

## Otis? Where's Otis?

"We want you to come and be our pastor!" said the female voice at the other end of the line. Wow, that was fast, I thought. I asked where Otis was, and she told me it was in eastern Colorado. They flew us out there for the interview and we began our education about how important it is to know about location as well as people.

A pastor enters into a culture as well as a congregation and one's own cultural outlook is often very different from the one you are now entering.

En route from the airport, we passed through towns that got smaller and smaller. We wondered just how small Otis was? Very small, and, literally, out in the middle of nowhere.

Before we arrived in Otis, our understanding of farming and farmers came from the painting, "American Gothic," which portrays a humorless farmer and his wife. We quickly learned that farmers were considerably more sophisticated than we'd thought. I was interviewed by two men, one in overalls, another dressed casually, like a business man. After it was over, I learned the local banker wore the overalls and the farmer was dressed like the business man.

*Cont. on the back...*

# HOPE PRESBYTERIAN FAMILY NEWS

April 7, 2019



**RED!** - A huge step in Hope's Sanctuary renovation is painting of the exterior. This is now complete, painting has been done, walls, doors, windows and trim all done. We are now RED. Embrace the new color of Hope-Highland Church. Let's move forward with the color of the HOLY SPIRIT, the flame of Pentecost, moving with inspiration and energy into a fruitful future serving Jesus Christ.



**PARDON OUR DUST!** We are almost done with repainting the church exterior and renovations of the sanctuary are next.

**EASTER CARNIVAL** - Outreach is still looking for volunteers (13-17) to help with snacks, the information table, hiding eggs, etc. **WE ALSO NEED LOTS OF CANDY DONATIONS.** *Please drop off wrapped, non-chocolate candy in the church office.* The event will be Saturday, April 13th from 10:00 to noon. See Beth Walley, Amy Belden, or Vicky Reed to put your name forward or for more info.

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"God is most glorified in us when we are most satisfied  
in Him"

*John Piper*

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In small towns, as in bars, everyone knows your name. In a matter of days, the entire town knew I was the new pastor of the Presbyterian Church. We even made the local paper.

One man asked me where we were from. I said, "What's the worst place you can imagine?" he said, "California, San Francisco area." That's where we were from.

After three years in Otis, I realized I felt drawn to Interim ministry and felt that it was what I was called to be. But I will never forget Otis, and what I learned there.

So where is Otis? It's in Colorado, between Plattner and Hyde. Everybody knows that.

### Clem Street



### CONTACT US

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**MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE:** April 18, 6:30 p.m.

**EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE:** April 21, at 6:30 a.m. on the lawn. Continental breakfast to follow in Hambley Hall.

**DAY CAMP** - Day Camp, June 3-7: We need volunteers to provide dinner for our five Cedarkirk staffers each night during camp. Helpers would need to cook a meal or get a takeout for 5 and bring it to the church. Please see Amy Belden if you're interested.

**GROWING TOGETHER** – an adult Sunday school class are delving into new ways and reasons to “pray continually.” Starting this Sunday, any and all are encouraged to join this 6-week study, at 9:00 AM in Room 7 every Sunday. Coffee and small snacks provided! Give this adult class a try.

### NOTE FROM PASTOR GINNY

*To our suncatchers, some of you are preparing to go North. Some of you have left already.*

*Please know that we appreciate your presence here and will miss you. As we go our separate ways, we might say to each other:*

*God be with you there.  
God be with you here. Amen*

### CHURCH EVENTS COMING UP

Mon.	04/08	10:00 a.m.	Missions meeting R5
Wed.	04/10	05:45 p.m.	WNA
		06:35 p.m.	PW Evening circle, children, youth studies
		07:00 p.m.	Bells practice
		07:30 p.m.	Choir practice
Thurs.	04/11	10.00 a.m.	PW Morning circle
		12:00 p.m.	Young at Heart potluck lunch
Sat.	04/13	09.00 a.m.	Men of Hope Breakfast
		10:00 a.m.	Easter carnival