

# *“THE CORNERSTONE”*

JUNE, 2022 – JULY, 2022

First Presbyterian Church PC (U.S.A.)

206 E. 20<sup>th</sup> Street P. O. Box 444

Falls City, Nebraska 68355

402-245-2650 – <http://www.fallscitypres.org>

Worship Time: 11 am

## *Pastor's Reflection*

Matthew 25: 35-40

For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me. Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when did we see thee hungry and feed thee, or thirsty and give thee drink? And when did we see thee a stranger and welcome thee, or naked and clothe thee? And when did we see thee sick or in prison and visit thee?’ And the King will answer them, ‘Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me.’

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Blessings to all of you as we say a big WELCOME to Spring and Summer. Anticipations of new memories with friends and family in activities, conversations, and the joys of intentionally living out our faith in our praise, our worship, and in our day to day lives. This last week First Presbyterian Church announced through a press release ( following Reflections), the exciting news we, as a church, received from the Nebraska Presbyterian Foundation. As exciting as it is, I wanted to share it again with all of you here for this news is transformational to our church, our neighborhood, and in our community. Indeed, since 1866, First Presbyterian Church has been instrumental and transformational. I look forward to discussing in detail and answering your questions as we “together” act in our Call in what Matters to God. We will keep you updated as we roll out plans for “Wednesday’s Mosaic Table” our introduction to an alternative worship service.

Blessings to you this day.

Pastor Rick

First Presbyterian  
Church  
P O Box 444  
Falls City, NE 68355

## Nebraska Presbyterian Foundation names First Presbyterian Church of Falls City, Nebraska as recipient of \$35,000 for their planned “Wednesday’s Mosaic Table.”

Audrey Richert, Executive Director of the Nebraska Presbyterian Foundation stated, “I am pleased to inform First Presbyterian Church of Falls City that Nebraska Presbyterian Foundation Board of Directors has approved a grant of \$35,000.00 for the “Wednesday’s Mosaic Table.” Our Board of Directors is very interested in the projects for which we provide funding. The Nebraska Presbyterian Foundation is proud to support their mission.

Pastor Rick Martin, stated with excitement, “This is wonderful news for First Presbyterian Church and our community of Falls City. The approval of this Grant will assist the Session and the Congregation in taking the steps necessary to implement transformational changes in our commitment to being a Matthew 25 Church. These changes will be in the Church building and in allowing us to provide needed services to our neighborhood and to our community, which we serve. What we do matters to God.”

In May of 2019, First Presbyterian Church accepted the Matthew 25 Invitation from PC(USA), Presbyterian Church of the United States of America. By accepting the Invitation, First Presbyterian agrees to continue boldly living out Christ’s call. “Vision unites all Presbyterians and makes us relevant”, stated Pastor Rick. “First Presbyterian Church has a long heritage of serving our community since 1866. We are pleased to be acknowledged in our efforts.”

Nebraska Presbyterian Foundation, established in 1958, makes annual grants to Nebraska PC(USA) congregations and related organizations to support their mission and share the love of Christ, and to 501© (3) human services organizations in Lancaster, Platte, and selected counties who strengthen their community by helping meet the needs of vulnerable populations. More than \$1.3 Million dollars has been distributed in grants since the inception of their grant program in 2018. For more information about the Foundation’s grant process or eligibility, visit their website [www.nebpresby.org](http://www.nebpresby.org).



### \*\*\*\*\*COMMUNITY NEWS\*\*\*\*\*

Alice Cleaver (1878-1944) was a member of our church many years ago. She is one of Falls City's famous artists and her work will be on display in the Stalder Art Gallery at the Falls City Library & Arts Center through June 24<sup>th</sup>. There are several of her paintings throughout the library. Be sure to look for the painting of John and Rick Martin's grandmother as a girl.

On June 25<sup>th</sup>, the Heartland Fine Arts Gallery, 1620 Stone St. and John Falter Art Museum, 1624 Stone St, will host a Vendors Market from 10 am to 4 pm. There will be live demonstrations and entertainment. Another great opportunity to see local artists work and celebrate Falls City as the “City of Art”.

## Recommended Reading

31 Verses to Write On Your Heart by Liz Curtis Higgs  
The Librarian of Boone's Hollow by Kim Vogel Sawyer  
Love Without Limits by Nick Vujicic with Kane Vujicic  
A Warrior of the People by Joe Starita (This was reviewed at a Women's Circle Group several years ago. Is worth reading again!)

## NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

All newsletter articles for the August-September newsletter will be due to the office by **JULY 11th**. Please submit an article for the newsletter. Keep everyone informed about the activities of the church. Thank you for marking this *important* date on your calendar!

+++++++PARISH NEWS+++++++

## UPDATE FOR THE DIRECTORY

We will be updating the church directory over the next several months. Please submit to the office by email or lay on the secretary's desk your current address, telephone number, email address and a picture, if possible, to include in the directory. We will also create a list of those who don't have pictures and take them at a later date.

## FIRST FRIDAY BREAKFASTS

The First Friday Breakfasts will take a break for the summer months and resume on September 8<sup>th</sup> to avoid the Labor Day weekend. We have had wonderful guest speakers along with tasty breakfasts. If you have a speaker or an idea for a topic, please get in touch with John Martin or call the office. It is a great time of fellowship and we look forward to seeing you in September!

## VOLUNTEERS FOR BLOODMOBILE

We will be helping with the July Bloodmobile at Prichard Auditorium July 26, Noon to 6 pm and July 27, 9 am to 3 pm. We will need lots of donated cookies. We will also need sandwich makers and canteen workers during Bloodmobile times. A sign up sheet will be available closer to the event date. If you are able to donate blood, summertime is a difficult time to get donors. Be sure to donate if you can!

## DIAPER CLOSET

"A Hand Up, Not A Hand Out" is the theme for the Diaper Closet as it serves members of our community. The closet has expanded to provide not only diapers, but clothing and other necessities for growing babies. The needs of the closet change regularly. Wipes and diapers are needed the most with sizes varying along with clothing. At the moment, the Closet could use boys clothing-sizes 4T & 5T. We also have a request for a baby gate. They can also use books and toys that are in good condition. The Diaper Closet can always use volunteers and monetary donations to keep inventory and hours running smoothly. If you can help out, please contact the church office or Jennifer James. We will get you connected!



Thanks to everyone who has taken the Tackle Hunger Challenge. Together we have raised \$3,157,293 for food charities across the nation. When we work together, we have a powerful impact!



Beginning with our August-September newsletter, we are going to add a "Good News Corner". Too often we focus on the problems of the world, and forget to share our "good news" stories. This area will be an opportunity for everyone to share the many blessings in our lives and allow us to find out what is happening in your world. Please submit a "good news" item of one or two sentences for the newsletter. No item is too small or insignificant. Give the office a call, email it to [presbyterian@sentco.net](mailto:presbyterian@sentco.net), drop it in the mail or bring into the office. The first items will be due by July 11<sup>th</sup>. Share your good news! Let's lift each other up with positive thoughts!

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

The Buchanan Highlanders have been secured for Cobblestone on August 20<sup>th</sup>. More information will be provided closer to the date.