

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

HCN Building Improvements



Basement Kitchen



Upstairs Kitchen

A HUGH thank you to **JASON HUTCHINSON, JAMES LAMBLIN, RUSS MILLER** and his team for all their work in updating the HCN building kitchens!

We invite you to come by and see the upgrades in person.



Mark Elliott, DoM
Angie Posey, Office Manager
Denise Bauer, Bookkeeper
Darrell Cumpton, Facilities Manager



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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

APRIL
6-7 Pastor's Wife Appreciation Month
7 Disaster Relief Show & Shine – Beacon of Hope, GI
7 KNCSB VBS Jumpstart Clinic @ WCC
28 HCN VBS Jumpstart Clinic @ LifeSpring Bellevue

MAY
15 HCN is a Polling Station for Gubernatorial Primary

JUNE
9 HCN Midwestern Seminary Graduation – HCN Worship Center
12-13 SBC Convention – Dallas TX

JULY
23-27 Children's Camp @ Camp Goodwill

AUGUST

SEPTEMBER

OCTOBER

"I know, Lord, that a man's way of life is not his own; no one who walks determines his own steps." –Jer. 10:23

PASTOR'S WIFE

APPRECIATION MONTH

APRIL 2018

Charm is deceptive and beauty is fleeting, but a woman who fears the Lord will be praised. -Prov. 31:30



Your work produced by **faith**, your labor prompted by **love**, and your endurance inspired by **hope** in the Lord Jesus Christ. -1 Thessalonians. 1:3

Heartland Church Network would like to encourage your church to take the month of April and specifically thank your pastor's wife for all she does. Some options to show your appreciation are below:

- Personal Phone Calls
- Spa day/Pedicure/Manicure
- Weekend trip with husband
- Gift cards
- Massage
- Chocolate
- Attend church functions regularly
- Cards of appreciation
- Babysitting
- Prioritize uninterrupted time with my husband
- Clean my house



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HEARTLAND
CHURCH NETWORK

\$90.00

DEADLINE TO REGISTER IS
JUNE 20

**2018
CHILDREN'S CAMP**

JULY 23-27

Our 5 day Children's Camp packs ALL the fun of summer. From making s'mores around the campfire and swimming to crafts and learning more about Jesus. Parents can count on a quality, safe, and affordable opportunity that ensures their children will have an exciting and memorable week at camp. Don't wait! Give your child the opportunity to learn and grow this summer. Deadline to register is June 20. **REGISTER TODAY** at your church office!



AGES – Children who have finished 2nd – 6th grade
LOCATION – Goodwill Campgrounds / South Sioux City, NE

Cost includes meals, lodging, T-shirt and TONS of fun!

Have Questions?
Contact your church appointed Children's Camp Coordinator

You can download all Children's Camp Forms at
<http://www.heartlandchurchnetwork.com/childrens-camp.html>

Heartland Center for Continuing Education Graduation

The first ever formal graduation ceremony of the Heartland Center for Continuing Education will be held on Saturday, June 9 from 1:00-3:00 p.m. in the worship center at the Heartland Church Network Office. Twenty-three students will have completed the academic requirements to receive a Biblical Studies Certificate from Midwestern Baptist Bible College and Seminary in Kansas City. The certificate requires the completion of four Bible survey classes: New Testament I and II and Old Testament I and II. Once issued the certificate can be used as twelve hours of bachelor's level college credit at Midwestern.

A word of congratulations to the twenty-three students and a HUGE word of thanks to Dr. Steve Hicks who has taught all four classes. Another word of thanks to Dr. Curt Dodd, Westside Church, and their Discipleship Pastor Virgil Walker for hosting the classes. Everyone is invited to join us for this special time of celebration.

2018 Minister & Spouse Retreat

Participation continues to be strong as the Heartland Church Network hosted its 2018 Minister and Spouse Retreat at the Lied Lodge in Nebraska City on March 2-3. As usual the agenda is packed with free-time, fellowship, food, and fun. This year we had a special blessing as Charles and Joy McLain joined us and shared from their wealth of ministry experience. We want to say thanks to Bob Vance who provided worship music for us.

Charles served our association for six years as Associate DoM and is now pastor of First Baptist Church of Festus/Crystal City, Missouri. Just two weeks before they joined us in Nebraska City, the McLain's church in Missouri held a surprise 45th Anniversary to recognize Charles' 45th year of service as a pastor. On Friday night, Joy shared her testimony and sang *I'm Not Ashamed of the Gospel*. Then Charles shared from scripture and his wealth of experience four specific insights:

1. To assume you will end well just because you started will is foolish—time alone will prove our faithfulness.
2. To not address personal fatigue, pressure, pride, and arrogance will lead to grave errors or sins.
3. To jeopardize your family or your church when you have made a bad decision and are unwilling to correct it will leave you ripe for the fall.
4. To rationalize your disobedience to get your way is rebellion.

On Saturday both Joy and Charles shared some "pearls of wisdom" learned in the "school of hard knocks."

- Protect your children
- Wives pray for your husbands—Joy shared a daily prayer guide with pastor's wives and a copy is available by contacting the associational office.
- Ability will take you to the top, but character will keep you there.
- Jesus did not promise a comfortable life, but an abundant one.
- Be content to fulfill our particular calling—be happy with the way God created you.
- Finish well—even if we are called to serve in the shadows.

Part of Charles and Joy's story is that they met at First Southern Baptist Church in Dell City, Oklahoma when Dr. Jimmy Draper was pastor. They have been blessed by that relationship throughout their ministry and passed along that blessing to us. They provided for all couples a copy of Jimmy Draper's book *Don't Quit Before You Finish*. Thank you Charles and Joy!!

So you don't forget to set your calendars for March 8-9, 2019 as we have already scheduled the Lied Center for next year's retreat.



2018 Taste of the World Created Connections and Sweet Memories

LifeSpring Church in Bellevue opened the doors of their fellowship area as HCN coordinated its second annual Taste of the World event. The event was held on Saturday, March 17 from 10 a.m. to noon. In spite of several last minute cancellations due to all the unsavory flu bugs running around, there were still plenty of sumptuous international flavors to sample.

The event is designed to celebrate the diversity that is in our world as it is reflected in the various cultures of HCN churches. It provides an opportunity for those churches to share the uniqueness of their culture and ways that sister churches can specifically pray for them. It is a perfect place to help children and youth learn more about the cultures of their fellow classmates.

This year participants were exposed to foods from cultures like India, China, Korea, Native American, and Latino. Tables also reflected ministries like Freeway that reaches into the street culture as they served street/prison nachos; WiFi that reaches out to international students serving mini-cupcakes with national flags; and Disaster Relief that assists distressed families as they provided bottled water.

A word of thanks to LifeSpring in Bellevue and to all the participating churches and ministries.



Christmas in January is still a popular event

In spite of the onslaught of a long-lasting and wide spread flu bug, the 2018 HCN Christmas Fellowship still drew a strong crowd. Held annually at the Millard Social Hall, this year's event was on Saturday, January 13. The event is attended by pastors, church staff (for larger churches), leadership team members (for smaller churches), and their spouses. It is designed as a time of fellowship and encouragement. HCN's goal is to provide a fun and relaxing atmosphere where once each year busy church leaders don't have to plan, prepare, host, and clean up—just show up!

We were blessed by the praise team of Southview Church in Lincoln led by their worship leader Myra Boden. Craig Liscom, Omaha area CPC, shared words of encouragement from II Samuel 23 as he pointed out virtues of David's Mighty Men. Pray for Craig and Elizabeth as he has recently accepted a call to serve as Send City Coordinator in the Chicago metro area.

Mark your calendars for January 12, 2019 for next year's Christmas Fellowship.





The **Disaster Relief Show and Shine** event is held to give people an opportunity to see most of HCN's Disaster Relief fleet as well as give an opportunity for participants to be trained in the Disaster Relief Disciplines so they are ready to be deployed, as Jesus hands and feet, in case of an emergency. This event is absolutely **FREE** and sponsored by Heartland Church Network

Dates: Friday, April 6 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm
 Saturday, April 7 9:00 am – 5:00 pm
All meals will be provided

Hosted by: Beacon of Hope Church
 2525 W. State St., Grand Island NE

REGISTRATION IS REQUESTED

Deadline to RSVP is March 30, 2018

Please RSVP to:
 Darrell Cumpton at darrellcumpton@gmail.com 402.297.9442
 Kathy Cumpton at k2thecumpton@gmail.com or 402.265.2043

Training in the following disciplines will be available:

- | | | |
|--|----------------|---------|
| Involving Southern Baptist in Disaster Relief* | Mud/Ash Out | Shower |
| Chaplaincy (males and females are encouraged) | Mobile Kitchen | Laundry |
| Assessor (Prerequisites: Chainsaw & Mud/Ash Out) | Chainsaw | |

**Required along with one other discipline to be an official Disaster Relief volunteer.*



Two HCN Churches Vote to Call New Pastors

On Sunday, March 18th Harrison Street Baptist Church (HSBC) in LaVista and LifeSpring Church voted to extend a call to pastoral candidates. HCSB called Doug Hall who comes from Windsor, Missouri where he had served as pastor of First Baptist Church for seventeen years. LifeSpring called Shane Lester to serve as campus pastor for its Midtown Omaha location. Shane comes from Olathe, Kansas where he had served as pastor for Vista Baptist Church for three years.

Both church search committees used a more robust process than is typically used by churches. In addition, Harrison Street pursued a very unique process as their pastor, Roger Criser, announced his intention to retire, and to continue to serve while the church sought his replacement. Several months ago Roger invited DoM Mark Elliott to introduce to the church's leadership team what he has dubbed "The Intentional Transition Process." It combines some of the time proven steps of the *Intentional Interim Process*, but instead of being led by an interim pastor, the early steps are led by the retiring pastor who is aided by a coach/consultant. Dr. Larry Allen who has been certified in the *Intentional Interim Process* and DoM Mark Elliott served in those roles. When the timing was right a Pastor Search Committee was elected and DoM Mark Elliott began to facilitate the following rigorous four-step process—this same process was used with the LifeSpring Midtown search team:

- General orientation to the search process.
- Each search team member was asked to bring to the next meeting ten specific qualities, skills, experiences, etc. they believed would be imperative for their next pastor. From that list the team discussed in detail each suggestion. The net result was an in-depth understanding of each team member's views and a list of 25-30 potential criteria.

- At the next meeting they discussed and refined their list to 10-15 Criteria unique to this church for this transition time in its history—these go deeper than what Mark calls "Permission to Play" qualities listed in Timothy, Titus, and I Peter that are true for every church. From that list, the team differentiated between must have criteria and desired criteria. Then they established a numerical weighting for desired criteria (1-10).
- Each search team member was asked to bring to the next meeting one "behavioral based" question for each of the criteria. The team then developed 3-5 "behavioral based" questions that would be used to determine the strengths of a particular candidate in each criteria area. With the criteria and questions in hand, the teams created a candidate and a reference questionnaire that would be used to probe areas related to both "permission to play" and "criteria unique to our church" categories.
- After all of the previous steps were completed, the team began to receive resumes and were challenged to compare candidates to the established criteria grid and NOT to other candidates.

When the process was completed, search team members as well as the two candidates who were invited to come in view of a call commented on how it made their process more effective. Watch for the next issue of Heartland Happenings to get a personal introduction to Pastor Doug and Pastor Shane and their families.

