

Truly Experience Lent

For some, Lent is about sacrifice — giving up something you love such as coffee, chocolate, or another earthly delight. For others, Lent is about making room for something more to fully honor and experience the season. In this issue, you will find everything you need to make this Lenten season a time of meaning and growth, a time to focus on Jesus and our Christian discipleship. Join us for these Lenten activities and services at Church of the Cross.

Ash Wednesday — March 2 at 6:45 p.m.

You're invited to a meaningful service with the imposition of ashes. The service will begin in the Sanctuary immediately following Cornerstone dinner. The service will be livestreamed also.

Lenten Study — March 6 to April 10

This year, our small groups will study "Mosaic – When God Uses All The Pieces" by Shane Stanford. You can sign up on the church website home page. Some classes will meet in person, and others will meet on Zoom. Class assignments will be sent by email.



Palm Sunday – April 10 at 9:00 & 11:10 a.m.

On Palm Sunday, join Alleluia and Chamber Singers, guest soloists, and professional instrumentalists at both worship services for the world premiere of "Chorus of Psalms" by Omaha composer (and member of our choir) David Gardner. Early service will be livestreamed.

Maundy Thursday - April 14 at 7:30 p.m.

Join us for our Tenebrae service. We will share communion. This service will be livestreamed also.

Good Friday — April 15 at Noon

New this year! We will hold a short service on Good Friday in the Sanctuary at noon. This service will be livestreamed, too.

Easter Egg Hunt — Saturday, April 16 at 10:00 a.m.

Weather permitting. Find details on page 5.

Easter Sunday — April 17 at 9:00 & 11:10 a.m.

Join in the joyous celebration on Easter morning! Please note: no education or youth activities on Easter.

Order Your Easter Flowers Today! Forms can be found at the Information Desk in the Narthex and online on the church website home page.

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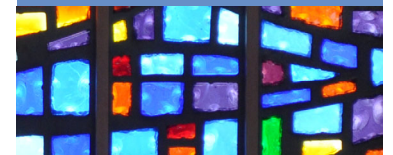
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March-ing into Lent

Lent begins with Ash Wednesday. This year, Ash Wednesday occurs on March 2. As usual, we will have a service in the Sanctuary at 6:45 p.m. to 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.

Lent is one of the oldest observances in the Christian calendar. Like all Christian holy days and holidays, it has changed over the years, but its purpose has always been the same: self-examination and penitence, demonstrated by self-denial, in preparation for Easter. We need the season of Lent to get us fully ready to celebrate on Easter!

Looking back, I see that in the March 2020 Cross Currents I innocently wrote: “Our PCOC Lent will be extra exciting this year.” I was thinking about the progress we were making in our 2017 five-year plan – to increase our mission outreach and shepherding visitation, and to embark on a Capital Campaign to greatly improve our facilities. We called on our Deacons to begin hosting in-home gatherings as our pledge drive began. I see that I also wrote: “This plan continues to chug along, with new annual goals set and met as we get closer to 2022.”

Then we had a pandemic, causing us to close our church doors for 11 months. Then we experienced surges and variants named Delta and Omicron.

Now, two years later, 2022 has arrived, and yes, our plan still continues to chug along. As I’ve said before, I believe we got the plan right; we just had the wrong year!

Our Building Design team continues to meet with the architects and contractor to finalize the details and work out costing (which to no one’s surprise, has changed since our first plans were developed in 2019). We hope to have everything all finalized sometime this Spring.

As our planning continues, Lent 2022 begins. From now through mid-April we will prepare to approach the cross and the empty tomb.

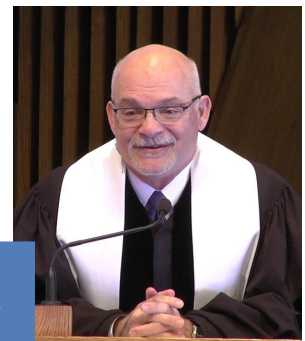
So, I invite you, in the ancient words,

**“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. We are setting out on another great journey together.

Your pastor
and friend,

Marshall Ziemann



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marshall@pcoc.us



A Prayer for the First Sunday in Lent

Gracious God, you are our way in the wilderness. In our own times of testing be our spiritual nourishment, protect us with your angels, and show your authority in our lives, so that we may hunger for righteousness and live in peace and safety, worshipping and serving you alone; through Christ Jesus our Lord.

Prayer based on Luke 4:1-13
Provided by PC(USA)

Different Age Groups in the Church

Welcoming Visitors

Did you know that here at Church of the Cross, we have new people visiting us every Sunday? Have you looked for them? Have you greeted them? Or, have you assumed that they are long-time members that you had just never met? If you have failed to reach out to someone new, you are not alone. It takes a bit of energy and confidence to reach out to someone even if we know we should. And yet, imagine the nervousness of the new person who has never been in our midst and their hunger for someone to see them. Think about the possibility that this person who has found their way to our church might be the friend for whom you are looking. Nonetheless, moving from a position of “I should” reach out to actually greeting someone is hard for many of us to make.

It is no surprise that scripture helps us as we learn about welcoming strangers, for as Paul in his letter to the Ephesians reminds us, “There is one body and one Spirit just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, on God and Father of all.” (Ephesians 4:4-6a) So when new people come into our midst, we have to remember that they came here as children of God, and instead of being strangers, they are part of our family. Our liturgy helps us welcome people as we have prayers that we say together, congregational song, and an open table – where all who trust in Christ are welcome.

Still, you might still be worried about how you can overcome your own timidity to reach out to these new friends. For us, we should be reminded that in welcoming strangers, we are responding to Christ’s work in us. All people hunger to be seen, accepted and loved, so in reaching out to someone new, we are trying our best to follow Christ’s example and feel his strength as we reach out. We also need to remind ourselves that it is OK to make a mistake, introduce ourselves more than once and even ask someone to repeat their name, multiple times if necessary. There is a risk that comes with inviting someone into our spaces and admitting to our-

selves that we have something to offer. We have to hope that the person we just reached out our hand to will accept our offer and return our handshake.

We all know the difficulties with communication caused by COVID-19. In maintaining distance rules over the past two years, we haven’t reached out our hand as often, and we can’t see people smile. Therefore, we have become even more timid in welcoming those whom we don’t know. As restrictions begin to lessen, I am certain that we will have both old friends and new family come into our church seeking connection. It is our opportunity to welcome them into our special fellowship here at Church of the Cross and to reconnect with our many friends who have been staying at home. Be strengthened by God’s presence as you reach out to others, and be encouraged that God is guiding you to be a friend to all.



Grace and peace,

Christine

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



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.



Vesper Concerts Presents Two Final Concerts



Sybarite5

Saturday, March 19 at 7:00 p.m.

Sybarite5 is chamber music’s most dynamic ensemble taking listeners on a musical journey of staggering breadth and depth with new works by living composers, as well as the group’s favorite selections from Radiohead, Coltrane, Komitas, Piazzolla, and Pete Seeger... but as Strings Magazine says, “that doesn’t even begin to describe the range of their eclecticism or the depth of their repertoire.” Join us for an evening of groove and dance-inspired works.

Sybarite5



Groove Machine

The Valencia Baryton Project Monday, April 4 at 7:00 p.m.

The Valencia Baryton Project has dedicated itself to the performance of music of the ancient and little-known instrument, the baryton. Played by only a handful of people worldwide, the instrument is a cross between a viola da gamba and a lirone and was considered the pinnacle of aristocratic instruments of the 18th century. Today, the baryton gives the traditional string trio an entirely new dimension. The ensemble will be playing a program of Haydn works written specifically for the baryton.



NCDA Church Choir Festival: Music with a Mission Concert Sunday, March 13 at 7:00 p.m.



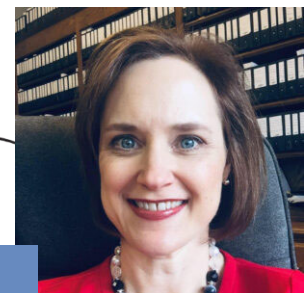
The annual church choir festival sponsored by the Nebraska Choral Directors Association will take place on March 13. Four area church choirs, including PCOC, St. Timothy’s Lutheran, St. Thomas Lutheran, and Covenant Presbyterian, will spend the afternoon rehearsing together and invite the public to attend the public performance that evening. The concert will take place at St. Timothy’s Lutheran Church, 510 N 93rd St. A free-will offering will be taken to benefit Open Door Mission.

Save the Date: 2022 Summer Youth Choir Festival!

Start spreading the news! This year’s festival will take place June 20 – 26 and is open to singers who are finishing grades 8-12. More details will be announced in the coming weeks.



Kristi Treu, Director of Music
Executive Director of Vesper Concerts



(402)333-7466 Ext. 5
kristi@pcoc.us

Organist: Dana Sloan, M.M.

Worship & Music Committee Moderator:
Jayne Frederickson

A Note from Heather Berry

APCE Annual Event



APCE stands for the Association of Presbyterian Church Educators. Well, it used to. The name was changed during the event this year so that it better represents the organizations that make up APCE. APCE is not made up of just Presbyterians, so the need to change the name to be more inclusive is important. The new name is still APCE, but it stands for the Association of Partners in Christian Education. Whatever the name, I was just glad to be able to attend the conference! I spent 4 days and 3 nights in Chicago learning more about Christian education, participating in worship, and enjoying fellowship with other church educators and pastors.

I am so grateful that our church values continuing education and supports our need to be in community with others in our same roles. Thank you for your support!

Easter Egg Hunt

Easter is on its way! Hippity hoppity on over to the east lawn on Saturday, April 16 for our annual Easter Egg Hunt. We'll start our time with crafts in Fellowship Hall at 10:00 a.m., then move on to the east lawn for the hunt at 10:30. Be sure to bring your own basket to collect eggs. And keep an eye out – maybe you'll even spot Peter Cottontail!



We are accepting donations of individually wrapped candy for the egg hunt. If you would like to donate candy, look for the collection box in the Narthex. Thanks!

Introduction to the Protestant Reformation Class led by Pastor Christine Sundays, April 24 - May 19 at 10:00 a.m.

For four weeks we will look at the Protestant Reformation placing it into the historical context of sixteenth century Europe. We will consider not only the theological changes brought forth by the Protestant Reformers, but also think about how the

Reformation impacted social and political change. The Reformation is essential not only for our Presbyterian tradition but also for world we live in today. There's still time to register for this class. Go to our website to sign up!

The Calvin Crest Experience

Most of you are familiar with the little gem we call Calvin Crest in Fremont. Calvin Crest offers opportunity for fun, community, adventure, and growth during the summer through their summer camp experience. Calvin Crest is purposely low-tech, which means that they focus on building relationships without the big toys and high adventure that other camps offer. Campers spend their days in Bible Study, games, activities, and recreation that builds each other up and makes those meaningful connections between campers and staff. Summer camp registration is open, so go online and sign up now: www.calvincrest.org.



If finances are preventing your child from attending, PCOC offers scholarships to Calvin Crest, and Calvin Crest has a fund to offer need-based financial aid as well. Contact Heather for more information.



See back page for important dates related to our education and youth programs!

Heather Berry
Director of
Christian Education



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heather@pcoc.us

CE Committee Moderator: Matt Kahler

JHF Leaders: Carla & Jon Fritz, Julie Evers, & Jeremy Cunningham

SHF Leaders: Dawn & Brad Gibson, Ethan Bennett, Susan Price



The View from My Office

Going Green

From time to time, people ask me if the church does any recycling. And the short and simple answer is YES. We participate in a recycling program with our trash service.

And then I think, what else could be we doing as a church to be better stewards of our care for the earth. The most immediate thought I had was to begin using more sustainable and responsible paper and plastic products in our kitchen.

First and foremost, I encourage using our kitchen dishes and silverware and washing! As well as the linen and washable tablecloths provided by Congregational Life.

This month I have ordered bamboo flatware, plates, bowls, cups, and napkins. They are by no means pretty colors. Yes, they are brown. But again, when used once and tossed they are biodegradable and compostable.

If we all add these words to our vocabulary, Disposable, Recyclable, Biodegradable, Compostable, Renewable, and Sustainable – I think you’ll agree, it makes far more sense.

Building & Grounds

February was an active month for some behind the scenes activities. Renee and Jerry Cornett have also donated a commercial convection stack oven. It is our intention two units will replace the current equipment that is approaching 30 years of use.

In February, B&G had an electrical line run for a new AC unit that will be added to the northside of our facility to help regulate the temperature in Fellowship Hall. We are hopeful to be on the schedule

Finance Committee Moderator:
Sam Rennick

Building and Grounds Committee Moderator:
John Stalnaker

soon for installation of these AC and furnace units.

Eight new wall sconces were replaced. Two in the north stairwell, four in our childcare and preschool entrance, and two more in the corridor restroom alcove. It is so nice to have well lit areas that are more welcoming for guests and members.

Looking Towards the Future

This year, I have been attending and participating in the Building Design Committee meetings with Leo A Daly and MCL. The three groups meet often to discuss the project line by line. Our contractor, MCL has been providing price breakdowns for each entity within the project.

I am pleased that we have members from our church who know what questions to ask, provide alternative opportunities for solutions, and work well with our chosen architect and contractor. Together, these teams are all making a difference.

Yes, realistically, the projected costs from three years ago, materials shortages, inflation, and simply delaying the project since COVID-19 began is a reality. How can we best use the funds that have been pledged towards the expansion and fellowship hall renovation?

Perhaps you have an idea or want to become part of a solution. I look forward to discussing ideas with you. Yes, one solution could be for someone to increase or offer a new pledge. Decisions will need to be made during the next few months as the project is finalize.

Rock Sumner
Business
Administrator



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



Member Life Events



A Loss
in the Church
Family

Dick Jenkins passed away on January 23, 2022. Services were held at Church of the Cross on February 5, 2022. Dr. Marshall Zieman officiating.

Wanda Utecht passed away on January 29, 2022. Services are pending.

Lida Koukol passed away on January 30, 2022. Services were held on February 5 at Church of the Cross. Dr. Marshall Zieman officiating.

Margaret Lim passed away on February 3, 2022.



Josephine Nyachin Tot, born on January 24, 2022. Parents are Bidong and Victoria Tot.



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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Walter Karges 2 Chase Spenser 3 Mary Cramer, Anna Paul 4 Drew Ritchie, Adam Goodwin 5 Stan Garner, Mike Howland, Ashley Weber 6 Sandra Johnson, Austin Curtis, Richard Miller, Chase Jenkins 7 Michael Juarez 8 Marsha Smith, Robbie Baddley, Barb Woods, Grant Ticknor, Charlotte Hubbard 9 Elizabeth Swedlund 10 Kathy Nickel, Anna Sumner, Lloyd Meyer 11 Euloge Sekle 12 Diane Wetuski, Tanya Lawson-Betum, Doug Patten, John Goodwin 13 Mitch Pirnie, Anna Whaley, Pam Lindsey 14 Chuck Krumme, Brad Burch, Bob Thomas, Dan Scanlan | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 15 Brenda Soukup, Henry Spann, Paul Cornett, Melissa Marvin, Mary Ott 17 Mary Haddock, Mary Kate Broderick, 18 Heather McDaniel, Karter Polzin, Karin Hjerpstedt, Betty Goodwin, Valerie Fuller, Bob Swartzbaugh 19 Jennifer Bennett, Kathryn Harrison, Stan Hille, Peg Conley 20 Amen Lawson-Betum, Dave Berry 21 Carol Hale, Cody Thorson, David Moore, Jill Bobek 22 John Dyer, Brooks Luth 23 Nancy Long, Parker Spann, Jessica Downes 24 Bob Foehlinger, Brock Bougger, Judy Book 25 Gerry Reid 26 Darold Bauer, Pam Griswold 27 Paul Kratz, Gladys Kuster, Lissa Treu, Karen Butler, John Conley, Lucas Bumsted, Adeline Lorentzen 28 Dave Arnold, Scott Morris, Jill Rath 29 John Swenson, Nathen Holdren 30 Jeremy Cunningham, Rebecca Weyant 31 Elise Arnold, Dylan Spencer |
|---|---|

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
Mary Ott

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

Earlene Uhrig

Cross Roads (Young Adults)

Pastor Christine Dempsey
402-333-7466

Membership Committee Moderator:

Pam Otto

Congregational Life Committee Moderators:

Kristin Jacobi



Thanks for the Giving Tree Donations

Thank you, PCOC, for your generous donations! Your support of our mission giving tree will make a difference locally and internationally.

- Omaha Street School \$1,120
- Sienna Francis House \$850
- Russia Missionary Support \$150

Let's Play Ball — Player and Volunteer Registration Now Open



Player registration for the AllPlay Miracle Buddy Baseball League is now open for the 2022 season. The 2022 season will include both a spring season (May 7-June 25) and a fall season (August 13-September 24).

Church of the Cross supports the AllPlay organization with mission dollars, and we volunteer on game days to give the players a great experience. AllPlay needs more than 100 volunteers every game day. You can be a player buddy, an umpire, work concessions, be a mascot, and more! Volunteer sign up is now open on the AllPlay website: <http://www.allplay.org/VolunteerMain.html>. Learn more about this outstanding organization anytime at www.allplay.org.



You're Invited to Agape for All Poetry Night Friday, March 18 at 7 p.m.

Hosted by Becky Zieman and Patty Ritchie at Bill and Patty Ritchie's house (13905 Pierce Street). Beverages and treats will be served! Bring poems to share which inspire or challenge you. Our topic is broad: Social Justice. Consider poems which touch on inclusivity, understanding your roots, diversity, standing up for another, respect...you get the idea.

Berets and beatnik clothing are optional. RSVP to [Patty Ritchie](#).



Mission Committee Moderator: Karen Morey

Seven Days, Seven Cities, Changed Lives

Who would like to join me on the Adult Learning Tour with Preston Love, Jr.? The tour is July 10 – 17 with stops in Memphis, Jackson, Birmingham, Selma and Atlanta.



During our Courageous Conversations Class last winter, Preston Love spoke about the annual Black Votes Matter Tour where he takes 40 young people to fill the knowledge void about black history and the civil rights movement. PCOC is sponsoring four youth on that tour this year. We have offered the opportunity to two of our youth and two from the Omaha Street School.

Preston is also planning an Adult Learning Tour parallel to the youth tour. I've decided to go and am wondering if others in our church would like to join me? I am talking to members of other West Omaha congregations as well and hope to recruit several who want to increase our knowledge and enlightenment.

I've attached a flyer which includes the cost and a few more details. A deposit of \$600 needs to be made by April 4th, and final payment will be due on June 6th.

If you are interested or want more information, contact [Kathy Moore](#).



Be sure to stop by the church library to check out the new books to explore the topic of social justice.



An Update from Our Mission Partner



Legislative Update

The 2022 state legislative session is underway, and Voices for Children is hard at work advocating for kids at the Nebraska Legislature. One of the big topics this year is how to spend \$1 billion from the federal government intended to help Nebraska recover from the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. Voices for Children is supporting several bills that would invest in kids, families, and marginalized communities:

- LB 865, introduced by Senator DeBoer, would temporarily increase payments to child care providers caring for children from families with lower incomes.
- LB 1024, introduced by Senator Wayne, would target federal COVID relief dollars to North Omaha.
- LB 1113, introduced by Senator McKinney, would create a universal basic income pilot project for kids aging out of foster care.
- LB 1203, introduced by Senator Briese, would invest \$100 million of federal relief dollars in our child care systems and programs.
- LB 1238, introduced by Senator Vargas, would target COVID relief dollars to South Omaha.

In addition, there are a couple of other bills we're following that would improve state programs for kids and families:

- LB 121, introduced by Senator Hunt, would eliminate the ban on receiving food assistance for individuals with certain convictions, which creates barriers for families impacted by parental incarceration.
- LB 929, introduced by Senator Wishart, would expand postpartum coverage for new mothers under the Medicaid program.

And finally, Voices for Children is opposing bills that would create additional challenges for vulnerable children:

- LB 1010, introduced by Senator Geist, would allow law enforcement direct access to GPS data without cause for kids on probation who are monitored by the court. This would be a violation of due process rights for children in our juvenile justice system.

- LB 1179, introduced by Senator Groene, would encourage regressive school discipline policies in schools including increased use of excluding kids from the classroom and exempting teachers from liability for physical interventions with kids.

Follow Voices for Children on Facebook, Twitter, and via email (sign up at voicesforchildren.com) for opportunities to speak out on behalf of kids!

Voices Is Turning 35!

2022 is celebrating their 35th Anniversary! To celebrate, they are bringing back their annual event which has been on pause for the past 2 years. Save the date for Friday, September 30, 2022 to come together in community with other supporters of children!

Is \$9/hour Enough?

Efforts are underway in Nebraska to allow voters to consider whether the minimum wage should be gradually increased to \$15/hour. If you are interested in being involved, contact Community Engagement Coordinator, Samantha Chavez.




Pantry Sunday is March 20

Heartland Hope

MISSION

<p>Food Items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cereal Pasta Canned Soup Canned Vegetables Canned Fruit Canned Meat Mac & Cheese Peanut Butter 	<p>Hygiene Items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Baby Diapers (most needed size 4-6) Baby Wipes Full-Size Shampoo Full-Size Body Wash Toilet Paper Toothpaste
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Siena Francis House
Servers Needed
Sunday, March 13
4:00 to 6:30 p.m.

Sign up online from the church website home page
Contact Sandi Stuckey or Keith Allen with questions.



Remember to Wish Julie Well!

After 29 years of faithful service, our office administrator, Julie Hansen, has decided to retire. A reception to honor Julie was held during the Fellowship Hour on February 27. Julie departs with our gratitude and sincerest thanks for how she has devoted herself to serve Presbyterian Church of the Cross across the decades!



There is simply no replacing Julie. But we are searching for our next office admin. All interested persons should contact Rock Sumner for more details or check out the information and application form on the church's website.

New Member Class on March 27

If you know of someone who is interested in joining the church, please pass along the date of our next new member class. Anyone interested can sign up online from the church website home page. Or, they can call the church office at 402-333-7466 for more information or to sign up.

One Great Hour of Sharing

One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) – the single largest way that Presbyterians come together every year to work for a better world. This special offering enables us to share God's love with our neighbors in need around the world by providing

relief from natural disasters, food for the hungry, and support for the poor and oppressed.

Our Sunday School children received their Gracie fish banks a few weeks ago. During Lent, children are encouraged to fill up their banks, and bring them back to church on Easter Sunday, April 17.



Ushers Needed in March

- Two ushers are needed for Sunday, March 20 to usher with David Hopp.
- One usher is need for Sunday, March 27 to usher with Dennis and Amy Boesen.

Junior High Fellowship Thank You

The Bake Sale on February 13 was a *sweet* success! Once again, we were reminded of how generous and supportive our church family is. We were amazed that the bake sale raised \$700! 100% of the donations will go towards the JHF Mission Trip to Des Moines in June. THANK YOU to all who baked the treats and to all who donated!



Deacons Red Cross Blood Drive March 6



The Red Cross is issuing a plea for all eligible donors to give now. If you are 17 or older and have not given blood in 56 days....you can be a HERO!

Sign up TODAY in the Narthex before or after both services. The drive will be Sunday, March 6 from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm. Walk in donations are welcome that day as well. Masks are required for all donors and workers. Help us meet or exceed our drive goal of 25 pints. Your donation can help up to three people!

Deacons

Moderator
Pam Swenson

Secretary
Kim Banat

Treasurer Danny Whitlow

Funeral Meals
Pam Swenson

Home Meals Coordinator
Kathy Moore

Prayer Shawls Information
Pam Swenson

PieceMakers
Karen Morey
Linda Miller



49ers Is Back on March 1

We're ready to bring our attendees information along with camaraderie! Our speaker for Tuesday, is Charlotte Hubbard, a member of Presbyterian Church of the Cross. In 1983, when she was a school librarian, Charlotte Hubbard sold her first story to *True Story* magazine. She wrote around 70 of those confession stories and sold her first historical romance in 1991. Since then she's sold nearly 60 books and novellas to traditional or online publishers in various genres. A longtime resident of Missouri, she's recently been writing Amish romances set in imaginary Missouri towns for Kensington Publishing, and has written 4 Amish romances for New American Library under the name of Naomi King. Charlotte says that she owes a lot of her success as a novelist to her husband Neal, who—bless him—has never once suggested she get a real job.

Charlotte would enjoy doing a book signing and will have a book display. She will also bring with her printed lists of her books for those who are interested.

As a different type of format, Charlotte will not do a speech but prefers to answer questions from the audience. If individuals are interested in publishing, or in the Amish, or whatever, she can speak to their interests.

The lunch location is Gorat's, 4917 Center Street, at 11:30 a.m. Everyone is welcome, whether or not you are 49, younger or older, come join us! We will order from a special menu. For reservations or questions, please contact Mary Ott or Judy Sundberg. We will have a sign-up sheet at the Information Center.

Presbyterian Women Morning Circle



**Thursday, March 3
9:00 a.m. in Room 15**

The morning circle group is using the book "What My Grandmothers Taught Me" for lessons this year. They will meet in person in March. If you would like to join by Zoom, please let us know. Questions? Contact Jacquie Kluck.

Active Minds Resumes on March 1

Join us on Tuesdays from 2-4 p.m. in the lower level Great Room. March will be Canasta. We have patient teachers to help you learn this card game. Drop in when your schedule allows!



ACTIVE MINDS

Masks are your choice. Please, bring a mask and if someone at your table choses to wear a mask—discuss comfort levels if you will all wear masks or not. Questions? Contact Earlene Uhrig.

Book Group Meets on March 16



Join us in Room 13 from 5:15 to 6:30 p.m. We will be discussing "Blood, Water, Paint" by Joy McCullough. All readers are welcome! Questions? Contact June Fettig

Fellowship for Young Adults

Cross Roads After Late Service on Sunday, March 6



This is a monthly lunch gathering of young adults (ages 20-40) on the first Sunday of the month after late worship. Meet at the circle drive doors. We will get pizza, have a sermon talk-back, and enjoy fellowship. Led by Pastor Christine



**Every Sunday
8:00 p.m. on Zoom
Meeting ID: 861 0569 0844
Passcode: 045719 :**



Young Adult Mission Retreat

Back by popular demand, we will have a young adult mission trip June 23-26. Our homebase will be at Camp Calvin Crest, and we will do mission projects in Fremont and Omaha. Plan on joining us for this wonderful extended weekend. Contact

Presbyterian Church of the Cross
1517 South 114th Street
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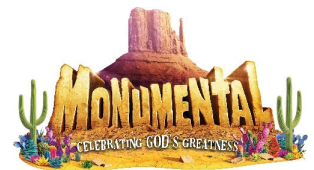
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Next Cross Currents Deadline is:
Third Friday of the month
March 18, 2022



Important Dates in the Coming Months for Education & Youth Programs

- **March 6** — Lenten Study Begins
- **March 28** — Confirmation Exam/Dinner
- **April 10** — Easter Egg Hunt
- **April 17** — No Sunday school or youth groups on Easter. Kids, bring your Gracie banks to worship service.
- **April 24** — Confirmation Sunday
- **May 1** — Youth Sunday/Senior Brunch
- **June 3-5** — Junior High Mission Trip
- **June 12-17** — Senior High Mission Trip
- **June 20-26** — Summer Youth Choir Festival
- **Week of June 20** — Vacation Bible School



Vacation Bible School Needs YOU! Our goal is to share God's monumental greatness with 75 kids the week of June 20. Come on adults – we need **YOU** to make this happen! We simply cannot provide this outreach program without lots of adult volunteers. We are assembling our leadership team **NOW**. Contact Heather to serve!

Cross Currents

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