

The Window

On a journey with the living Christ;
connecting with God, others, and the world.



January 2019

Chili and Caroling

by Jane Loeck, Elder for Caregiving



Cleo Snyder and Braxton Pyle

Good tidings of caregiving and joy, caregiving and joy, oh-oooo tidings of caregiving and joy!

West Hills members and friends went out to spread comfort and joy, caregiving, and plenty of candy canes, during our December 9, Caregiving Caroling event. For more than twenty years this annual ministry opportunity brings caregiving blessings to our church family and friends who are homebound or have mobility issues.

It was a beautiful day for caroling, the sun was shining brightly and the Son of God was shining through each person. Our event began with hot soup and chili to warm our stomachs and then we went out to share love and care to warm the soul.

The blessings of this ministry touched the carolers and audiences alike. As carols drifted in the halls of Crown Pointe residents opened their doors to peek out, listen or participate. Pat King said a prayer of blessing for all of the carolers who came to serenade her. Those gathered in the common areas reveled in each song that was sung and happily waved candy canes in time to the music. Even those who could not remember the name of the carols knew the words to sing from somewhere in their memory and joined in.

Team leader Julie Burgess said she marveled at how one child in her group had such a sweet presence in the face of age, dementia and handicap. It reminded her that it is little children that show us (adults) how to do this. Jesus showed up in their midst that day. Some that had caroled in past years were now graciously on the receiving end of caroling blessings. Julie said her prayer was that they felt the gift in the manner it was given and felt joy in those moments. She said, "In giving we receive and our hearts are full." Caroling angels singing *Silent Night* were at the bedside of Minnie Briggs as they laid hands on her and prayed, a wonderful preparation for her journey to Heaven the next day. A prayer huddle was formed at one residence and groups of people shared in the joys of the season at Westgate Assisted Living. The experience is special even though many we carol to may not remember said team leader and Caregiving Ambassador Trink Traudt. "We live in the moment and don't worry about being remembered," she said.

Caregiving Caroling is a special day in the lives of all who participate and continues to be one of the highlights of the year for our Caregiving Ministry. The presence of the Holy Spirit can be felt as the Christmas spirit flows out of each caroler, young and old. Caregiving Ministries encompass Caregiving Ambassadors, Stephen Ministers, Homebound Communion, Homebound Companions, Casserole Ministry and Baby Ministry to name a few. The Caregiving Ministry at West Hills brings such valuable spiritual rewards to the care-givers and care-receivers. This ministry has enabled the formation of many strong bonds and life-long friendships. It is a little bit of heaven here on earth for all of the participants.

New Members/Friends of West Hills



Marion Entz-Harris

I came to Omaha to be with family and to recuperate from a surgery. I then planned to return to my mountains but I'm still here.

My favorite thing to do in my spare time is to hike with my dog, Molly, a standard poodle. I also enjoy putting out painting easels for my neighbors to come paint outdoors with me. Currently, I work with preschool children whom I adore!



Chris Hanna

I'm originally from Chicago and moved to Omaha in 1994. I started a non-profit last year that teaches language and culture to students. I love playing football with my children, spending time with my family and continual learning.



Irene Odion

I moved to Omaha in 2016 to pursue my master's degree. I graduated in June, 2018 and currently work as an Information Security Analyst with Worldview Ltd. Jeff and Esther Smith have now become my family and I am grateful to God for the connection. Fun depends on my mood but I keep faith and hope alive. I am glad to be a part of West Hills Church!



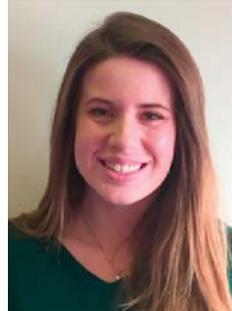
Alexandra (Alex) Picavet

Born Catholic, I attended church sporadically over the years but left the Catholic church when I moved away from home. I've lived all over the country (48 states) transferring with my job as a National Park Ranger. I mostly belonged to Methodist or Presbyterian churches. I married Fred Picavet in 2000 and he has two adult children. I am mostly motivated by community involvement and inclusivity. Some of the parks I've

worked at include Statue of Liberty National Monument, Ellis Island, Hopewell Furnace National Historic Site, Lake Roosevelt National Recreation Area, Sequoia National Park, Death Valley National Park, Kings Canyon National Park, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, Muir Woods National Monument, Fort Point National Historic Site and more...

Fred Picavet

I moved to Omaha in July 2016 and work for the National Park Service in administration. I have two children, a son living in Portland, Oregon, and a daughter living in New Jersey. Alex and I have two cats, Seki and Ky. I enjoy traveling with Alex, visiting with friends and playing cards.



Kayla Wilson

I was born and raised in the Omaha metro area. I work as a financial analyst in the ethanol industry. My family still lives in Omaha and I enjoy reading, volunteering, walks with my dog, Krypton, and embarking on adventures with my boyfriend Tim Schulte.



Tim Schulte

I was born and raised in Omaha. I work for Omaha Public Power District as a mechanical engineer. I am also a registered locksmith, I re-key house locks. I was raised in a family of five kids. I attend West Hills Church with my girlfriend Kayla Wilson. In my spare time I like to hunt, fish, kayak, camp, play paintball, and travel. I have no pets.



Charlie Wenck

I was born and raised in Omaha. Currently, I work as an electrician for Miller Electric. I am married to Kelley and we have two daughters, Grace and Corrine.



Megan Boyd

I moved to Omaha when I was nine years old. I previously lived in Iowa. I currently work at Lincoln Financial Group as a configuration analyst. I have two kids, Kaylee and Owen. Keith and I just celebrated our ninth anniversary married! We have a black lab named Anheuser.

Keith Boyd

I've lived in Omaha my whole life. Megan and I have two kids, Owen and Kaylee. Owen just turned one and Kaylee will be seven years old in December. Our kids keep us pretty busy!

Going To The Chapel by Les Peterson, Deacon for Stephen Ministry

What is a chapel?

It is a subordinate or private place of worship: such as

a: a place of worship serving a residence or institution

b: a small house of worship usually associated with a main church

c: a room or recess in a church for meditation and prayer or small religious services

2: a place of worship used by a Christian group other than an established church, a nonconformist chapel

3: a choir of singers belonging to a chapel

4: a chapel service or assembly at a school or college

5: an association of the employees in a printing office

6a: Funeral Home

b: a room for funeral services in a funeral home

Where can you find a chapel?

Well, many might say Las Vegas and wedding chapels.

Ever think about visiting a chapel when in an airport? In fact, more than half of the nation's busiest airports have dedicated chapels, and many of these facilities offer a variety of worship services for different faith traditions. I usually don't look for an airport chapel.

I do, however, look for a chapel when visiting someone in the hospital or nursing home.

So, why go to a chapel? Well, we have all been asked, where were you when...? You can fill in the blank with, when John F. Kennedy was shot, when the planes flew into the twin towers, or looking forward to Lent, were you there when they crucified my Lord.

But where were you when you prayed to God and he answered your prayer? Or gave you peace when going through a difficult time, or even when he did nothing? We always say it is not when we want things to happen, but it will happen in God's time.

I want to share some experiences where I can respond to where I was when...?

When my father was ill with Parkinson's disease. He was in Methodist Hospital and was receiving physical, occupational, and speech therapy. After two weeks, he was able to walk with his walker, feed himself, and speak clearly to us. There was joy that day between him, his caregivers and our family. Where was I during that time? Every time after visiting him and leaving the hospital, I was in the chapel, praying that God would heal him so that he would be able to enjoy life and be with family. He answered our prayers.

Another time, when Dad was back at Methodist: this time things were worse, he was not eating much other than ice cream. He could not get out of bed on his own. The doctors thought he could pass away in a couple of weeks. Where was I? Well I was at the chapel praying that he would be able to be with us a while longer. Dad left the hospital to a nursing home and I was able to visit and talk with him for another six months until he passed away.

When my brother was deathly ill with a heart valve problem: He was in Chicago and I was summoned to come quickly that there was a chance he would not make it unless they replaced the mitral valve in his heart. He had his atrial valve replaced seven years prior and now another valve surgery was needed.

We were all in a waiting room that day while he was in surgery. As you would imagine there was tension in the room with all family members, friends, and my brother's pastor. About every hour, I would want to get away. My sister-in-law would ask, Les, where are you going? My response, was, I am going to the chapel. I went every hour that day to pray in silence that the surgery would be successful. After nine hours of surgery, the surgeon came out and all he did was give a thumbs up and we knew it was successful. I would like to think that my time in prayer as well as others had something to do with the outcome.

A few years later, when my brother had stage 4 colon cancer: He was in Chicago and he was receiving hospice care. I was with family and friends and needed to pray. Again, my sister-in-law asked me, where are you going; my reply, I am going to the chapel. I went to pray for God to give us peace during this time. Sadly, my brother went to be with the Lord, but I was there for him.

So, why go to the chapel and pray? I say, why *not* go there. It is a place for meditation and prayer. It is always a comfort to me to go there and pray. Other events in my life have led me there, I went there before my sister passed away at Hospice House; when my mom passed away at Bellevue Medical Center.

I have shared with you those times where the outcome was not what I wanted but I was able to deal with those situations by being in prayer.

Other chapel visits resulted in rejoicing, praising God for answering my prayers and I know where I was when I felt his presence.

I guess I am comfortable with sitting in a chapel. At West Hills, I attended the 8:15 service, where else but the chapel. Just remember, it's not where you were, church, work, home, car, airport, or chapel, it is the time you spent in prayer with God. Even though we do not have worship service there anymore, it does not mean that I can't go there and pray anytime.

I would encourage you to pray wherever you are comfortable; it will aid you in getting through the good and bad times. The most important thing is not where, or that you pray out loud or in silence but that you do it often. I believe it is a huge part of our journey with the living Christ.

Thank you for letting me share my experiences with you. I am sure that all of you have had similar experiences. Mine led me to become a Stephen Minister. If sitting in a chapel and praying is not for you and you want someone you can talk to and walk with you along the way, West Hills has many people that are ready, willing and able to be there for you.

If you want to learn more, please contact me at 402-740-5662 or Gloria Zinn at 402-393-2843.

DID YOU KNOW?

You can read "The Window" newsletter, see the weekly bulletin, and listen to past sermons,

ALL on our website?

Great information on events available.

Check it out at: www.whcomaha.org

West Hills Church

Biographies of Elected Pastor Nominating Committee

Gary Anders

Becky and I joined West Hills in 2004. We lived in Beatrice, Nebr., for thirty years prior to moving to Omaha in 2003. We were members of First Presbyterian Church in Beatrice during those years. Our daughter moved to Omaha in 1999, and one Sunday several years before we moved to Omaha, we were visiting her and attended a service at West Hills. After we moved to Omaha, we started attending Presbyterian churches in our neighborhood and couldn't seem to find the right church for us. I suggested to Becky that we attend West Hills. We attended and it felt right. So we returned and started attending regularly and subsequently joined.

In the church we attended in Beatrice, I was an elder and served on almost every committee on the session. I taught fourth and fifth grade Sunday School for several years. I served regularly as the lay worship leader on Sundays. I also served as the chairperson on the Pastor Nominating Committee working closely with the presbytery during the call process and following the installation of the new pastor.

Since joining West Hills, I have been a member of a Covenant group. West Hills is my church home and the members are my church family. We have been members of a covenant group since we joined the church. The members of the support group we belong to are our family. We have provided love and support for each other through the years when that support was needed. Members of the group know us and our needs often before we know our own need!

Becky and I have been married for forty-eight years. We both grew up in the western part of Nebraska, moved to Beatrice after my schooling in Omaha and lived there until 2003 when we moved back. We raised our two children in Beatrice. We have a son who lives in Ankeny, Iowa. He is married and has two children. We have a daughter who lives by Blair, Nebraska. She is married, and has one child. I am a retired physical therapist. I worked as a physical therapist for thirty plus years and, for the last ten years of my career, I worked in administration in an intermediate care facility for Individuals with intellectual disabilities. In my retirement, I volunteer regularly as an ambassador at the Omaha Convention and Visitor's Bureau in downtown Omaha. I also work part time for the Visitor's Bureau as a "step on guide" for bus tours who are visiting Omaha.

Louie Harrison

Lisa and I began our journey at West Hills in 1994. We were searching for a new church home and it was the perfect fit. West Hills was in the process of searching for a new pastor and not long after we arrived they chose George Moore. He encouraged us to participate in mission and service outreach and so the adventures began. Lisa and I were searching for a church home to call our own. I've been a member for twenty-four years now.

We have enjoyed participating in mission trips to Jamaica, Ecuador, Crow Montana, and Pine Ridge, South Dakota. I have taught adult classes, and serve on the Hospital Visitation Team.

Lisa and I have served during Vacation Bible School. I served as the Elder of Support Ministry and on the Interim Pastor Nominating Committee when we installed Rich. It continues to be our church home. It's where we have developed lasting friendships and share our personal stories with others. This is where we choose to bring our hopes and concerns each week because we know they will be prayed about and held closely by people we love.

West Hills is God's place for us when he asks us to be in fellowship with others. It is His house, built for us to use in His work, to see the light of His word, to worship loudly and softly and to share it with others. God has a purpose for this place and for us and He is not done yet.

I was born in North Platte, Nebraska, the second child of R. Lou and Bonnie Harrison. I have one sister, one half brother (deceased) and six step brothers (one deceased). I married Lisa, some 36 years ago and remain over the moon about it! We have no children, but share the love of 53 nieces and nephews (and grand nieces and nephews). I am employed at Union Pacific Railroad.

Rob Laughlin

Janet and I have been members for twenty-five plus years. we first attended West Hills at the time of my sister's wedding performed by Dick Meyer. We really enjoyed the wedding, the minister, and the friendly church members present; they made us feel at home. We decided to transfer to West Hills after further visiting and experiencing the welcoming and relational atmosphere. West Hills felt like home to us.

I have served as a head usher since 1995, helped assist in my children's Sunday school classes, and was involved in men's ministry and retreats for about ten years. I have enjoyed serving on Servant Sundays for many years. I have served on the Music and Worship Committee the past three years, attended InGathering, and was on the search committee for a new Mmusic and Worship director.

West Hills is where our daughter, Melissa, was baptized. West Hills is where she and her older brother Joey, learned about Jesus through a fabulous Children's Ministry program. It was through a West Hills connection that Joey got involved in Navigators at UNL, as did Melissa, which had a great impact on their lives. Two years ago Melissa married Patrick Lusk here in the sanctuary. It was a very meaningful day, to see our daughter get married in the church where we have worshipped for a good portion of our lives. We have been involved in several small groups which have given us the opportunity to make many good, lifelong friends, to share many life experiences and learn more about Christ in the process. God has blessed us at West Hills in so many ways and through the many relationships we have made over the years.

Janet and I have been married for over thirty years. I grew up in Omaha, attended college in Lincoln where I met Janet, and graduated from law school. I have had a private law practice for over thirty years. I am active in the Westside Alumni Association, Downtown Rotary Club, and Rotary Youth Exchange. Our two grown children are Joey, who recently married Meg Carpenter, and Melissa, the wife of Patrick Lusk.

Peggy Kelley

In 1988, Mike and I were seeking a church where we could grow deeper on our spiritual journey and raise our children. After visiting other Omaha area churches, we found West Hills and have been here ever since. I have served on Session and have been on both a PNC and Youth Director Search Committee. Most recently, I have led the Sunday Fellowship Team and assisted with the "Experience the Journey!," the new member class. I was blessed to have served on staff at West Hills for eleven years as Children's Ministry director. I have taught Sunday School, VBS and Logos, directed children's choirs and Christmas programs and served as a youth volunteer leader for twelve years. I have participated in women's Bible studies, small groups and Connection groups. Mike and I have been married for forty-seven years. We have been blessed with two adult children, Drew and Alicia, and their spouses, Rachel and Jon. Our greatest joy is our four beautiful grandchildren, Morgan, Mason, Barrett and Briggs. Though I was raised in a Christian home and never doubted the existence of God, West Hills is where I came to know Christ as my personal savior. West Hills is home. It is where Mike and I feel called to be. I am excited to see what the Lord has in store for West Hills!

Laura Meyers

I have been a member for ten years. At the time my husband and I had a toddler and we were searching for a church with a strong children's ministry. We had interacted with West Hills in the past through our work with Campus Life and had heard a lot of good things about their youth ministry. We planned a visit and knew right away that West Hills would be a good fit. Children's ministry is my passion and I have been involved with West Hills Children's Ministry in some capacity for most of my time here. I have taught a variety of different ages and am currently teaching large group for early childhood. I have also been a Stephen Minister for a number of years. West Hills is my spiritual family. It is a place I go to be uplifted and to uplift. There are friends I can share my struggles with as well as help others through their struggles. It is safe place for me to continue learn about God and strengthen my faith. I believe it is important to grow in our spiritual life with a community of fellow Christians and West Hills is that for me. My husband's name is Jeff Meyers and we have been married for sixteen years. We have one son, Ian, who is thirteen. I also have two step daughters and four precious grandchildren.

William Scheopner

My name is William Scheopner. I have been attending West Hills for most of my life. My parents began attending West Hills when I was two years old, so I grew up being cared for and discipled by the West Hills family. I completed the new members class and joined the church in 2013. I currently serve in Children's Ministry as an on-call small group leader in addition to teaching the large group lesson once a month. I also serve in music ministry, both on the worship team and the youth worship team. In 2016, I joined the Next Gen Youth Ingathering table, and I am currently a member of the Church Planning Committee. I am excited about what God is doing at West Hills and honored to be a small part of His big plan for using our congregation to further the Kingdom. I am presently taking dual credit classes at Metropolitan Community College and will apply these credits toward a bachelor of science in business administration.

Kathy Padilla

My husband René and I moved to Omaha with our two young sons in the summer of 1994. After visiting several churches, we were invited to West Hills by a new acquaintance. We immediately felt welcomed. I joined the Thursday morning Bible study and we settled in.

Over the last twenty-five years I have served on a number of ministry teams. I have tended to focus on the area of adult discipleship and spiritual formation. I was on the team that hired Deena Candler to be our associate pastor twenty-one years ago. I have served as the elder for adult spiritual formation and that led to being the interim director of that area on the West Hills staff twice. I enjoy facilitating Bible study classes on Sunday mornings and René and I have been actively involved in our covenant group for about twenty-three years.

West Hills means "family" to us. The saints at West Hills have helped us raise our children, encouraged us, challenged us and journeyed with us. When we first came here, there was a song that we often sang in worship..."Oh, let all that come behind us find us faithful..." being a part of the West Hills family means being rooted in the history of the Christian church of the centuries and the local congregation that laid the cornerstone here in 1959. It means living incarnationally and authentically in the present to live out the call of making disciples. And it means living and acting faithfully for future generations. Working out how to do that is our challenge and our privilege.

René and I have an empty nest now but we love filling it with university students and the campus ministers of InterVarsity Christian Fellowship who walk among them. We both work at Creighton University. We like to travel, binge watch Spanish soap operas on Netflix and walk Charlie the dog.



SAVE THE DATE

Saturday - February 9, 2019!

Our speaker will be Jerry Tagge of the 1970 & 1971 HUSKER National Championship Team with food and fellowship to follow.

NEW Tailgate Menu!

Your PNC

by Gary Anders, Vice Chairperson/Moderator

On Monday, December 17, 2018, the Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) met for our initial organizational meeting. Also attending to provide the group with orientation and an introduction to the process was Pat Shipley, Stated Clerk of the Presbytery and Pastor Deena.

In addition to the orientation, the meeting provided the members of the committee time to get acquainted with each other, to get to know more about each other and to share our journeys.

My initial impression of the group is that you and your church have a gifted and dedicated group of people on the PNC. It is apparent to me that each member of the committee has a goal to do the best job possible in seeking new pastoral leadership for West Hills.

The members of the committee are:

- Louie Harrison, Chairperson/Moderator
- Gary Anders, Vice Chairperson/Vice Moderator
- Rob Laughlin, Secretary
- Kathy Padilla, Chaplain
- Peggy Kelley
- Laura Meyers
- William Schoepner

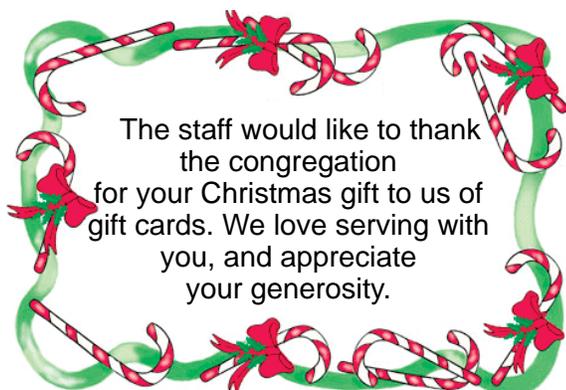
As a committee, we have committed to meet weekly, beginning the first week in January, so that we are able to move forward in the process as rapidly as possible.

The committee is excited about the vast amount of work that has already been accomplished which will assist us in the process. We thank everyone who was involved in any way in the compilation of the information we have been provided. A special thanks to the Vision Team for their work.

As we move forward, the PNC members ask for your patience, your encouragement, and your prayers. We most especially need prayers that we are guided and led by the Holy Spirit in the work we do. Also, we ask you to also pray that we recognize and follow the guidance the Lord provides.

Please know the PNC will share information we are able to share, but also know that much of the work we do must be held in the highest confidence and cannot be shared.

Again, we ask for patience, encouragement and prayers.



Prayer Pager History 101

by Betty Manna

The West Hills prayer pager ministry began almost fifteen years ago. Deena had brought back the idea after hearing about it being done in her sister's church in Colorado. It was a little frightening for me as I'm somewhat technology challenged. But I learned how to use the pager and then figured out how to make it more "user friendly" so that everybody could use it without intimidation.

"This Week's Prayer Focus!"

On April 25, 2004, the pager was given to our first participant – Gerry West. Gerry had been fighting cancer for several years and loved having the pager "telling" her someone had just prayed for her! So with her glowing recommendations, the ministry took off! Over the next fourteen years, over 700 West Hills family and friends "felt" the power of prayer through a pager set to vibrate when called. Well, except for that week when Pete Peterson was in hospice and the pager accidentally went from vibrating to playing Happy Birthday. Thank goodness the Peterson family took this as a sign of Pete's NEW life about to begin and found humor in the situation!

A crucial part of this ministry has been our volunteers who have taken care of getting the pager back from one person and in the hands of the next, every Sunday. Most of the time this includes a quick tutorial on how to use the pager.

I want to say thank you to Kathy Cordes, for getting the kinks worked out of our "Sunday hand-off system" during those first couple years! And thank you to Laressa Tromler, who has so faithfully given her time every Sunday for the past twelve years! Besides giving them the pager and making sure they knew how to use it, she has blessed them with her kind heart and loving care! Laressa, you have been a blessing to so many people over the past twelve years, but most of all, to me and I thank you very much!

A lot has changed in the past fifteen years, and pagers are becoming a thing of the past. So we're moving on with the times and updating our prayer ministry! Beginning January 7, the bulletin will still have the outlined section with two prayer requests, for you to pray for during the week. The first request will be from one of our West Hills family members. The second request will be from one of our West Hills leadership people, either an elder, deacon, or staff member. We want to keep these folks lifted in prayer throughout the year, so will have a continuous rotation of the people in these positions.

So look for the familiar section with the new title **This Week's Prayer Focus!** You'll still pray – you just won't need to dial a pager number.

The pagers may be gone, but the important part remains unchanged -

"And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people." Ephesians 6:18

Two Award Winning Recipes from The Christmas Experience



Start to Finish:
1 Hour
Makes: 36 Cookies

Ingredients

½ cup butter, soft
½ cup SunButter Natural
½ cup sugar,
additional sugar for rolling

½ cup packed brown sugar
1 egg
1-1¼ cups all-purpose flour
¼ cup cocoa powder
¾ teaspoon baking soda
½ teaspoon baking powder
½ cup semi-sweet chocolate chips
36 chocolate kisses (plain chocolate variety),
unwrapped

Directions

1. Heat oven to 375° F. In large bowl, cream butter and SunButter together until smooth. Add sugars and mix for 2 to 3 minutes until smooth and creamy. Add egg, beating until combined.
2. Stir in flour, cocoa powder, baking soda, and baking powder until dough forms. Stir in chocolate chips until combined. Shape dough into 1-inch balls; roll in additional sugar. Place on cookie sheet.
3. Bake 8 to 10 minutes or until edges are light golden brown, immediately press 1 Kiss candy in center of each cookie. Remove from cookie sheets to cooling rack. Serve immediately or refrigerate.

OATMEAL LACE COOKIES



½ cup butter
1 cup packed brown sugar
1 tablespoon flour
2 teaspoons vanilla extract
½ teaspoon salt
1 large egg, slightly beaten
1 ½ cups rolled oats

Preheat oven to 350° – line baking sheet with parchment paper. (I grease pan so paper will lie flat).

Melt butter and brown sugar in medium saucepan over medium heat. Stir frequently until butter and brown sugar melt into a thick paste.

Remove from heat and stir in flour, vanilla and salt. Set aside for 10 minutes to cool.

Mix in egg and oats and stir well.

Spoon 1 teaspoon batter onto baking sheet leaving space for cookie to spread. Use back of spoon to spread cookie dough into a thin circle.

Bake in oven for 7-8 minutes until edges turn brown. Let cookies cool before removing from parchment paper – about 5 minutes.

Melt chocolate for dipping. Add 2 teaspoons of oil or Crisco to thin chocolate.

Dip in melted chocolate on half of cookie or spread on bottom of one cookie bottom and lay another on top for a sandwich. You can also drizzle chocolate over cookie, whether one or two layers.

Have a Recipe to Share?

With both parents working these days it's difficult to come up with a healthy dinner after work.

Do you have a recipe for an easy-to-prepare meal?

Please send your recipes to Maralee Gifford:

giffordgr@msn.com

In the subject line please put "Recipe for Newsletter.w"

(she will know it is a safe to open)

Spiritual Correspondence

by Jana Prescott



I hope all off you had a blessed Christmas, full of joy, with meals centered on Christmas, and Christ being in all your hearts! I hope you all had a blessed time being together with family and friends near and far, and that you will be set for the new year, 2019. That year doesn't seem right; I had to look it up on my computer and make sure. So a new year has dawned but Christ is unchanged. He is here with each of us, shining forth to lead us forward, even on those days when we wonder if we can even get out of bed. I had one of those days. I heard my alarm, and I just shut it off, which is work for me anymore. I tend to wake up a few minutes before it rings. My next step is putting on my glasses, and I just couldn't. All I could do was just lay down. But Christ kept talking to me, and he helped start a new day! We all have days like that, don't we? It sure is a good thing we all have the same inner alarm clock, who beeps for us at just the right moment!



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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

December Session *notes*

ELDERS

Patti Gatzke	Spiritual Formation	pfgatzke2@gmail.com
Don Glasgow	Building	donandcandy3@cox.net
Lisa Harrison	Nominating	tlou_harrison@yahoo.com
Mark Hawkins	Worship & Music	hawkman33@gmail.com
Mike Kelley	Stewardship	MichaelAKelley9@gmail.com
Jane Loeck	Caregiving	jaloeck@cox.net
John O'Donovan	Personnel	odonovanj@yahoo.com
Jack Pagel	Next Gen-Children's	pagelonwalnut@cox.net
Peg Shirley	Mission	pjshirley55@yahoo.com
Dan Travaille	Finance/Support	dtravaille@usainsulation.net
Julie Zimmerman	NG-Youth	Juliezimmerman00@gmail.com

- The Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) has met with the Stated Clerk of Presbytery and will begin weekly meetings.
- Still looking for someone for the Elder of Children's Ministry.
- Pledges received to date remain approximately \$150,000 short of the proposed 2019 budget.
- Approval of the 2019 budget was postponed until after a follow up special session meeting is held in January, to further discuss the budget.
- The Annual Super Supper and Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday, January 27, 2019.
- A Sunday, Experience Task Force, will be formed to review and recommend structuring the Sunday activities.



First Sunday of each month.

Services: 9:00 & 10:30 a.m.
Nursery: 8:45a-11:30a
Children's Church: 10:30-11:30a
Jr./Sr. High SS: 10:30-11:30a

January

* denotes meets weekly

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																	
	<p>December 2018</p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td></tr> <tr><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td></tr> <tr><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td></tr> <tr><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td></tr> <tr><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>	S	M	T	W	T	F	S							1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31						<p>1</p> <p>OFFICE CLOSED</p> <p>New Year's Day</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Men's Bible Study 6:30a</p> <p>Women's Bible 9:30a*</p> <p>Al-Anon 12p*</p> <p>PNC: 6P*</p>	<p>4</p> <p>All Church Game Night see ad-other side</p> <p>AA: 7:30p*</p> <p>Al-Anon:new 7:30 & reg. 8p*</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Arabic Fellowship Service: 5:30p*</p>
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<p></p> <p>6</p> <p>Familia De Dios:2-4p*</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Newsletter Writing Team: 1:30a</p> <p>BSF: 6:30p*</p> <p>AA mtg: 8p*</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Men's Bible Study 6:30a*</p> <p>Men's Min. Team: 6:30p</p> <p>Worship Team: 6:30p*</p> <p>Caregathering: 7p</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Elder, Deacon, Nom. Comm. Training: 5:30p</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Women's Ldr mtg. 12p</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p>																																																	
<p>13</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Westside Middle School</p> <p>Session: 7p</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Westside Middle School</p>	<p></p> <p>17</p> <p>Westside Middle School</p> <p>Foster Care Support: 6p</p> <p>Capernaum: 7p</p> <p>High School Special Needs Group</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Westside Middle School</p>	<p>19</p>																																																	
<p>20</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Worship Team: 6:30p</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p>																																																	
<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Women's Bible 9:30a</p> <p>Women's Bible 9:30a</p>	<p>31</p>		<p>February 2019</p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1 2</td></tr> <tr><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td></tr> <tr><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td></tr> <tr><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td></tr> <tr><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>	S	M	T	W	T	F	S							1 2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28									
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2019 - JANUARY

- 1-Heidi Fethkenher
- 2-Dave Anderson
- Carole Burrows
- Verne DeHaven
- 3-Nancy Chesire
- Jennie Harrison
- 4-B. Gratton
- Laura Meyers
- 5-Elaine Hook
- Greg Kuhn
- Shirley Nelson
- 6-Rick Westcott
- 7-Stephanie Tromler
- 8-Liz Pittack
- Bud Wells
- 11-Mariah Rios
- Warren Zhang
- 12-Alec Harrison
- Ethan Harrison

- 13-Steve Burgess
- Wayne Kehrli
- Les Peterson
- Tom Thompson
- 14-Grant Thomas
- Dave Vanhessche
- 16-Jenny Anderson
- Lauren Rhodes
- 17-Kelsey Alexander
- 19-Sue Krahmer
- Olivia Willie
- 20-Terry Dickey
- 21-Daniel Stout
- 23-Robyn Curran
- 24-Trink Traudt
- 25-Genea Davis
- Linda Fouts
- 26-Darlene Burham
- Alex Topolski
- 27-Rorric Barnes

- 28-Alana Jansen
- Jim Love
- 29-Rod Rhodes
- Rylee Simmons
- Tera Watkins
- 30-Boyd Dingman
- Lisa King
- Jill Nelson
- Trent Zimmerman
- 31-Mike Bridgman
- Priscilla Powell
- FEBRUARY**
- 1-Cassie Czaplowski
- Linda Lavelly
- Kayla Wohlgemuth
- 2-Sheryl Overby
- 3-Jake Distefano
- Daryl Greger
- Scott Tromler
- 4-Suzanne Kuhn
- 5-Katie Northouse





www.whcomaha.org
 West Hills Church
 3015 South 82nd Avenue
 Omaha NE 68124-3291
 402-391-8788



PLAY!

GAME NIGHT

It's the perfect time to try out a game you got for Christmas! Game players of all ages are invited to join the fun! Hot dogs, veggies, chips, and dessert will be served. Bring a friend, bring your family, bring a favorite board game, card or group game and we'll have an evening of game time with a variety of games for all ages and skill levels!

January 4

5:30 pm

Room 175

