

First Press

February 2018 - March 2018

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FROM THE PASTOR'S STUDY

"Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening." —1 Sam. 3:9

I think about this passage pretty often, and I associate it with this time of year. I think that is because it is this time of year when we ordain our new elders and deacons in the church. These people do serve the Lord, and their service is important for the coming Kingdom of God, and it is also important for this world, this community, and our congregation.

The words were spoken by the young Samuel, when God called his name. God had important things to say to Samuel, and important things for him

to do. Samuel did live out his life as a servant of God.

I would guess that when you get up in the morning, you don't first ask yourself what you will do as a servant of God on that day. Maybe most of us don't think that way. And that is understandable, but it is also unfortunate.

It is understandable because there is nothing in the daily life of our nation that would remind us to do such a thing. There is not much about life today that shows us that we serve a long and forgiving God—a God who has a plan for us and for all people.

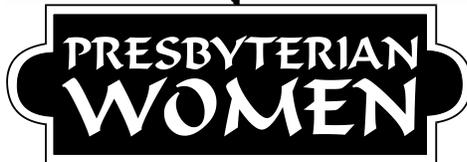
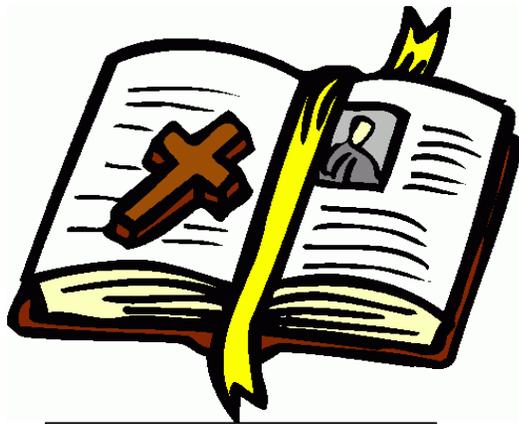
It is unfortunate because being the loving, serving, people of God is our very identity. It is little wonder that

we struggle through life, when we don't even generally think of ourselves as being just exactly what we mostly are!

Our Sunday school currently uses a curriculum called: Growing in Grace and Gratitude. That would be a good title for a curriculum for the life of a Christian. We are blessed to be loved by God, and in gratitude, we are free to serve God and all creation.

Blessings,

Brian Jones



PW has finished 2017 and looking forward to 2018. We continue to have Bible Studies on the 3rd Wednesday. If you would like more info on these Bible Studies call Sue Jones.

We will be hosting the State PW Spring Gathering this year. The Theme is Reflection on the Light. The date is April 28, 2018. More info will be made available later. As always, if you have any suggestions for PW, please contact me at 853-3896.

PW Moderator
Peggy Meyer

SESSION REPORT

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Session held its regular meetings on December 13, 2017 & January 10, 2018
8 pm in the Campbell Library

Communion

December 3, 2018 (served 96)

It's been a cold winter as of late but we continue to move forward toward spring and it's season of warmth and everything new.

**February 13 – “Fat Tuesday” Supper
5:30-7**

**February 14 – Ash Wednesday
(services will be at our church)**

**March 29 – Maundy Thursday
(communion services will be at the
United Methodist Church)**

April 1- Easter Sunday

Clerk of Session Shar Ruhnke

FRB Mission Project

Our FRB mission project has been sitting quiet through 2016, *but*, on January 29th, following our Annual Congregational Meeting, we will be having a “Pie Auction” as one last effort to raise money for the 2016 project. *Thank you Everyone ! for your participation!!*

New Church Website & Addresses

2018 Greetings! A New Year and we have a new website with a new name and some email address changes!

The name and address for our church website has been changed to www.millerpresby.com If you forget the new web address, just do a search or “Google” the words “millerpresby” and it should come up for you!

Also – *and this is very important* – the church secretary and pastor Brian’s email addresses have been changed – please change these in your email contact lists.

Secretary’s new email is secretarypresby@gmail.com

Pastor Brian’s new email is millerpresbypastor@gmail.com

Also . . . on our website now, on the far left side of the website pages, there is a column that will have announcements, dates, events and other information – and this is where I really need help from all of you!

Please email me (deesiv@gmail.com)

or call me (605-853-3257), or get info to Patty/church secretary for her to relay to me

(secretarypresby@gmail.com) of dates/events/announcements, etc. that need to be shared to our congregation so I can get them published on the website ASAP.

Church sermon video recordings can now be viewed from the church website –just go to the website, click “More” at top of screen to open that drop-down box and click “Sermon Videos”. We’re hoping this will be a wonderful means to share our church services with individuals who can not attend services and those living away from our area, so please feel free to share this link with others!

Lastly, am sure you have all heard the phrase “it takes a village to raise a child”? Well, that also applies to our church website . . . **your** input, feedback, info, etc. is very valuable in helping me to keep our website up do date, informative and sharing . . . so please let me know of changes, corrections, information we need to share, etc. And if you see wrong email addresses, phone numbers, etc. for persons to contact, please let me know so I can change/correct those items.

Feedback is welcome . . . photos of church events and suggestions to make our website even better are welcome! Just email me at deesiv@gmail.com or call 605-853-3257!

Thank you for visiting the church website and offering your input and

church news info! I hope you enjoy the website and find it useful and spiritually fulfilling!

Dee Sivertsen

Thank you to everyone who participated and helped with our second annual Pie Auction. Your help was very much appreciated. You are all awesome!!
World Mission
Committee-Foods
Resource Bank

Email Addresses Wanted!

We are e-mailing the newsletter to those who would like to receive a paperless copy. You can e-mail your address to the church at my address of secretarypresby@gmail.com or receive a paper copy at the Church. If you would still like the newsletter mailed to you, please let us know. Since we have changed our e-mail address, please let me know if you are not receiving the newsletter by e-mail. Thank you!

Christian Education

“We love because God first loved us.”

1st John 4:19

The Sunday school Christmas program, including “The Colors of Christmas” and “Christmas Hope” was presented during worship on December 17th.

MANY THANKS to **Cecilee Miner, Sarah DeHaai, Kelly Wagner and Jody Speck**, and to the Sunday school teachers and parents for their help as well. Thank you to **Susan Jones** for playing the piano for the program. Everyone did a great job!

A **THANK YOU** also goes to **Travis and Angie Anderberg and Greg and Carolyn Rediger** for providing and preparing the treat bags that were handed out to the children after the program.

The Senior Youth Group set up and decorated the tree in the sanctuary. They also sold cheese at the Farm and Home show. The students worked hard and it was a success. However, it could not happen without the adult volunteers.

Many Thanks to the adult volunteers who helped with the cheese sale:

**Mary Johnson, Shelly Wieseler
Harriet Kopplin, Wanda Stevens
Dawn Haar, Susan Jones**



The Junior Youth Group, directed by Sarah DeHaai and Kevin Hofer, has been meeting monthly since October. They met with the Sunday school students during church in November and made decorations for the tree in the fellowship hall. This group also plans to go ice skating in Huron in January.



Our Sunday school teachers and helpers do a fantastic job preparing and presenting lessons for the youth and adults in our church. We are grateful for their dedication and hard work for the ministry of Jesus Christ.

Congratulations to the Sunday school students who will be awarded 2016-2017 attendance pins! These are for last year's attendance. The pins are awarded

for every 30 days of attendance. There were 36 Sunday school days this last Sunday school period. This means a student could miss no more than 6 Sundays and still be awarded an attendance pin. Sometimes it happens that a student just misses getting an attendance pin by a Sunday or two. If this is the case it IS possible, then, to earn 2 pins the following year.

First Year Pins

Corbin Kruml, Quinnley Miner, Blake Hofer, Ava Johnson, Gavin Johnson, Brooks Johnson, Alexis Johnson

Second Year Pins

Joseph McClure, Owen Fritzsche

Third Year Pins

Peter Rembold, Jordyn Pugh, Cody Fanning, Tanner DeHaai, Eric Speck, Carter Fanning

Fourth Year Pins

Brecken Anderberg, Gideon Rembold, Aubrey DeHaai

Fifth Year Pins

Ben Wangsness, Kaihlyn Anderberg, Arielle Miner, Laura Evans, Heather Resel, Sydney Johnsen, Carter Kruml

Sixth Year Pin

Carson Miner, Corey Resel

Seventh Year Pin

Shaylee Anderberg

Eighth Year Pins

Davon Rombough, Jaden
Anderberg

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**We are already thinking about
Vacation Bible School!**

Cecilee Miner and Sarah DeHaai were the Vacation Bible School planning chairpersons last year with Chelsea Pugh serving as co-chair. Chelsea will be serving as chairperson this year so.....
We need a new co-chair to help plan VBS this year. This is a 2-year obligation. Interested volunteers should contact Tyann Jones.

Submitted by Tyann Jones

Blessed be the Lord, who daily bears us up: God is our salvation.

Psalm 68: 19



Student Greeters

The choir would like to thank our anonymous "Santa" who treated us with Subway gift certificates. It was a wonderful and greatly appreciated surprise! We sing every Sunday and practice on Wednesday nights. If you love to sing, please consider joining us!

The handbell choir began practicing for the new year on January 17. We will practice each Wednesday at 6:00. The choir welcomed new ringer Pete DeGeest. Also new to the choir is a beautiful 3 octave set of Schulmerich handchimes, purchased for the music department by the Memorial Committee. We can't wait to share this new "joyful noise" to the congregation! We also have some new music that we will be sharing in the months ahead. If you are interested in joining the ringers, please contact Ray Caffee, our director.

Student Ushers

Feb. 4	Cody and Carter Fanning	McCade and Maverick Nelson
Feb. 11	Jayce and Jordyn Pugh Jake Pugh	Kaden Sivertsen, Joseph Wieseler
Feb. 18	Bennett & Tanner DeHaai	Aubrey & Schelbie DeHaai
Feb. 25	Quinnley and Arielle Miner	Carson Miner, Kylie and Carlie Selting
Mar. 4	Corbin and Caiden Kruml	Carter Kruml, Davon Rombough Serenity Johnson
Mar. 11	Peter and Gideon Rembold	Ruby Carder, Mark and Cole Cavenee
Mar. 18	Rya Wagner, Vaelynn Welk	Owen and Oliver Fritzsche
Mar. 25	Ava and Brooks Johnson	Alexis & Nicholas Johnson, Cassi VanDerWerff
April 1	Blake and Grace Hofer	Davin and Dayken Bossert
April 8	Brecken and Kaihlyn Anderberg	Jaden and Shaylee Anderberg
April 15	Joseph McClure, Ben Wangsness	Janelle Kenaston and Kelby Tracy
April 22	Peyton and Rylie Moss	Heather and Corey Resel
April 29	Lawson Wagner, Harper & Hadley Duxbury	Landon Wagner, Eric and Ian Speck
May 6	Kynslee Mushitz, Bryleigh Resel	Justin and Laura Evans
May 13	Haistyn and Haylie Huss	Eli and Jack Jones, Haidyn Huss
May 20	Peyton and Rylie Moss	Storm and Sydney Johnsen

If you cannot be here on your designated Sunday, please trade with someone or find a replacement. Please let Patty or Tyann know of the change.

February Birthdays

2—Travis Anderberg
Mike Roy
4—Ellen Kay Wagner
Oleary
Caiden Kruml
5—Charlotte Evans
9—Dorothy Stevens
Teagan Foreman
12—Chelsea Davis
Corey Resel
14—Taylor Johnson
Seth Rombough
16 – Chasity Selting
17 – Chris Kruml
18- Sheila Hancock
19—Jessica VanZee
Lyle Williams
Casey Schultz
21 Jody Speck
22—Dee Lewis
Arielle Miner
Luella Schultz
Georgia Soper
24—Rachael Moeller
26—Joseph Blaseg
27- Quinnley Miner
28 – Sydney Johnsen

February Anniversaries

12—Lyle & Pam
Williams
Andrea & Bertin
Flores
16—Philip & Phyllis
Testerman
21—Casey & Luella
Schultz
26—Robb & Kim
Johnson

March Birthdays

1 - Tiffany Hofer
Janice Palmer
Dwan DeGeest
Chris Johnsen
2 - Brooke Wagner

Florine Henning
3 - Chad Stevens
Lauryn Stevens
4 – Bryleigh Scheer
5 - Jordyn Pugh
Xavier Hargens-Flores
7 - Bonnie Ehlers
9 – Kristen Moss
10 - Jill Meyer
11 - Tara Haar Brouwer
12 - Larry Blaseg
16 - Teresa Eschenbaum
17 - Trey Waldrop
18 - Greg Haar
Wyatt Strasburg
19 - Deb Bushfield
Phil Letsche
Rosemary Moeller
21 - Jaime Gard Hall
22 - Cassie Beckett
26 - Abby Hill
Doug Fritzsche
27 - Charlene Beckett
Will Jones
Dani Kappler
28 - Beth Fischer
31 - Joan Bertsch

March Anniversaries

2—Jim & Norma
Waring
25-Chris & Christina
Kruml
28 –Duane & Sally Resel

USHERS

February: Lyle Williams &
Nancy Williams

March: Dave & Jean Johnson

DEACONS

Feb: Angie Rosemore &
Sue Jones

March: Marilyn Dyer
& Jean Johnson

GREETERS

Feb. 4: Cheryl Fanning
Feb. 11: Chelsea & Riley Pugh
Feb. 18: Lance DeHaai
Feb. 25: Cecilee Miner

Mar. 4: Chris & Christina Kruml
Mar. 11: Chad & Sherry
Rembold
Mar. 18: Brooke Wagner &
Will Jones
Mar. 25: Curtis & Kelly Johnson

*See attached list of student
greeters and ushers in Feb.
& Mar.*