

THE PUCC PERSPECTIVE
Presbyterian United Church of Christ
Aurora, Nebraska

JULY 2025



Line Drawing by Dan Gilson

For the first three weeks in June, we, at First Christian Church, have been blessed with the ministry of Pastor Jim Garfield. Pastor Jim is no stranger to our church or Aurora and we enjoyed all his sermons so much that I invited him to give us one of his inspirational “Nugget” blogs he has become famous for on Facebook and beyond.....

....A NUGGET FROM PASTOR JIM....

When I first settled the issue and made peace with the Lord, I became over the top about being where the Lord wanted me to be. Even wanting to be exactly sure where the Lord wanted me to eat. I know it sounds ridiculous and foolish, but I was so serious about wanting to be in the Lord's will.

Finally, a friend told me that sometimes God is neutral. Say what!! True; if it's not illegal, immoral or unethical, then go for it. It was an awe-hah moment for me.

In some ways it is the Lord's way of letting us know He trusts us. The Lord does lead His people. He will open some doors and close others. And He gives us favor with certain people. I have to confess, that sometimes I fall back into my old ways and desire from God to know exactly where He wants me. Ugh!

I have, in the recent past, struggled with this again. Going to the Lord, He made me to know that I don't have to so much worry if He is going with me, but to make sure I'm going with Him! BE ENCOURAGED!

Hugs,

Pastor Jim



God, we come to you today to offer prayers for our family and friends. We ask that you look after them today and keep them safe. As you take time for prayer each day, please include:

Don “Sonny” Hofmeister, Zandee Nelson, Janet Grosshans, Shirley Barnell, Jim Ptacnik, John Schulz, Tanna Skarniak, Georgie Sinner, Martha Salmon, and Pat Pickering’s mother, Eunice Kehler, Pastor Penny

We also pray for all those in our congregation and beyond who may be suffering from an illness or the stress of a family situation.

*We also pray for those who for whatever reason suffer in silence.
May they feel our prayers.*

If you want to add someone to our prayer list, we don’t need to have a last name or know their situation. They do not have to be a member of our congregation – we pray for all people. All requests are by permission only. Please contact: Linda Ptacnik (lindap@hamilton.net or 402-631-9422 or fcc@hamilton.net)

JULY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

July 9 Chris Whiting
July 18 John Schulz
July 26 Pastor Bruce Bradley

July 9 Mike & Deb Salmon
July 14 Brock & Kara Manley

Please contact Linda with any updates at
either lindap@hamilton.net or 402-631-9422

While Pastor Penny is on Sabbatical, the First Christian Church congregation invites our friends and families of the PUCC Church to join us in our morning worship. We have several great speakers invited to serve us at this time and we would certainly like to share them with you.

YOU ARE WELCOME TO WORSHIP WITH US!

—Pat Phillips, Membership Chair

—Pat Wills, Worship Chair

On Sunday, June 29th, FCC enjoyed a great sermon from our own Kristen Scharrenberg. She said she was a bit nervous, but you would never have known it. Kristen—you did a fine job and hopefully everyone tuned into our Facebook page to watch. **Kristen will be in the pulpit at FCC again on July 20th! You are all invited to come listen!



The 10/11 CAN CARE-A-VAN did very well last week—thanks to many in Aurora and the surrounding communities. Our shelves should be full for a few months to come. We didn't quite reach our goal of 20,000 pounds, but we hit 19,300!!

Special thanks to all the workers who helped out!

UPDATE:

They are amazed at how quickly things from the Can Care-A-Van have been used up. We can use: Baking mix. Cold cereal, Canned fruit, Pork & beans. Or Monetary donations! Nine families (35 people) were served in a one hour period on Tuesday.

THROUGH THE GRAPEVINE....

Curtis Goertzen, husband of Ande Allen Goertzen had a successful open heart surgery earlier this week. He is currently in the hospital (as of today, July 3rd) and is doing well.

Martha Salmon has returned to her home and is enjoying every minute of it!

Any other grapevine notes can be passed along to me: lindap@hamilton.net or 402-631-9422

