



January 7, 2021

Presbytery News

2021 Homestead Leadership

Homestead Council Members

Stephen Earl- HP Interim EP
Raymond Meester-HP Stated Clerk
PENDING- HP Treasurer
Sue Collier-Presbytery Moderator
Michael Hill- Presbytery & Council Vice-Moderator
Wendy Wait- Council Moderator
Jim McNeal- PGC Moderator
Brian Johnson- CPM Moderator
PENDING-NOM Moderator
Carl Eskridge-PER Moderator
Kristi Hill-COM Moderator
PENDING-B&F Moderator
Zac Wolfe- NWC Moderator
Terri Sherman- PW Moderator
Sarah Gengler- Disaster Response Team

Members At Large

Julie Hopp-2018-Term
Steve Pointon

Homestead Strategy Team Members

Terri Sherman-Chair
Thomas Dummermuth
Suzie Harder
John McPhail
Steven Piper
Charity Potter
Terri Sherman
Wendy Wait

Notes from the Commission on Ministry:

*minimum salary for Homestead Presbytery for 2021 is \$48,960. (Homestead Presbytery policy is that minimum salary is to be 80% of the median effective salary as established by the Board of Pensions which is \$61,200 for 2021, making the minimum \$48,960 for us.)

*be watching for more information on Boundary Training in early January, 2021 of The Homesteader. This will be an on-line event and COM has determined that we will use the material presented and developed by the Presbytery's insurance company - Praesidium - in a program called Armatus Learn to Protect System. There are 14 units to this 3 year program - the first six will be designated by COM and COM expects everyone to complete those six in the first year.

*dates for 2021 Presbytery Assembly meetings are:

1. Third Saturday in February (winter): Feb 20
2. Third Thursday in May (spring): May 20
3. Third Saturday in August (summer): Aug 21
4. Second Thursday in November (fall): Nov 11

Clarkson New Zion upgrades their online worship with Homestead's Technology Grant



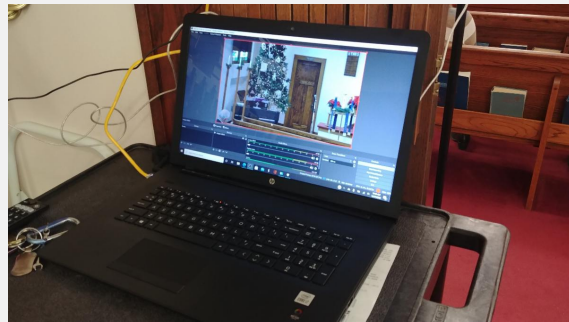
Hello Homestead Presbytery,

My name is Casey Sayers and I am a session member for New Zion Presbyterian Church in Clarkson, NE. I was also a part of the temporary committee we formed in order to handle the technology grant offered by the presbytery. The committee met several times in person and communicated through a group chat in order to communicate ideas on how the tech grant could benefit our church. With 2020 being such a difficult year for churches to meet and to share the word

of God in person, our committee decided that the best thing we could do for our congregation would be to make our worship services available online. When we first started offering online worship service, we used a webcam on an aging laptop in an

effort to stay connected with our congregation. On an average week we had 5-10 members that watched live, and some weeks had as many as 75 views after posting to Facebook. After dealing with poor quality of sound and picture for a few months, I offered my personal webcam from my desktop computer in an effort to improve quality. However, there was little improvement and after a few weeks of use the camera failed and did not work for the services anymore. This was when we knew what had to be done. We did some research and price checking and found that we could replace the obsolete laptop with a new one and purchase a higher-grade camera for around \$1,300. A family in our congregation generously offered to cover whatever the total was above the \$1,000 of the grant. We watched prices of both the camera and laptop for a couple of months to save as much money as possible and finally on Cyber Monday we found a high spec laptop for \$300 off its normal price and made a purchase.

The camera was ordered a week or so later. After some trial and error learning the new systems, we were able to use the camera for our Christmas Eve candlelight service. The response from our congregation was one of



excitement and anticipation. Those who join us regularly were happy with the improved video quality and clarity. We're still working out a few kinks with the audio pickup for the live stream video, but we will get better as we get more familiar with the software and the devices themselves. We are looking forward to the opportunities that this new technology has presented us as we do our best to provide healing, guidance, and love for all during these trying times. On behalf of New Zion Presbyterian Church, I would like to thank you for this opportunity and for your consideration for this technology grant. Attached are pictures of the laptop and camera in use during worship along with the receipts from the online purchases. As you can see the purchases were made from my personal account and shipped to my address. This was because the church did not have a means of making an online purchase and we were running out of time to get a credit card for church related online purchases.

Respectfully Submitted,

Casey Sayers



FROM THE STATED CLERK TO PASTORS AND CLERKS OF SESSIONS

If there will be any changes in clerks of sessions, please forward that information to the stated clerk, Raymond Meester at raymondm@homesteadpres.org Please provide names, physical address, emails, and phone numbers, and when their service began.

It would be helpful if each pastor and each church review their information on the presbytery online database. Go to the presbytery's webpage, www.Homesteadpres.org, and on the home page, scroll down toward the bottom. On the left side, under "Presbytery Office," you will see "Directory." Please click on that link. If you do not have the password, contact Jes at the Presbytery office. If any changes need to be made, please forward them to the stated clerk.

Pastors, please ask your clerks if they are getting emails from me. If not, please check with the stated clerk as we may have the wrong contact information for them, or the wrong person as clerk.

Clerks, you will soon be receiving emails from me with information concerning the annual Statistical Report and the Necrology Report. If you need help with the statistical report, do not hesitate to contact me at my email listed above, or my cell: 402.217.3684. I am currently updating the Clerk of Session Handbook, and when that is complete, I will email each clerk a copy. And in the near future, I am hoping to provide training sessions for clerks via Zoom.

Homestead Wednesday Zoom Forums

According to the survey that the Presbytery sent out, the consensus seems to be that the **FIRST WEDNESDAY** of the month, is the day that the majority of the group feels is the best day to hold the now monthly Zoom Forum gathering.

January 6th will be the first Wednesday Forum of 2021. Please sign up below to make sure you're registered to receive the Zoom link. Zoom information for the gathering will be sent out monthly on the Tuesday before the Zoom gathering. This will be set at a recurring gathering so you will be able to save the link to use every month. That being said, we will still send it out every month to those registered in case you lose or misplace the link.

[Register Now!](#)

Homestead's Rev. Carl Eskridge retires as Chief Deputy Ombudsman

Our very own Rev. Carl Eskridge, current head of the Homestead Personnel committee, is retiring from his 25-year career with the Nebraska Ombudsman Office.



Click the link below to read the Journal Star article written about Rev. Eskridge's long distinguished career.

[Journal Star Feature](#)

Lectionary Reading and Resources for Epiphany



Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

Presbyterian Mission

These prayers might be used in a variety of settings: Opening Prayers (at the beginning of worship) or concluding collects (after the Prayers of the People); for church websites or newsletters; or in personal, small group or family devotion.

[Download Here](#)

Save the date

Tax Tips: 2021 Tax Update and Federal Tax Return

Thursday, February 11, 2021
2:30-3:30 p.m. ET



Mark your calendar for Board University's annual tax webinar on Thursday, February 11, 2021. This webinar focuses on tax updates and tips for actively employed members, including clergy.

Healthy Congregations

January 30, 2021 from 8:30am CT to
4:30pm CT

Could your congregation use a wellness check? Learn ways to minimize or prevent destructive conflict, manage negative reactivity, and help your church stay focused on its true mission and purpose.

This workshop will be repeated on
February 18, March 27, and April 17, 2021.



[Learn More!](#)

FREE Monthly Webinars

The Soul Repair Center will be offering free monthly webinars in the months ahead of use to religious leaders and professional caregivers supporting veterans and their families.

"Dementia Care for Aging Veterans affected by Moral Injury"

Wednesday, January 13, 2021
2:00pm Eastern

There will be time for discussion among the presenters, and time for questions.

[Register Here!](#)

Speakers:



Dr. Rita Nakashima Brock, Founding Director of the Soul Repair Center, now Senior Vice President and Director of the Shay Moral Injury Center at Volunteers of America



Professor James Ellor, Kronzer Endowed Professor in Family Studies and Co-Director of the Ph.D. Program in Gerontology, Garland School of Social Work at Baylor University



Dr. Nancy Ramsay, Chair of the Soul Repair Center's Board 2012-2017 and current Director of the Center, as well as Emerita Professor at Brite Divinity School

Register at: https://voa.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_59wSTbWVQceTgoklQ2FoiA

The webinars are co-sponsored by the Shay Center of VOA.

Join us again February 4, 2021 at 2:00 Eastern for "Women, Military Sexual Trauma, and Moral Injury: Stand Up Speak Up"

Speakers:

Chaplain Judy Malana, Captain US Navy Regional Chaplain US Navy Washington District

Rev. Dr. Kristen Leslie Professor, Subject Matter Expert, Navy Chaplain Corps on Military Sexual Trauma

BriGette McCoy, CEO and Founder Women Veteran Social Justice Network

Weekly Prayer Requests

Lincoln Korean

Prayers are requested for the well being and prosperity of the Lincoln Korean congregation. May they continue to grow as a caring and nurturing Christian community, as well as individuals, focusing on prayer, Bible study and worship.

Homestead Presbytery

840 S. 17th Street, Lincoln, NE 68508

Monday-Thursday 9:00am-4:00pm

Friday 9:00am-12:30pm

Office: 402.474.0612
Interim EP: 803.556.3355
Stated Clerk: 402.217.3684

