## The

# Homesteader

A Publication of Homestead Presbytery



April 15, 2014

### Dear Kris

## Homesteader Print Version

Please share this with other members of your congregation - You are welcome to use it as a Sunday bulletin insert, forward as an email, print copies OR include all or part of it in your own church newsletter.



# **Maintain Unity**

Ephesians 4:1-6

A man stranded by himself on an island was finally discovered. His rescuers asked him about the three huts they saw there. He pointed and said, "This one is my home and that one is my church." He then pointed to the third hut: "That was my former church." Though we may laugh at the silliness of this story, it does highlight a concern about unity among believers.

The church of Ephesus during the time of the apostle Paul was comprised of both rich and poor, Jews and Gentiles, men and women, masters and slaves. And where differences exist, so does friction. One concern Paul Friendly Presbyterian Churches.org wrote about was the issue of unity. But observe what Paul said about this issue in Ephesians 4:3. He didn't tell them to be "eager to produce or to organize unity." He told them to endeavor "to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace." Unity already exists because believers share one body, one Spirit, one hope, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, and one God and Father of all (vv. 4-6)

How do we "keep the unity?" By expressing our different opinions and convictions with lowliness, gentleness, and patience (v. 2). The Spirit will give us the power to react in love toward those with whom we disagree. Albert Lee

Unity among believers comes from our union with Christ.

**Prayer-**Lord, may our walk and our service be a picture of the unity of Father, Son, and Spirit in heaven above. Fill us with the fruit of the Spirit

# All Youth Invited to Summer Missions

**Camp** four work days (5-6 hours ea) and a Sabbath/Free Day at the end of the week. Work sites/projects are lined up with help from the Y's Volunteer Coordinator.

Where: Estes Park. CO. YMCA Camp of The Rockies

**When:** June 2-8, 2014 More Info

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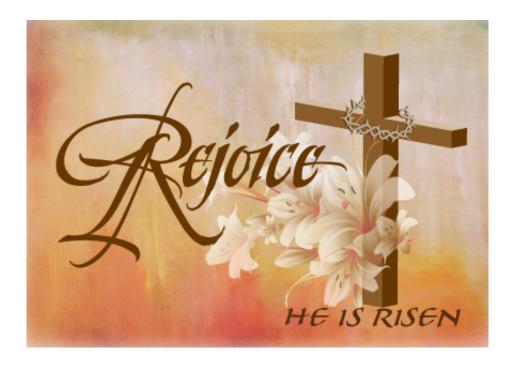
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Musicians

Taken from: Our Daily Bread, Sunday, Feb. 9, 2014 and Through the Lighthouse (Schuyler, First Presbyterian)

...and suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples. 'He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee, there you will see him.'..." Matthew 28:2-7



Tell us what's going on in the life of your congregation or ministry - Church news, event promotion, mission articles and photos are all welcome!

Please submit articles to Jessica at hpoffice@homesteadpres.org

or mail to 8300 East Pointe Rd. Lincoln, NE 68506

#### **Contact Information**

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