The 4th annual Garage sale will have come and gone by the time you read this issue of the Cross Currents. THANK YOU to everyone who donated items for the sale. THANK YOU to all the senior high youth and their parents and any other volunteers who worked long hours to sort, organize and price every item. A special word of thanks to Susan Jones, Bev Koch and Jen Paul who carried a huge chunk of the load and helped to coordinate this enormous event! We received so much more than we anticipated but it was a nice problem to have! I am pleased to report that the SHF youth group made a total of $7,726.00. This money will go towards their mission trip to Michigan next June.
“Following Our Strategic Summer” by Marshall Zieman, Pastor and Head of Staff

As we complete our summer sermon series in Genesis we have seen that God can bless any kind of family. The patriarchs Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob had families that were far from perfect, yet God chose to bless them anyway. God’s ways are higher than ours, and God’s plans for us are truly amazing.

This summer we’ve also completed our four Saturdays of Strategic Planning for our church. Together we’ve agreed that during the next few years we should focus more in these three areas: Mission, Shepherding, and our Facilities. A big thanks to the 125+ different folks who have shared in our dreaming and thinking together. Now we begin the season of more specific planning in these specific areas. Stay tuned!

In September, our sermons will look at what the author of our strategic study calls the Basic Qualities of a Healthy Church. You can read ahead and be ready to think about how we are doing in these areas:

September 10 | A Church of Grace | Romans 13: 8-14
September 17 | Building on our Strengths | Romans 14: 1-12
September 24 | Compassion, Community, and Hope | Philippians 1: 21-30
October 1 | Short-term and Long-term Growth | Philippians 2: 1-13
October 8 | Acting Swiftly and Having Fun | Philippians 3: 4-14

Your pastor and friend,

Marshall Zieman

Also coming this fall, Pastor Zieman will lead a Tuesday afternoon Bible study Tuesdays at 1PM, from Sept 12 – Nov 14

Do you pray? Do you know how to pray? When you pray, what do you pray about? One of the best ways to learn to pray is to look at how people in the Bible prayed. On Tuesday afternoons this fall, Dr. Zieman will help us study 10 different prayers in the Bible, using as our guide John White’s Daring to Draw Near – People in Prayer.

Instead of being a class on how to pray, in this Bible Study we will eavesdrop on some of the most significant prayers in human history. We will see Abraham plead for Sodom and Gomorrah. We watch Jacob wrestle with the Angel of the Lord. We hear David confess his sin. We hear Hannah pray for a child. We will listen to Jesus pray on the cross. In these prayers we learn about praying to God and we also learn about the God to whom we pray – who desires communication with us. In these prayers we see people change, so this is also a book about what happens to people in prayer.

Purchasing the book is suggested, but not required. (You can find it on amazon.com.) We will mainly be studying the prayers as we find them in the Bible, so bring your own Bible to class.
SPIRIT SPEAK

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! Sheri Sessions and the wonderful Garage Sale Volunteers! My thanks to them is never-ending! Because of them we’ve found our rolling pin! Because of them we can see the back of our kitchen cupboards! We’ve even found four dog collars belonging to dogs who once loved us, and now the only slacks in my closet are those that fit me, not the three different sizes that were there before!

Because of the sale, Dick has cleaned the garage -- first time in three years! Closets, cupboards, drawers and storage containers are now sorted, neat, and some are even empty because of this wonderful mission project. Thank you for the Garage Sale!

One hot July day when cleaning desk drawers, we found some treasures that had been missing. One of these items was a box full of clippings and articles cut from newspapers, daily readings and other sources. Apparently when we moved, we had put the box quickly away, and as we unpacked, had never opened it until that recent day in July. It was exciting to find some special treasures.

One of these was a clipping that had been on my desk top for many years. It was a wonderful daily reminder for me to live the Christian life each day. Whoever gave me this piece of wisdom I cannot reconstruct, but I’m very grateful to him or her for sharing it, because it has guided me on many a day.

“This is the beginning of a new day. God has given me this day to use as I will. I can waste it or use it for good, but what I do today is important because I am exchanging a day of my life for it.

When tomorrow comes, this day will be gone forever, leaving in its place something that I have traded for it. I want it to be a gain and not a loss; good and not evil; success and not failure; in order that I shall not regret the price I have paid for it.”

Each day is a valuable gift from God. Some of those days I do waste, and for that I ask God to forgive me. I can waste it in anger or pity. I can waste it with pride and self-righteousness. Or, I can use it for good, showing kindness, patience and joy. No matter how I spend it -- when the sun comes up the next morning, this day is gone forever. It will never be August 15th, 2017 again.

I want my days to count. I want to make someone laugh, to sit with someone in pain, to help someone celebrate the joys of life, or to hug someone who has not been hugged for a very long time. I never want to live my life with regrets.

So, thank you to Sheri and the Garage Sale Volunteers for encouraging us to clean out our house so that I could find this special treasure I need every day!

-blessings, lkd
Cross Care
Contact
Rock Sumner

Cross Care is a care giving ministry of the Deacons of Presbyterian Church of the Cross and is made up of a group of trained caregivers who are ready to provide visitation, friendship, prayer, fellowship, support, and assistance to members of Church of the Cross who are:

Home bound due to illness or mobility issues
Hospitalized
Recently home from the hospital and in need of a little extra help
- Dealing with a long term illness
- Dealing with the loss of a loved one
- Going through a difficult life transition (loss of job, divorce, new baby, etc.)
- In need of occasional transportation to appointments or in running errands
- Just need someone to talk to

If you or someone you know is in need of Cross Care, you can file a request using one of the white Care Cards located in the sanctuary pews. All requests will be kept confidential. If you would prefer to speak with a pastor directly, please contact the church office at 402-333-7466.

The View from My Office – September 2017

The Generous Spirit! There are days that I understand how fortunate I am to be working at Church of the Cross. Last month, I urged everyone to consider an additional gift to the church this year and my hope truly was that together, we could find a way to fully fund and begin installation of the West Side Light Project. The answer to that prayer has begun to take hold, with $30,358.89 now dedicated to that project! That is a magnificent beginning to making this a reality.

At the Fellowship Fair, the B&G table will highlight the West Side Light Project and be available to answer questions for you. Our Session has approved $60,000.00 specifically for lights for the Gift & Memorial list. We look forward to this project improving the safety and security of our facility.

B&G has also planned for Fall Clean-up to be on Saturday, November 11, from 9am to Noon.

B&G has been busy with projects and is always looking for ways to repair, refurbish, or replace items that need attention in our building. Recently, Roy has added permanent kick door-stops to several doors and Frank has tightened many pews. We’ve change light bulbs, repaired faucets, replaced light fixtures and outlets. Anna has worked on sanding and painting the kitchen window sills. Jerry and Mike have replaced a few of the timber stairs on the east side of the Fellowship Hall. Room 15 has many new ceiling tiles, the kitchen window for the dishwasher has a new lock, and our gardens continue to flourish.

Our grounds look beautiful, and the wonderful, cooler weather we’ve recently experienced has been a blessing. Stop by to stroll in one of our garden areas and you’ll find peace, contentment, and God’s presence. Thank you to all who have planted, weeded, watered, and cared for our landscaped areas this summer.

Rock Sumner
Business Administrator
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION NEWS
From the Desk of Sheri Sessions

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION SUNDAY is September 10th and Sunday School classes for all ages will resume at 10:00 AM. Adult education class sign-up sheets are now available in the Narthex at the Information Desk. Please register for a class so we know how many books to order. Sunday School classes for children and youth also begin on September 10th. Preschool class for 3 and 4-year old’s will be taught by the parents of this age group on a rotating basis. They will meet in Room 7. Bible Explorer’s is for Kindergarten through 5th grade and meet downstairs in the Gathering Space. Middle school (6-8th grades) will meet in Room 11 with Brad and Dawn Gibson. Senior High Youth (9-12th grades) will meet in the Great Room. We have several adults teaching a variety of topics from Evolution to the Environment, Parables to Priorities. There’s a class for everyone between the two services every Sunday. Please join us!

CORNERSTONE begins its 27th year on Wednesday, September 13th! The complete schedule can be found in the CE brochure that was mailed to your home earlier this month. There are also copies of the schedule and registration forms at the Information Desk. We are pleased to have our Cornerstone Chef, Nickie Johnson returning to prepare our wonderful meals for us. It’s a great way to spend a Wednesday evening with our church family! I hope you’ll join us!

JHF & SHF YOUTH GROUPS will have their annual Kick-Off Potluck and Parent meetings on Sunday, September 13th at 5:00 P.M. in Fellowship Hall. Everyone is asked to bring a side dish to share. Burgers, brats, and beverages will be provided. The parent meetings will be held immediately following the dinner with calendars and important information being shared by the youth advisors.

CROSS YOUR HEART MOMS!
Do you have a child or grandchild in college? Join other PCOC mothers and grandmothers packing care packages for our students. Everyone brings about 25 snacks or college supplies and then they are divided up between the students and mailed. Christian Education supplies the shipping boxes, mailing labels, tissue paper and note paper. You supply the flat rate shipping cost and we mail it for you! Our first meeting of the year will be on September 24th at 6:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Register on SiguUpGenius.com the number of student boxes you need and what item you want to bring and share. If you have any questions, please contact Bev Koch at thekochs@me.com (402)289-7036 or Susan Jones at donandsusanj@cox.net (402)884-1485.
MUSIC MAKERS, COME CELEBRATE! – September 9th

If you are bringing your special talents to any of our excellent music groups this year, you and your family are invited to start our Fall season by celebrating our work together – Sunbeam, Carol, and Credo Choirs, Youth Bells, Carillion Ringers, Chamber and Alleluia Choirs, Trinity Brass, and All-church Orchestra! On Saturday, September 9th, we have reserved two pads at Elmwood Park at noon for a big picnic. (NE Football is at Oregon that day and the game doesn’t start ‘til 3:00.) Bring lawn chairs, blankets, games, music, walking shoes – anything you need for a picnic, and join the afternoon festivities. The main course, drinks, and paper products will be furnished, and we will ask you to bring accompanying dishes for the meal. You will need to sign up at the Information Center and let us know how many are coming by September 6. Directions to the site will be forthcoming.

This time together will be an excellent way to regroup after time off and reenergize for the commitment that lies ahead. Hope you will ALL plan to be part of the fun and join with this great ensemble as we look forward to the new opportunities to share our gifts and lead our congregation in worship. Make a Joyful Noise – to God be the Glory!
NEW HYMNALS WILL BE USED IN WORSHIP ON SEPTEMBER 10
The new hymnals have arrived and will be ready for use in both of our worship services beginning on September 10. You might be wondering, “What is going to happen to the old hymnals?” The Worship & Music Committee will remove the blue hymnals and sort out those that have name plates in the inside cover. These hymnals will be sorted alphabetically and placed on tables in the narthex. You are welcome to stop by anytime through the month of September and take the hymnals that have your name in them. Any hymnals left over at the end of the month will be donated to other churches, retirement facilities, or any other place that can put them to good use.

VESPER CONCERTS 2017-2018 SEASON

SEPTEMBER 17 VESPER CONCERT “BAROQUE SENSATIONS”
Join us for a sensational program of Baroque compositions by J.S. Bach and Antonio Vivaldi. The roster includes esteemed Omaha musicians Juliet Yoshida, Kevin Tompkins, and Susanna Perry Gilmore, violins; Brian Sherwood, viola; Tim Strang, cello; Alyssa Griggs, flute and Mark Kurtz, harpsichord. Go to www.vesperconcerts.org to learn more about the artists.

VESPER CONCERTS ARE ALWAYS FREE!

SEPTEMBER MUSIC SCHEDULE
September 3 10:00 Margaret Lim, cello
September 10 9:00 & 11:10 Alleluia Singers & Trinity Brass
September 17 9:00 Cello Choir 11:10 Alleluia Singers
September 24 9:00 TBA 11:10 Chamber Singers
VOICES FOR CHILDREN TO CELEBRATE 30TH BIRTHDAY AT SEPTEMBER GALA

For many years, Presbyterian Church of the Cross has helped support the mission of Voices for Children to make Nebraska the best place to be a kid. In September, we will be celebrating 30 years of victories for kids and we hope that supporters like you will join us to celebrate the work we have done together. Join us on Friday, September 22nd at the Omaha Design Center for food, fun, and live entertainment in downtown Omaha. The 30th Birthday Gala is a timely opportunity to look back and reflect on Voices for Children’s accomplishments, thank those who have helped us along the way, and look toward the future. Long-time supporters Sandy and Kate Dodge will serve as the Honorary Family for this event, and the proceeds will go directly toward continuing our work on behalf of kids.

For thirty years and counting, Voices for Children has used data and research to help policy makers and communities make informed decisions on issues impacting our next generation in the areas of health, child welfare, economic stability, and juvenile justice. Voices for Children’s work does not happen one child at a time, but rather through policy changes that impact hundreds and thousands of children all at once.

The board of directors, staff, and volunteers of Voices for Children in Nebraska would like to extend a sincere thank you to Presbyterian Church of the Cross for their Gold-level sponsorship of the 30th Birthday Gala.

This event could not happen without the generous support of volunteers. Volunteer positions are still open for help with day-of logistics. Please contact Amy at (402) 597-3100 or voices@voicesforchildren.com if you are interested in donating your time to Voices for Children. For more information or to RSVP, visit www.voicesforchildren.com
Baptisms

Flower Dedications
September 3
Open

September 10
A.J. and Judy Sundberg in honor of their 55th anniversary
The family of Roger and Ethel Pauba in honor of Roger and Ethel Pauba’s 65th wedding anniversary

September 17
Lee and Brenda Soukup in memory of loved ones

September 24
Open

49ERS --- TUESDAY September 5, 2017

Please join us for our Tuesday, September 5, 2017, 49er meeting at Gorats, 4917 Center Street. OUR ANNOUNCED SPEAKER FROM THE ZOO, DR. PLOOG, WILL BE OUT OF TOWN AT A BUSINESS SEMINAR.

Dr. Dan Holtz, retired Professor of English, Arts and Science, Peru State College, (1987 to 2016) will be presenting a musical, historical, story-telling program in connection with Nebraska's 150th birthday and Nebraska's Sesquicentennial celebration/commemoration for 2017. He is past president of the Nebraska State Historical Society Board of Trustees and member of Nebraska 150 Foundation. He has received Nebraska State College System Teaching Excellence Award and Addison E. Sheldon Memorial Award for the preservation and interpretation of Nebraska history. He has performed across the State of Nebraska, including the Governor's Mansion, and on the Millennium Stage at the Kennedy Center, Washington, D.C.

Lunch begins at 11:30 a.m. Contact Donna Turner 402 397-3643, or Judy Sundberg 402 333-6981, for reservations or questions. We also have a reservation sign up sheet at the Information Desk.
NEW CHILD CARE PERSONNEL
McKenna Gall

I work for The Heritage at Fox Run Assisted Living in Council Bluffs IA. I was born and raised here in Omaha! I am one of three children. I used to teach Sunday school and sing in the choir at my Church. My hobbies would include, singing, I love to sing, spending time with family and my boyfriend, organizing, babysitting, and spending time at our family cabin.

My favorite things would include, Tinkerbell, I have a large collection of Tinkerbell figurines! I also love pigs, and hope to have one as a pet someday! My favorite color is orange and I love to watch baseball!

I have an Associates Degree in Early Childhood Education, a Bachelors of Science in Healthcare Management and a Masters of Arts in Human Services with a concentration of Healthcare Management.

Shea Meyers

I work at a community child development center in the Millard area where I have been for three years and I have also recently started a job at a Scooter's location. I am going to school at Metropolitan Community College studying Early Childhood Education. My goals are to work in a high quality environment with toddlers, create my own curriculum and maybe someday open my own high quality center. I have two cats Harry (goes by Kitty) and Ziggy. I love to hike, go on walks, and be outdoors.

My favorite activity to do with children is to sing, especially songs that have actions that go along with them. I believe in empowering young children by allowing them to make their own choices and reach their own resolutions to promote problem-solving skills (of course, assisting when necessary). I am so excited to implement what I have learned through my experience and school at Presbyterian Church of the Cross' child care rooms.

DEACON NEWS
We hope you stopped by our table at the Fellowship Fair. If you did not get a chance, these are a couple ministries where you can assist the deacons.

Meals. Please contact the office or Pastor Lynda if you know anyone that could use a meal at anytime. We have great cooks that love to provide a meal(s).

Also we need knitters for prayer shawls. Instructions and yarn are by the Information table in the narthex.

In October we send greetings and a gift card to our post high school young adults, but we need addresses. Please let the church office know what your current address is or parents, please let us know.

Blessings Board of Deacons
Communication Committee
Now is a good time to join the members of the Communications Committee. This group has been the starting point for putting Cross Currents OnLine, making a digital church directory, placing digital signs to communicate church events and recently we created a video Web presentation spotlighting PCOC. (You can view it on the church's Website.) Put your communication talents to work. If you are interested, please contact Larry Frederickson at lfreder1@cox.net or join us at the next Communications Committee meeting at 6:00pm on Tuesday, September 5th.

MUSIC AND MOVEMENT BACK IN FULL SWING!
Exercise classes for Music and Movement are back in session for the Fall. After our summer break, we are on regular schedule again for Monday and Thursday mornings at 9:15 and 11:00 in the Great Room with singing in the choir room at 10:00. (Tai Chi classes with Paula Allen are still at 10 – see her new introduction class, laid out in this issue of Cross Currents.) We are already receiving calls to come sing with area retirement groups this Fall, and our Christmas Carol Sing (Friday, December 8) is being planned. Can’t wait to see our “active” group back in motion and hope we will have some new faces in our fellowship (we need all the encouragement we can get)! We welcome all who are serious (at least, serious some of the time) about staying active and healthy. Come, join the FUN! More info, call Betty Baddley at 402-445-9632.

INTRODUCTORY TAI CHI CLASS
Have you been wanting to try Tai Chi but are reluctant to join an on-going group? Are you concerned about your balance and want to take steps to decrease your risk of falls? A new opportunity to practice a gentle, non-strenuous form of exercise, specifically aimed at improving balance, is being offered this fall. Paula Allen will lead a 7 week, introductory class for Tai Chi on Mondays and Thursdays from 11:00 to 11:45 from September 11 to October 26. Following this class you will be more than ready to join the class already in progress that meets on Mondays and Thursdays from 10:00 to 10:45. A donation of $40 for 14 sessions is requested and she needs a minimum of 10 people to offer the class. Please contact Paula at 402 778-0236 or kp.allen@cox.net to ask questions or express interest. Non-church members are welcome as well.
Senior High Leaders
Sarah Frederickson, Dawn and Brad Gibson, Holly Baddley
Sunday: 4:45-6:30
If interested please contact the church office for more information,
402-333-7466

49ers
Judy Sundberg
402-333-6981
Donna Turner
402-397-3643

Friday Night Gourmet
Curt Field and Launie Lambert
402-333-8287

Presbyterian Women
Diane Kratz
402-334-1604

Presbyterian Men
Jon Boomgaard
402-334-1946

PCOC Book Group
June Fettig
402-339-2121

Music & Movement
Betty Baddley
402-445-9632

Tai Chi
Paula Allen
402-778-0236

GALS
Ally Hopp
402-203-9052

Fellowship for Families
Amy Miller
402-290-6526

Fellowship Club
Mike Shannon
402-493-9191

1 Nancy Drews, Alyson Grady, Greg Young
2 Irene Bonham, Kristen Curtis, Kyndall Goodwin, Noah Luke, Hudson Schiessler, Ron Sladek
3 Tim Graumann
4 Carol Bolton, Sean Johnson, Wally Mack, Jim Schnabel, Ron Vlcek
5 Kyle Burner, Sue Freyer, Silas Pflueger, Donna Turner, Josh Versaw
6 Russ Beernink, George Marvin, Marshall Zieman
7 Jeanette Garner, Art Halbersleben, Gayle Kerr-McFadden, Nelia McDaniel, Jack Thomas
8 Makenzie McNeel, Sophia Miller, Arnie Nelson
9 Vida Crosby, Sandy Neuhaus
10 Gary Fitch, Larry Frederickson, Robin Hotchkiss, Joshua Paul, Barb Scanlan
11 Jean Waters
12 Ryan Koch, John Sparks, Justin Summers
13 Madelyn Grady, Katherine Innes, Charles Madison, Rick Sessions
14 Verta Pugh, Kirk Ryckman, Cara Schiessler
15 Chuck Hiddleston, Harrison Versaw, Terri Young
16 Abby Sekle, Nuna Tchona
17 Sara Pickens
18 Anne Anderson, Ava Davey, Molly McGuire, Delaney Obregon, Debbie Ryckman, Sue Thomas, Tim Williams
19 Jim Halbersleben, Lauren Harrison, Leah Whaley
20 Pam Otto
21 Jerry Klein, Roger Pauba, Dana Sloan, Emily Sumner
22 Mary Carlson, Skip Decker, Dick Hart, Martha Henry
23 Alena Bennett, David Goodwin, Cassie Rathman, Maci Sykora, Kara Versaw
24 Adelyn Paul, Zachary Sempek, Bryan Weber
25 Verl Bunjer, Joanie Hartman, Lillian Vlcek
26 Chuck Baddley, Kristin Chandler, Carol Futhey, Marjorie Huff, Corah Johnson, Henry Nixon
Presbyterian Women

Fall is the time the Presbyterian Women begin their new Bible Study. This year, the Bible Study is Cloud of Witnesses: The Community of Christ in Hebrews. During the nine lessons in this study, we will explore themes in Hebrews and relate them to our faith tradition. It’s going to be a very interesting year. Our Lydia Circle meets at 7:00 p.m. on the fourth Thursday of the month in women’s homes. Jean Carey is the moderator of Lydia Circle. Her contact information is 402-690-1205 jhcarey@cox.net. If you are interested in joining us, please contact Diane Kratz 402-334-1604 dhkratz@hotmail.com so we can order a book for you. The study book costs $10.00. Please join us on September 28 at Ardys Hansum’s home 906 South 119 Plaza. All women at Church of the Cross are Presbyterian Women and we invite all women to join us for Bible study.

TRAVEL FELLOWSHIP GROUP

The next meeting of the Travel Fellowship Group is scheduled for Saturday evening, September 30th. Leon and Janelle Davis will present information about their trip to Antarctica, which they maintain is their favorite destination of all-time—and they’ve been to many wonderful destinations!

Join us in Fellowship Hall at 6:30 for dinner (bring your own), fellowship and to swap travel stories. The presentation will begin at 7:00, followed by dessert and coffee (dessert and coffee will be provided).

A sign-up sheet will be at the Information Desk beginning on Sunday, September 10th. Questions may be directed to Amy Boesen at (402) 203-9052 or aboesen@decorandyou.com We look forward to seeing you on September 30th!
NEW MEMBERS

Amy "Brem" Bremers is a veterinary student and is married to Corey Prideaux a computer programmer. They were attracted to PCOC because of the great worship and the opportunities for mission. Corey enjoys music, college football and education. Brem volunteers at animal shelters and is involved in Rabbit rescue and education. Welcome Brem and Corey to PCOC!

Lee Parker moved to Omaha to be closer to his daughter. He enjoys woodworking, furniture, construction and carving. Welcome Lee to PCOC!

Carol Ann Futhey is new to the Omaha area transferring from Colorado where she was Provost at Colorado Mesa University. She enjoys baking, reading, football and crafts. Welcome Carol to our church family!

Sharon Rich is a real estate agent with NP Dodge. She enjoys reading, playing bridge, and travel – when she can! She is looking forward to getting involved with PCOC and reaching out to the community!

Helen and Richard Kelley are transferring from Countryside Presbyterian Church. They enjoy the church services of PCOC. Helen is a former teacher and schoolboard member at Westside Community Schools. Dick volunteered and has been a former chair for Children's hospital. They enjoy golf, reading, and volunteering.

Jackie Youngstrom is a Manager of Travel Office for Travel and Transport. She enjoys traveling, golfing, her grandchildren, reading, exercising, and flower arranging. She volunteers for hospice house, Red Cross, VNA, gold league and YMCA. She enjoys the worship services and the friendly people.

Corey Prideaux

Lee Parker

Carol Ann Futhey

Sharon Rich

Dick and Helen Kelley

Jackie Youngstrom
Getting to know you! ....John Stalnaker

Name: John Stalnaker, 39 (for a few months, still)
Place of birth: Omaha

Immediate family member’s names and what they do: Wife, Debbie, Portfolio Assistant/Trading Assistant at Weitz Investment Management, Inc.; Daughters: Paige, 2nd grade, and Clara, 1st grade, at Mary Our Queen; Father, Tom, attorney; Brother, Scott, Director of Operations at PatientPlus Finance

Education: B.A. in History, Lawrence University; J.D. from Chicago-Kent College of Law

Occupation: Attorney

Civic or other nonprofit: Member Kiwanis Club of Greater Omaha (currently on the Board of Directors); Member Mary Our Queen Men’s Club (currently serving as Secretary); The Builder Foundation Board of Directors

Which service do you attend? 9:00, usually

Involvement in PCOC, or other churches: Served on Board of Deacons 2013 to 2015, including as Moderator in 2015; Currently serve on the nominating committee

Hobbies: Golf, playing the drums, reading

I have a knack for: Making my kids laugh (usually at me).

My pet peeve is: When people complain about a situation they have at least some control over, yet refuse to do anything about it.

What person do you feel had the biggest impact on your life and why? Other than, obviously, my parents, the band director at Westside High School, Roger Groth, had the biggest impact on my life. It was through the various music programs that I learned a lot about commitment, pursuit of excellence, accountability to myself and others, leadership, and teamwork, and Mr. Groth was instrumental (pun intended!) in imparting those values.

What is your fondest childhood memory? Going to Husker football games, of course!

What would you say is one interesting fact about you that people don’t know? I suppose the most interesting thing would be that I cook most of our family’s meals.

Most exciting or dangerous thing I’ve ever done: Every time I stand on the other side of the green from Matt Kahler when he hits a chip is exciting precisely because it is always dangerous.

Is there anything in your lifetime that you passed up on doing and wish you had not? I honestly can’t think of anything, but I still have time.

What advice do you hope your children take to heart? If you want change in this world, you can’t sit on the sidelines and hope others accomplish it. You have to get involved and make it happen. It is very often not easy, and failure will hurt sometimes. But, when you succeed, it will be one of the best feelings you will ever have.
For the beauty of the earth
For the glory of the skies,
For the love which from our birth
Over and around us lies.

Lord of all, to Thee we raise,
This our hymn of grateful praise.

For the beauty of each hour,
Of the day and of the night,
Hill and vale, and tree and flower,
Sun and moon, and stars of light.

Lord of all, to Thee we raise,
This our hymn of grateful praise.

"For the Beauty of the Earth" will offer ideas we can try in our daily lives to care for our planet. See if any fit your lifestyle and frame of mind! The 12 topics this year will include: Reduce; Reuse; Recycle; Refuse; Rot; Your Food; Conserve Energy; Conserve Water; Out in Nature; Home and Finances; Garden; and Your Work. These ideas are taken from "Global Stewards" a practical and thought provoking website.

Out in Nature
Trash: When you are out hiking, pick up trash along the way.
Hiking Tips: Leave No Trace, Outdoor Ethics - provides tips for campers, climbers, and hikers.
Restoration: Organize a community group to clean up a local stream, highway, park, or beach. For opportunities to do restoration work for a local organization, check out VolunteerMatch. The American Hiking Society coordinates week long volunteer vacations to help restore trails.
Tree-Planting: Form a tree-planting group with family and/or friends: commit to planting and maintaining an agreed-upon number of trees over your life times. Plan regular gatherings for tree-planting and watering. Log your commitments in the United Nations Billion Tree Campaign.
Parks: Visit and help support local parks. In the U.S., reserve a campsite at a National Park through the U.S. Recreation.gov or Reserve America (includes some state parks).
Frogs: In the USA, help to track frog and toad populations through Frogwatch USA.
Birds: In North America, help to track bird populations through Project FeederWatch.
Balloons: Never release balloons outdoors. They frequently find their way to open water (even from 100's of miles away) and can harm or kill turtles, whales, and other marine mammals.
Stargazing: Stargazing schedule - provides current information about stargazing events.
Educational Sites:
Animals: Animal Diversity Web and Wild Sound Stories
Biology: The Biology Project
Marine Biology: OceanLink
Birds: Peterson's Perspective and Introduction to the Aves
Microbes: The Microbe Zoo
Astronomy: Nine Planets Solar System Tour
Environmental Kids Club
For Teachers: Environmental Education Resources and Teachers' Guide to High Quality Educational Materials on Climate Change and Global Warming
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>10:00 Worship</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Office Closed</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>9:45 Staff</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5:30 Evensong</td>
<td></td>
<td>9:30 49ers</td>
<td>11:30 Worship &amp; Music</td>
<td>6:30 Alleluia Singers</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>9:15 M&amp;M Exercise</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>5:00 Youth Bells</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>5:00 Youth Bells</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10:00 Education</td>
<td>9:15 &amp; 11:10 Tai Chi</td>
<td>5:30 Cornerstone</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>5:00 Youth Bells</td>
<td>8</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3:45 Credo Choir</td>
<td>10:00 Tai Chi &amp; Music</td>
<td>5:30 Chamber Singers</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>1:00 Tuesday Study Bunch</td>
<td>15</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4:30 Serve Dinner</td>
<td>11:00 M&amp;M Exercise</td>
<td>6:00 Dinner</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>5:00 Tai Chi Intro Class</td>
<td>8:00-3:00 Omaha Seminary Foundation</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>at Siena Francis House</td>
<td>11:00 Tai Chi Intro Class</td>
<td>6:30 Disciple Bible Study</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>5:30 Tai Chi Intro Class</td>
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<td></td>
<td>5:00 Jr/Sr High Kick Off</td>
<td>11:00 M&amp;M Exercise</td>
<td>6:30 Confirmation Class</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>6:00 Dinner</td>
<td>9:00 &amp; 11:00 Wors</td>
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<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>9:00 &amp; 11:10 Worship/Communion</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>5:00 Tai Chi Intro Class</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>5:00 Tai Chi Intro Class</td>
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<td>10:00 Education</td>
<td>7:00 Deacons</td>
<td>11:00 Tai Chi Intro Class</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>9:15 M&amp;M Exercise</td>
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<td></td>
<td>3:00 Vesper Concert</td>
<td>8:00-3:00 Omaha Seminary Foundation</td>
<td>8:00-3:00 Omaha Seminary Foundation</td>
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<td>6:00 Carillon Choir</td>
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<td></td>
<td>4:45 Youth Fellowship</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>9:45 Staff</td>
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<td>5:00 Youth Bells</td>
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<td>Pantry Sunday</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>1:00 Tuesday Study Bunch</td>
<td>5:15 PCOC Book Group</td>
<td>5:00 Youth Bells</td>
<td>9:15 M&amp;M Exercise</td>
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<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>9:00 &amp; 11:10 Worship</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>9:15 M&amp;M Exercise</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>5:00 Youth Bells</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10:00 Education</td>
<td>10:00 Tai Chi &amp; Music</td>
<td>10:00 Tai Chi &amp; Music</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>5:00 Youth Bells</td>
<td>10:00 Tai Chi &amp; Music</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3:45 Credo Choir</td>
<td>5:00 Youth Bells</td>
<td>11:00 M&amp;M Exercise</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>6:30 Cross Your Heart Moms</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4:45 Youth Fellowship</td>
<td>11:00 M&amp;M Exercise</td>
<td>11:00 Tai Chi Intro Class</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>6:30 Cross Your Heart Moms</td>
<td>11:00 M&amp;M Exercise</td>
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<td></td>
<td>6:30 Cross Your Heart Moms</td>
<td>11:00 Tai Chi Intro Class</td>
<td>6:30 Cross Care</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>6:30 Cross Your Heart Moms</td>
<td>11:00 Tai Chi Intro Class</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>7:00 Session</td>
<td>5:30 MOPS</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>6:30 Cross Your Heart Moms</td>
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Next Cross Currents Deadline is:
Third Friday of September
September 15, 2017