



Hilltop Highlights

A Monthly Publication of First Presbyterian Church

2022 Stewardship Campaign

“His master replied, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master’s happiness!’” Matthew 25:23

Sunday, October 10th is Commitment Sunday. Our theme for this year is “Glorifying God With Our Talents.”

God has blessed each one of us with so many unique gifts and talents. God blesses us so that we can be a blessing to others. As we enter this time of Stewardship in the life of the church, please prayerfully consider how you may share your gifts to further our common ministry to God’s children here in Bellevue.



The stewardship letter to the congregation was mailed on September 27th. An estimated 2022 Operating Budget is printed on the back. We hope this estimate of income for this year and estimate of expenses for 2022 will help you understand how our congregation can best use the contributions we receive to live out the mission and ministry to which we are called. Included with the letter will be a pledge card.

After prayerful consideration, please fill out the pledge card and bring it to worship on Commitment Sunday, October 10th. You will be invited to bring the card to the front of the Sanctuary for deposit in the Joash Chest, a visible symbol of people coming together to offer our gifts to God. If you are not able to attend service on the 10th, then please return your completed pledge card to the church office no later than October 31st.

Together let us prayerfully and thoughtfully learn more about what it means to more fully follow and rely on Jesus while loving and serving our community. As we grow in faith, hope and trust, let us experience more deeply the joy of Jesus Christ.

The celebration of God’s generosity for paying off the debt and a successful stewardship season will be during coffee fellowship at 10:00am in the Library.

In Christian Fellowship,
Bob Jeffus, Stewardship Committee Chair



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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 8:30 am to 4:30 pm (hours may vary)

Shelli Dart (Youth Ministry Director)-shelli.dart@gmail.com
Tu, Th 10:30 am to 3:00 pm (hours may vary)

Liane Kirmis (Music Ministry Director)-lianekirmis12@gmail.com

Dirk Lindner (Organist)-dirk16@cox.net

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



We Keep in Our Prayers

- ◆ Jane Hink as she recovers from heart complications, and is currently in rehab.
- ◆ Jim Chatelain who is in rehab.
- ◆ Gary Sands upcoming leg surgery.
- ◆ Parents of Pastor Mike, Bob and Eileen for health issues.

Financial Information

	<u>August</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Income	\$17,054.79	\$228,251.65
Expenses	<u>\$30,225.28</u>	<u>\$226,445.36</u>
Difference	<\$13,225.28	\$1,806.29



Happenings

Piecemakers Quilters



Quilters are very friendly people! Join like-minded people who love to create, socialize, and share the same passion for fabric, sewing, color, and beauty. The common thread lies in the eagerness to share projects and donate to charities, not to mention life-long friendships. All skill levels welcome. Come help cut fabric for kits, iron, sew, or tie quilts.

Join us on Friday October 1st at 1:00pm in the craft room downstairs. Any questions please contact Sally Syphers or Denise Seaman.

Trunk or Treat

Trick or Treat Around the Church is an event we have done the last few years that quickly became one of our very favorite events of the year. We love kids and their excitement about the holiday. We love showing off the friendly and caring people of our church.

On **Wednesday, October 27th from 5:30 to 6:30 PM**, we plan to host a Trunk or Treat out in the Welcome School side of the parking lot. If you would like to bring a table to set outside by the back of your vehicle you can. There is a sign up sheet in the Library if you are planning to participate.



Get out your rake, gloves, shovels and clippers and join us on Saturday, November 6th for a fall clean-up.

We will begin with coffee and donuts at 9:00am and will follow with cleaning up our church grounds and some painting of doors, etc. shortly after. Please join us for a fun morning of fellowship and an opportunity to prepare our building for the upcoming fall and winter seasons.



Sunday, November 7th



NEW

Bellevue Food Pantry

Food Delivery Service Now Available!

ENCAP has launched food delivery services
at the Bellevue Food Pantry.
If you are interested in utilizing this service
please call Renee for more information!

(402) 292-2961 ext. 262



1908 Hancock Street | Bellevue, NE 68005
encapnebraska.org



Worshipping, learning, and serving together in the name of Jesus



Contingency Fund



PER CAPITA – PER PERSON

The **required** total Per Capita amount due from each member is **\$39.68** which is a .03 increase from last year. In 2021, our apportionment is **\$10,515.20**. As of **August 31st** we have only collected **\$6,555.40**, the remaining **balance of \$3,959.80** has been taken out of the Operating Budget. If you have not yet given your Per Capita or can donate an extra amount, please write Per Capita in the memo portion of your check. Leave the envelope or check in the offering plate or mail to the office.

Amazon Smile

Please be sure to go (<http://smile.amazon.com/ch/47-0379376>) when ordering from Amazon.

Each quarter, the AmazonSmile Foundation will make a donation to First Presbyterian Church. **We have received \$846.89 as of June 30th it could be so much more if everyone who uses Amazon selects us and uses Amazon Smile when ordering.**

If you are not an AmazonSmile customer please log in to Amazon.com and go to help and type in Amazon Smile . Click on the Amazon Smile logo and you will be prompted get started and to select an organization. You must be logged in to Amazon Smile (<http://smile.amazon.com/ch/47-0379376>) to shop in order for your purchases to qualify.

Bakersplus.com

We just received the **Second Quarter of 2021** rebate from Bakers for **\$164.40** this is wonderful and includes **46** households. So if you have not registered **First Presbyterian Church #HY977** under your Baker's Plus card Community partner tab, please do so. This does not affect any other rewards you receive from Baker's.





Can You Serve

6 Deacons are needed for a 2 year term beginning in January 2022-

A Deacon is to minister to those who are in need, to the sick, to the friendless, and to any who may be in distress both within and beyond the community of faith.

The following Elders are needed for a 2 year term beginning in

January 2022: Fellowship, Building & Grounds, Worship, Membership & Christian Education

An Elder must exercise leadership, government, spiritual discernment, and discipline and have responsibility for the life of the congregation.

3 Foundation Members are needed for a 2 year term beginning in January 2022- Foundation members are responsible for the Stewardship of the church's endowment fund.

3 Board Members are needed for Welcome School for a 3 year term. Each term is based on the school year which is July to July. We still need for this year and the first meeting will be in September. A Board Member oversee the operations of our Welcome School Child Development Center.

If you are interested in any of the above position or know someone who would be great in one of the positions please contact June at the Church office 402-291-1104 or admin@bellevuefpc.org.

News from Welcome School

News from Welcome School: School is back in full swing! The kids are having so much fun with their teachers and classmates. September has really gone by fast. Students are learning about friends, sharing, farms, community helpers, camping and much, much, more! I see painting, rolling, pouring and hammering! We were able to go to Gifford Farm this month. It's so great to learn all about the animals on the farm. In October, we look forward to a visit from our local Bellevue Fire Department; trucks and all!

Thank you and God bless, Tara Williams, Director of Welcome School



Tasting Honey



Tearing Paper for Apples



Letter D Dinosaurs



Children's Ministry



Linda Reffert

Fall is off to such a great start! Thank you for your part in that. We've got a couple Sunday Schools and a couple WOWs under our belt and things have gone very smoothly. It's just awesome to be meeting in

person!

Thanks to Becca Griffin and Nora Boyd for returning as our Sunday School teachers and to Cindy Reilly for being our "Go-To" substitute in all children's programming! And thanks to Music Director Liane Kirmis for coming downstairs every Sunday to teach music, as well as leading it in WOW. You are all awesome!

We are starting at the beginning again in Sunday School. Literally the beginning. Our first weeks are all creation stories. It's been 4 years since we taught this and it's fun to watch our itty bittiest kids listen and interact with the stories. And it's fun to realize how much our older kids have grown since we did these lessons last time. They are hearing them and engaging at so much higher levels. We got some colorful new chairs in the Large Group Sunday school room and use the best of the old ones around tables in that room. It's easier and quicker to reset and looks so much friendlier, I think.

WOW is off to a good start too. Thanks go out to table parents: Pastor Mike, Liane Kirmis, Sue Tabler, and myself who are regulars and then to Kristen Krom, Megan Warren and Cindy Reilly who rotate at the parent's table. Our shepherds are Pastor Mike and Cindy Reilly. Pastor Mike will

not be able to shepherd once Confirmation begins in November, so if you are reading this and you are willing to serve as a shepherd for one hour per week, please let me know ASAP.

Our wonderful WOW Kitchen Crew is headed up by Mike Tabler with Sue as his chief helper. George Sayles is our faithful dishwasher. Other volunteers in there are: Nancy Shultz, Don Glenn, Jean Lindfors, Carolyn Hess, Anita Chappell, Nancy & Tom Blazek and Cathy Talmadge.

It's been a joy to present new Bibles this fall to 3rd grader Eliza Boyd and to Izabelle and Brianne Goracke. We are so fortunate to be able to provide these bibles from the Virginia Puls Sones Memorial Fund, after all these years. What great gifts these Bibles are! And it was so fun in the weeks leading up to the presentation to hear how excited the recipients were.

I'm looking forward to Trunk or Treat on Wednesday, October 27th from 5:30 to 6:30 PM. We've had a good response from volunteers, but still need about twice as many cars as we currently have, so please know there is still plenty of room for you! We have invited our church family, Welcome School families and our VBS families. I am guessing we will all need about 100 treats. I hope to have some extra ones on hand, in case anyone runs out. If you can't participate, maybe you would consider donating some candy. And we could use everyone's prayer for good weather. In Nebraska in late October, you just never know!

If families are in agreement and able, we will be resuming acolytes again in worship soon. With Covid adaptations, it's still not easy, but we hope it is possible.



October Youth Fellowship (YF) News



“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control, against such things there is no law.” Galatians 5:22-23

I have some brightly colored 3x5 cards for writing down some of my favorite scripture and then I post them over my desk at home. This is one of my favorites. Having memory verses help when you are stressed, depressed or just feeling out of sorts. I encourage you all to pick a few favorites and put them in your hearts and minds so you have them handy when you need them.

It has been so delightful getting back to normal with Sunday School and Illuminate. The weather has been so beautiful that we were in the Oak Grove the other night creating scenes from movies. Here are a few, can you pick out which picture is from Tarzan, Nemo and Titanic? It was a fun silly night. We are enjoying study, chats and laughter together and can't wait to see what else is coming in our future. It was also fun to see everyone's faces when we went into the Senior High classroom after we got the new furniture set up. I had told them we were spraying for cockroaches and they were quite happy and surprised by the new seating and arrangement and extra happy that there weren't really roaches in our room!

October 10th we will have a day of cleanup and cookout at the Miller house in Iowa. I

will send directions for those who want to drive themselves and we can also carpool. After some work we will enjoy hamburgers and hotdogs other food and games.



October 27th is Trunk or Treat at the church from 5:30—6:30. I will have pizza for the Youth to eat while we run our booth handing out candy. Please wear a non horrifying costume and bring a bag so you can trick or treat too.

We are looking forward to having game night in the near future and maybe a Nerf war! Watch your email!

Be a Blessing, Shelli

OCTOBER ACTIVITIES

Oct 10 3-7 Fun-draiser at Millers with cookout
Oct 27 5:30-7pm Trunk or Treat—Pizza for YF



October 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
(Z) Zoom (Sanc) Sanctuary (VVR) Valley Vista Room (FH) Fellowship Hall (CR) Cry Room (L) Library					10a Bill Coon Memorial Svc	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
9:00a Sunday School 10:00a Coffee Fellowship 10:30a Worship Service (IP/FB)	1:15p Heritage Ridge 6:30p Troop 499G	10:30a Staff Meeting (VVR) 5:30p Christian Educ. (CR) 7p Bell Choir Rehearsal	5:30p WOW/Illuminate 7p Choir Rehearsal	7p Troop 467 7p Worship Meeting (VVR)		
World Communion Sunday						
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
9:00a Sunday School 10:00a Coffee Fellowship 10:30a Worship Service (IP/FB)	10:30a PEO (VVR/FH) 6:30p Troop 499G	7p Bell Choir Rehearsal	9a PEO (VVR) 5:30p WOW/Illuminate 6p B & G Mtg (VVR) 7p Choir Rehearsal	6:30p Membership Mtg (Z) 7p Troop 467		
Commitment Sunday						
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
9:00a Sunday School 10:00a Coffee Fellowship 10:30a Worship Service (IP/FB) 11:30a Fellowship (VVR) 6:30p Troop 467 Comm Mtg	6:30p Troop 499G	7p Bell Choir Rehearsal	5:30p WOW/Illuminate 7p Choir Rehearsal	7p Session Meeting (VVR) 7p Troop 467		
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
9:00a Sunday School 10:00a Coffee Fellowship 10:30a Worship Service (IP/FB)	6:30p Troop 499G	7p Bell Choir Rehearsal	5:30p Trunk or Treat 7p Choir Rehearsal	7p Troop 467		
31						
9:00a Sunday School 10:00a Coffee Fellowship 10:30a Worship Service (IP/FB)						

First Presbyterian Church
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October Birthdays:

- | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------|
| 3 Flossie Flora | 19 Kevin Regan |
| 3 Ruby Baruth | 22 Linda Glenn |
| 5 Sue Tabler | 23 Jane Hink |
| 7 Julie Daugherty-Braun | 25 Aoife Healy |
| 7 Audrina Urwin | 28 Quentin Warren |
| 10 Anne McDaniel | 29 Rebecca Horton |
| 12 Suzy Drap | 30 Isabel Griffin |
| 12 David Oxtoby | 30 Beth Urwin |
| 12 Mike VanRyckeghem | 31 George Graham |
| 14 Lorraine Jeffus | 31 Roger Webster |
| 16 Elijah Warren | 31 Tanya Kochera |
| 17 Maggie Blazek | |

