

# Hilltop Highlights

A Monthly Publication of First Presbyterian Church

Three Items from the First Presbyterian Church Foundation:

1. Various forms of support all help the Church's mission and goals including donating appreciated stocks and mutual funds! Did you know our Bellevue First Presbyterian Church's Foundation advisor DA Davidson can assist you in donating appreciated assets directly to First Presbyterian Church?? Please contact Foundation Chair Leland Jacobson at [Ljacobson11@cox.net](mailto:Ljacobson11@cox.net) or 402-291-0686 for more information.
2. With all the changes in the 2018 tax laws, regarding charitable donations and the stock market at an all-time high, you may be wondering what's the best way to donate to First Presbyterian Church while minimizing tax obligations using Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCDs) from your IRA etc.
3. Want to know more? On Sunday, April 15 at 11:30AM, the Foundation has invited Fidelity Investments to discuss QCD's and other financial thinking that can support our mission. Come learn how the tax advantages of using QCDs can be applied to the churches annual goals such as your pledge, tithing or Building Fund. This a general information meeting and not a "sales pitch" in any way. Please contact Foundation Chair Leland Jacobson at [Ljacobson11@cox.net](mailto:Ljacobson11@cox.net) or 402-291-0686 for more information.

## Congratulations to our Confirmands



**Front row:** Fianna Glenn, Makayla Coats, David Oxtoby, Kathryn Rose and Eoin Healy  
**Back row:** Isabel Griffin, Bella Keaton, Makayla Crick and Josh Blazek



<b>Inside this issue:</b>	
<b>Keep in Prayer</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Financial Information</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Happenings</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Happenings</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Happenings</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Lawn Care</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Welcome School</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Children's Ministry</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Youth Fellowship</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Calendar</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Birthdays</b>	<b>10</b>

## Staff

Rev. Dr. Michael G. Elliott (Pastor)-pastor@bellevuefpc.org  
M, Tu, W, Th 8:30 am to 3:00 pm

June Kouba (Church Administrator/Treasurer)-admin@bellevuefpc.org  
M, Tu, W, Th 8:30 am to 3:00 pm

Linda Reffert (Children's Ministry Director)-lkreffert@aol.com  
Tu, W, Th 9:00 am to 5:00 pm (hours may vary)

Shelli Dart (Youth Ministry Director)-youthdirector@bellevuefpc.org  
Tu, Th 10:30 am to 3:00 pm (hours may vary)

Rob Rose (Children's Music Director)-afchap08@gmail.com

Alice Renner (Chancel Choir Director)-akrenner@cox.net

Liane Kirmis (Westminster Bells Director)-rkirmis@windstream.net

Dirk Lindner (Organist)-dirk16@cox.net

Eric Van Sky (Financial Secretary)-eric.vansky@yahoo.com



## We Keep in Our Prayers

- ◆ Prayers for Gary Marks as he awaits a new kidney.
- ◆ Prayers for Jan Robinson who is recovering after a fall.
- ◆ Prayers for Genie Fox recovering from a stroke.
- ◆ Prayers for Jeanette McLaughlin for recurrence of cancer.
- ◆ Prayers for John Dart's father Gerald who is receiving chemo treatments.
- ◆ Prayers for John Eidenmiller for recovery from health issues.

## Bakersplus.com

Baker's is offering the community rewards program again in **2018**. The church received **\$243.36** from the **Fourth quarter** of 2017. If you have not enrolled please do, this helps us pay for various items that are not budgeted .

## Financial Information

	<u>February</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Income	\$21,326.00	\$89,089.99
Expenses	<u>\$44,429.95</u>	<u>\$71,497.00</u>
Difference	<\$23,103.95	\$17,592.99

\* Expenses include Per Capita \$11,537.33 and General Assembly and Presbytery Mission of \$5,000.00.



## Happenings

### Spring Clean-up!



The church spring cleanup has been scheduled for Saturday, April 7th at 9:00am. This is an opportunity to get together for fellowship and to work together to clean up the church grounds after a very icy/cold winter. It will also give those of you signing up to help mow this year, an opportunity to get a refresher on this equipment. Donuts and juice will be provided. In the event of inclement weather on April 7th, the clean up will be held on Saturday, April 14th at 9:00am. Hope to see you there!

## Spaghetti Dinner

Our Annual Spaghetti Dinner will be held Saturday, April 7th, from 4:30pm– 7:30pm here at First Presbyterian Church.

Tickets are \$10.00 per person. There is no charge for children 5 and under.

The menu includes all you can eat salad, spaghetti and meat or meatless sauce, bread, beverage and pie. “TAKEOUT” will be available.

## Silent Auction and Raffle

If you would like to donate to the Raffle or Silent Auction please have your items at the church no later than Wednesday, April 4th. Please indicate an approximate value and your name, phone number and address.

This event is a cooperative effort and all proceeds will be divided equally between Bellevue Public Schools TeamMates and First Presbyterian Church missions.

We hope you will participate in this fun evening and all-church fundraising effort!

How can you help?

- ☺ Buy tickets and sell tickets. (All volunteers will need a ticket)
- ☺ Bring your family, invite prospective members, friends, co-workers and neighbors.
- ☺ Sign-up at church to work a 2 – 2 ½ hour shift at the event.
- ☺ Please donate Raffle or Silent Auction items (bring them to church by Wednesday, April 4th).
- ☺ Unable to attend? Donate the price of a couple of tickets or more to help us defray expenses.

Tickets may be purchased in the church office between 8:30 am - 3:00 pm Monday through Thursday, or in the narthex on Sundays before or after church through April 1st.

If you are selling tickets please turn in your money and unsold tickets as soon as possible no later than April 1st.

Please join us in working together to make this fundraiser a huge success.

THANKS IN ADVANCE for your help in making a difference in our community!



# Happenings



**Crossroads Connection** ministers to current inmates at Omaha Work Release Center and provides social services to former inmates who are transitioning to outside life. They conduct a weekly Sunday evening worship service attended by inmates, former inmates, sponsors and volunteers. Providing the meal and worship service is an outreach that our congregation has participated in for many years.

Our next event is on Sunday, April 8th. This is an excellent outreach to volunteer for because you decide what level of participation interests you.

- We need salads and desserts for the meal. These can be prepared ahead of time and delivered to the church on the day of the event.
- We also need help preparing the meal. The time commitment varies based upon the meal.
- You can also go with us to serve the meal. We meet here at the church at 5:00 pm and carpool to the location of the dinner. We usually return by 9:00 pm.

Thank you for your support of this ministry over the years and in the future!

SAVE THE DATE

## The Faith, Education and Leadership Development Committee presents

# THE BIG EVENT 2018



Dr. Roger Nishioka  
Senior Associate and Director of Adult Educational Ministries  
Village Presbyterian Church  
Prairie Village, Kansas

Generations: Living, Learning & Loving God through ALL the Ages!

Saturday, April 21, 2018

First Presbyterian Church of Bellevue  
9:30am – 3:15pm

Workshops include:  
Life Span Development  
Mentoring

Spiritual Disciplines  
End of Life Conversations  
Intergenerational Ideas Roundtable



## Happenings



On Saturday morning, April 21, 2018 the family of Anne McDaniel is sponsoring a 5K Run/Walk at Chalco Hills Recreational Area in memory of Madelyn Shumaker to support medical research through The Cure Starts Now Foundation to find a cure for DIPG, the brain tumor that took her life. If you are interested in participating or donating as a virtual participant we have set up a First Presbyterian Church (Bellevue) team on the main website accessed through the link: [www.RaceAgainstTheOdds.com](http://www.RaceAgainstTheOdds.com) or you can register as individuals. Adults are \$30 and Kids 5-12 are \$15 which includes a shirt if registered by April 2nd. Also if anyone is interested in volunteering on the day of the race please contact Anne McDaniel.

**Join us for Ladies' Lunch-** We are meeting on the **Fourth Thursday** of each month at noon. April we are going to meet at "American Heroes" on April 26th. Make your reservation by calling the church office at 402-291-1104 or e-mailing [admin@bellevuefpc.org](mailto:admin@bellevuefpc.org).



## Annual Garage Sale



### Annual Church Garage Sale Saturday, April 28th 8:00 AM-1:00 PM

Clean out your basement, closets and garage, of all those unwanted things and bring them to the church the week of April 23rd – 27th, from 9:00 AM to 7:00 PM. Please, no tires, chemicals, computers, computer monitors, mattresses, adult clothing, rear projection, console or CRT TVs, baby seats, baby cribs or items that are dirty, don't work or are broken.

**ABSOLUTELY NO DONATIONS AFTER  
4:30 PM FRIDAY the 27th.**

All proceeds from the sale will go to local mission. If you can volunteer your time that week as well as work the day of the sale we need folks to sort and price items. There will be signup sheets in the foyer. Even if you can only work a few hours that will help greatly.

**Thank you, your Fellowship Committee.**

If you have a large item needing a pickup please contact Jim Millard at 402-291-2517 or 402-968-6954. If you can assist Jim during the week of April 23rd– April 27th please contact him directly.



Thank you to Gary Sands for rebuilding and refurbishing our Baptismal Font. Gary always goes above and beyond when he is asked to fix our wood related items.

"Thank you to all for the prayers, cards, phone calls and thoughts during my knee surgery journey. The warmth expressed is one of the many things that I love about First Presbyterian."

**God Bless all, Nancy Shultz**





## Children's Ministry



Linda Reffert

Happy Spring! I don't know about you, but I am SO ready for spring weather to be here and for the snow to vanish for at least 7 or 8 months.

As you are making summer plans for your kids, please mark your calendar for the week of July 23<sup>rd</sup> for VBS. Registration will go online mid- May. Ages for VBS are 3 (and potty-trained) through completed 6<sup>th</sup> grade. VBS will run 9 to Noon on that Monday through Friday, and kids will sing in worship on the following Sunday. I have some volunteers lined up already but I'm always looking for more. Youth ages completed 7<sup>th</sup> grade through college make wonderful VBS volunteers and I'll take adult help too, of course.

I'd also like you to consider registering your kids for camp at Camp Calvin Crest by Fremont. There are a wide variety of types of camps and we have scholarship money available. I can also help families get presbytery scholarships so please let me know if you plan to send one or more child to camp. It is an awesome, faith building, confidence building, friendship building experience, I promise!

Thanks go out to the people who are helping me put on the Children's Easter event on Easter Sunday between services. They are: Ash Hudson, Noelle Kilpatrick, Kathryn & Emma Rose and Nora Boyd. The kids are going to put together their own Resurrection Egg kits and collect a few prizes along the way.

I'm looking forward to the Parent Program on the last night of WOW (April 18<sup>th</sup>). Our group of Littles (K-2) have learned a lot about the 10 Commandments and The Lord's Prayer which they plan to share and the Bigs (3-6<sup>th</sup> grade) are preparing presentations on World Religions. Rob Rose has been working with the kids on some

special music too. Don't forget to RSVP if you are a parent and you'd like to join us for dinner that night, prior to the program. It's \$2 for each guest (anyone not registered for WOW).

Third through 6<sup>th</sup> graders are invited to join me on Friday, April 20<sup>th</sup> from 6 to 10 PM for Friday Night Fun. We'll have pizza, do a brief Bible Study, mission project and play lots and lots of games. We had great fun with a paper airplane contest last year, so if any parents or grandparents are pros at building airplanes using plain white paper, give the kids some tips before they come, would you? Friends are invited as long as you RSVP by the last WOW. Guests must be between 3<sup>rd</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade.

I would like to invite parents and other adults to check out "The Big Event", a Presbytery event which will be hosted at our church on Saturday, April 21<sup>st</sup> from 9:30 to 3:15 PM. We have a tremendous keynote speaker in Rodger Nishioka, and some excellent workshops for adults of any age. There will be childcare available and our youth are serving the lunch that day, as a mission trip fundraiser. Information is available here at the church or you can register online on Facebook or the Presbytery website. If you would be interested in volunteering in any capacity - greeter, help with lunch, host, usher for worship, childcare, etc. please let Shelli Dart or I know.



## Youth Fellowship (YF) News



Shelli Dart

*"Come to me all you who are weary and heavy laden and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me and I will give you rest for your souls."* – Matthew 11:28-29

Spring has sprung, we have an hour more daylight, flowers are popping up and we are rejoicing in the warmer weather. We are also entering a busy time for our teachers and students. Getting ready for finals, completing year end projects and finding summer jobs. It's a busy time. I've been reminded lately how important quiet time and rest are for our mental health and well being. Even Jesus needed some quiet time, he frequently went to the mountains by himself to pray. In this busier season of our lives, please remember to take some time away, unplug and rest your weary minds.

April 1st is Easter so we have postponed YAS to Open Door Mission until April 8th. April 18th is our last Illuminate. We will continue Sunday School through May.

Our church is hosting "The Big Event" on April 21st with keynote speaker Roger Nishioka. You really need to attend and hear him speak. There are other classes available and registration is open now. The Youth will be providing lunch that day as a fundraiser for our summer trips. It is a potato bar and I will need all the help I can get so please let me know if you are or are not available.

Youth Sunday is May 6th and we will need a Sunday afternoon this month to tie dye our shirts. We haven't done this in a long time and I'm really excited to do it again. Keep an eye on your email and texts for updates.

Registration for our 2 mission trips are due

Sunday April 8th. Please let me know if you have any questions. Middle School will make their annual jaunt to Calvin Crest with the Senior Highs heading to Louisiana to help with recovery from the Hurricane 2 years ago. If you have any questions please let me know.

Happy Easter! Wishing you Blessings. Shelli



### April Youth Events

- |        |  |
|--------|--|
| Apr 1  | Happy Easter! No Sunday School                 |
| Apr 8  | YAS Open Door Mission 4:30-7:30pm              |
| Apr 18 | Last Illuminate of the year                    |
| Apr 21 | The Big Event - Youth potato bar arrive at 9am |





~ April 2018 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> Partly Sunday 8:30a Easter Worship Service 9a No Sunday School 9:30a Easter Breakfast 9:45a Kids Easter Treasure Hunt 10:30a Easter Worship Service 7p Venture Crew 26	<b>2</b> Church Office is Closed 1:15p Heritage Ridge 2p Harmony Court 2:45p Richmond Village 6p Venture Crew (FH)	<b>3</b> 10:30a Staff Meeting (CR) 6p Mission Mtg (VVR) 7p Bell Choir Rehearsal	<b>4</b> 5:30p W.O.W./Illuminate 7p Choir Rehearsal	<b>5</b> 7p Troop 467	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 9a Spring Yard Clean Up 4:30p Spaghetti Dinner
<b>8</b> Uncle Sunday 9a Sunday School 10:30a Worship Service 4:30p Youth Active Service/Open Door Mission 5p Crossroads Connection	<b>9</b> 1p Women's Bible Study (CR)	<b>10</b> 9:30a BWC Ticket Sales (VVR) 5:30p Christian Education Mtg (L) 7p Bell Choir Rehearsal	<b>11</b> 9a P.E.O. (VVR) 5:30p W.O.W./Illuminate 6p Finance Mtg (CR) 7p Choir Rehearsal	<b>12</b> 6p Building & Grounds Mtg (CR) 6:30p Membership (VVR) 7p PW Bible Study (Luster home) 7p Troop 467 7p Worship Mtg (CR)	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 9a Spring Yard Clean Up Rain Date 10a Women's Book Club (VVR)
<b>15</b> 9a Sunday School 10:30a Worship Service 11:30a Discovery Class (CR) 11:30a Fellowship Mtg (VVR) 11:30a Fidelity Presentation (FH)	<b>16</b> 1p Women's Bible Study (CR) 7p Venture Crew 26	<b>17</b> 7p Bell Choir Rehearsal	<b>18</b> 5:30p W.O.W./Illuminate Parent Program 7p Choir Rehearsal	<b>19</b> 7p Troop 467	<b>20</b> 6p Friday Fun Night	<b>21</b> 8a FELD the Big event
<b>22 Earth Day</b> Next Sunday Partly Sunday 9a Sunday School 10:30a Worship Service	<b>23</b> 1p Women's Bible Study (CR)	<b>24</b> 7p Bell Choir Rehearsal	<b>25</b> 7p Choir Rehearsal	<b>26</b> 12p Ladies Lunch (American Heroes) 7p Session (VVR) 7p Troop 467	<b>27 Arbor Day</b>	<b>28</b> 8a Garage Sale
<b>29</b> 9a Sunday School 10:30a Worship Service	<b>30</b> 1p Women's Bible Study (CR)	<b>Notes:</b>				



First Presbyterian Church  
1220 Bellevue Blvd. South  
Bellevue, NE 68005  
Phone: 402-291-1104



Nonprofit  
Organization  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Bellevue, Nebraska  
Permit No. 16

Mailing Address Line 1  
Mailing Address Line 2  
Mailing Address Line 3  
Mailing Address Line 4  
Mailing Address Line 5

## April Birthdays:

- |                      |                   |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| 1 Carter Dawson      | 22 John St. Clair |
| 1 Bev Snowden        | 22 Gabbie Emsick  |
| 1 Eliza Boyd         | 23 Kim O’Riordan  |
| 1 Scott Reffert      | 23 Rich Uhl       |
| 2 Alice Renner       | 25 Linda Hilfiker |
| 3 Sylvia Pelzer      | 25 Josh Blazek    |
| 3 Audie Keaton       | 26 Megan Warren   |
| 6 Deb Hudson         | 27 Carolyn Hess   |
| 15 Retha Dowding     | 27 Ann MacKinnon  |
| 17 Gordon Lytle      | 27 Mary Nelson    |
| 17 Lori Keaton       | 27 Beth Syphers   |
| 17 Madison Braun     | 28 LeAnn Jobses   |
| 18 Marcie deZafra    | 28 Eoin Healy     |
| 21 Eric Van Sky      | 28 Cindy Reilly   |
| 21 Jake VanRyckeghem |                   |

