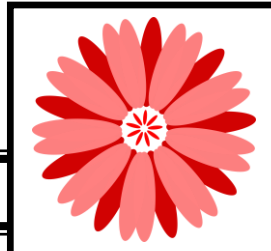


First Presbyterian Church of Glidden

April 2016



Back in the days of Jesus Christ, people didn't really know how the human body worked. Most of our information about Roman medicine comes from a 2nd century doctor, named Galen. Galen believed that the human body had four essential types of fluids, and if these fluids got out of whack, then you got sick. So, if a patient had too much phlegm in their body and wound up with a runny or stuffy nose, Galen told them that they should immediately stop eating cold foods (which were thought to help produce phlegm). Instead, he told his patients to try to eat warm foods, like soup, which supposedly helped keep your fluids in balance. Too much phlegm or too little blood is what made you sick, not bacteria or viruses.

Despite being completely wrong about how the body worked, Galen was actually a wonderful doctor. He even pioneered an early form of cataract surgery. But I tell you about Galen because his worldview brought him into direct disagreement with many Early Christians.

Galen didn't just believe that the body was composed of different elements that needed to be kept in balance. He believed that the whole universe was composed of different elements that needed to be kept in balance, from personal relationships to the composition of the stars. He believed that if a society (a *body politic*) was out of balance, then the whole thing would be sick. So, it would be wrong for the peasants or the merchants to amass too much influence because leadership wasn't their proper function in the system. It was the job of the rulers to rule, the peasants to labor, the artisans to create, and the soldiers to fight. If the rulers started doing what the peasants wanted, then the whole society would get sick.

It seems strange, but this is how people thought about the world in Roman times. But Christians believed something different. In the Book of First Corinthians, Paul writes to his friends about the "Body of Christ."

It turns out that the Body of Christ, isn't like Galen's picture of the body. The goal of the Body of Christ is not to keep everything in balance. Instead, Paul says that every part of the body is vitally important, working together for the common good. Paul doesn't imagine people as competing groups that need to be kept in their place. He imagines a world where people respect each other for their different functions. In fact, he argues that the least respectable parts of the body deserve the most respect and care.

He states, "God has arranged the body, giving greater honor to inferior parts... if one part suffers, all suffer with it; if one is honored, all are honored with it." Galen, and other ancient thinkers, argued the opposite. They thought that the body (and the body politic) was about balance and control. Paul envisioned a body and a world where people worked together, lifting each other up, to accomplish a common goal.

From the beginning, Christianity has always been a religion of cooperation. We believe not in keeping people in their rightful place, but in recognizing the value of all. It's in our teachings, in our theology, in the example of Jesus Christ, and even in our earliest theories about how the body worked. That is who we are. We are people who work together, as one body.

Blessings,
Pastor Brian

Pastor Brian's Contact Info:

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Meet the Members MTM

Meet The Members

Recent residents of Glidden are Gordon and Karla Cose who reside at 305 W. 13th Street. Gordon and Karla have moved to Glidden following many years living in the Denison Area.

Gordon grew up in the Denison area and graduated from Denison High School, after that he attended trade school in Minneapolis, Minnesota for two years. He was joined in his family with three brothers and one sister.

Karla grew up in the Mapleton, Iowa area and attended high school at Schleswig, graduating in 1969. She furthered her education in Sioux City, Iowa by attending a school of cosmetology. Karla has two siblings, one brother and one sister.

While in high school this couple met at a dance in Schleswig and they have been dancing together ever since. They've taken lessons in ballroom, disco, and country western dancing but enjoy country western the best.

The couple was planning a November 1970 wedding, with invitations being ordered and dresses being fit, when Gordon received word that he was to report for basic training on behalf of the Army National Guard. Wedding plans were put on hold and invitations were cancelled until the basic training and tech school were completed.

On April 3, 1971 the couple was married at the United Church of Christ in Schleswig. Shortly thereafter they moved to the Denison area where they started a diversified career interrupted by the Army National Guard. Gordon spent 23 ½ years serving our country.

Along the way, the Cose's had two children. Tasha Cose was born in 1974 and Tyson Cose was born in 1976. Today Tasha is married to Larry Monthei. They live in Cooper, Iowa with six children whose names are Hallie, Audrey, Keith, Joel, Kelsey, and Emily. Tyson and Lindsey Cose live south of Glidden and they have two children. We know these great children as Treynor and Braylee.

Karla began her career as a hair dresser in Mapleton, Iowa but later transferred to the Denison area to be closer to home. She worked at this phase of her career for seven years. In 1981 the Cose family began a career in farming, which required excellent input from Karla. It was a diverse operation of crop share, 40 head of

Angus cows, 100 ewes, and the raising of dogs. The family had 20 adult dogs to raise Schnauzer and Pomeranian pups. Remember the year was 1981.

Gordon worked at Farmland Foods in Denison from 1970-1981. When he began his career he weighed 120-140 and was a lugger at the plant. A lugger would lift one half of a hog off of the line and carry it to a truck parked at the dock. Sometimes one half a hog weighs as much or more than Gordon. Gordon said, "If you lug hogs for ten hours a day, one goes home very exhausted". After working eleven years on the kill floor, Gordon decided there may be a better life.

In 1990 they had nearly 1000 acres of rented land when they decided to purchase another farm. Everything seemed great until Uncle Sam called Gordon to active duty shortly after they had purchased the farm. The couple gave up their rented land and Karla, with the help of neighbors, would continue operating the purchased farm and care of the livestock. Tasha and Tyson were also great help.

Gordon served in Desert Storm in 1990 in Saudi Arabia and Iraqi. His rank was a Staff Sargent and he received many metals for his service during this time. He shared these metals with us during our visit. Gordon retired from the National Guard in 1994.

In 1994 Gordon began a twenty year career with the Crawford County Landfill, where he completed several tasks on a daily basis.

We left Karla's career in the 1980's as she was immersed in family, farming and raising dogs. She worked at Ben Franklin and Sears Catalogue Stores in Denison prior to becoming a teacher in the Denison School District. Currently she works from 7:30am to 11:00m at the Job Corp location and from 11:00 – 3:30pm, she works at the Denison school, working with alternate school children.

Gordon retired in 2014 but still keeps occupied as he delivers agronomy products for the New Cooperative. Karla's retirement is down the road but today she still commutes to Denison five days a week to help young people frame their future.

By now you know the Cose are busy people and as hobbies they like to camp, canoe, rehabilitate a Minneapolis Moline 445 tractor, country dance each Saturday night at Lake Robbins located south of Perry, and riding their Can-Am three-wheeled motorcycle. Karla is a



Master Gardener so during the summer months these two people are outside developing their green thumbs. With all of these activities, their priority is enjoying their grandchildren, taxi service, and an occasional oversight of their grandchildren. They do like to travel and have been on three cruises so far. Once retirement is complete, more travel is planned.

They joined First Presbyterian on February 7, 2016 and cherish the friendly people of Glidden and Pastor Brian.

During some of the tougher times in life, Karla received some great advice, "Remember God only gives what he knows you can handle". These people have handled life very well and we thank them for sharing with us.

Quotes of the Month

"The fact that we were created to enjoy God and to worship him forever is etched upon our souls"

~Jim Cymbala

"God wants to use us as He used His own Son"

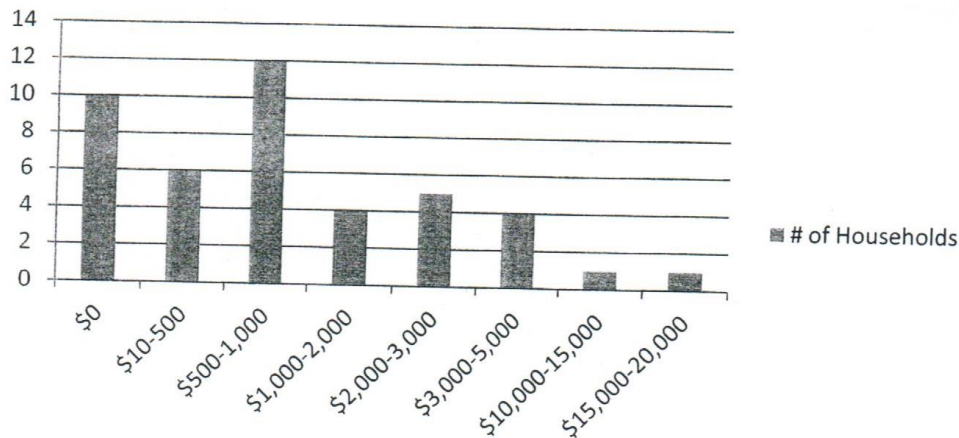
~Oswald Chambers

Profile of Investments

By Members

The following graph is an illustration of member's investment in First Presbyterian Church (in 2015). It shows the number of household who contributed in a certain range, from \$0 for the year to between \$15k and \$20k for the year. This graph is accurate to the best of our ability to measure. In column one, the graph lists ten family members who contributed no recorded monetary gifts. However, this is probably misleading. If families contribute cash without placing it in a marked envelope, then our financial secretary as no way of knowing who contributed the gift, and such a gift would not be included in this graph. It is a joy to see that over 75% of our member families supported the church, monetarily, in 2015.

of Households



One Member Speaks about their investment in First Presbyterian

"Why I invest in the First Presbyterian Church. Hopefully my investment in the church has meant providing a faith basis for my family as it did for me. In this world we live in today too many people use church for marriage and burial. I want my children and grandchildren to be nurtured by their faith and fellowship with a church family."

Project Share Re-cap
January-February Mission Emphasis

Project Share was designed to help fellow Glidden residents with their heat bill if they qualify as outlined by the standards of the Community of Concern. The program is administered by the City of Glidden but is fully funded with donations.

Participants who qualify can earn up to \$50.00 in donated money during the winter months as long as they invest at least \$25.00 toward their heating bill. The participant's names are confidential but each qualifies as low income households.

The budget for 2015-16 for the City was set at \$2500.00, therefore up to 50 families could participate. First Presbyterian felt this was a great local mission so the Session adopted this mission for January and February. The members of the church have responded and donated a total of \$590.00 over these two months. This amount will aid nearly twelve families. Other organizations may donate money for this project.

This is a follow-up report on First Presbyterian mission emphasis and the members of this church should be thankful for the great way money was used to help our neighbors stay warm.

Thank You from the City of Glidden:

Your gift total \$590.00 was deposited in the Project Share account created by the City of Glidden electric utility to assist needy Glidden households in paying their wintertime energy bills.

Those qualifying for help are carefully identified by a local community action agency. All Project Share contributions are available to only Glidden residents until funds are depleted. The City of Glidden Project Share program follows guidelines adopted by the Glidden Ministerial Association. Last winter, thirty-one \$50.00 grants were awarded to qualified Glidden households.

Thank you again for your generous gift.

Suzanne Danner, City Clerk

PRAYERS

Please keep the family of Calvin Hughes in your prayers. Cal passed away this past week in Marshalltown, Iowa. He was 90 years old.

Cal was a blessing to our community. He served in the Pacific Theater, during the Second World War; volunteered with the Glidden Fire Department and Glidden American Legion; he worked for the telephone company; and even served as our church sexton from 1970-1980. In the 2000's he opened up his garage for locals to come and drink coffee in the mornings. Cal was a great friend to our church and to many of us. He will be dearly missed.

The former pastor of our church, Rev. Gerry Riesen, also passed away this month in St. Petersburg, Florida, after a long battle with Alzheimer's. He led our congregation from 1984 to 1988. Pastor Gerry spent 41 years in ministry. He was 87. Please remember his family as well.

April Birthdays and Anniversaries

-2nd-Mark and Marlys Conner

Anniversary

-3rd-Erica Bowman

-5th-Brad Mueggenberg

-18th-Suzy Danner

-18th-Keith Danner

-21st-Pastor Brian

-29th-Mark Conner



One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS)

Mission Emphasis for March & April

OGHS has been one of the largest emphasis of mission giving at First Presbyterian for many years. In the past four year members have supported OGHS in the average amount over \$1600.00 per year. This is commendable for the size of the congregation. For 2016 the Session has budgeted \$1500.00 with the hopes this number will be exceeded.

OGHS is the largest special offering of the Presbyterian Church (USA). It goes to support three different Presbyterian Ministries; Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Presbyterian Hunger Program and Self Development of People. OGHS is the primary source of mission funds for the Presbyterian Church (USA). When people face large calamities, it is rewarding to know that our church is there with our money providing assistance.

If members wish to participate in this worthy effort, it will be available through the end of April. We would ask that you designate your investment in OGHS so it can be recorded in the proper account.

Kudos Korner

- *To Jen Flemmig, Clerk of Session, for spending a day at Presbytery reviewing the minutes of our church for the past two years.*
- *To families who presented memorial gifts to the church that covered the cost of new carpet in the church office.*
- *To Russ and Lil Draves who celebrated 60 years of marriage in March!*
- *To Treynor Cose, who had a wrestling record for the year of 28 wins and 14 losses. He went to the AAU Super Pee Wee State in Waterloo the weekend of March 5th only to end up sick the night before and unable to compete.*
 - *So he decided to compete in the Corncob Nationals in Des Moines March 13th to finish his wrestling for the 2015/2016 season. At Corncob Nationals he ended with 3 wins and 2 losses and in the top 12 out of 26 wrestlers. He wrestled a boy from Arkansas and there was even a boy from Florida in his bracket.*

Announcements:

*Pastor Brian will be gone from April 6th to April 8th

-He will be attending a short Presbyterian Conference in San Diego

*PW meets on Wednesday, April 13th, at 11:30am at Las Margaritas in Glidden

*Session meets on Wednesday, April 13th, at 5:30pm

*The Christian Education committee meets on Sunday, April 24th, after church

*Sunday, April 24th is the last day of Sunday School