

First Presbyterian Church of Glidden

October 2021



Small Talk from Pastor Anna

Friends in Christ:

The Board of Pensions for the Presbyterian Church (USA) works to keep ministers and others who have health insurance through them healthy in creative ways. Using the Call to Health we can do activities that give us points. The more points we earn brings bonuses such as lower deductibles. Now to the fun stuff. One of the activities that earns points is to take time and play, doing something that has no connection to work. Then Bill Crawford shared his copy of the Presbyterian Outlook from August. The theme was play. One article talked about play as theological work.

Play as theological work. When we take time to step away from routine at work and at home to play we take ourselves out of the normal. We let imagination, laughter and fun be front and center. In re-creating, God can and will enter into the pleasure we experience as we play. Remember God commanded that we rest on the seventh day. Doing something fun, even frivolous, eases our worries, the everyday pressures we face and we feel renewed. We are better able to handle those pressures after taking time for ourselves, enjoying life once more.

So, whenever possible give yourself permission to have fun, to do something even down silly that makes you laugh. Take time away from the news of the day and watch a comedy or read a book that makes you smile. Play games with your family. Do puzzles or other activities that relax and restore. Connect with someone close to you all in the name of pleasure. And when you feel cross and angry take out your inner clown and find a way to let go and laugh until you feel better.

I want to remind you that I have office hours at the church Wednesday and Thursday, 1:30 pm - 4:30 p.m. However, the third week of the month my office hours will switch from Wednesday to Tuesday. Friday is my day off. Remember if you need to get a hold of me, you can reach me at 503/843-1938 or email me at annadeesmall@gmail.com.

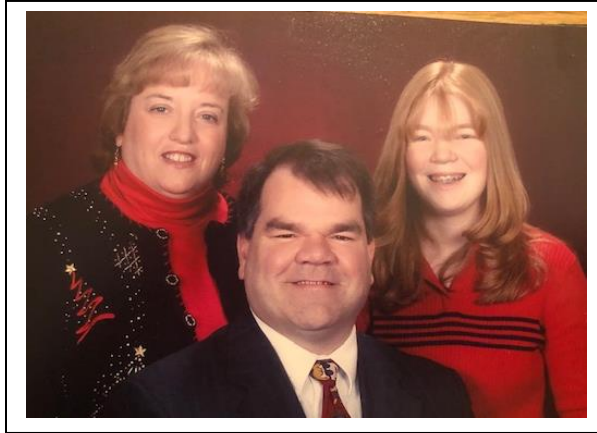
Blessings to all of you,

Pastor Anna Small

Where are they now?

Paul & Carolyn Conner were long term members of First Presbyterian Church in Glidden. They raised three children in this church and they were named Clark, Karmen & Clair Conner. The spot light on this month's feature is focused on Clair, the youngest child of the family.

Clair was born at St. Anthony Hospital in Carroll, Iowa and spent his younger years on a farm north west of Glidden. As a young boy, Clair remembers playing Batman and Robin with his siblings. He notes that he was always villain because he was the smallest. He also recalls the many chores he completed while on the farm. The family raised cattle, hogs, horses and a sizeable garden which produced produce used for canning. Clair began school in Glidden-Ralston as a kindergartener. The farmstead had a long lane, for a little guy to reach the bus. When Clair was in first grade the teacher, Mrs.



Gregory, realized Clair was not hearing very well and she recommended that he see a doctor. Sure enough, Clair was experiencing an allergy and his ears were filling with liquid. Surgery was performed and tubes were installed to allow drainage.

In 1975, the family moved into a new home in town at 426 E Minnesota Street in Glidden. Clair reports the home was always filled with music, whether it be instrumental or vocal, both were plentiful. As a young boy, Clair spent time at the pool and played on several baseball teams entitled the Wee Wee's, Pee Wee's and Midgets. Later he played in Little League and several years these teams were coached by Mr. Marv Wood.

The junior high years rolled around after moving into town, Clair became involved in band and vocal music taught by his mother. He also participated in baseball, football and track. Junior high also involved detassling, walking beans for Duane Shadle, shelling corn for the Redeisel's, and bailing hay for Ward Salisbury. These activities also extended into his high school years. Clair was a part of the joint youth group made up of young people from the Methodist Church and the Presbyterian Church. Suzanne Rediesal, Karmen Conner, Suzy Conner,

Matt Conner, Tim Reeve, Genie Holmes, Chris Hofstad & Mary Jo Johnston were a few of the people Clair recalled in his group. Mark and Marlys Conner along with Marv and Mary Wood were their advisors. The group also shared Sunday School class with instructors being Mrs. Hazel Peters, Dorothy Wheeler, and Mrs. Lloyd. Confirmation class was a memorable event in Clair's life as the instructor was Rev. Scott Burkley. Another highlight of Clair's junior high years was his trip to Ames to watch the Glidden-Ralston State Football Champions.

It was now time to move onto high school which

was an easy transition for Clair as he enjoyed school and learning new things. His interest leaned toward math, geography and computers. The subjects of history and biology were not far behind in his desire to learn. While in high school, Clair was involved in drama productions, speech contest, plays, swing choir and golf in addition to his other sports. In swing choir, Clair sang a solo from the movie "Grease" and

the choir was directed by Cindy Seastrom. Clair was always involved and at homecoming he portrayed the unknown comic on a program that was patterned off of the Gong Show of that time period as part of the student council coronation skit.

As a junior in high school, Clair was elected president of his class. Therefore, he had to organize and raise funds for the junior-senior prom. The title of Prom was "Jungle Love" and the class got into some trouble when some of the props were nailed to the gymnasium floor. In high school, Clair was a member of the Spanish Club along with Bill Chapman, John McLaughlin and others. The club traveled to Mexico for a three-week bus tour to Mexico City and Guadalajara. Another memorable excursion was a concert band trip to St. Louis where the G-R band was in competition with other midwestern bands. To fund this trip the band members walked fields and picked up fallen ears of corn which were later sold to pay for part of the trip.

Throughout high school, the Presbyterian Church was important to Clair as he sang in the choir, played his trumpet. attended youth group and participated in Sunday School. A benefit of the youth group were 2 ten-day

Okoboji camp canoe trips to the Boundary Waters in Canada. As one can tell, Clair had a very busy and successful time at G-R. He graduated as salutatorian, being edged out by the narrowest of margins by valedictorian, Bill Chapman. Both Bill and Clair spoke at the graduation ceremonies held in 1981. Clair points out that the gym was hot as is always the case at graduation time.

So, in the fall of 1981, it was off to the University of Northern Iowa where he would major in Computer Information Systems with a minor in Industrial Shop. Clair continued his interest in music while in college as he participated in the Men's Glee Club and marching band all four years. His Glee Club traveled to Europe two different years to perform. Clair was also involved in drama and during the early 1980's there was substantial stress in farming. So, UNI developed a production on Stress in Agriculture in the 80's. Clair played the part of a businessman and auctioneer in that drama. Clair was a Resident Advisor at Noehren Hall for two years and was advisor to a group of physically challenged students living on first floor. Clair enjoyed college life but it didn't pay well enough to stay beyond four years so it was in 1985 graduation day came.

For the next thirteen years, Clair was employed at West Central in Ralston, Iowa, first as a programmer and then as a manager of Information Technology. While employed at West Central, Clair joined the Carroll Community Theater in Carroll. While there, Clair was introduced to another member of the theater by the name of Larci Bury. The couple got along very well and were married on June 11, 1988 at the Central Presbyterian Church in West Des Moines. Larci was employed at New Hope Village in Carroll as a music therapist. In November of 1990, the young Conner family was blessed with the birth of a daughter named Carli. The name Carli was developed by using letters from mother and father's name to spell Carli. Clair jokes about the reason they only had one child is because other developed names using the same formula did not sound well.

In 1998, Clair decided he wanted to operate his own company so he set up a consulting company to help companies with their computer needs. Early in this venture, he worked for Farner-Bocken and Variety Industries of Harlan, Iowa, as a contract company. Later on, he consulted with companies like Tones Spices, Firestone Tire, Farmland Insurance, NFO, Control Systems,

Landus and others to broaden his customer list. In 2011, a West Des Moines company by the name of GuideOne Insurance contacted Clair to be their full-time consultant. So, for the past ten years, Clair has had a contract with GuideOne Insurance. For the past 15 years, the family has lived in Urbandale, Iowa.

Larci, like Clair, has been very busy since moving to Des Moines as she is self-employed and teaches piano in their home. At the highest of this venture in Ankeny, she had seventy students which were given group piano lessons. It was not unusual to have three or four electric key boards set up for students to play at a time. She has now reduced her schedule to teach only fifteen students presently.

Daughter Carli is married and living with her husband Ryan Northfield in St. Louis whom is completing seminary in December. Carli graduated from Drake with a music teaching degree and taught at 3 different elementary schools in Des Moines for 5 years. Larci & Clair are prideful grandparents to Elijah who will be three in December and Ada who was one in August.

Church is still very important to this couple as they are members of the Westkirk Presbyterian Church in Urbandale, Iowa. As Clair points out he now has been on three different Presbyterian Church sessions, along with being on the pulpit nominating committees, and teaching Sunday school. The family have been involved for twelve years in the teaching and administration in the International Bible Study Fellowship Des Moines chapters. Last year Clair taught children online using ZOOM from Sioux Falls, SD.

While their daughter was in school, they were involved with school functions at Ankeny and Valley in West Des Moines, and Drake vocal and instrumental departments. For the past ten years, the couple has spent quality time being the main caregiver for mother Carolyn Conner in Adel and Dallas Center.

In closing this story, I wish to quote Clair, "I will be forever indebted to the people of the First Presbyterian Church in Glidden. They were huge in my upbringing. They were and are a caring church and they taught me, to do the same. They taught me how to work together, value family, and lead by being a good example. I will always be grateful".

13. In Leviticus, the priestly line is established with the consecration of

- a. Eli
- b. Abiathar
- c. Zadok
- d. Aaron
- e. Moses

14. The law “an eye for an eye” is found in

- A. Genesis 24
- B. Exodus 24
- C. Leviticus 24

15. “Here, O Israel: the Lord our God is one Lord” is found in

- A. Genesis
- B. Exodus
- C. Leviticus
- D. Numbers
- E. Deuteronomy

16. A flock of sheep, Mount Horeb, and “I AM WHO I AM”

- A. Abraham
- B. Isaac
- C. Joseph
- D. Moses
- E. Reuel

17. “So Moses the servant of the Lord died there in the land of Moab, but no man knows the place of his burial to this day” is found in

- A. Genesis
- B. Exodus
- C. Leviticus
- D. Numbers
- E. Deuteronomy

18. The duties of a “next of kin” figure strongly in what book?

- A. Judges
- B. Esther
- C. Ruth
- D. 1 Kings

Anouncements!!!

The Nominating committee for Presbyteries is in the process of seeking those interested in serving as Commissioners and Young Adult Advisory Delegates to General Assembly.

Lakeshore at Okoboji will have clean up at the camp on October 8 and 9 and are looking for volunteers for the weekend.

The September and October Missions will be Project Senior Meals, to support the community home delivered meals to seniors.

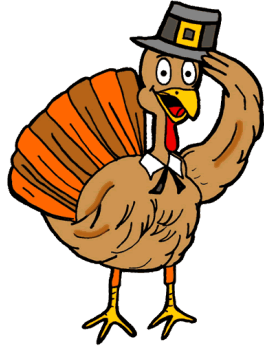
Kudo's Korner

To the great people who support our church finances and programs

To the people who donated school supplies for our GR students

To Suzy Danner, PeeWee & Joyce Conner and Pastor Anna for delivering meals on wheels to Glidden residents.

Thanksgiving Dinner



Thanksgiving Dinner is on for Sunday, November 14, following the service, and the Parish Life Committee is looking forward to sharing a feast with all members who can attend. The committee is furnishing the turkey, dressing, potatoes, gravy and drinks, including coffee. Congregation are to bring a dish to share with all and their own table service, except for cups that will also be provided.

This year we are asking for help with addressing member shut-ins who may wish to have a dinner delivered. If you wish to have a dinner or you know of someone who would appreciate a dinner, please contact Diane Thelin or Pastor Anna by November 3 so that we will be sure to have an approximate number of guests for preparation. We ask that volunteers be ready to help with deliveries, as well.

Parish Life will be hosting the hot dogs feed for Halloween during the city's specified times. If you want to stop by, we serve anyone trusting our cooking!



October Birthdays and Anniversaries

- 1st-Bridget Draves
- 1st-Brooke Draves
- 2nd-Mark Conner
- 2nd-Mary Haselton
- 6th-Oliver Conner
- 12th-Gordon Cose
- 14th-Ty Cose
- 20th-Loretta Hansen
- 21st-Ethan Mueggenberg
- 28th-Roy and Marge Middaugh Anniversary



There is nothing more beautiful than someone who goes out of their way to make life beautiful for others.

Answers:

13. Leviticus 8:6
14. Leviticus 24
15. Deuteronomy 6:4
16. Exodus 3
17. Deuteronomy 34:5-6
18. Ruth 3:9