

First Presbyterian Church of Glidden

February 2014



Note from the Pastor:

In Matthew chapter 21, Jesus tells us a parable of a man who had two sons.

The man went to the first son and said, "Go, work in the fields." The son refused. Later, however, he felt guilty for his refusal and went to work in the fields.

The man also went to the second son and said, "Go, work in the fields." The son readily agreed to do as his father said. But time passed, and the son never did any work.

"Which of the two," Jesus asks, "did what his father wanted?"

The answer is obvious. Only the first son was obedient. Only the first son did as his father instructed. Their words mattered far less than the work that they did or did not do. Jesus told this parable to the Pharisees so that they would understand that having the right answer is less important than being faithful to God. It's an easy and simple lesson. Nowadays, we often say, "Actions speak louder than words." It's easy to understand what Jesus was saying. Anyone can speak the truth that Jesus explains to us. But can we live it out?

Let me ask you – what did your actions say today? What have your actions said this past week? Stop and think about it. For me, the results are a little bit scary. It's easy to see areas of my life where my words speak confidence but my actions demonstrate insecurity. The lies that I tell myself are made obvious in how I spend my time. How do you spend your time? What are your real priorities?

February is a month of words and grand gestures. For those of you who are in relationships, this month is a month of outward displays of affection. But when February 14th rolls around, will you be speaking words that contradict your behavior? Will your declarations of affection be undermined by the stark realities of how you choose to spend your time? Or will your words simply affirm what is obviously true?

In many ways, a marriage ceremony is merely the recitation of a bunch of traditional words. Words can be lies. Promises can ring as hollow as a drum. The oaths that we make before God can wither and die. Relationships are made real in the day to day tasks of being a family. Marriage becomes sacred when two people prove, with their actions, the truth of everything they claimed with their lips.

This month is meant to be a month of love, a month of outward displays of affection. Don't let it become simply a month of words. Better to be like the first son and get the words wrong, than to be like the second and never do anything worthwhile.

Blessings,
Pastor Brian

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Meet the Members MTM

Our journey this month takes us out to 709 East 22nd Street in Carroll, where Loretta Hansen calls home. Loretta has a long history in the Glidden area, as she and Don Hansen moved to their home farm in 1956. Loretta was the daughter of a farm couple in the Dayton, Iowa area. She was the youngest of six children. Dayton was a settlement of Scandinavian people so the Hanson family fit in well. That is right, Loretta was a Hanson prior to her marriage when she became a Hansen. Loretta was a freshman in high school when a new family moved in as neighbors to Loretta's family. Moving day in rural Iowa was March 1st, so the new family moved on that date from Nebraska to Dayton, Iowa. The family from Nebraska consisted of Mom, Dad, and two boys - one of the boys was named Don Hansen. The farmsteads of the two Hanson farms were just across the road from each other. Don went to school on March 2nd and, within seconds of stepping on his first local school bus, he was immediately attracted to this young freshman by the name of Loretta Hansen.

Within a year Don, as a junior in high school and Loretta as a sophomore began to date each other. Neither had an automobile or a driver's license so they rode bicycles on their dates, each peddling their own bike. In those days the telephone company had party lines and when a farmer's phone would ring everyone on the line, 6-8 people, could pick up their phones and listen to the conversation of others. Don & Loretta didn't want others to listen in on their conversations so they would signal each other from their yards (with a broom) to answer their phone. So without a ring Don would pick up his receiver, Loretta would do likewise and others would not realize they were talking to each other over the party line. A couple of years later Don and Loretta had a car for travel so they would travel to Gowrie on a date to attend a movie. After the movie they went to a soda shop nearby and each ordered an ice cream sundae. Total cost for two movie tickets and two sundaes was \$1.05.



Following graduation from Dayton High School, Loretta worked for the Board of Education as secretary, did payroll for the district, and did many types of general office practices. On October, 1944, Don Hansen and Loretta Hansen were married in the Emmanuel Lutheran church in Dayton. For their honeymoon they traveled to Omaha and spent two days at the Regis Hotel. During their stay a large fire broke out across the street and being farm kids they had never seen so much firefighting equipment so they stayed up all night just to watch the firemen contain the blaze.

After marriage, they began their farm life by living on the home place and Don's parents moved to a home they bought in Dayton. They hauled livestock to Omaha and each time they would travel on highway 30 and pass by the High View Farm, Don proclaimed that one day he would own that farm. In 1950 a daughter, Alice, was born to this family. In 1954 a second daughter was born and her name was Margo. Hansen's continued to live on the farm south of Dayton until 1956 when they bought the farm of Don's dream and moved to Glidden. The Hansen's were all around farmers and raised hogs, cattle, corn, soybeans and some oats. Upon moving to Glidden, they wanted to attend a church nearby and one located in town, therefore they chose to become members of the Presbyterian Church in Glidden. The Hansen's were involved with the church by participating in Mariners, Presbyterian Women, serving on the Pulpit Nominating Committee and Loretta became a long time church organist playing for church, funerals and weddings. Loretta has been a 50 year member of the Entre Nous Women's Club. In 1976 she was honored as an Iowa Merit Mother of the Year, and in 1977 she was recognized as the Outstanding Contributor to the Glidden Community.

In March of 1960 Don and Loretta received devastating news that their daughter, Margo, was diagnosed with acute leukemia and this six year old passed away in November of that year. The death of a child is an event that shocks a family and a community to its core. The

loss of Margo was a real setback for Don and Loretta but life must move on, so they did. They continued to farm and raise their other daughter, Alice.

Don was dedicated to farming and loved being on the farm therefore he seldom left to travel. Loretta does recall two occasions when they traveled to southern states and a trip to Canada with close friends, Art and Ruth Snyder and Bob and Lola Akin. These trips were limited to one week as Don had to get back to his farm. We write of Don's love for farming but Loretta also worked on the farm as she hauled grain to the elevator, helped with planting, and helped maintain the beauty of the High View farmstead.

In 2000 Don became ill and passed away in October of that year. Loretta's memories of her husband are extremely warm. When they were married, Don would often rise early in the morning and write a poem to Loretta before he left for his morning coffee at the local coffee shop. Loretta still has a few of these precious little notes, some dating back several decades. Since Don's death Loretta designed and built a home in Carroll and sold the building site on the farm.

Loretta states that a person is not fully dressed for the day until they put on a smile. Loretta seems to be fully dressed each day. She spends her time today reaching out and helping others. She maintains that God gave each of us two hands - - one to help yourself and one to help others. She volunteers by helping RSVP, serving on the Historical Society's Board, volunteering at the Chamber of Commerce and many other area community activities.

Her hobbies now include photography, traveling, volunteering and making plans for her 90th birthday party to be held on October 19, 2014. Her travels have taken her with her daughter to Europe two different times and she has traveled to many spots across the US.

Her future involves celebrating with Dr. Lee and Alice Anneberg, their three children, Christine, Lauren and Blake and enjoying the company of her many friends. God has truly blessed our church with Loretta Hansen.

Valentine's Day

February 14, 2014

St. Valentine's Day began as a liturgical celebration of one or more early Christian saints named Valentinus. The most popular martyr logy associated with Saint Valentine was that he was imprisoned for performing weddings for soldiers who were forbidden to marry and for ministering to Christians. Legend states that before his imprisonment and execution he wrote his love a letter and signed it "Your Valentine".

The traditional day to celebrate Valentine's Day is February 14th, and we encourage everyone to celebrate but the First Presbyterian wants to extend the celebration through Sunday February 16, 2014.

Valentine's Day is a day to extend your heart to a special person but our emphasis at the church will be to extend a hand to a friend or acquaintance. Reach out to anyone and make them a friend for the day.

First Presbyterian of Glidden is asking everyone attending church on Sunday, February 16th to bring a guest or two. Invite anyone to join you. Ask people who don't normally attend church, people from other churches, or anyone from the community. Be creative and be aggressive by picking up guests and bring them to church.

We have been told that special treats will be available on Valentine's Sunday.



2014 Committees

Committees within the church are forming to serve the congregation throughout 2014. The session is made up of the following people for the year: Pastor Brian, Moderator, Marlys Conner, Liindsey Cose, Jennifer Flemmig, Brad Mueggnerberg, Linda McClellan, Lora Reeve, Diane Thelin & Wayne Seaman.

At the session meeting on January 15th, session members chose the committees they wished to chair. Some committee leadership has yet to be selected but as of this writing the committees are as follows:

- *Building & grounds – Brad Mueggnerberg
- *Christian Education – Lora Reeve
- *Parish Life – Diane Thelin
- *Finance/Stewardship – Wayne Seaman
- *Clerk of Session – Jennifer Flemmig
- *Worship -
- *Pastoral/Personnel/nominating -

The church is asking members to volunteer if you would like to serve on one of the committees.

Here is an opportunity to serve the lord!

Contact Pastor Brian or the committee chair if you have an interest in serving.

Quotes of the Month

We are punished by our sins, not for them. –Elbert Hubbard

The Bible shows the way to go to Heaven, not the way the Heaven goes.
-Galileo Galilei

I never knew how to worship until I knew how to love.
-Henry Ward Beecher

Worship

	<u><i>Acolytes</i></u>	<u><i>Ushers</i></u>	<u><i>Communion Preparers</i></u>
<i>February</i>	Pillar Arellano	Megan Arellano	Marge Middaugh
<i>March</i>	Cooper Mueggnerberg	Brad & Heather Mueggnerberg	Shelly Strahl

February Anniversary's and Birthdays

4th-Ed Walkup

7th-Heather Mueggenberg

9th-Whitney Reever

11th-Harry and Judy Reever Anniversary

15th-Michael Douglas

17th-Emma Flemming

18th-Treyner Cose

18th-Will Reever

28th-Mary Walkup



JOIN US IN CELEBRATING LOVE IN JESUS CHRIST

WITH A VALENTINE OR SPECIAL GUEST



WHEN: February 16

WHERE: Glidden Presbyterian Church

TIME: Service starts at 10am



COME SHOW YOUR LOVE FOR THE LORD!!

CUPCAKES AND BEVERAGES WILL BE PROVIDED AFTER CHURCH!!

Bible Banter

On Sunday morning, the preacher brings in 4 covered jars with one live worm in each. In one he poured whiskey, in one he poured liquid chocolate, in the third one he poured cigarette smoke and in the fourth one he threw in dirt. Result was nothing unusual. Worms in first three jars died. He then looked at the congregation and said, "I don't have to tell much. I believe you have learnt a clear lesson". Then he pointed at a little girl and asked, "Sweetheart, can you tell what have you learnt?". Without any hesitation she said, "If you drink, smoke and eat chocolate you'll never have worms".

These two Married couple were arguing who is making the coffee, the wife said in the Bible that men should make the coffee and the husband replied saying no its not, show me and the wife said its HEBREWS

Announcements:

***The Presbyterian Women will meet for lunch Wednesday, **February 12th** at 11:30 am at the Country Club.

***Next Session Meeting Wednesday, **February 19th** at 7pm in the Church Basement.

***Bible Study meets at 10:00am in the church basement on the last Wednesday of every month.

*** Avery Lynn Jensen will be baptized in church on **February 16th**

***Christian Education Committee meets on **February 26th** at 1:00 in the basement

***Ash Wednesday is **March 5th**

***Sunday School is back:

*Adults and children meet at the Methodist Church

*Middle School and High School meet at the Presbyterian Church

***Confirmation classes begin **January 5th** at 1:00pm at the church

*** Joint Easter Program with the Glidden Methodist Church will occur on Palm Sunday, **April 13.**