**Delaware Reformed Church**

**“We Are Meant to Thrive”**

**Reverend Gary Hegstad**

**November 19, 2017**

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Gathering Song “We Have Come Into His House” Hymn #588

Announcements

Call to Worship Hymn #558

Praise & Worship Women’s Choir  *“May Jesus Christ Be Praised”* Hymn #87 vs. 1,4 &6

 *“Come Christians, Join to Sing”* Hymn #108

 *“Let’s Just Praise the Lord”* Hymn #107

Opening Prayer

Reception of New Members Glen & Janet Holsather

Children’s Story Jerica Sieperda

Congregational Prayer

Ministry of Music Women’s Choir

Scripture Matthew 25:14-30

Message “The Parable of the Talents”

Worship in Tithes & Offering

Doxology & Offertory Prayer

Hymn *“All the Way My Savior Leads Me”* Hymn #460

Benediction

Closing Song *“In Your Time”* Hymn #465

**Welcome to Delaware. We’re glad you are here!**

 **If you are a visitor please fill out a visitor card and place it in the offering.**

**Birth-4 Nursery** is available throughout the service. Serving today is the Smit family.

**Today** we rejoice to formally receive into our membership Glen & Janet Holsather of Sioux Falls, through transfer of membership from American Reformed Church of Hull, Iowa.

**This Week:**

**Wed:**  Thanksgiving Eve Service 7:00pm. Come and join us in praising God "from whom all our blessings flow! Stay afterward to help decorate the church for Christmas!

**A big huge THANK YOU** to all who helped organize and all who supported the Harvest Fest Youth Group Fundraiser. It was a great success and such a fun night!

**Christmas Program practice** will begin Wednesdays Nov 29, Dec 6 and Dec 13 with a meal being served from 6-6:30 and program practice beginning at 6:30pm. An additional practice is scheduled for Saturday, Dec 16 at 9:30am. The program is Sunday, Dec 17 at 7:00pm. A free will donation will be taken at each practice to offset the cost of the meal.

**Thanks** to all of our Delaware Reformed friends for the cards, visits, well wishes and prayers during my healing process. Special thanks to Pastor Gary and Julie for the visits and to the DWM for the delicious pies. Thank you so much! Arlan Hagena

**Consistory nominations**: Elder: Randy Gibbons, Richard Hyronimus. Deacon: Kevin Adney, James Westra. (One elder and one deacon will be elected at the congregational meeting on Dec 5th.)

**Drivers needed:** We are trying to set up a driving schedule of people who could pick Tracia Morren up for Sunday morning worship. We have three families who have offered to be a part of a rotation. If you are willing, contact Lisa Westra.

**Bulletin information** should be given to Lisa Westra at 605-366-1037 or office @delawarereformed.com by **WEDNESDAY AT 9AM** due to the holiday.

*Happy Birthday!*

 Nov 20: Jodi Childress

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| **Offering Report** |
|   |   | **General Fund** | **Building Fund** |
| Offering Received | 11/12/2017 | $2,774.00 | $1,670.00 |
| Budgeted Average Weekly Offering | $2,884.62 | $748.08 |
|   | Difference | -$110.62 | $921.92 |
| **Fiscal Year-To-Date Summary** |   |   |
| Received Offerings | $119,761.02 | $12,843.00 |
| Budgeted Offerings | $132,692.31 | $34,411.54 |
| Difference | -$12,931.29 | -$21,568.54 |

**Women's Ministry Service Project:** Thank you to everyone who has chosen to purchase a gift for someone at LifeScape! The 31 requests that were posted last Sunday have all been taken! If you were wishing to take part, I asked for a few more requests, which are posted this morning. \*Please check to see that your name is on the list if you took a gift suggestion last week. \*Please note new gift return deadline: **Have your wrapped gift here by December 10.**

**Children's Ministry Offerings:** The Building on 40 project will be ending next Sunday. We are getting closer to the goal of $1000, just under $250 to go! We can help insure that Inspiration Hills will be sharing the gospel with our children's children....an awesome opportunity!

**Prayer Concerns:**

-Our condolences to Mark Hyronemus and his family on the loss of his sister, Shari Reynolds of Texas.

-Annie Knock is at the Prince of Peace Rehab Center to get her strength back

-Linda Duncan, wife of Robin Duncan, doing well with cancer treatments

**-**Rhonda Wiebers, Gladys Wiebers’ granddaughter, cancer treatments

-Brent DeKok, son of Pastor Don/Sue DeKok, continues chemo treatments

-Bev Vande Vegte, Rock Valley, battling cancer

-Susan Nelson, Parker, has been having further tests recently

-Heather Giefer, Matt Loewe’s cousin, cancer treatments have resumed

**Fellowship lunch for Sunday, Nov 26th** is Marilyn & Rebecca J. **Praise and** **Worship** is Joshua’s House. **Children’s Sermon** is Stacey Andernacht. **Nursery** is Stacey & Levi. **Usher** is Mark Hyronemus. **Projector** is Brian Dangel.

**Fellowship lunch for Sunday, Dec 3rd** is Katie & Rebecca W. **Praise and** **Worship** is the Highway 18 Praise Band. **Children’s Sermon** is Pastor Gary. **Nursery** is Tammy. **Usher** is Lynn Oltmanns. **Projector** is Jonathan Hagena.

**Lennox Pizza Ranch and Philter 4:8 coffee house** are going to be offering a FREE Thanksgiving meal at the Lennox Pizza Ranch on Thanksgiving Day from 11am-2pm. This meal is open to anyone in Lennox or surrounding communities. The menu will include: turkey, mashed potatoes, gravy, corn, cranberry sauce, salad, cactus bread, pumpkin dessert pizza. No reservations necessary. If you would like to volunteer or donate money to offset costs please contact Michael Tolliver at 712-577-4896 or by email lennoxpizzaranch@gmail.com or just stop in at the Lennox Pizza Ranch.

**A new Narcotics Anonymous group** will be starting on Dec 4th at 7pm at Faith Presbyterian church. It will meet every Monday at 7pm. The group is open to all people suffering from drug addiction. Babysitting will be available. For further info call 605-214-3864.

**Next Week's Sermon:**

-A Forgiving Spirit and Will

**Upcoming Ministries:**

-Dec. 3, 9:30 AM The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be celebrated

-Dec. 5, 7:30 PM Annual Congregational Meeting (reminder: any new business has to be submitted by Dec. 3, to be discussed and approved/disapproved by the consistory. Without doing so, it will not discussed at the meeting.)

-Dec. 12, 7:00 PM Consistory Meeting

-Dec. 17, 7:00 PM Sunday School Christmas Program

-Dec. 24, 5:30 PM Christmas Eve Candlelight Service (since this falls on a Sunday this year, we are having the service at an earlier time)

-Grief share Ministries will begin again on January 16 (Tuesday nights this year)

**The consistory,** upon the recommendation of the deacons, have given a gift from our Care and Share Fund to the Community Fund for the Hoover/Abbas family as well as a gift towards the cost of the free community Thanksgiving Dinner that will be held at the Lennox Pizza Ranch.

**Security Assurance:** In light of tragic events that have taken place in our nation, the consistory has decided that the side doors of our church will be locked after Sunday morning worship has begun. Signs have been placed on the side doors indicating to people to come to the front door after the service has begun. The consistory will set up a rotation ofindividuals who will be monitoring the front door while the worship service is in process. This security measure is simply a means of protecting us from any unsuspecting surprise while we are in worship.

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**Preview of Thanksgiving Eve Service**

 **1 Timothy 6:6-16 An Attitude of Gratitude**

Surveys of Americans relate to us that the holiday of Thanksgiving is one of the favorite holidays of the year.

Thanksgiving is both a religious holiday and a cultural holiday.

An attitude of gratitude. It sounds so simple...yet hard to achieve.

What might we be grateful for?

We live in an imperfect world. **We have reason to live with an attitude of gratitude.**

An attitude of gratitude doesn’t come from the wealth of the world.

An attitude of gratitude finds its source in who we have – an all-powerful, faithful God who is a loving Father- the Lord God Almighty.

“Godliness with contentment is great gain,” ...beware of the dangers of striving after wealth for wealth’s own sake.

Thanksgiving did not begin as a celebration of wealth, but of having one’s daily bread being provided.

**There is “great gain” in seeking to live in godliness.**

 -Peace of mind and heart in the midst of the world’s strife

 -Daily bread in a time of need

 -Contentment in a world that is lost searching for meaning

 -Gratitude when the rest of society sees itself as “entitled” or “ripped off.”

“Pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance and gentleness” (vs11).

“Fight the good fight of the faith**. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called** when you made your good confession in the presence of many witnesses” (Vs12).

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