



THE VOICE

FEBRUARY 2022

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF THE MASTER

SEEKING CHRIST,
...EVERY DAY,
...EVERYWHERE,
...IN EVERYONE.

JOIN US FOR WORSHIP

SUNDAY SERVICES

8:00 a.m.
10:30 a.m.

LOCATION

PCM Sanctuary
PCM Sanctuary
Virtual Livestream

www.youtube.com/presbyterianchurchofthemaster

- Please continue to check the website, Facebook, or call the PCM Office for any updates or announcements regarding in-person services.

FEBRUARY AT A GLANCE

- Feb. 1st: World Interfaith Harmony Week Begins
First Day of Black History Month
- Feb. 6th: Presbyterian Federal Chaplaincies
- Feb. 13th: Camp and Retreat Sunday
- Feb. 14th: **Valentine's Day**
- Feb. 20th: Universal Day of Prayer for Students
- Feb. 21st: Presbyterian Media Sunday
Presidents' Day
- Feb. 27th: Transfiguration of the Lord

ADDRESS: 10710 Corby Circle
Omaha, NE 68164

PHONE: 402.498.0871
Care Line: 402.498.0874

WEBSITE: www.pcmomaha.org

FACEBOOK: www.facebook.com/PCMOmaha

OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday
9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

A WORD FROM THE PASTOR

Dear people of God:

I just finished writing the piece about Lent and Easter that you will find within this newsletter; it got me thinking about certainty and uncertainty. As long as the earth is still turning on April 17, sunrise in Omaha will be at 6:42 CDT and so our sunrise service will be at 6:30 am. That's fairly certain. But what will we do for Maundy Thursday? Will we be able to have supper together, as we have sometimes done? Or will we have a simple service with the bread and "wine" of the Lord's Supper but no other food?

We don't know yet. Before long the Worship Committee will start planning, but always aware that whatever we plan is subject to change. That is always true, but it is clear this year. In 2001, when I was serving in Cincinnati, we had a wonderful Holy Week experience planned, including Maundy Thursday evening, Good Friday noon and evening, Holy Saturday Easter Vigil, and Easter morning. Then the riots erupted after the killing of Timothy Thomas and the Mayor imposed a sunset-to-sunrise curfew. Suddenly all our evening services were canceled and we had to reshape the remaining services to manage. We did very well.

Someone recently said that the idol of our era is "certainty:" we want to know what is going to happen and be prepared for it. When has life ever been certain? The people of Tonga no doubt thought they knew what they would be doing the week following January 15 and then the Hunga-Tonga-Hunga-Ha'apai volcano erupted and suddenly everything was uncertain. We have seen over the last two years that resilience - the ability to recover quickly in changing circumstances - is celebrated as a great virtue, whereas before March 2019 we hardly ever used the word.

We live in the confidence that Christ is raised from the dead and is Lord; that our life is in his care; that we are part of the great work that God is doing in the world. Will we get to celebrate that truth with an Easter brunch this year? Lord, I hope so. Of that we cannot be certain. If the earth is still turning and we're still alive on it, we can be certain we will celebrate that event on April 17. "I know that my Redeemer lives."

Pastor Bob

OH BABY!

Our Office Administrator, Becky Widhalm, will be going on Maternity Leave sometime in the month of February! Please reference the following in regards to questions or other inquires while she is away!

General Church Information, Calendar, Reservations:

Call the church office at [402.498.0871](tel:402.498.0871) and speak to a volunteer or Pastor Bob.

Accounting, Contributions/Pledges Information:

Contact Ashley Bremers at: accounting@pcmwindow.org or by phone at: [402.682.8656](tel:402.682.8656)

Weddings, Baptisms, Funerals, Items for Mission Witness/Sunday slides:

Please reach out to Pastor Bob.

OneChurch System (not in regards to accounting):

Bill Norton (bill.norton@pcmwindow.org) or Andy Cook (andy.cook@pcmwindow.org)

Please continue to send your Voice articles to Becky at rwidhalm@pcmwindow.org.

NEWS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, & HAPPENINGS

ONECHURCH: OUR NEW MEMBERSHIP SOFTWARE

With the start of the new year, PCM is implementing an exciting new initiative that we believe will help you build closer connections with the congregation, plus enhance church-wide communication.

PCM is updating the church's current membership software system which has been used for more than twelve years. We are migrating to a system called OneChurch. Like our old software, it is used to keep all our member data and records including pledges and giving. However, OneChurch offers some exciting new features and benefits for both the church administration and individual members. Let us highlight some of the benefits to members.

- Individuals/families can access and edit their own online profiles so that they can ensure the church has the most up-to-date personal information (i.e. address, email, phone, etc.)
- Related to online profiles, OneChurch allows for an online membership directory.
- Individuals can access their pledge/giving information. You will be able to see the commitments you made, plus your giving progress throughout the year.
- OneChurch offers a giving option that will allow you to donate to the church using a credit/debit card or through a direct bank withdrawal (ACH). If you use this option, all of your giving will immediately be available to you in your online profile.
- OneChurch contains a church calendar so you will be able to see everything scheduled at the church.
- Volunteer opportunities can be posted on OneChurch which also allows online sign-up. As an example, if Communion Servers are needed for a certain date, you would be able to volunteer.
- OneChurch offers a "groups" feature for communication among the members of a group. As an example, the Deacons could have a group for all its members. They would be able to share information amongst themselves and keep their own calendar.
- If you have a smartphone (Android or iPhone), there is a mobile app available (Playstore or Apple App Store) that lets you access OneChurch using your mobile device.

We do want to mention that all this information is highly secured, and you have complete privacy control regarding your personal information on the online directory. Of course, no financial information is ever shared.

Finally, all the basic member data has been loaded into the new system and the church office is already in the process of implementing. We invite you to begin accessing your profile by visiting the link below. Click on the "register" button. If the email address you enter matches the address set-up with your profile, you will be prompted to create a password and will then be able to begin using the system. If you are unable to access your profile, contact Becky Widhalm, PCM Office Administrator.

<https://pcmomaha.onechurchsoftware.com>

PCM CHRISTMAS CARD

We would like to recognize Mary McClean who donated to our Christmas Card, but was unfortunately not included on it. Thank you Mary!!

NEWS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, & HAPPENINGS

JOIN US FOR LENT AND EASTER

Mark your calendars so you can participate with your Church!

Wednesday, March 2: Ash Wednesday

- Drive-through ashes in the afternoon
- Worship (in-person and livestream) at 7:00 pm

Wednesdays throughout Lent (3/9, 16, 23, 30; 4/6 & 13): Lent Study

- "Seeking the Intercultural Church"
- Via Zoom, possibly in-person as well

Sunday, April 10: Palm Sunday, Sacrament of Baptism

Thursday, April 14: Maundy Thursday (watch for news)

Friday, April 15: Good Friday

- Worship at noon and 7:00 pm

Sunday, April 17: Easter

- Sunrise service at 6:30 am
- Worship at 8:00 and 10:30

Sunday, April 24: Camille Metoyer Moten provides music, 10:30 service

Sunday, May 1: May Day Festival

Sunday, May 15: Pastor Bob's last Sunday

NEVER TOO MANY PRAYERS

As you enter the church in the main entrance doors to the Commons, look to your left at the table sitting under the window near the doors. On this table are three items. First, there are face masks, for our ongoing COVID concerns. Second, there is an offering plate for donations to PCM. The third item is new and sponsored by Prayer and Share.

There is a large wooden bowl with a cross and the words "Prayer Bowl" also on the table. There are notecards with envelopes and a pen. If you have a specific prayer request that you would like Prayer and Share to pray about when they meet on Thursday mornings, write it down, place and seal it in the envelopes provided and then place it inside the bowl. The six ladies in our group will take your request seriously and compassionately and pray about it along with all the other prayers we routinely pray about when we share devotions and prayers.

This is not intended to replace the Prayer Requests we traditionally hand to Pastor Bob and pray about in worship. It's just an additional opportunity because.....One can never receive too many prayers in life....One can never forget to take the opportunity to talk to God on behalf of another person!

Prayer and Share Members: Maurine Beason, Connie Duckert, Diane Frans, Sandie Hanna, Darla Holycross, and Suzie Payne

COMMUNITY OUTREACH & MISSION

MISSION MOMENTS

Restoring Dignity and Furniture Project is collecting donations to accommodate an influx of approximately 900 Afghan refugees by the end of February. Your help is welcomed and much needed.

- Small items such as new sheets, towels, comforters, silverware and kitchen utensils can be dropped at the church and we will deliver them. They are not accepting food or clothing.
- **Furniture must be dropped off at the warehouse. Their new address is 10808 J Street. Go to their website and sign up for a drop off time.** The website is: <https://rdomaha.org/donation-drop-off-2/>
- There is also a wish list available by going to the Restoring Dignity website and clicking on The Amazon wish-list. Donations will be received with great appreciation.
- For questions text or call 402-370-9777 or email info@rdomaha.org

Our blood drive on January 9th collected 24 units. The drop in attendance of course had a lot to do with our current covid situation and some people who couldn't pass the mini- physical. Those that were there imbibed and enjoyed Mary McLean's sandwiches and the pizza that Loren ordered. Our Red Cross contact Teri Vitello recruited some of our students to set up and break down tables in the fellowship hall and they also enjoyed pizza. Red Cross also donated a package of surgical type masks from Ford motor company.

Mike Osborn and Loren Ilg are hoping this drive will help ease the blood shortage. They also hope all those who couldn't donate this time will be back for our next blood drive. Thank you Mike and Loren for your continued leadership.

DEACONS

Deacons extended holiday merriment beyond PCM's doors in December. In addition to monthly meal provision, Deacons subsidized the Rainbow House pantry for dozens of families who live there during children's hospital stays. Thanks to your assistance, many "Prayer Member Care" bags were delivered to homebound church members. We continue to coordinate meals, transportation, visits, hand-made cards, and other supports for you. Contact our Pastor Associate Cindy Harvey with requests.

THE VOICE IS GOING DIGITAL!

With the integration of our new OneChurch software, we will have more capability of sending The Voice electronically to members. We are excited to move forward with this not only to cut our costs in paper and mailing, but to be more environmentally friendly as well!

We will still offer a paper copy to those members who are not technologically inclined and will also have a few paper copies available at the church as well. We hope to slowly start this migration with the February and March Voice.

To make sure you receive the newsletter via email, please log into OneChurch (see article on page 3) and verify or update your email address. If you have any questions, please reach out to our Administrator, Becky Widhalm.

CELEBRATIONS & MORE

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Feb. 2

Jeff Nelson
Matt Wickham

Feb. 4

John Burg
Lila Marsh
Sue Skeans

Feb. 5

Abla Ahlijah
Jerry Magner

Feb. 6

Emily Bremers
Natalie Bremers

Feb. 9

Jonathan Puett
Annika Startzell
Zachary Kastrick

Feb. 13

Ian Collins

Feb. 15

Eric Bremers

Feb. 16

Becky Mattice

Feb. 17

Charlie Risling

Dawn Dewey

Frank Thompson

Jeanne Snell

Feb. 19

Chiok John

Feb. 22

Betty Johnson

Feb. 23

Nyachar Jock

Feb. 24

Kaley Swartz-Brown

Feb. 25

John Fullerton

Rae Hale

Feb. 27

Erica Koslosky

Lisa Cook

Feb. 28

Elizabeth Messina

Taban Jock



2022 PCM BOOK CLUB SCHEDULE

- February 21st: "The Magpie Murders" by Anthony Horowitz
- March 21st: "The Midnight Library" by Matt Haig
- April 18th: "The Girls With No Names" by Serena Burdick
- May 16th: "Nine Perfect Strangers" by Lianne Moriarty
- June 20th: "The Four Winds" by Kristin Hannah
- July 18th: Potluck & Guest Author
Book: "You'll Never Believe What Happened to Lacey" by Amber Ruffin & Lacey Lamar
- August 15th: "Golden Girl" by Elin Hilderbrand
- September 19th: "The Book of Longings" by Sue Monk Kidd
- October 17th: O"The Lincoln Highway" by Amor Towles
- November 21st: Discussion about book selections for 2023.
Voting by members begins after this November meeting.
Book: "Anxious People" by Fredrik Backman
- December 19th: Christmas Gathering
No book to read and discuss.
Annual donation of children's books to a selected charity or organization.
- January 16th: "The Mystery of Mrs. Christie" by Marie Benedict

COME AND JOIN US IN THE PCM COMMONS AREA AT 1:00 P.M. NO RSVP REQUIRED!

HOW TO GIVE BACK

You can now give to PCM electronically! Scan the QR code to give to PCM electronically from your phone!



If you wish to give through the mail, please write and label separate checks for the Capital Campaign and/or your PCM Pledge as they are deposited into separate accounts.

Thank you!

CONTACT US

2022 SESSION MEMBERS

Personnel / Administration

Marilyn Puett
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&
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Moderator of Deacons

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PCM PERSONNEL

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Caretaker

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Director of Music

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Bell Choir Director

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PCM Accounting

Ashley Stevens
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If you wish to be featured in The Voice, please submit all materials to the Office Administrator [office.admin@pcmwindow.org] by the 15th of the month.

**PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OF THE MASTER**
10710 CORBY CIRCLE
OMAHA, NE 68164

Non-Profit
U.S. Postage
PAID
Omaha, NE
Permit #757

CHECK US OUT ONLINE

Stay current with PCM online! Here are our online platforms and what you can access through them:

Website/Member Page: www.pcmomaha.org

- Hours of Operation / Contact Information
- Sermons & Prayers
- Church News, Announcements, Updates, Newsletter, Calendar

Facebook: www.facebook.com/pcmomaha

- Announcements/Updates
- Join our Facebook PCM Family & Friends Group for more interaction with your fellow members!

YouTube: www.youtube.com/presbyterianchurchofthemaster

- Live-stream Worship, Previous Worship Services
- Weekly Devotions
- Children's Messages