

Groundbreaking!

Pentecost Sunday, June 5, was a day for wearing red and celebrating as we broke ground for our building expansion and facilities upgrade. Hard hats and shovels were in great supply as we happily honored some special church members – old and young alike!



The summer months are a time of getting all the necessary city permits approved as we anticipate dirt being turned later in August.

Wishing you a great month ahead as we celebrate our nation's birth, remembering the words of the late Presbyterian pastor, Dr. Peter Marshall:

“May we think of freedom, not as the right to do as we please, but as the opportunity to do what is right.”



Your pastor and friend,
Marshall Zieman
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marshall@pcoc.us

Big Events Are Happening in July at PCOC!

- Church Garage Sale on July 23 — details on page 5
- All-Church Potluck on July 24 — details on page 11
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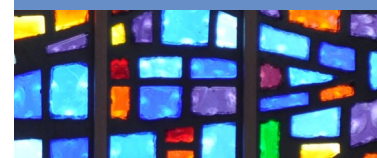
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Why We Need Communion

Just last month, we at PCOC started serving communion again from the communion trays. This is where we sit together in the sanctuary having elders serve us. It is a supper designed for all who are hungry and all who thirst. I have been feeling so blessed in this space where we again can come, shoulder-to-shoulder as the Body of Christ and feel the strength of presence together in our sanctuary. Likewise, since the lessening of the COVID-19 threat, one or two elders or deacons and I have been able to serve communion to our shut-ins, allowing them to join in the feast. It is reminder that God has not forgotten them and neither have we. Sometimes that communion meal to shut-ins is one of the last experiences they have before they leave this world. I am always humbled by the way the Holy Spirit acts to bring comfort and the strength to these dear friends as they prepare to return home.

These experiences of communion are breathtaking, and this last couple of years has given me time to process the fullness of the sacrament. What does it mean to break bread together? What does it mean to be invited to dine? What does it mean to feel fed?

As a Presbyterian, I have always loved the experience of receiving the bread and eating the bread together as the church. It is joyful to look around a congregation and feel the bond of friendship created in this family experience. It reminds me of family dinners at my grandparents' house, where grandma made sure that each person was given enough food, and where we looked to one another before we started to eat. We made sure that we were sharing the meal. This seems a natural part of the family dining experience, but my father grew up during the depression when there was not always enough to eat. Making sure that everyone shared in the meal meant that family was more important than the individual. It meant that caring for one another's needs superseded personal wants. This is why, when we head out into the community, we have at least two people bring communion, so that we can share in the meal together.

I have also been thinking how significant it is to ask someone to dine. One of the greatest challenges during the COVID-19 shutdown was the inability to share our meals with someone else. So many of us tried to create family time by social distanc-

ing on a covered porch, but we did this with the fear of disease floating around and an awkwardness of fumbling with masks. We just yearned for normalcy. Yet, as we come back into the sanctuary and start serving communion at our seats, I wonder how many are still lonely. The pandemic heightened our needs for community, for being included. We are beginning to heal from that experience, but others are feeling left out. This experience of communion has reminded me how many are craving community? We have newcomers every week at Church of the Cross. They are seeking our friendship and a place to belong. Like the communion table where Jesus invites us to come from North, South, East and West, let's invites those who have come to dine with us.

Finally, I have been thinking about what it means to be fed. I think we all know that a dinner prepared carefully and shared with friends is more satisfying than a frozen dinner eaten alone on the couch. When this metaphor is applied to our sacrament, I think it gives us insight into the experience of communion. This is not a trivial, mundane act, but a sacred ritual that feeds us and sustains us. When I was growing up, my mother always made a special point to remind me of when it was communion Sunday. This was an extra special day; it was the day of the big remembrance of Christ's sacrifice. Sharing our communion meal together once again reminds me that it is a big deal – that God loves us this much.

Assisting with this sacrament is one of the most sacred duties of my role as Associate Pastor, and this past two years has reminded just how central this ritual is in the life of our church – in the living and breathing and growing Body of Christ. So, I encourage you to reengage with the sacrament. First, if you have not yet returned to in person worship, try to return this month (if you are able) to participate in this important ritual. Second, if you are homebound, let me know if you would like to receive communion at home and we can bring the church to you. Third, look for those people desiring community and invite to join us, as our table is open to all.



Grace and peace,

Christine Dempsey
(402)333-7466 Ext. 4
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The View from My Office

ENVISIONING OUR FUTURE TOGETHER

I hope you joyously attended worship on June 5, feasted on pancakes, and witnessed first-hand the groundbreaking ceremony for our new addition.

In the office, I have had the opportunity to watch the photos that Gayle has made available on the TV screens. What I remember most are the SMILES! Our church family gathered, enjoyed the day, and celebrated our building expansion and renovation moving towards construction.

The best part is that we are doing this TOGETHER! 88.25% of giving units or families in our congregation have made a financial commitment to help see this project to completion.

This is just a reminder that we are making this change for future generations of Christians, like the wonderful children pictured on the front page, to gather, worship, and raise their families.

Thanks to everyone who helped make this day possible. I hope each one of you have a happy memory from this day as we look forward to a bright future as a church.

“No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back . . .” (Luke 9:62). One who guides a plow does not look back — or into the immense distance — but to the next step that must be taken. Backward glances are not a Christian thing to do. Leave fear, anxiety, and guilt behind. And look to the one who gives you a new beginning.

BUILDING & GROUNDS

Newly installed handrails have been added to the balcony stairwells. Handrails are now available on each side of the stairwells to aid in safely walking up and down the stairs even with crowded.

Work continues on the sound deadening between the Choir Rehearsal Room and Classroom 15. We have added insulation, additional caulk, and continue to look for new opportunities to alleviate this issue. The drywaller will add some sound-deafening board around some duct work and then it will be evaluated again.

Our custodial staff has asked for a new scrubber and buffing machine since our models that may be from the 60's seem to have outlived their usefulness. We are tying out new units and hope to make a purchase this summer.



We have also had maintenance work done on two other units. Our older carpet cleaner and another unit that is used to remove water quickly from carpet that has been soaked unexpectedly.

VOLUNTEER NEEDED

Our landscaped areas and lawn are looking amazing this summer with the recent rains. However, the moisture and sunshine are also prime growing opportunities for weeds. Peg Conley has been working with volunteers to keep the weed crop under control. We have an area that could use some TLC, give me a call in the office if you are available for a couple hours to care for a garden area.



Rock Sumner
Business Administrator
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Finance Committee Moderator:
Sam Rennick

Building and Grounds Committee Moderator:
John Stalnaker



JHF Mission Trip

Our Junior High Youth Group had a productive and meaningful mission trip to Des Moines, Iowa. Our group consisted of 9 youth and 5 adults, which we fit into one, 15 passenger van, and 1 cargo van. No youth rode in the cargo van, I promise! Des Moines Central Presbyterian Church was kind enough to host us and let us sleep in their building. We departed Omaha on Friday, June 3 at 9 a.m. and arrived in Des Moines at 11:00 a.m. We unloaded the vans, got settled into our home for the weekend, and then had lunch. After lunch, we served at Bidwell Riverside Center for 4 hours. Some of our jobs included planting peppers in their community garden, restocking shelves at their food pantry (we got through a whole pallet), assisting clients who were shopping for food, and cleaning and organizing a shed that housed donations from Bed, Bath & Beyond. After that, we headed back to the church to heat up a delicious meal that Chef Nickie had sent with us. We had Bible Study, played some games, took showers, and went to bed.



On Saturday, we woke up bright and early and headed to Central Iowa Shelter and Services (CISS) to begin our work at 8:30 a.m. We knew we'd be making Blessing Bags, so we brought some donations to put in the bags. Our group's first task was making the bags out of t-shirts! We filled the bags with toiletries, snacks, and water bottles and then handed them out to the clients inside the shelter.

After that, we were given a tour of their facility and we took a short break outside. Then it was time to serve lunch. Youth were assigned a spot on the serving line or in the dishwashing area. After lunch was served, it was time to clean up.



By the time we were done at 12:30, everyone was tired and hungry. We went back to church to eat our sack lunches and then headed to Joppa. Joppa is an organization that helps homeless people survive, find housing, and rebuild their lives. On Sunday mornings, they take food to all the homeless campsites in town. Our job at Joppa was to pack the coolers that they take to these campsites. I would estimate we packed about 40 large coolers full of frozen and fresh food. After that, we helped sort some items and clean up the facility. By 4:30 p.m., our group was getting squirrely, so we knew it was time to break. We ate some interesting, but delicious burgers and shakes at Zombie Burger and then went bowling. It was fun seeing the youth getting excited about getting a strike or two. Several youth got several strikes in a row! After bowling, it was time to take showers and head back to the church. We were in bed after 11:00 p.m. It was a long day!

On Sunday morning, we had breakfast, packed up, and cleaned up the areas we'd been living in. Then we went to church. It was neat experiencing a different worship service (1 ½ hours long!) and we even had communion with real glass cups. The congregation was very welcoming and happy to accommodate our group. After we said our good-byes, we got into the vans, ate our sack lunches, and headed to Adventureland. The weather was beautiful, and we all had a fun time. We ran into some rain and high winds on the way home, but we arrived in Omaha safely and with the same number of youth that we left with!

Overall, our JHF mission trip was a huge success! We worked 10 hours on Friday and Saturday and served the Des Moines community well. Thank you to the JHF leaders for sacrificing 3 days to chaperone this trip. And thank you to the congregation for supporting our youth monetarily and with your prayers!



CHURCH GARAGE SALE

July 23 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

It's time for the Senior High Fellowship group's big mission trip fundraiser — the 8th Annual Garage Sale will be on July 23. We will begin accepting donations on July 10 at the North entrance.

No donations will be accepted after July 17. We need time to sort through donations, clean, and price them. Donating after the deadline makes this impossible.

We gladly accept the following items:

- Furniture
- Toys
- Sports equipment
- Household goods
- Children and baby items
- Clothing (no t-shirts)
- Shoes
- We also need donations of hangers, boxes, and plastic bags.

We cannot accept these items:

- Mattresses
- Treadmills
- Stationary exercise bikes
- Tires
- Tube tv's
- VHS videos/players
- Cassette tapes/players
- Liquids of any kind. We must pay to dispose of these items, so please do not bring them to church.
- Any electronics older than built circa 2000.

Important Dates to Remember

July 10	Garage Sale Drop Day, 9 a.m. - noon
July 23	Garage Sale. 8 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
July 31	Fritz Retirement Celebration, 11:00 a.m. & JHF Mission Slideshow

We appreciate your donations but need your help in donating items that will sell. Every year we are left with a large U-Haul (or 2!) full of items that don't sell, and we must take them to Goodwill to dispose of them. When donating items, please make sure that your donations are clean and not broken. If you are ashamed to claim your donations, then please do not drop them off at church.

Drop off your donations

Sunday, July 10 at 9:00 a.m. at the north entrance
Just pull up and the youth will unload your cars!

Volunteer to Work

You do not need to sign up ahead of time to help; just show up when you are available!

- Prep work – July 11-15 from 11:00 – 1:00 p.m. and 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.
- Prep work – July 18-22 from 11:00 – 1:00 p.m. and 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.
- Garage Sale Day – July 23 from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Thank you all for your donations and for your help with this fundraiser!

JHF Leaders to Retire

Jon and Carla Fritz have faithfully served as leaders of our Junior High Youth Group since 2012. After a decade of dedicated service to JHF, they have decided it's time to retire. Help us thank Jon and Carla for their many years of service by writing them a card of thanks. We'll collect the cards and present them to Jon and Carla at their retirement reception on Sunday, July 31 at 11:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. We hope to see you there!



Heather Berry
Director of Christian Education
(402)333-7466 Ext. 2
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



Summer Fun at the 7th Annual Summer Youth Choir Festival

Twenty-five youth in grades 8-12 from across the Omaha metro gathered on June 20 – 26 and had a great week singing together, making new friends, having some summer fun, and singing for shut-ins in area senior living facilities. A big thank you goes out to the Worship & Music Committee, the adult volunteers who helped feed everyone during the week provided transportation for our outreach tour, and to all the members of PCOC for funding such an enjoyable week. Can't wait for next summer!

Sing with the Summer Choir

Summer Choir is an opportunity for ALL AGES to sing together. Join Alleluia Singers at 9:00 in the choir room to rehearse music for the 10:00 service on both **July 10** and **August 7**. This is a wonderful time to invite that beautiful voice you've heard behind you in the congregation, to maybe try choir on for size if you've been thinking about it for a while, or to invite your out-of-town guests to sing with you while they're in town. It's a fun time for everyone!



Kristi Treu
Director of Music & Executive
Director of Vesper Concerts
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kristi@pcoc.us

Organist: Dana Sloan, M.M.

Worship & Music Committee Moderator:
Jayne Frederickson

Hymns Throughout Our History

As we celebrate Independence Day, we turn our thoughts towards America's history. In a nation founded on religious freedom, today we sing some of the same hymns that sustained and guided our founding fathers — songs that have been sung for generations and have shaped our Presbyterian heritage.



“Our God, Our Help in Ages Past” is one of those hymns. Based on Psalm 90, the words were composed by Isaac Watts in 1719 England. The hymn traversed the Atlantic Ocean and has remained a treasured hymn throughout the centuries. It may be sung or read as a prayer.

Our God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast,
And our eternal home.

Beneath the shadow of thy throne
thy saints have dwelt secure;
sufficient is thine arm alone,
and our defense is sure.

Before the hills in order stood,
or earth received its frame,
from everlasting thou art God,
to endless years the same.

A thousand ages in Thy sight
Are like an evening gone;
Short as the watch that ends the night
Before the rising sun.

Time, like an ever rolling stream,
Soon bears us all away;
They fly, forgotten, as a dream
Dies at the opening day.

Our God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
be thou our guard while life shall last,
and our eternal home.



- 1 Kristin Jacobi, Larry Will
- 2 Jane Burch, Dawn Gibson, Max Justice, Emily Justice
- 3 Lois Decker
- 4 Korbin Stalnaker, Ada Stalnaker, Amy Boesen, Julie Evers, Lila Dittman
- 6 Joan Gayle Chapin, Bonny Boettcher, Rock Sumner, David Hawkins
- 7 Barbara Spielman
- 8 Jon Grady, David Hopp
- 9 Silas Boesen
- 10 Kathy Klein, Bob Nicas, Jack Nicas, Camille Hinz, Jim Ussery
- 11 Janet Harley, Lisa Lewis
- 13 Justin Kalkwarf, Carolyn Crenson
- 14 Matthew Bennett, Barbara Jaeger, Jody Watt, Roland Fortner
- 15 Clara Stalnaker, Caitlyn Ticknor
- 15 Stephen Niles
- 16 Jon Boomgaarden, Randy Hindman
- 17 Karon Frenk, Beth Kaiser
- 18 Cindy Rieke, Sando Mensah
- 19 Jean Engelmann
- 20 Traci Harrison, Elijah Pflueger, Ron Fehr
- 21 Doug Reid, Pat Pariset
- 22 David Bennett, Ken Nisley, Luke Justice
- 23 Sara Thorson, Dawn Zimmerman
- 24 Marietta Morhardt, LeRoy Swedlund, Kristine Behrens, Scott Lewis
- 25 Carolyn Hansen, Haidyn Spielman
- 26 Tanya Mitzel, Joslyn Bailey
- 27 Irene Burson, James Fuller
- 28 Wendi Harkness, Danielle Obregon, Jane Olson
- 29 Amy Miller, Amanda Stalnaker, John Bennett, Beth Maxwell
- 30 Donna Mau, Charles Spann, Sue Garcia, Carol Barnes
- 31 Charlotte Thorson, Jeanette Searson

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

Prayer Team

Contact Julie Buehler or Judy Arms

We are eternally grateful for the prayers, cards, emails and telephone messages which we have received over the past several months from our PCOC family. We particularly appreciate the support during the time of Bruce's surgery. He is now on the mend.

The worship services online have been an additional comfort to us as we search for a new church family. We miss all of you.

~ Bruce and Charlotte Lobaugh



Bob Reisser wants to convey his heartfelt thank you for all the love and warm wishes extended to him for his 100th birthday on June 4th. The birthday cake on Sunday was a treat! And a special moment happened when the Pancake Man presented him a plate of pancakes with a candle in it. (They have been friends for years through Kiwanis). He definitely enjoyed being part of the groundbreaking and is proudly displaying his special shovel in his apartment at Elkridge Village. And finally, he is delighted and thrilled about the DVD with instructions to the aviation student for flying and maintaining a B-17.

He is indeed a very special person, but you are a very special and loving church family and he was honored by all your good wishes and warm thoughts.

~ Ann Pearson



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.



Our Mission Support Is Appreciated

Every month, Church of the Cross receives letters and cards from mission partners, expressing their gratitude for the financial support we provide through our mission giving. Here are a few . . .

From PDA for Our support of Ukrainian Refugee Relief: “In the face of war, millions have fled their homes in Ukraine as Russian forces continue their terrible onslaught. They are undertaking a dangerous journey into a country under siege, carrying supplies for survival, bearing hope. We are standing with them, supporting with your gifts those on the borders and front lines. Because of your gift of \$11,983.46 on 4/4/2022 and \$2,210.00 on 4/12/2022 for Disaster Relief – International Refugee Programs – Ukraine, these amazing people of God have been able to exhibit resurrection life by building peace and working toward the restoration of their broken communities in the face of mass displacement due to war.

Thank you, in the name of the suffering and risen Lord.”

From Chelsea Salifou, CEO of Heartland Hope Mission (HHM): “Thank you so very much for Presbyterian Church of the Cross’s contribution of \$8,500 to provide working poor families with a week’s supply of groceries. You are truly a blessing to our community.”

Remember Pantry Sunday is July 17: Bring your food & hygiene items to worship with you to support the HHM food pantry. Or, drop them inside the circle drive doors anytime.

From Linda Reimer, Executive Director of Omaha Street School: “Thank you for your continued giving to Omaha Street School. Your generosity and investment in our students give them HOPE. The partnership we enjoy with PCOC is amazing!”



Did you know? This year, OSS graduated their largest class in history with 12 graduates. Congratulations to the Class of 2022!

From Preston Love Jr., Executive Director of 4Urban.org: “My heart was thrilled for your support of our youth participation in our Civic National Tour. Thank you is far smaller than my appreciation for your outstanding support.”

Refugee Resettlement Mission News

The bathroom supply drive has concluded, but we’re getting ready for a drive for kitchen items in September.

Don’t worry about having to choose between donating your kitchen items to the youth garage sale or our refugee effort. If you donate used kitchen items to the garage sale in July and those items don’t happen to sell, our committee will keep the things that will benefit refugees and add them to our collection in September. More information will follow in August.



Food Items:	Hygiene Items:
Cereal	Baby Diapers
Pasta	(most needed size 4-6)
Canned Soup	Baby Wipes
Canned Vegetables	Full-Size Shampoo
Canned Fruit	Full-Size Body Wash
Canned Meat	Toilet Paper
Mac & Cheese	Toothpaste
Peanut Butter	



SIENA FRANCIS HOUSE
Serving Hope to the Homeless

Siena Francis House Servers Needed Sunday, July 10 4:15 to 6:15 p.m.
Sign up online from the church website home page
Contact Sandi Stuckey with questions.

New Leadership at Voices for Children in Nebraska

Voices for Children in Nebraska would like to publicly announce the hiring of a new Executive Director, Juliet A. Summers; J.D. Summers will officially take on this position effective July 1, 2022 and has already begun transition work with the Board and staff. Juliet follows Aubrey Mancuso, who served as Executive Director for six years before taking a new position with the Women's Fund of Omaha.



“We feel fortunate to have found someone with the skills, experience, and passion that Juliet Summers brings to the position and are excited about the possibilities before us,” said Michael D. Beverly, Jr., President of the Board of Directors. Summers served as the Policy Coordinator for Voices for Children for six years. Since 2021 she has utilized her legal skills defending youth as the staff attorney at the Creighton Law School Juvenile Justice Legal Clinic and a contracting attorney with the nonprofit Education Rights Counsel. She is excited now to be returning to the system-advocacy work she is so passionate about.

Juliet Summers brings, “a passion for uplifting youth voice and fighting systemic inequities and injustices.” In addition to her most recent work at the two legal clinics, Juliet served in the Office of the Douglas County Public Defender from 2011 – 2014.

She often cites the rewards of representing individual children in the courtroom and the appreciation she's had for being able to serve as defense or education counsel for many young people. But she's quick to point out how individual advocacy highlights the need for systemic change. “Often the next child to walk through the door may be experiencing the exact same system barrier that the previous child was facing,” Summers says. “Voices for Children is in the business of breaking down those system barriers for all future children.” She further notes how rewarding it has been during the past year back in the courtroom to see first-hand

the beneficial results of some of the policy changes made during her previous tenure at Voices. “At the same time,” she says, “It's clear how far we still have to go, particularly for children of color.”

Juliet recognizes that the data collected and reported in the Kids Count in Nebraska Report gives us the baseline data from which to identify systemic problems and systemic solutions while Voices' community engagement work keeps us connected to the individual needs of Nebraska's children and families. That combination of data and personal experiences is what helps Voices for Children drive meaningful change and improve outcomes for children and families. Summers states that she looks forward to building on the great work done by the Voices for Children and continuing the passionate advocacy to make Nebraska the best place to be a kid. “Nebraskans may differ on all sorts of issues,” says Summers. “But at heart, we want all our kids to thrive.”

Voices for Children in Nebraska has been a trusted advocate on key children's issues in Nebraska for almost 35 years. As a 501C3 Nonprofit, it uses data and research to help policy makers and communities make informed decisions on issues impacting future generations. Voices for Children works primarily in the areas of health, child welfare, economic stability and juvenile justice. Its mission is to be the independent voice building pathways to opportunity for all children and families through research, policy and community engagement. Its Annual Kids Count Report is heavily utilized by policy makers and community leaders alike. Voices for Children's vision is to engage the public and state leaders to build systems removing obstacles and promoting opportunities for all children to lead healthy, secure, and fulfilling lives. In recent years, Voices for Children has worked to increase its commitment to racial equity and address barriers to opportunity for children of color.



Mission Committee Moderator:
Karen Morey



Back to School Supply Drive in July

The Mission Committee is asking church members to bring school supplies to benefit Integrated Learning Program (ILP), Walnut Hill, Bancroft, and Sherman elementary schools. School supplies will be collected Sunday, July 3 through Friday, August 12.

With the children back to in person learning backpacks are in high demand. Last year PCOC set a new record for backpacks with 124 collected and 18 large bags filled with various other supplies. This project is a huge success every year because of your generosity and items collected are very much needed by the students. For 2022 we've set a goal of 125 back packs!

The collection boxes will be located in two locations, the circle drive lobby on the west side of the building and the south side of the information

desk in the Narthex starting on July 3rd. Simply drive up with your donation and come in the entrance door and find the collection box to your immediate right or drop on your way into church service. Thank you!

Reach out to Amy Miller, John Bennett or Rob Bailey for more information.



Summer Events & Invitations

Agape for All is inviting you to join us on a trip to the Malcolm X Museum which is located right here in Omaha, Nebraska.

The Museum is the birthplace of Malcolm Little, who later became known as Malcolm X, the well-known Malcolm X, one of the most pivotal civil rights leaders of our time. Because his family was persecuted and threatened by the Ku Klux Klan, they had to leave Omaha when Malcolm was an infant. However, this site is a national, historic landmark. For those interested in any kind of history whether it is Omaha history, United States history, or Black history, a visit to this site is essential to understanding Omaha's role.

The tour will take place on Saturday, July 23 at 1:00 p.m. at 3448 Evans St. The formal tour is approximately 30 minutes long. A donation of \$15 per person is requested. Carpooling will be available or you are invited to just go directly to the museum. Please let Kathy Moore or Ann Pearson know if you are interested in carpooling.

Sign up online or at the Information Desk in the Narthex.

Worship at "Churches of Color" This Summer

July 24 – Mt. Moriah Mission Baptist Church, 2602 N. 24th, for a 10:30 a.m. service. Meet in our PCOC north parking lot at 9:45 a.m. to carpool.

August 7- Salem Baptist, 3131 Lake Street, 10 a.m.-noon. Dress up a bit. Masks required. Meet in our PCOC north parking lot at 9:15 a.m. to carpool.

Sign up online or at the Information Desk.
Contact Patty Ritchie with questions.

Anna Sumner, Kathy Moore, and Staci Voss are going on the Civil Rights Southern States Tour, July 10-17. We look forward to learning from them upon their return.



Be sure to check out the inspiring and challenging social justice literature in the church library!



Many of our fellowship groups are taking a break in July, but you can find fun and fellowship in the following activities this month.

Summer Bible Studies: We're offering two ways to deepen your faith and find some fellowship on Tuesdays! Join the Men's Bible Study at 7:00 a.m. or the Tuesday Bible Study at 1:00 p.m. Both groups will study the same lesson and meet in Room 15. Sign up online and bring your favorite Bible!

Tai Chi on Mondays & Thursdays: Tai Chi meets at 10 a.m. on Mondays and Thursdays in the Great Room. Masks are optional. Drop in if you'd like to attend a class. Contact Paula Allen with questions. **Coordinator: Paula Allen**

Book Group on Wednesday, July 20: Join the PCOC Book Group in Room 13 from 5:15 to 6:30 p.m. for our annual planning session. All readers are welcome! **Coordinator June Fettig**

Find a complete list of our fellowship groups on the church website.



All-Church Potluck on July 24

The Congregational Life Committee invites you to share in our annual Summer Potluck Dinner on July 24 following worship. Chicken (both baked and fried) and beverages will be provided, and you are asked to bring a salad, vegetable, or dessert. Please make sure that your food is cut and ready to be served. We will keep it hot or cold in the kitchen until lunch.

Sign up online or at the Information Desk by July 17, so that the committee knows how much chicken is needed. See you there! There may even be some surprises!

Congregational Life Committee Moderator:
Kristin Jacobi



MEMBERSHIP UPDATES

Do you know someone who is interested in joining the church?

Invite a friend to church with you this summer, and spread the word about what PCOC has to offer!

The next New Member Class will be held Sunday, July 10 at 11:10 a.m. (following the 10 a.m. service) in Room 15. The class is approximately one hour in length and a light lunch will be served. We invite those who want to become members and also those who want to learn more about Church of the Cross and see if PCOC is a good fit for them. Please sign up to attend at the Information Desk or on the church Website at churchofthecrossomaha.org/.

Welcome Packets are located at the Information Desk in the Narthex and provide information about

worship, music ensembles, education classes, church committees, mission opportunities, and fellowship gatherings.

Direct any questions about membership to the church office at (403)333-7466 and speak with one of the pastors.



Membership Committee Moderator:
Pam Otto

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
July 15, 2022**



DEACONS NEWS

Attention All 18-23 year-old young adults (and parents of these young adults): The Deacons want to stay in touch and continue to send you great stuff! To do this, we need your mailing address. Send your name and the address (or prospective college address) to the church office at:
churchofthecross@pcoc.us

Deacons	
Moderator Pam Swenson	Home Meals Coordinator Kathy Moore
Secretary Kim Banat	Prayer Shawls Information Pam Swenson
Treasurer Danny Whitlow	PieceMakers Karen Morey Linda Miller
Funeral Meals Pam Swenson	

Cross Currents

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Church Office: For general church information/requests/inquiries, contact the church office. Email: churchofthecross@pcoc.us or phone: 402-333-7466

Communications: Gayle Kerr-McFadden gayle@pcoc.us or (402)333-7466 ext. 7
For Cross Currents and Bulletin announcements, church website updates, Zoom meeting invites, or other communications needs, please contact Gayle.