

First Presbyterian Church of Glidden

August 2019



Pastor Mission Update

August Pulpit Supply

- *4th-Kendall Von Glon
- *11th-Tom Daniels
- *18th-Barbara Todd
- *25th-Tom Daniels

**Jennifer Olson from United Presbyterian Church in Denison is our Moderator

** Pastor Lorinda is on call for emergencies

August Birthdays and Anniversaries

- 15th-Sara Stevens
- 18th-Deb Adams
- 20th-Joyce Conner
- 21st-Allison Thelin
- 22nd-Linda McCellan
- 24th-Carolyn Conner
- 25th-Jane Burdine
- 26th-Marge Middaugh
- 28th-Ed and Jen Flemmig Anniversary
- 31st-Mike and Linda McCellan Anniversary



Where are they now?

On July 2, 1980 Mark & Marlys Conner welcomed a baby girl into their home. Therefore Abby

Conner is the feature of this month's article.

Some of us witnessed this girl's first day in church, her first day at school, her graduation from school and her send off to college. So where is she now?

One of Abby's first memories of the First Presbyterian Church were her days at pre-school held at the church. Nancy Braden, Lois Copp and Jane Burdine held school for 20 or so young students. Abby attended these classes for two years and she recalls times in which she didn't want to participate so she would hide in the ladies bath room. Another fond memory of that time period was when her dad would take her fishing at Swan Lake, once dad's work was completed for the day.

Abby began Kindergarten with the late Mrs. Jensen as her teacher and this big class totaled 40 or so students. One of G-R's largest classes of the time. Classes for Kindergarten were held in a detached building from the regular building and were one-half day classes. Abby attended the morning classes. During this time the Connors lived by the Jepsens and therefore Anya Jepsen and Abby were good friends. The girls played outside, rode bicycles and knew the neighborhood. In fact, these young girls knew the neighborhood so well that they knew which treats would be offered by each neighbor, if only they would make contact. As the years passed, Abby moved into Junior High and became more involved in activities. Days at the pool had always been a part of summer time activities so Abby became a part of the swim team. She was active in music and band. The big change in Junior High was moving from class to class at the end of a period. Also, in Junior High, young

people were assigned a locker to be shared with one other student.

Abby was a person that loved school so she moved onto four wonderful years of high school as she shared with other students such as Hollie Antisdell, Angie Stork, Sara Fisher, Collet Wenck and others. Art was Abby's favorite subject with English being a close second. She maintained her interest in band, music and participated in school musicals. Abby played golf in high school and was coached by Kevin Rasmussen. They held their class together and graduated 40-42 students. A little embarrassed as the class selected a cactus as the class flower for their senior graduation, which arrived in the spring of 1999.

High School days are now finished and college is

fast approaching. Abby's love of school was enhanced as she entered the University of Northern Iowa in Cedar Falls, Iowa. She loved the size of the campus, the town, fellow students and the atmosphere of college. She attended sporting events, concerts and enjoyed the Gallagher-Bluedorn Performing Arts Building. While in college, Abby pursued her interest in Art as one of her majors and also studied psychology, graduating in 2003.

Upon graduation, Abby accepted a job with Adult Day Care providers in the Cedar Fall-Waterloo area. Originally, she worked with 20 or so patients each day. She enjoyed the patients very much in that each had their own personality. She cared for them only during the day as they would return home each evening. Abby did relate one interesting story. The rules were no smoking in the

building. Smoke breaks would be given and would be taken outside. This one lady smoked and each morning residents were required to turn in their cigarette lighters. She would turn in one or two but she would always hide one from the staff as if they would not notice her smoking at the wrong time or the wrong place. This became a game each morning to find the hidden lighter. Abby enjoyed



working at the Day Care but after two years another attraction caught her attention.

In March of 2005, Abby flew to Arizona to witness the wedding of a good friend. Abby noticed the groomsman with the name of Whitney White. Sparks flew and daily long-distance calls were routine. Eventually the couple had a date in May of 2005 in Ames where Whitney met Abby's parents, Mark and Marlys Conner. In July of 2005, Abby secured a job with the Area Agency on Aging and worked as an advocate for benefits on behalf of clients. This meant she worked on unwinding the red tape of Medicare and Medicaid for clients.

Whitney White grew up in Phoenix, Arizona along with his two older sisters. Once Whitney graduated from high school, he attended a Phoenix Junior College to secure many of his basic courses. In 2000 Whitney enrolled in Arizona State University and received his B.S. in Applied Science. For the next five years, Whitney worked for Quality Ink and Rollers who were in the business of supplying ink for printing presses.

During the period from 2005-2007, Abby and Whitney dated and were married on June 16, 2007 at First Presbyterian Church in Glidden with Pastor Mike Fitzsimmons officiating. The couple continued to live in Phoenix until September of 2011. Prior to that date, the couple had done some deep thinking about where they wanted to live, where they wanted to raise a family and what elements do we want in a community. They decided Ames, Iowa was the place for them so they purchased a home in the northern part of Ames in 2011. We must not overlook a bigger event in 2011 as Conner White was born on April 16, 2011. Conner is now a protective brother of Brody White born on July 5, 2017. Whitney, Abby, Conner and Brody are the make-up of the White family.

Whitney was aware of the impending move to Ames therefore he secured employment with Combined Insurance which is a company that provides supplemental health insurance. Whitney was the territorial manager and traveled the entire State of Iowa. While working for this company, Whitney was awarded the top sales representative for the entire United States. Too much time away from home and a young family, Whitney decided to accept a job as Senior Account Executive with Media Com in 2013.

Following the birth of Conner in 2011, Abby decided to return to work in 2012 and accepted a position as Co-Ordinator of Home Health for Story County and worked there for two years. In 2014 she accepted a Human Resource position with Almaco. This company provides seed research equipment for the seed industry.

The White family are heavily involved with the North Minister Presbyterian Church in Ames and Whitney serves on the Session and is Chairman of the Buildings and Grounds committee. Their present circle of friends attend the same church. In fact, the Pastor and his wife are God parents of little Brody. The church is a big part of their community but will expand as the boys move further in to school activities. Conner has already demonstrated an interest in soccer and swimming. Whitney is involved in community activities as he is a Hunter Education Instructor where he teaches classes on the proper use and installation of tree stands and teaches Archery to 200 or so members.

The Whites live by sage advice past down from generation to generation such as, "Do the right thing because it's the right thing to do".

The Whites are happy with their choice of Ames but they understand the importance of living in other places to fully appreciate their present location. Vacations will be spent returning to Arizona and visiting with family.

As this family looks to the future, they anticipate much excitement as the boys grow into young men, as their work in the church continues to expand and as they expand family and friend relationships.

What a joy visiting with young people who are so optimistic and full of energy. May God continue to bless them and lead them in the way of our Lord and Savior.

August Ushers:

Mark Conner &

Diane Thelin

Kudos Korner:

To the young people who participated in softball, baseball and swimming during these summer months.

To Rhonda Schroeder and Lora Reever who have done a great job of filling the pulpit with guest leaders while our pastor vacancy continues.

To the members who continue to carry on good stewardship responsibilities even though the office of pastor is vacant.

To the many new school teachers joining the G-R staff and to the long serving staff as a new school year begins this month.

To Larry & Judy Littlefield as they relocate from Glidden to Ankeny. You have positively impacted many young lives.

To Mark & Jane Toyne who have transformed their home with their large remodeling project.

To all of the members who quietly serve the church but often times goes unrecognized.

To all of the young people who participated by showing animals at the local county fairs. We are proud of your year around hard work.

To Bill Crawford for being elected Moderator of Prospect Hill Presbytery.

To Suzy Danner on her excellent operation of the computer and screen presentation during church services.

Kuddos to All

Church will be at 10:30 am starting on
Sunday, September 1st

July 13 Presbytery Meeting

The Presbytery of Prospect Hill met on July 13 in the sanctuary of the United Presbyterian Church at Denison. Attending were Bill Crawford, Moderator and member of First Presbyterian Church of Glidden, and Elaine Crawford, Elder representing the Glidden Presbyterian Church.

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 A.M. by the Moderator and the light amount of business of the Presbytery was handled with little discussion.

Rev. Ian McMullen, Temporary Supply General Presbyter, was given time to introduce himself and answered a few questions. He then led the worship service based on Ezekiel 37, the vision of the dry bones coming back to life. His message was very positive and uplifting. As a part of the worship service, Recognition of Honorable Retirement of the Rev. Ken Meissner was led by Moderator Crawford. The Eucharist was then observed. The offering was designated to go to Presbytery Disaster Assistance (PDA).

All moved to the Fellowship Hall to enjoy a delicious pork loin lunch. Following lunch, Rebecca Brown, Rev. Randy Russom, and Rev. McMullen led a roundtable discussion on the work of the All-Iowa Task Force as it has developed as Joint Staffing Proposal. Three Presbyteries are involved: Prospect Hill, North Central Iowa, and Des Moines.

The meeting adjourned just after 2:00 P.M.

Next Stated Meeting of the Presbytery will be on Saturday, October 26 at the Lakeshore Center at Okoboji beginning at 9:30 A.M.

Announcements

- PW meets on Wednesday, Aug 14th, at Charlie's in Carroll at 11:30 am
- Session meets on Wednesday, Aug 7th, at 5:30pm
- August 25th is the last Sunday of 9:30 am worship