



Dear Faithfuls,

We had our first gathering to Discover our Future on September 10. A big thank you to the Fellowship Committee for catering a delicious barbeque lunch!

A key activity of the day was filling in a timeline of the church. Please check out the timeline in the hallway at the church. You are welcome to add more events that you remember occurring in the life of Faith Church.

That time line, plus some table discussions, allowed the congregation to name our core values, what baggage that we need to leave behind, and what our hopes and dreams are for this church. Here's what we discovered:

We value:

Our faith in God – a reminder that this church is appropriately named!

We are a welcoming congregation – we invite people to be part of this loving community

We care for our members – in multiple ways, we take care of one another

We value mission and outreach – as evidenced recently by the generous collection for the Nicaraguan Partnership and the enthusiasm for the Clothing Giveaway

Baggage to Let Go of:

Let go of the past (Out of 10 tables, 8 tables expressed this baggage in some form)

The hard times during the minister changes – yes, these were difficult times, and this is part of letting the past stay in the past

Hopes and Dreams:

Continue to grow – we can grow in multiple ways: in mission, in education, in offering our building space to others in the community, and more...

Embrace ministry with the experienced, mature people who are already among us; we have members, both younger and older, with energy, imagination, intelligence and love – all attributes for a vital ministry and congregation

People waking up on Sunday mornings and wanting to be at Faith church – this is a wonderful hope!

Our next step in Discovering our Future is to assess our present. We will have a lunch and gathering on October 8 to consider what are the factors, forces and trends happening today that impact ministry. Please be in worship that morning, and stay for lunch (Summer Kitchen box lunches – yum!) and conversations about the present.

Peace,
Becky

Session Highlights

The Session meeting opened with prayers of gratitude. Each elder shared several times the many gifts of life for which that are grateful.

Darrin Kimpson and **Jake Chantry**, of Campus Life Ministries, were present, to share the ministry they host on Wednesday mornings. They shared ways in which Faith Church could be deeper partners. Please watch future newsletters for more information on this.

The elders made the following decisions:

- Approved the revised job descriptions for all staff; the biggest change was the pastor's job description, which now reflects that this congregation has a solo pastor

- Removed members from the rolls who are no longer attending; the pastor assured the elders that should any of these people die, and want/need a funeral, we will do it, and also if they return to worshipping with us, we will add them to the membership rolls

- Approved the endowment program, presented by the Finance Team

- Elected **Doug Bogenhagen** to be the second elder to serve on the Nominating committee (our by-laws require two active elders for this committee)

- Removed, with sadness, Carol Swayne from the membership rolls, due to her death

Please continue to pray for your elders as they lead this congregation with energy, intelligence, imagination and love.



The next **Fun & Lunch** will be
October 6th at 12:00 pm
at **J's Smokehouse**

230 West Lincoln Street, Papillion
(lower level of Papillion American
Legion, near Lincoln & 84th)

Anyone of any age is invited.

Sign up at church by October 3rd
or contact Sharon Fleming at
402-709-2103 or

sfleming43@aol.com for your
reservation or if you need a ride.

Are you grieving the loss of a loved one? How will you survive the weeks surrounding Thanksgiving and Christmas? How will you go forward knowing that everything has changed and happy memories from past years can't be recreated?

GriefShare Surviving the Holidays is especially for people who are grieving a loved one's death. This seminar will be offered on **November 4, 2023** from 2:00 - 4:00 pm. Everyone is welcome! You can register for this seminar at www.griefshare.org.

GriefShare is a 13-week grief support ministry offered by local churches. GriefShare is open to people of all faiths, as well as those who do not practice a faith.

A new GriefShare group will start on **November 12, 2023 and go through February 18, 2024**. We will meet in Room 9 (lower level) from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm. We will plan to meet every Sunday (except for December 24 and 31) for 13 weeks. There will be a video and small group discussion. You can register for the group at www.griefshare.org. Please RSVP to janine@faith-presbyterian.com or call the church office at (402)331-6944. I hope to see you there!

Great Exercise & Great Fellowship

Join us for



Mondays 6:30 pm
Thursdays 1:00 pm



Join us for



Sundays 1:30 pm



If you are interested and want more info,
call the church office.



Correction

In last month's newsletter it was incorrectly stated that the fried chicken was provided by the Fellowship Committee. It should have stated that it was provided by the Presbyterian Women.

RMD donations

We have received several RMD donations without a donor name on them from both LPL Financial and Fidelity Financial. If you are donating through either of these companies, please call them to let them know you would like your name on the check. Also, please call the office to let me know to be watching for them.

Thank you! Ranae

Parish Nurse Corner

Please stop by the Welcome Booth
for a flyer with information about
Prostrate Health.

Faith Presbyterian Church

Becky Balestri, Pastor

8100 Giles Road, La Vista, NE 68128

402-331-6944

Web page: www.faith-presbyterian.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/faithpresby

Volunteer of the Month

Evan Boe, grandson of Phyllis and Dave Wennstedt, is our October Volunteer of the Month. Evan is the Hanger Wrangler for the Clothing Giveaway. Evan is at every monthly giveaway, collecting the hangers that are left after people take clothes. He organizes them by size and type on the hanger rack, making things easy for those volunteers who sort and hang clothes.

Evan has one sister, Emma, who often volunteers at the Clothing Giveaway, too. Evan is in fifth grade at Upchurch Elementary School in Millard. He is definitely a Nebraska fan. He plays forward for his soccer team, and scored a goal at his last game. His favorite subject is social studies. Evan recently ran for Student Council and was elected! A big thank you to our favorite Hanger Wrangler!



Oct 3 Sharon Fleming
Oct 3 Daryl Mouw
Oct 7 Kristy Funk
Oct 10 Pat Starke
Oct 10 Ron Stiverson
Oct 10 Kelsey Zimmerman
Oct 11 Lexie Brown
Oct 21 Maggie Davis
Oct 22 Mark Jewett
Oct 26 Carol Day
Oct 26 Toni Murphy

Chair Exercise Class

Wednesdays 11:00 am
In the Fellowship Hall

Beginning October 4th, Janine will be leading a new form of exercise - chair-exercise. If you are recovering from an injury or surgery, if you have balance challenges, or if you want to strengthen your joints and muscles, **this is for you!**

Chair exercises allow you to build strength in your upper body, lower body, and core. If you have limited mobility, you can build muscle without putting additional stress on the joints using only a chair.

Please come and try this out. You may be surprised at what a great workout it can be!

learn new worship skills
and bring your own:
puppetry,
creative Christmas program ideas,
easy video editing,
music arts,
and more

WORSHIP ARTS WORKSHOP

November 4, 2023
10 AM to 4 PM
Calvin Crest Camp
Conference, and Retreat Center

collaborate
with others

REGISTER @ <https://tinyurl.com/CALVINCRESTARTS>

Will You Leave the Church in Your Will?

After Mark Miller's death, we were grateful to learn that Mark had put Faith Church in his will. We have received over \$17,000 from his estate, for the mission and ministry of this congregation!

His gift is a reminder – as you plan for the future, will you please consider leaving a portion of your estate to Faith Church in your will? Those of you who participated in the End of Life series, offered by Tom Willadsen, may already have done this. We will be offering the series again after the first of the year. In the meantime, will you prayerfully consider following in these particular steps of Mark Miller?

Your Session

Clerk of Session - Joe Seda

Discipleship	Shayla Hall
Facilities	Matt Kasprzak
	Jim Willett
	Doug Bogenhagen
Fellowship	Tracy Kristensen
Human Res	Bob Meyer
Mission & Ev	Terri O'Brien
Support	Peter Svoboda
Worship	Al Zimmerman

Forgiveness Isn't Easy, but It's Possible

Jesus frequently commanded that we forgive one another. Yet, when we have been deeply harmed, forgiveness doesn't come easily. Yet, we can learn to forgive.

You are invited to participate in the class on forgiveness at 9:00 on Sunday mornings. This class will meet each Sunday through November 5th. We will be using the book "The Forgiveness Project," by Marina Cantacuzino, as the basis for discussion and learning about forgiveness. Copies of the chapters we will be discussing will be available the week before each class. However, if you choose to purchase the book, the Discipleship Team will reimburse you. (The book is available on Amazon; used books start at \$2.34.) Becky Balestri will be leading this class.

We will meet in Room 9. Questions? Please contact a member of the Discipleship Team or Becky Balestri.

Presbyterian Women

ALL WOMEN WELCOME

3RD TUESDAY OF THE MONTH

9/19, 10/17, 11/21, 12/12

1/16, 2/20, 3/19, 4/16, 5/21

1 PM BUSINESS MEETING

1:30 PM BIBLE STUDY

*Mother and Daughters of the Bible Speak
by Shannon Bream*



Helping Hands to the Rescue

Congregation members – Do you have jobs at home that you cannot do on your own (cutting up limbs, small electrical or plumbing jobs, yardwork, etc)? For help, contact the church office, and we will check with our Helping Hands Team.

The Faith Church Helping Hands Team is in need of a coordinator. Anyone interested in filling this need please contact the church office.

If you would like to join the Helping Hands Team, please let us know and we will add you to our list of helpers.

Streaming Sunday Worship Service 10:00am

We continue to broadcast the worship service on Facebook. If you do not have computer access, you may listen to the service by calling 1-844-855-4444 and entering access code 716966#.



The Discipleship Committee is hosting an intergenerational Halloween Party on Sunday, October 29, after worship. Grandparents are invited to bring their grandchildren; parents can come, too. We will enjoy games and crafts, and of course, lunch will be served! Everyone is invited to wear a costume – grandparents included. Please call the church office if you will be attending – we want to have plenty of food, and need to know that you are coming for fun!

Middle School is Grateful

As a part of our mission to the La Vista Middle School, the Mission committee gave the school a cash gift to be used for students in whatever way is needed. Recently, we received an email from the principal. She shared that the school paid for a sports physical for a student who wanted to be involved but could not afford it. That student is now enjoying sports. Another student needed some property replaced, due to a bad spill. (We are guessing that an electronic device was ruined.) The school helped replace those items and the student proudly started school. The principal shared how grateful they are for our support of both faculty and students.

Sightings

Every Sunday, from late spring until well into the fall, **Melanie Lechner** brings small bouquets of flowers for members to take home with them. She adds beauty to our lives. Thank you, Melanie!



Clothing Giveaway Update

The next Give Away will be October 21. We will be sorting September 26, October 4, and October 18 from 9:00 - 11:00 am.

Thanks for your continued support. The Nebraska Presbytery Foundation did a site visit in conjunction with our grant proposal. We should know if we received the grant in late October.

John and Terri &
the Mission and Evangelism Team



Ginny McKulsky, Sharon Fleming, Ann Tresemer served a delicious cookies and pastries reception for the funeral of Carol Swayne. Thank you! And, **Rod Bosserdet, Rob Crick,** and **Janice Miner** stepped up and did the work of the funeral directors, welcoming, directing and ushering for the service. Thank you all!



Faith Church is getting fancy! Thank you to **Steve Harmsen** and **Marc Wagoner** installing this new, beautiful faucet in the kitchen!

Do you notice the lovely flowers in the entryway, the Centrum and the sanctuary? Thank you to **Ruth Tresemer**, for adorning our church and making the spaces inviting.



Harvest

Annual Salad Luncheon

Bake Sale and Boutique
Thursday, November 2nd

**Watch for sign-up sheets in the
CENTRUM.**

**Please let us know how you can help. If
you don't sign up, we cannot assume
that you will bring something or be
there to help.**

**Setup Wednesday, November 1st
9:30 a.m. - noon and 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.
Bring your salads and home baked
goods Wednesday during these times
or before 10:00 a.m. Thursday.**

**Thank you in advance from the
Faith Presbyterian Women**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:00 am Forgiveness Project 11:00 am Mission/Evang mtg 11:30 pm Volleyball 2:00 pm Puppet Rehearsal 5:00pm Table Tennis - FLC	2 6:30 pm Pickleball 6:30 A Capella group	3 6:30 pm Bells Rehearsal	4 7:00 am Campus Life - FLC 9:00 am Clothes Sorting 10:00am Yesterday's Kids 11:00 am Chair Exerdses 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal	5 1:00 pm Pickleball 6:00 pm Table Tennis Team Meetings 4:00 pm Worship meeting 5:30 pm Discipleship mtg 7:00 pm Facilities - FH 7:00 pm Fellowship	6 8:30 am Donuts & Dialogue 12:00 pm Lunch Bunch J's Smokehouse	7 1:00 pm OCS cards
8 9:00 am Forgiveness Project 11:00 am Meeting/dinner 11:30 pm Volleyball 2:00 pm Puppet Rehearsal 5:00pm Table Tennis - FLC 6:00 pm Crossroads Connection	9 5:45 pm Book Club 6:30 pm Pickleball 6:30 A Capella group	10 6:30 pm Bells Rehearsal 7:00 pm Deacons' meeting	11 7:00 am Campus Life - FLC 10:00am Yesterday's Kids 11:00 am Chair Exerdses 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal	12 1:00 pm Pickleball 6:00 pm Table Tennis 6:30 pm Stephen Ministry 7:00 pm Support	13 8:30 am Donuts & Dialogue	14 8:00 am Men's Breakfast 1:00 pm OCS cards
15 9:00 am Forgiveness Project 1:30 pm Volleyball 2:00 pm Puppet Rehearsal 5:00pm Table Tennis - FLC	16 6:30 pm Pickleball 6:30 A Capella group	17 1:00 pm PW - FH 6:30 pm Bells Rehearsal	18 7:00 am Campus Life - FLC 9:00 am Clothes Sorting 10:00am Yesterday's Kids 11:00 am Chair Exerdses 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal	19 1:00 pm Pickleball 6:00 pm Table Tennis 7:00 pm Session meeting	20 8:30 am Donuts & Dialogue 10:00 am Transitions Group	21 9:00 am Clothing Giveaway 1:00 pm OCS cards
22 9:00 am Forgiveness Project 1:30 pm Volleyball 2:00 pm Puppet Rehearsal 5:00pm Table Tennis - FLC	23 6:30 pm Pickleball 6:30 A Capella group	24 6:30 pm Bells Rehearsal	25 7:00 am Campus Life - FLC 10:00am Yesterday's Kids 11:00 am Chair Exerdses 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal	26 1:00 pm Pickleball 6:00 pm Table Tennis	27 8:30 am Donuts & Dialogue	28 1:00 pm OCS cards
29 9:00 am Forgiveness Project 11:00 am Halloween party 1:30 pm Volleyball 2:00 pm Puppet Rehearsal 5:00pm Table Tennis - FLC	30 6:30 pm Pickleball 6:30 A Capella group	31 6:30 pm Bells Rehearsal 	<div> Sunday Worship 10:00 am </div> <div>  </div>			