

## Join Us on Champions Day

Let's celebrate our church family and the success of our capital campaign!

This summer, we've been blessed with the fun and fellowship of church life! We kicked off the summer with a church picnic in June, and our July event with the Pancake Man was a crowd pleaser. In August, we have another fan favorite planned — an old-fashion chicken dinner with all the fixings. Please join us on August 22 for outdoor worship, lunch provided by the Congregational Life Committee, and an afternoon of outdoor fun.

Come worship, laugh, and play in the new space! We'll take an aerial all-church photo on the East Lawn. Omaha Street Percussion will provide lively interactive music for us that day, and the kids can wear themselves out in a bounce house and playing games.



## Capital Campaign Update

Our capital campaign is nearing its final stage, and our success depends on the commitment from members like you. Together, we can make Church of the Cross a better space to joyfully gather and grow in faith, celebrate all God has given us, and provide comfort and care for others.

Remember, we are building not just for us, but for the future of the church. Our expansion plans include:

- A bright and spacious Welcome Center with nearby Hearth Room and Meeting Room for receptions, small group gatherings, and education
- A new front entrance featuring a call to worship tower, covered entrance, and sliding double doors
- An expanded and updated Fellowship Hall
- A connector lane at the east end of our property to unify our parking lots and offer additional parking

Your prayerful consideration and support of the capital campaign will make our plans possible. Our total renovation cost is \$4,105,869. To date, 60% of Church of the Cross households have pledged \$2,553,353. We have \$1,408,839 on deposit at the bank. If you have not yet returned your pledge card, we've made it even easier for you with an online pledge card available on our website. Or, contact Rock in the church office with your printed card.

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## A FUNERAL AND A WEDDING

I was gone for a week in July for an extended family get together which began with a funeral and ended with a wedding. To say it was an emotional week is an understatement.

Becky’s dad, Mel Handkins, passed away at Brighton Gardens at the age of 91 in the early days of COVID. We didn’t realize then that it would be another 15 months until we would gather together to celebrate his life. But celebrate we did, thanks to the hospitality of a local Presbyterian church in Wichita. I helped officiate the service, which included two anthems sung by a dozen of Mel’s grandchildren, and an extended time of sharing by various family members who had gathered from near and far. We continued telling stories over brunch, then drove out to the family cemetery to bury the urns of both Mel and his beloved wife, Delia. It was a closure, but it was a long time in the making.

Our week ended on a joyous occasion, the wedding of Mel and Delia’s youngest granddaughter. Twenty-three of their 27 grandchildren and spouses and great-grandchildren were able to attend. Even an afternoon cloudburst couldn’t dampen our spirits, and I was happy to be in attendance merely as “Uncle Marshall” while the bride’s father officiated the ceremony. The dancing of many cousins occurred late into the night at an outdoor wedding venue in Lincoln.

All during COVID, families have missed each other and longed to gather again. We have missed each other at church and are joyously gathering again. Every Sunday we are graced by someone’s first return to the sanctuary. Not all of us are back yet— young families are still cautious for their young children unable to receive a vaccine.

We are all hoping for a return to normalcy in the fall. Plans are underway for Cornerstone, Sunday School, choir, and youth activities to resume in full after Labor Day.

We are also hoping to soon wrap up our Capital Campaign, “Building God’s House Together.” Now with over 60% of our families contributing, we can see the goal in sight of raising \$4.1M and getting the project underway. On Sunday, August

22, we will worship outdoors once more, with a large celebration planned as we move into the next stage of mapping out the construction timeline. Won’t it be great to see the schedule of what our next 12-18 months will look like?

Part of my family’s short-term plan is to soon welcome a second grandchild into the world. Grandma “ZiZi” is headed to Arizona this week to help our daughter’s family prepare for the blessed event. I hope to follow her out for a shorter visit once he makes his grand entrance into the world.

In life and in death, in joyful times and hard times, even through a pandemic, we belong to God!

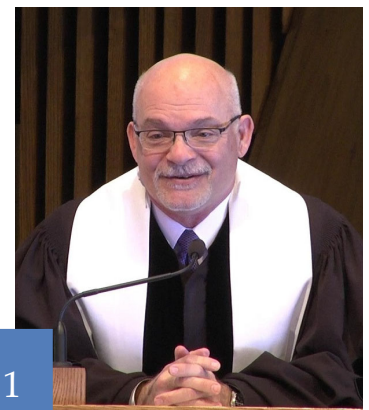
### Session Update

At its June meeting, the Session authorized the Capital Campaign Committee to take the next step of beginning the search for a “Construction Manager At-Risk,” a necessary step in determining the actual building costs of the project. This does not yet lock us into doing anything, but we will need this information to make a final decision in late August-September.

The Building Design Committee is now hard at work publicizing our proposed project with local construction firms. Interviews are set to occur shortly, with the goal of soon selecting the contractor to build our new addition once all the funding is secured.

Your pastor  
and friend,

*Marshall Ziemann*



(402)333-7466 Ext. 1  
marshall@pcoc.us



## FINDING YOUR CHURCH

When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, “What are you looking for?” (John 1:37)

This month marks two years as your Associate Pastor at Presbyterian Church of the Cross. I am so blessed! This congregation truly embodies God’s call to serve and love one another. I truly wish everyone could experience a community like this. It exemplifies that love that Paul writes about in his letter to the Colossians when he says, “clothe yourselves with love.” This, says Paul “binds us together in perfect harmony.” (Colossians 3:14) When I visit with my friends from the seminary, I have to contain myself not to boast too much about you all, and at night, I pray with thanksgiving for this giving community.

Yet, I worry. I worry about all of the people longing for community, hungering for a church family that have yet to find a home. If you have never moved, you may not know how difficult it is to find that church family. Visiting different churches can be very hard emotionally, folks immediately want to find that space of home in the new places that they visit. This church knows that we can be a positive part of this experience once folks enter our sanctuary, but what about those hungering for community that never come to church? Despite our informative website, and our active mission, we still largely depend on people coming to worship as the means to grow our family. If they do not come, they may never find what they are looking for. But, think about how this church could impact their lives if they do come. And, if they

are seeking the Body of Christ, they will find it here.

So, what can we do? How can we make coming to worship here part of our mission? Ask! We know that the main reason that folks come to any given church is because they are asked by a friend or neighbor. Yet, how many of us have asked someone to come to church? Moreover, how many of us even talk about our faith in casual conversations? Many of us simply aren’t that comfortable sharing our faith outside of circles of like believers. Yet, what happens when we miss that opportunity to reach that person that is seeking God’s call? We miss our chance to be Christ’s disciples. By asking a friend to church, we can help people find what they are looking for! So, friends, I encourage you to talk about your faith, share your excitement about your church and ask someone in your life to come to church.



Invite a Neighbor to Church



If you or a loved one are facing a situation where you need spiritual or emotional support, contact Pastor Christine for more information about our Cross Care Connections program. You may also complete the online form on our website to request a Cross Care Connections provider.



Grace and peace,

**Christine**

(402)333-7466 Ext. 4  
christine@pcoc.us



# FIND YOUR PLACE IN THE MUSIC MINISTRY



Have you always wanted to be involved in the music ministry but never thought it was a good time to do so? With the global pandemic and our months-long unplanned hiatus, we have essentially

been given the opportunity to hit the “Reset” button on the entire music program.

Beginning in late August and early September, we will joyfully reconvene the Alleluia & Chamber Singers, Carillon Bells, Sunbeam and Carol Choirs, the Trinity Brass, and the All-Church Orchestra.

“But I’m out of practice and my voice/chops/wrists are rusty!” That is correct. Every singer and instrumentalist is in the same situation! All of us will be starting from scratch...together. Our team of experienced volunteer directors and I will be here to guide you as we begin anew our endeavor to provide meaningful and worshipful music for our weekly services.

- |                            |                     |
|----------------------------|---------------------|
| Alleluia & Chamber Singers | Kristi Treu         |
| Trinity Brass              | Kristi Treu         |
| Carillon Choir             | Larry Frederickson  |
| Carol Choir                | Taylor Arvie-Morris |
| Sunbeam Choir              | Haley Allen-Mendick |
| All-Church Orchestra       | Patty Ritchie       |

Visit <https://churchofthecrossomaha.org/music/> to find more details about each ensemble and rehearsal times. Feel free to email me with questions at [kristi@pcoc.us](mailto:kristi@pcoc.us).



## Sing in the Summer Choir!

Everyone is invited to be part of the Summer

Choir on Sunday, August 15. We’ll meet on the chancel in the sanctuary at 9:15 to rehearse a simple anthem for the 10:00 service. Send Kristi a quick RSVP at [kristi@pcoc.us](mailto:kristi@pcoc.us) so we have the right amount of music and folders. See you then!

## Mark Your Calendar for Vesper Concerts

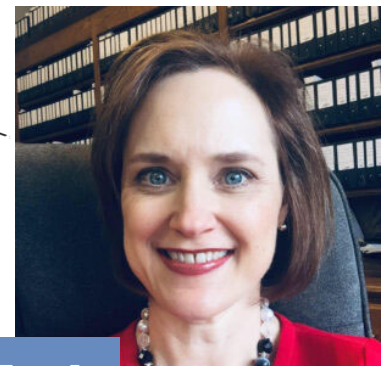
We’ll kick off our 33<sup>rd</sup> season on Sunday, September 12 at 5:30 p.m. with our annual OUTDOOR CONCERT. The Mid-West Guitar Duo has something for everyone—from classical to jazz to pop—and we know you will appreciate their fresh, original attitude towards their music. Bring your lawn chairs and a picnic and kick off our new season with this fun and talented duo.



Then, you will experience *liturgical jazz* during Theodicy Jazz Collective’s residency the weekend of Saturday and Sunday, October 9 and 10. This collaboration between Theodicy and the Hastings College Choir is two-fold: a concert on Saturday evening at 7:00 p.m. and then as special guests at both of our worship services on Sunday morning at 9:00 and 11:10 a.m.

You can find more details about both concerts and listen to some of their music on a Spotify playlist at [www.vesperconcerts.org](http://www.vesperconcerts.org). Be sure to sign up for our email newsletter so you receive important updates and announcements.

Kristi Treu, Director of Music  
Executive Director of Vesper Concerts



(402)333-7466 Ext. 5  
[kristi@pcoc.us](mailto:kristi@pcoc.us)

**Organist:** Dana Sloan, M.M.

**Worship & Music Committee Moderator:**  
Mike Shannon



**August 8**

**Blessing of the Backpacks**

**August 25  
Confirmation Mentor Meeting**

**September 1  
Confirmand and Parent Meeting**

**September 12  
Sunday Education for all ages begins**

**September 15  
Cornerstone begins**

**A Note from Heather Berry**

**Vacation Bible School**



Treasured, Discovering you're priceless to God! That was the theme for VBS this year, and once again our volunteers proved that they are priceless to PCOC! Our

fun lasted for 3 days, with 31 children, 16 adults crew leaders, 10 youth helpers, and 10 additional adult volunteers. We had a blast learning that God knows us, God hears us, God comforts us, God forgives us, and God chooses us. Our mission project, raising money to buy mosquito nets for people who live in areas plagued by Malaria, raised \$179.36 which is enough money to purchase 17 mosquito nets! Thank you to everyone that helped with VBS in some way. See you next year!



**Cornerstone is back!**

We are planning on enjoying dinner, choir, confirmation and adult and children's education classes like "normal". The fall semester begins on September 15. Online registration begins in August. Look for announcements regarding registration soon!



**Junior High Mission Trip**

Eight Junior high youth, three adult leaders and I attended the JHF Mission Trip on July 23-25. We arrived at Calvin Crest on Friday and served at Heartland Hope Mission and The Big Garden in Omaha on Saturday. We had fun cooling off in the pool at Calvin Crest after a long and HOT workday. On Sunday we were able to make it back to PCOC in time for worship. Thank you to Jon and Carla Fritz and Julie Evers for loving our youth and devoting their time and energy to this group! Thank you to the Mission Committee and the Congregation for your continued support of our youth. Memorable trips like this wouldn't be possible without you!



Heather Berry  
Director of  
Christian Education



(402)333-7466 Ext. 2  
heather@pcoc.us

**CE Committee Moderator:** Josh Versaw

**JHF Leaders:** Carla & Jon Fritz, Julie Evers, & Nickie Johnson

**SHF Leaders:** Dawn & Brad Gibson, Holly Baddley, & Ethan Bennett



## A VIEW FROM MY OFFICE

Recently, I read an article by Ben Stroup, *Five Ways to Survive Summer with a Balanced Church Budget*. Most churches have historically dreaded the summer due to one thing: GIVING. That is because activities and costs often times peak with summer mission trips, camps, and VBS just as regular weekly giving wanes. The challenge for every church leader is to survive slow summer giving with a balanced budget.

The good news was that it is possible. The moral of the article was: you must be willing to shift your thinking, planning, and strategy if you are hoping for improved results.

Obviously, Stroup noted a few tactics to help overcome the summer slump in giving. As I read them, I noticed how many Church of the Cross is already using effectively.

### **Update your church database with accurate data.**

This may seem like an odd suggestion to address summer giving, but incorrect data will negatively affect giving. Fortunately, in the office our staff is constantly updating member and guest information.

In addition, the use of the Shelby Directory which many members now use, the office is notified by members of updates needed. THANK YOU for helping keep us current.

### **Diversify your communication with video messages.**

Video linked to from an email is a great way to personalize a message from a pastor or ministry leader. Church of the Cross is once again fortunate that Gayle Kerr-McFadden keeps our weekly email communication fresh with video links, photos, and other valuable information to keep us connected.

### **Mail ministry updates to regular givers with postage paid courtesy reply offering envelope.**

Of interest was that many regular givers still prefer printed forms of communication. Givers are more confident in giving – and giving extra – when they see ministry results.

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### **Finance Committee Moderator:**

Ken Kluck

### **Building and Grounds Committee Moderator:**

John Stalnaker

Although Church of the Cross has not tried the postage paid courtesy reply – we do find success when including special giving envelopes.

### **Communicate ministry results through the lens of life change.**

People are less interested in event attendance rates as compared to news about lives transformed. As givers, we want to know we are making a difference.

Hopefully, we have been successful with sharing mission trip experiences, marketing the vision for our proposed building expansion, or VBS fun for our children. All valuable experiences at church generally remain in a person’s memory for life.

### **Construct spending habits to match giving patterns.**

Fortunately, Church of the Cross addressed this spending pattern many years ago and we have been fortunate that our system for large expenses, such as, giving to our mission partners is spread out through the giving year.

**NOTE:** I have noticed that we have nearly 100 giving units who use our monthly EFT program. This giving pattern stabilizes our summer.

Summer does not have to be a financial roller coaster. For us this summer, it is a time to celebrate together on our east lawn, plan for revitalizing our fall ministry season, and build momentum for the coming year and a possible building expansion.

From my point of view, Church of the Cross is prepared to move forward with confidence into what God is calling our church to do next.

Rock Sumner  
Business  
Administrator



(402)333-7466 Ext. 6  
rock@pcoc.us



## Member Life Events



A Loss  
in the  
Church  
Family

Jacqueline “Jackie” McCartney passed away on July 1, 2021.  
Services were held at Church of the Cross on July 24.



- 1 Danny Whitlow, Beth Broderick, Lisa Luke, Sarah Price
- 3 Martha Wallace, Diane Kort
- 4 Judy Arms, George Morgan
- 5 Ethan Bennett, Patty Ritchie, Cam Berry
- 6 Jean Brady, Campbell Windrum, Hudson Windrum
- 7 Carolyn Millar
- 8 Noah Sekle, Lily Fortner, Michael Pflueger, Beau Schiessler
- 9 Ken Lundgren, Cora Conner, Joe Weaver, Kathryn Vint
- 10 Katie Weber, Emma Kalkwarf, Michael Tot
- 11 Jeannette Heese, Cassie Treu, Jovan Lawson-Betum
- 12 Don Metzger, Kristi Treu, Heather Anderson
- 13 Shawn Harrison, Kate Hoybook, Ada Lewis
- 14 Faythe Harrison, Betty Stevens, Janet Clemens
- 15 Pat McNeal
- 16 Sally Bekins, Karen Morey, Carole Engelmann, Matt Ellis
- 17 Wally Stern, Burnice Sladek, Bob Rieke, Kevin Polzin, Mitch Woods
- 19 Bettie Atkinson, Karen Miller, Marilyn Corum, Enyo Ayika, Sharon Walsh
- 20 Reece Conner
- 21 Reva Knightly, Loren Johnson, Donovan Buda
- 22 Kristine Goodman, Joan Mulder, Lowell Wilhite, Gary Marron, Sheri Sessions, John Baddley
- 23 Roy Willis
- 24 Jillian Bunjer, Stephanie Becker, Jennifer Stauss
- 25 Bill Ritchie, Tim Zimmerman, Mary Lynn Bennett, Debbie McMullen
- 26 Brentleigh Bowen, Virginia Wilson, Linda Niles
- 27 Sue Gollehon, Bruce Cramer, Harry Payne, Gage Maxwell, Michele Francis-Stine
- 28 Loren Davelaar, Robert Seiler, Myles Bunjer, Casey Ballou, Joyce Jeffries
- 29 Christy Davey, Greyson Grady
- 31 Curt Field, Meredith Bailey

**Membership Committee Moderator:**  
Nancy Utman

**Congregational Life Committee Moderators:**  
Susan Price/Kristin Jacobi

### Reminder

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

### Prayer Team

Contact Julie Buehler or  
Judy Arms

## FELLOWSHIP GROUPS

### 49ers

Judy Sundberg  
Donna Turner

### Friday Night Gourmet

Curt Field &  
Laurie Lambert

### Presbyterian Women

Diane Kratz

### Presbyterian Men

Jon Boomgaarden

### PCOC Book Group

June Fettig

### Music & Movement

Betty Baddley

### Tai Chi

Paula Allen

### Active Minds

Erlene Uhrig



## PCOC MISSION FUNDS Family Camp in Gnozdovo

One of our great disappointments in the past year has been the forced cancellation of a PCOC team’s planned visit to our partner church in Gnozdovo, which means it has been nearly two years since any of us have seen our Russian friends in person. However, the blessing has been our ability to communicate regularly with several members of the church, checking on the health of the congregation during the pandemic, and celebrating major events with them through Zoom, email, and text.

A few weeks ago, Pastor Leonid wrote that his church had decided to host a family camp this summer, instead of the usual Vacation Bible School, limiting attendance to church families in order to reduce the risk of further COVID infection. The PCOC Mission Committee agreed to send the funds budgeted for Russia projects to support this family camp.



**Mission Committee Moderator:**  
Karen Metzger

You might remember that the building at their summer camp was burned several years ago (suspected arson). The building shown in the photo is the one that was rebuilt in its place. This building is where our mission groups stay when they travel to Russia as well.

Pastor Leonid expressed sincere appreciation and sent to us a series of pictures and a video showing the participation and activities of this family camp. We see many familiar faces in these pictures and it is clear that the church families took great joy in being together and having fun, after the hardships of a very difficult year. We continue to pray for their health as they continue to minister to their community.





**Food Items:**

- Cereal
- Pasta
- Canned Soup
- Canned Vegetables
- Canned Fruit
- Canned Meat
- Mac & Cheese
- Peanut Butter


**Hygiene Items:**

- Baby Diapers
- (most needed size 4-6)
- Baby Wipes
- Full-Size Shampoo
- Full-Size Body Wash
- Toilet Paper
- Toothpaste

**Drop your items off inside Circle Drive doors of the church anytime!**



**Siena Francis House**  
Servers Needed  
**August 8, 2021**  
**4:00 to 6:30 p.m.**  
Contact Keith Allen to sign up.



PCOC helps the Eastern Nebraska Office on Aging (ENOA) with the Meals on Wheels program. Our volunteers deliver daily deliver daily lunches on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. If you are able to deliver meals, please contact Wally Stern.





## School Supply Drive Continues

You still have time to donate school supplies to help children in need at our OPS partner schools: Walnut Hill, Bancroft, Sherman, and King.

We're hoping to collect 100 backpacks in addition to all the traditional school supplies like pencils, Crayons, markers, scissors, folders, spiral notebooks, and glue sticks.. School supplies will be collected through Friday, August 13. The collection boxes can be found in the circle drive lobby and by the Information Center in the Narthex.



## ROC MINISTRIES

On Saturday, July 17, PCOC Mission Committee volunteers came together to support one of our newest missions. ROC Ministries benefits the at-risk youth of Ashland, NE. Their "ROC in the Park" event is held annually at Wiggenhorn Memorial Park. The event allows locals kids a night out of fun to socialize, swim, eat, and listen to music. The event was a huge success with over 135 youth attending. PCOC members distributed wrist bands, chaperoned, and grilled hamburgers and hot dogs for the kids. A Kona Ice Truck was onsite and gave a portion of sales to ROC. Over \$2200 was raised to benefit the mission! We can't wait to do it again next year!



## Friends, Family, Food, Fellowship, Faith, Fun, AND FREE?!

Grab your lawn chairs and a blanket to sprawl out with your family and friends on Saturday, August 21st for the third annual Fun Day at Calvin Crest!

Here are just a FEW things to look forward to...

- Trail run and bike ride
- Amazing crafts (including a few edible creations) for the whole family, materials provided!
- Live music
- Outdoor worship service
- Yard games and group activities
- Swimming
- Hayrack rides
- Silent auction
- Concession-style lunch and treats
- Photo station

The day officially begins at 10 a.m. and lasts until 5 pm. If you're interested in volunteering or making a donation to support this incredible ministry, please email Haley Allen-Mendick.

See you there!



## NEIGHBORHOOD CARE PROGRAM

In 2019 PCOC launched the Neighborhood Care Program. The goals of the program were to:

1. Strengthen social and spiritual bonds among community members;
2. Be responsive to the needs of each community individual and provide needed support; and
3. Ensure members feel safe in their community and strengthen their connection to the church.

The congregation was divided into 23 neighborhoods and a Deacon was assigned to be the convenor for each neighborhood. An introductory meeting was held for each neighborhood and some neighborhoods had a second or third gathering. Most neighborhoods were in the process of scheduling events but COVID happened and those meetings had to be canceled. It has now been over fifteen months since we've been able to meet and interact in person. The Deacon Board is missing its' neighbors! With church activities opening back up the 23 deacons are looking forward to communicating in person rather than by phone, email, cards or Zoom.

You are likely wondering what these interaction opportunities will look like? The answer is "it will depend on what is of interest to your neighborhood". From the initial meetings back at the end of 2019, the goal was to be responsive to the needs of each individual area. We recognize no two groups are best served in the same way. Some may enjoy meals together, while others may be interested in a mission activity such as a neighborhood cleanup that would benefit all their neighbors. We encourage each church member to communicate their areas of interest to the neighborhood deacon,

**Communications:** Gayle Kerr-McFadden  
gayle@pcoc.us or (402)333-7466 ext. 7

If you have a church website update, need a Zoom meeting invite, or have another communications need, please call or email. You can also find Gayle in the church office on Tuesday mornings.

### Neighborhood Ideas:

- Host a meeting table after a church service or event
- Host a dinner at your home or another area member's home
- Invite area members for a dinner at a restaurant
- Hold an event at a park, Top Golf, virtual reality or other fun event
- Hold a mission minded event:
  - Hold a neighborhood clean up
- Hold a neighborhood Zoom Webinar
  - PCOC trivia or other game
- Highlight an area member of the month and send out to area members. Share their story. Post in Cross Currents or on Deacon Bulletin Board.

If you aren't sure who your Deacon Neighborhood Care contact is, you can look at the list and map on the Deacon Bulletin Board at church or call/email to Rob Bailey.



The Deacons will be hosting a fall Blood Drive on Sunday, September 26. The Drive runs from 9:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. in the lower level youth room. Our goal for the drive is 25 units, which we **exceeded** at our last drive (Spring 2020) thanks to you! We are asking as many who

are able to help us reach or exceed our goal. As always and now with the pandemic, there is an extra need for donors. More details will be provided in the bulletin, on the Deacons bulletin board, and during a 'Moment for Mission' during church services the week prior to the Blood Drive.

#### Deacons

**Moderator**  
Anna Sumner

**Vice Moderator**  
Pam Swenson

**Secretary**  
Kim Banat

**Treasurer**  
Tammy Holdren

**Funeral Meals**  
Pam Swenson

**Home Meals Coordinator**  
Kathy Moore

**Prayer Shawls Information**  
Tammie Will

**PieceMakers**  
Karen Morey  
Debbie McMullen



## FALL SCHEDULE FOR MUSIC AND MOVEMENT

Music and Movement exercise classes will resume on Monday, August 16. We should be able to open all classes to full strength, unless there is some variant that changes the rules between now and then. Since everybody has been vaccinated, we should be fine. Please continue to bring your own water and equipment until further notice.

Class schedule will be as always:

Monday and Thursday mornings - 2 exercise classes at 9:00 and 11:00 with Tai Chi in between at 10:00. We will make a decision about the singing group after we reconvene.



I hope you have had a wonderful summer break and will come back with the same energy and enthusiasm that you did after quarantine last spring. We are still taking every precaution to stay safe until we feel that the virus is under control. We've worked hard and together; we've come a long way since March 2020. When we see what still goes on in other countries, we've certainly got much for which to be thankful. I look forward to being with you all again and continuing our pursuit of staying healthy and active. I will never take what we are able to share with each other for granted, and I am always so appreciative of the encouragement and support and energy that each of you brings to the party!

Let the games begin - again! See you soon.  
Betty Baddley

## CHURCH LIFE



### Introducing Jenny Bruce, Inquirer to Professional Ministry under the care of PCOC



It is with great joy that we introduce Jennifer Bruce as an Inquirer in the PCUSA. Jenny is a daughter of Presbyterian Church of the Cross, growing up in this congregation, attending confirmation, and today serving as a deacon. Jenny will pursue her Masters of Divinity degree at the

University of Dubuque Theological Seminary beginning in August. She is one of just a handful of students that has been selected as a Young Adult Ministry Scholar, a role that will give her hands-on ministry experience with undergraduate students, cover her tuition and her housing. As her congregation of care, we are called on to pray for her and support her on this journey.

Congratulations Jenny! We are really honored to be your congregation of care.

### “TABLES FOR EIGHT” FALL SESSION 2021

The Membership Committee invites you to participate in the 2021 Tables for Eight Fall Session (September, October, November, and December). New couples and singles are welcome to join this fellowship opportunity. Registration forms are available at the Information Desk or on the Website [www.churchofthecrossomaha.org](http://www.churchofthecrossomaha.org) and may be returned to the Information Desk. **The registration deadline is August 10.**

Per CDC guidelines **\*\*Fully Vaccinated\*\*** people may meet in small groups, meet indoors, and not wear a mask or social distance. **\*\*Fully Vaccinated\*\*** is 2 weeks after receiving the second dose of Moderna or Pfizer or 2 weeks after receiving the single dose of Johnson and Johnson. The 2021 Fall Session of Tables for Eight will meet in person.

Current participants will not be automatically assigned to the Fall Session, so contact Pam Otto if you want to participate. Note: If you have participated in the past and want to be in the upcoming session, contact Pam.

Presbyterian Church of the Cross  
1517 South 114th Street  
Omaha NE 68144-1799



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Next Cross Currents Deadline is:  
Third Friday of the month  
August 20, 2021



Active Minds will meet each Tuesday in August from 1-3 pm, lower level in the Gathering Space. You can join us when your schedule allows. We will be playing Spades and Gin Rummy in August. We have patient teachers who will help anyone wanting to learn each week.

Attention Mahjongg players: be ready to join us in September and October. Newbies are welcome!

#### Cross Currents

The *Cross Currents* is published monthly by the Presbyterian Church of the Cross, 1517 South 114th Street, Omaha NE 68144-1799

#### **PCOC Book Group Wednesday, August 18 5:15 – 6:30 p.m.**

Join us on Zoom or in the lower level Gathering Space (for folks who have been vaccinated and are ready to meet in person).. Park in the north lot and enter thru the doors under the canopy. We will be discussing Afterlife by Julia Alvarez



#### **ATTN: FRIDAY NITE GOURMET FANS**

Due to a conflict with Farmer Brown's party room schedule, we will be meeting on the **THIRD FRIDAY IN SEPTEMBER**, rather than our usual week. Save the September 17 date, more info late.

For Cross Currents communication requests/inquiries and general church information: Contact Julie in the church office — Email: [churchofthecross@pcoc.us](mailto:churchofthecross@pcoc.us)