

find us on the web... [fpcrwf.org](http://fpcrwf.org)/like us on Facebook/follow us on Twitter

## No More Friendship Dinners

We have decided to stop having our Friendship Dinners after 14 years and two months.

We have served around 18,000 meals in that period of time. We provided food to people in need and a place for fellowship for many lonely people. Thanks to all those that served faithfully and joyfully and those that generously donated food or money for the meals.

Jesus said *"For I was I hungry and you fed me."*

~ Pastor Scott

## Hymn Sing

We will be singing hymns as a prelude to worship every 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month. Hymn suggestions will be called out from the gathering congregation. So come prepared with a favorite hymn in mind every 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday ☺.

Make a  
Joyful  
noise  
Unto  
The  
Lord!

## July Communion Servers

Adrienne Danielson, Merlin Goudy, Dan Tiffany, Bruce Tiffany, Candy Zaske, Diane Davis, Joyce McKay

## August Communion Servers

Marlys Mathiowetz, Nathan Stephens, Joyce McKay, Maynard Nolting, Adrienne Danielson, Joyce Nolting, Joleen MacHolda

## July Ushers

Head Usher: Merlin Goudy

Diane Davis, Tim & Lois Davis, Bruce & Ann Tiffany, Dan Tiffany, John Tiffany

## Meals on Wheels Delivery

Thank You to all those who volunteered and helped deliver Meals on Wheels to those in our community that are in need! Thank you to Patty Rohne for taking charge of this program! We couldn't have done it without you!

## Men's Turkey Dinner

It is time to start planning for the 2018 Men's Turkey Dinner. **Putting together this meal for 600-1000 people is a big undertaking.** To help us tackle that task we are organizing a Men's Turkey Dinner Planning Team. We have a volunteer to lead the team, but we need 4-5 additional men from the church who are willing to help organize the dinner in advance of the big day. **Please consider volunteering to join this planning team so that we can continue to have the Men's Turkey Dinner.** The dinner raises a meaningful amount of money for the church and is a beloved tradition in the community.

If you are interested in helping plan the Turkey Dinner, please contact Dave Danielson (507)616-6142 or Pastor Scott. Thank you so much.

# July

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 *Worship with Holy Communion	July 2-July 8 Pastor Scott out of Office		4 <b>Fourth of July Church Office Closed</b>	5	6	7 Tiffany use of Church
8 *Worship with Guest Speaker Janet Ellingworth/ Tiffany Family Music	9 *Pastor-Rotary *Session Meeting	10 *Pastor-Visits	11	12	13	14
15 *Worship *Pastor-Pre-Marital Counseling	16 *Pastor-Rotary	17 *Pastor-Visits *Ruby's Pantry	18 *Piecemakers	19 *Pastor-Zoom Conference Call	20	21
22 *Worship	July 23-29 Pastor Scott out of Office Rev. Anna Williamson of Revile will cover in case of an emergency.				27	28
29 *Worship with Guest Speaker	30 *Pastor-Rotary	31				

# August

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 *Piecemakers' Coffee Party	2 *Pastor-Visits	3	4
5 *Worship with Holy Communion	6 *Pastor-Rotary *Mission Meeting	7 *Committee Meetings	8	9 *Pastor-Visits	10	11
12 *Worship	13 *Pastor-Rotary *Session Meeting	14	15	16 *Pastor-Visits	17	18
19 *Worship	20 *Pastor-Rotary	21 *Pastor-Meeting in Brainerd *Ruby's Pantry	22	23 *Pastor-Conf. Call *Pastor-Visits	24	25
26 *Worship	August 27-September 3 Pastor Scott out of Office		29	30	31	

## Pastor's Visitation Schedule

If Pastor Scott is unable to meet, you will be notified. If you are unable to meet at the designated time, please let the Pastor Scott know as soon as possible so other arrangements may be made. You may call his home phone at 627-5486.  
Thank you.

### July

#### Tuesday, July 10:

Holy Communion taken to:  
Morning: Muriel Moon,  
Millie Bunting, Janet Minkel  
Visits  
2:00 pm: Lucille Byram  
4:00 pm: Maynard & Joyce Nolting

#### Tuesday, July 17:

Holy Communion taken to:  
Morning: Gordon Alexander  
Afternoon: Darlene Garrison

### Thank You

Thank you so much for  
the quilt, card and  
other gifts.  
~ Jonathan Sweetman

### August

#### Thursday, August 2:

9:00 am: Dan & Doreen Steenblock  
10:00am: Joleen MacHolda  
11:00am: Sue Osborne  
2:00 pm: Dorothy Symes  
3:00 pm: Bob & Bunny Nolting  
4:00 pm: Mark & Dorie Oja

#### Thursday, August 9:

9:00 am: Betty Peterson  
10:00am: Judy Curtis  
11:00am: Muriel Moon  
2:00 pm: Janet Minkel  
3:00 pm: Millie Bunting  
4:00 pm: Maynard & Joyce Nolting

#### Thursday, August 16:

9:30 am: Gordon Alexander  
3:00 pm: Darlene Garrison

#### Thursday, August 23:

2:00 pm: Lucille Byram  
4:00 pm: David & Adrienne Danielson

### July Greeters

#### **Deacon of Month: Joyce McKay**

7/1: Marlys Mathiowetz/Paul Hagen  
7/8: Elizabeth Prouty/Char Gilland  
7/15: Peggy Dolezal/Karen Speros  
7/22: Rick Kramer & Jerilyn Kodet/Ryan Kramer & Lindsey Lund  
7/29: Kevin & Candy Zaske/Bob & Bunny Nolting

### July

## Birthdays & Anniversaries

1st - Deb Hess, Kim McKay, Kevin McKay

#### **Fred & Jenny Bloedow**

2nd - Aiden Robish

3rd - Taylor Moore, Kristina Thissen

4th - John Tiffany

5th - Brent Prouty

6th - Christina Rebstock, Ryan Kramer,  
Karen Speros

7th - Dan Tiffany

8th - Aubree Hicks, Trevin Sharpe, Julie Rienstra

9th - Suzanne Edwards

#### **Mark & Dorie Oja**

10th - Ella Enright

11th - **Keegan & Shellie Mammen**

12th - Claire Stephens

16th - RJ Juell

17th - Marty Caraway

#### **Marty & Lindsey Caraway**

18th - Rick & Fran Hauge

19th - **Randy & Lynn Juell,**

#### **Peggy & Ross Dolezal,**

#### **Brady & Abbi Stough**

21st - Lindsey Caraway

22nd - LeAnne Heimer

23rd - Luke Kaupang

#### **Brian & Stephanie Klavetter**

#### **Aaron & Amber Rohlik**

25th - Alica Whitmore, David Fuhr, Roger Potter,  
Knox Kramer

#### **Doug & Kay Jensen**

26th - Dorothy Symes

28th - Cassandra Sweetman, Mika Jacobson

29th - Bruce Tiffany

30th - Julie Fiala

#### **Jamie & Emily Norgaard**

## Generosity of Evangelism

*"Go, therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." -Jesus (Matthew 18:19)*

Is there anything in our life we should be more generous with than the Good News?

"We are known, wanted and deeply loved by the Creator of the Universe! God loves us so much that He came and lived in our mess with us, he even died for us! God is with us and for us! God heals! Christ is risen! Our sins are forgiven! Death is defeated! Eternal life is ours! The Spirit of God lives inside of us! We are enabled to radiate the Kingdom of God into the world! Alleluia! Amen."

.... And yet, we often keep the best news in the history of the world, the Good News of Jesus Christ, to ourselves. We neglect to share it with our friends, family members and neighbors. Why?

One reason we may be hesitant to generously share the Gospel with those whom God places in our lives could be that we have had awkward or even hurtful experiences of being evangelized to ourselves. These negative experiences of evangelism can often have the undesirable side-effect of causing us to be muted about our faith. We don't want to make people feel badly, or to make them feel that we think we are better than them, so we do not share the message of Jesus Christ with them.

Or perhaps we falter in boldly proclaiming the Good News because we are afraid of what others will think of us if we do. We imagine people might think we are stupid for believing that God became a man who saved us, and redeemed all of Creation, through His death on a cross. Fearing being thought of as naïve and ridiculous we talk to others about seemingly anything other than our faith in the Triune God.

Maybe we are just shy. Maybe we aren't sure what exactly the Good News is. Maybe we are struggling to believe it ourselves. Maybe we feel we are failing to live into our call to be disciples of Jesus Christ, and so we do not want to come across as hypocrites for commending the Way of Jesus to others. Maybe we are too distracted by the things of this world to remember to share our faith with our friends, family, and neighbors. There are probably as many reasons for lukewarm evangelism as there are those of us who struggle to generously proclaim the Good News.

Evangelism doesn't have to be awkward or confrontational though. We need not fear what others will think of us because of our faith in Jesus (take Paul's advice to the Corinthians, and embrace being a "fool for Christ's sake"). We don't need to be extroverts to share the Good News. We do not need to be perfectly versed on every teaching of Christianity or be 100% rock-solid in our faith to share the Gospel with others. We do not need to be perfect disciples of Jesus to also be apostles of Jesus. We do not need to remain too distracted to share of our hope in Jesus. There is no roadblock to sharing the Gospel with others that God is not ready, willing, and able to break through for us. We just need to trust that the Spirit will speak through us, flaws and all, as we learn to live generously by freely sharing the Good News with others.

How do we go about doing this then? How is evangelism done 'well'? When the Rev. Dr. J. Herbert Nelson preached at our church's 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration he suggested that we begin by simply sharing our stories; that we talk easily with others about how God is working in our lives and how we see Him working in the world. This rings true to me. I have always been brought closer to God not by a person making me assent to some theological claim but by being moved by a story someone shares about God's presence in his or her life. Of course, to move people closer to God with our stories we need to also make them feel genuinely loved and cared about. When we self-sacrificially love those around us and speak to them about God's goodness in our lives, and in all of Creation, people will begin to connect the dots and hear the Holy Spirit proclaim the Gospel through us. There really is no better gift we could give than the gift of faith in Jesus Christ. Let us give it generously.

***Lord, help us to really see the transformative power of Your Good News, and proclaim it boldly and beautifully. Amen.***

**Now Go and Do:** Look up evangelism resources, read through some of them, and put into practice some of their tips.

<https://www.pcusa.org/engage/welcome/>

<https://www.elca.org/Our-Work/Congregations-and-Synods/Faith-Practices/eTips>

Love, Your Generosity Project Team (Adrienne Danielson, Deb Hess, Shari Fuhr and Marlys Mathiowetz)

## **Year of Generosity; Halfway Through**

Our Year of Generosity is flying by. We have six months of focusing on living big-heartedly and open-handedly behind us, and six more to go. Have you noticed any changes in your approach to the world? To your family? Your coworkers? Have you been growing in generosity? Where has the Spirit lead you to take greater joy in giving to others? If you have been working to live more generously what effects on your life and the lives of others have you noticed?

If you are anything like me, learning to live more generously has been a two-steps-forward-one-step-back sort of a walk. Maybe you are disappointed that the changes you resolved to make to be more generous in certain areas of your life don't stick like you were imagining they would. This is normal. What matters of course is that we do not give up, that we keep pressing towards our goal of becoming more generous, more Christ-like. When we feel discouraged we must just remember; *"God is working in you, giving you the desire and POWER to do what pleases Him."* (Philippians 2:13). If you are feeling disheartened that you aren't living up to all your generosity aspirations it also helps to look at how far you have come. We are being changed as we try and try again; *"...And the Lord--who is the Spirit--makes us more and more like him as we are changed into his glorious image."* (2 Corinthians 3:18). One generous act after another we are being transformed!

### **The Year of Generosity so far:**

January: Prayer  
February: Thoughts  
March: Attention  
April: Talent  
May: Possessions  
June: Words

### **The next six months of generosity:**

July: Evangelism  
August: Body  
September: Money  
October: Stories  
November: Time  
December: Forgiveness

**(If you have any ideas for how to encourage and celebrate generosity over the next six months please share them with Marlys Mathawitz, Deb Hess, Shari Fuhr, or Adrienne Danielson!)**

To kick off the Year of Generosity we asked everyone to respond to the question "What ministry to you dream of our church being able to do if we were gifted one million dollars to do mission work with?". Here are the responses:

- ~Continue with giving for missions. Ruby's Pantry is the type of service needed for those less fortunate
- ~Open a shelter and soup kitchen.
- ~Develop a fund that can assist area families who are struggling in paying for food and housing.
- ~Feed as many hungry as possible.
- ~I envision, investing \$50,000 and use the earnings to provide an annual supply of funds to continue our current ministries. I would use the other half to help create a childcare facility to help with the growing needs of child care in our community. The earnings from the invested portion could be used to pay for/provide childcare for those that cannot afford it, in our area as well.
- ~Create a home/site for homeless teens with services. Food, job skills, safe place to sleep, emotional support and restorative circles.
- ~Opening a day care.
- ~Assisting homeless and poor in our area.
- ~Start a ministry program to reach people struggling with addiction. Just outreach, no strings attached. Spreading Christ's love and maybe warm food.
- ~Buy a little farm and run it as transitional housing for victims of human-trafficking. The staff, the residents, the church members, and other volunteers could work together to grow produce that could be sold to restaurants, the grocery store, and the farmers market. And, best of all, there would be lots of therapy animals (dog, cats, horses, ect). The farm could also be used for out-patient therapy for at-risk youth and folks with disabilities.
- ~I dream of being able to build and run a Presbyterian skilled nursing facility.

Love, Your Generosity Project Team (Adrienne Danielson, Deb Hess, Shari Fuhr and Marlys Mathiowetz)



The Baptism  
of Rhys  
Eugene  
Meyers

**Clearwater Camp**

Many years ago, Rita Pfeifer gave our Church a gift on money to be used to help pay for our youth to attend Christian summer camps, most notably Clearwater Camp near Brainerd, MN. This is a 1,000 acre Presbyterian Camp located on Clearwater Lake that our Church youth have enjoyed camping at for years. Typically, the camps last for a short week with the campers enjoying nature, fellowship with other campers and bible study. Sometime ago, the Pfeifer fund became depleted.

A few years back, we asked for help sending our youth to camp and our congregation responded. We received several generous gifts that funded our youth's attendance at Clearwater for several years. Because we have a lot of youth attending these Clearwater Camps, the Camp Fund has once again become exhausted and we no longer have these funds to help pay the cost of Camp attendance.

Youth from our Church will be participating in a weeklong camp at Clearwater Forest Camp again this summer. The current cost to attend this summer's camp for one week is about \$560 per student. Finances are tight all over and for some families a little help from our Church may make the difference in whether they can send a family member to summer camp. The Session would like to help pay at least part of the cost to send these kids to Camp and would like to know if any Church members would be interested in helping to support this great Camp attendance.

If you would like to help send these youth to Clearwater Camp this summer, please fill out the form below and send it, along with your donation, to Tina at the Church Office.

---

Clearwater Forest Camp Donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

## **A Note from Pastor Scott... The Birth of a Nation**

For 242 years, America has been blessed as the longest on-going Constitutional Republic in the history of the world. These blessings are not accidental they are blessings of God. This is evident as we look at the turmoil in other nations and contrast that to the stability we see in America. Preserving American liberty depends first upon our understanding of the foundations on which this great country was built, and then it depends on preserving the principles on which it was founded.

On July 2, 1776, Congress voted to approve a complete separation from England. Two days later, the early draft of the Declaration of Independence was signed. Four days later, members of Congress took the document and read it out loud from the steps of Independence Hall, proclaiming it to the city of Philadelphia, and afterwards they rang the Liberty Bell. The inscription on the top of the bell is Leviticus 25:10, which reads, "*Proclaim liberty throughout the land and to all the inhabitants thereof.*"

John Adams said, "The general principles on which the Fathers achieved independence were the general principles of Christianity." Probably the clearest identification of the spirit of the American Revolution was given by John in a letter to Abigail the day after Congress approved the Declaration. He wrote her two letters that day: One was short and jubilant that the Declaration had been approved; the other letter was much longer and gave serious consideration to what had been done that day. Adams could already foresee that their actions would be celebrated by future generations.

**A Different Holiday** ~ Adams also noted: "This day will be the most memorable epic in the history of America. I am apt to believe that it will be celebrated by succeeding generations as the great anniversary festival." He felt the celebration should be in a manner that would commemorate the day as a "day of deliverance by solemn acts of devotion to God Almighty." John Adams believed that the Fourth of July should be a religious holiday. The two top holidays celebrated in this country are Christmas and the Fourth of July. According to John Quincy Adams, the two dates are connected. On the Fourth of July, the Founding Fathers simply took the precepts of Christ and His birth (Christmas) and incorporated those principles into civil government.

The Declaration of Independence was the birth certificate for this nation, but the men who signed it knew it could be their death warrant. The closing paragraph states, "And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm reliance of the protection of Divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor." The 56 Founding Fathers, 27 of whom were trained as ministers, took their pledge seriously. Only a couple of these men actually became ministers but the only active minister that signed was John Witherspoon, a Presbyterian. On the morning of the signing, there was silence and gloom as each man was called up to the table of the President of Congress to sign the document, knowing that it could mean their death by hanging. Most wars have a motto. The motto of World War II was "Remember Pearl Harbor." The motto during the Texas war for independence was "Remember the Alamo." The spiritual emphasis, directed towards King George III who violated Gods laws, gave rise to a motto during the American Revolution: "No King but King Jesus." The Founding Fathers passed the torch to us. It is our responsibility to not let it go out. ~ Written by David Burton

Ruling Elder Deb Hess, Teaching Elders Scott & Pamela Prouty and Julia Prouty were just at GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

### **WHAT IS IT AND WHAT DOES IT DO?**

The General Assembly consists of commissioners elected by presbyteries. Half of the commissioners will be ruling elders, half will be teaching elders. Few will ever have been commissioners to the General Assembly before, but most will have served in one of the other governing bodies of our church: the session, which provides care and oversight of a local congregation; the presbytery, which provides care and oversight of a group of congregations; or the synod which provides care and oversight of several presbyteries.

It reviews the work of synods, resolves controversies in the church, is responsible for matters of common concern for the whole church, and serves as a symbol of unity for the church.

The General Assembly has several specific responsibilities outlined in Chapter 3 of the Book of Order. The assembly seeks to protect our church from errors in faith and practice, is responsible for assuring that the expression of our theology remains true to the biblical standards in our historic confessions. The General Assembly presents a witness for truth and justice in our community and in the world community. It sets priorities for the church and establishes relationships with other churches or ecumenical bodies.