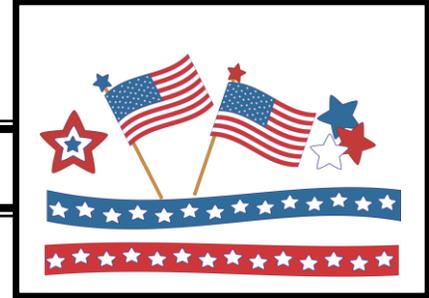


First Presbyterian Church of Glidden

July 2020



Small Talk from Pastor Anna

You know what they say about well-laid plans. They don't always go as you want them to. So, there needs to be a plan b and on down the line. On June 10, the session met in the sanctuary so we could be at least 6 feet from each other. The session voted to set a tentative date of July 5th for when the church building would reopen for worship, albeit a shorter version with several changes. But COVID-19 had other plans. Before June 10th there had not been that many positive cases of the virus in Carroll County, but since then the numbers have steadily increased. Following the guidelines of Iowa Dept of Health, the session does not want to have worship in person until there has been a decline of new positive tests in Carroll County for 14 days. Unfortunately, that has yet to happen. Before we can worship in person, the session will also have a cleaning party to make sure the sanctuary is ready. The new plan then is to wait until the session meets again on July 8th. At that time they will set a new date to have worship in person if that is possible. Our main priority is to resume worship when it is safe to do so.

The good news is that we continue to have worship and fellowship online. Diane Thelin just gets better and better recording the services and listening to Marlys Conner play is always a joy. When she and Mark sing, that is the highlight of the service for me. Other good news is that the Presbytery was finally able to meet as you know on June 6th. Like Elaine Crawford, I enjoyed hearing our then co-moderator Cindy Kohlman preach during worship. What I appreciated even more is that initially I had been asked to preach. It was nice to just listen. Because we continue to physically distance, I have had the opportunity to attend workshops on stewardship, hybrid worship and attend some of the PCUSA Peace Fellowship camp activities during the General Assembly's gathering via Zoom. And yes I did participate in the Poor People's Campaign virtual march on Washington D.C. on June 20th. What a powerful and meaningful experience hearing the many speakers who voiced their determination to see all peoples everywhere be given a fair shake.

Blessings,

Pastor Anna

Where are they now?

Dean & Lola Fisher were long term members of the First Presbyterian Church in Glidden and one of their daughters is the feature in this month's newsletter. Deanna Fisher was born at St. Anthony Hospital shortly after World War II broke out. Deanna has two living siblings. A sister Charlotte who is 90 years plus and a sister Helen who is approaching 90 years.

The Fisher family lived on the farm in the war years and like many farm families considered themselves lucky because the farm helped them to be self-sufficient. But, farm life was very laborious for both dad and mom as they worked long hours at chores where in today's world are mostly push buttons. The Fisher family was somewhat blessed as they had one of the first refrigerators in the area. The Fisher family farm was sizeable therefore they employed farm labor and mother had some domestic help as she was challenged daily with preparing meals for family and hired help.

In the early 1940's pre-school was a nonevent, but children learned at their parent's knee and so Deanna learned discipline as she squirmed in the pews at First Presbyterian. Her Aunt, Nelle Rust, sat behind the Fisher family and Mrs. Rust would have what Deanna thought was a dead squirrel around her shoulders. Actually, she later learned it was a mink. During these pre-school days, on the farm, animals played a part in Deanna's life as she began to feed, care for, and ride the family horse called Beauty. She also had a pet lamb called Thumper who she also played with during this period in her life. But, as often happens, the lamb became aggressive and knocked her to the ground and was attacking her when she screamed for her mother. Mom came to the rescue which ended any sheep on the farm. Deanna was wearing a brown fuzzy coat and hat when Thumper attacked her and she says that coat & hat saved her from the attack by Thumper. Another story about animals on the Fisher farm involved Deanna's grandfather who had purchased a car with a cloth top. Grandfather visited the farm, parking his car in the front parkway. Fisher farms had goats and goats decided they

liked the cloth top on the car so they ate the top. That was the last of the goats.

Deanna attended all of her 12 years of schooling in Glidden-Ralston. Mr. & Mrs. Fisher would spend the winter in Arizona and on some occasions, Deanna would go with them. As she grew, the folks decided Deanna needed to stay in school in Glidden therefore, they employed a favorite teacher of Deanna to stay with her. Nancy Hunter was a vocal music teacher who stayed with Deanna and acted as her guardian. These two became very close because of this arrangement.



The days at Glidden school were coming to an end as prom was fast approaching. Roger Hayes, a relative new comer in school and was a breath of fresh air to the school. On prom night, young people were teetotalers except for Roger. Deanna had prepared home-made rolls to take to the

dinner but instead fed them to Roger to sober him up and save the night.

After school at Glidden was completed, Deanna was off to Drake University in Des Moines to begin a major in music with some liberal arts. Deanna admits she didn't like to study or practice. Her piano recital was fast approaching and her instructor, Dr. Wannamaker, had warned her she was not prepared and most likely would not make grade. She put her mind to excelling practice and aced her recital as her professor was stunned.

Deanna met a young man named Tom Carmody and later they were married. This marriage produced two wonderful children who were named Bryan and Shiela and these two children became the proudest accomplishment of Deanna's life. Bryan and Shiela have led wonderful lives. Deanna is proud of all of her grandchildren. Tom and Deanna decided the marriage was not a good fit so each went their own way.

Late in life, while Deanna was living in Omaha, she returned to Glidden to attend Ruth Gebhardt's funeral, who is the mother of Sandra Shadle. Following the funeral service, Deanna stopped at Mister D's in Glidden for a cigarette. While at D's, she met a man who had curly hair and a winning smile by the name of Ken Conner. The couple hit it off very well and were married and lived on a

farm north of Glidden. The couple remodeled the house, upgraded the landscaping but Ken thought their future was best served if they moved to Arizona. For several years they lived in Scottsdale but now reside in Mesa. Deanna periodically has done some interior design work but for most of her life has chosen to not work outside their home. She still plays the piano but arthritic has limited her ability to play at the top of her game. Her dad and mom conveyed many tidbits of advice to the young girl just by the way they lived their life. Dad also advised the children never to invest in anything you know nothing about.

Now we return to Deanna's early childhood as she was with her mother hanging laundry on the outdoor cloths line. It was a clear day when Deanna looked up and said, "Hi God". Her mother asked her, how she knew God is up there? She replied, "I don't know...I just know he is up there". "The Holy Spirit joins us in many ways and can be in all of us if we allow this to happen". Another church story that Deanna relates, happened during her high school years. She and Sally Weller were investigating with the public address system at the Presbyterian Church. They were playing Tennessee Ernie Ford's records prior to youth group and the outside speakers were on. They were blaring Ernie Ford's music all over town and they didn't know how to turn it off.

Who knows what the future holds for Deanna and Ken. They plan to keep on keeping on with life as it presents itself. We enjoyed communicating with Deanna and look for Ken's story next month.

Kudos Korner:

To the members of First Presbyterian classified as essential workers who report to work on a regular basis to serve.

To Ron & Jane Burdine for scraping & repainting the pillar at the front entrance to the church.

To Mark & Marlys Conner for adding to the church service as they join in song at the closing of the worship service.

Kuddos to All

General Assembly News

For the first time in its history the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (USA) held meetings this past month virtually via Zoom instead of meeting in Baltimore, Maryland as originally planned. On the first ballot Elona Street-Stewart, a ruling elder and synod executive with the Synod of Lakes and Prairies which is our synod and Gregory J. Bentley, pastor of Fellowship Presbyterian Church in Huntsville, Alabama were elected to serve as co-moderators of the 224th General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (USA). Street-Stewart is a descendant of the Delaware Nanticoke tribe and is the first Native American to serve as a moderator as well as a synod executive in the PC(USA). She says it is time to send the message that the church is here for good....Rev. Bentley is African American and like Street-Stewart believes that being inclusive will move the church forward. He says "I felt like, given our particular backgrounds and the history of this country, that not only do we represent the pain of our past, but the possibilities of the future in our own person and experience.

July Birthdays and Anniversaries

-4th-Alexia Nelson
-4th-Sara Douglas
-8th-Jennifer Flemmig
-8th-Rhonder Schroeder
-9th-Grant Fleecs
-12th-Elizabeth Burdine
-14th-Carson Mueggenberg
-16th-Cal Riedesel
-19th-Mary Fairchild
-19th-Bill Crawford
-21st-Lindsey Cose



The Joy of Teaching

Then Jesus took his disciples up the mountain and, gathering them around him, he taught them, saying:

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are the meek.

Blessed are they that mourn.

Blessed are the merciful.

Blessed are they that thirst for justice.

Blessed are you when persecuted.

Blessed are you when you suffer.

Be glad and rejoice for your reward is great in heaven.

Then Simon Peter said, "Are we supposed to know this?"

And Andrew said, "Do we have to write this down?"

And James said, "Will we have a test on this?"

And Phillip said, "I don't have any paper."

And Bartholomew said, "Do we have to turn this in?"

And John said, "The other disciples didn't have to learn this!"

And Judas said, "What does this have to do with real life?"

And Thomas said, "I doubt we have to know any of this."

And Matthew said, "May I go to the bathroom?"

One of the Pharisees who was present asked to see Jesus' lesson plan and inquired of Jesus, "Where is your anticipatory set and your objectives in the cognitive domain?"

And Jesus wept.

Author Unknown

Prayer is not a "spare wheel" you pull out when in trouble, but is a "steering wheel" that directs the right path throughout our journey.

When you pray for others, God listens to you and blesses them, and sometimes, when you are safe and happy, remember someone has prayed for you!

Please pass this on to others - - - Live simply, love generously, care deeply, speak kindly, and leave the rest to God.