

**"Knock and it shall be opened!"**



## **OPENING THE WINDOWS OF HEAVEN IN THE WAY WE FELLOWSHIP**

And lastly we want to share with you all the ways we support one another's journey through fellowship to keep the flames burning in our love for Jesus Christ as we bear witness to God's present and coming kingdom. Small groups provide an integral opportunity to fulfill the one another commands of the New Testament, groups like:

- Choirs
- Men's Lunch Group
- Prayer Shawl Group
- Sand Dollars
- Sewing Group
- Supper Clubs
- Stephen Ministry
- Sports Teams
- Writer's Group
- Youth Groups

Besides small group opportunities for fellowship, special events also has played a role in us getting to know one another. Such seasonal activities to date that have been greeted with great success are:

- Advent Fair
- Arts for the Soul
- Boo from the Pew
- Easter Egg Hunt
- Heritage Sunday
- Retreats to the Sandhills & Niobrara

**Arts**  
for the Soul



**(No doubt we are all in the boat together!)**

*VBS Picture*

## **JOURNEY TOWARD BECOMING A TITHING CONGREGATION**

What we will do with additional funds from increased covenants as we faithfully gather the full tithe and open the windows of heaven:

- Fully support the Youth Director's salary in our general budget
- Hire a Director of Christian Education
- Expand our Mission Outreach
- Beautify the church inside and out with new paint and landscaping
- Expand Arts for the Soul
- Explore visual arts
- Complete parking project east of parking lot
- Upgrade sound and video system to enhance T.V. and radio ministry
- Expand the webpage
- Hire additional custodial support

# *FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH*



## **OPEN THE WINDOWS OF HEAVEN**

It is with great enthusiasm and excitement to introduce to you the theme for this year's Stewardship Season: **"Open the Windows of Heaven!"** In Malachi we read, "Bring the full tithe into the storehouse...and thus put me to the test, says the Lord of hosts; see if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you an overflowing blessing" (Malachi 3:10).



## OPENING THE WINDOWS OF HEAVEN IN THE WAY WE WORSHIP

On each Sunday we gather to bear witness to God's present and coming kingdom as embodied in Jesus Christ. The 8:30 AM service gathers in Great Hall and is characterized by a robust hymn sing that engages the worshipper in participatory worship. At 11:00 AM, the service is more formal, taking full advantage of the choir and world class organ as the sound of music ascends to the heavens as a sacrifice of praise.

For those who are not able to worship with us on Sunday morning, we have a television and radio ministry that is vital to our members and community. On Thursday at 8:00 PM and Friday at 1:00 PM, Channel 13 broadcasts our service. On Sunday at 10:00 AM on KFOR, we broadcast last week's service. And then for those who need and want a midweek worship experience, we have F3, which stands for faith, food, and fellowship. And finally for those who want to worship through meditating on the Word, Lectio Divina meets each Wednesday at 5:30 PM.

# Opening the Windows of Heaven

## OPENING THE WINDOWS OF HEAVEN IN THE WAY WE LEARN

One of the distinctive marks of the Reformed faith is our emphasis in loving God with our minds as well as our hearts and hands. Here at First Presbyterian Church we are proud (in a good sense) of our Christian Education program that engages everyone with age appropriate curriculum that they might be lifelong learners. Every Sunday from 9:45-10:30 AM:

- Preschool to Elementary Age children gather in the Chapel from 9:45-10:00 AM for song & service, then go to their class.
- Middle Schoolers gather in Room 217 for film and discussion.
- Adults gather in Fellowship Hall for Forum and in the Parlor for Bible Discovery.

Middle Schoolers and High Schoolers come back to church on Sunday evening for Youth Group:

- Middle Schoolers gather from 5-6:00 PM
- Both Middle and High Schoolers share a common meal together from 6-6:45 PM
- High Schoolers gather at 6:45 PM

Other Educational Opportunities are as follows:

- Advent Fair
- F3 (First Church Faith & Fellowship)
- Lectio Divina
- PW Circles
- Spiritual Formation/Book Groups

## OPENING THE WINDOWS OF HEAVEN IN THE WAY WE DO MISSION

An authentic spirituality includes not only the worship of God with our minds and hearts but most importantly with our hands. So whether our mission is local, national, and international in scope, we seek to be in relationship with those for whom Christ came to serve.

### Local Mission

- At McPhee Elementary School
  - Book Buddy/Teammates
  - Back Pack
  - Clinic with a Heart
  - SPLASH
- At the Gathering Place (1st Tuesday)
- Within our building
  - AA
  - CYA
  - Lincoln Literacy
  - LPS HeadStart
  - SCC ELL Classes
  - Sudanese Congregation

### National Mission

- PDA Mission Trip to Houma, LA
- Youth Trip to Estes Park

### International Mission

- Sudanese Congregation to Sudan
- Chile Partnership

