

First Presbyterian Church of Glidden

June 2014



A Note From Pastor:

There's an old Jewish folktale about how strange of a career farming is, viewed from the outside. Once upon a time there were two young brothers who grew up in the city and had never seen a farm before. So one day, they took a trip out to the countryside, and as they were walking along, they saw a farmer plowing his field.

"Now, that's odd behavior." Said one brother. "Why is he walking back and forth, cutting ditches into that beautiful field? He ruining it!" They continued to watch the farmer at his work, until he finished plowing and sowing grains of wheat in his rows.

"He must be a madman! Why would he throw away perfectly good grain like that?" The elder brother decided there and then that he'd seen enough. Farmers were crazy and he wanted to go back to the city where things made sense. But his younger brother was more patient than he was, and stayed in the country to see what would happen next.

Time passed, and soon the green shoots of wheat began to cover the field. The younger brother was amazed at how beautiful the area had become. Scarring the earth with the plow was only a step in restoring the beauty of the meadow, so he sent a message to his brother to come and see what the farmer had done.

By the time that the elder brother arrived again in the country, the wheat had grown and turned golden. The two were amazed at the sight, and agreed that the farmer must have known what he was doing after all - that was until the farmer came out with his scythe and began to harvest the wheat.

"Now, what's he doing? He's destroying the beautiful wheat that he's been working all summer to grow! He is a madman!" And the older brother returned home, again, to the city. But the young brother stayed, and watched the farmer separate the wheat from the chaff, and understood how he turned an empty field into a silo filled with grain. It was only then that he understood the farmer's reasons for everything he did.

This silly little story contains a profound message about how impatient we can be with God. Sometimes it seems like he's pointlessly destroying a beautiful countryside and, at other times, we can see the beauty of his work. No matter how wise we are, we only really see the beginning of his plan. We only catch small glimpses of a God who's plan stretches thousands and millions of years into the future. We're children complaining that a farmer is wasting grain, or turning dirt for no apparent reason. But, one day, God will finish his work, and we'll finally understand the reason for everything he's done.

Blessings,
Pastor Brian

Pastor Brian's Contact Info:

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Meet the Members MTM

Our travels this bright and warm Saturday morning takes us to 1407 Dakota Street in Glidden, Iowa to the spacious and lovely residence of Larry DeVries and Ruthanne Humphrey. This home was built in 2011-2012 by builder Larry Williams.

Larry DeVries was born in Lake City where he was joined by two brothers and two sisters. Larry's parents were farmers in the area, therefore Larry was raised in a small supportive community. After graduation from high school Larry worked for two years at the Yetter Elevator. He then worked for a period of time in Atalissa, Iowa, before beginning his farming operation in Lake City. Later he moved to a farm on the West edge of Glidden and lived there for thirty four years. During these busy years Larry and his wife Coleen had two boys.

Much later in life Larry married a girl by the name of Charlotte Fischer. Charlotte had two boys with her previous husband, Warren Fischer, who had passed away. Together Charlotte and Larry farmed and operated a sign manufacturing business. This marriage ended in 2013 when Charlotte died of complications of her liver. Larry and Charlotte were married for 26 years and both worked hard in the Glidden Community and in their business.

Let us now turn the page in Larry's life as a new chapter is just beginning. Actually this new chapter reaches back 28 years as Ruthanne Humphrey who was the sister-in-law of Charlotte DeVries and knew Charlotte and Larry prior to them getting married. When Larry and Charlotte would travel to Arizona to spend their winter months they would regularly visit this Humphrey lady.

Ruthanne Humphrey was born in Laramie, Wyoming, where her father was employed by the

University of Wyoming. Ruthanne was raised with three brothers and one sister. As a young lady just out of high school, Ruthanne attended the University of Wyoming for two years where she studied accounting and business administration. Ruthanne worked at the University of Wyoming where she claims she earned her MRS. Degree. While in Wyoming she worked in accounting for an oil jobber. In 1968 Ruthanne, husband and children decided a better life waited for them in Arizona so they picked up their belongings and moved to Phoenix. Upon arrival in Arizona she worked for a spring manufacturing company that was used in the manufacturing of bedding. Ruthanne claims her best job was working for an up-scale golf shop which handled everything golf had to offer.



The new chapter in Larry and Ruthanne's lives began with a winter trip to Arizona by Larry and he renewed an old friendship with Ruthanne. This friendship has now grown into more than casual friends and now they support each other in their daily lives and share their activities.

Family activities keep these people busy. In addition to brothers, sisters and eight children, they also have 23 grandchildren. They will travel to Oregon this summer to attend Ruthanne's grandson's wedding. From there they will travel to Alaska and visit that area for two weeks. In fact travel will be a part of their lives as they spend six months in Iowa and another six months in Arizona in future years.

In addition to travel, the couple loves to play golf and play various card games. Larry and Ruthanne view the church as very important in their lives and support the activities of the church.

This couple follows advice given to them by their parents when they were young children. "One can attract more flies with honey than one can with

vinegar". "Never – never – never quit" are two quotes they still remember today.

As we ended our visit Larry pointed out that the last year he farmed in Lake City was a very hot, dry year in 1977 and he retired from farming in Glidden in the dry year of 2012. However, Larry has no regrets as farming was a good life. During Larry's farming years he spent nine years on the Farmers Elevator Board of Directors in Glidden. Today, Larry helps his brother with a little of the farming, in the spring and fall.

The future will involve family, travel, good health and living life to the fullest. We thank Larry and Ruthanne for their support of the church, the community and being our friends.

Church Picnic-June 29

The annual church picnic will soon be here! Put June 29 on your calendar at the City Park, and bring a dish to share and your own table settings and drinks if you prefer something else besides iced tea or bottled water. The Parish Life committee will provide the hamburgers, hotdogs, buns, and condiments. The service will be from 10:00-11:00 with the barbecue following.

SAVE THE DATE!!

Smile! You're making Glidden an even better place to live!

A couple months ago, the Session reached out to needy families in Glidden. We offered to cover the annual fee for a plot in the Glidden Community Gardens for those who were willing to work a plot and grow food. We had three households respond to our offer, and we are excited that we can help, in a small way, to provide local families access to healthy food.

The missions opportunity for June is our annual Pentecost offering. The Pentecost offering is designed to help support and protect children both in our community and around the world.

The largest portion of the offering (40%) stays here in Glidden. It is ours to distribute to a worthy local cause. In the past, the Session has voted to use this money to support special needs of children at the Glidden-Ralston School. The remainder of the gift is distributed by the Presbytery to a few different causes. 10% of the total gift goes to child advocacy efforts through UNICEF (the United Nations' Children's Fund). 25% goes to support children's ministries in the Presbyterian Church, and the remaining 25% helps support young adult volunteers who work with children or families.

The Pentecost Offering is a great opportunity to make a difference in the lives of children - both in Glidden and around the world.

WELCOME BABY BENNETT!!

Grandparents Diane and Kirk Thelin announced that Bennett Alan Boggess, son of Allison and Jason Boggess, was born at 10:08 pm on April 2, 2014, at Des Moines Methodist Hospital.

He weighed 7 lbs. 15 ounces, and was 19.5" long.



Capital Campaign 2013/2014

We kicked off the Capital Campaign on a hot Sunday morning in the summer of 2013 with a Kool-Aid stand to alert people that things were happening at First Presbyterian. The committee had set a goal to raise \$75,000.00 for church repairs. Many of us felt the goal might not be attainable but we proceeded with faith and belief in people. People have responded and as of mid-May 2014 we are delighted to report current results of the campaign:

Total Pledges and Gifts	\$100,000.00
Pledges outstanding	14,700.00
Cash Balance	85,300.00

Wow!

Success!

Unbelievable!

Surprise!

As of this date the roof over the Narthex has been repaired as well as tuck pointing the church. Window repair has begun with a contract to repair the big south round window and the north window in the narthex. Window repair will be more extensive than first expected so it is wonderful to have some extra money to cover these extra costs.

Congratulations and a big THANK YOU goes out to all members and others who supported this

Quotes of the Month

“I believe in Christianity as I believe that the sun has risen: not only because I see it, but because by it I see everything else.”

— C.S. Lewis

“Believe that life is worth living and your belief will help create that fact”

-William James

Bible School

Every year, Peace Lutheran Church runs a wonderful Vacation Bible School program, and we encourage you to check it out. They take children between 3 years old and 8th grade.

VBS at Peace Lutheran

June 2nd - June 6th

8:30am - 2pm (just until noon on the 6th)

Bring a lunch!

Email Marilyn or Melissa Jepson [vbspeacecluth@gmail.com]

Congratulations Kirsten!!

Kirsten Stidham recently graduated from MidAmerican Nazarene University with her Masters in Counseling. She is hoping to move back to Omaha to search for a job soon. Please help me in congratulating Kirsten!!

First Presbyterian Church

Special Session Meeting

April 30, 2014 @ 7:00 PM

Roll Call: Class of 2014: Lora Reeve, Marlys Conner, Diane Thelin
Class of 2015: Brad Mueggenberg, Lindsey Cose
Class of 2016: Linda McClellan, Jennifer Fairchild-Flemmig, Wayne Seaman

Elders present: Linda McClellan, Wayne Seaman, Marlys Conner, Jennifer Fairchild-Flemmig, Lora Reeve, Brad Mueggenberg

Elders excused: Lindsay Cose, Diane Thelen

Building & Grounds Committee: Matt Conner, Tim Reeve

Moderator: Rev. Brian Camara

Clerk of Session: Jennifer Fairchild-Flemmig

Session members and Building & Grounds committee members met with John Eckman coowner of The Classic Art Company of Omaha to review and answer questions concerning church window repairs and restoration. At the previous session meeting the Omaha company was approved & this meeting was to determine the scope of the repairs.

Session approved the following: Rose window artglass restoration cost of \$23,440 plus \$8416 storm glass restoration and Narthax artglass restoration cost of \$3112 plus \$792 storm glass restoration. Wood repair &/or replacement is not included.

Adjournment at 8:05 PM

Respectfully submitted by Jennifer Fairchild-Flemmig

Bible Banter

God granting miracles

A religious man is on top of a roof during a great flood. A man comes by in a boat and says "get in, get in!"
The religious man replies, "no I have faith in God, he will grant me a miracle."

Later the water is up to his waist and another boat comes by and the guy tells him to get in again. He responds that he has faith in god and god will give him a miracle. With the water at about chest high, another boat comes to rescue him, but he turns down the offer again cause "God will grant him a miracle."

With the water at chin high, a helicopter throws down a ladder and they tell him to get in, mumbling with the water in his mouth, he again turns down the request for help for the faith of God. He arrives at the gates of heaven with broken faith and says to Peter, I thought God would grand me a miracle and I have been let down." St. Peter chuckles and responds, "I don't know what you're complaining about, we sent you three boats and a helicopter."

June Anniversary's and Birthdays

3rd-Diane Thelin
3rd-Brad and Heather Mueggenberg Anniversary
11th-Keith and Suzy Danner Anniversary
12th-Bruce Dettermann
13th-Ed and Mary Walkup Anniversary
15th-Matt and Rhonda Conner Anniversary
19th-Rick and Tami Burdine Anniversary
20th-Russ Draves
22nd-Cal Hughes
24th-Duane and Joyce Conner Anniversary
24th-Alexis Dettermann
29th-Madison Christensen



June Ushers will be: Helen and Victor Warnke
June Communion Preparer will be: Marge Middaugh

Announcements:

- ***Presbyterian Women's luncheon is scheduled for 11:30am, **June 11th** at The Winery
- ***Mother's day **May 11th**
- ***Session meets on **June 11th** at 7:00pm in the church basement
- ***Brian will be on vacation in California from **June 16th-June 22nd**
- ***Bible Study meets at 10:00am in the church basement on the last Wednesday of every month.
- ***Church Summer Picnic is going to be **June 29th** -the City Park at 10am.
- ***Sign up for Summer Camp!!