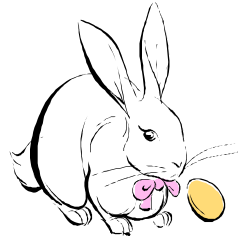


# First Presbyterian Church of Glidden

April 2014



On the day of the resurrection, some of the women who followed Jesus went to visit his tomb. When they arrived at the grave, they met two angels who had been waiting for them. And the angels asked the women, “Why do you seek the living one among the dead?”

That simple question explains why Jesus is unlike anyone else in history. Boiled down to its very essence, history is nothing more than living people talking about dead people. It is the process by which modern scholars scavenge the ruins of great empires. To learn history is simply to stroll past the tombs of our ancestors, and reflect on their lives.

You should not expect to find Jesus Christ waiting passively in a graveyard.

Obviously, I am a great lover of history. I enjoy asking questions like, “What was the historical context in which the Four Gospels were written?” or “What did Jesus’ words mean to a first century audience?” And often, I am guilty of an overreliance on such questions. It is Easter that helps drag me out of the graveyard of history. Easter reminds me in vivid detail that Jesus Christ is not dead.

The women went to the tomb on that Easter morning to grieve the loss of a friend. They expected to see a limp body, wrapped in grave clothes. They expected to feel the cold wrongness of decaying flesh. They thought that this great man had met the same fate as all the other great men who came before him – but that is not what they found. They found angels and an empty tomb. They found a true understanding of Jesus’ message. They found hope and a living Savior.

So what about you? Have you found the living one? Have you met the man who would not stay dead? Can you hear him responding to your prayers and your needs? Do you see him guiding you through the twists and turns of your life? Jesus Christ was not just an interesting man with some important things to tell us. He is still alive. He is living and active – making a difference in our lives.

Learning about Jesus is not the same thing as knowing Jesus. Learning the stories is all well and good, but the goal of being a Christian is to meet Jesus for yourself. Our Savior will not be found in the pages of a history book. He’s not waiting around in a cemetery for you to come find him.

I’m a pastor and not a history teacher because I’ve met Jesus Christ. He is not like everyone else I’ve read about. He’s not just an interesting person to talk about. He’s still alive. He is my friend and mentor. My best times with him are not when I’m digging through some old book, or theorizing how to apply his teachings to modern life. My best days with Jesus Christ are on spring mornings, when I am once again he reminded that Christ is risen.

Donot seek the living one among the dead. Seek him in your life.

Blessings,  
Pastor Brian

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## Meet the Members MTM

Our visit today takes us to the home of Brad and Heather Mueggenberg located at 130 West 1<sup>st</sup> street in Glidden, Iowa. Brad, Heather, and their four boys live a very busy life with this location a home base.

Heather grew up in the Guthrie Center area and has one brother. Brad grew up in the Carroll area and has three brothers and one sister.

Following graduation from Kuemper High School, Brad attended Loras College in 1991 on an Athletic Grant. He was hurt in that year and lost his scholarship so Brad returned to Carroll after one year at Loras and worked in all aspects of the construction field.

After graduating from Guthrie Center High School, Heather attended DMACC in Carroll. Brad and Heather met through a mutual friend. After a courtship of several months Brad and Heather were married and this is where their lives become more complex. Brad worked for Pella Corporation at Carroll for 13 years and worked on the 11:00pm to 7:00am shift during most of those years. Additionally, Brad worked at Garst Seeds for two years. He would leave work at Pella and travel to Coon Rapids and work an early morning shift at the Garst plant. Pella Corporation offered a partial scholarship program for each year a person was employed so Brad used this scholarship program to continue his college education. He attended DMACC in Carroll and finished his B.S. degree through South University of Daytona Beach, Florida with on-line instruction. Brad received his B.S. degree in Financial Management and Business Administration in 2012. Brad began his college career in 1991 and graduated 21 years later. That is called determination.

Heather began her college career in 1993 at DMACC in Carroll and her college career was interrupted by marriage. After marriage Heather began her working career spending 17 years at American

Home Shield in Carroll. The desire for a college degree still burned in her mind so she attended DMACC off and on while working at American Home Shield. She participated in the 2+2 program at DMACC and graduated with a degree from Buena Vista College in 2011. What began in 1993 was finalized in 2011 or an 18 year college career. Heather earned her B.S. degree in Human Resources and Business Administration. Again, a determined lady who spent the time to complete the task.

As if this wasn't enough of a busy life during their 20 year period, Heather and Brad added four boys to their family. Zachary was born November 22, 1994, Ethan was born October 21, 1996, Cooper was born November 16, 2000 and Carson was born July 14, 2007.



With the birth of children Brad and Heather have remodeled and expanded their home into a very nice and comfortable five bedroom, four bathroom living quarters with an attached double garage. All construction work was accomplished by Brad and Heather, with some help from the boys. At the beginning of these remodeling projects Brad jacked up the existing house, dug out the basement with a skid loader re-poured the footings and floor, laid up the basement walls and lowered the house back onto the foundation.

Once the remodeling of the home was nearing the end and college was in sight the Mueggenberg's decided to seek new opportunities in their careers. Heather spent some time working at Anthony International in Audubon and is now employed at St. Anthony Hospital in Carroll. She manages the six medical clinics owned by St. Anthony located in Carroll, Breda, West Side, Wall Lake, Coon Rapids and Manning.

Brad worked for New Opportunities as a Weatherization Inspector for a period of time and now works for Monsanto Corp, as a Warehouse Operations manager overseeing fluctuating amount of warehouse operations. His main office is in Des Moines and he

travels their nearly every day. Once at his Des Moines office he may travel to warehouses throughout his district. With the seasonality of farming, Brad is sometimes required to stay overnight on the road during the busy season.

All work and no play makes for a dull life so Brad and Heather take time to enjoy life and their four boys. The men in the house love to camp, hunt, fish and enjoy the outdoors. The lady of the house enjoys walking, running and shopping. Heather has run three Dam to Dam races in Des Moines and has just signed up for another run. She also has participated in four separate half-marathons. The family has gone White Water Rafting on the Colorado River and recently traveled to Anaheim, California to visit SeaWorld, Disneyland, and the USS Iowa Battleship. During that trip they also attended a dinner theater, played on the beach, and got sunburned.

With four boys Mom and Dad are involved in their activities; either as a coach, a logistics director, or some phase of driving children to school activities. They attend Buena Vista activities to support their son Zac in his college career. They are also involved in the Glidden Community with school, the Booster Club, Rec Board and other community events.

A strong memory in Heather's life was when Carson was born five weeks early and they life-flighted Heather to Mercy Hospital in Des Moines to deliver their Carson as doctors were concerned about his early delivery.

Grandpa Warnke gives Brad his best advice, "Better to remain silent and be thought a fool than to speak and remove all doubt."

Pastor Bob Peters was instrumental by inviting the Mueggeberg's to church at First Presbyterian and they enjoy the people in the church. They are please at how members support their children and all children of the church. All four boys have been baptized at First Presbyterian. The church is proud of this great family and proud that Brad has served and is serving on the session for the past four years.

As we close this complex and remarkable story of education, work, and family we say congratulations to a fine family and thank you for being a part of First Presbyterian.

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## What's the deal with Holy Week?

Holy Week is the week before Easter, and this year there's a lot going on. The following list should help you keep it all straight.

On Palm Sunday (April 13<sup>th</sup>) we'll be worshipping at the Methodist Church at 10:00am in lieu of our normal service.

On Maundy Thursday (April 17<sup>th</sup>) we'll be meeting at the Presbyterian Church at 7:00pm.

On Good Friday (April 18<sup>th</sup>) we'll be meeting at the Methodist Church at 7:00pm.

On Easter Sunday (April 20<sup>th</sup>) we will have two services. The first will be a sunrise service, with the Methodists, at 8:00am at Northland Park in Glidden. The second will be our regular Sunday morning service at the Presbyterian Church at 10:00am.



Photo provided by: Cuyler Black

# Mission Goals for 2014

The Finance Committee has outlined several worthwhile stewardship programs for the church during the next twelve months. Each of these missions will be featured in the newsletter at the beginning of the month in which they will be highlighted.

Presently as Rhonda Schroeder so eloquently outlined one Sunday morning in church, we are in the midst of supporting One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS). What began in 1949 has become an annual event as Christian Churches participate in giving for disaster relief, refuge assistance, and development aid. OGHS reaches across the globe, including charities in the U.S. and Canada. In recent years Presbyterians have given \$7.5 million annually.

The Session has approved the OGHS and many other missions that will be presented throughout the next twelve months. We will update the congregation on the merits and rewards of participating in these projects.

One local project not on our twelve month list is the rental of a 10X20 garden plot located north of the housing north of the Methodist Church. The City of Glidden is sponsoring these plots and they rent for \$20.00 per plot with pre-planting tillage provided along with a water supply. Our session voted to rent up to 5 of these plots and provide them to selected families in Glidden who can plant and grow some of their own food supply. This is a project of helping others who wish to help themselves. We hope that these garden plots might catch on in future years and become a big help to families in Glidden. For this year the church will work with the City of Glidden on designating who will operate these plots.

As the Finance Committee reviews past support from First Presbyterian it is gratifying what has been accomplished during the past years in mission. First Presbyterian gave over \$7,000.00 in 2013 to missions. In 2012 we were a few dollars short of giving \$7,500.00 to missions. Members need to be congratulated on past giving to missions as a job well done.

But, 2014 is a new year with new opportunities. Being ordinary is easy, but it does not transform the organizations. This year we are calling upon members to make a greater investment into the future by supporting very worthy causes such as Okoboji Camp, G-R School needs, Heifer Project, Christmas Joy Offering, and other needs as they are presented throughout this year. We are also asking people of this church to come forth with good ideas to make this church more relevant.

Take inventory, look around, and witness the very good people at First Presbyterian. We are blessed to be associated with good and prosperous people. We can and are making a difference in lives of people that we may never meet. Camp can change a young person's life forever. A garden can help feed a family. Food distributed from the food pantry can feed a young child and give them the opportunity to learn and become a producing young adult.

First Presbyterian had a very successful campaign in 2013 so let's keep success going by investing into programs outlined for 2014 and make a difference in people's lives and also allowing us to enjoy the benefits of doing something good for others.

The Apostle Paul would say, be strong in your commitment to the church.

Finance Committee

# Get Real

## Finding Your True Self in Jesus

### 2014 Lakeshore Center at Okoboji Summer Camp

#### Family Opportunities

<u>The Gospel According to Star Wars</u>	<u>5<sup>th</sup> grade through Adult</u>	<u>June 15-20</u>
<u>Grands Camp</u>	<u>K-4<sup>th</sup> grade</u>	<u>June 29-July 2</u>
<u>Sheep and Shepherds</u>	<u>Pre K-3<sup>rd</sup> grade with 1 Adult</u>	<u>July 18-20</u>

#### Kid Opportunities

<u>Fun Day</u>	<u>PreK-1<sup>st</sup> grade</u>	<u>June 14</u>
<u>Super Duper Sleepover</u>	<u>1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> grade</u>	<u>July 11</u>
<u>Lil' Campers</u>	<u>1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> grade</u>	<u>July 13-16</u>
<u>Discovery Camp</u>	<u>3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> grade</u>	<u>June 22-27   July 6-11   July 20-25</u>
<u>Summer Musical</u>	<u>6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup></u>	<u>June 15-20</u>
<u>Gospel According to Star Wars</u>	<u>5<sup>th</sup>-adult</u>	<u>June 15-20</u>
<u>Art Explosion</u>	<u>5<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup></u>	<u>June 22-27</u>
<u>Night Owls</u>	<u>5<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup></u>	<u>July 27-August 1</u>
<u>Camp</u>	<u>5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup></u>	<u>June 15-20   July 6-11   July 20-25</u>
<u>Saddle, Paddle, Zip</u>	<u>5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup></u>	<u>July 13-18</u>
<u>Wild Water Adventures</u>	<u>7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Only</u>	<u>July 20-25</u>

#### Senior High Only

<u>Rockin the Rockies</u>	<u>June 22-28</u>
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## 2014 LAKESHORE CENTER SUMMER CAMP AT OKOBOJI

It's time to register for summer  
church camp!!

Lots of different camps to attend  
all summer long.

Registration forms are available  
from Pastor Brian.

May 15 postmark for best rate.

### **Quotes of the Month**

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

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For what is faith unless it is to believe what you do not see?  
-Augustine

### **Volunteer Opportunities**

The Carroll County Wellness Coalition is looking for volunteers for the Live Healthy Iowa 5K on April 12, 2014. Help is needed in shifts between the hours of 7am and 12pm at Swan Lake's East Side Shelter House.

If you are interested in being a volunteer helping with packet pick-up, water stations, time keeping, etc., please email [livehealthyvolunteer@gmail.com](mailto:livehealthyvolunteer@gmail.com).

## ***Bible Banter***

A minister told his congregation, "Next week I plan to preach about the sin of lying. To help you understand my sermon, I want you all to read Mark 17."

The following Sunday, as he prepared to deliver his sermon, the minister asked for a show of hands. He wanted to know how many had read Mark 17. Every hand went up. The minister smiled and said, "Mark has only sixteen chapters. I will now proceed with my sermon on the sin of lying."

Provided by: <http://www.ahajokes.com/reg36.html>

## Worship Committee Meeting Notes

The Worship Committee met March 18, 2014. Those present were Pastor Brian, Marge Middaugh, Rhonda Conner and Linda McClellan. The meeting opened with prayer.

Brian discussed that he would like to resume having a lector during worship service to recite the Call to Worship and a reading from the Bible. Rhonda said she would contact members to ask for volunteers. Acolytes and ushers will also be needed for the coming year; Linda will contact members.

The committee scheduled communion preparation for the coming months: Rhonda will prepare communion for the April 6 service; Linda--May 4; and Marge--June 1. We will ask elders who are present during the worship service if they will serve communion, rather than scheduling servers each month.

Other future duties of the worship committee were discussed, including preparations for Hanging of the Greens and the Advent season. A suggestion was made to find Advent candles similar to the permanent tube candles used during worship service. Brian mentioned that there may be memorial money that could be used to purchase the candles.

The meeting closed in prayer.

## **Worship**

	<u><i>Acolytes</i></u>	<u><i>Ushers</i></u>	<u><i>Communion Preparers</i></u>
<b><i>April</i></b>	Whitney Reeve	Tim and Lora Reeve	Rhonda Schroeder

## April Anniversary's and Birthdays

2<sup>nd</sup>-Mark and Marlys Conner Anniversary  
3<sup>rd</sup>-Erica Bowman  
5<sup>th</sup>-Brad Mueggenberg  
18<sup>th</sup>-Suzy Danner  
18<sup>th</sup>-Keith Danner  
21<sup>st</sup>-Pastor Brian  
29<sup>th</sup>-Mark Conner



## Announcements:

\*\*\* Sunday School is back!

Adults and children meet at the Methodist Church

Middle School and High School meet at the Presbyterian Church

\*\*\*Presbyterian Women's luncheon is scheduled for 11:30am, **April 9<sup>th</sup>**

\*\*\*Session meets on **April 16<sup>th</sup>** at 7:00pm in the church basement

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

\*\*\*Maundy Thursday (**April 17<sup>th</sup>**) service will be at the Presbyterian Church

\*\*\*Good Friday (**April 18<sup>th</sup>**) service will be at the Methodist Church

\*\*\*Easter is **April 20<sup>th</sup>**

\*\*\*Church 144th Birthday Celebration with Cake after Services is **April 27<sup>th</sup>**

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