

First Presbyterian Church of Glidden

September 2014



This past week, a group of eight volunteers from the Presbyterian Churches in Carroll and Glidden took a road trip to Des Moines to package meals for Meal from the Heartland's Annual Hunger Fight. The goal of the hunger fight is to pack five million meals in just four days; and to accomplish this goal, they filled Hy-Vee Hall with an army of volunteers and mountains of food.

When we arrived at Hy-Vee Hall, we discovered that none of the members of our group had volunteered with Meals from the Heartland before and each of us was branded with a sticker that identified us as a "rookie." Because of our rookie status we agreed to split into two groups of four, and each group of four paired off with another group of six volunteers. Interestingly, both groups of six that we paired with were employees of Wells Fargo who had taken the day off of work to package meals.

The packing system works like this. Two people take turns holding the food bag under the funnel, for maximum efficiency. One person drops in a spices/vitamins package, then next puts in dried vegetables, the next soy, and finally rice. The bags are then removed from under the funnel and passed to the weighing station. Two more people use two scales to weigh the bags and to make sure that the correct amount of food has been packaged. The bag is then passed to the sealing machine, where a volunteer pushes out any excess air and seals the bag. The final volunteer then packs the sealed bags into boxes for delivery to their destination.

There are three different types of meals packaged by Meals from the Heartland. Rice and soy is the cheapest – costing just \$1.20 per bag, which can feed up to six people. Macaroni and cheese is obviously the most popular when sent to food banks in Iowa, and costs \$1.50 per six serving package. Beans and rice is the final meal and costs the same as macaroni and cheese, but provides more necessary protein.

Each of our groups helped to package over 40 boxes of meals – and, at our final estimate, we concluded that our group of volunteers helped to feed a meal to about 4500 people. Not bad for two hours of work! But that wasn't all that our churches did. We also donated money to purchase food and supplies for Meals from the Heartland to continue their work, and our donations paid for well over a thousand more meals for needy families.

Getting healthy food to hungry people is a huge challenge in the modern world. Meals from the Heartland faces political and logistical challenges that I don't even want to contemplate. But I am proud that we got to be a small part of a great endeavor. Driving home from Des Moines, I felt the satisfaction of knowing that at the end of days Jesus Christ will say to the people of our little church, "When I was hungry, you gave me something to eat." Because, whatever we do for the hungry people of this world, we do also for Jesus Christ.

Enjoy this feeling. Know that you have helped to contribute to something wonderful, and there are people who you will never meet that are profoundly grateful to you for your gifts. It is a wonderful thing to serve Jesus Christ.

Blessings,
Pastor Brian



Meet the Members MTM

On a clear, cool morning in early August our journey takes us to 412 Arizona Street in Glidden to the home of Bill & Elaine Crawford.

Bill was born in Waterloo, Iowa and grew up on a dairy farm near Jesup, Iowa with three brothers. Bill's mother Lois still lives in Jesup but his father Robert has passed. Elaine was a Dubuque native where she was raised with one sister. Her parents have both passed away.

Bill and Elaine are only two months apart in age and both of them attended Iowa State University. They met during freshman orientation week at a dance held for freshman. Elaine majored in math at ISU and received minors in computer science and education. Bill was a farm boy and during his youth he became involved in 4-H which he enjoyed. Since Bill grew up on a dairy farm it was natural for him to major in dairy science while taking many other courses in agriculture and economics.

Bill and Elaine were married in Grandview Methodist Church in Dubuque on November 19, 1967 at the end of the first quarter of their senior year of school. Elaine graduated in 1968 and Bill in the spring of 1969. College years at ISU were good for the young couple but life moved on therefore they faced the beginning of their careers.

In fact, Elaine began her career as a computer programmer for the Des Moines Register and Tribune immediately after receiving her diploma. Bill also found employment in Des Moines as he went to work at Farmland Industries which eventually led him into management training at the Buckeye Co-op, where Bill was employed and trained for the next three years.

It was time for Bill and Elaine to start a family. First came Mark followed a couple years later by Jill. These two children have now grown into adults, married and have blessed Bill and Elaine with five grandchildren.

With the arrival of two children it was time for Elaine to take some time off to raise the children as she became a stay at home mother for the next six years.

During these years Bill worked in management at several cooperative organizations in Iowa and Minnesota.

For the next 20 years Bill worked for John Chrystal, Steve Garst, and Bill Hess as an administrative assistant for their diverse organizations. During this time Elaine was employed in the computer department at Crouse Cartage Company. During most of this time the Crawford's lived in Glidden raising a family and for 15 years Bill served on the Glidden City Council.

Since the late 1990's Bill has been the Grand Secretary of the Iowa Mason's, working at the state headquarters in Cedar Rapids that also includes a large Masonic Library and two museums. They lived in an apartment in Cedar Rapids and retained their home in Glidden. Bill has recently retired being given the title of Grand Secretary *Emeritus* and the Crawford's have moved back to their home in Glidden. Elaine has worked for

Pearson Education for the past 13 years and is still employed as a temporary scoring director working from home and pleased to travel when requested.

Throughout their lives the Crawford's have been supporters of the Arts as they have had season tickets to concerts, symphony orchestras, Broadway stage plays located in Omaha, Ames, Minneapolis and other cities. Their involvement in Cedar

Rapids has limited these events as of late.

Their work experience has allowed the Crawford's to travel extensively throughout the United States and some foreign countries. Throughout these travels Bill and Elaine have met some very interesting and nice people. Some of the people they have met were high ranking officials while others were just good common folks.

As we reminisced Bill reported when his children were playing sports there was a stretch of four years when they attended 90-100 basketball games a season. These were ISU games, high school, JV, and junior high games. There was one game that Bill didn't mention but I remember it well. It was a high school basketball game and, at the end of regulation, the score board said that the game was tied. Bill, however, had been keeping his own records and he told the Glidden coach that Glidden was actually ahead by one point. They checked the books and



yes the scoreboard was wrong. The victory was awarded to Glidden, with no small thanks to the careful scorekeeping of Bill Crawford. It wasn't only sports that Bill and Elaine followed, but also school plays, music events and many other school activities.

The Crawford's speak fondly of the First Presbyterian Church in Glidden as they were warmly welcomed by the people when they first attended church here. Bill and Elaine both served terms on the session and Elaine served on the General Council at Presbytery. They both were members of Mariners and in the early 1970's they attended the National Mariners Cruise in Denver, Colorado. Bill was one of 25 members during first lay academy of Prospect Hill & North Central Presbyteries in the fall of 1997. Some members have become lay pastors, others continued their education at seminary, while others took limited number of courses.

Today Bill is a Lay Pastor at Odebolt Presbyterian Church where he maintains office hours every Monday and Wednesday and leads church service on Sundays.

In their retirement years, Bill's hobbies include preaching (over 550 sermons delivered) and lay leadership while Elaine works part-time, tends to her knitting, developed and still maintains the Glidden church website, surfs the web, and crochets.

It was a joy to stop at 412 Arizona Street and learn of the busy lives of Bill and Elaine Crawford.



Pastor Brian's Contact Info:

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Sunday School Starts September 7!

The Glidden United Methodist and
Glidden First Presbyterian Churches will
have Sunday School at 9 AM

Preschool – First Grade, 2nd-6th Grade,
Jr/Sr High will meet at the Presbyterian
Church.

Adult Sunday School is at the Methodist
Church

Church Service: 10 AM at each Church

See you there!

Lectors

- *Sept 7th and 14th- Larry DeVries
- *Sept 28th-Wayne Seaman
- *Month of October-Reevers
- *Nov. 2-Wayne Seaman
- *Nov. 9th, 16th, 23rd- Randy Christensen Family
- *Dec- 7th and 14th- Diane Thelin
- *Dec. 21st and 28th – Mark Conner

August and September Birthdays and Anniversaries

August

4th-Evan Dettermann
6th-Susan Stageman
7th-Leland and Phyllis Bender Anniversary
9th-Kirk and Diane Thelin Anniversary
11th-Chuck Newman
13th-Toni Sinclair
20th-Joyce Conner
21st-Allison Thelin
22nd-Linda McCellan
24th-Carolyn Conner
25th-Jane Burdine
26th-Marge Middaugh
27th-Stacy Dettermann
28th-Ed and Jen Flemmig Anniversary
28th-Delores Leonard
31st-Mike and Linda McCellan



September

3rd-Julie (Burdine) Raisch
11th-Jack and Teresa Stageman Anniversary
13th-Ryan Thelin
15th-Larry and Judy Littlefield Anniversary
18th-Amber Danner
18th-Elaine Crawford
21st-Bruce and Stacy Dettermann Anniversary
22nd-Teresa Stageman
26th-Wayne Seaman
26th-Dean Lamp

Quotes of the Month

"Anyone who thinks sitting in church can make you a Christian must also think that sitting in a garage can make you a car." -Garrison Keillor

"Quit questioning God and start trusting Him!" -Joel Osteen

Bible Banter

Two Trouble Makers

A couple had two little mischievous boys, ages 8 and 10. They were always getting into trouble, and their parents knew that if any mischief occurred in their town, their sons would get the blame.

The boys' mother heard that a clergyman in town had been successful in disciplining children, so she asked if he would speak with her boys. The clergyman agreed and asked to see them individually.

So, the mother sent her 8-year-old first, in the morning, with the older boy to see the clergyman in the afternoon. The clergyman, a huge man with a booming voice, sat the younger boy down and asked him sternly, "Where is God?" The boy's mouth dropped open, but he made no response, sitting there with his mouth hanging open. The clergyman repeated the question. "Where is God?" Again, the boy made no attempt to answer.

So, the clergyman raised his voice some more and shook his finger in the boy's face and bellowed, "Where is God!?" The boy screamed and bolted from the room. He ran directly home and dove into his closet, slamming the door behind him.

When his older brother found him in the closet, he asked, "What happened?"

The younger brother, gasping for breath, replied: "We are in real BIG trouble this time! God is missing, and they think we did it!"

<http://www.ahajokes.com/reg57.html>

Announcements:

***Building and Grounds Committee is meeting on Tuesday, **September 7th** at 7:00pm

***Sunday School will return on **September 7th** at 9:00am

***Presbyterian Women's luncheon is scheduled for 11:30am, **September 10th** at Perk Central

***Session meets on **September 17th** at 7:00pm in the church basement

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