

NEB-KAN Parish First Presbyterian Church (U.S.A)
Falls City, NE Hiawatha, KS

June/July 2017

REV. NANCY'S NOTES

Happy spring to you all!

In the last newsletter, we studied the first of our creeds, the Nicene Creed. This article, we will be studying the Apostles' Creed, which is the second creed in our Presbyterian Book of Confessions. By the way, I failed to mention that the Book of Confessions is the first part of our constitution for the Presbyterian Church of the USA (PCUSA); the second part being the Book of Order.

This creed was not written by Jesus' apostles, but does reflect the theology of the first century church, which is before this creed was first begun to be written.

The early church confessed, as we do, "Jesus is Lord" but didn't understand the Biblical meaning of this idea. An early Christian scholar, Marcion, who lived in Rome during the second century, read the Old Testament with a tyrannical understanding of God who had created an imperfect world. He believed that in contrast, Jesus revealed and taught about a loving, good, and merciful God. Marcion did not believe that Jesus was the Messiah. He did not believe that the Old Testament was scripture. He wanted Christian "Scripture" limited to Luke's gospel (where Jewish thinking was expressed) and to the letters of Paul that Marcion regarded as anti-Jewish. These views developed into a movement and lasted several centuries.

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NANCY'S NOTES (CONTINUED)

Beginning about 180 CE (common era), Roman Christians developed an early form of this, the Apostles' Creed to refute Marcion and his followers. They affirmed that God who created the world and everything in it, is also the father of Jesus the Christ, who was born to the Virgin Mary, who was crucified while Pontius Pilate was governor, who died, was buried, and was resurrected from this death, who then ascended into heaven, where he sits to the right side of God, the Father. They affirmed as well their belief in the Holy Spirit, the church, and the bodily resurrection.

New members of the church, after they had gone through a lengthy period of moral and doctrinal instruction, were asked to state their beliefs at their baptism. This creed is how they would have been instructed to answer. Most early Christians were illiterate, but learned to repeat and so to memorize this creed along with the Lord's Prayer and the Ten Commandments, thus helping to uphold and spread the faith of the western church.

This creed underwent various changes throughout the years, depending on what was happening within the church. After the church decided to readmit members who had denied their faith during periods of persecution in the second and third centuries, the line "I believe in the forgiveness of sins" was added. By the fourth and fifth centuries the question arose of whether the church was an exclusive group made up of a few brave people or was an inclusive church, open to all who confessed their belief of "Jesus as Lord" which led to the addition of "holy" and "catholic" (belonging to God and universal). The country of Gaul added the phrase "he descended into hell" in the fifth century and by the eighth century; the Apostles' Creed current form was realized. The Apostles' Creed is still considered a universal creed, which means you might find this in any creedal church.

DINNER GROUP SIGNUP

NAME	H/FC/FLEXIBLE	TIME
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

HIAWATHA NEWS

KARLA'S DIAPER CLOSET

We will be kicking this program off on June 6. Our hours to start out with will be Tuesday from 4—6pm and Sunday's from 10:30—noon. We are working with the NEK Health Dept. and WICK on getting the word out. We have drop off boxes at Morrill and Janes Bank and Cindy's Hair Chair. We have donation jars at I DO HAIR, Lisa's Beauty Salon, Sister's Salon, Shear Magic, Tres Soles and AG Partners Cooperative. Donations of diapers, wipes, detergent, baby items/clothing and money are being taken now at the church and locations listed. If you have any questions, please contact Rev. Nancy or Debi Wright.

Please contact Pastor Nancy via phone, text or e-mail: 742-388(church); 303-564-8360 (cell); nancy.tuma@comcast.net (e-mail)

RELAY for LIFE

Relay For Life will be held at the Brown County Courthouse from 6—11pm on June 9. Contributions can be given to any of the team members—Pam Smith, Terry Smith, Darcy Pralle, Jena Meyer, Sue Weast, Debi Wright, Deloris Ripple, or Rev. Nancy. The church will be selling Root Beer Floats to supplement the team total.

STATED MEETING

The Presbytery of Northern Kansas will hold their Stated Meeting on Saturday, July 15 in Blue Rapids, KS beginning @ 8am.

GIVING TO THE WORLD

Contributions to OGHS was \$306.25 and Blanket Sunday was \$60.00.

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

Coffee and cookies are served each Sunday morning. We hope you will join us for this time of fellowship. Servers for June and July are as follows:



June 04 – Kristin Soden

June 11 – Julia Thompson

June 18 – Father's Day—Deacons

June 25 – Nancy Tuma

July 02 – Sue Weast

July 09 – Debi Wright

July 16 – Mary Jane Dawson

July 23 – Jena Meyer

July 30 – Morgan Pralle

Greeters and Ushers for June and July:

June – Ken & Cheryl Riley

July – Mike & Courtney Riley

FALLS CITY NEWS

DEACONS NEEDED

These dates in July NEED a person to set up for Communion and a head usher: July 2—Communion; July 9; July 16; July 23; and July 30.

GIVING TO THE WORLD

Contributions to OGHS, gathered on Easter Sunday, was \$191.85 and \$90 was contributed to Blanket Sunday.

MENS' BREAKFAST

June 2 the Men's Breakfast will have the CEO of the Community Medical Center, Ryan Larson, as the speaker. Come join us @ 7am for good food and fellowship. As plans stand now we will not be meeting in the month of July, but watch the bulletin for an announcement as plans might change.

SUMMER LUNCH PROGRAM 2017

The Summer Lunch Program will again be sponsored by the Falls City Area Ministerial Association. The program provides a noon meal for all children under 18 years of age; children under 3 need to be accompanied by an adult. Serving will be all weekdays in the months of June and July, except for the 4th of July.

St. Paul's Lutheran church will once again host this program in their basement. Mornings begin at 11:30 am with lunch being served from noon to 12:45pm.

This program runs on volunteer help! We need food preparers, servers and clean-up volunteers as well as "child tenders". Please share some of your time this summer with the children of our community. Sign up to volunteer by speaking to Rev. Nancy. Thanks for serving in this way.

DIAPER CLOSET

A meeting for the Diaper Closet will be held on June 11 after church, please see Judy Crawford or Pastor Nancy if this is something you would be interested in helping "run" this program.

ARTISTS OF MILES RANCH

A Gallery Talk will be presented on June 16 @ 7pm for the artists Mary, Elise & Flora (Miles) by Jonnie Einspahr at the Falls City Library & Arts Center. The art work will be displayed June 16—July 29, 2017 at the Stalder Gallery in the Library. A free cello concert, sponsored by Merle Stalder, will be given @ 8pm following this presentation.

HOMESTEAD STATED MEETING

Homestead will hold its regular meeting on Friday, August 18 @ 6pm thru Saturday August 19 @ 3pm at Calvin Crest.

In the next newsletter, we will delve into the Scots Confession.
Grace and peace to you, *Pastor Nancy*

PARISH NEWS**INTER-GENERATIONAL MISSION TRIP**

We will be going on our first mission trip on June 26 and coming back on June 27. It will be quick, but a fun, interesting learning experience about homelessness and poverty in Topeka. We will be helping at the Topeka Rescue Mission and the Westside Baptist Church diaper closet. We will spend the night in the Potwin Presbyterian Church. We will have dinner out on Monday evening and spend some time on Lake Shawnee with paddle boats, walking trails or take in a movie or do something else fun. We will also unpack this experience together, beginning and ending the days with prayer and some fun! Everyone and anyone who would like to attend is welcome. The cost is \$50.00 per person attending. If you have more questions or interested in the great beginning event, contact Pastor Nancy at 303.564.8360 (call or text) or nancy.tuma@comcast.net.

DINNER GROUPS

We are putting together dinner groups as an opportunity to better get to know each other from the parish or your own congregation. Groups of six to eight people will be put together. Each group can decide when and where they would like to gather. Meetings can happen any day of the week, at any meal time, with the hope of getting together once a month over the next year, beginning in September. Please sign up by August 13. Any questions you have please direct to Pastor Nancy at 303-564-8360 (call or text) or nancy.tuma@comcast.net. (See inside last page for sign-up form.)