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## Homesteader - July 15, 2014

### AROUND THE PRESBYTERY...

United Presbyterian, Pawnee City  
by Pastor Duane Westing

At one time, Pawnee City had three Presbyterian churches. The first was built in 1871. By 1959 all had been merged as The United Presbyterian Church USA of Pawnee City. In the recent past our church has shared a pastor with the Humboldt Presbyterian Church and after that with the Falls City Presbyterian Church. In 1999 our church began sharing a pastor with the First Christian Church/DOC and through the years we have worked closer and closer with one another and currently share this building, with separate governments, but worshipping together, as we alternate worship services monthly observing the different traditions and hymnals, although having a joint choir.

Our most famous member was not Larry the Cable Guy, who was the son of the Baptist minister in town, but probably Kenneth S. Wherry who served in the US Senate as the Republican Whip from 1944-1948. Current member Bill Colwell, 98, who continues to attend every Sunday, was a highly ranked FBI agent in the war and later served as a lawyer and judge in Pawnee City before serving on the Nebraska Supreme court. Ross Thiemann was the Homestead Presbytery General Assembly commissioner in 1965. Our only other GA commissioner was Johnny Wilson in 1880.

This is a very compassionate congregation, which reaches out to our community in a variety of ways including meals on wheels, helping those in need of food and shelter, involvement in our school and city government, our after school program, providing

We are currently getting ready to host the community VBS this month and are in the midst of forming an envisioning team from our two church families to look for better ways to minister to our community and the greater body of Christ in the world.

There have been many improvements to our building in recent years including new storm windows, siding, refurbished pews, new doors, upstairs and downstairs ramps, and a newly remodeled kitchen downstairs. New carpet downstairs is coming soon.

### PANAMA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Other than a few rains getting in the way, the Panama construction project is going very well. The foundation is poured and the basement framing is completed. First floor framing is well under way and trusses will be installed soon. Please keep Panama in your prayers constantly as they are currently functioning with no hot water or bathrooms (though a port-a-potty is available on the south side of the building!).



funeral services for non-members. Our members are also very involved in various service organizations.

Our church, through the years has been known for its mission giving to the Benevolence Fund and to special mission funds such as the \$20,000 given, a few years ago, to help purchase a Cath lab in India that continues to save many lives.

cont'd...



### Blessing Opportunity *2 Corinthians 9:7-8*



NORTHEAST NEBRASKA STORM RELIEF FUND All funds raised will go directly to storm relief in Homestead Presbytery [DONATE](#)

### Keep Thinking...

The nice thing about wearing a smile is that one size fits everybody.

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