

New England Messenger

New England Congregational Church
805 Oak St., PO Box 655, Stanton, NE 68779
Church 402-439-2175

e-mail congregationalchurch@stanton.net or
necchurchsecretary@stanton.net



This Month: **March 2025**

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Birthdays

March 3	Kennedie Gartner
March 5	Jackie Jensen
March 7	Steven Schellpeper
March 13	Clayton Rolf
March 14	Janet Roenfeldt
March 16	Jill Daniel
March 19	Rory Ashker, Marley Campbell
March 20	Everly Surber
March 24	Kody Reese
March 27	Lorena Bernbeck
March 31	Leslie Gartner

*Wishing you a very special day filled
with God's blessings!*

These are the birthdays that are part of the permanent records at church. If one has been missed, please let Lynn know so that she can add the name to her list of birthday special prayers. Thank you.



Newsletter Deadline: 3/27/23



Calendar

Office hours are generally Wednesdays
9 am to 1 pm but are subject to change

- March 2 **9:15 am Sunday School**
10:30 am Worship with communion
- March 5 6:00pm Ash Wednesday Service & Agape Feast
- March 9 **9:15 am Sunday School**
9:30 am Elders Meeting
10:00 am Fellowship
10:30 am Worship,
- March 16 **9:15 am Sunday School**
10:30 am Worship
- March 17
- March 23 **9:15 am Sunday School**
10:00 am Fellowship
10:30 am Worship
- March 30 **9:15 am Sunday School**
10:30 am Worship

Daylight Savings



He offers peace beyond our circumstances,
joy beyond our expressions, wisdom
beyond our understanding, and
accomplishments beyond our abilities.

**Thank you to the sponsor
for this month:
Tami Barth**

The cost to sponsor a month's newsletter is \$66.00
Thank-you for all your generous support.



Hello. I am your new pastoral minister here at New England Congregational in Stanton. I've lived in Nebraska for about 15 years now, and most of my time living outside of Omaha and Lincoln as I served Lutheran congregations in a couple of places. I retired from the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America in 2022, and I am enjoying my time with my family on a small acreage we have near Lincoln.

I hope to meet as many of you as possible during my time here (and we'll see how long you can stand me!), and I do hope to visit our shut-in congregants, and others, if you have need. My phone number is 701-471-6997, and you can reach me at this number practically all the time. (Please note you may have to leave a message, but I will return your call as soon as possible.) I'd love to visit with you on a Sunday when I am in town, and please do not hesitate to call if you have a need. I wish you a speedy end to Winter, and the promises of warm breezes of Spring.

The Prophetic Way: Create in Me a Clean Heart

March 9 – Moses – 10 Commandments – Exodus 20:1-17

March 16 – Hosea – Widow, Orphan, Poor – Hosea 11:1-11

March 23 – Isaiah – Suffering Servant – Isaiah 55:1-12

March 30 – Micah – Justice, Kindness, Humility – Micah 6:1-8

April 6 – Jeremiah – New Covenant – Jeremiah 31:31-34

Lent is a time to practice listening to God and to discover ways to have a more fulfilling future, the preferred future God has for you and us. We will look at these texts from the Old Testament prophets over the 6 weeks of the Lenten season; and begin to ponder how we may be created again and again in the promise and love of God. Plan on joining us for a sermon series that searches the mysteries of our hearts and minds.

--Pastor Scott Frederickson, Ph. D.

Wednesday March 5
Ash Wednesday Service at 6:00 pm
Agape Meal to follow



FOR YOUR INFORMATION – ATTENDANCE & COLLECTIONS

Offerings to our Church: When you cannot attend, it may be mailed to our financial secretary,
Karen Beyke,

1516 4th Street, Stanton, NE 68779. She may be reached at [402-649-8993](tel:402-649-8993). Please leave a message. Thank you!

Worship

The offering plate will continue to be at the back of the sanctuary and communion will be served using pre-filled cups. We will continue to monitor the situation and make changes as they are appropriate.

PLEASE REMEMBER You are invited to **attend as you feel comfortable.**

Date	Attendance	Collections
January 26	24	\$
February 2	18	\$795.00
February 9	21	\$826.00
February 16	Services were cancelled due	To weather
February 23	24	\$1021.00

WORK GROUP FOR April-May

Johnson, Bill & Darlene CoChair
CoChair

- Barth, Inez
- Donna Barr
- Benson, Mary
- Chilcoat, Bob & Chris
- Dopson, Wilma
- Drott, Mary
- Gartner, Matt & Leslie
- Hansen, Eric & Cheryl
- Hansen, Ryan & Candece
- Hasebrook, Chris & Bethany
- Hekrdle, Terri
- Hetzler, Nan & Curtis
- Miller, Dallas
- Reese, Kevin
- Reese, Jan
- Schellpeper, Steve & Krissy
- HONORARY** Lois Kingsley



Technologist & Liturgist
Thank you for all the work you do.



Message from Brad

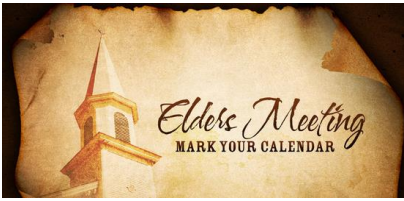
Dear Kaleo Community,
Spring is here, bringing new life, renewed energy, and the promise of exciting days ahead. Soon, summer will be upon us, and with it, another season of unforgettable experiences at Kamp Kaleo!

As the days grow longer and the landscape bursts into bloom, we feel the anticipation building. This year, more than ever, we are eager to welcome campers back to a place of joy, discovery, and connection. Kamp Kaleo is not just a summer camp; it is a home—a community where young hearts grow, friendships deepen, and faith is nurtured in the beauty of nature.

With each passing season, we see growth—not just in the trees that shade our gathering spaces, but in the spirit of our community. We are strengthened by the support, dedication, and love of those who believe in the mission of Kamp Kaleo. Your enthusiasm, generosity, and involvement make all the difference.

As we prepare for another transformative summer, we invite you to join us—whether as a camper, volunteer, donor, or advocate. Together, we create a space where hope flourishes, where every voice matters, and where the spirit of Kaleo continues to thrive.

Thank you for being part of this journey. We can't wait to see you this summer!



ELDERS. February 9, 2025

Attendance: Bob S., Howard S., Jerett. R., Rod B., Dallas M., Michael E., Don E., Barbara H., Rev. Scott F., Moderator, Bill J.

Rev. Scott opened the meeting with prayer.

Vice-Chairman, Michael Eberly, called the meeting to order.

Election of officers: (HOWARD, ROD) nominated Bob C as president. No other nominations. (Howard, Jerett) nominated Michael as vice-chairman. No other nominations. (Rod, Howard) nominated Barbara for secretary. No other nominations. All elected as nominated.

Secretary minutes of January 12, 2025 meeting were approved as presented (Bob S, Dallas) carried.

Treasurer's report: (BobS. Rod) moved to approve the treasurer's report in total. Carried

Bills to be paid: (Howard, Jerett) moved to pay the bills as presented. carried

Old Business: Grace Hansen decided she did not have time to do the secretary job. Has returned the laptop, key and flash drive.

Duties of the Elders: Duties as printed were presented to be read. Discussion at the next meeting.

Need brackets to hold posts of the crosses when they are put up for Lent. Jerett, Rod, and Bill will work on this.

Other old business

New Business: Jim needs to re-invest the church CD; it matures March 12. (Jerett, BobS.) moved to re-invest the CD with the best terms and let it roll over. Carried.

New secretary, Deb Wolverton. Starting next week doing bulletin and newsletter; eventually will add powerpoint and music. (Bob S. Howard) moved to hire Deb Wolverton. Carried.

Other new business: kitchen lights need new ballast. Jerett stated we can order LED bulbs and do not need ballast. The cost is less. Jerett will follow through with Rod and others helping.

Use of church: Probably March 15 for a small immediate family wedding for granddaughter of Linda Kuester.

April 27 2-5 for Jan Reese..

Ash Wednesday service is at 6:00 with agape meal following.

There will be a Sunrise service. Time to be determined.

Next meeting: March 9, 2025 at 9:30



The word, “agape,” is the Greek word used in the New Testament for the highest and broadest kind of self-giving Love, the kind of Love that is our source, our true life in this life and our eternal reality. We have no word capable of describing the God who is Love in any language, but agape calls attention to the limitless and overflowing fullness of Divine Love—Love Incarnate, who suffered death on a cross. An Agape Meal, or “Love Feast” as it is also called, is an ancient tradition of table fellowship. The practice of holy hospitality precedes the Church, going back to the hospitality Abraham showed to his three unknown visitors (Genesis 18). In the early Church, agape meals were a time of fellowship for “People of the Way,” as the early Christians were called. The Eucharist, our Christian sacramental celebration instituted by Jesus at the Last Supper, was often a part of these meals, BUT THEY ARE NOT THE SAME THING. Probably between the late 1st century and the mid-3rd century AD, the two feasts became separate. Its use has waxed and waned over the centuries, but “Love Feasts” enjoyed a revival in the 18th century in the Methodist Church with the Wesley brothers, particularly in America, and partly because of a lack of ordained ministers to celebrate Holy Communion in the New World. Such meals seek to strengthen communal bonds and foster a spirit of harmony, good will and congeniality. They usually include an opportunity to acknowledge our need for forgiveness, especially if some sort of reconciliation among members of the community is warranted. The meal is another way of living out Jesus’ commandment that we love one another with the same self emptying love, mercy and forgiveness with which he has loved and still loves us. Washing feet, therefore, can be part of this meal when it is celebrated

If you would like a name on the prayer list, please let us know.

If you know someone in the hospital, or the nursing visit, please let us know by phone or e-mail –

402-439-2175 congregationalchurch@stanton.net

Church website at stantonnecucc.org.

Reminder: If you would prefer NOT to get a paper copy of the monthly newsletter and would prefer to get a copy sent to your email, please call the church office and let us know.
E-mail to necchurchsecretary@stanton.net