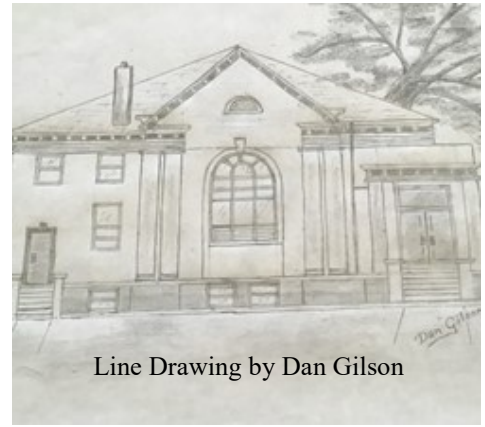


THE PUCC PERSPECTIVE
Presbyterian United Church of Christ
Aurora, Nebraska

JUNE 2023

PASTOR PENNY'S 2 SHEKLES....



Line Drawing by Dan Gilson

I know I'm a little late, but as a busy mom I am sure most of you reading this can relate. It has been a whirlwind of a couple of weeks.

Our youngest just graduated high school. The middle daughter finished her second year of college and just got an apartment, which needs furnishing. Throw in mother's day and oh Kristen and I just launched our brand new vodcast/ podcast lifelifeinthepirit.com, which has been a huge success. Talk about a daunting task!

So how does one deal with the craziness of life? How do you keep your head above water? And most importantly when you are in the throes of the chaos trying to still prioritize all that HAS to be done, how do you savor those moments and keep from losing YOU?

You, The person behind or under all of the hats. The person who is frantically running around trying to keep all of the plates spinning and juggled balls from hitting the floor. How does one pause long enough to take a breath, to step back and enjoy the special moments little lone life?

I am sure I'm not alone in this. In fact, you are probably asking right now, "How does she know my life?" I get it.

While I may be looking at empty nest with anticipation for what lies ahead I also know that for many, you are going.... "How in God's green earth am I going to handle the kids home from school all summer along with everything else!?! And keep my sanity?!"

When David penned the words to the 23rd Palms, it was not during a peaceful, easy time. He was literally on the run. Walking through the "Valley of Shades" the tombs of the giants, aka the valley of the shadow of death; but that will be a vodcast episode. His world was crumbling, and in chaos. It was far from the green pastures and quiet waters we envision.

Yet even in the crazy turmoil of his current point in life, David knew who was in control. He knew that God, Adoni, was the one looking out for him, guiding his path, sustaining him and giving protection. Even in the whirlwind of David's life, the sparse grass and little stream of water he didn't see what he was lacking. Instead he took that time to sit by what God had given him. What had been provided not just physical nourishment but most importantly nourishment for the soul. He was able to carve out time to just be. To find himself, cherish the moment and rest.

Where ever you are at today in all of the craziness I encourage you to just stop, even for a second. Stop, take a breath. Don't look at all that HAS to be done. All that has not been completed.

Instead focus on what joy is waiting right here in the moment. Focus not on what you are lacking, but on what God is providing. And the biggest treasure right now just may be a well-deserved break and moment of rest.

Pastor Penny



Hi.. as many of you know our blog site has really taken off and now couple with that our new vodcast/ podcast as well. Every week you will be able to tune in on YouTube Live Life in the Spirit, or our Website livelifeinthspirit.com to watch the latest from the week. Or if you are a podcast person and just want to listen we are on 9 different streaming services, like Apple podcast, Spotify, Rumble, iTunes, I heart radio just to name a few. Kristen and I have the opportunity to look into the oddities, the obscurities, those passages in the Bible that leave you scratching your head and wondering why is it there and how does it fit in? We have already had great response from around the world and we are having a blast doing it..

We want to thank the FCC for the use of the old Youth Group Room as we have claimed it for our new studio!

If you are needing some Joy, a pick me up, some inspiration or just a desire to dig into God's Word, make sure you take some time to go to our site and check out our blogs and weekly episodes. And most importantly subscribe and Share! Tell your friends it is an easy way to share the Gospel of Christ. For those of you techy we even have a QRC code that you can just scan with your phone and it will take you right there.



SCAN ME



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.

Scott, Donna Goertzen, De Sandell, Don "Sonny" Hofmeister, Zandee Nelson, Louise Hack, Lee & Val Jones, Bob & Sharon Nunnenkamp, Rob Nunnenkamp, Helen Nowka, Dick Grosshans, Jim Ptacnik, Lee Hutchison, Karren Radcliff, Connie Nicklasson, Karen Wilshusen, , Tanna Skarniak, John Schulz, Pat Anderson, Betty Stephenson, Gus Jacobitz and Mary Jacobs

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

We pray for those who suffer in silence that they may 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 the people. All requests are by permission only. Please contact: Linda Ptacnik (402-694-3297). (lindap@hamilton.net or 402-631-9422 or fcc@hamilton.net) I will see that your requests are shared – as well as updates as they are received.

JUNE BIRTHDAYS &
ANNIVERSARIES

June 11 Mike Bair
June 20 Emerson Powell
June 22 Doug Pence
June 26 Melissa Gilson
June 27 Shelly Maul

June 12 Doug & Carolyn Pence
June 21 Jim & Barb Johnson

Update your family & friends - send me an email
to lindap@hamilton.net

LITURGIST FOR JUNE

June 4 Jan Schanou
June 11 Pat Pickering
June 18 Mike Allen
June 25 Ray Maul



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Facebook: Presbyterian United Church of Christ of Aurora NE

A PRAYER FOR OUR FATHERS....

Father's Day holds different meanings for each of us. It is a day for many of us to show our gratitude and appreciation. Some may celebrate our fathers with a dinner party or [heartwarming messages](#). But, one of the best ways to thank our fathers is through a father's day prayer.

This Father's Day, let us dedicate a father's day prayer to our fathers. Whether they're still with us or have passed on, those who never knew their biological fathers, or soon-to-be dads, let us bless them with a short prayer. And on this very day, may we also remember our heavenly father who sacrificed so that we may live.

Dear God, we come before You today with a heart of thanksgiving for all fathers in the world. Thank you, Father, for designing fathers to be the pillar of support in families, the breadwinners, and the essential support in child-rearing. Whether they have been good or bad fathers, may we find it in our hearts to forgive them because no one is perfect. You always have a reason for creating families the way they are, and every father in every household has been placed there according to Your will. Amen



CAN-CARE-A-VAN returns to Hamilton County on June 6th. Any monetary or other donations received between now and then will be appreciated. There is no church competition this year. A few different items not previously mentioned that are needed include laundry soap and feminine hygiene products. Canned fruit is always needed (we have plenty of mandarin oranges, but peaches, pears and applesauce are always in demand). We also have plenty of vegetables. As always, any monetary gifts are welcome. \$1 = 2# of food. Hours are 8:00 am—2:00 pm.

John & Taryn Vanderford from 10-11 News in Lincoln will be available to help with your donations and visit.

IMPORTANT FACTS TO REMEMBER AS YOU GROW OLDER

- ◆ Death is the number 1 killer in the world
- ◆ Life is sexually transmitted
- ◆ Good health is merely the slowest possible rate at which one can die.
- ◆ Give a person a fish and you feed them for a day. Teach a person to use the Internet and they won't bother you for weeks, months, maybe years.
- ◆ Health nuts are going to feel stupid someday...lying in the hospital, dying of nothing.
- ◆ All of us could take a lesson from the weather. It pays no attention to criticism.
- ◆ In the 60's people took acid to make the world weird. Now the world is weird, and people take Prozac to make it normal.
- ◆ Don't worry about old age; it doesn't last that long.



Our Grandparents help determine our successes in life and they are so proud of what we become.

Shown here are Skip and Mary Plock—grandparents of their graduate, Brooke Schulz.