

First Congregational Messenger
 First Congregational United Church of Christ
 Norfolk, NE

Serving God with love and faith



April 9	Palm Sunday 10:15 AM Worship Service Potluck fundraiser for mission trip follows the service
April 13	Maundy Thursday at First Presbyterian Church 6 PM Supper 7 PM Worship Service
April 16	Easter Sunday 10:15 Worship Service

April 2017

Volume 5, Issue 30

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Annual Meeting has been called for Sunday, April 23 following the worship service.



CONGREGATIONAL MEETING



Church Secretary

Monday-Thursday 10-4
 Other times by appointment
 May be out of the office for meetings or visits



Pastor's Office Hours

Office Hours
 Monday-Friday
 8-12
 Monday and Wednesday
 1-3

COUNCIL MEETING

Council met Thursday, March 16 at 7 PM. Missing were Moderator Scott Williams, Past Moderator Randy Neuharth and Susan Surber. Vice Moderator Erik Gamerl called the meeting to order.

Faith Development reported that the youth have requested a sprucing up of the youth lounge downstairs.

Support Ministry has been working to reduce costs and increase revenue to work towards a new budget for the next year. Stewardship cards and letters were sent March 13.

Worship Ministry reported that 80 attended the service and soup was served to 68.

Pastor Jackie reported that we have been invited to First Presbyterian to a Seder meal with a woman from Israel who will explain the Jewish background and the ties to Christianity. Mission trip potluck fundraisers will be held April 9 and May 21 (Changed to May 7). She has been accepted as a visitor at the Madison County Jail.

Officers will need to be elected at the April annual meeting. Vice Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer are the positions that are not automatic. Erik Gamerl will move to Moderator and Scott Williams will move to Past Moderator.



Easter Egg Hunt

SATURDAY, April 8 at 11:00 AM

First Congregational United Church of Christ

1102 W. Norfolk Ave



AGES THRU 5TH GRADE

Please join us in the Easter Egg Hunt.

Eggs are filled and waiting to be found

Please bring a bag or basket to carry your eggs home

Sponsored by:

Trinity Episcopal Church

First Presbyterian Church

First Congregational

United Church of Christ

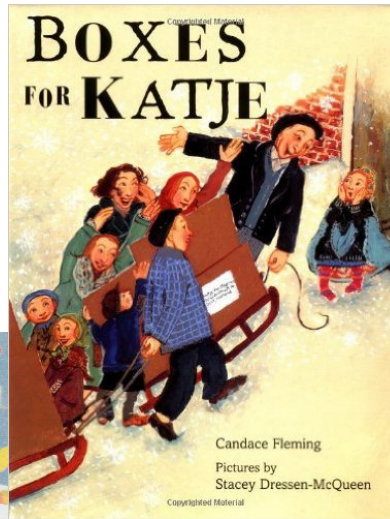
Funded by:

Thrivent Financial

Rain Date Saturday, April 15



African dinner shared at the church



April's book is set in World War II Holland and talks about aid to others.

Around the World Bookclub

2ND Wednesday of each month

10 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Unity Room

Learn about 12 Countries of our world thru children's books.

April - Netherlands.. Boxes for Katje, Candace Fleming
May - Japan. Peace Tree from Hiroshima, Sandra Moore
June - India Sona & the Wedding Game, Kashmira Sheth
July - Sweden Children of Neisy Village, Astrid Lindgren
August - Haiti Hope for Haiti, Jesse Joshua Watson
September - Australia.. Pumpkin Runner, Australia
October - Vietnam.. Grandfather's Dream, Vietnam
November - France .. Family Under the Bridge, Natalie Savage Carlson
December - Mexico.. Too Many Tamales, Gary Soto

LOCAL MISSION



Caring for All God's Creatures

Thank you to the congregation for all the donations for the Animal Shelter and to the volunteers who took the items and donated two hours to the shelter on February 26th. Thanks to Lora who gave us a tour.

17 volunteers include: Vicki, Kellen, Pastor Jackie, Katie, Erik, Adam, Cole, Henry, Michelle, Darlene, Skylar, Kennedy and Reese and (not pictured: Rita, Amy, Courtney and Sidney)! Volunteers walked dogs, and played with the dogs, cats/kittens. Prayers for the animals as they heal and adapt, and for the staff who work to find them all new homes, and for the Director and Board who keep it all going and growing.

Skyview Apartments to be Renovated

This fall, our church was asked to donate 8 hours of volunteer labor (to help plant flowers, help start a community garden, etc) with our neighbors at Skyline Apartments. In January 2017, Wishrock (Missoula, MT) approached us again to see if we would donate time to offer monthly community activities for residents (such as movie night, helping with the garden, games, etc). We plan to cover some of the months, and also coordinate with other churches to share in this opportunity *to serve God in Love and Faith*. Work may begin in August.

Think of ideas for community gatherings and how you might like to share your gifts with our neighbors to create community.

We are delighted to learn that Wishrock has received the renovation/preservation grant, and happy to hear of the restoration plans of the Skyline Apartments; we want to work for safe, clean and efficient affordable housing in Norfolk.

--Pastor Jackie

Birthdays & Anniversaries

4th	Adam Gamerl
5th	Jane Uzzell
7th	Norm Bohl
17th	Dale Ames
18th	Henry Gamerl
21st	Katie Gamerl

Anniversary

16th Rick and Jill Waterbury



**SAVE THE DATE, APRIL
28-30 Kamp Kaleo
WORK Weekend**

We have jobs for everyone! We definitely need you here. Email us and let us know you can come so we can make sure we have enough food!

kampkaleo@gmail.com.

All-Church **POTLUCK**

NEXT SUNDAY

You are invited to a Potluck, April 9th at 11:15

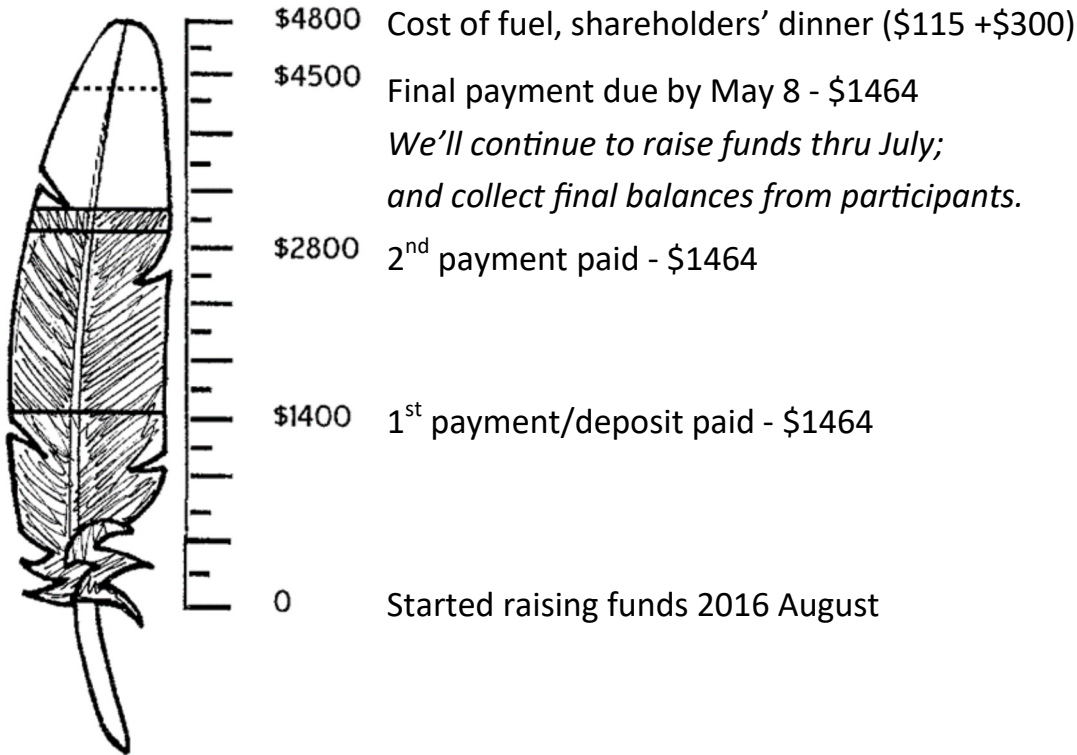
Free will offering

**to go toward Youth Mission Trip to
Pine Ridge S.D.**

Bring a snack or a dish to share.

We will also have Mission Shares for sale \$20

Youth Mission Trip Fundraising -- at Pine Ridge Reservation,
Update: **March 18, 2017**



NEXT Fundraisers: April 9 & May 7, Sunday 11:15 a.m. Potluck & free will offering
(Youth and Adult participants to help with busing and clean up)

4/9 Dorothy Hull presents Holy Land & 5/21 Pastor Jackie presents art works

Funds have been raised through jazz concert & meal, quilt raffle, sale of 'shares', Christmas cookie sale, \$100 for each youth from Faith Development, participants, and donations.

Dates: July 8 – July 14, 2017

Cost to Participate: \$549 per person covers all food, lodging, transportation & tax while at Re-Member. 4 youth, 4 adults; 7 from FCUCC and 1 from Blair UCC. Terri has paid in full.

Car Fuel & Fee: (For 2 cars/round trip \$57.50 per car) **\$115**; Badlands Park fee **\$15 per car**

Route Going: Norfolk to Badlands National Park to Pine Ridge – 375 miles

Route Returning: Pine Ridge to Valentine to Norfolk – 310 miles

Food cost for "Shareholders' Dinner" late July (prepare for about 50-60 guests) – **\$300**

Youth group to prepare the meal and give presentation and reflections on their mission trip experience. "Shareholders" are those who supported the trip through the purchase of a 'share' in 2016 or 2017. Buy your shares through July 2017 (\$20). Children/youth free.

Volunteer Needed: To provide and pack 8 lunches for the group to take July 8.

Fellowship Work Committee

April

Evonne Burkink

Katie Gamerl

Lori Williams

May

Gene and Bonnie Kroeger

Betty Morrison



April 2

Communion: Scott and Lori Williams, Sue Surber and Barb Koenig

Ushers: Gene and Darlene Korthals

Greeters: Stan and Vicki Staab

Reader: Scott Williams

Leader: Susan Allyn

Flowers:

April 9 Palm Sunday

Ushers: Randy and Kay Neuharth

Greeters: Scott and Lori Williams

Reader: Karen Allyn

Flowers: Palms

April 16 Easter

Ushers: Sue Podliska and Rita Woodard

Greeters: Gene and Bonnie Kroeger

Reader: Stan Staab

Flowers: Lilies

April 23 Annual Meeting

Ushers: Bonnie Dewell and Ed Lindsay

Greeters: Mike Synovec and Garrett Korthals

Reader: Kay Neuharth

Flowers:

April 30 Confirmation

Ushers: Stan Staab and Mike Synovec

Greeters: Verletta Olson and Rita Woodard

Reader: Scott Williams

Flowers:



May 7

Communion: Gene and Bonnie Kroeger, Suzan Podliska, and Verletta Olson

Ushers: Scott and Lori Williams

Greeters: Randy and Kay Neuharth

Reader: Randy Neuharth

Leader: Jane Uzzell

Flowers: Dorothy Hull

May 14

Ushers: Verletta Olson and Barb Koenig

Greeters: Suzan Podliska and Mike Synovec

Reader: Lori Williams

Flowers: Scott and Lori Williams

May 21

Ushers: Gene and Bonnie Kroeger

Greeters: Jeff and Evonne Burkink

Reader: Vicki Staab

Flowers: Jane Uzzell

May 28 Memorial Weekend

Ushers: Rita Woodard and Sue Surber

Greeters: Stan and Vicki Staab

Reader: Stan Staab

Flowers: Garry and Suzan Podliska

From 3/1/17 through 3/31/17



TREASURER'S REPORT

Checking account information

Beginning balance	\$ 13,494.40
Youth Mission	\$ 100.00
Funeral	\$ 225.00
<u>Weekly deposits</u>	<u>\$ 11,234.43</u>
Subtotal	\$ 25,053.83
Salary	--\$ 10,084.65
Church Maintenance	—\$ 2,489.95
Office Expenses	—\$ 719.55
Insurance	—\$ 2,277.75
Funeral	—\$ 71.46
Pastor's Discretionary	—\$ 142.08
<u>OCWM, OGHS</u>	<u>—\$ 1,393.00</u>
Final Balance	\$ 7,875.39

April 2017

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9:00 Sunday School
10:15 Worship

GS 5:30-6:30

GS 7-8

GS 6-7:15

7 Card Group

11 Easter Egg hunt

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

9:00 Sunday School
10:15 Worship
Potluck

GS 6:30-7:30

GS 5-6

Maundy Thursday

7 Card Group

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

EASTER
10:15 Worship

GS 5:30-6:30

GS 7-8

GS 6-7:15

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

9:00 Sunday School
10:15 Worship
11:15 Annual Meeting

GS 6:30-7:30

GS 5-6

6-7:30 Confirmation dinner

30

9:00 Sunday School
10:15 Worship
Confirmation

May 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 GS 5:30-6:30	2	3 GS 7-8	4 GS 6-7:15	5 7 Card Group	6
7 8:30 Teacher appreciation 9:00 Sunday School 10:15 Worship Graduation cake, Potluck	8 GS 6:30-7:30	9	10 GS 5-6	11	12 7 Card Group	13
14 9:00 Sunday School 10:15 Worship	15 GS 5:30-6:30	16	17 GS 7-8	18 GS 6-7:15	19	20
21 10:15 Worship	22 GS 6:30-7:30	23	24 GS 5-6	25	26	27
28 10:15 Worship	29	30	31			



First Congregational United Church of Christ
1102 W. Norfolk Ave
Norfolk, NE 68701

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Return Service Requested

With love and faith



First Congregational United Church of Christ

1102 W. Norfolk Ave

Norfolk, NE 68701

402-371-0701

firstconguccc@cableone.net

www.firstconguccc.org

9:00 AM Sunday School Sept-May

10:15 AM Worship Service