

“THE CORNERSTONE”

JUNE 2021 – JULY 2021

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

206 E. 20th Street P. O. Box 444

Falls City, Nebraska 68355

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

Worship Time: 11 am

Reflections from Pastor Rick—

Empowering God, you counseled the first apostles through Jesus to await your authorizing and authenticating Spirit to fuel the efforts. Send your divine power upon us as well, thus strengthened from above, we may carry out your mission and our ministry in accordance with the Christ's vision. In his name we humbly pray. Amen

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Blessings to all of you as we hopefully will enjoy the moderate temperatures of June and the Birthday celebrations of our Nation in July.

Another commencement of Spring will soon be followed by the months of Summer creating experiences of reflection, memories of fun and yes coming to grips with these last 12 months. These months have been difficult for many through the world's pandemic. I pray the experiences and knowledge learned will enhance my efforts to be a better servant to our Lord and to you at First Presbyterian Church. I remain grateful for my Presbyterian brothers and sisters who love and support me in our understanding of "togetherness" as a foundational block to everything good. And, I am grateful for my children, their health and zest for life, my new home in Falls City at 25th and Barada St., for my great Danes and for the wonderful community in which we live and where my thoughts often direct me when I need to regain the necessary balance to begin the day anew.

Commencing the first Wednesday of June at First Presbyterian Church-7 pm and also via Facebook, we will start a six-week sermon series of 1st and 2nd Samuel which invites us to see God's radical grace at work in unexpected ways. The stories of Samuel's call, David's

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unlikely anointing as king and victory over Goliath, and the lesser-known details where David mourns Saul and Jonathan

and his official kingship over all of Israel, highlight the unexpected ways God is actively working among God's people. It is a challenge to our present-day lives as we perceive God working among us. Where God calls us, Where God responds to us, Where God sees us, Where God leads, Where God saves us, and Where God unites us, even to this day.

Date:	Sermon Title:	Scripture Focus:
Theme: 06/02/2021	<i>God Calls</i> <i>Samuel is caught off guard by the voice of God, but Eli helps him understand.</i>	<i>1 Sam. 3: 1-10</i>
06/09/2021	<i>God Responds</i> <i>The people ask Samuel for a king; God disagrees but gives the people what they ask.</i>	<i>1 Sam. 8: 4-20; (11:14-15)</i>
06/16/2021	<i>God Sees</i> <i>God tells Samuel to anoint little David king, for God sees his heart.</i>	<i>1 Sam, 15:34-16:13</i>
06/23/2021	<i>God Leads</i> <i>David defeats Goliath because God is with the underdog.</i>	<i>1 Sam. 17:1a, 4-11, 19-23, 32-49</i>
06/30/2021	<i>God Saves</i> <i>Even in times of grief, God brings light out of darkness</i>	<i>2 Sam. 1:1, 17-27</i>
07/07/2021	<i>God Unites</i> <i>David leads his army to occupy Jerusalem, but it is God who brings the victory.</i>	<i>2 Sam. 5:1-5, 9-10</i>

I am excited to share with you what I have learned and where I am being called with the above Series. I know you will discover some new perspectives pertaining to the Scripture. Please invite a friend to Church during this time. I am confident they will enjoy the message, and I will be honored in welcoming them at First Presbyterian.

Like Jesus, there is plenty of work to do. And just like Jesus, in our baptism, we've been named God's beloved, and God's Spirit has been given to us to do God's work. As I continue in my work here, and with my studies I want you to know, you continue to give me

HAVE PECANS-WILL TRAVEL!

Several years ago, Mary Campbell offered to store the Presbyterian pecans in the basement of her dress shop. That gave us a way to get pecans to customers easily, rather than having them call the church and arrange pickup/delivery. When Mary retired, she recruited Norma Brittell at Norma's Antiques to handle the pecans. When Norma sold the antique mall to Jaded & Co., Rachel Witt and Jordie Snethen continued selling our pecans. Jaded is closing and the pecans will move to Keller Bakery, 1713 Stone. We don't know the exact timing of Jaded's closing and the pecan move. If you need pecans, we still have all four varieties in the church refrigerators. If you head to Jaded and they are closed, check the bakery! All varieties are \$10.50 per pound. You can also order pecans, cashews, and mixed nuts, plus other items at the Terri Lynn Cares store at <https://falls-city-pw.terrilynncares.com> If you use that link, our church will receive its share of the money. When you are downtown, be sure to thank Rachel, Jordie and everyone at Jaded, plus the Kellers. We have a great community!

FIRST FRIDAY BREAKFASTS

We will resume our First Friday Breakfasts in September though we will wait until **September 10th** to avoid the Labor Day weekend. Please put the 10th on your calendar for an interesting speaker and a good breakfast to start your day. Please let John Martin know of speakers you would like to hear or a topic you would like addressed and he will take it from there.

+++++++COMMUNITY NEWS+++++++

CELEBRATION—First Presbyterian Church of Humboldt will be celebrating their 150th anniversary on June 27th. Pastor Rick and the congregation would like to invite you to join them in celebrating this wonderful milestone with a special service beginning at 2:30 pm followed by a time of fellowship.

Recommended Reading

a living gift which I cherish and carry forward with me forever and a day. Thank you, from the bottom of my heart.

I want to thank each and every one of you for your wonderful presence, my many experiences, the opportunity to worship with you, and the opportunity to learn of the collective nature of joy, happiness, and love which are uniquely given and bind this Body of Christ, together. As with you, I look forward to expect the unexpected at First Presbyterian, as we watch and listen as God unfolds God's truth and mission to you and to me.

Blessings and Peace,

Pastor Rick

“Where there is no vision, the people perish” [Proverbs 29:18]

We notice in the above scripture, God, Himself has told us that without a vision, people perish. We might say it like this: If the people have no vision of WHO they are in Christ, and WHAT they have in Him they will never obtain the fullness of all that Christ purchased for us on the cross.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

All newsletter articles for the August-September newsletter will be due to the office by **July 12th**. If you have any information you would like printed for your group or activity to be published, please submit them in written form. Keep everyone informed by submitting an article! Thank you for marking this *important* date on your calendar!

The newsletter is printed with the information we have at the time of printing. Please check with the appropriate person(s) on changes to dates and times of events.

A Woman of Strength and Purpose by Cynthia Ulrich Tobias
There is More by Brian Houston
Of Fire and Lions by Mesa Andrews
American Omens by Travis Thrasher
Shake Free by Samuel Rodriguez
Fishing with My Fathers by Paul Roth
Power for Life by David Sharp

If you have any book(s) you have enjoyed and would recommend, please email to presbyterian@sentco.net

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

Volunteers for Blood Mobile

We will be helping with the July Bloodmobile at Prichard Auditorium July 29-30. We will need lots of donated cookies. We will also need sandwich makers and canteen workers during Bloodmobile times. We do not have the exact times at this moment, but will publish them in the bulletin as the information becomes available. A signup sheet will be available when we are closer to the event. If you are able to donate blood, summertime is a difficult time. Be sure to donate if you can!

DIAPER CLOSET NEEDS

We have a large supply of clothes right now, and plenty of shoes. Toys in good condition would be welcome. Pull-ups and swimmers would be nice. We don't have a huge need, but swimmers will be wanted soon. Wipes and diapers are needed most. There are plenty of size 2 diapers at the moment. Good condition baby equipment would be nice. Of course, we can always use volunteers to serve at the diaper closet. If you have a couple of hours from 4-6 pm on a Monday, please consider donating that time to the Diaper Closet. The needs of the closet are constantly changing, so contact Jennifer James if you would like to donate supplies to the closet. Monetary donations are also welcome to replenish items as needed. Together we can cover "One bottom at a time".