

“Topping Off” the Beams

Do you see the white horizontal beam in the photo? That is the last beam put into place for our new South Entrance. It was installed on December 12 in a “Topping Off” ceremony, marking a significant step in our construction project. Our next short-term goal is to construct all the new exterior walls so that interior work may proceed during our cold winter months. Keep watching for more progress in the new year!



Signed by staff and building design committee members, the beam was lifted into place.



As we enter 2023, remember that by the end of 2023 we hope to be fully enjoying our new addition. This year promises to be a year of great activity as we realize this dream of many years. Over these past six years, we have prayed, planned, participated, and pledged together, soliciting the ideas of the whole congregation. We began our campaign just as COVID came on the scene. Even as we had to close our doors, our giving continued. Even after things really began re-opening in 2022, when prices soared and we had to adjust our scope, your consistent, faithful giving did not wane.

Now, we are seeing daily changes to our new structure, and our excitement grows. Early in the new year we will address our remaining financial matters as we seek to tie everything together, dream of a dedication, and plan for new ways to become even more welcoming, seeking how we can best reach out to our community and spread the love of Christ to all. Continue to pray that our plans will serve others and build God’s kingdom.



Thank you for your inciteful vision and your incredible faithfulness!

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

Join me for Tuesday Bible Study! Our gatherings resume in Room 15 at 7:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. on Tuesdays in January, beginning January 3. No need to sign up—bring your Bible and join us!

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Chalk It Up to Giving Thanks

If December is the time of year to receive gifts, then January is the time of year that we should offer thanks for those gifts. In my family, we have always kept our Christmas music playing and our tree glowing until Epiphany. That date always falls into the very first part of January, and we, and those around us, put away our Christmas gifts and cards and settle into the Nebraska winter. For me this is a time of reflection and a chance to thank God for the gift of Jesus, my family, and the kindnesses of greetings and gifts from the people in my life. It seems January should be a time of Thanks.

If we consider scripture, we know that it is at Epiphany that we celebrate the coming of the magi who have come to see Jesus. They are bringing gifts not just to welcome the baby Jesus but also to thank God for this child. In the early church, there was an old Epiphany tradition called Chalking the Doors. In this tradition Christians would write 20 +C+M+B+23 over the doors of their homes. (This, of course, is for this year 2023). This stands for Christus mansionem benedicat (Christ bless this house). It is a sign of Thanksgiving that Christ has come, that the magi have brought gifts of Thanksgiving for Jesus' arrival, and that we are called into a life of Thanksgiving in Christ this year. This tradition dates to the early church and is still widely practiced in Europe. While it is not performed as often in our Presbyterian tradition, it is included in our Book of Common Worship along with a prayer reminding us of God's blessing.

While you are welcome to adopt this tradition as something new in your house, I want to think about the purpose of this ritual, which is to offer thanksgiving for the gift of the Christ child throughout the upcoming year. For me, this means to live into the blessings of God that came this year and to offer thanks. As Christ has entered my life anew, my thanks go to all who helped bring his coming alive: for the members who came to December services, for the musicians through Advent, for the staff that worked tirelessly to create the bulletins, for the gatherings at holiday parties, for the mission committee who is providing gifts and care for those in need, for the Deacons and their work to distribute the advent gift bags and serve Advent Dinner, for those who received our advent outreach, for the session that continues to work in

the busiest time of year to the team who is spearheading and completing our building project, and so many more.

And while I am thankful for all these workers in the church, I want to reach into a deeper thanks, and this is a thanks of "being" that is here at Church of the Cross. This is a "being" that is blessed, and you all live as those who are blessed. Thank you all for being you, for all the times that you reach out to those who are sick or injured, and for all the times you offer help and support to one another. May our church home be blessed by 20+C+M+B+23.



Grace and peace,

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

Hear this prayer from our Book of Common Worship.

God of doors and homes,
Bless this church this year
and every year.
Bless all who come and go
through these doors.
Both those who live here
and those who visit.
May all who enter through these doors
come in peace and bring joy.
May all who come to these doors
find welcome and love.
May the love and joy here
overflow and spread
into the community and the world.
And may Jesus the Christ watch over us all.
Amen



The View from My Office

TOGETHER WE CAN DO MORE

This fall's stewardship emphasis Envisioning Our Future Together is thriving. Thank you to each family who turned in their 2023 pledge to support Church of the Cross and its many mission opportunities. Together we are making a difference.

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." Jeremiah 29:11

Each acting committee of session submitted financial requests for next year's budget. Personnel Committee then worked with the Finance Committee to review and adjust line items. Session met on December 11 and approved the 2023 budget.

Together the budget becomes a reality and a tool for our church's financial planning. We know that the upcoming year will be one of transformation as new the Welcome Center expansion and Fellowship Hall are completed. As God's people we shall focus on happiness, direction, hope, and trust. Together, our church looks to the future with strength and inspiration.

A NEW YEAR FOR STEWARDSHIP

The year 2023 will mark Church of the Cross' 65th anniversary! As each of us looks back, it is fun to remember some of the changes that have taken place. Look how our facility has changed. We started out meeting in the manse, building Fellowship Hall and classrooms, having Sunday School in the farmhouse, and new members arrived each year.

Since then, there have been other construction projects, and we hope to celebrate the latest expansion next fall. Our choir loft was in the balcony at one time with an electronic organ. Now there is a pipe organ, and the chancel has grown to accommodate the choir.

As fun as reminiscing is, it is even more exciting to look to our future together.

This year our per capita is \$40.85 per member. What that means is our church will pay \$31,577.05 by February 15, 2023, for our membership at Church of the Cross.

If you decide to give a special gift to cover the per capita cost for your family, it will help the church offset our assessment. That would be:

\$40.85 for a single family member
\$81.70 for a two-member family
\$122.55 for a three-member family
\$163.40 for a four-member family
Etc.

You are welcome to use the blue pew envelope. Please mail your gift to Rock Sumner, Business Administrator at the church office.

A NEW LOOK - STEP ON IN

The Circle Drive and North entrances have new carpet tiles installed. Thanks to the members of the energetic sub-committee of B&G to make this happen, Curt Field, Ethan Bennett, Anna Sumner, and John Stalnaker.

I hope you notice the new welcoming appearance of these entries into our facility. And I hope it excites you to think about what our new front door may look like to our guests and members when it opens next year. First impressions are important.

Church of the Cross is grateful for its rich heritage and proud of our key ministries and missions. Each of us are now a part of that tradition. I encourage you to eagerly look for ways to become better stewards throughout the year. Again, thank you!



Rock Sumner
Business Administrator
(402)333-7466 Ext. 6
rock@pcoc.us

Finance Committee Moderator:
Sam Rennick

Building and Grounds Committee
Moderator: John Stalnaker



Cornerstone Resumes January 11 – March 15

Join us for the fun!

- 5:30 – 8:15 p.m. Childcare is available
- 5:15 – 6:30 p.m. Book Group (on 3rd Wed.)
- 5:30 – 6:00 p.m. Children’s Choir
- 5:50 – 6:45 p.m. Chamber Choir
- 6:00 – 6:30 p.m. Dinner
- 6:00 – 6:30 p.m. What’s Cookin’?
- 6:30 – 7:15 p.m. Children’s Bible Study
(PS - 7th grade)
- 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. Confirmation Class
- 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. Adult Ed Class
- 6:50 – 8:20 p.m. Alleluia Choir

Please register and submit payment online. Everyone who registers for dinner is asked to volunteer to serve dinner or clean-up. Registering ahead of time helps us plan for class supplies and gives us an accurate count for dinner so that we have enough food, but not so much that we are wasteful. **The deadline to register is January 8.**

Adult Ed Classes in the New Year Stories for Life in God's World: A Study of Parables Wednesdays, January 11 – March 15 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Using a study from the Kerygma Bible Study Series, Kirk Ryckman will lead a class on Wednesdays from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. Together we will study these timeless stories that speak to our faith and influence the decisions we make while discovering what makes a parable unique. We hope to grow in our appreciation of how Jesus used these short and seemingly simple stories to express the heart of the good news he brought. If you plan to eat dinner at Cornerstone before class, you’ll need to complete the Cornerstone registration online, too.

The Ten Commandments - Past, Present, and Future

Sundays, January 29 – February 19, 10:00 a.m.

The Ten Commandments are foundational to our faith and to God’s story. It’s the “setting in stone” of God’s expectations for humanity. Yet, the law has had different emphases in the Christian tradition over the years. In this class, we will analyze the Ten Commandments from several different lenses from Biblical scholarship to history to contemporary culture. There is no book, but Pastor Christine will provide some readings for you throughout the study.



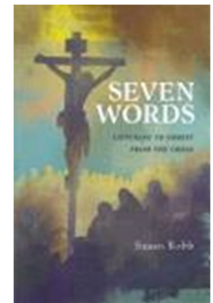
Drug Education Class for Parents and Children January 11 at 6:30 p.m.

Join members of the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) Omaha Division Wednesday, January 11, at 6:30 p.m., as they provide an overview on the latest drug threats facing the country and more specifically what’s being seen in Nebraska. The presentation for adults will focus on the methods used by drug trafficking networks to move illicit drugs into and across the country while both growing a consumer base and aiding in a nation-high overdose death record. Students will be broken into groups by grade and given age-appropriate presentations on drug education and awareness. Students and adults will have time to ask questions at the end of their presentations.

For more information, contact DEA Public Information Officer Emily Murray at Emily.A.Murray@dea.gov.

2023 Lenten Study

This year’s Lenten Study will begin February 26. We’ll be studying Susan Robb’s book, *Seven Words – Listening to Christ from the Cross*. In this book, Robb looks at Christ’s final words on the cross through a lens that finds life and hope in his final sayings, while exploring each from a biblical and historical perspective. This book brings a hopeful and contemplative take on the cross during the weeks of Lent. We hope you will participate. Please register online!



Heather Berry
Director of Christian Education
(402)333-7466 Ext. 2
heather@pcoc.us

CE Committee Moderator: Matt Kahler

JHF Leaders: Jeremy Cunningham, Julie Evers, Sara Renner, Ashley Sherlock, and John Stalnaker

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



Children's Christmas Pageant

Thank you to everyone that worked together to pull off this fabulous production. About 60 preschool, elementary, junior, and senior high youth, and adults participated in this event. What a special gift it was for our congregation!



Important Dates to Remember

- January 8** Sunday School begins
- January 11** Cornerstone begins
- January 11** Drug Education Class, 6:30 p.m.
- January 18** Communion Class, 6:00 p.m.
- February 26** Lenten Study begins

Confirmation Fun

The first Wednesday of December, our confirmation class and their mentors got together to celebrate Christmas. They enjoyed a delicious Mexican feast prepared by Chef Nickie.



They played some minute to win it games, exchanged cozy socks, and just had a good time! What a great group of confirmands!



Communion Class on Wednesday, January 18. Join Pastor Marshall from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. to learn about the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. This class is geared towards children in second grade and older that haven't had a chance to participate before. Come and join us for dinner, activities, and communion. Childcare will be provided for younger siblings. Sign up online.



Ushers Needed! If you are looking for a way to serve the church, please consider filling one of our open usher spots. You can now sign up online for individual Sundays. Questions? Contact Jayne Frederickson.



Kristi Treu

Director of Music & Executive
Director of Vesper Concerts
(402)333-7466 Ext. 5
kristi@pcoc.us

Worship & Music Committee Moderator:
Jayne Frederickson



OUR CHURCH FAMILY

- 1 Linda Dobry, Nolan Hopp, Phil Johnson, Chris Voss, Frank Watt
- 2 Dick Kelley, Nancy Koehler, Dan Olson
- 3 Gene Pugh, Meg Whaley
- 4 Conlin Grady, Jane Miller
- 5 Kim Banat, Liz Brecki, June Karges, Josh Murray, Cindy Nisley
- 6 Andrew Ebert
- 7 Keith Allen, Heather Berry, Bill Hanley, Diane Holubeck, Tim Johnson, Blake Kahler, Diane Kratz, Madisyn Spielman
- 8 Quinn McFadden, Jeff Quine, Ann Schmidt, Joan Thorson, Marilyn Willis
- 9 Megan Davelaar, Bob Hoisington, Ryan Kort, Sharon Sievers
- 10 Andrew Berry
- 11 Jennifer Arnold, Sheri Cunningham, Matt McFadden
- 12 Linda Bauer, Aurora Quartoroli
- 13 Sam McClain, Katie Rock
- 14 Evelyn Aziamoe, Gail Hille, Danial Holdren
- 15 Taylor Koch, Dwight Peterson, Max Rieke, Carol Sorensen
- 16 Brad Dittman, Stephanie Voss
- 17 John Broderick, Emmie Fuller, Launie Lambert
- 18 Franny Bartling, Anna Ellinghaus, Sharon Marvin-Igel, Lois Morris, Sharon Rich
- 20 Alta Empky, Charlotte Thiessen



- 21 Michael Anderson, William Davey, Loni Williams
- 22 Mike Dempsey
- 23 Amy Ellis, Mary Beth Gust
- 24 Kaitlynn Evers, Joan Miles, Josephine Tot
- 25 Quinn McGuire
- 26 Becky Bianchi, Brad Jacobi
- 27 Spencer Kussman, Marissa Mathia, Hadley McDaniel, Tyler Zimmerman
- 28 Peg Hiles, Rose Lippincott, Jessa Sherlock
- 30 Jonathan Fritz, Edward Huff



Anne Anderson
December 13, 2022

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

Thank you for your prayers and support during Ron's latest medical issues.

With grateful hearts,
Ron and Donna Mau



In need of prayer? Fill out a prayer card in the pews or submit a form online. All requests are shared only with members of the prayer team.

Prayer Team Coordinators:
Julie Buehler and Judy Arms



Presbyterian Women on January 5

Start the New Year with Presbyterian Women's Circle on Thursday, January 5 at 9:00 a.m. in Room 15. Cindy Nisley will lead us in Lesson 5, *Sabbath and Servitude*.

Coordinator: Cindy Nisley

Keep Moving on Mondays & Thursdays

Music & Movement meets at 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. in the Great Room. **Coordinator: Betty Baddley**

Tai Chi meets at 10 a.m. 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, January 18

PCOC Book Group will meet Wednesday January 18 from 5:15 to 6:30 p.m. to discuss *The Road to Lichfield* by Penelope Lively. All readers welcome!

Coordinator: June Fettig

Active Minds in January

Active Minds will resume for 2023 on January 10 and will play Mahjongg. We meet in the lower level on Tuesday afternoons from 2-4 p.m. Please let Earlene know if you will join us in January, so we have enough game sets for all to play! Never played, but want to try? This is your chance. See you in January!

Coordinator: Earlene Uhrig

Tables for 8 Winter Session 2023

The winter session (January, February, March, and April) has begun! **Coordinator: Pam Otto 4**

49ers on Break for January — Save the Date for February

Our speaker for Tuesday, February 7, 2023, will be Carol Foreman, Ticket Manager, College World Series of Omaha, Inc. Lunch will be at 11:30 at Wheatfield's at One Pacific Place. More details to come in our February issue of *Cross Currents*!



Presbyterian Men Bell Ringing

On Saturday, December 17, Presbyterian Men rang bells for the Salvation Army's Christmas Campaign at Hy-Vee on 132nd & Dodge from 10 a.m. to 4 pm.



The 24 cheerful, hearty volunteers were:

- Jim Chapin,
- Don Miller,
- Roger Utman,
- Jim Conway,
- Gary Marron,
- Josh Murray,
- Mike Howland,
- Marty McGuire,
- Jim Miller,
- Rusty Vanneman,
- Ken Nisley,
- AJ Sundberg,
- David Hopp,
- Lloyd Meyer,
- Frank McMullen,
- Jeff Boyum,
- Angie Aliano,
- Gary Lippstreu,
- Joe Weaver,
- John Bennett,
- Bidong Tot,
- Larry Frederickson,
- Dan Scanlan,
- Jon Boomgaarden.

Thanks to Jim Chapin for coordinating this activity and to the volunteers for your service to others !

Congregational Life Committee Moderator:
Kristin Jacobi



Jeff Friesen, Camille Hancock Friesen and Beckett Friesen

The Friesen family have been attending Church of the Cross for almost a year, and you may recognize Jeff who joined the choir in January and attended Keith Allen’s class last winter. Jeff and Camille were born in Canada, have resided in Massachusetts and Texas, but came to Omaha eighteen months ago because of Camille’s employment. She is a Pediatric Cardiovascular Surgeon at Children’s Hospital. Jeff is retired but was a former lawyer, a former bureaucrat, and a former professor.

They have two sons, Spencer and Beckett. Beckett is joining the church as well and is a 10th grader at Brownell Talbot. He is a nationally ranked Go Kart Driver and also is in the Robotics Club at Brownell. Jeff enjoys golf, curling, and travel and is a member of the Lost Rail Golf Club, Ak-Sar-Ben Curling Club, and Harvard Club of Nebraska. Camille enjoys reading, hosting guests, exercise and travel. Please welcome the Friesen family to PCOC.



Arlene and Lyle Meester

Please welcome new member Arlene Meester to Church of the Cross and her husband, Lyle, who is an Honorably Retired Presbyterian Pastor. Being a pastor, Lyle is a member of Missouri River Valley Presbytery and cannot become a member of a church. Arlene and Lyle said they were drawn to PCOC because of our outstanding music program, and they appreciated the friendliness of the congregation.

They were born in South Dakota, but came to Omaha 23 years ago when Lyle was called to be the pastor at Mount View Presbyterian Church. Lyle retired in 2013. Both of them are avid golfers. Arlene also enjoys reading and Lyle enjoys gardening, puzzles, and more golf. They both enjoy the arts and attend productions at the Orpheum, Holland Performing Arts Center, and the Playhouse. They have three daughters (one lives in Omaha and two live in Minneapolis) and six grandchildren.

Because of Mount View and the Presbytery, they already know Bidong and Torri Tot, Steve Niles, Kirk Ryckman, John Morey, and Dick Meyer. They both look forward to getting to know more people at PCOC and becoming involved in church activities, and we look forward to getting to know them.

Jim DePooter

The next time you see John Stalnaker thank him for encouraging Jim to visit PCOC. Jim is also a member of John’s band “The Poolside Hustlers” that is well known at Mary Our Queen church. Jim is married to Sarah, and they have three boys (grades 12, 10, and 6) and have lived in Omaha since 2004. Jim’s family attends Mary Our Queen. Jim decided to join PCOC since it was similar to the UCC church he attended as a kid in Moline, Illinois. Jim works for Progressive Insurance in the Claims Division. We are happy to have Jim join our church family.





Erin Moore

Erin doesn't remember her first introduction to Church of the Cross, but she was baptized here as a baby. Her grandmother was Beulah Moore, who was secretary before Julie, and her grandfather, Bill Moore, was ordained and installed as a Deacon. To add to her story, take a look at the sand blasted windows separating the sanctuary and the Narthex because her mother, Ann Moore, did those windows. Also, the stained-glass window with an angel was donated by "Friends of Beulah Moore" in recognition of her 23 years of service to Church of the Cross. Erin is a communication specialist at Together Inc. Food Distribution Center. She enjoys taking walks, shopping in the Old Market, and trying new restaurants with her husband, Leviticus Drew Rogers. They enjoy craft fairs and farmer markets. Erin said the first time she attended here was such a positive experience that she knew this was the right church for her. We welcome Erin back to PCOC.



Barb Haar-Rightmyer



For several months, Barb has been worshiping at PCOC, attending Sunday School Classes, volunteering to help with funeral luncheons, and helping with Vacation Bible School; just to name a few activities. So, you may have thought she already was a member, but now she officially is. We are pleased she has chosen Church of the Cross as her new church home. She was a member at Westside Church in Omaha. Our outstanding music, the open mindedness and friendliness of the congregation, and the mission-based activities are what drew her to our church. She was born in Freeman, South Dakota and has lived in Omaha since 1978. Barb has been married to Rodney since 1988. She is retired but worked in sales for U.S. West. She enjoys music, pickleball, theater, and volunteer work which includes being an Ambassador at Omaha Performing Arts and helping in the box office at the Playhouse. Welcome Barb!

Next New Member Class is January 15 after late service in Room 15. A light lunch will be served. Sign up online or call the church office. Questions? Contact Pam Otto.

Membership Committee
Moderator: Pam Otto



DEACONS' UPDATE

Advent Dinner Thank You

A big thank you from the Deacons to everyone who made the Christmas Pageant and Advent Dinner a wonderful evening. As always, we had more than enough tasty desserts, compliments of the congregation!

Wishing you and yours all the best for New Year!

Deacons Moderator:
Pam Swenson





January Malcolm X Tour



You are invited to join in for a tour of the Malcolm X Museum in North Omaha. Saturday, January 14 at 10:30 a.m. Meet in the north church parking lot at 10:00 a.m. if you would like to car pool. You can sign up on the church

website under Agape for All, email Patty Ritchie, or sign up in the church Narthex.

Social Justice Reviews for Children's Books in our PCOC Library

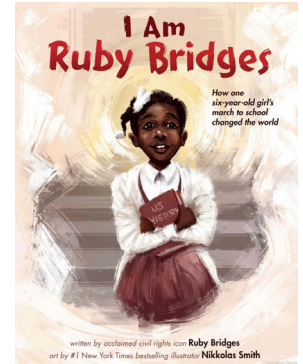
Submitted by Ann Pearson

In the spirit of Christmas giving, we received 3 beautiful new children's books for our Agape Social Justice library. And there is nothing lovelier than spending a grey, misty, chilly afternoon with these three books. I was the lucky one to get to do this!

Gift Horse, A Lakota Story is written and illustrated by S.D. Nelson. Mr. Nelson is a member of the Standing Rock Sioux tribe in the Dakotas. Accompanied by stunning illustrations based on ledger book drawings of Plains Indian artists from 1865 and 1935, the book describes the harrowing story of the traditional journey of a young man from youth to manhood. His companion is a young Gift Horse who is "the blue-gray color of a thunderstorm." Their adventures together are both tender and exhilarating. One of the sweeter moments is when the family is gathering porcupine quills for a special piece of clothing: I was fully expecting a grim scene of a dead porcupine. What a pleasant surprise it is when they throw a blanket over the creature and pull the quills out of the blanket. Avoiding violence, even with enemy tribes, is a central part of their culture. This beautiful book was given by Kathy Moore

I am Ruby Bridges is written by Ruby Bridges herself and illustrated by best-selling illustrator Nikkolas Smith. At the age of 6, she thinks the name "Ruby" is too old-fashioned, even ancient, but out of respect and affection for her grandmother who named her, she decides not to complain. In the rest of the story, she takes us through her child's eye experience being the first black student to integrate

the public schools after the Brown v. Board of Education in 1954. To a 6-year-old, it was an amazing and thrilling experience. She wasn't aware of the tumult, rage, and danger surrounding her that very first day of school. (I can't imagine what it must have been like for her parents, but she doesn't address this particular aspect.) As she concludes the book, she has changed her mind about her name. She is Ruby (a precious red stone) Bridges (a pathway or roadway over an obstacle; a means of transition). This book was suggested by Ardys Hansum.



Standing in the Need of Prayer, A Modern Retelling of the Classic Spiritual by Carole Boston Weatherford, illustrated by Frank Morrison. Are you singing yet? This author takes the milestones of black history from 1600 to the present and adds a whole new aspect to the old spiritual that some of us have sung since childhood. Along with the beautiful new verses, the illustrations are exquisite and even heartrending. This book was given by Ann Pearson.

One final comment: These three books are as powerful and moving for adults as they are for children. And if the kids sit with you during the worship service, consider checking out these books on Sunday morning. Caution! No Secret Reading By Adults During the Sermon!

Vesper Concert Connection

Save the date for a fantastic Vespers Concert with Barron Ryan, a young, hip, energetic pianist from Oklahoma. (He'll bring down the house!) The "Classic Meets Cool"



show is on Sunday, February 19. The question and answer time after the performance will feature cookies, and hopefully be a great experience for the diverse audience we are inviting to attend.



PCOC Hosts Special Visitors on January 22

On January 22, 2023, Ellen and Al Smith, Presbyterian Mission Workers and long-time friends of PCOC, will be with us to provide an update on the status of our Russian and Ukrainian friends. Over the past year, and especially since the Russian invasion of Ukraine, Ellen has visited countries in Eastern Europe that border Russia, building relationships with church organizations and agencies who are actively supporting refugees and developing peacemaking strategies in the region.



Ellen will preach the sermon at both worship services on the January 22, sharing her observations and insights. Between services, her husband Al will lead an informal conversation in Fellowship Hall about the history of Eastern Europe and how that history has brought the region to the present moment.



After the second service, a light lunch will be served in Fellowship Hall, and Ellen will describe the people and places she has encountered in her recent travels, and how they give her hope.

Please mark your calendars for Sunday, January 22. You won't want to miss this opportunity to hear from and talk with Ellen and Al!



Mission Committee Moderator:
Karen Morey

**Siena Francis House
Dinner Servers Needed**
Sunday, January 8
4:15 to 6:15 p.m.



PCOC has the dinner shift on the 2nd Sunday of every month. We need at least 6 volunteers. Please consider giving your time to this mission. Questions? Contact Sandi Stuckey.

Scan our QR code to access the church online sign up page. We've made it easy to sign up to serve at Siena Francis House.



**Pantry Sunday Is
January 15**

**Heartland Hope
MISSION**

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



Thank you for supporting our Thanksgiving and Christmas Joy offerings!
The funds collected help our mission efforts for Completely Kids and CASA of Douglas and Sarpy Counties. Your giving matters to at-risk youth and families in need!

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
January 20, 2022

Annual Meeting — Sunday, January 29

Single service at 11:10 a.m.

Annual meeting immediately following in the Sanctuary
Lunch in Fellowship Hall



Cross Currents

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For Cross Currents and Bulletin announcements, church website updates,
Zoom meeting invites, or other communications needs, please contact Gayle.
