recognition Sunday

May 22nd
JHF & SHF Family
Potluck & Mission Trip
Meeting

Cross Care

Contact
Rock Sumner

Cross Care is a care giving ministry of the Deacons of Presbyterian Church of the Cross and is made up of a group of trained caregivers who are ready to provide visitation, friendship, prayer, fellowship, support, and assistance to members of Church of the Cross who are:

Home bound due to illness or mobility issues
Hospitalized
Recently home from the hospital and in need of a little extra help

- Dealing with a long term illness
- Dealing with the loss of a loved one
- Going through a difficult life transition (loss of job, divorce, new baby, etc.)
- In need of occasional transportation to appointments or in running errands
- Just need someone to talk to

If you or someone you know is in need of Cross Care, you can file a request using one of the white Care Cards located in the sanctuary pews. All requests will be kept confidential. If you would prefer to speak with a pastor directly, please contact the church office at 402-333-7466

PASTORAL MESSAGE

Ten years ago my study leave was a seminary trip to Syria, Jordan and Israel. It was one of those “once in a lifetime” opportunities. The places we visited enriched my understanding of the ancient world and brought the Bible to life; from Palmyra’s ancient temple with a ‘holy of holies’; to Nabataean settlement at Petra; to a fishing boat out on the Sea of Galilee; to the starburst in the floor of the cave in Bethlehem where tradition believes Jesus was born. It was all so amazing!



Now the professor who led that trip is leading a journey called, “In the Footsteps of Paul.” He is taking a group to visit both Turkey and Greece, following the missionary journey of the Apostle Paul in the first century. Again, a “once in a lifetime” opportunity for a study leave that is impossible to pass up.

This trip takes us to Istanbul, Cappadocia, Ephesus, Patmos, Athens and many stops along the way. This will give me an even greater understanding of the first century world and the distances Paul traveled. Turkey is the size of Germany and France combined, so Paul covered many miles without Nike tennis shoes! We, on the other hand, are travelling by air, coach and ship to see in two weeks all the many places Paul visited on his three long missionary journeys.

Here are just a few of the many photos of the incredible places we are seeing. I only wish you were all here to see these incredible sites with me! Thank you for this awesome opportunity to study and visit the world where the church began to grow! Blessings, lkd



Blue Mosque



St. John's baptistry at Ephesus on Easter morning



Mary's House at Ephesus



Whirling Dervish

The View from My Office

Recently, I've been reading books on church finance. Exciting as that sounds to many of you, I realized I only had my own personal experience as a donor and needed to understand how other donors think and why they act the way they do. This novel idea came to me while reading that most of us would have a difficult time vocalizing personally why we give money to the church, or to any number of other opportunities in our community for that matter. What exactly causes each of you to choose one nonprofit over another?



Rising to the top of most articles are these three concepts:

1. **Belief in Mission**
2. **High regard for Staff Leadership**
3. **Fiscal Responsibility**

Quite simply, people want to make the world a better place to live. They want to believe that they can truly make a difference for the better. On Easter morning, Garrett Moore during Young Disciples summed it up nicely for us when commenting on what Gracie the fish bank could do in the world, "We will change people's lives." This young man hit the nail on the head! He understood why those fish banks were full of coins. Did you?

My wife Anna and I attended the recent Omaha Street School (OSS) "Time to Shine" event at the Scott Center on UNO's campus. A young lady that had graduated from OSS was one of the guest speakers. She recounted a time in her life after she had graduated from OSS, attempted unsuccessfully to make life work, and then made the decision to join the Coast Guard. Following boot camp, there was a graduation ceremony, followed by many family members hugging and talking with their CG grad. She had known that her family would be unable to afford or attend such a grand moment in her life. She was resolved to go back to the barrack, pack her belongings and be on her way. Then someone walked between the chairs towards her and to her amazement Mr. and Mrs. P (founders of OSS) were there with open arms to support her and be her family. She then introduced next speaker, Mr. P. It took a moment, but finally he said, "I thought she might tell that story."

Our mission commitment of 20% of our pledged dollars each year is making a difference right here in Omaha. Together we are helping make life changing events like this one happen. If you have a story to share, I'd encourage you to share it with me.

You are the light of the world. A city on top of a hill can't be hidden. Matthew 5:14

Hopefully, you've noticed the grass is greener and the trees have leafed out. Clean-up Day is April 30 and if you're available, we'd enjoy your help that morning. With Peg Conley's help, the extra daffodils and Easter lilies were planted in our landscaped areas this spring. Two other landscape areas are being updated with new designs and plants this spring. One just north of the library wall along the corridor windows, and the other south of Kristi's office. We are excited to have a fresh new appearance in these areas.

Rock Sumner- Business Administrator



Spirit of Mission

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Heartland Hope Mission Helped many in Local Community in 2015

Heartland Hope Mission (HHM), our church's pantry recipient, provides food, hygiene items, clothing, job and services referrals and financial classes to local area families in need. Here are some of their accomplishments in 2015:

- ◆ 23,263 people were served from the pantry.
- ◆ 1,388 of the families served received assistance for the first time.
- ◆ 10,594 people received clothing.
- ◆ 21,145 hygiene items were distributed.
- ◆ 971 client-services referrals and 19 job-related referrals were provided.

In addition to their new main building location at 2021 'U' St. in South Omaha, Heartland Hope Mission also shares in its ministry from a **Millard satellite pantry location** at Lord of Hosts church. PCOC volunteers have assisted the Millard pantry on a quarterly basis by boxing food and hygiene items and then carrying the loaded box to the client's car.

The next opportunities to volunteer at the Millard pantry will be **Saturdays, July 9th and November 12th**. Thank you all for your continued generosity and support of HHM !

** Reminder: Pantry Sunday is the 3rd Sunday of every month.

For more information or to get involved, contact John Bennett at ml_jbennett@centurylink.net.



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

THE BRIGHTEST WEEK OF THE SUMMER!

Summer is just around the corner and you know what that means... Vacation Bible School!

Mark your calendars now for VBS. Cave Quest, Following Jesus the Light of the World, will be July 11th -15th from 9:00 am to noon. Participants must be 3 years old - going into 5th grade.

Thank you to all the volunteers that have already agreed to help out. We are still in need of a few Crew Leaders and Youth Helpers. If you are available to help, please let Heather Berry know.

We are also in need of the following donations that can be dropped off in the church office:

2 liter pop bottles (lids not necessary)

Paint in the following Valspar Interior Latex Flat colors:

- #6003-2A Artichoke - 2 gallons
- #6003-1B Frappe - 1/2 gallon
- #5005-10B Rushing Stream - 1/2 gallon
- #5005-10A Aqua Ocean - 1/2 gallon
- #4004-10B Simply Purple - 1/2 gallon
- Black - 1 pint

Please contact Heather Berry at killarneyberry@gmail.com or 402-884-0117 with any questions.

Thanks for your support!

Moderators of
Committees

Building and Grounds
Jeremy Gerot

Christian Education
Mary Lynn Bennett

Congregational Life
Mary Ann Pederson

Finance
Ben Miller

Membership
Jim Schnabel

Mission
Matt Will/Danny Whitlow

Worship and Music
Erin Erickson

Communication Committee
Jim Miller

Deacons

Moderator
Patti Sparks

Secretary
Loren Davelaar

Treasurer
Belinda Greiner

Home Meals Coordinator
Missy Throckmor-
ton, Ron Vlcek

Prayer Shawls Information
Missy Throckmor-
ton

PieceMakers
Karen Morey
Debbie McMullen

Deacon Highlights

For Easter the Deacons filled thirty colorfully decorated plastic containers that included note cards, stamps, memo pads, devotions, Kleenex, a book mark, lotion, and a jelly bean prayer. These were distributed by church members who minister to our homebound members and to those who are presently residing in care centers.

The Senior Recognition Brunch which is sponsored by the Deacons will take place on May 1. As part of their recognition and in celebration of these seniors reaching a new phase in their journey in Christ, we will be presenting each of them with Pocket Prayers for Graduates by Max Lucado.

We look forward to being part of Youth Sunday, and the opportunity to send our seniors off to new chapters and endeavors in their lives.

Our Church Family

Laurine Brown, former member, died on March 27, 2016. S



Rich Hulsey, husband of Linda Hulsey, died on April 22, 2016.



Flower Dedications

May 1

Barbara Wolpa in memory of daughter, Deborah L. Gilmore

May 8

Open

May 15

Kevin and Kristen Curtis in honor of 30 years of marriage May 31st.

May 22

Jim and Joan Gayle Chapin in honor of 43 1/2 years of wedded bliss

May 29

Joan and Neelo Boomgaarden in honor of 35th wedding anniversary on June 6th

MAY DAY IS COMING AND SO IS 49ERS

Phyllis Armstrong is our hostess for our May 49er luncheon. It will be Tuesday, May 3rd, Vincenzo's Restaurant, 15701 Pacific Street, meeting at 11:30 AM. We will order off the menu. Our speaker is Lois Wohlner. Lois has been our featured speaker for several 49er meetings sharing her world travels with us. Lois has a slide show to show us on her recent trip to Norway and Sweden. For reservations, please contact Donna Turner, 402-397-3643 or Judy Sundberg, 402-333-6981 by April 29th. There will also be a sign up sheet at the Information Desk.

GALS of PCOC

A new women's fellowship group is forming with a focus on faith, fun and friendship. The GALS of PCOC (Growing and Loving Servants) will meet monthly for a fun outing or service-oriented activity. The days of the week for our events will vary monthly to accommodate a wide variety of schedules. Our first event will be held in June. Stay tuned for more details!



Gifts Memorials

- Additional handbells with cases @\$2500.00 each
- Cookie Ministry
- West Side Lighting Design Contract \$8,000.
- Educational Material Endowments
- Garden Ministry Maintenance Fund
- Mission Funds
- Musicians for Special Services
- Printed Music for Choirs
- Youth Program Funds
- Facility Fund
- 40 Bread Baskets for Kitchen \$250.00
- 5 Adult Choir Robes \$750.00

Reminder :

Call the church office when you or a family member is hospitalized. 402-333-7466

Prayer Chain

Contact Judy Arms 402-333-9501
Gerry Reid 402-498-0507 or use the Care Card in the pews.

- 1 Jerry Cornett, Jean Lynn
- 2 John Behrens, Adrian Hinz, Lucah Sekle, Anne Wattles
- 3 Kevin Bunjer, Doug Gollehon, Duncan Koch, Ben Miller, Mary Ann Pederson, Sherryl Shannon
- 4 Peyton Holubeck
- 5 Jerry Bland, Twink DeRoin, Chuck Frenk, Bud Miles, Joan Sacco, Don Sievers
- 6 Laura Innes, Joshua McFadden, Susan Price
- 10 Catherine Brady, Bob Pierson
- 11 Donald Gould, Ally Hopp, Lynette Olsen, Bobbi Swedlund, Robert Wright
- 12 Finn Mooney, Ethel Pauba
- 13 Betty Baddley, Mark Brady, Carl Greiner
- 14 Kylie Berry, Kendall Kahler, Morgan Koch
- 15 Neelo Boomgaarden, Jillian Obregon, Michael Shannon
- 16 Irene Astleford, Jim Butler
- 19 Nancy Nicas
- 20 Sarah Gerot, Paul Stiles, David Thorson
- 22 Ben Fritz, Jenny Koch, Debbie Kraft, Gary Lynn
- 23 Phyllis Armstrong, Peter Broderick
- 24 Daley Gibson
- 25 Jon Anderson, Owen Rock, Patti Sparks
- 26 David Braunlich, Patty Hindman, Don Jones, Matt Kahler, Inga Wagner
- 27 Robert Barber, Elaine Holdren, Camille Koch
- 30 Heather McIntyre-Haas, Don Thorson
- 31 Laura Fortner, Becca Whitlow

**Junior High Leaders**

Jonathan and Carla Fritz
John and Mary Lynn Bennett, Holly Baddley
Sundays: 4:45-6:30

Senior High Leaders

Kristi Treu, Don Metzger, Sarah Frederickson, Dawn and Brad Gibson, Bob Nicas
Sunday: 4:45-6:30

If interested please contact the church office for more information,
402-333-7466

49ers

Judy Sundberg
402-333-6981
Donna Turner
402-397-3643

Friday Night Gourmet

Curt Field and Launie Lambert
402-333-8287

Presbyterian Women

Diane Kratz
402-334-1604

Presbyterian Men

Jon Boomgaarden
402-334-1946

Hiking and Birding Club

Tom Stalnaker
402-390-9913

PCOC Book Group

June Fettig
402-339-2121

Music & Movement

Betty Baddley
402-445-9632

Friday Night Gourmets

Love Italian food but Italy isn't on your itinerary this summer? Please join us Friday, May 13th at Bravo Cucina Italiana, 17151 Davenport, Village Pointe.

Cocktails 6:30 Dinner 7:00

Co-hosts: Alta Empkey and Inga Wagner

Sign up sheet is available at the Information Desk. CIAO!!





Presbyterian Women will be meeting on May 26. Ruth Circle will meet in the Fellowship Hall at 9:30. Ruth Madison and Carol Mason will host and Charlotte Lobaugh will have the lesson. Lydia Circle will meet in the home of Laurie Stiles and Diane Kratz will have the lesson. Both groups will be studying Lesson 8, The Hospitality of Living Water. All women of PCOC are welcome.

CHRISTMAS STOCKINGS AND HYGIENE KITS ASSEMBLED THURSDAY, JUNE 2ND, 9 a.m.-noon

Presbyterian Women invite you to join us for a lively morning of cutting out and sewing **Christmas Stockings for the Prison Ministry**. This Ministry is part of the Presbyterian HELP Adult Services. They give stockings and devotional service to support incarcerated persons living in the Omaha and Clarinda communities. They are planning on 3,000 stockings this year. The stockings will be filled by Presbyterian HELP volunteers with goodies such as beef jerky, crackers, Snicker bars, soap and shampoo. Last year in one morning 197 stockings were made at Presbyterian Church of the Cross with your help!

Bright Christmas fabrics will be cut with a simple pattern with pinking shears to make a decorative raw seam. Then they are machine stitched. **Please bring pinking shears, if you have them.** For those who want to sew, sewing machines from the Piecemakers will be on hand, but if you feel more comfortable with your own, please bring it.

In addition, the plastic bags for the **Hygiene Kits** will be filled with the items collected during these past few weeks. Donation of all items is still welcome, but there is a need for more **hand towels and combs.**

Refreshments will give us a break. **See you in the Fellowship Hall on Thursday, June 2nd at 9:00 a.m.!**

Take Me Out To The Ball Game”



Presbyterian Men's group is planning a night out to watch the Omaha Storm Chasers play Albuquerque on “Thirsty Thursday”, May 26th at Werner Park. Game time is at 6:35 pm and gates open at 5:30 pm. Tickets are \$9.00/person. A sign-up sheet will be available at the Information Desk in the narthex. If you have any

questions please contact John Bennett at ml_jbennett@centurylink.net or (402)618-4687.



American Red Cross Blood Drive – “Spring” into Life by Saving a Life!

The Disciple Bible Study members are excited to host another blood drive on Sunday, May 15th from 9am-2pm in the Gathering Space. Our goal is to have 40 donors! Healthy donors can give a whole blood donation every 56 days. Parental permission is required for all 16 year-olds to donate blood.

Did you know---

- ◇ For each donation given, up to 3 lives might be saved!
- ◇ Every two seconds someone in the U.S. needs blood.
- ◇ Approximately 36,000 units of red blood cells are needed every day in the U.S.
- ◇ More than 1.68 million people are expected to be diagnosed with cancer in 2016. Many of them will need blood, sometimes daily, during their chemotherapy treatment.
- ◇ The average adult has 10 pints of blood in their body—roughly 1 pint is given during a donation.
- ◇ Blood donation is a simple 4-step process: Registration, Medical history & mini-physical, Donation and Refreshments.

There are three ways to make your appointment:

- ◇ Sign up online at www.redcrossblood.org using the sponsor code PCOC.
- ◇ A volunteer can help you reserve a spot in the Narthex May 1st, or May 8th.
- ◇ Call Erin Erickson @ 402-496-1571

Please consider donating an hour of your time to make a HUGE difference in someone’s life—*it could well be the very gift of life.*



May “Mission Saturday” Opportunity



The Membership Committee is partnering with other committees throughout the year to sponsor “Mission Saturdays” which are events at which PCOC members and their families can be actively involved in outreach activities. In May, the Mission Saturday will focus on outreach to our members who are unable to attend on a regular basis and coordinate with Cross Care.

When: May 7, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall and back patio

What: Decorate flower pots, plant flowers in the pots, and create cards for our members who can’t participate in our PCOC community on a regular basis. Deliver cards and pots to the members.

Who: Anyone and everyone is welcome from the youngest artist to the most seasoned of gardeners.

How: Sign up in the Narthex and indicate how you would be willing to participate. There are opportunities for decorating and planting and/or delivering the planted pots and items that weekend. Please bring a trowel and gardening gloves if you have them.

Hope to see you May 7 ☺

Getting to know you!

Name: Charles Madison

Place of birth: I was born in Des Moines, Iowa 79 years ago but we moved to Omaha before I was two years old and I have lived in the Omaha Metropolitan Area ever since. We currently live on 8 acres of woods in the hills north of Plattsmouth overlooking the confluence of the Platte and Missouri Rivers.

Immediate family member's names and what they do: My wife Ruth and I are both retired. We have 5 children: Bev and her husband Rob Koch have 3 children: Taylor is at the University of South Dakota; Morgan and Duncan are at Elkhorn South High. Beverly works in Information Services for Mutual of Omaha Bank. Rob works in Information Technology for the World-Herald. All are members of this church. Daughter, Linda is also a member of this church and is semi-retired. Her department was eliminated in a down-sizing several years ago and she decided that it is time for a mid-life career change but doesn't know what it should be. She works part-time to keep busy. She also is giving her aging parents a lot of attention which is kind of nice.

Son, Ron and his wife, Kelly, have three children: Nick is at Ralston High; Braden and Sarah are at Ralston Middle School. Ron is a Quality Analyst Engineer for Moody's Investor Service and Kelly is a Speech Language Pathologist for the Ralston School District.

Daughter, Diane and husband Mike Miller live in Grant City, Missouri and have two children: Andrea has a degree in Animal Science and Research from the University of Missouri and works in the Omaha office of JBS Packing; Matthew is a welder by trade but is currently working for his dad. Diane is the Trust & Employee Benefits Administrator for Citizen's Bank and Trust in Maryville, Missouri. Mike owns a large cattle feeding operation from bottle-fed calves to his feedlot where he prepares cattle for market. He also helps his dad with crop farming during the busy seasons.

Son, Steve and his wife Alayna live in Blair and have one child: Avory attends Blair Middle School. Steve is the Financial Systems Technology Manager in the Corporate Applications Department of TD Ameritrade. Alayna is a self-employed graphic artist who works from home. Her primary field is designing billboards for advertising companies in the Southeast.

Education: I have a degree in Business Administration with a major in Accounting from Omaha University (UNO).

Occupation: I worked in the Information Technology Department of the Union Pacific Railroad developing computer systems starting with the big old mainframes. I started with the IBM 705 which filled an entire floor of the building with row after row of steel cabinets full of vacuum tubes. It boasted a full 40K of memory. Compare that to the phone you carry around in your pocket. We used Autocoder to write the initial programs and any changes were made in actual machine language. Our more modern machines at the time I retired were programmed in COBOL and FORTRAN. We were selected to become programmers if we passed an aptitude test which was given to interested people in the Accounting Department.



(Continued on page 13)

(Continued from page 12)

Civic or other nonprofit: I'm a past president of the Omaha Chapter of the International Management Council (OIMC) which is a management development organization sponsored by the YMCA with members from most of the major Omaha businesses at that time. Through the IMC, I qualified for a Certified Manager certificate from James Madison University. I was also a long time member of the Data Processing Management Association (DPMA) and passed a multi-part, several hundred question test to earn a Certificate in Data Processing. This was an effort by DPMA to professionalize data processing back in a time when there were no classes in schools or colleges, only 'how to program our machines' classes from IBM.

I was in the US Army from 1958 to 1964. Since this time was between Korea and Viet Nam, the last period of official peace in the world, I spent most of it training in the Active Reserve.

Which service do you attend? 9:00.

Involvement in PCOC, or other churches: I grew up in a little Presbyterian church at 15th & Hickory (Bohemian Brethren). It was in an old neighborhood with old people and I was pressed into service in my teens. I taught Sunday School, was an Elder, Trustee, Deacon, Clerk of the Session and Treasurer during the time we were there. In 1970, the membership had grown so old that they were having Sunday School just for our children so we decided to transfer to Church of the Cross. We have been here for 45 years. I have been an Elder here and have counted offerings and posted your contributions to the computer for well over the last 20 years.

Hobbies: Among other more common interests, I have published a family newspaper for over 22 years. The 267 monthly issues so far have covered the entire lives of my grandchildren and what they and their parents (plus my wife and I and our parents) have done during that time.

What person do you feel had the biggest impact on your life and why? Ruth. She is both my wife and my best friend. She has supported my activities and goals for over 56 years. She is also responsible for my greatest joys in life; my children and my grandchildren.

What would you say is one interesting fact about you that people don't know? I retired at age 54 and have not done a paid day of work since. For about 10 years after the UPRR merged with the MPRR, they were trying to reduce staff by offering management buy-outs in the form of increased years of work and increase age for pension purposes. In 1990, after 37 ½ years of service, their offer gave me full pension. After determining that I could live on pension at that age, I applied and was accepted. I now have been retired for 25 years and have no regrets. It gave me time to be with my mother late in her life and I got to know her as a friend as well as a parent.



Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

1 Youth Sunday 9:00 & 11:10 Worship 10:00 Sunday School 10:00 Senior Brunch 10-11 GALS 12-3 World Cafe	2 9:15 M&M Exercise 10-10:45 Tai Chi 10:45 M&M Exercise 11:30 Music 5:30 Congregational Life 6:00 Communication 6:30 Bldg & Grds 6:30 CE 7:00 Worship & Music	3 9:45 Staff 11:30 49ers 12:30 PEO 7:30-9:30 Vesper Concert Rehearsal	4 6:00 Chamber Singers 6:30 Disciple Bible Study 7:00 Alleluia Singers	5 9:15 M&M Exercise 10-10:45 Tai Chi 10:30 Vesper Concert Rehearsal 10:45 M&M Exercise 11:30 Music 3:00 PW Coordinating Team 5:30 Carillon Choir	6	7 9-12 Mission Saturday/Membership Committee
8 9:00 & 11:10 Worship 10:00 Education 4:30 Serve Dinner at Siena Francis House	9 9:15 M&M Exercise 10-10:45 Tai Chi 10:45 M&M Exercise 11:30 Music	10 9:45 Staff 11-2 Vesper Concert Rehearsal 5:30 MOPS 5:30 Membership 6:30 Mission	11 11-2 Vesper Concert Rehearsal 6:30 Disciple Bible Study 7:00 Alleluia Singers	12 9:15 M&M Exercise 10-10:45 Tai Chi 10:45 M&M Exercise 11:30 Music 12-1 Serve lunch at OSS 5:30 Carillon Choir	13	14
15 Pantry Sunday 9:00 & 11:10 Worship/Communion 10:00 Education 3:00 Vesper Concert 4:45 Youth Fellowship	16 9:15 M&M Exercise 10-10:45 Tai Chi 10:45 M&M Exercise 11:30 Music 7:00 Deacons	17 9:45 Staff 5:30 Finance	18 5:15 PCOC Book Group 7:00 Alleluia Singers	19 9:15 M&M Exercise 10-10:45 Tai Chi 10:45 M&M Exercise 11:30 Music	20 Cross Currents Deadline 6:00 MOPS Family Picnic	21 5-10 Parent Night Out
22 9:00 & 11:10 Worship CE Recognition 10:00 Education 5:00 Jr/Sr High Pot Luck Dinner	23 9:15 M&M Exercise 10-10:45 Tai Chi 10:45 M&M Exercise 11:30 Music 7:00 Session	24 9:45 Staff 6:30 Cross Care	25 6:30 Women's Choir	26 9:15 M&M Exercise 9:30 Ruth Circle 10-10:45 Tai Chi 10:45 M&M Exercise 11:30 Music 7:00 Lydia Circle	27	28
29 10:00 Worship	30 Memorial Day Observance Office Closed	31 9:45 Staff Meeting				

A heartfelt felt heart

On Mother's Day, express your love for your mom or another special woman by giving her this gift from the heart.



What you need:

- Red felt (8" x 11" sheet)
- Dark pen
- Fabric scissors
- Pillow stuffing
- Straight pins
- Embroidery thread (pink, red or black)
- Needle
- An adult to help

What you do:

1. Fold the felt in half and draw a heart on it. Cut out the heart so you have two of the same size.
2. Place the hearts on top of each other, add stuffing and pin the hearts together.
3. Thread the needle with a long piece of thread. Knot the end.
4. Sew the hearts together. Knot the thread and trim the ends. Remove pins.
5. Give the gift – and a hug!

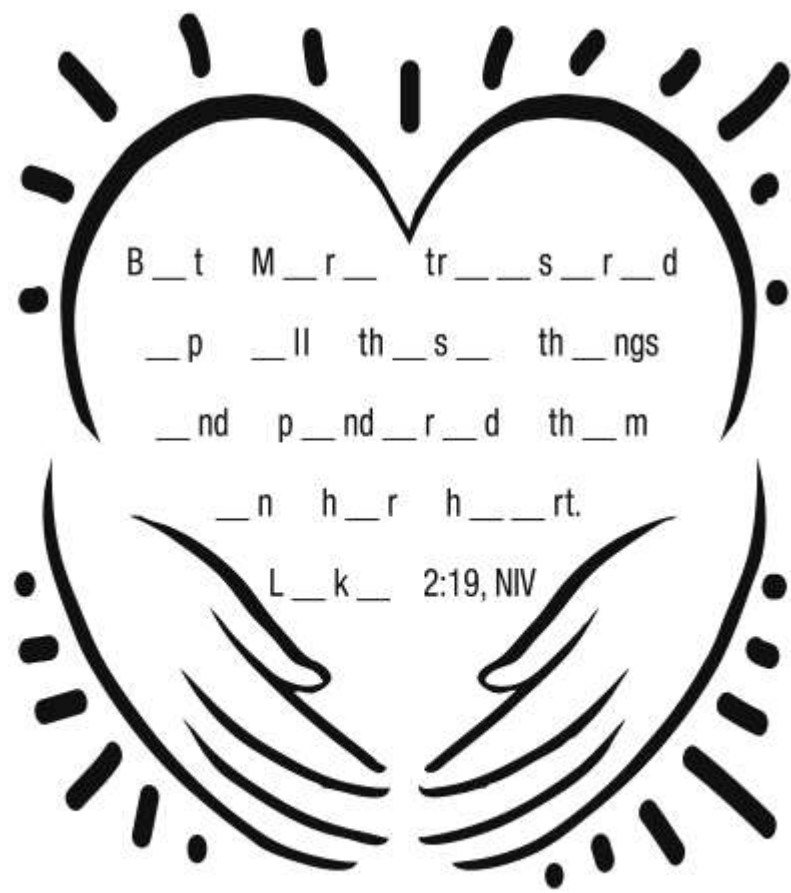


A mother's love

At age 12, Jesus was left behind in Jerusalem. His parents later found him in the temple, discussing Scripture. What did Mary, Jesus' mother, think about this?

Directions: Fill in the blanks with the correct vowels to complete the Bible verse.

A E I O U Y



Answer: But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. Luke 2:19, NIV

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