

Church & Home

January 2026

PASTOR:
Emily McCreery
308.530.7175

ADMIN ASSIST:
Mia Cauffman

MUSIC DIRECTOR:
Jennifer Smallcomb

BELL DIRECTOR:
Jill Dolan

Treasurer:
Vern Ehlers

CLERK OF SESSION:
Ned Mack

DEACON MODERATORS:

Sheri Hoschouer
Scott Baker

PW MODERATOR:
Dixie Francis

Elders:
Shaina Bassett
Jon Beggs
Amy Cauffman
Shad Connick
Chuck Francis
Dave Glenn
Ned Mack
Deb Weitzel
Kay Wright

Deacons:
Kason Baker
Scott Baker
Janet Hare
Leroy Hare
Sheri Hoschouer
Ann Jones
Bev Sallee
Cecil Sallee
David Schiel
Joy Schiel
Rich Shaw
June Shaw

OFFICE HOURS
MON-THURS
11-3

1901 West Leota Street, North Platte, NE 69101
(308) 532-1083 www.fpcnep.org



Whether it has been when I am preparing and crafting a sermon, spending time in the quietness of God, or just the ebb and flow of the everyday, I notice I am ruminating more lately and am appreciative of the nuances of our lives.

Maybe it is the season we are in – just finishing up Advent, spending time in the Christmas season, and preparing for Epiphany – that has me reflecting and a little nostalgic.

Maybe it is wrapping a few gifts and realizing how gift-giving is a little different as empty nesters.

Maybe it is watching the circle of life at church. I have watched generations younger than me grow up and build families. As their little ones grow, they enjoy some of the same aspects of church participation that their parents did. Or that my children did. Or that I did. I am sure the generations older than I am ponder about the same circle I see.

**"I have no greater joy than this,
to hear that my children are walking in the truth." ~ 3 John 1:4**

Maybe it is the break in my master's program studies, and I have a bit more free time to let my mind relax and wander.

Maybe it is God guiding me along as I navigate this season of life. Showing me the blessings around me. Illustrating the love of the world that comes to us through Christ. Reminding me of God's design.

God's design includes the circle of life – the children, the new(ish) parents, the empty nests, the retirees. God's design includes the festivities around the Advent season and the joy that comes in the Christmas season. God's design includes time spent in contemplation and awe.

God's design is a great marvel. God's design provides the perfect landscape to ponder, imagine, meditate, reflect on, and simply dream about. If we allow ourselves.

Epiphany is the perfect time to redirect and be curious about God's design. Epiphany is when we celebrate God's revealed promise to the world. Epiphany is the appearance or manifestation of God revealed to us. According to the PCUSA, as the magi traveled from the East to see and worship Jesus Christ – the Messiah – God's grace is extended to all who believe the good news of Jesus.

Epiphany is closely connected to light and the symbolism of light. Specifically to the sunrise. Light is important in this season not only because of the star that guided the magi, but as it relates to the bright dawning of God's self-revelation in Christ.

Epiphany is the season that follows Christmas. It will take us to the Transfiguration of Our Lord Sunday, which is the Sunday before Ash Wednesday.

We waited with hope during Advent. God came to us – all the way to us – at Christmas. We celebrate the Lord's appearance in human form during Epiphany. Three great seasons that offer much to wonder about and be in awe of each year.

Enjoy your time spent in amazement at God's design.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Emily

we are praying FOR YOU ...

Contact church office to be placed on the prayer list

Printed list in worship bulletin

Names read during services

Prayer Request

Justin Durboraw, Sheri Hoschouer, Cheryl Kurth, Keaton Kloss, Dennis Lombardi, Louise Steele, Mark McKenzie, & Breen Sipes.

Prayer Emphasis for the month:

For those who do not know the love of Christ.

Annual meeting

Jan. 11 after worship



Installation & Ordination

January 25 – 10 am service

You're invited!

Men's coffee
fellowship

Wednesdays 9 a.m.
at FPC



January Birthdays & Anniversaries



Birthdays

07 – Kay Wright
10 – Mary Pendleton
10 – Gracelyn Cauffman
11 – Matt Kaminski
15 – Willa Fenster
15 – Rhett Cauffman
16 – Rachel Allison
19 – Emily McCreery
21 – Susan Peters
26 – Judy Atkin
27 – JD Barr

Anniversaries

Devon & Bayley McCreery
1/02/2025



THE FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY

with Holy Communion

Jan. 6 at 1:30 pm

St. George's Chapel - Episcopal Church of Our Savior

Christmas Joy Offering

January 11th & 18th

This offering provides support for Presbyterian Church leaders (past, present, & future) and their families in their time of need.



Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemoration

- January 18 at 2 pm
- Episcopal Church of Our Savior
- Dr. King's works, words read
- Singing and prayer

**The End
Written By Eme McEntee**

We knew what was to come,
His death.
It wouldn't be long before,
His last breath.
The end is near we don't have,
A choice.
Yet we know that up in heaven,
He will rejoice.
This old man was ill for,
Several years.
But just this year the cancer,
Got severe.
I'd not a clue what I'd do,
Without his face.
Yet death still came,
Swinging a mace.
We knew that ever since that one,
Dreadful day.
That the cancer was not,
Going away.
Now it's up to God,
And God alone.
There wasn't a day I wouldn't call him,
My own.
My Grandpa and I,
Against the world.



Eme McEntee (seventh grade) wrote this poem in honor of her great-grandfather, Dillard Anderson, who died recently. Eme courageously shared this poem at his memorial service and shares it with the congregation here.

**Christmas program
practice 2025**





Grace Ministries Food Pantry

January 2026

DONATIONS

Jerri Neal
JoAnne Greene
Fresh Foods Westfield Customers
Bob and Pat Sparks
Water Lilies Aquacize Class
Surgery Dept at Great Plains Health
Thrift Center for the Handicapped
Lincoln County Democrats
Molly Jackson x2
Chuck and Dixie Francis in memory of Glenn Petersen
Walla Walla Lodge #56
Platte River Fitness Series
First Evangelical Lutheran Church
Lowell and Frankie Moore
Ludemann Family Trust
Jacob and Kate Wawrzynkiewicz
Lorene Reutzel
Angie Young
Our Redeemer Lutheran School
Ruth Gebhardt
Presbyterian Women - First Presbyterian Church
Lincoln County Farm Bureau
First Church of God
Miriam Circle - Firth Lutheran Church
Cheryl Boggs
Faith Colburn
Carol and Dennis Stevens

NOVEMBER TOTALS:

142 households
443 individuals
10,216 lbs of food
22 new families
20 families with children under 18
13 emergency

Co-Directors :

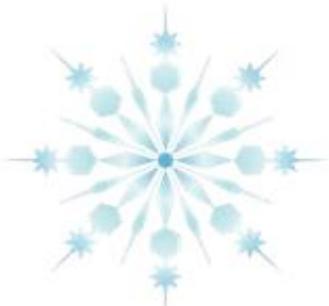
Tammy Miller 530-8406
Francine McKenzie 530-0436
Leigh Henline 530-2601

Needs at the Pantry: Still needing the cloth, heavy duty bags that are sold in stores like Walmart and Menards. They can be new or used. They can have any type of advertising on them also. We use these specifically for our 'emergency' customers. Please note: if they come from a smoking environment, we cannot use them and they will be discarded! Thank you!

Warm Heart / Warm Hats We send a heartfelt thanks to Molly Jackson, Bev Sallee's mom! She recently hand knitted 13 awesome and warm stocking caps for our customers in need at the Pantry. One family in particular had several little ones in their family, but no hats for them! The parents were so very touched and thankful to receive the beautifully made hats for their children. Thank you, Molly!

Grace Ministries Food Pantry operates at 114 East C St.

PHONE NUMBER : 308-520-7458 (Answering during operating hours only)
We are open Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 1-3pm, except holidays.



JANUARY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Office Closed!	2	3
4 10am In-Church Worship Live Streaming at www.fpcnp.org	5 9am Ladies Sewing 6pm Scouts	6	7 9am Men's Coffee @ FPC 12:15pm Online Devotion	8 10am Morning fellowship 6:30pm Evening Spirits	9	10
11 10am In-Church Worship with communion Live Streaming at www.fpcnp.org ANNUAL MEETING	12 9am Ladies Sewing 6pm Scouts	13	14 9am Men's Coffee @ FPC 12:15pm Online Devotion	15	16	17
18 10am In-Church Worship Live Streaming at www.fpcnp.org	19 9am Ladies Sewing 6pm Scouts	20	21 9am Men's Coffee @ FPC 12:15pm Online Devotion	22	23	24
25 10am In-Church Worship Live Streaming at www.fpcnp.org INSTALLATION	26 9am Ladies Sewing 6pm Scouts	27	28 9am Men's Coffee @ FPC	29	30	31

In Church Worship Service on Sundays at 10am