

# First Presbyterian Church of Glidden

November 2013

Right before the harvest began in Ancient Israel, farmers would take the very first ripe stalks of wheat (or barley), put them in a basket, and travel to the Temple. When they arrived, they would take the basket to the priest on duty and repeat to him the story of how they came to own their land.

For all the Israelites, the story is recorded as something like this, “My father was a wandering nomad. He went down to Egypt where he was abused, mistreated, and forced into labor. Then we cried to the Lord, and the Lord heard our voice, and brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and with great wonders. He brought us to this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey.”

Next, they set down the first of their crops before the altar and worshipped God for all the blessings they enjoyed.

Our time of Thanksgiving every November is a similar tradition. We stop after our harvests and we take time to thank God for all of our many blessings. But one thing that I really like about the Israelite way of doing things was the story that they told.

My father crossed the Atlantic Ocean in a wooden boat, dreaming of a better life. My father knocked down trees in Canada until he was able to move his family somewhere that wasn't quite so bitterly cold – North Dakota. My father started a business. My mother sailed the mightiest ocean in the world, only to be abandoned by her parents and welcomed into a new family. My mother dressed the wounds of heroic soldiers, but she only had eyes for a bookish hospital administrator. My mother wrote an award winning article for the American Journal of Nursing.

I was blessed with comfort and safety while growing up. I was encouraged to develop my talents and pursue as much education as I could stomach. I wandered into Iowa, following the voice of the Lord, and here I am. I am in a prosperous land, full of corn and generosity.

It is amazing how I got where I am today. The story of my life, and the story of the family that prepared me for this world, is far richer than any Hollywood movie or thousand-page novel.

As you gather in your harvest this year, whether literal or figurative, take some time to remember how you got to where you are today. Remember the struggles you overcame, the friends who supported you, the family that prepared you, and the God who has blessed you.

Have an outstanding Thanksgiving Season,  
Pastor Brian

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## Meet the Members MTM

In this month's Meet the Members we would like to return in time and uncover some history. Who better to give us history lessons about Glidden than long term residents Ed & Mary Walkup who live at 23384 Timber Avenue, Glidden, Iowa.

Ed and Mary each had their separate lives prior to their marriage in June of 1987. First we will address their lives prior to 1987.

Mary grew up in Glidden and graduated in 1953 from Glidden High School. Mary began her career as bookkeeper at A. Moorhouse Company which operated a grain facility and lumberyard. After two years of working for Moorhouse she became bookkeeper and salesperson at Glidden Farm Equipment. She married the owner of the store in October of 1955. Howard Douglas brought three children to this marriage and he and Mary had two additional children. So the Douglas household was made up of Mary, Howard, Gary, Rick, Jerilyn, Curt and Kent. A highlight of this family was their lake home located at Lost Island which they enjoyed very much as the family grew.

In 1976 the Douglas family built the four plex apartment located on Dakota Street that Mary still operates. In 1978 they sold the Glidden Farm Equipment dealership. Howard Douglas passed away in 1984. During these years and following Mary did many other things including working at Mary Moorhouse's travel agency and being a house director for Delta Zeta Sorority at Iowa State University. As house director she supervised a housekeeper, a cook, 54 girls who lived at the Sorority House, as well as 36 more girls who lived at other locations. All 90 girls would gather for a formal dinner each Monday evening.

During these busy years Mary still had time to teach Sunday school, attend church circle meetings and later taught bible school at First Presbyterian.

Ed Walkup was born in February of 1925 in Nebraska but moved to Glidden when he was a junior in high school. Ed and his family joined the Presbyterian

Church in Glidden in 1941. Ed graduated from Glidden high school and began work as a carpenter plus being a hired hand on a farm for the next four years. During this time Ed planted corn with a two row corn planter, pulled by a team of horses, and used a check wire to place the seeds in the proper place. Ed performed many other chores on a grain and livestock farm. Work on the farm was very laborious during those years.

Ed married a nurse by the name of Doris Kemmish, in February of 1947. Also in 1947 Ed rented a farm for himself and his new bride. In the first five years of farming they moved to a new farmstead every March 1<sup>st</sup> due to land owners wanting to farm the land or for some other reasons.

During this marriage Ed and Doris were blessed with three children who are Joyce, David and Paul.

Ed rented land as he began farming on his own and he also raised hogs and owned 250 ewes that lambed in the spring months. Livestock and row crop farming kept the Walkups busy. In 1966, nineteen year after Ed started farming for himself, Ed decided to buy a

farm. In 1971 Ed began the construction of his present home. With the help of some good neighbors Ed & Doris were able to move-in in 1972.

During these years the Walkups and Douglas families were good friends, formed a business relationship and belonged to the same church. Ed was Sunday school superintendent. Ed & Doris were pursers for the National Mariners Association. Ed has served this church as a session member several times and regularly sang in the choir. Rev. Harrison Becker was the organizer for the Glidden Mariners and this group involved young couples in our church. The original charter list 56 people as the beginning membership of this group.



As reported earlier, Howard Douglas passed away in 1984 and in May of 1986 Doris Walkup also went to live with our Lord in Heaven.

As difficult as it might be life moves on, so on June 13, 1987 Ed and Mary were married and have enjoyed 26 years of marriage with more years ahead.

We asked Mary & Ed to recall some of the events in their life that impacted their lives. Mary's mother became an invalid when Mary was only 13 years old so she was called upon to grow up fast. Mary loved the relationships built while working at the Farm Equipment store with customers and employees. Mary reports a very painful experience was the death of her son Kent and that pain lives on with Mary on a daily basis.

Even though Ed is experiencing some discomfort with back problems today he realizes the blessings he has enjoyed. Ed has traveled to six of the seven continents - but has no desire or plans to complete the list with a visit to Antarctica. Over his life Ed enjoyed woodworking, golf, singing, riding motorcycles, and farming. Ed has also been involved in tearing down and cleaning up four farmsteads around Glidden.

Church activities, family and the uniqueness of Glidden, Iowa have all been important to these two wonderful people whose lives continue to bless our church family.

Ed and Mary will concentrate on the future as they focus on 16 wonderful grandchildren and 24 great grandchildren.

We wish both of them good health and many more years of happiness together.

## Joint Christian Ed Committee Meeting

October 20<sup>th</sup>  
Methodist Church

Discussion was held surrounding how the joint program was going and it was felt to be beneficial for all parties involved. We have a joint Christmas Sunday School Program on Sunday December 15<sup>th</sup> at the Presbyterian Church. Students will need to be at Sunday School on November 24, December 1 and December 8 to prepare for the program on the 15<sup>th</sup>. There is potential to have a joint choir at this service. Sunday School will dismiss for December 22 and 29, resuming on January 5. The Pre K and 1<sup>st</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grades will then meet at the Methodist Church. Jr/Sr High will continue at the Presbyterian Church and Adult Sunday School will continue at the Methodist Church.

Palm Sunday is April 13 and we will have a joint service at the Methodist Church involving the Sunday School classes.

The final day of Sunday School is pending. The next joint meeting is planned for Feb 23<sup>rd</sup> at 1 PM at the Presbyterian Church.

## Thanksgiving Dinner Celebration

Everyone is invited to share in the annual Thanksgiving feast Sunday, Nov. 24 after church. The Parish Life committee will provide turkey, mashed potatoes, gravy, dressing, and coffee and drinks. Please bring a covered dish or a dessert and your table service for your family.

Hope to see you there!!!



# **Capital Campaign Update**

## **November 2013**

As of October 31<sup>st</sup> we are winding up the loose ends of the 2013 Capital Campaign. There may still be a couple of gifts yet to be received but the visitations and calling has been completed.

The committee members have enjoyed the interaction with church members and we have been amazed by their stories. One former member of this church called and requested to be a part of the campaign as this person qualified as an alumni of First Presbyterian. The person claimed that the committee should reach out to all alumni but we told the person that the current members should carry the load on this remodeling. Another member with very little means wished to participate and gave the equivalent of "two copper coins" which was a very large donation. Other gracious members gave, to the campaign, out of their blessings in very large amounts, which moved the campaign to its ultimate goal. What began as a chore turned into a reward for campaign committee members as we witnessed the outpouring of generosity by church members.

The Session set a goal of \$75,000 to fund the Building & Grounds expenditures to upgrade the church building. As of October 27<sup>st</sup> the church has received \$44,278.37 in cash and \$43,333.23 in pledges over the next five years for a total commitment by great people of \$87,611.60. There are still pledges to be received. Statistics reveal that people respond to a pledge and follow through with payment upon their commitment.

The question may be asked, "What is the church going to do with the extra money?" The building and grounds committee has received its first estimate on window repair and new protective storms on the outside of the stained glass windows, Additionally new shingles will be required on the west roof of the church in the next 3-4 years Follow-up on this will be in the building and grounds report.

This committee will still be in operation as we record donations, send out reminders and continually recognize the people who support this church by their attendance and giving. The committee is asking all members to designate their gifts to the church as donations to the Capital fund or a donation to the operational fund. By marking your donation it will help Mark Conner and the committee keep records accurately.

So as the committee winds up the intensity of this campaign we humbly pause to recognize the gracious members of this church and the support they have contributed to this house of our Lord. A big Thank You to all and we look forward to seeing you in church.

Capital Campaign Committee

## Buildings and Grounds Update

With TWO major projects nearing finalization, Re-tuck pointing and Flat roof repairs/replacement, the integrity and functionality of the church building itself is once again assured for years to come. Through the gracious support of local community and church members, we have been blessed with the ability to expedite necessary repairs and address some of the considerable needs that the building has.

The two other major items that remain, Shingled roof repair and Window repair, are next on the agenda. It was recently brought to the attention of the committee that the need to repair/ replace the stained glass windows and their covers is a more serious concern that outweighs the need to replace the shingled parts of the roof at this time. These repairs are still in the plan, but the priority of the windows has been escalated.

With these recent developments, the committee has decided to start letting bids on the work that needs to be done to the windows. The vast majority of the stained glass windows are in good condition, however, the large Rose window on the South wall is in dire need of restoration in the very near future. Due to its age, size and state of disrepair, this window will be the main focus as the next project we undertake.

We are currently contacting multiple contractors to accumulate bids. Once the all the bids have been received, the committee will decide the next course of action and inform the congregation.

Respectfully submitted: Brad Mueggenberg

## Quotes of the Month

"They use the Bible as a drunk uses a lamp post - for support, rather than illumination." - Anonymous

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"Our greatest glory is not in never falling, but in rising every time we fall." - Confucius

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"It takes more cleverness to understand a philosophy than to refute it." - Etienne Gilson

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"I distrust those people who know so well what God wants them to do, because I notice it always coincides with their own desires." - Susan B. Anthony

## Serving the Lord

Last month we gave you information on two of our Church Committees' and their roles. This month we are focusing on two more: Parish Life Committee and Christian Education Committee.

Remember if you have any interest in being a part of any of these committees please talk to anyone on that committee or Pastor Brian.

### ***Parish Life Committee***

If you enjoy planning events, Parish Life committee is a great outlet for your creativity. The committee for 2013 is composed of Jane Burdine, Judy Reever, Lindsey Cose, Lora Reever, and *Session* member Diane Thelin; we host the dinners for the summer picnic and Thanksgiving annually. The committee has hosted other dinners for events past years, as well.

We try to honor baptisms with a flower on the altar, and honor graduates with cake and refreshments in May. For extended illness, injury, or hospital stays, our committee tries to get a card to the patient. Serving coffee and cookies before church has been a focus periodically, and we are open for any new ideas that the congregation may wish to share with us.

### ***Christian Ed Committee***

The Presbyterian Church views Christian Education as a cornerstone of our faith. The teachings of Christ and the Old Testament journey tell us who we are and guide our youth in their growth and development. The Christian Ed committee meets to direct Sunday School, Confirmation, and Bible Study for all ages of our members. We typically meet in the fall and spring to plan for these events and assure that teachers and lesson plans are developed. We recognize our youth as they graduate from Jr High and High School. Committee members are Marlys Conner, Diane Thelin, Megan Arellano, Heather Mueggenberg, Lora Reever and Pastor Brian.

## **Worship**

	<b><u>Acolytes</u></b>	<b><u>Ushers</u></b>	<b><u>Communion Preparers</u></b>
<b><i>November</i></b>	Adam Arellano	Matt & Rhonda Conner	Marge Middaugh
<b><i>December</i></b>	Whitney Reever	Ron & Jane Burdine	Shelly Strahl
<b><i>January</i></b>	Treynor Cose	Tyson & Lindsey Cose	
<b><i>February</i></b>	Pillar Arellano	Megan Arellano	Marge Middaugh
<b><i>March</i></b>	Cooper Mueggenberg	Brad & Heather Mueggenberg	Shelly Strahl

## **November Birthdays and Anniversaries**

4<sup>th</sup>-Wayne & Shirley Seaman Anniversary  
7<sup>th</sup>-Tyler Stidham  
13<sup>th</sup>-Marion Junker  
16<sup>th</sup>-Cooper Mueggenberg  
19<sup>th</sup>-Blayce Nelson  
19<sup>th</sup>-Bill & Elaine Crawford Anniversary  
22<sup>nd</sup>-Zachary Mueggenberg  
24<sup>th</sup>-Jennie Christensen



## Announcements:

- \*\*\*Daylight Savings Time ends on Sunday, **November 3<sup>rd</sup>** .
- \*\*\*Pastoral, Personnel, and Nominating Committee meets on Sunday, **November 3<sup>rd</sup>** .
- \*\*\*The Presbyterian Women will meet for lunch Wednesday, **November 13<sup>th</sup>** at 11:30 am.
- \*\*\*Next Session Meeting Wednesday, **November 20<sup>th</sup>** at 7pm in the Church Basement.
- \*\*\*Bible Study meets at 10:00am in the church basement on the last Wednesday of every month.
- \*\*\*Communion takes place on the first Sunday of each month.
- \*\*\*Thanksgiving Potluck after church on **November 24<sup>th</sup>** in church basement.
- \*\*\*Presbytery meets in Battle Creek on Tuesday, **November 12<sup>th</sup>** .
- \*\*\*This year's Christmas Program will be held on Sunday, **December 15<sup>th</sup>** with a joint service with the Glidden Methodist Church.
- \*\*\***December 15<sup>th</sup>** will be the last day for Sunday School in 2013.
- \*\*\*Sunday School classes will resume on **January 5, 2014**.
- \*\*\*Confirmation classes are coming in January, stay tuned!
- \*\*\* Joint Easter Program with the Glidden Methodist Church will occur on Palm Sunday, **April 13**.