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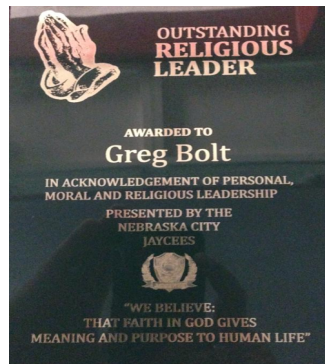
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## Homesteader - January 20, 2015

### AN UNEXPECTED HONOR

Rev. Greg Bolt, First Presbyterian Church, Nebraska City



Early this summer I received a postcard in the mail at my office inviting me to attend a meeting of the Nebraska City Jaycees where there would be a presentation of community awards and an introduction to the "Nothing but Nets" campaign from the National Jaycees organization. As with many postcards and invitations to community events I filed it with all of the other unsolicited mail I receive.

A couple of weeks later, I was invited to a facebook® event advertising the same thing, I clicked maybe because it was on a Sunday afternoon and I like to keep those open if I can, but sometimes it's good to be seen in the community.

A week before the event I received another copy of the postcard both at my home and at the office. I also received a phone call from the local president of the Jaycees. I thought they were being overly aggressive with their invitation, but I thought, "They must really want me to be there." So when the time came, I loaded up my two very tired children and my wife and we went to this event.

There were only a handful of people there, a couple of members of the church, and we were the

### A FEW FACES OF HOMESTEAD...



Rev. Duane Westing-Panama



Rev. Jim Goble-Hon.  
Retired

only ones not associated with the Jaycees organization. After listening to a wonderful presentation about how the Jaycees had been raising money to purchase malaria nets for sub-Saharan Africa, I wondered if I was going to be asked to get the church involved with the Jaycees' mission.

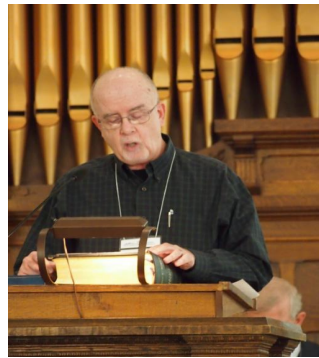
The president of the Jaycees stood up and said that it was now time for the presentation of their community awards. She said the first award would be for our "Outstanding Religious Leader". She began by saying, "This leader has been very active in our community, he has participated in parades, helped out with after school programs, helped coach the high school baseball team, and, even, coached a Jaycees middle school and t-ball team." I heard that and thought to myself, "Hey, I did all of those things!"

Laura Liesemeyer, president of the Jaycees, then said, "Our Outstanding Religious Leader Award goes to Rev. Greg Bolt."

I was shocked and humbled. I was honored and surprised.

Some members of my church, which were very involved with the Jaycees, had nominated me and I heard that the vote for the award was unanimous. I've never received an award like that and I've never sought accolades for the ministry that I do, I simply try my best to do what I believe God has called me to do, the way God has called me to do it.

It is an honor to be named the Nebraska City Jaycees' Outstanding Religious Leader and I hope that it continues to lead my faith community and me to outstanding faith leadership and discipleship.



Rev. Steve Piper-Palmyra



Rev. Brian Johnson-Norfolk



Rev. Neal Allen-Interim Schuyler  
Rev. Cathy Allen-Clarkson

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



GIVE...If you can't tithe to your church, try increasing your offering by 10%!

## Keep Thinking...

The challenge of change for a congregation on a steady downward slope is precisely to redefine and

redirect its mission.  
-Peter Steinke

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