

Horizon Highlights



Mission Statement

New Horizon Presbyterian Church
Strives to know Christ and share God's love.

February 2012

New Horizon Presbyterian Church
30 Valley View Dr., Council Bluffs, IA 51503-5100
Phone # 712 323-7129 www.newhorizonpc.org
Vol. 8 No. 2

Practice of Examen

It is February the time when all of our thoughts veer towards....Groundhog Day. We learned, in that 1993 movie that if the groundhog, Punxsutawney Phil, sees his shadow then we will have 6 more weeks of winter. Of course, in the movie, the point wasn't at all about Punxsutawney Phil, it was about the weatherman Bill Murray reliving the same day over and over and over until he learned that going through life as a self centered jerk is not the way to go. Not if you want to be happy and fulfilled that is. Gee, he could have just gone to church and saved himself the trouble...



There is a "Groundhog Day" feel to February, isn't there? We've gone through the rush of Christmas; church programs are gearing up; we have had our annual meeting and now it's time for Lent? By and large we Presbyterian types don't really know what to do with Lent. Oh we understand the preparation for celebrating Easter, but *6 weeks!*? If old Punxsutawney Phil sleeps late, we at least get a break from winter- and we only needed 4 weeks to prepare for Christmas - what gives? During the Reformation we tossed this baby out with the bathwater. In recent years there have been attempts to recover Lenten practices while giving them a Reformed spin.

The reason this is on my mind is that it is my turn to preach at the rotating Ash Wednesday services for the Council Bluffs area churches. (This year it will be at the Carter Lake Presbyterian church on 9th near Locust St) Lent starts on Ash Wednesday, February 22nd. We tend to take our cues from other Christian traditions, namely the Catholics.

We tend to think of Lent in terms of individual self denial. This understanding stems from Ignatius Loyola's (the founder of the Jesuits) practice of *examen*- a practice of taking inventory of our lives and resolving prayerfully to grow spiritually. While Loyola may have stressed individual action, Calvin certainly stressed corporate confession, corporate repentance and corporate pardon. So we put ashes on our foreheads on Ash Wednesday like other traditions do. But rather than drawing the connection from the ancient practice of sitting in ashes as a sign of public repentance for one's individual sins, we note that the ashes come from the burnt palms we waved as last year's Palm Sunday. We place ourselves in that crowd that

proclaimed Jesus as the King and Messiah, knowing full well that later on that week many in that crowd would be calling for Jesus' crucifixion. We remind ourselves that Jesus came for us in spite of our sins, in spite of our failures. This is because long before we were able to love him, Jesus loved us. (1 John 4:19)

Ultimately, Lent is not exclusively about individual repentance at all- it is about taking time to notice the New Covenant. Yes, there is room for individual repentance, but we understand that we live out our Christian lives in context of the covenant community. It is within the context of the church we minister with and pray for one another. It is in the context of the church that we grow in discipleship and pass the faith on to the next generation. This is why we run Confirmation classes this time of the year. This is why, unlike some, we baptize children this time of the year.

So this Lent we will be taking special care to emphasize the corporate and community nature of the church. *Examen* is a useful practice, not just for individual Christians but for local congregations as well. Lent is not a time of mourning, it is about the vastness of God's love and the grace demonstrated in the New Covenant. I invite you to join with me as we walk these next 6 weeks until Easter- at which time we will have something else to celebrate.

See you in church!

Paul

Presbyterian Women's Bible Study ***"Confessing The Beatitudes"***

In this study, author Margaret Aymer invites us to consider the Beatitudes as they might have been heard when Jesus spoke them - during the time of the Roman Empire. While great in many respects, the Empire was a cruel and brutal regime that did not stop short of executing anyone who challenged its authority. As you study the Beatitudes, it will be important to remember this concept.



We are invited at the end of each lesson to enter into a process of confession. The ancient practice of confession marks Christians as a people who recognize the truth, learn about the truth, and speak the truth - both about God and ourselves. Through reading the Accra Confession of 2004, and creating our own confessions, we move the confession to action.

-- Quoted from Horizon Bible Study Audio Edition.

Small Group Meetings in February

- Circles – AM'ers** – Thu Feb 9, at 10:00am in the Hearth Room
Hostess - Bonnie Quass
Bible Study - Zelda Gutha
Contacts are Cleo Croson and Vicki Holder
- Evening** – Mon Feb 20, at 7:30pm at 195 Keeline Av
Hostess - Margaret Lemen
Bible Study - TBA
Contacts are Jan Christensen
- Mary** – Thu Feb 23, at 9:30am in the Hearth Room
Hostess - Mary Alice Fehr
Bible Study - Mary Alice Fehr
Contact is Cathy Born
- Mariners** – Thu Feb 16, at 6:30pm
Program - Tamara Madsen "CB Civil Right Comm." *Contacts are Grant & Lois Nihsen*
- Prayer Shawl** – Mon Feb 13, at 4:00pm in the Hearth Room
Tue Feb 28, at 4:00pm, in the Office Area
Contacts are Mary Alice Fehr & Vicki Holder
- Women's Ministry Coordinating Team** – Thu Feb 2, at 10:00am in the Hearth Rm *Contact is Cathy Born*
- Women's Ministry Gathering** – Thu Feb 2, at 12:00pm in the Fellowship Hall
Hostess - Mary Circle
Contact is Cathy Born

Attention all NHPC Members and Friends

If schools are closed due to weather we probably will not meet.
All of the groups welcome you to join their activities.
If any questions please call the contact person listed above.

What do the Deacons do?

The Deacons are the "caring ministry" of our church. Many of the small things that make New Horizon "feel like family" are the responsibilities and joys of the Deacons. The Deacons maintain a list of homebound members or friends and deliver the altar flowers, the Christmas and Easter flowers, and the Christmas gift bags to these special people of New Horizon. The Deacons assist the Pastor in providing communion for our homebound friends. They send out the birthday, sympathy, and get well cards and try to keep current with special occurrences in the life of the members. The Deacons attempt to keep track of visitors to New Horizon and acknowledge their presence with a welcome card or a note and notify the Pastor if someone indicates an interest in becoming a member. The Deacons have initiated a New Parents Outreach that gives a gift to those church families or friends of the church who have a new addition. A Deacon serves as a liaison on the Prayer Shawl Mission and the Mission Committee and is available to help provide rides to and from church events. If you or someone you know has need of any of these caring gifts, please help out the Deacons by notifying the church office.

Session Highlights for January

The New Horizon session held their first meeting of the year on January 18. Julie Hoffman was elected to be the Elder Commissioner for the Presbytery meeting on February 18. The consent agenda was approved, which included the baptism of Katarina Miller (great-granddaughter of Grant and Lois Nihsen) on February 12, as well as the reactivation of membership for Julie (Wickman) Christiansen, Suzanne Wickman, and Marie (Bonacci) Wickman-Dykes, who were all former members of Grace Presbyterian Church.

The **treasurer's report** was received. General contributions for the month of December totaled \$30,531.49 and general expenses were \$19,757.29, leaving a positive difference of \$10,774. Mortgage contributions for December were \$14,311 and our monthly payment is \$9,518, leaving a positive difference of \$4,793.

For 2011, the total general contributions were \$266,499.50 and total general expenses were \$257,633.88, leaving a positive difference of \$8,865.62. Total mortgage contributions for 2011 were \$104,254.21 and our total mortgage expenses were \$114,216.00, leaving a negative difference of \$9,961.79.

Overall, we ended the year of 2011 having spent only \$1,096.17 more than we took in.

It was noted that the church received a contribution of \$30,000 that was to go directly toward the principal of our mortgage. It is estimated that this donation will cut nearly a year off of our mortgage.

The **Administration Committee** reported that New Horizon members recently took part in a conference call with people from Presbyterian Homes. While there are still no specific plans in place, Presbyterian Homes continues to include a New Horizon site in their long- term goals, and will be doing another needs study to determine the level of need for assisted living in the area. This time their study will include not just the Council Bluffs area, but also more outlying communities.

The **Facility Use Committee** has approved five new applications for building use, including more Pottawattamie county election activities. There was a Republican caucus held at New Horizon on January 3 which had a large turnout.

The **Personnel Committee** reported that they will be conducting employee reviews with New Horizon staff in the near future.

The **Stewardship Committee** reported that they will be contacting people who have not yet turned in a pledge card. As of now, they anticipate the church will have about \$30,000 more in pledges this year than in 2011.

New Elder Steve Chambers will be taking over as chair of the **Worship Committee**. He will be contacting people who have previously served on that committee, and is also looking for new volunteers who would like to help out in this area.

The New Horizon Session will be holding a retreat from 1:00pm - 3:00pm on Saturday, February 4. The purpose will be to set goals for the church in the coming year.

Responsibilities of the Session

Do you know the eleven committee designations of the Session?

The **Administration Committee** functions similarly to a board of trustees, under its “umbrella” are:

The **Buildings and Grounds**, manages, maintains, and makes decisions about the physical aspects of our building and campus

The **Memorial and Endowment**, manages the funds set aside by donors as memorial funds and approves applications for use of those funds.

The **Personnel**, is responsible for the managing of employees which includes job descriptions and contracts.

The **Stewardship** manages the fall stewardship campaign which encourages members and friends of New Horizon to pledge to the operating budget and the mortgage reserve budget.

There are four committees which come under the heading of “**Programs of the Church**”:

The **Worship Committee**, assisted by the pastor and music staff, design and implement worship opportunities, particularly designing special services such as Christmas and Easter.

The **Christian Education Committee** manages Sunday School, youth programming, including Wednesday Kids Club, Breakout youth group and other youth activities, the Christmas pageant, and Vacation Bible School. The committee is responsible for the selection and ordering of curriculum and recruitment of teachers.

The **Fellowship Committee** seeks to make New Horizon stronger by building relationships. Many times those activities involve eating together. Potlucks, the “Celebration of Life,” and other special events are coordinated by the Fellowship Committee which facilitates and encourages the work of small groups, the circles, Mariners, and the dinner groups.

The third category of committees is “**Outreach of the Church**”.

The **Mission Committee** encourages and facilitates hands-on ministry which includes the denomination’s mission program—One Great Hour of Sharing and the Christmas Joy offering—and also works to promote local opportunities such as Habitat for Humanity, Meals on Wheels and our local College View Elementary mission.

The last committee is the **Communication Committee** which provides information about New Horizon through the Web page, Facebook page, and information brochures.

If you are not involved in one of these activities, please let an Elder know of your interest—your involvement will enrich your life and the committee’s!

Per Capita Payments

Have you made your Per Capita payment for 2012 yet? If you haven’t, it is not too late. There are per capita envelopes available in the narthex, and the amount for 2012 is **\$31.24 per member**.

The payments go toward funding the administration of our denomination on regional and national levels, and any amount that is not provided by individual members must come from New Horizon’s general fund. Please take a moment to make your per capita payment and take part in keeping our denomination strong.

Coffee Serving Schedule - 2012

Each year, the Fellowship Committee assigns the major groups of the church a month during which they are responsible for serving coffee on Sunday mornings. The duties of each group include providing people to serve before and after each of the three services during the month assigned, preparing and serving beverages and food, preparing the cart for the Praise Service, as well as cleaning up the coffee area at the end of the morning. There are new instructions posted in the Sacristy to remind everyone of their responsibilities.

Due to the generosity of the congregation, there are treats in the freezer available to serve on Sundays, but you should confirm what is on hand ahead of time. Also, please ensure there are healthy treats available for those who wish to consume those.

If you do not have enough people in your group, you are free to recruit volunteers from the congregation to assist you - let’s get as many people involved as possible!

Please check to see when your groups are called to serve. The schedule for 2012 is as follows:

February	Am’ers And Sarah Circles
March	Memorial & Endowment And Mission Committees
April	Mariners
May	Worship Committee
June	Vocal & Bell Choirs
July	Deacons
August	Christian Education Committee
September	Stewardship And Building & Grounds Committees

Souper Bowl Sunday

On February 5, people around the country will be enjoying the Super Bowl, and many will probably be indulging in lots of food and drink while they do. At New Horizon, we will be using this day to remember that many people in our community do not have the resources available to feed their families on a daily basis, much less splurge on a football party. The youth of New Horizon will be holding their annual “Souper Bowl Sunday” on February 5 at all three services. They will be collecting nonperishable food items, as well as money that will be donated to local food pantries. These organizations often see their donations spike during the Christmas season, but the need exists year round. Please give as generously as you are able.

Calling All Cooks!

We are looking for volunteers to help prepare meals for the Wednesday night youth program. Volunteers would need to prepare a meal for approximately 20 people to be served around 6:45pm each Wednesday night. We have many dates covered, but slots are still open in late February and March. If you would like to donate food or money to purchase food, but are unable to prepare the meal itself, we would welcome that as well. Look for the sign-up sheet in the Narthex, or contact Mindy Brewer at 712-545-3315 for more information.

New Horizon Kids Report on Their Year

The members of New Horizon's Kids' Club have created an "annual report" to let the congregation know what the elementary school-age youth of our church did in 2011. The information was prepared by Ethan Brewer and Logan Kruse, both in 5th grade at Lewis and Clark elementary school.

Activities for kids on Wednesday nights begin at 5:30pm with bells and chimes rehearsal. Kids' Club meets at 6:00pm and a family-style meal is served at 6:45pm. Sunday School classes meet at 10:00am on Sunday mornings. We invite all elementary kids to attend any of these activities and encourage you to bring a friend! Adult helpers are always welcome, too.

At Kids' Club, we read Bible stories, play games, make crafts, pray for people and talk about God and Jesus in our own lives. This fall, we started learning about the Lord's Prayer. We talked about each line from the prayer and what it means. We talked about how we start the prayer with "Our Father," because God is our heavenly father, and we wrote job descriptions for what a perfect father should be like. When we learned about the phrase, "Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done..." we thought about what it would be like if everyone in the world followed God's laws, and came up with our own laws that we thought people should follow. When we learned about the part that says, "Give us each day our daily bread," we pretended to be the Israelites that Moses was leading through the desert, and learned how God provided them with manna to eat.

One of our favorite things was last spring when we talked about what gifts that we had to share with other people. Everyone in the group got to pick an activity and lead it. We had a Bible spelling bee, a basketball lesson and an art contest. Around Easter, we made our own comic books and drew pictures to show things like the Last Supper.

This summer we had Vacation Bible School, and the lessons used things from the beach. We got to help Pastor Paul act out Bible stories, like the one about the prodigal son. We also played lots of games, like tossing a beach ball with a towel and throwing Frisbees into a little swimming pool. At Christmas, we put on a play called, "Do You Hear What I Hear." It was about the sounds you hear at Christmas. We sang Christmas carols and played the bells, and we really liked the props that we used, like the pretend fireplace. During Sunday School, we have been learning about the people in Jesus' family tree, and we get to make cool cardboard things. When we talked about Jonah and the whale we made boats, and we made crosses at Easter.

Lots of adults help out with all of our activities. Our Sunday School teachers are Roger and Becky Kay, Kelly Shoff and Lynn Fehr. Alice Gerard directs the bells and Linda Sheeran directs the chimes. Lynne Masters, Linda Brewer and Mindy Brewer do the Kids' Club lessons on Wednesday nights. Lots of people donate money for food and cook dinner for us. We want to say thank you to all of them. And lastly, we thank all of the kids who come to New Horizon activities.

New Horizon to Host Evening Musicales Concert

On Sunday, Feb. 19, New Horizon will once again be hosting the Council Bluffs Evening Musicales concert. The performance will begin at 7:00pm and feature a combined choir from several area churches, as well as individual and small group performances by local musicians. For those who are performing, the rehearsal begins at 3:00pm and a potluck will be held at 5:00pm. The concert is open to the public and everyone is invited to attend.



New Horizon Youth Notes

Members of the New Horizon Breakout youth group will be attending the Winter Jam concert on Thursday, February 16. This concert features many nationally known Christian music acts, tours around the country, and the local stop will be at the MidAmerica Center. Interested youth should meet at the church on February 16 at 5:00pm, and the concert begins at 7:00pm. The cost is a \$10 donation at the door, and scholarships are available. For more information, please contact Lynne Masters.

The Kids' Club has finished up their study of the Lord's Prayer, and will now begin a new curriculum called "Fun Science that Teaches God's Word." It is a method that uses fun and simple science experiments to engage kids and relate to a lesson about God's word. A few of the experiments call for items that we will need to borrow from the congregation. For instance, we need a leaf blower and an ultraviolet/black light, as well as several plastic film canisters with snap on lids (the kind you would buy a roll of film in) for upcoming experiments. If you have any of these items and would be willing to let us borrow them for about an hour on a Wednesday night, please contact Mindy Brewer at 712-545-3315. Kids' Club is held Wednesday nights at 6:00pm, followed by a family-style dinner at 6:45pm, and everyone is welcome!

There will be no youth activities on Wednesday, February 22, as it is Ash Wednesday. Everyone is encouraged to attend the community-wide Ash Wednesday service that will be held at Carter Lake Community Presbyterian Church, where Rev. Masters will be preaching.

A Confirmation Class has begun for youth in 6th - 8th grade, in order to help them learn about the Presbyterian Faith and become members of the church. The class meets Wednesday nights from 6:00pm - 7:00pm. If you know of a youth who would like to participate, please contact Rev. Masters.

Annual Meeting Held

New Horizon held its annual congregational meeting on Sunday, Jan. 29, following an all-church service. The denomination requires all Presbyterian churches to hold an annual meeting for the purposes of reviewing and conducting church business. At this meeting, some committees and groups reported on their work of the past year and their goals for the coming year; pastoral compensation was reviewed and the budget for 2012 was presented and discussed.



In addition, **Greg Mathis** was unanimously elected Elder for the Class of 2014 and **Mary Alice Fehr** was awarded the Mariner's Workhorse Award by **Lois Nihsen**. The 2011 Annual Report for New Horizon was also distributed. Extra copies are available in the narthex. Thank you to those who took time to attend.

Life Celebration Committee

The Life Celebration Committee is a new committee established last year to provide food for funerals. During the last year, eleven funeral luncheons have been served. Four were for church members, six were for relatives of church members and one was for a past member of Grace Church.

Families are expected to pay for the groceries and many have made an additional donation to the Women's Ministry.

In January, 2011, we asked people to volunteer. Fifty-two church members stepped forward to help with this ministry. Some volunteered to help both working in the kitchen and preparing food, but usually were able to avoid calling for both jobs.

Anne Crowl and Margaret Lemen contact the family and coordinate the ministry. Mary Alice Fehr and Cathy Born do the shopping and the finances. Mary Ann Shipley and Sondra Dorsett are the coordinators for the kitchen workers. Marilyn Nadler and Frankie Parrott are the coordinators for the donations of desserts and other items as needed.



Throughout the year forty-six people have donated a total of ninety-six items of food, forty-four people, which includes five men, have worked in the kitchen a total of seventy-four times. Any food not taken by the family has been donated to various other church groups, such as Sunday morning coffee hour, Mariners or Wednesday Night Kids Club, or to Mohm's house.



The committee wants to thank all the people who have helped make our first year successful. Together we are providing a wonderful service.
Anne Crowl, Coordinator

Someone You Ought to Know

For the next issues, you will be hearing about church members who are the senior citizens of NHPC. As the church grows, new members will have the opportunity to get to know these keepers of the faith.



Helen Brownell, who belonged to First Presbyterian Church, answered the question, "What stands out about your years as a member?" The Annual Turkey Dinner! Helen spoke of planning, cooking, and serving these meals. The fellowship of belonging and planning together, and the thrill of saying thanks at this dinner together. Helen also spoke of her work with Presbytery attending meetings as a representative of First Church. Helen was pleased of being able to serve on Presbytery Committees.

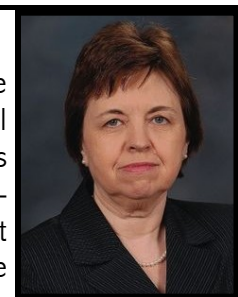
Helen has faithfully been a part of the Altrusa organization. Most recently, she has worked with grade school students by listening to them practice their reading skills. The organization also sponsored Astro clubs for girls in local secondary schools. Helen, thanks for serving First Church and NHPC.

Helen Thomsen became involved with Grace Church in her teens. She was the Senior Citizen of Grace, honored as such at the time of the merger. Helen has always been a "people" person. She could always be found participating in Presbyterian Women activities and helping in the kitchen. Her recipes are in the Grace Cook Book, and they have often been used at NHPC luncheons. A favorite of many is the "Chicken Strata". Helen loved kids. Her four daughters and two sons were raised at Grace. She has done a good job – two of those daughters are busy members of NHPC. She had time for her own organizations. At one time she was active in the Optimist Women's support group to the men's clubs. She is still active in her PEO chapter. Thanks for your years of knowing and loving people, Helen.



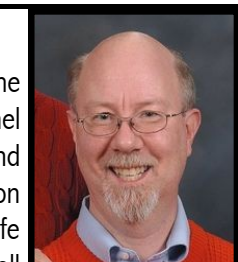
February Deacon of the Month

Beth Nihsen will be serving as secretary for the Deacons again this year. In that capacity she will be recording the minutes of each Deacons meeting. Beth particularly enjoys visiting the shut-ins and loved delivering the poinsettias and gift bags at Christmas. She enjoys meeting new people and working with the other Deacons!



February Elder of the Month

Bob Karcher serves as chairman of the Stewardship Committee, serves on the Personnel Committee and the Administration Committee and also chairs the Nominating Committee. Being on these committees and being this involved in the life of New Horizon gives Bob a greater feel for all that's going on at the church and gives him the opportunity to be acquainted with more people. He loves watching the church grow!



Help

Privacy laws are not allowing hospitals to call the church these days, so if you or a family member is in the hospital, please be sure to have someone call to inform the church...

Have you ever wondered what your next step in faith will be?

As you travel down life's highway, it is good to stop and rest a while. You can gather at the river with your fellow travelers, and at that oasis, you can break bread, laugh, sing, worship, listen, and be heard. After lingering at that sanctuary, you and your friends will emerge refreshed, rested, and ready to continue on your way, prepared once more to "celebrate the journey and praise the Lord". Hey, weary traveler, the Great Plains Presbyterian Pilgrimage is waiting...for **you**.

The Great Plains Presbyterian Pilgrimage, which is open to all denominations, is a 3-day journey in Christianity designed to provide all Christians with a renewed faith foundation, and which fosters a revitalization of personal spiritual growth for individual and community living. It is held at a comfortable conference center where guests' every need is met. The weekend retreat is open to all ages, all maturity levels, and to all Christians.

It **will** change the horizons of your Christian walk!

PILGRIMAGE #11 is April 19-22, 2012 at Camp Calvin Crest, Fremont, Nebraska. Please speak to Darlene Grandia or Ellen Jaco, the GPPP representative at this church, or visit www.gpppilgrimage.org. There is information on the bulletin board in the church foyer.

Spring and Summer Opportunities

Great Plains Presbyterian Pilgrimage

Camp Calvin Crest in Fremont, NE

April 19 – 22, 2012

See - Darlene Grandia for details

Ask- Ellen Jaco about her experience there last fall

Denomination - Gathering of Presbyterian Women

Gaylord Palms Convention Center, Orlando, FL

July 18-22, 2012

See Website – www.Pcusa.Org/Pwgathering

Scholarships available from PW of the Presbytery and NHPC PW

Synod School

Singing The Lord's Song in a Strange Land

Buena Vista University, Storm Lake, IA

July 22-27, 2012

See Bulletin Board for Further Information

Ask – Jan Pellant, Zelda & Ernie Gutha about their experience there

Thank You Notes

Dear New Horizon Friends,

A special Thank You for the beautiful Poinsettia that I received as well as the lovely Deacon gift bag, delivered by Marilyn Heitman. I truly appreciate your thoughtfulness for the two gifts. Wishing all of you a blessed new year!
Helen Brownell

To my New Horizon church family,

I am enjoying the beautiful poinsettia in all its glory Christmas morning. It was delivered by Jo Peters and donated by Don and Mikki Sachs. Thanks so much!
Mary Moore

Dear Friends,

Thank you all so much for the poinsettia plant and the gift bag of all kinds of items. I am so thankful that you are all thinking of me. It was a very nice surprise.
Ann Smith Elkhorn Life Care Center

Dear New Horizon Deacons,

Thank you for sharing Christmas cheer with me. The Christmas stocking was filled with surprises and treats. I enjoyed them all. The poinsettia is beautiful and still blooming! Thank you for remembering me.
John Parrott

Dear Mariners,

On behalf of the Iowa Cookie Crumbs, I would like to thank you for your generous donation of \$100 which will be used to help with postal costs of the cookie boxes we send every month. Since January, 2007, we have sent over 520,000 home-baked cookies to our soldiers, sailors, marines and airmen who are bravely swerving in Afghanistan and previously in Iraq. The joy and smiles that a box of goodies from home can bring to a soldier are priceless. Every cookie is a little bit of home for them! The comfort items that we include are snatched up quickly as well. Please know that without the help of wonderful people like you, there would be no cookies and no project. Bless you for your help and if there's anything you would like to know further about this project, please do not hesitate to contact me.

(There is a letter of appreciation from a recipient as well as a picture posted on the bulletin board in the narthex).

Sincerely,

Abbie Crawford, Iowa Cookie Crumbs

Dear Mariners,

I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank you for your gift of \$200 to MOHM's Place. Thank you for thinking of us. We value your continued partnership with us. As you know, MOHM's Place feeds approximately 5000 meals per month to the homeless and near-homeless of our city, of that number 1000 are children's meals, 750 are meals to women and we serve about 350 families. MOHM's Place also partners with 13 different agencies that provide 69 different services to the homeless and near-homeless populations of our community. All of these services directly affect the homeless situation of each person. MOHM's Place has built a \$4 million facility which can house 48 men in our shelter, 26 single men and single women in our transitional living facility. The new MOHM's Place will seat 250 people at one time. This facility is called "New Visions"/MOHM's Place and is located at 1425 N. 15th Street in Council Bluffs. We are running at full capacity?!

Contributions Dec 2011

General	\$ 30,531	\$ 266,500
Mortgage	14,311	104,254
Total	\$ 36,642	\$ 370,754

Expenses Dec 2012

General	\$ 19,757	\$ 257,634
Mortgage	9,518	114,850
Total	\$ 29,275	\$ 371,850

Contrib - Expenses 7,367 -1,096

Per Capita Total Received \$ 5,889

Total Needed \$ 12,684

Month	2010	2011	2012
Jan	152	160	171
Feb	163	186	
Mar	209 *	200	
Apr	203	222 *	
May	181	192	
Jun	166	180	
Jul	156	155	
Aug	162	189	
Sep	173	165	
Oct	176	188	
Nov	194	220	
Dec	163	188	

* Easter Weekly Averages

Name	Date	Name	Date
Doris Rule	1	Mike Kerns	17
Steve Jacobs	3	Ella Coombs-Walker	17
Josh Madsen	3	Mary Henderson	19
Anne Crowl	4	Dr. Robert Warner, II	20
Joan Campbell	5	Harry (Bud) Crowl	21
Neil Shaver	7	Linda Vander Wal	21
Doris Poteet	8	Keith Miller	22
Bill Cenovic	9	Christine Warner	24
Jim Jennings	10	Alice Gerard	26
Joyce Mass	14	Mary McKeever	27
John Woltmann	14	Gregory Reese	27
Jonathan Masters	15	Connie Rich	27
Rita Sealock	15	Kyra Christensen	28
Aggie Spera	15	Doris Green	28
Don Fauble	16	Mason Petersen	28

Budget Breakdown

New Horizon ended its financial year of 2011 on a fairly positive note. We spent \$29,000 less than was budgeted for general expenses for the year, meaning that people worked hard to keep spending down. For the year, we took in about \$8,800 more in general contributions than we spent in general expenses. Non-pledging members ended up giving \$13,000 more than was anticipated.

While our mortgage fund still ended the year in an overall deficit, there were several large donations, as well as consistent monthly giving by our members which helped to keep us mostly on track. For the year, we took in about \$10,000 less than we needed to make our mortgage payments. As a result, combining both general and mortgage contributions for the year, we spent about \$1,100 more than we took in - which is actually better than we have done in several years.

We also received a \$30,000 donation that was earmarked to go specifically toward the principal of our mortgage. This incredibly generous donation will cut almost a full year off of our mortgage length.

If you have not yet turned in a pledge card, or paid your per capita, there is still time to do so. Pledge cards and per capita envelopes are both available in the narthex. Pledge cards help anticipate the income we can expect for the year, which is invaluable in the budgeting process, and per capita payments made by individual members lessen the amount we will have to take from the general fund to cover our per capita costs.

Thanks to the generous and consistent giving of all of our New Horizon church family, 2011 was another strong year for us - the money that you give goes to support all areas of the church's budget. Not only keeping the lights on and salaries paid, but also to fund mission projects, educate our youth, and to spread God's word to our church, community and world. Our mission statement says that we "strive to know Christ and share God's love." Thank you for supporting that mission not only with your money, but also with your time and your many talents.

March Birthdays

Name	Date	Name	Date
Jan Pellant	1	Doug Riggs	7
Jonathon Cenovic	3	Rollie Johnson	8
Janet Christensen	6	Mark Alkire	9
Don Sachs	6	Virginia Larson	10
Janice Larsen	7	Newell Roberts	10

2012 Annual Budget

Categories	Amount	% of Total
Missions	\$ 17,800	6.1%
Programs of the Church	\$ 9,780	3.3%
Ministries	\$ 924	0.3%
Operations & Maintenance	\$ 72,574	24.8%
Administration	\$ 26,694	9.1%
Staff	\$ 185,231	56.4%
Total General Expense Budget	\$ 293,003	
Mortgage & Bond	\$ 120,216	
Total General & Mortgage Expenses	\$ 413,219	
General Pledged Contributions	\$ 237,906	
Other General Contributions	\$ 57,000	
Mortgage Contributions	\$ 118,479	
Total General and Mortgage Contributions	\$ 413,376	
Contributions Over Expenses	\$ 157	

New Horizon Presbyterian Church
 30 Valley View Drive
 Council Bluffs, IA 51503-5100
 February 2012
 Return Service Requested

Non-Profit Organization
 U. S. POSTAGE PAID
 Council Bluffs, IA 51503
 Permit 67

Refocus for Lent

- | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Give up complaining | — focus on gratitude. |
| Give up harsh judgments | — think kind thoughts. |
| Give up worry | — trust God to provide. |
| Give up discouragement | — be full of hope. |
| Give up bitterness | — turn to forgiveness. |
| Give up hatred | — return good for evil. |
| Give up anger | — be more patient. |
| Give up pettiness | — become mature. |
| Give up jealousy | — pray for trust. |
| Give up gossiping | — control your tongue. |
| Give up sin | — turn to virtue. |
| Give up giving up | — persevere. |
| | —Author unknown |

Articles Locations

- | | |
|--|--------------|
| Pastor's Words/PW Bible Study | ----- 1 |
| Small Group Meetings/Session Highlights | ----- 2 |
| What do the Deacons do | ----- 2 |
| Session Responsibilities/Per Capita | ----- 3 |
| Coffee Serving Schedule/Mariners | ----- 3 |
| Kids Report/Musical Concert/Youth Notes | ----- 4 |
| Annual Meeting/Life Celebration | ----- 5 |
| Someone You Ought to Know/Deacon/Elder | ----- 5 |
| Thank You Notes/Step in Faith/Summer Opportunities | ----- 6 |
| Financial//Budget Breakdown/Birthdays | ----- 7 |
| 2012 Annual Budget | ----- 7 |
| Calendar/Kids Page | ----- Insert |

2012 Flower Calendar

The new 2012 Flower Calendar is on the bulletin board in the church narthex/gathering area. Stop by and pick your favorite/special Sunday to provide flowers/plants for the church sanctuary.

Stewardship Envelopes

If you have requested stewardship envelopes for 2012, they are labeled with your name and are located on the table in the narthex area. If you did not request a box of envelopes, but would like one, please contact the church office and we will provide a box for you.

2012 Per Capita – Per Member - \$31.24.

Extra per Capita envelopes are located on the table in the narthex.