Pastor Gordy’s Message

By Pastor Gordy Pennertz

Verse for October:
Isaiah 42:3
“The bruised reed he will not break, the daily burning wick, he will not quench.”

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I wrote last month about the fact that even good things can cause us to lose our focus. I already forgot where I copied this poem from, but it reminds us that there are lots of distractions out there and we do well, no matter how busy we are or just how resistant to silence we are, God-time is important.

To sit quietly and see one's self pass by!
The streets of our minds seethe with endless traffic; our spirits resound with clashings, with noisy silences, while something deep within hungers and thirsts for the still moment and the resting calm. With full intensity we seek, ere the quiet passes, a fresh sense of order in our living;
A direction, a strong sure purpose that will structure our confusion and bring meaning in our chaos. We look at ourselves in this waiting moment—the kinds of people we are. The questions persist: what are we doing with our lives? What are the motives that order our days? What is the end of our doing? Where are we trying to go?
Where do we put the emphasis and where are our values focused?
For what end do we make sacrifices? Where is my treasure and what do I love most in life? What do I hate most in life and to what am I true?

Over and over again the questions beat in upon the waiting moment. As we listen, floating up through all the jangling echoes or turbulence, there is a sound of another kind—a deeper note which only the stillness of the heart makes clear. It moves directly to the core of our being. Our questions are answered, our spirits refreshed and we move back into the traffic of our daily round with the peace of the Eternal in our steps.

(Howard Thurman from Meditations of the Heart: “How to Center Down”)

Daily we face those persistent, important questions. But more important is the time spent with God, so that we move into our world “with the peace of the eternal in our steps”!

Peace, Hope and Joy in Christ's name,

Pastor Gordy
Upcoming events:
--Tuesday Oct 3 **Session 7:00 (Note date)**
--Pastor Gordy and Julie Rae will be in AZ visiting Christa, Jacob and Colton Oct 4-7
--October 10 WINGs 4:00; CCC mtg 5:30
--October 11 Bible Study 4:30
--October 12 PW workday 1-3
--October 15 Worship at Ecumen
--October 23 Mary Martha bible study 4 PM
October 24th: NEWSLETTER ITEMS DUE!
--October 25 Bible Study
--October 29 **Potluck!!**
--November 1 Bible Study 4:30
--November 5 Service of Remembrance; Dedication of Stewardship forms (see other part of the newsletter)

**THOSE SERVING DURING OCTOBER**

**LITURGIST:**
1-Judy Holmes
8-Julie Rae
15-David Pennertz
22-Michael Joldersma
29-Kay Hanson

**Coffee Hour:**
1-Susan Berg
8-Rosie Graphenteen
15-Rhonda Joldersma
22-Katie Pennertz
29-POTLUCK

**USHERS:**
1-Kay Hanson
8-Dwight Barrick
15-Susan Berg
22-Savannah Joldersma
29-Rech Family

**Money Counters:**
1-Susan Berg & Rosie Graphenteen
8-Julie Rae & Arlyce Dedrickson
15-Gary Graphenteen & Beverly Driver
22-Michael Joldersma and Jayne Ackman
29-Judy Holmes and Rosie Graphenteen

**Communion Servers:**
Communion servers: David, Julie Rae, Susan and Michael

**SANCTUARY DUTY:**
Oct: Amy L.
Nov: Rosie
Dec: Shirley

**Deacons serving schedule:** If you are in need of a deacon for rides, for help, for notifying someone is in the hospital etc...Please contact the deacon of the month:
October: Savannah Joldersma
November: Barbara Bremseth
December: Rhonda Joldersma
Christmas Eve: Rhonda Joldersma/all

**Come and join us in making cards at WINGS on Tuesday, October 10th.**
BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES:
2-Kay Hanson
3-Gary & Rosie Graphenteen
5-Julie Rae Pennertz (60!!)
7-Shirley Good
13-Michael Joldersma
14-Greg Heath
16-Mortie Berg
19-Frankie Rech...Richard Pennertz
20-Marshall Madsen
21-Karen Heath
22-Ryan Ackman
26-Rhonda Joldersma...Doug Johnson

Sunday Bulletin:

October Liturgy
22-Exodus 33:12-23  1 Thessalonians 1:1-10
Matthew 22:15-22
29-Deuteronomy 34:1-12  1 Thessalonians 2:1-8
Matthew 22:15-22

Bible Verse of the Month

Isaiah 42:3
“The bruised reed he will not break, The daily burning wick, he will not quench.”
This month’s Bible verse is from Arlyce Dedrickson. She said that she received this verse from Truman when her son passed away, along with a note and prayer. It has stayed with her as a reminder of friends caring and her faith.

Bible Study:

A reminder that we have started a new study on Wednesday afternoons at 4:30. We are doing overviews of each book of the New Testament. Each study stands alone so feel free to come any time you can make it. Bring your bible and we will seek a better understanding of the scriptures and of the life and purposes of Jesus.
Session Minutes
Session Notes from September 12, 2017
A quorum was established with all elders present except Gary Grapenteen with an excused absence. The Treasurer’s report was approved with the balance in the undesignated account as of August 31 of $28,171.38 and $53,054.34 in the Designated account. The Pastor’s and Clerk’s reports were approved with the recording of a new member. In old business, we reviewed the membership list and updated it and set the October session meeting for the 3rd. In new business, we activated the Nominating Committee to start their search and approved a vacation day for Pastor Gordy on October 22. We also approved use of tables and chairs for Michael for the 25th for a cross country supper. Committee reports: Shirley Brooks reported for Worship/Christian Ed and set dates for several events and services which should be listed elsewhere in this newsletter and is looking into purchasing a projector and screen with the Library Fund. Judy Holmes reported for Christian Community updating us on the Patty Wetterling program. Buildings and Grounds-Gary was absent and have a meeting set for the future. Michael Joldersma reported for Stewardship and Personnel that Personnel reviews will be held in November and forms will be sent out in October for the 2017 Budget process. Shirley Brooks reported for PW that the Veteran’s chili feed will be November 11 and a work day is set for October 12th from 1 to 3pm. The PW is also looking for ideas for a national or international service project they could do.

If you have any ideas, please contact Shirley Brooks. All committee reports were approved and the meeting was adjourned with the blessing.

Respectfully submitted,
Michael Joldersma

Christian Community Committee Meeting
Summary
August 1st meeting: We reviewed our projects starting with Let’s Go Fishing. Fourteen people attended in July. Next year we will need to bring small lifejackets for the children. Some supplies are needed for Wings: combs, brushes, deodorant and tampons. Rosie Grapenteen invites anyone to help the Wings residents make Veterans Day cards. We will invite the kids to join us again for our Shrove Tuesday pancake supper. Gordy wrote a letter of invitation to the Wings administration to welcome their residents to attend our church service. Items for the Red Box project (collection for Head Start students) were tallied. Kay will deliver the supplies later in September.

Amy Levinski offered to compile a resource book that includes psychological services and social services to provide to local churches, using an electronic format so that it can be easily updated. Amy will also work on writing a church policy for Child & Youth Safety.

We discussed the Patty Wetterling presentation updates and made some additional plans. Kay Hanson wrote an event promotion timeline that we will use to advertise. Stephanie Rech agreed to draft a list of
businesses where we could post Patty’s posters. We discussed the need to write a grant with the Presbytery for additional funds to cover some of our advertising expenses. This plan was placed on hold.

**September 20th meeting:** Red Box Project update – we have all the needed supplies. Judy Holmes brought an additional supply of used books donated by the Library. Kay will arrange to deliver the supplies near the end of the month. We discussed the final plans for the Patty Wetterling event. Judy and Amy will do a radio interview on the 22nd with KLFD. Judy and Amy are organizing the reception. Andrea from St. Philips is also helping with the reception. We discussed getting a tally of the number of those attending the presentation. We will make phone calls to extend a personal invitation to attend, to the mayor, Social Services, Meeker County Sheriff and Litchfield Chief of Police. Kay has met with the maintenance manager at the Family Services building to arrange the on-site AV and reception concerns. She has also met with Community Ed staff to agree on details.

In preparation for drafting the 2018 church budget, we reviewed two budget forms and recommended a few minor changes.

Roger Crosbie, Arlyce Dedrickson and Kay Hanson will meet to plan for annual reviews of church personnel.

**Worship at Ecumen:** We will gather for morning worship with our neighbors across the street on Sunday, October 15th. We will share our fellowship/coffee time with them before worship gathering about 9:15 or so. Worship will be in the Bethany Chapel at 10:00.

“This I call to mind, and therefore I have hope; Because of the Lord’s great love we are not consumed. For His compassions never fail. They are new every morning great is Your faithfulness.”

--Lamentations 3:21-23
Pastor Gordy and Julie Rae would like to announce the arrival of a new granddaughter, Lorelei Sydney, born Sept 22nd to Richard and Heidi Pennertz. She weighed in at 7 lb. 10 1/2 oz, 19 3/4 “ long. She is sweet as can be and our “Baker’s Dozen!”

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Building and grounds committee met on August 30, 2017. Those attending the meeting were Gary, Greg, Don, Scott, and Rhonda.

We are getting bids for repairs for the boards in front of and the South side of the church and on painting the railing. There is cleaning to do around the foundation and dirt to be put back up by the foundation. Don and Jayne Ackman took out the bushes alongside the sidewalk in front of the church and a church friend removed all the rocks and landscape paper. The south exit from the social hall needs repair on top of the steps. Rhonda will trim bushes and the roses bushes. Paul Lemmer will give us a bid on trimming back trees away from the building. Our windows need caulking and the siding needs painting due to the paint peeling off.

The meeting was closed with prayer.

Gary Grapheneen
Chairman
THANK YOU!!

Thank you to the wonderful workers for the Patty Wetterling presentation!! Special thanks to Kay Hanson and Judy Holmes who co-chaired the planning and to Amy Levinski and Stephanie Rech who were members of the committee. Also thank you to all who brought treats and helped usher. There were about 280 people who attended and Patty’s message was one of hope and not despair. We need to help teach our youth to be respectful and knowledgeable, responsible and confident and to be joyful. Find joy in life and share that joy. Evil shall not win out! Blessings to all!

Jacob’s Hope

Patty Wetterling

Service of Remembrance:
Our annual service to remember our loved ones who have passed away in the past year will be during worship on Sunday, November 5. Please submit names to Julie Rae by Sunday, Oct 22nd either by sending her an email at mrsp57@nutelecom.net OR by filling out the form and giving it to her. We know that we all have people we want to remember, however we are looking for those who have passed away in the past year…Nov 1, 2016-Nov 1, 2017 Thanks!

I/We____________________________________

would like to remember:

_____________________________________________
MARY-MARTHA BIBLE STUDY

We just started back for the fall on our lessons on Esther. We are always looking for more ladies to join us in our study, so come on! We meet the 4th Monday of the month at church (except Dec and May) at 4 PM. We are usually done before or by 5:15 PM.

SERVING: October 23-Barbara Bremseth
November 27th—Judy Holmes
**December 20th—TBA
January 22—Ruth Townsend
February 26—TBA
March 26—Jayne Ackman
April 23—Shirley Brooks
**May 23—at Julie Rae Pennertz’s Potluck!

The PW Mission projects for the year have not been completely set, so if you have any suggestions, please let Julie Rae Pennertz know.

Our first mission work day will be on Thursday, October 12th from 1-3 PM. That day Julie Rae will show how to make french seam pillow cases and we will be putting together kits for people to take and make. If you have any fabrics to donate, the pillowcases use 2/3 yd for the case, 1/8th for the trim and 1/4th for the cuff. We can use all the help we can get!

If you have any cutting mats and rotary cutters, please bring those as well so we can get many kits cut.

Hope to see you there!

Blessings,
Julie Rae Pennertz, Missions coordinator
### OCTOBER PRAYER LIST

1. Emily Morrison
2. Don MacKay
3. Orville Reinke
4. Cicily Savoy
5. Stephanie Savoy
6. Tom & Ruth Townsend
7. Wade, Amy and Luci Viehauser
8. Philip, Leetha and Jeff Waldron
9. Presbytery of MN Valley
10. Bill & Bev Barr
11. Rev Mark & Nancy Chamberlain
12. Dr. David & Sharon Detert
13. Deb Holmes & Michael
14. Rick & Carrie Johnson
15. Russ Joldersma
16. Christa, Jacob & Colton Joseph
17. Wes & Kathy Peters
18. Ty, Sara and Aiden Schneider
19. Truman Stehr
20. Ann Abramson (sis Lynn)
21. Don & Jayne Ackman
22. Ryan Ackman
23. Dwight Barrick
24. Joel Barrick
25. Mortie & Susan Berg
26. Carol Blunt
27. Heath Bozonie
28. Barbara Bremseth
29. Shirley Brooks
30. First Presbyterian of Foley
31. Church of St Philip

**Assurance**

“You need insurance when you don’t have assurance. Without the assurance that other drivers will obey traffic laws, you need car insurance. Without the assurance that a fire won’t ignite in your home, you need fire insurance. You purchase insurance, just in case. But, when it comes to God, there is no need for a back-up plan. You have the assurance that God will never fail. NEVER! Read the stories of Abraham and Moses in the Old Testament. Take note of how God never failed to come through—even when those who promised to faithfully follow Him did not. When you feel certain of something, you can relax. So, rest assured. When you give your life to God, your future is secure.

“Let us draw near to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith.” Heb 10:22

“Faith means being sure of the things we hope for.” Heb 11:1