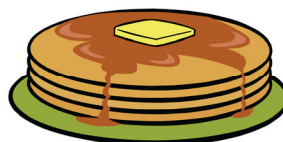


A Solid Summer Ahead

As the school year is over and the temperatures heat up, we look forward to a busy summer at PCOC. More details are found inside this edition, so read on! Briefly...

- We welcome our return to being all together in one worship service at 10:00 a.m. followed by snacks for everyone at 11:00 a.m.
- Vacation Bible School will soon return June 13-15.
- Our Junior and Senior High students will be off on mission trips during the summer.
- Our Summer Youth Choir Festival will bring youth singers from around the area to lead us in worship.
- Tuesday Bible Studies continue through the summer
- We will sponsor our refugee family from Syria.
- We will watch our new Welcome Center construction enter its final stage towards completion. Along with our visit by The Pancake Man on June 4 after worship, we will also host another Welcome Center walk-through. Come see the progress since our last sneak peek.

**June 4
Pancakes & a Peek!**



Sadly, we will have to say goodbye to our beloved Associate Pastor, Christine Dempsey, as she answers a new call to become the Pastor of the Presbyterian Community Church of Estes Park, Colorado. Christine's last day with us will be Sunday, July 2. Stay tuned for more details about a church-wide reception for Christine and her family after worship that same day.

All of us will miss Christine's ministry with us over the last four years, whether it was through her birthday phone calls, hospital visits, home communion visits, dropping off a prayer shawl, or leading in worship. We will feel her absence from the Deacons, the Membership Committee, Cross Care, and working with our Young Adults. Her leadership in our recent Women's Retreat was greatly appreciated. Be sure to thank Christine all throughout June as we celebrate her time with us in ministry.

Our Tuesday Bible Studies will continue this summer, and new members are always welcome. Our men's only study meets at 7 a.m. in room 15. Our 1 p.m. study is open to all adults and meets in Room 15 and on Zoom. No need to sign up. Just bring your favorite Bible and join our discussion.



**Pastor/Head of Staff
Marshall Zieman**
(402)333-7466 Ext. 1
marshall@pcoc.us

In This Issue:

Messages from Our
Pastors — Pages 1 & 2

Music Notes — Page 3

Business Updates —
Pages 4 & 5

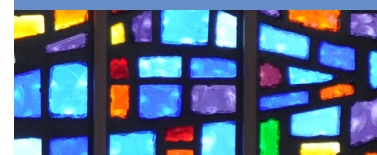
Christian Education News
— Page 6

Our Church Family —
Page 7

Fellowship Groups/Events
— Page 8

Spirit of Mission —
Page 0-11

Deacons Update —
Page 12



**Presbyterian
Church of the Cross**
1517 S. 114th Street
Omaha, NE 68144

Phone:
(402)333-7466

Fax:
(402)697-9084

Email:
churchofthecross@pcoc.us

Website:
churchofthecrossomaha.org



Finding the River

One of the greatest concerns in pastoral circles is the decline in attendance of children and youth in the broader church since COVID-19. Even though church programs have picked up, the numbers are smaller. It seems that more and more parents are choosing to put church on the back burner. At the same time, we are seeing increased anxiety and depression. Perhaps this is just a correlation, but as a pastor, I can't help but wonder if they are connected. Church is one of the few places that we gather to support one another, that we are encouraged with beautiful words, where we foster intergenerational relationships, and where we realize that there is a reality beyond the self. The good news is that PCOC has a wonderful tradition of great programming for children and youth. What you might not know is how these programs here have shaped the lives of our children.

As you know, one of my ministry projects has been to work with our young adults which has included a monthly lunch, a college Bible study, and our Millennial Mission Weekend (which includes Gen-Z, too). That weekend has been the highlight of my work at Church of the Cross. It is in this space that I see how the baptismal vows of both parents and adults in the church have shaped these once children into amazing adults. Per those vows, we have "by our fellowship helped them to strengthen their ties with the family of God."

Our mission weekend will include packing summer food bags for Completely Kids, collecting litter and making cat toys for Homeward Bound cat shelter, handing out sunglasses and water bottles at Siena Francis House, constructing a Habitat for Humanity shelter, and setting up the fireworks stand for ROC ministries in Ashland. While our work will certainly make a positive impact on Omaha and the surrounding communities, it is the work together and the focus on giving through God's love that is at the core of this special weekend. This reflects who we are as God's children that we are bound together in love, "to provoke one another to love and good deeds." (Hebrews 10:24)

The description of this mission weekend might sound like any mission weekend that we might read about on the Internet, but what sets our weekend apart is in the relationships. This is not just any mission trip, and these are not just any young adults. These are people raised in the Christian tradition, many of them raised here at Church of the

Cross who are continuing the work that God implanted in them. What is significant, is that this "way of being" in the world is not automatic. The relationships, the missional spirit, and their easy laughter have been fostered through our church.

While we can celebrate these wonderful young adults in our midst, I want us to remember that many children and young adults today are not given the opportunity to live fully into Christian community. The responsibility of raising children in the faith falls squarely on the shoulders of parents and grandparents. Children cannot "be present in the life of Christ" if they do not know who Christ is. The new challenge on Christians today is for us to resist the trend to put church aside, and instead continue to raise children in the church, encourage them to reach out to others and show them our love. It is then that we can be at peace and know that our children are truly equipped to lives where, "Do to others as you would have them do to you" is the guiding principle of their lives. (Matthew 7:12)



Grace and peace,

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

My friends at Church of the Cross,
I am so thankful for serving as your Associate Pastor for the past four years. I am taking a new call as the Pastor at Presbyterian Community Church of the Rockies in Estes Park, Colorado. You will always remain in my prayers.

Christine

Vesper Concerts Thank You

Vesper Concerts thanks you for being part of our very successful 34th season! We wrapped up our 34th season in May. Now stay tuned for our 2023-24 season announcement coming soon. We have some special things in store for our 35th season of world-class performances, all brought to you free of charge and without needing to purchase a ticket or a subscription. Not on our email newsletter list? Sign up today on our website, www.vesperconcerts.org.



Please Sign Up TODAY for the Summer Youth Choir Festival

If you are finishing grades 8-12 and love to sing, then you'll want to join us for the 8th Annual Summer Youth Choir Festival. This year's festival will take place June 19-25. For just \$45, you will experience a week of fun music and rehearsals, new friendships, and community outreach. Rehearsals are Monday through Thursday evenings from 6 to 8:30 p.m.. Friday is a day off so we can rest up for our outreach tour across the Omaha metro all day on Saturday. We sing at the 10 a.m. worship service on June 25 to finish out the week.

It's especially fun if you invite a friend to come with you! Please use the QR code to sign up today.

Presbyterian Church of the Cross Presents ...

8TH ANNUAL

Youth Choir Festival

for singers who have finished grades 8-12

June 19-25, 2023

Evening rehearsals 6:00 – 8:30 p.m.

Special Activities and Games

Omaha Outreach Tour

Cost: \$45 for the entire week

Sign up online or contact kristi@pcoc.us





Join Alleluia Singers for Summer Choir Sundays

We have three opportunities for you to sing with us for Summer Choir: June 18, July 16, and August 20. Come to the choir rehearsal room at 9 a.m.. We'll rehearse a few simple pieces to sing at the 10 a.m. worship service. This is a great time to try choir on for size without making a large time commitment. Please email Kristi Treu at kristi@pcoc.us to let her know you are coming.



Summer Ushers Needed

Looking for a way to serve the church? The Worship & Music Committee is looking for ushers June 4 through September 3. Sign up online to usher on a Sunday that works for you!



Kristi Treu

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

Worship & Music Committee Moderator:
Jayne Frederickson



The View from My Office

B&G LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS

THANK YOU to the 20 plus volunteers who helped prepare our landscaped areas for this summer's growing season! It was a beautiful morning. Together, we planted, pruned, weeded, mulched, and watered. We stowed winter shovels and grit buckets and cleared leaves and debris from the courtyards and outdoor stairwells. The coffee was hot, and the donuts were excellent. The fellowship is always a plus on this morning!



If you want to feel like you belong, join B&G's workdays, and enjoy the outdoors, fresh air, team atmosphere, and snacks!

Or volunteer to adopt one landscaped area to care for this summer. Come at your convenience, trim, weed, plant, and care for an area much like you would do for your yard at home.

Contact me in the office, and I will line you up with our garden team captains.

If you park or use the north lot, you may have noticed a new fence. This fence will help protect our new AC units from vandalism. Recently in Omaha, you may have read about many businesses losing the copper from their HVAC units.

B&G decided one way to help overcome this would be to set up this deterrent.

FINANCIAL OUTLOOK

PENNY PINCHERS – thank you for your continual gifts to our Pennies for Peace at the Information Center. Together we have collected \$365.24 for Church of the Cross Missions.

Thank you for your continued support.



REDUCE



REUSE



RECYCLE

We are implementing a recycling program in our facility. Thank you to everyone who has supported these recycling efforts.

Church of the Cross is purchasing more compostable products for our paper supplies in the kitchen, and we are using new clear trash bags. The items you use to eat or drink are TRASH items. They are compostable and more friendly to our landfills than to our recycling program.



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

Finance Committee Moderator: Mimi Bauer

Building and Grounds Committee Moderator:
Casey Ballou

WELCOME CENTER UPDATE

KEEP OUR VISION FOCUSED

Opening SOON!

You are invited to our next walk-through on June 4 in conjunction with the Pancake Man luncheon.



The outside work is coming along nicely. This photo shows a carpenter finishing the cedar planks underneath the upper fascia. It will be stained to match the lower level and well as the original part of the sanctuary facets. Craftmanship is alive and well as they work on this portion of our addition.

Our sprinkler system is being expanded to help care for our new east lawn and garden areas. I hope you are like me and are looking forward to our new lawn being ready to use this summer. VBS will have games outdoors. Our youth ministries will enjoy the fire pit on the patio this summer. And our fall outdoor Vesper Concert will have a new setting, and it will be lovely.



New emergency escape stairs are being replaced for rooms 6 & 7 (pre-school and childcare rooms). MCL offered to replace the badly worn stairs as a training project for some of its newly hired work force. The structures will be stained to match the other cedar being used on the outside of the Welcome Center.

Furnished with a nod to the Mid-Century Modern style of the building and using a calming color palette of rich blues and grays set off against warm hues of taupe and gold, the spaces are planned to optimize function and to promote fellowship and spiritual growth.



Know that Amy Boesen, our in-house design expert, has a team working with her to select colors, fabrics, textures, furniture, window coverings, artwork, and more. I have been privileged to see their design plans and am excited about our ability to purchase these items. Artwork shown top right.

Plan to attend the Pancake Man lunch on June 4 and members will have the opportunity to walk into the new space and see the progress. Thank you for your continued support.



Another Wonderful Youth Sunday

Youth Sunday was a wonderful way to celebrate our graduating seniors. The youth did a great job leading worship. Their faith talks were heartwarming. We couldn't be prouder! A special word of thanks goes out to the Deacons for providing the delicious brunch and keepsake booklet.



Pictured above: Kendall, Conlin, Cadence, Brady, Avery, Josh, James, Andrew, Maren, Lauren, & Blake.

Basket Silent Auction

Once again, our church family has shown up for our youth! The Celebrating Women's Baskets raised \$895 that will go towards the Senior High Mission Trip to Oregon, Illinois. Thank you so much for always supporting our youth!

Vacation Bible School



June 13-15
9 a.m. to Noon



Don't miss out! Scan our QR code to sign up online now!
Registration ends June 1.

Garage Sale News

SHF will not sponsor a church garage sale this summer. We are taking a year off! Please save your treasures for next year's sale.

Important Dates to Remember

June 4	JHF/SHF Mission Trip Parent Meeting, 11:30 a.m.
June 13-15	Vacation Bible School
June 16-18	JHF Mission Trip
June 26-July 1	SHF Mission Trip
July 11-14	Art Camp with Sue

Art Camp with Sue Thomas

July 11-14 ~ 9:00 a.m. to noon

Children 1st - 5th grade (completed) are invited to join us in the Gathering Space to have fun and create art with Sue Thomas. Kids will discover watercolor techniques, explore drawing dimensions, sculpt with clay, try print making across mediums, understand Origami folds, and create optical illusions. Sign up on our church website to participate. Cost is \$25 for materials/child.

Volunteers are also needed! Contact Sue Thomas to help.

Below: JHF had fun at Fontanelle Forest Tree Rush: Jessa, Brynn, Eryn, Garrett, Emmie, Sierra, Izzy, Max, Luke, & Cody



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

CE Committee Moderator: Jeremy Cunningham

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

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




JUNE Birthdays

- 6/2 Briley Mathia, Piiri Morey, Naomi Rueb, Ellie Sherlock
- 6/3 Dawn Buchanan, Rachel Rathman, Alex Voss
- 6/4 Ella Moore, Bob Reisser
- 6/5 Maya Maxwell, Mika Trapp
- 6/6 Don Reed
- 6/7 Jean Carey
- 6/8 Kristen Hinz, Larry Rock, Brooks Trapp
- 6/9 Bryce Crawford III, Claude Smith
- 6/10 Anne DeCosta
- 6/11 Leon Davis, Cosette Ebert, James Tot
- 6/12 Susan Geschwender, Crosby Koch, Scott Sumner
- 6/13 Cindy Sloan
- 6/14 Carl Mammel Jr., Matthew Price
- 6/15 Christina Kahler
- 6/16 Renee Cornett, Bethany Haas, Kim Reid
- 6/17 Dave Bougger, Bryan Hoybook, Casey Knight
- 6/18 Greg Breci, Cael Dempsey, John Millar, Gary Neuhaus
- 6/19 Judy Keating, Libby Pflueger, Fiona Smith, Porter Thorson, Rex Thorson
- 6/20 Maren Fuller, Leslie Nicas
- 6/21 Jacob Buda, Kate Morris
- 6/22 Kevin Curtis, Ava Kalkwarf, Isla Kalkwarf, Dan Kerr
- 6/23 Keegan Anderson
- 6/24 Sue Foehlinger, Debbie Mazgaj
- 6/25 Blake Harrison
- 6/26 Joe Eckman, Ann Pearson, Dave Pederson, Ron Wax
- 6/27 June Fettig, Beverley Karrer, Charlotte Lobaugh, Stephanie Weaver
- 6/28 Julie Buehler, Christine Dempsey
- 6/29 Erin Bauer, Marty McGuire
- 6/30 Wayne Bauer, Rylan Lehmann, Shepard Versaw



Jill Bobek passed away on April 30 at the age of 63.

Ron Mau passed away on May 18 at the age of 85.



Breast Cancer Support Group

For anyone currently diagnosed with Breast Cancer

Contact Christine or Heather
402-333-7466

Use the Power of Prayer

Submit a prayer request online or use one of the Care Cards in the pews.. All requests are shared only with members of the prayer team.

Prayer Team Coordinators:

Julie Buehler and Judy Arms

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

PCOC . . . It's Where You Belong! New Member Discussion on June 11

Do you know someone who is looking for a church home? Invite them to visit PCOC this summer. June 4 when The Pancake Man is here is always a great day to visit! Our next new member discussion will be held on Sunday, June 11 after the worship service. The discussion will last about an hour, and a light lunch will be provided. Sign up online or call the church office.



Membership Committee Co-Moderators:

Amy Boesen & Brenda Graumann



Stay Active in Two Great Groups on Mondays & Thursdays in June

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. Drop in if you'd like to attend a class. Note: No class on Thursday, June 1.

Coordinator: Paula Allen

49ers on June 6

Morgan Mattson, Lead Volunteer Coordinator Refugee Services at Lutheran Family Services, will cover a broad overview of Refugee Resettlement and how Lutheran Family Services supports newly arrived refugees in Nebraska and Iowa. Lunch will be at 11:30 a.m. at Wheatfield's at One Pacific Place in the Garden Room, and we will order from a special menu. Sign up at the Information Desk in the Narthex.

Coordinators: Judy Sundberg and Mary Ott

Friday Night Gourmets on June 16

Kris & Tim Goodman will host Friday Night Gourmets at their home on June 16. More details are coming soon — watch the bulletin and your email from church. Questions? Contact Kris.

Summer GALS Event on June 20

~ Tempo of Twilight at Lauritzen Gardens ~

Join PCOC GALS on Tuesday, June 20 from 6 to 8 p.m. for a concert by the band, New Humans, in the beautiful back garden at Lauritzen Gardens. This is a fun event in which we GALS go early to save spots, gather together, and enjoy music. Bring your own chair, beverage, and a light snack to share. Admission is free to Lauritzen Garden Members or \$15 + tax for nonmembers at the door.

That night, look for the GALS sign to find Brenda Graumann, Anne Wattles, or Staci Voss. You may set up your chairs/blankets starting at 4 p.m. Lauritzen's cafe will offer paid dinner service starting at 5 p.m. Guests are welcome to bring their



own food and beverages (alcoholic and non-alcoholic) to this event. GALS typically bring small bites to share with the group.

Active Minds in June

June will find laughter and fun as we learn or relearn to play 10-pt pitch and Canasta at Active Minds. Newcomers are always welcome, and we have very patient teachers. Join us on Tuesdays from 2-4 p.m. in the lower level. We will be in either the Gathering Space at the end of ramp, or in the Great Room. Enter through doors by the north portico, and you will find us.

Coordinator: Earlene Uhrig

Book Group on Wednesday, June 21

PCOC Book Group will meet Wednesday, June 21 from 5:15 to 6:30 p.m. to discuss *Our Woman in Moscow* by Beatriz Williams. All readers are welcome!

Coordinator: June Fettig

Summer All-Church Fellowship Events



Pancakes & a Peek on June 4

It's one of our favorite days at church — The Pancake Man is coming June 4! The cost is \$5.00 per person/\$20.00 maximum per family. Proceeds will help our new refugee family. We'll have candles in a stack of pancakes to celebrate Bob Reisser's 101st birthday. If you have a birthday, we will have candles for you, too!

Then, join us in the Welcome Center from 11:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. This will be a wonderful opportunity to be in our new space. Over 80 percent of the work will be done, and it will exciting to see the new space as it becomes a reality. Our MCL team and members of our building design committee will be on location that morning to help answer any questions. Looking forward to seeing everyone enjoy the Welcome Center.

Save the Dates! Pastor Christine's going away celebration on July 2. All-church potluck on July 30. Details for both will be coming soon!

Agape for All -

Where All are Welcome to Learn and Listen
Submitted by Patty Ritchie

“Trouble the Waters” Adult Education

Over 35 members participated in the “Trouble the Waters” Adult Education classes held this spring on Sunday mornings. The videos prepared by the Presbyterian Church USA provided rich and “troubling” information for us to discuss and ponder. Thank you to all who brought their intellect and compassion to this important work. We are learning there are many ways to “disrupt racism”, and perhaps the first step is to feel disruption within ourselves, as we begin to effect positive change.

Great Books & Discussions

Presbyterians (and a whole bunch of other folks) are reading books through the Presbyterian Women Justice and Peace initiative. It is free to participate in the discussion groups, but registration is required. Scan QR code below to learn more and sign up.



2023 JUSTICE and PEACE Book Discussion Group

Reading Selections
(6:30 PM – 8:30 PM Eastern Time)

DATE	BOOK	AUTHOR
JANUARY 9	CALL ME A WOMAN: ON OUR WAY TO EQUALITY AND PEACE	LAUREN LEVIN
JULY 10	BEAUTIFUL COUNTRY	QIAN JULIE WANG
MARCH 13	CLIMATE JUSTICE	MARY ROBINSON
SEPTEMBER 11	VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN	JACQUE TRUE
MAY 8	The Cry of Tamar	Parvati Cooper White
NOVEMBER 13	2017 Movie: WINTER	

FEBRUARY 13
WHAT KIND OF CHRISTIANITY
A HISTORY OF SLAVERY AND ANTI-BLACK RACISM IN THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
WILLIAM YOO
SPECIAL WEBINAR WITH AUTHOR

DISCUSS THE BOOKS WITH OTHERS VIA ZOOM
• The J&P Book Discussion Group is open to all!

DISCUSSION GROUP MEETS EVERY OTHER MONTH
• Read and discuss any or all books that appeal to you. Registration will be needed to join the discussion on Zoom.

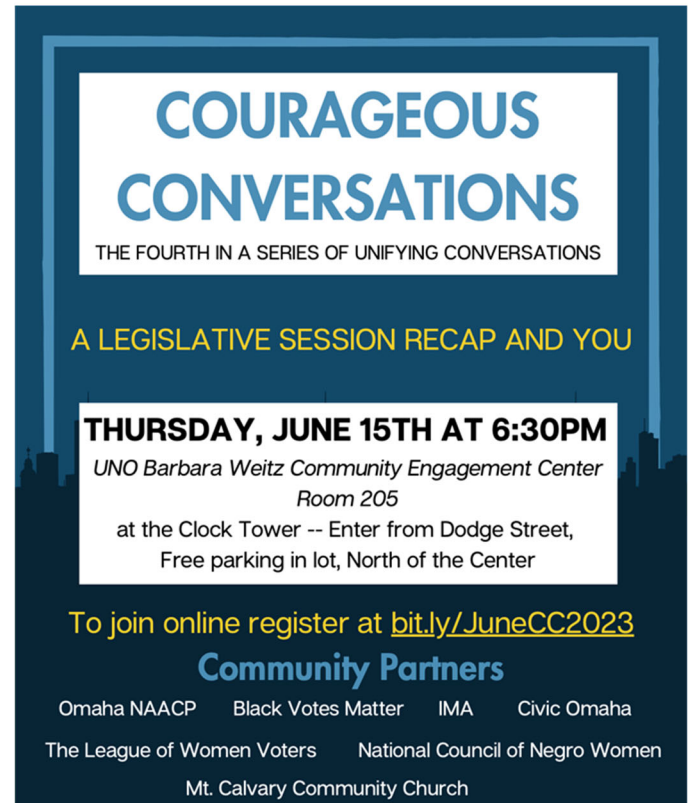
RECEIVE STUDY GUIDES TO INFORM YOUR READING
• Questions for discussion or reflection will be sent with your registration confirmation.

To register, scan the QR code with your smart phone or go to presbyterianwomen.org/justice.

Selections are recommended by the Justice & Peace Committee of PW's Board of Directors.

Coming Up

You are invited to attend the next Courageous Conversations. Nebraska senators will share highlights of this past legislative session, and together we will explore the importance of civil discourse. The ability to listen and learn are perhaps our most valuable tools for advancing social justice. All of our society's issues have a social justice component. Kathy Moore and Patty Ritchie serve on the planning committee. Call us with questions.



COURAGEOUS CONVERSATIONS
THE FOURTH IN A SERIES OF UNIFYING CONVERSATIONS

A LEGISLATIVE SESSION RECAP AND YOU

THURSDAY, JUNE 15TH AT 6:30PM
UNO Barbara Weitz Community Engagement Center
Room 205
at the Clock Tower -- Enter from Dodge Street,
Free parking in lot, North of the Center

To join online register at bit.ly/JuneCC2023

Community Partners
Omaha NAACP Black Votes Matter IMA Civic Omaha
The League of Women Voters National Council of Negro Women
Mt. Calvary Community Church

CREATING PLANS TO IMPROVE OUR COMMUNITY

There will be an adult dialogue class in the fall, September 24 to November 5, discussing marginalized groups in Nebraska. Look for details this summer when registration opens. Class will be taught by Charlene Meyer and Earlene Uhrig.

Watch for an announcement regarding a Black History Museum visit in June and possibly a great meal right across the street at the Fair Deal Cafe!

Good Food & Great Conversations

Join some friends and head over to the Sunday Soul Food Gospel Lunch on the 2nd and 4th Sundays each month, from noon to 3 p.m. at the Revive Center 24th and Lake Street, (402) 490-1542.



From the Mission Mailbox

Your mission dollars and volunteer hours at work!



The Mission Committee would like to share with you some of the mail received from the organizations which are the grateful recipients of your generosity. For the last month we have received these thank you notes from the following mission partners:

- The Omaha Street School staff thanks you for the awesome food and gift cards for Teacher Appreciation Day. It was truly appreciated.
- Sherman Elementary School sends their thanks from students and staff for your support.
- The Rev. Edwin Gonzalez-Castillo, Director of Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, said about your \$13,469 Turkey/Syria earthquake donation, “We cannot thank you enough for your generosity. Your act of kindness and compassion shown through this donation will make a significant difference in the lives of those affected by the disaster.”
- Heartland Hope Mission thanks you for the \$10,035 that will provide working poor families with fresh produce, meat, milk, and hygiene items as well as access to clothing and household items. Your contribution also allows families to meet with a Client Service Specialist to receive navigational services, SNAP (food stamp) application assistance, and access to HHM’s Job Paths program.
- PCOC’s Refugee Resettlement Committee has been informed by Lutheran Family Services that they have been matched with a refugee family. The family of seven were expected to arrive in Omaha May 25. The committee wants to thank you for your support and prayers.

KUDOS to you, PCOC!

2023 Habitat for Humanity Faith House Build Day

Submitted by Rob Bailey

If you are interested in helping with our Habitat for Humanity project this year, our build day will be on Saturday, June 3 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Anyone 16 or over can volunteer, and we have room for 10 on our PCOC crew. We will meet at the site at 8 a.m., and Rob Bailey will provide the address the week

before the event to those signed up. Lunch and water will be provided. Work gloves, work boots, long sleeve shirt, and pants are suggested. Goggles and hardhat will be provided. Sign up online on the church website.

June Volunteer Opportunity with Completely Kids

Submitted by Gayle Kerr-McFadden

You may recall that we support our mission partner Completely Kids each November by filling Thanksgiving baskets for low-income families in their programs. Completely Kids was among the first to realize that food insecurity for children in the Omaha area exists year round. In fact, when kids are not in school, this insecurity is most dire.

This summer, PCOC is taking on a new volunteer opportunity with Completely Kids on Wednesday, June 21 from 4-6 p.m. We need 10-20 volunteers to fill summer food bags and distribute them to families as they drive up.



The YA mission group will participate in this event on the first night of their mission outreach, but this volunteer opportunity is open to anyone at PCOC. This can be a great chance for families with school age kids to volunteer together. High school kids, if you need service hours for your academic program/honor society, come volunteer! Sign up online.

Serve at Siena Francis House

Sign up to serve dinner at Siena Francis House on Sunday, June 11. from 4:15 to 6:15 p.m. Questions? Contact Keith Allen. Scan our QR code to sign up online via the church website.

Want to volunteer for a PCOC mission opportunity?

It’s easy! Scan our QR code to access the PCOC online sign up page. Locate your mission event and sign up!





Mission Committee Moderator:
Anne Wattles

OSS Luncheon Support

Submitted by Darrell Stuedemann

For over 10 years, the PCOC Mission Committee has organized volunteers to serve lunch once a month at Omaha Street School (OSS). The school operates on a small budget, in an old building that does not have a full kitchen. Because meals cannot be prepared onsite, various volunteer organizations, churches, and businesses have picked up the slack by providing hot lunches on a daily basis.

PCOC Mission committee members and other church members cook and serve a delicious Taco lunch on the second Tuesday of each month, and it is one of the students' favorites. In addition to the lunch, PCOC has also served brownies, cookies, brownie ice cream sundaes, and other dessert surprises to about 30 students and 12 staff. Most importantly, our volunteers share positive affirmations and acceptance with the students to help them feel loved and respected. Tina Morgan is the lunch team leader and has about 15 volunteers who work different weeks. A BIG Thank you to the leadership and volunteers for a successful 2022 - 2023 school lunch year at OSS!

A message from Susan Schaaf, OSS volunteer coordinator:
"Lunch is an integral part of the school day at Omaha Street School. For many students, it is the only meal they eat each day. PCOC has supported the lunch program for years, and volunteers from the church bring and serve tacos/nachos once a month at the school. Tina Morgan does an amazing job of coordinating the lunches and volunteers!"

Baseball Volunteers Needed

The AllPlay Miracle Baseball League's spring season started on May 6 and runs through June 24, and they need our help to make game days great for

these special needs kids as they have fun playing baseball. Over 125 volunteers are needed each game day. Volunteer positions include being a player buddy, greeting, serving concessions, announcing the game, serving as umpire, being a mascot, or setting up before/cleaning up after the games. Each shift is 2 hours. Please sign up online to help this PCOC mission partner!

PITCH IN FOR AllPlay Miracle Baseball



2023 YA Mission Trip

~ Sign Up Now for "Gathering at the River" ~

Our young adult summer mission trip will be June 21-June 25 at Calvin Crest. Our mission work and other details are below. Sign up online NOW!

Wednesday, June 21

4:00-6:00 – Completely Kids
6:30 – Sandwiches at the church

Thursday, June 22

10:00 – Meet at Church of the Cross – fill water bottles/pack
2:00 – Meet at Sienna Francis House to hand out water bottles and glasses
5:00 – Camp Calvin crest – check into Cabins
6:30 – Hobo Dinners
9:00 – Ice Breakers, bonfire, Smores, Game

Friday, June 23

8:00 – Breakfast at Camp Calvin Crest
9:00 – Habitat for Humanity House in Fremont
5:00 – Free time and GAGA ball
6:00 – Dinner
8:30 – Bible Study
9:00 – T-shirt toys for Homeward Bound in the Heartland

Saturday, June 24

8:00 – Breakfast in the Cabin – Pancakes
9:00 – Set up Fireworks Stand for ROC Ministries in Ashland
6:00-9:00 – Night on the town! Favorite food truck? Ice cream?
10:00 – Boundary Breaking, Games

Sunday, June 25

8:00 – Breakfast in the cabin
10:00 – Worship at PCOC

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



Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Omaha Ne
Permit No. 833

**Next Cross Currents Deadline is:
Third Friday of the month
June 16, 2022**

† DEACONS UPDATE

News from the PCOC Deacons

Submitted by Becky Zieman

The Deacons, led by Piper Smith, Jerry Cornett, Bidong Tot, and Holly Baddley, were happy to host the May 7 Brunch, honoring our graduating seniors.

The youth participated in our worship service that day. In between services, seniors and their families enjoyed a delicious meal prepared by chefs Renee and Jerry Cornett. Fresh fruit, egg casseroles, bacon, salad, and hot cinnamon rolls were on the menu. The gathering was made so much more beautiful with the light streaming in through the new windows in Fellowship Hall!

It is always inspiring to hear how young people have persevered and have kept their faith. The inter-generational nature of our church is to be cherished and nurtured. We all need and learn from each other. So it is a privilege for all of us to celebrate the milestone that these seniors have achieved. We will continue to appreciate the gifts they shared among us, and pray for them as they pursue goals.



Cross Currents

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

Top: Deacons Jerry Cornett, Tot Bidong, Holly Baddley, & Piper Smith planned and hosted the senior brunch

Middle: Seniors James Fuller, Lauren Harrison, & Conlin Grady

Bottom: Our amazing chefs Jerry & Renee Cornett

Contact the Church: Email: churchofthecross@pcoc.us or phone: (402)333-7466