

First Presbyterian Church of Glidden

April 2018



“Jews demand signs and Greeks look for wisdom, but we preach Christ crucified: a stumbling block to the Jews and foolishness to the Gentiles, but to those whom God has called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For the foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than human strength.”

1 Corinthians 1:22-25

Happy Easter! Happy April Fools Day!

I believe that the Apostle Paul would have found it fitting that both holidays should happen to be celebrated on the same day this year. It is quite easy to understand how someone might think that the resurrection was just a bunch of foolishness.

When the Ancient Greeks first heard the resurrection story, they were confused. They knew very well what happened to a body after the heart stops beating. Decay begins almost immediately. Things start to smell. And so they pictured Jesus' soul returning to a body three days dead and thought that the whole thing sounded gross. What immortal soul would ever want to return to its body after death? When they heard of the resurrection, they were thinking of zombies, not the angelic figure in white that we all imagine.

To the Greeks, the resurrection just sounded like a tale for fools – the type of story that might be told to gullible friends on April 1st. But the foolishness of God is wiser than any human wisdom.

And we can see the truth of this in the life of Jesus Christ. It seemed like foolishness for Jesus to preach a Gospel of nonviolence when the world was so dangerous. It seemed like foolishness for Jesus to condemn the religious and political leaders of his day. It seemed like foolishness when he allowed himself to be captured and executed, without putting up a fight. It all seemed like foolishness – until Jesus rose from the dead and triumphed over the power of death itself. It seems like foolishness, and then God wins.

And even today, we Christians still do many things that seem foolish from a worldly perspective. We care for the sick, even though they might infect us. We pray for each other, even though we're not always sure if our prayers are working. We often give to our neighbors – or even to strangers – without any expectation of reward or return. We do lots of things to help the weak around us, even though our economy is based on the “survival of the fittest.” We do many, many things that might look foolish right now – but just wait until Jesus returns. It looks like foolishness, and then God wins.

In truth, the foolishness of following Christ is wiser than any economics manual or philosophy textbook. So, let's celebrate both Easter and this day of fools, because eternal life is a prize that is worth looking foolish for.

Happy Easter,
Pastor Brian

Pastor Brian's Contact Info:

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Where are They Now

Dick & Thelma Moorhouse, along with Bill & Mary Moorhouse, were co-owners of Moorhouse Lumber Yard prior to selling the business to Gary Schon. Dick & Thelma raised four boys. They are Dave, Jeff, Tom and Jack. Tom Moorhouse is the focus of today's story.

Tom Moorhouse was born at St. Anthony Hospital in Carroll in the early 50's. Tom attended school from kindergarten through high school at Glidden-Ralston. Tom could not remember the number of students in his early education but graduated in a class of over forty students. This was a large class for that period in time. Elementary school was very routine for a young boy in Glidden as he moved from grade to grade.

All that changed once Tom moved to the junior high level. Along with Tom's school work he became involved in extracurricular activities. He was involved in band, choir, football, basketball, baseball and track, which kept this young boy very busy. Tom went out for football in seventh grade and he still remembers his first day of practice as the coach proclaimed, "I am going to run your butts off". Not the way a seventh grade wants to start football. Tom enjoyed his junior high years as he kept busy with his school work and activities.

In high school he continued his extracurricular activities plus he added school plays to his activities. With four boys in the family there was always friendly competition amongst the brothers. At one of the all school reunion at Glidden-Ralston, many years later, the master of ceremony announced that the class of 1970 had gone undefeated in football – Tom's class. It was actually the class of 1971 who played football in the fall of 1970 that went undefeated. This was not Tom's class but rather his younger brother, Jack's class. This has now been a friendly bickering between the boys each time they see each other. The graduating class of 1970 had members by the name of Dean Wheeler, David Walkup, Jerry Junker, Kris Lindsay, Linda Moorhouse and Nancy Leonard, all recognized as people who attended First Presbyterian.

Once graduated from G-R, Tom made plans to attend the University of Northern Iowa on a football scholarship. During that summer David Walkup invited Tom to attend a dance in Lake City along with David and his girlfriend, Jane Bellinghausen. Tom accepted going along with his friend David. This was the first meeting of Tom and Jane. In the fall David Walkup headed off to Buena Vista to attend college and play football. Tom moved to Cedar Falls and began attending UNI. Jane Bellinghausen

also enrolled at UNI. David Walkup informed Tom to watch after his girlfriend, Jane. Tom did look after Jane and he married her in 1973 between his junior and senior year. They were married at the St. Mary's Catholic Church in Lake City. Tom and David have enjoyed telling this story on how life makes many twist and turns. David and Tom are still good friends.

Tom graduated in 1974 with a business degree in marketing. His wife, Jane, graduated the same year also with a degree in marketing. The employment opportunities were tough in 1974 so Tom signed up for a job with



Standard Bearing in Des Moines. Tom and Jane moved to Des Moines where Tom went about working in the office selling bearings, shives and pulleys. Tom did not fall in love with this job and in less than a year he submitted his resignation. The couple had planned a vacation to Arizona, so they followed through with their plans and spent their vacation deciding what their future might entail.

The lumberyard was still in Tom's blood. He had worked in his father's lumber business all through his school years and even during college as time permitted. As he pondered his future he ran across a job opening in Lincoln, Nebraska at Hoppe Lumber Company. He accepted this job, moved to Lincoln and for the next 40 plus years, Tom was a lumberman. During that forty-year period, Tom worked for various lumber companies but many of them were at the same building but different owners.

Tom and Jane have three children and three grandchildren. Matt the oldest child was born in 1978 and lives in Lincoln working at Ameritas. Beth was born in 1979. She has her PhD and is a college professor, teaching economics in Pennsylvania. Kate followed later in 1991.

She has a degree in early childhood development and works in that field in Pierce Nebraska.

Jane's employment was raising the three children but once they were off to a good start, Jane accepted employment in public school systems at Belmont Elementary and later at Lux Middle School. She began working as a secretary for nine months out of the year but later her job expanded, which required a full year's commitment. Jane retired two years ago and is now spending time with her hobbies and precious grandchildren.

Tom has fond memories of Glidden as he participated in school activities, spending time at the swimming pool and enjoying the freedom of walking around town without any fear. Of course, it was not all fun and games. Tom mowed grass at the lumberyard, delivered lumber and even delivered concrete as he grew older. Like many town children, Tom worked on various farms as he walked beans, baled hay, shelled corn and cleaned hen and hog house. As part of his memories, he recalls the Presbyterian Church and its Pastor Duane Heap. He recalled his friends in the church and those friends of his parents. During Tom's last few years in Glidden, Rev. Heap was replaced by Rev. Heglin. Today, the Moorhouses attend church in Lincoln on a regular basis.

The Moorhouses have done some traveling to Alaska, the Caribbean and making trips to visit grandchildren. In his younger years, Tom enjoyed playing golf but gave it up when he realized he was not going to make the professional circuit. In 1995, the University of Nebraska football team invited Tom to keep statistics at home games for the Huskers. Each home game, Tom sits in the Press Row and records all information on all passes, receptions, incomplete passes, interceptions and other records involving the passing game. Tom enjoys this activity as one of his favorite hobbies.

When asked about important happenings in his life, Tom responded by responding, "That's easy". I have been blessed with good parents, a wonderful wife, great children and amazing grandchildren. This demonstrates the importance of family in his life.

We ended our interview with Tom with a look to the future which will include involvement with family, a few more years at work and keeping an eye on Nebraska football.

It was a great joy to visit with a young man from Glidden who has created a wonderful life.

Kudos Korner:

-To the people who travel south for the winter, we welcome your return. It is great to greet you again.

-To all those who helped clear snow from our parking lot and sidewalks. A special "thank you" to Keith Danner on his efforts.

-To Shirley Seaman for bringing treats to our Sunday School children.

-To Anna Fleecs as she will be working as a camp counselor overseeing one cabin of 5-6 girls per week, at Camp Kearney. This camp is a part of the South Side Mission near Peoria, Ill. This goes well with her counseling major.

-To Julie Fleecs who will be living in Grand Forks as a requirement of her basketball scholarship. She will be working basketball camps for area youth and observing in health care clinics and facilities.

-Praying all three have safe and meaningful summers!

-To Carolyn Conner for the birth of a new great grandson, Oliver James, born to Megan and Tim in Iowa City.

April Birthdays and Anniversaries

- 2nd-Mark and Marlys Conner
Anniversary
- 3rd-Gordon and Karla Cose
Anniversary
- 3rd-Erica Bowman
- 5th-Brad Mueggenberg
- 18th-Suzy Danner
- 18th-Keith Danner
- 21st-Pastor Brian
- 29th-Matt Conner

Message from Carolyn Conner:

On January 31st at Iowa Methodist Hospital I had surgery to remove a cancerous tumor and about 30% of my liver. The tests show that they got all of it! February 3rd I was able to go to Spurgeon Manor in Dallas Center for skilled care. Excellent care and therapy brought me here, my new home. Meanwhile I have been recovering, life goes on! Give thanks with me for my continued recovery.

Her new address is:

*131 Spurgeon Manor,
1204 Linden Street
Dallas Center, Iowa 50063 - 1052*

Announcements:

- *PW meets on Wednesday, April 11th, at 11:30am
- *Presbytery meets on Saturday, April 14th, in Ida Grove at 9:00am
- *Session meets on Wednesday, April 18th, at 5:30pm
- *We will celebrate the church birthday on Sunday, April 22nd

The Mission Emphasis for the months of March and April is the **One Great Hour of Sharing.**

The One Great Hour of Sharing 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. In 2016, the OGHS supported projects from repairing a fire-damaged Presbyterian Church in Burt, Iowa to the construction of 40 toilets for a town in rural India. This offering is the primary source of mission funds for the Presbyterian Church (USA) and is one of the best things that we do together as Presbyterians.