



First Presbyterian Church
1322 19th Street
Auburn, NE 68305

February 2024
Volume 2, Issue 2



THE PRESBY TIMES

As you all may have noticed, our church is still without a pastor. However, our Pastor Nominating Committee is searching very diligently on trying to find us a pastor that will be someone who can help continue to lead and challenge us. They need our prayers to help discern the best person for our church.

In the meantime, our session has agreed that continuity in pulpit is very important. That is why Rev. Carl Eskridge, Carla Patterson and Bonnie Ratcliff will be on a rotation to bring you the message on Sunday mornings. Rev. Carl will continue to the first Sunday of the month so that we are able to have communion and a session meeting. Carla will typically preach the 2nd and 4th Sundays, which leaves Bonnie preaching the 3rd Sunday.

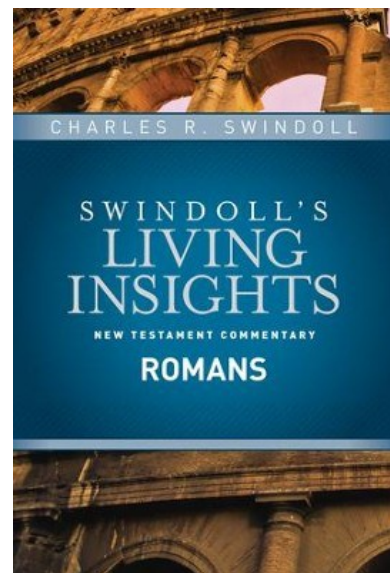
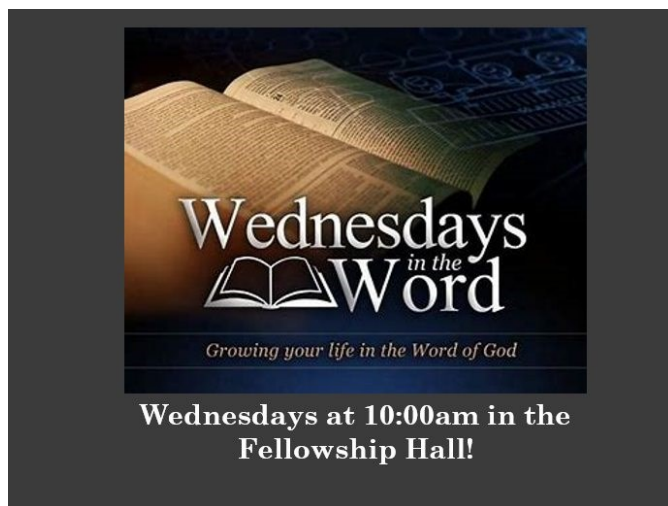
We also would like you to know that we are all available if you need someone to talk to about things happening in your life. We are all willing to pray with and for you. If you know of someone who might need some prayers, please feel to reach out.

Rev. Carl will be coming down periodically each month. However, if you have a specific need, please feel to reach out to him either by email (eskridgecb@gmail.com) or cell (402-730-1225).

What Bible character was the best musician?

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- Bible Study 2**
- Ash Wednesday 2**
- Devotion..... 3**
- Lenten Devotional 4**
- February 4th 2**
- Youth & Children Group .. 5**
- Bdays/Anniv/Prayer List . 6**
- Activities Page 7**



On Wednesday mornings at 10am, Ruth Leslie leads a Bible study. They are now in the Book of Romans. This book was written by the Apostle Paul. It is a very deep book and has a great deal to teach us on how we should live our daily lives. If you aren't busy, please feel free to join this Bible Study on Wednesday mornings in the Fellowship Hall. We would love to see you.

(Please note, if weather is bad, we will not meet. Let's be safe.)

¹⁶ This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters. ¹⁷ If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person? ¹⁸ Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.

1 John 3:16-18

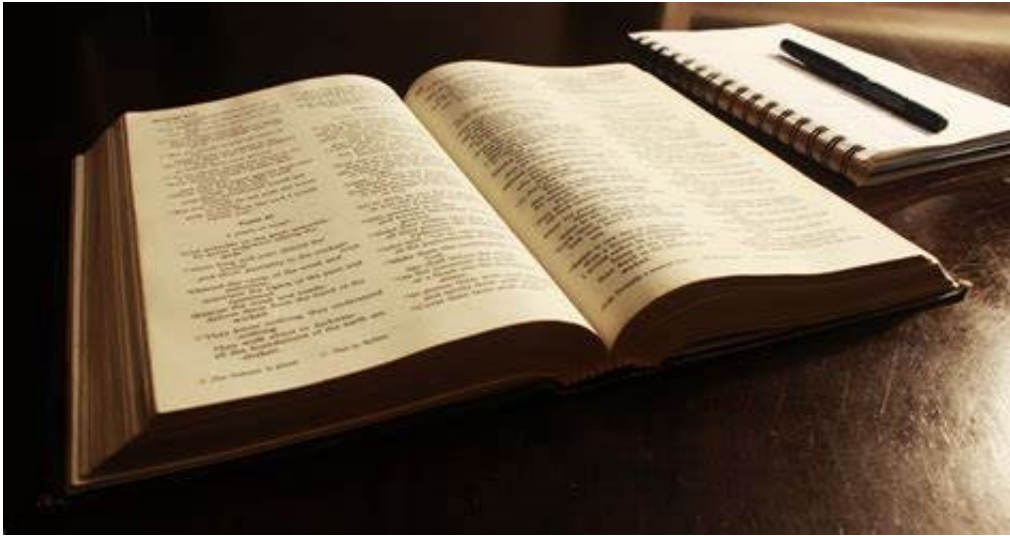


February 14 at 7pm. This is a beautiful service as we prepare our hearts and minds for the season of Lent. We will conclude the service with the Imposition of Ashes. The service will be led by Bonnie Ratcliff. There will be a soup dinner preceding the worship at 6pm.



Time of Lenten Prayer

Last year during the Lenten season, we opened up our church on Wednesday nights for a time of personal prayer. We are going to be doing that once again. The deacons invite you to come to the church between 5pm—7pm on the Wednesdays of Lent, from February 21—March 20, at your leisure to spend time in prayer. This is an opportunity to help center yourself during the season of Lent. There will be scriptures that you can read or feel free to read your own scriptures. After you are done reading, you are invited to light a candle as you offer up your prayer to God. This is a very meaningful experience and we hope you will participate.



FEBRUARY DEVOTION

This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us.

1 John 3:16a

What does it mean to lay one's life down for another? It is the epitome of the definition of love. The Bible talks about agape love, the ultimate love that anyone can show another person. Having Ash Wednesday and Valentine's Day on the same day this year is a great reminder to us all about what love truly is. Jesus showed us what love is. First, he came to us as a baby and personally led us. Then, he sacrifices himself for us so that we are able to be forgiven of our sins. And so that we can live eternally in heaven with him. What better reminder for us?

It is a custom for several people to give up something. This is supposed to be something that will better yourself. This is also to help remind us of what Christ did for us, to give up his life for us. If this is your custom, I encourage you to give up something that is a challenge for you, but will make you a better person. Let it help you to be a reminder of the ultimate sacrifice. However, if it isn't your custom, that is fine too. But it might be something you try this year.

The Lenten journey is not meant to be easy. It is meant to challenge you as it was challenging for Christ. It is a long and arduous path. Each Sunday of Lent, the readings get a little ore dark. Palm Sunday, or as it is also referred to as Passion Sunday, is a day of celebration as Jesus enters Jerusalem riding on a donkey. However, by the end of week, it is a very different scene. Instead of cheers, there are shouts of angry men. Jesus has his Last Supper with his disciples, he was crucified and buried. We see a final scene that is very sad and depressing. We are grateful that is not where the story ends, but truly where it begins for us. This is what love is. This is how we should live our daily lives. To remember to give gratefully and wholly to what we believe is righteous. I pray that you will have a rewarding Lenten journey where you will be challenged and grow in your faith.

In Christ,

Bonnie Ratcliff

Daily Lenten Devotional Readings

Feb. 14 Joel 2:1–2, 12–17 or Isa. 58:1–12 Ps. 51:1–17 2 Cor. 5:20b—6:10 Matt. 6:1	Feb 15 Ps. 25:1–10 Dan. 9:1–14 1 John 1:3–10	Feb. 16 Ps. 25:1–10 Dan. 9:15–25a 2 Tim. 4:1–5	Feb. 17 Ps. 25:1–10 Ps. 32 Matt. 9:2–13
Feb. 18 Gen. 9:8–17 Ps. 25:1–10 1 Pet. 3:18–22 Mark 1:9–15	Feb. 19 Ps. 77 Job 4:1–21 Eph. 2:1–10	Feb. 20 Ps. 77 Job 5:8–27 1 Pet. 3:8–18a	Feb. 21 Ps. 77 Prov. 30:1–9 Matt. 4:1–11
Feb. 22 Ps. 22:23–31 Gen. 15:1–6, 12–18 Rom. 3:21–31	Feb. 23 Ps. 22:23–31 Gen. 16:1–6 Rom. 4:1–12	Feb. 24 Ps. 22:23–31 Gen. 16:7–15 Mark 8:27–30	Feb. 25 Gen. 17:1–7, 15–16 Ps. 22:23–31 Rom. 4:13–25 Mark 8:31–38
Feb. 26 Ps. 105:1–11, 37–45 Gen. 21:1–7 Heb. 1:8–12	Feb. 27 Ps. 105:1–11, 37–45 Gen. 22:1–19 Heb. 11:1–3, 13–19	Feb. 28 Ps. 105:1–11, 37–45 Jer. 30:12–22 John 12:36–43	Feb. 29 Ps. 19 Exod. 19:1–9a 1 Pet. 2:4–10
Mar. 1 Ps. 19 Exod. 19:9b–15 Acts 7:30–40	Mar. 2 Ps. 19 Exod. 19:16–25 Mark 9:2–8	Mar. 3 Exod. 20:1–17 Ps. 19 1 Cor. 1:18–25 John 2:13–22	Mar. 4 Ps. 84 1 Kgs. 6:1–4, 21–22 1 Cor. 3:10–23
Mar. 5 Ps. 84 2 Chr. 29:1–11, 16–19 Heb. 9:23–28	Mar. 6 Ps. 84 Ezra 6:1–16 Mark 11:15–19	Mar. 7 Ps. 107:1–3, 17–22 Gen. 9:8–17 Eph. 1:3–6	Mar. 8 Ps. 107:1–3, 17–22 Dan. 12:5–13 Eph. 1:7–14

ANNUAL MEETING



All of this takes place on February 4th! You don't want to miss any of it!



Fellowship Meal

Sweetheart Lunch

Vegetable Beef Soup
Chili Soup
Chicken Wild Rice Soup
Chicken Noodle Soup
Bread
Veggie Platter
Dessert





The youth ministry is for youth in grade 7th—12th.

Your schedule will be:

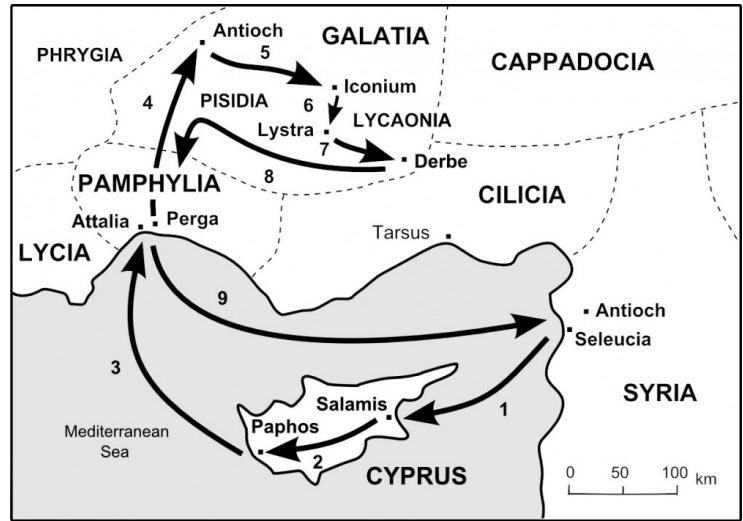
6:00pm—Games

6:30pm—Dinner

7:00pm—Lesson

- Remember to bring your Bibles!

We are going to begin to delve deep into the man of Paul. Who was he? What kind of person was he when he was Saul? What does Paul have to tell us today. We are also going to start looking at Paul's first journey. Where did he go? What happened on this trip? What letters were written? Remember, your Bible is going to be a very important part of learning who Paul was.



We love because he first loved us.

1 John 4:19



During the month of February we will be looking at the books of Zechariah, Haggai, & Nehemiah. All 3 of these men are prophets that God called to help lead his people, the Israelites, after they were able to re-

turn to Babylon after being exiled by the evil king Nebuchadnezzar. What will they tell us?

All children from 2nd—6th grade are welcome to attend.

Your schedule will be:

5:30pm—Lesson

6:00pm—Games

6:30pm—Dinner (then you head home)

Don't forget your Bibles!!!





February Anniversaries

Feb 3rd—Mike & Kay Gerdes

Feb 14th—Bryant & Alisha Seeley

Feb 23rd—Dick & Linda Moody

Do you know of someone who is not on the list for birthdays or anniversaries? We would love to make sure that they are included in our church family.

Also, if you have a someone with whom you like to put on the prayer list, please contact Bonnie Ratcliff at 706-936-0327 or auburnpreschurch@gmail.com.

February Birthdays

Feb 3rd—Mike Gerdes

Feb 3rd—Courtney Gerdes

Feb 5th—Danny Badgett

Feb 7th—Charlie Arena

Feb 8th—David Badgett

Feb 12th—Nathan Leslie

Feb. 16th—Desaray Johnson

Feb 20th—Emily Blessing

Feb 20th—Dee Smallfoot

Feb 28th—Amy Mather

*In case of
Inclement
Weather*



Please watch Facebook and your email for any cancellations due to weather. We want everyone to be safe. If you would like to be contacted by phone, please call the church office and

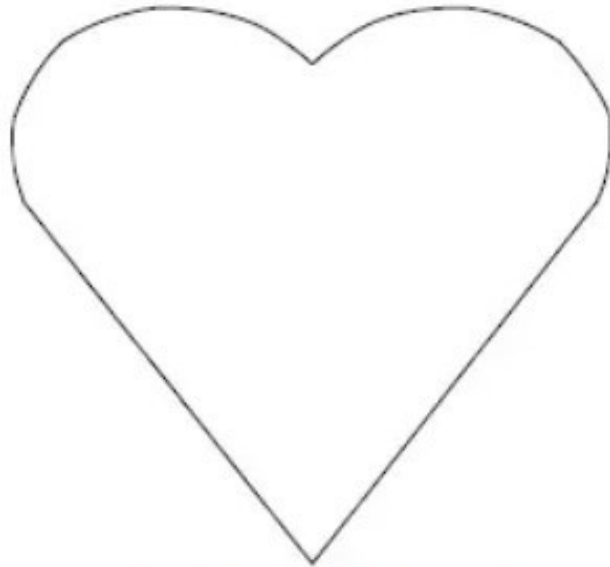
Prayer List

Eric Adams Family	Michaela & Family
Al & Yancy Armstrong	Julie James
Sue Bantz's Family	Janet Kirkendall
Lauralee Bucher	Sandy Kite
John Clark	Paul & Kerri Morer
Anna Dedic's Family	Doug Metzger
Lawanda Franks	Helen Moody
Harley Goings' Family	Sheril Petet
Hunter Hestermann	Mary Ann Ratcliff
	Dorothy & Tom Rivett
	Dennis Wheeler

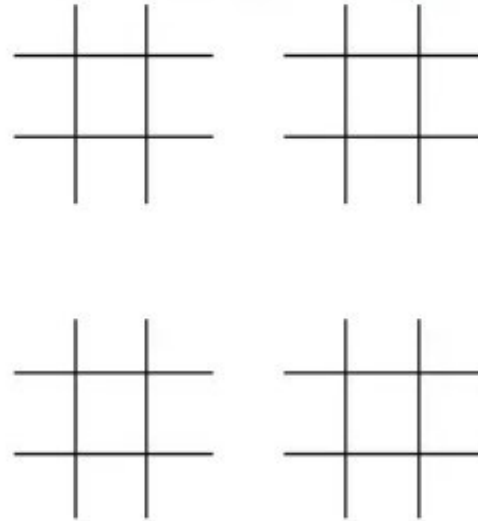


HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY

Decorate your heart!



TIC-TAC-TOE



WORD SEARCH

C A G S D N E I R F
A W S F C R W T E L
N Q E G H A L K D J
D A D Z O V R B M P
Y W G N C Q T D P K
R S U R O J W A S P
Y F C O L O V E Z A
O P C S A M M I O R
S W E E T H E A R T
E J D S E M G Y Q Y

CARDS	PARTY
FRIENDS	SWEETHEART
CANDY	LOVE
CHOCOLATE	RED
FUN	ROSES

How many words can you make from

VALENTINES DAY

Get more free printable activities for kids of all ages at www.printables4kids.com.

©2008 WWW.PRINTABLES4KIDS.COM

Holy Communion



The first Sunday of each month, Rev. Carl Eskridge presides over Holy Communion for us to receive. We are very grateful that he is willing to do this. This is one of the sacred elements of our church as it reminds us of the suffering that Jesus did on our behalf. If you cannot be at worship to receive communion, but would like to receive it, please call our Deacon Desaray at 402-414-0352. We would be honored to come to you.

Do you enjoy having a quick snack following worship? Of course you do! We are needing some help providing that snack. If you would like to help, please sign up on the calendar in the fellowship hall that is on the east bulletin board. Thank you!



First Presbyterian Church
1322 19th Street
Auburn, NE 68305

Phone: 402-274-3531
E-mail: auburnpreschurch@gmail.com

