



Cross Currents

Volume 58 Issue 3

March 2017

**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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Deacon News...

The ministry of deacon as set forth in Scripture is one of compassion, witness, and service, sharing in the redeeming love of Jesus Christ for the poor, the hungry, the sick, the lost, the friendless, the oppressed, those burdened by unjust policies or structures, or anyone in distress. Persons of spiritual character, honest repute, exemplary lives, brotherly and sisterly love and sound judgment should be chosen for this ministry.

Presbyterian Church of the Cross has a board of 24 deacons, usually a class of eight is elected at the annual meeting each year. Each congregation can give special assignments to deacons, such as caring for members in need. We carry out this ministry thru preparing funeral luncheons, meals to those in need, prayer shawls, baby quilts, cards, visitations, health and wellness events, honoring our graduating seniors and keeping in touch with young adults and homebound members. Deacons plan the Advent Dinner and support the PieceMakers and Cross Care ministries and help host coffee fellowship. All these ministries are carried out thru your generous donations. There are special envelopes in the pews. Thank you for your support.

Deacons are called to serve.....

Meet your 2017-2018 Board of Deacons





(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 ssesions@pcoc.us or Amanda Stalnaker 402-214-9663 or astalnaker@mpsomaha.org

Director, Sunbeams
Cassie Moore, Amelia Treu

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

From the Desk of Sheri Sessions CHRISTIAN EDUCATION NEWS

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL is coming this summer!

July 10-14, 9:00 – 12:00 noon

Save the dates!!

Theme: *Maker Fun Factory: Created by God, Built for a Purpose*

Ages: 3-year-old through 4th grade (the grade they have completed)

Watch for more information and registration forms coming in March!

Cost is \$10.00 per child which includes a VBS T-shirt, crafts and snacks.

Are you interested in volunteering to help? Contact Sheri Sessions in the church office.



NEW CHILDREN'S BOOKS IN OUR LIBRARY

Be sure to check out these new books for children that were recently added to our library.

Bedtime Prayers That End with a Hug by Stephen Elkins

Go Ahead and Dream by Karen Kingsbury

A Little Books About Feelings by Samantha Kurtzman-Counter

The American Red Cross Babysitters Training has been cancelled due to lack of participants.

DON & MILLIE'S CARING & SHARING DAY is Sunday, March 12th at the 108th and West Center Road location. 20% of every dollar spent on lunch goes to help support our JHF Mission trip. Grab your family and friends and join us at Don and Millie's every 2nd Sunday of the month. Be sure to mention PCOC when you pay your bill!



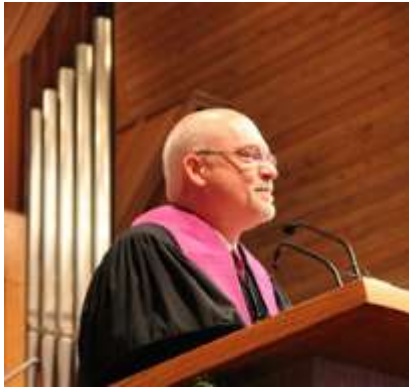
CAMP CALVIN CREST BROCHURES are now available at the Information Desk in the Narthex! Calvin Crest, located in Fremont, NE, has a long tradition of providing great Christian programming that supplements the instruction and experience that children and youth receive in our church. The camp experience has been shown to play significantly into calls to ministry and lifelong spiritual growth. Pick up a brochure and check it out for your children and grandchildren today!

The 4th Annual GARAGE SALE is Saturday, August 19th. Save the date and plan to support our Sr. High Youth. This is their big fundraiser for their mission trip in 2018.

Donations will be accepted beginning Sunday, June 18th.



A letter from your Pastor



“What Is God Like?”

by Marshall Ziemann, Pastor and Head of Staff

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent. This year, Ash Wednesday occurs on March 1. As usual, we will have a service in the sanctuary (at 6:45pm) where we will begin our journey to Easter with the imposition of ashes on our foreheads in the sign of the cross. Forty days later (not counting the six Sundays along the way), Easter will be here.

PCOC’s annual Lenten Study this year has us all reading together Pastor Rob Fuquay’s book, *The God We Can Know*. I hope you have bought your copy and have signed up for a group. Our sermon topics during Lent will also come from this book, which is based around Jesus’ I Am statements from the gospels. The premise of the book is this: God wants to be known. God may, at times, seem mysterious and mystifying, but underneath it all, God does not want to hide from us or have us live in ignorance of God’s will for our lives. God wants to be known.

How well do you feel that you know God? On one hand, it seems preposterous to even think that the Creator of the Universe could be known. How does one intersect with Ultimate Power, Strength, Wisdom, and Love?

One of the shortcomings of human nature is our tendency to make God in our own image. If I wanted to imagine my kind of God, it would be a God who loves baseball, BBQ, cherry pie, and 3-day weekends. And your kind of God could be completely different.

So to reach us, God had to act, to choose to interact with creation. In the Bible, we have the record of God’s interactions, cumulating with a personal visitation in the form of coming to earth in the person of Jesus Christ. “If you have seen me, you have seen the Father,” Jesus told his disciples. If we want to know what God is really like, we study the life and ministry of Jesus. Even as God in the Old Testament told Moses at the burning bush, “I Am,” we hear Jesus echoing this statement again and again in the New Testament with his various “I Am” statements, e.g. “I am the Bread of Life,” “I am the True Vine,” “I am the Light of the World,” etc. If we want to know God, we study the life of Jesus.

This is what we’ll do together for the next seven weeks as we approach the cross and the empty tomb. So, I invite you, in the ancient words,

“to observe a Holy Lent, by self-examination and penitence, by prayer and fasting, by works of love, and by reading and meditating on the Word of God.”

Instead of just waking up tomorrow and realizing that Easter is here again, we first observe a season of Lent, to prepare us anew to fully celebrate together the Greatest Story Ever Told. Let us set out on this great journey together.

Your pastor and friend,
Marshall Ziemann

Pastor
Marshall Ziemann, 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

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

Spirit Speak March 2017

During Lent this year we are exploring the different images of Jesus in the "I AM" sayings from the New Testament. From Bread to Light; to Good Shepherd to Life, all these and more visual images Jesus used to show us who he was in our relationship with him and with other disciples. Together we will read the book by Rob Fuquay in Sunday School classes, and our sermons will take us a little deeper into each of these "I AM" images.



The very first I AM saying is found in the Old Testament Book of Exodus where Moses meets God at the burning bush and asks God for God's name. God's reply is "I AM WHO I AM", which in Hebrew is commonly transliterated into Latin, "YHWH." With vowels, it would be Yahweh. This is one of the names of God in the Bible. As the Bible developed over the centuries, other names and images for God began to emerge.

In my Worship class in seminary, our professor challenged us to expand our vocabulary of words for God by taking our Bible and finding how many different words and images were used for God in the Bible. It was an interesting assignment as we expanded our minds to the unlimited nature of God.

During Lent you might want to give this exercise a try, and see how many words and images you can find to describe God -- words that will enlarge and transform your understanding of our Great God.

-blessings, lkd

Almighty and Loving God, we can never comprehend all there is to know about you. Your power and might which created this world and us. Your love which carries us through tough time and forgives us when we fail you. But these are just a glimpse of who You are, help us during this season of Lent to discover You in the pages of our Bibles and learn evermore about You and the love You gave to us in your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.



The View from My Office – March 2017

February finally fit the timeline and Church of the Cross welcomed Boy Scout Troop 552. They will meet each week on Tuesday evening in our facility with a dozen scout members. Jeremy Gerot will serve as our church's liaison and Dr. Bruce Godfrey will serve as their Scout Master.



Bob Knightly and I attended their first meeting in our facility and enjoyed the evening. I will include a few photos. One will include Bob learning to tie a square knot. We are excited to have a Scout Troop meeting here. There are many Eagle Scout projects in our building and around our grounds.

One point of interest is that on their Eagle Scout historical plaque, our very own John Bennett was a member of Troop 552 and completed his Eagle Scout project. We won't ask how many decades ago that was!



Another point of interest is that our Administrative Assistant, Julie Hansen marked 24 years of employment at Church of the Cross! Julie celebrated by traveling with Pam Otto to San Diego and visiting retired Associate Pastor Nancy Redman. We appreciate all she does to keep our office running efficiently. If you have concerns about Julie, contact Ronnie—he hired her!

I also want to say THANK YOU to members for responding to the Deacon Envelope Fund and the Per Capita requests this year. Your support of our church and its vital ministry both locally and globally is incredible. I recently read in an article "Love thy neighbor is not advice; it's a command." We are a connectional church and therefore need to meet Christ through working with the poor and disadvantaged.

Danny Whitlow and I recently had lunch together at Table Grace Café (16th and Farnam). At Table Grace, there is no cash register, only a donation box where patrons are encouraged to be generous. This café is meant for all people from all walks of life. It is Omaha's premier non-profit restaurant nourishing hungry bodies and souls.

Rock Sumner

HOLY WEEK TIME OF SOLITUDE



During Holy Week, Monday April 10 through Good Friday April 14, PCOC's sanctuary will be open from Noon to 1:00 pm daily for personal meditation and prayer. Candles will be available to light and place in sand containers should that be an aid for your personal meditation. No formal service or prayer guides are being offered. This is simply a time of singular reflection. You may arrive and depart at any time during the time the sanctuary is open. The South Parking doors will be open



for your convenience.

ALL-CHURCH ORCHESTRA NEEDS INSTRUMENTALISTS

Kristi is looking for string, brass, and woodwind players of all ages. The next All-Church Orchestra date is Scheduled for Sunday, April 2 at the 11:10 service. There will be one Thursday evening rehearsal on March 30 at 7:00. Please let Kristi know if you would like to participate.

MARCH EVENSONG SERVICE



Join us on Sunday, March 5, at 5:30 p.m. for the next Evensong Worship Service. This is an intimate evening service of candlelight, prayers, scripture and song. The service provides a quiet, peaceful contrast to our activity-filled lifestyles. Please park and enter the church at the south entrance. Childcare is not available.

VESPER CONCERTS PRESENTS KAREN KUSHNER, piano – MARCH 12, 3:00



Karen is active as a soloist and chamber musician, tours internationally, participates in summer music festivals in the U.S. and abroad, and is on the faculty of University of Missouri-Kansas City. She holds degrees from Juilliard and Northwestern University. Karen will present a program made up entirely of Chopin's later piano compositions. The concert is free.

MARCH MUSIC SCHEDULE

| | | |
|----------|---------------------------------|---|
| March 1 | 6:45 p.m. ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE | Credo Choir & Carillon Choir |
| March 5 | 9:00 Credo Women | 11:10 Alleluia Singers |
| March 12 | 9:00 Alleluia Singers | 11:10 Children's Choirs & Fidelis Bells |
| March 19 | 9:00 Credo Choir | 11:10 Alleluia Singers |
| March 26 | 9:00 & 11:10 Carillon Choir | |

SAVE THE DATE!



The 2nd Annual Youth Choir Festival will take place at PCOC during the week of June 19-25. Rehearsals will be in the evenings during the week, Saturday will be spent doing community outreach, and Sunday will include a worship service led by the festival choir. Look for flyers and registration forms coming soon!



Spirit of Mission

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PCOC Members Provide 350+ Gifts for HHM Annual Celebration and Donations to Key Missions for Christmas

Thanks to your generous support, our congregation provided gifts for 11 – 14 year old boys and girls again this year at Heartland Hope Mission's (HHM) annual Christmas in South Omaha celebration. PCOC also donated almost \$3,000 to three of our church's key missions.

Approximately 150 angel ornaments were picked from the Giving Tree in the narthex with over 350 gifts returned to the church for the annual event on Saturday, December 17th. After being postponed one week due to ice and snow, close to **1,000 children and their parents** attended one of the two 3 hour shifts.

At the beginning of each shift, families were greeted and given treats. Children were then accompanied by volunteers to face-painting, balloon animal-making, games, picture-taking booths and a bounce-house, while their parents "shopped" for gifts in the next room. Tables full of gifts were categorized by sex and age group. Each child received 2 gifts. As the family left the event with their bag of new gifts for their children, they were also given a ham for their Christmas dinner. This event was held in Heartland Hope Mission's new building at 2021 'U' Street in South Omaha (formerly South Omaha YMCA.)

As an alternative to bringing gifts, church members donated to three of our church's key missions at the Alternative Giving Tree. The breakdown of the total giving is as follows:

Omaha Street School - \$1,900
Siena/Francis House - \$555
Russian church partnership - \$325

Thanks go to the Junior High Fellowship youth group for helping create and hang the angel ornaments and setting up the Giving Tree. Also, thank you to the congregation for their generosity in providing the gifts for these local area children in need and the donations to our other important missions.

John Bennett – Mission Committee

(For more information or to get involved, contact John Bennett... ml_jbennett@cox.net)





Spirit of Mission

Update from The Outreach Foundation

On January 29, Marilyn Borst of The Outreach Foundation joined us in worship and also presented a program on the Presbyterian Church in Syria. A week later, Marilyn led a trip to Cuba, which included PCOC's Karen Morey and Marshall Zieman.



The team visited seven Cuban Presbyterian churches across the northern and central part of the country, most of which were founded over 100 years ago. The team visited the Presbyterian Theological Seminary in Matanzas, with a current enrollment of 800 students. The team visited a large Presbyterian camp near Santa Clara which serves children, youth, and adults from all across Cuba.

The last few days were spent in Havana, visiting some historic sites of the Cuban Revolution, the Museum of Fine Arts, as well as seeing many old US cars. A Church of the Cross program to tell you all about it is in the works, so stay tuned...



FOURTH-FIFTH GRADE FELLOWSHIP (FFF) has been meeting now on a monthly basis and they have developed some good friendships through fun, fellowship, and service projects.

Last month, the FFF group filled the Worship Kits that the children use every Sunday morning.

They also made Valentine's Day cards for our homebound members.



Next month our service project will include cleaning and organizing the toys in our child care room! All 4th and 5th grade youth are welcome to join us at our next meeting.



Membership Outreach Create and Celebrate Saturday



Please join the Membership Committee on Saturday, March 25, at 10:00 a.m. for a fun Create and Celebrate opportunity. Whether you are an experienced crafter or novice, we need members of all ages, including our littlest ones, to join us as we CREATE small Easter craft projects to CELEBRATE our members who are unable to join us on a regular basis. Please sign up at the information desk. Contact Staci Voss 402-932-7878 with any questions.

Moderators of Committees

Building and Grounds
Jeremy Gerot

Christian Education
Scott Stalnaker

Congregational Life
Mary Ann Pederson

Finance
Ben Miller

Membership
Sharon Sievers

Mission
Clarence Waters

Worship and Music
Charlene Meyer

Communication Committee
Larry Frederickson

Deacons

Moderator
Sandi Stuckey
Secretary

Treasurer
Belinda Greiner

Home Meals Coordinator
Belinda Greiner

Prayer Shawls Information
Judy Arms

PieceMakers
Karen Morey
Debbie McMullen

Our Church Family

Baptisms



Martin Brody McGuire, son of Marty and Quinn McGuire, born on October 12, 2016 and baptized on February 19, 2017.



Gwen Elsasser, died on February 15, 2017. Services were held on February 20th at Presbyterian Church of the Cross.

Flower Dedications

March 5

Jim and Joan Gayle Chapin in memory of our parents Wilbur and Leatha Chapin and R. Wayne and Jean Wilson.

March 12

Open

March 19

Keith and Carole Engelmann in memory of Darlene Whittlesey, mother.

March 26

Open

49ERS --- TUESDAY, MARCH 7, 2017

Our speaker for our March meeting will be Tom Becka, with perhaps a surprise guest. Tom will be speaking on life beneath the streets of downtown Omaha, i.e., the underground tunnels "vaults" that existed or exist under the sidewalks of downtown Omaha. One of these tunnels were used when I was growing up to go between Brandeis and Woolworths for shopping, usually in inclement weather.

Our lunch location for March is Jerico's, 11732 West Dodge Road, at 11:30am. We are always ready to welcome newcomers to our group with smiles all around. Come and join us. We will order from a special menu just for us.

For reservations or questions, please contact Donna Turner 402 397 3643 or Judy Sundberg 402 333 6981. We also have an additional sign up sheet located at the Information Center.

Gifts Memorials

- Additional handbells with cases @\$2500.00 each
- Cookie Ministry
- 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
- Computers for indoor digital communication \$1113.00

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

Prayer Chain

Contact Judy Arms
402-333-9501 or
Cherryl Summers
402-933-0850
(chsummers92@gmail.com)
or use the Care Card in the pews.

- 3 Mary Cramer, Anna Paul, Ethan Vlcek
- 4 Katherine Braunlich, Adam Goodwin, Drew Ritchie
- 5 Stan Garner, Mike Howland, Ashley Weber
- 6 Austin Curtis, Sandra Johnson
- 7 Michael Juarez
- 8 Robbie Baddley, David Gazzetta, Mary Jo Jeffers,
Marsha Smith, Grant Ticknor, Barb Woods
- 9 Elizabeth Swedlund
- 10 Lloyd Meyer, Kathy Nickel, Anna Sumner
- 11 Euloge Sekle
- 12 John Goodwin, Tanya Lawson-Betum, Doug Patten, Diane Wetuski
- 13 Pam Lindsey, Mitch Pirnie, Anna Whaley
- 14 Bob Dickmeyer, Ryan King, Chuck Krumme, Pam Morrison, Dan Scanlan,
Bob Thomas
- 15 Paul Cornett, Brenda Soukup, Henry Spann
- 17 Mary Kate Broderick, Mary Haddock
- 18 Karin Hjerpstedt, Heather McDaniel, Karter Evelyn Polzin
- 19 Jennifer Bennett, David Bogacz, Peg Conley, Kathryn Harrison, Stan Hille,
Dale Kuster
- 20 Dave Berry, Amen Lawson-Betum
- 21 Jill Bobek, Carol Hale, David Moore, Cody Thorson
- 23 Nancy Long, Jennifer Paul, Parker Spann
- 24 Brock Bougger, Bob Foehlinger, Ed Ticknor
- 25 Shirley Morthole, Gerry Reid
- 26 Darold Bauer
- 27 Karen Butler, John Conley, Paul Kratz, Gladys Kuster, Lissa Treu
- 28 Dave Arnold, Scott Morris, Jill Rath
- 29 Nathan Holdren, Ryan Sherlock, John Swenson
- 31 Elise Arnold, Amelia Treu



Junior High Leaders

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

Senior High Leaders

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

If interested please
contact the church of-
fice for more infor-
mation,
402-333-7466

49ers

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

Friday Night Gour- met

Curt Field and Launie
Lambert
402-333-8287

Presbyterian Women

Diane Kratz
402-334-1604

Presbyterian Men

Jon Boomgaarden
402-334-1946

PCOC Book Group

June Fettig
402-339-2121

Music & Movement

Betty Baddley
402-445-9632

FRIDAY NIGHT GOURMETS

Enjoy an evening of fellowship in the party room at Farmer Browns, 2620 River Road Dr, Waterloo on Friday, March 10, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. The menu includes steaks, chicken, ribs and seafood. See the menu at the information desk when you sign up. The menu prices include the gratuity but not the tax. For more information call hosts, Bob and Gerry Reid, 402-498-0507 or Bruce and Charlotte Lobaugh, 402-573-1707. Bon appétit!





We would like to thank everyone who sent cards, letters and prayers to our mother during her final illness. Thanks to the Cross Care members who kept us in their thoughts and prayers, your cards were such a comfort. To the Deacons, thank you for your notes and visits and the wonderful luncheon. Special thanks to Dana and Kristi for their beautiful music and to the pastors, Lynda and Marshall, for their constant presence and comforting words. We feel so blessed to be part of this loving church family.

The Family of Pat TeKolste

To our Caring Church Family

We are deeply appreciative of the support and expressions of sympathy and concern we experienced from members of the congregation as we endured the loss of Margaret Ann Lobaugh Gallagher in Tulsa (sister of Bruce Lobaugh) on January 8 and that of Robert Branyan in Columbia, Missouri (brother-in-law of Charlotte Lobaugh), on January 22. Our sincere and heart-felt thanks to all.

Bruce and Charlotte Lobaugh

Dear Church Family

Thank you so much for the many cards and visits during our stay at Brookestone Village. We appreciate the care and concern.

Don and Nancy Drews

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- March 1 6:45 Ash Wednesday Service**
- March 15 Last Cornerstone**
- April 2 5:30 Evensong**
- April 9 9:00 & 11:10 Palm Sunday Music**
- April 13 7:30 Maundy Thursday Service**
- April 15 9-12 Easter Egg Hunt**
- April 16 9:00 & 11:10 Easter Sunday Services No Education**
- April 23 9:00 & 11:10 Confirmation**



Presbyterian Women



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN GO CUBA!

Karen Morey will be speaking about the Cuba trip at the Presbyterian Women Gathering Luncheon will be Thursday, March 9 at 11:30 p.m. Please join us for lunch and learn about Cuba and the Christian Community. All women are invited to the Gathering so join us for lunch and if you need to get back to the office, you can always leave when you need to get back to work.

RSVP for lunch, to Diane Kratz dhkratz@hotmail.com or 402-334-1604. We will accept a free will donation to defray the cost of the lunch.



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S MARCH MISSION PROJECT: HYGIENE KITS for PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE

Sponsor a Hygiene Kit or Kits! The kits contain the emergency relief items so critically needed after a disaster such as a hurricane, tsunami, earthquake or fire has occurred. Each kit, **a one-gallon plastic bag**, includes a **hand towel, washcloth, wide-tooth comb, nail clipper, bar of soap, toothbrush** and **bandaids** and is valued at \$15. Because of the need for uniformity there are exact requirements for several of the items. That is why Presbyterian Women are willing to purchase those items in bulk with your donation to meet those requirements and provide more kits.

Your donation of any amount may be in the form of cash or by check made out to Presbyterian Women and marked "**Hygiene Kits**" in the memo. It can be given to Treasurer Ardys Hansum, 906 S. 119th Plz., Omaha NE 68154 or on the Sundays in March placed in the **HYGIENE KIT DONATIONS** envelope at the Information Desk. Thank you for participating in the project.

If you prefer to donate individual items or multiples of certain items they will be welcomed. They may be placed in the bin in the lobby of the Fellowship Hall.

- 1 – Hand Towel (approximately 16" x 28", no fingertip or bath towels)**
- 1 – washcloth**
- 1 – wide-tooth comb (remove from wrapper). No pointy handles.**
- 1- nail clipper (nail clippers with metal files or emery boards attached are accepted; remove from wrapper)**
- 1- bar of soap (bath size in wrapper)**
- 1- toothbrush (in original packaging)**
- 10 – Band-Aids or other adhesive bandage strips (standard size (~3/4" x 3")); please avoid the antibiotic bandage strips)**
- 1 - One-gallon plastic bag with a slider closure to contain the items**



Getting to know you!Ron Mau, age 79**Place of birth:** Storm Lake, Iowa**Immediate family member's names and what they do:**

Donna, a former teacher, and I have been married 58 years. Jeff Mau lives in Des Moines and is a Business Development Consultant for Therap Services. Paula Mau lives here in Omaha. She is an owner/partner of Luma Services. Ron Mau lives in Cullowhee, NC and is an associate professor and department chair for Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University's Worldwide Campus. In addition, he is currently serving as a Jackson County Commissioner for District 3. Sara Mau Fagan is a third-grade teacher at Upchurch Elementary School which is part of the Millard District.

**Education:** I earned a BA from Buena Vista University (a Presbyterian School) located in Storm Lake, Iowa in 1959. Yes, I attended Bible classes and weekly chapel services.**Occupation:** I enjoyed my 6 years of teaching and coaching in Jefferson, Iowa. However, I decided I could make more money working for Allied Chemical as an Ag Salesman. Promotions led to the position of Director of Advertising and Promotion for the Ag Division in Houston, TX. Because of business mergers and buy outs later I was employed by several Ag related companies dealing with fertilizers and pesticides. At age 63 I retired. The best part of retiring was getting rid of my cell phone, my computer and putting away my suitcases.**Civic or other nonprofit:** In the past I enjoyed coaching youth baseball, softball and football.**Which service do you attend?** 11:10**Involvement in PCOC, or other churches:** Jefferson, Iowa church I served as a Deacon. While living in Red Oak, Iowa — Elder, Pastor Nominating Committee, Trustees, and choir. PCOC—Elder and choir.**Hobbies:** Sports of all kinds, taking short trips, reading, and attending the College World Series. At one time, I enjoyed golf and camping.**I have a knack for:** being a grandpa....Just ask me about my 8 grandchildren.**A bad habit I have is:** ? ask my wife!!**My pet peeve is:** people who tail gate.**What person do you feel had the biggest impact on your life and why?** My parents who were poor, hard-working people. My mother wouldn't let me participate in sports unless I sang in the choir.**What is your fondest childhood memory?** Holiday gatherings with extended family.**What would you say is one interesting fact about you that people don't know?** Being a member of Buena Vista's Athletic Hall of Fame. I testified before a U.S. Senate sub-committee.**Most exciting or dangerous thing I've ever done:** Snow skiing in Colorado**Is there anything in your lifetime that you passed up on doing and wish you had not?** I wish I had pursued coaching or being a manager of a professional baseball team.

For the beauty of the earth

For the glory of the skies,
For the love which from our birth
Over and around us lies.

Lord of all, to Thee we raise,
This our hymn of grateful praise.

For the beauty of each hour,
Of the day and of the night,
Hill and vale, and tree and flower,
Sun and moon, and stars of light.

Lord of all, to Thee we raise,
This our hymn of grateful praise.



"For the Beauty of the Earth" will offer ideas we can try in our daily lives to care for our planet.

See if any fit your lifestyle and frame of mind! The 12 topics this year will include:

Reduce; Reuse; **Recycle**; Refuse; Rot; Your Food; Conserve Energy; Conserve Water; Out in Nature; Home and Finances; Garden; and Your Work. These ideas are taken from "Global Stewards" a practical and thought provoking website.

Recycle

Recycle your Plastic Bottle Tops: Plastic bottle recycling is transitioning to [recycling bottle tops](#) (left on the plastic container)! Contact your local recycling center first to confirm they are recycling bottle tops. Better yet, switch to reusable glass or metal drinking bottles and skip the plastic bottles all together.

Recycle Bins: Create designated holding "bins" for each type of recycled product and place in convenient locations in your home/garage

Recycling Fact Sheet: If one isn't available on your local recycling center's website, create a local recycling directory for yourself and interested neighbors.

Recycling Rechargeable Batteries and Cell Phones: It's easy to recycle rechargeable batteries and cell phones in the US and Canada- just go to [call2recycle and find a nearby free drop off center](#).

Recycling CDs and DVDs: Several [CD, DVD \(and Hard Drive\) recycling centers](#) are now available.

Green Paper: In general, try to buy products/containers made from recycled material as often as possible to support the recycled product market. When purchasing paper products (toilet paper, etc.), look for paper that has been recycled using a minimum of 50% post-consumer waste.

Grasscycling: [Leave grass clippings on the lawn](#) as fertilizer and to reduce the amount of yard trimmings disposed in landfills.

Composting: Start a compost pile with yard trimmings and food scraps. Learn more at [HowToCompost.org](#).

Pack-it-Out: If you are traveling and no recycle bins are available, pack your recyclables home with you whenever possible.

Hazardous Waste: The other key aspect of dealing with waste effectively is to dispose of toxic products at a hazardous waste facility. Products requiring special handling include:

Building materials - paint , varnish, paint thinner, solvents, rust remover, wood preservatives and driveway sealer

Automotive products - gasoline, transmission oil, brake fluid, kerosene, charcoal lighter fluid, power steering fluid, used motor oil, used oil filters, used antifreeze

Household cleaners - spot removers, rug cleaners, metal cleaners, bathroom cleaners, oven cleaner, drain cleaner

Pesticides - insect killers, weed killers, flea products, moth crystals, fertilizers with weed killer

Miscellaneous - photographic chemicals, acids and corrosive chemicals, pool chemicals, compact fluorescent light bulbs

MI



MARCH 2017

Sun

Mon


Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

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|---|--|--|---|--|--|--|
| | | | 1 5:00 Fidelis Bells 5:30 PieceMakers 5:30 Chamber Singers 5:30 Cornerstone 6:00 Dinner 6:45 Ash Wednesday Service | 2 9:15 M&M Exercise 10:00 Tai Chi & Music 10:45 M&M Exercise 5:45 Carillon Choir | 3 | 4 |
| 5 9:00 & 11:10 Worship 10:00 Education 8-3 Red Cross Blood Drive 3:45 Credo Choir 4:45 Youth Fellowship 5:30 Evensong | 6 9:15 M&M Exercise 10:00 Tai Chi & Music 10:45 M&M Exercise 5:30 Congregational Life 6:30 Bldg. & Grds. 6:30 CE 7:00 Worship & Music | 7 9:45 Staff 11:30 49ers | 8 5:00 Fidelis Bells 5:30 PieceMakers 5:30 Cornerstone 5:30 Chamber Singers 6:00 Dinner 6:30 Confirmation Class 6:30 PieceMakers 6:50 Alleluia Singers | 9 9:15 M&M Exercise 10:00 Tai Chi & Music 10:45 M&M Exercise 11:30 PW Gathering 12-1 Serve Lunch at OSS 11:30 Educator Meeting | 10 6:30 Friday Night Gourmets | 11 |
| 12 9:00 & 11:10 Worship/Communion 10:00 Education 3:00 Vesper Concert 4:30 Serve Dinner at Siena Francis House 4:45 Youth Fellowship 5-9 OAYA | 13 9:15 M&M Exercise 10:00 Tai Chi & Music 10:45 M&M Exercise 6:00 Communication Committee 7:00 Task Force | 14 9:45 Staff 5:30 MOPS 5:30 Membership 6:30 Mission | 15 5:00 Fidelis Bells 5:15 PCOC Book Group 5:30 PieceMakers 5:30 Cornerstone 5:30 Chamber Singers 6:00 Dinner 6:30 Confirmation Class 6:30 PieceMakers 6:50 Alleluia Singers | 16 9:15 M&M Exercise 10:00 Tai Chi & Music 10:45 M&M Exercise 5:45 Carillon Choir | 17 Cross Currents Deadline  | 18 8-3 Omaha Seminary Foundation 5-9 Parents Night Out |
| 19 9:00 & 11:10 Worship 10:00 Education 3:45 Credo Choir 4:45 Youth Fellowship Pantry Sunday | 20 9:15 M&M Exercise 10:00 Tai Chi & Music 10:45 M&M Exercise 7:00 Deacons | 21 9:45 Staff 5:30 Finance | 22 5:30 Chamber Singers 6:30 Alleluia Singers | 23 9:15 M&M Exercise 9:30 Ruth Circle 10:00 Tai Chi & Music 10:45 M&M Exercise 5:45 Carillon Choir 7:00 Lydia Circle | 24 | 25 8:30-12:30 Anne Nagosky 10:00 Membership Outreach |
| 26 9:00 & 11:10 Worship 10:00 Education 3:45 Credo Choir 4:45 Youth Fellowship | 27 9:15 M&M Exercise 10:00 Tai Chi & Music 10:45 M&M Exercise 5:30 Session meet w/confirmands 7:00 Session | 28 9:45 Staff 5:30 MOPS 6:30 Cross Care | 29 5:30 Chamber Singers 6:30 Alleluia Singers | 30 9:15 M&M Exercise 10:00 Tai Chi & Music 10:45 M&M Exercise 5:45 Carillon Choir | 31 | |

PRAYER HANDS

Make these hands as a helpful prayer guide.



What you need:

- 7 pieces of construction paper (different colors)
- Pencil
- Scissors
- Stapler
- Colored pens
- Stickers

What you do:

1. Trace your hand (the same one) on each piece of paper.
2. Cut out and stack the hands. Staple together atop the pinky.
3. On the top hand (the front cover), write "Prayer Hands." Decorate with stickers.
4. On the second hand, write "Praise God." On the third, write "Ask for forgiveness." On the fourth, write "Thank God." On the fifth, write "Pray for others." On the sixth, write "Pray for me."
5. Use your book to remember what to pray for every day.



The psalmist's prayer

The Psalms are full of wonderful verses about God's care and protection.

Directions: Find each missing letter in the alphabets below.

Use the resulting words to complete Psalm 86:7, NIV.

A B C E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z _____
 A B C D E F G H J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z _____
 A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R T U V W X Y Z _____
 A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S U V W X Y Z _____
 A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q S T U V W X Y Z _____
 A B C D F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z _____
 A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R T U V W X Y Z _____
 A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R T U V W X Y Z _____

A B D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z _____
 B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z _____
 A B C D E F G H I J K M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z _____
 A B C D E F G H I J K M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z _____

B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z _____
 A B C D E F G H I J K L M O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z _____
 A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R T U V W X Y Z _____
 A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V X Y Z _____
 A B C D F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z _____
 A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q S T U V W X Y Z _____

When I am in _____, I _____ to you,
 because you _____ me. Psalm 86:7, NIV

Answer: When I am in distress, I call to you, because you answer me. Psalm 86:7, NIV

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