



What's Up with the Parking Lot?

By Lee Tippe

Hi, I am Lee Tippe, church member and a member of our Building and Grounds Committee. Due to my training and experience in engineering, I was asked to prepare contract documents and work with the contractor to bring our parking lot up to a good functional level, one that is also affordable. I appreciate your trust as I answer some of the often heard questions about our new parking lot. I will go into some of the details that you may want to skip over.

The original parking lot was typical for commercial buildings circa 1970s, namely 3-inches of commercial mix asphalt over a 3-inch crushed rock base and a compacted native (earth) subgrade. Since its construction, the parking lot was seal coated perhaps 2 or 3 times, and received a topical treatment once. Otherwise, it did not receive any extensive work. The time had come to do more extensive work, including replacing much of the original surface. Keep in mind that the goal was restoration of the parking lot into a serviceable condition *versus* spending \$400,000 or more for complete reconstruction of the parking lot.

During work on the 2016 project, we immediately ran into a challenge. A former member of the Building and Grounds Committee commented that the earthen subgrade was in poor condition when the parking lot was constructed. This was borne out by the amount of asphalt base repair and subgrade repair required before the seal coat surface you now see was placed.

Given my professional background, I knew the base repair and subgrade repair was necessary and included provisions for both in the contract documents. After inviting bids, we received two bids from qualified contractors. They were reasonably close to each other; they were also close to my own cost estimate. This was a good indication that both contractors understood project requirements.

As I stated above, the 2016 parking lot repair is restoration in kind, not a \$400,000 or greater reconstruction with a surface made out of Portland Cement Concrete or full depth (at least six inches) asphalt pavement. Please understand that making the parking lot permeable would have increased the price even more. The awarded contract, based on the low bid received, was approximately \$55,000. With quantity overruns in asphalt base repair and subgrade repair, final construction costs will be approximately \$66,000.

(The contract for the 2016 parking lot repair is a unit price contract, which means the bid form listed estimated quantities for various work items. Both bidders provided a unit price for



each of those items bid. Unit price is taken, times the quantity of each item, and these amounts are summed to determine the bid, and contract, amount. If the actual measured quantity for a given item is less or greater than the original estimate, the amount paid for the item is adjusted based on bid unit price times actual quantity. This is fair to both the contracting authority — FPC in this case — and to the contractor. Unit price contracts are standard practice in highway and heavy construction.)

Please keep in mind that the work on the parking lot is not complete. We have installed a seal coat surface. Typical practice with seal coat surfaces is to let them cure awhile before loose crushed rock is removed. Cedar Rapids Streets Division typically

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Dear sisters and brothers of First Presbyterian Church,

The peace of the Lord be with you!

The painful data is now in, after decades of experimentation. Apparently churches have stopped making Christians. The decline is obvious, based on the emergent phenomenon known as the “nones and dones” (the non-affiliated).” It is a problem to which Christian congregations have contributed since the Second World War, although we can’t blame ourselves alone. Cultural pressures, high birth rates, lack of data and our distaste for change have impeded our grasp of our dilemma. Whatever the causes, we have now dedicated ourselves to addressing the challenge. Yet, before a solution is offered, the data and rise of the nones and dones invite some digging.

If members of First Presbyterian Church recall, shortly after my arrival here, our congregation was recognized as a numerically growing one in our Presbyterian Church (USA) denomination. A poll was taken of our members, and the truth was told. Although in the past decade – from 2000 to 2010 — the church had indeed grown numerically (which later proved inaccurate and even misleading: It turned out we had several inactive although officially “active members” on a different role, and they had never been removed as they should have been), according to our polled members they had neither grown in faith nor shared their faith. Understandably, some quibbled with the poll, especially the part about not sharing faith. Yet if we reflect on how many of us have spoken of Jesus to another person or even invited someone to church, we are invited to own that the poll may have been more accurate and reflective of us than feels comfortable.

Digging more deeply in the national data presented by the *Vibrant Faith* movement, the locus of the problem lies in the church not growing the faith of parents. They, in turn, are not growing the faith of their own children. Graded Sunday school, by consistently separating children from parents and most other adults every Sunday morning, has only contributed to the problem. I have to take as much responsibility for this outcome as any parent or pastor.

The best way to grow children into people who love Jesus Christ, and who see the reason for the church, is to provide church programming that is intentional about

- Bringing parents and children into the same room for celebration and learning in order to grow in love for Christ, and simultaneously teaching parents how to share Christ in their homes with their children. This is because Christian parents are the primary means for children to learn faith.
- Bringing children together with other adults (in addition to parents) for celebration and learning, thereby creating an extended church family for raising children in the faith. Children learn faith first from their parents and second from other faithful adults.
- Bringing children together with parents and other adults and using a variety of media and experiences to teach everyone together how to grow in their love for Jesus Christ.

The word “Koinonia” comes from the Greek. Originally it was used to signify “shared table fellowship.” Every Sunday morning, at 8:45 a.m. in our Ryerson Hall, breakfast is served. Then children, youth and adults gather at tables from 9:00 a.m. until approximately 10:15 a.m. for the purpose of celebrating, learning and sharing faith and the love of Christ. The first Sunday sets the theme for the month. The second and fourth Sundays still allow for children and adults to separate into age-appropriate groups during Koinonia, that is, after their initial gathering. The third Sunday is dedicated to mission, and the plan now is to make a brief, intergenerational in-town mission trip each third Sunday during the Koinonia time.

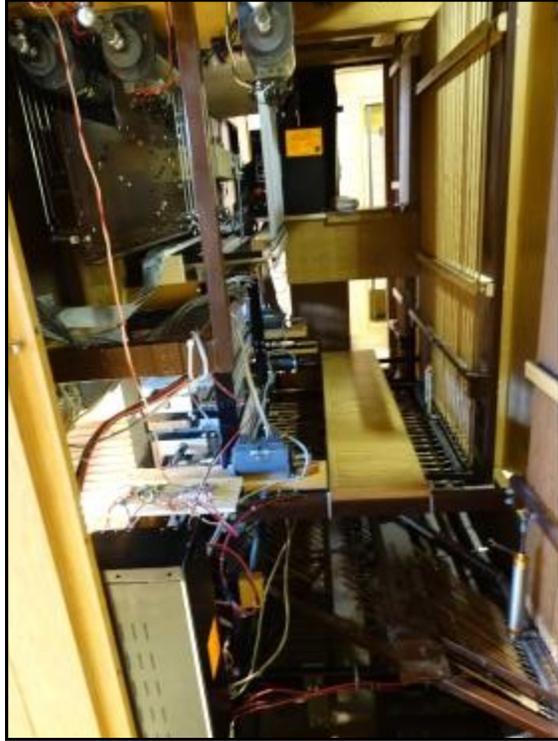
Programs such as Koinonia can form Christians, given the support of motivated parents and other adults committed to raising children and youth who love Jesus Christ. Granted, it does not look like the Sunday school program in which so many of us invested our time and effort over the years. Yet it is important that we “person up” and own that our prior outcomes have not matched our most extensive efforts. That is because our presuppositions were not right. Our society is fragmenting through divides of age, race, and many other distinctions between us. But faith only grows in community.

We all know well the definition of insanity! If we want a different result, we need to follow the data, and stretch ourselves to create “new wine for new wineskins.”

The staff of First Presbyterian Church invites you to table fellowship: Please come to Koinonia.

With love and blessings, Your Pastor,

Sam



Organ Restoration Update

Work on our Phelps Organ is right on schedule. As of this writing, most of the mechanical work and structural repairs on the organ is completed. This work was extensive and included cleaning, replacement of gaskets, leathers, roller brackets, etc. All plastic parts have been replaced with metal. Rewiring, refelting and lubrication has been done on most of the instrument. In some instances, entirely new mechanisms have been built to ensure that the organ functions well into the future and other parts have been rebalanced and adjusted. Our friend Jens Peterson from the Casavant headquarters spent most of the month of September on site. In the next several weeks, the remaining mechanical work will be finished by our local technician, Patrick Budelier. During November the organ will be voiced and tuned. We still anticipate having use of the restored organ by December. 1.



Deacons Bench

Care Package for members who are away at college or serving in the military.

Twice a year, boxes of practical and not-so-practical items let those who are far from home know they're being thought of. If you would like to include your family member on our care package list, please e-mail the name with

postal address to Rhonda Barr at JOBennis@mchsi.com, by **FRIDAY, OCTOBER 28**.



Deacon Neighborhood Update: Chitoka Guerrero-Webb is our new Deacon replacing Ben Urick, who has moved to NC. Chitoka will be serving as a Deacon to the Green Neighborhood, along with Cedric Lee. The Green Neighborhood is located in the area of downtown and west Iowa City, around the University. You may contact Chitoka by email: cwebb440@gmail.com.



Did you know?

Did you know there is a way to recycle your used eyeglasses and help folks who really need them? FPC member Karen Hurt, an employee of UIHC eye department, recently shared that there is a program for refurbishing lenses. The lenses are then placed on the website "Re-Spectacle" or accompany physicians making international visits where lenses are

desperately needed such as Haiti. If you have lenses you no longer need or use, consider donating them to this worthy program. A box marked used eyeglasses will be placed in Ryerson Fellowship Hall.

The Communion of Saints—Sunday, November 6

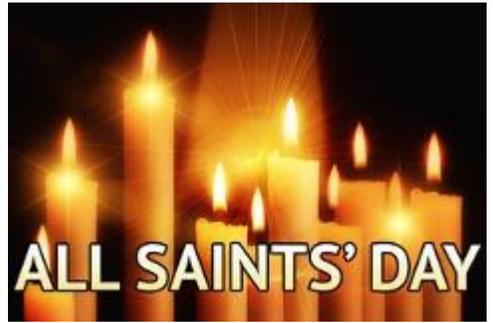
For many of us, the term “saint” seems to denote a person who is not like us and, in most cases, has died and is remembered on the day set aside as **All Saints Sunday**. Each time we recite along with other believers The Apostles’ Creed, we say the phrase:

“I believe in the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the resurrection of the body . . .”

Thus, in the Creed the communion of saints is hemmed in behind and before the body and the body—that is, by the body that is the church and by the resurrected body of Christ. So communion with the saints comes about because the saints/believers are in communion with Christ Jesus and the faithful from every time and place. We believe that nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus (Romans 8:38b-9). Our communion with God and one another is not ended by death. The communion is not limited by where those saints are in time and place. Those we name—as well as those who are unnamed or even unknown—remain, with us, part of the body of Christ.

On **All Saints’ Sunday, Nov. 6**, we lift up especially the lives of those children of God who have died in the past year, giving thanks for their lives and faith. We remember their lives and those of other faithful believers who have been examples of what we are called to be and do. During a time of remembrance we will have an opportunity to **light a candle in memory of or in honor of a saint** who has had an impact on our lives.

As we commemorate these saints, we are reminded that we, too, are invited to be communicants with Christ Jesus’ body, both the body that is the church and the resurrected body. We are called to join those believers in witnessing to God’s action in our lives. They become one of the “Cloud of Witnesses” who run the race of faith in this time and place and with this people, as well as beyond all times, places, and peoples in order to bring about the realm of God on earth.



First Presbyterian Church is excited to welcome Erin Landsee as the new Assistant to Worship, Music, and Children’s Programs

Erin grew up in Dubuque, Iowa, and graduated from the University of Iowa in 2004. She taught elementary school for five years, and then worked for a non-profit, inner city mission for 6 years in downtown Toronto, Canada. She also teaches yoga, loves nature, camping, and spending time with her family. Erin and her husband, Ben, met as campers at Camp Wyoming. They have two children, Joey, 4, and Ruby, 2. Erin is thrilled to be coming on board at First Pres and looks forward to becoming an active part of this faith community.

Jesus said, “Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs.” -Matthew 19:14

On September 25, we welcomed Billie Feagins in baptism as a child of God. At hers and every baptism, we as a congregation make a promise to the child being baptized and their family to help guide and nurture them “by word and deed, with love and prayer.” This is a promise made not just for the day of baptism, but for that child’s entire life. What does it look like to guide and nurture the children and families of First Presbyterian Church by word and deed, with love and prayer? Each week in the bulletin look for an idea about how to be a welcoming and loving presence to those worshipping with children in our congregation and try it out!



Being with family is how we learn to be family. Worship is no different. Young people giggle, they poke, they ask questions and they swing their legs because they are young children. Children learn about worship and how to participate by experience, by how they are welcomed into the community, by what they see big people doing. While we do not want our children to be disruptive or hamper the worship of others, all of us together need to be reminded that children are not just the church of the future. They are the church of the present and are to be treasured as such. Children and adults alike are able to watch for God, and participate in God’s love and healing.

(excerpts taken from <https://nextchurch.net/welcome-little-children-worship/>)

First's Family

Newsletter DEADLINE

The newsletter is designed to keep the congregation aware of church events and church life. The first of each month is the deadline for publication covering the 15th of the current month to the 15th of the following month. Articles no longer than 400 words should be submitted to tammy.foster@firstpreswiwoacity.org. Thank you!

October 15-31

10/15 Marvin Bergman
 10/15 Steve Hurt
 10/15 Taylor Dengler
 10/16 Ed Mason
 10/17 Dorothy Hoak
 10/18 Darlene Bergman
 10/18 Joye McKusick
 10/20 Emilio Estudillo
 10/22 Bertha Armstrong
 10/22 Jeff Franz
 10/22 Bonnie Neubauer
 10/23 Hazel Long
 10/23 Dan Thedens
 10/23 Dave Nicholson
 10/24 Andrew Franz
 10/24 Sally Staley
 10/28 Bob Mikelson
 10/28 Jan Walker
 10/28 Celia Ruyle
 10/30 Greg Muilenburg
 10/30 Jane Skinner

November 1-15

| | |
|--------------------------|------------------------|
| 11/1 Cathy Fehr | 11/7 Andreas Soemadi |
| 11/1 Boni Swails | 11/8 Alyssa Selmer |
| 11/2 Mishelle Eckland | 11/8 Duane Thompson |
| 11/3 Alice Degner | 11/9 Lou Licht |
| 11/3 Louise Gisolfi | 11/9 Riley Smith |
| 11/3 Sara Schwartz | 11/11 Mary Ellen Stamp |
| 11/3 Carol Spangler | 11/13 J.J. DeRyke |
| 11/3 Jeanette Winegarden | 11/14 Emma Gier |
| 11/4 John Staley | 11/14 Max Jacobus |
| 11/4 Nancy Weber | 11/15 Nick McMillan |
| 11/5 Dorothy Seebohm | 11/15 Joel Hurt |
| 11/6 Dan Katalinich | 11/16 Ron Cole |

Congratulations!

Richard Burton, professor in the UI College of Dentistry, has assumed the role of president of the American Board of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery (ABOMS). This one-year commitment represents the seventh of eight years of his service with the ABOMS board of directors.



The mission of ABOMS is to ensure public safety and optimal care through the development and maintenance of high standards of certification and re-certification of diplomates in the specialty of oral and maxillofacial surgery.

Kirk Fridrich, professor and department head of oral and maxillofacial surgery at UI hospital dentistry, notes that Burton should be congratulated "on this distinguished professional achievement and for representing the University of Iowa College of Dentistry and University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics (UIHC) in such an exemplary manner."



Known to have been Hospitalized:

MaryAnn Clemons, Laura Hagemann, John Phipps, Hazel Long and Sharon VanDusseldorp

Please be in prayer for our friends:

Gloria Zajick, Joyce and David Stochl, on the death of Joe, who died October 7.





EQUIPPING MINISTRY

*“For where two or three are gathered
in my name, I am there among them.”
-Matthew 18:20*

Koinonia Every Sunday, 9-10:15 a.m.

What is “Koinonia?”

That’s the name for our new intergenerational Sunday School format. Koinonia is a Greek word that means “to be in community with other Christians.”

October

Theme: “Being a Stranger in a Foreign Land”

Scripture texts: Psalm 137:1-6, Matthew 25:34-40

- Oct. 16 Mission: Pack Halloween goody bags to include with October Operation Backpack ministry
- Oct. 23 Break-Out Sessions
- Oct. 30 Reformation Sunday Games and Activities

November

Theme: “Being Thankful”

Scripture texts: Exodus 15:1-19, Luke 17:12-19

- Nov. 6 Learning and exploring all together in Ryerson Fellowship Hall
- Nov. 13 Break-Out Sessions
- Nov. 20 Mission
- Nov. 27 Break-Out Sessions

Halloween Party!

Friday, October 28, 6–7:30 p.m.

Dress up in your Halloween costume and come for activities, games, and treats from Halloween traditions around the world!



The Way 4th-6th grade Youth Group

Thursday, November 10

6:00–8:30 p.m. Youth Group

Thursday, December 22

6:00–8:30 p.m. Christmas Eve rehearsal,
Christmas Party!



*Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth.
Worship God with gladness;
come into God's presence with singing.*

Highlight on a Hymn

Glory to God Hymn 404, *What Is This Place*

Author: Huub Oosterhuis (b. 1933); trans. David Smith (b. 1923)

Tune: KOMT NU MET ZANG

Composer: Anon.; harmony by Bernard Huijbers (1922-2003)

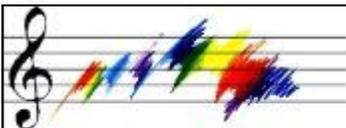
The world of hymnody occasionally creates some surprising alliances. This text by a Dutch Jesuit has been strongly embraced by North American Anabaptists because it agrees so well with their concepts of church and worship. In fact, when the Church of the Brethren, the General Conference Mennonite Church, and the Mennonite Church in North America jointly produced a hymnal in 1992, they chose this hymn to lead off the collection.

The first stanza clearly establishes the distinction between the church as the people and the meetinghouse as the building where they gather. Stanzas 2 and 3 celebrate respectively the gifts of Word and Table in images that seem both fresh and right. The final stanza also points to the dimensions of justice and peace that emerge from the encounter with God's revealed purpose and spiritual provision.

In the original printing, only the melody line is given in notation, though a lute tablature is also provided. All note values and pitches here preserve those of the 17th-century printing. Like the labels given to other tunes in this collection with roots in dance forms, this one is identified as a "Bransle Guinée," indicating that it is a rustic circle or line dance usually of French origin, though the adjective *Guinée* suggests that this one is associated with the west coast of Africa (which may be only a fanciful label intended to make it seem exotic). For such dances, the music was frequently provided by the singing of the dancers.

The tune name is the modern spelling of the first four words of the original text, which can be translated "Comes now with song."

Excerpted from *Glory to God: A Companion* by Carl P. Daw Jr.



Youth Choir Fall Rehearsal Schedule

Youth Choir will meet twice a month during October and November. They will meet every Thursday during December. The schedule is as follows:

Thursday, October 6 and 27

7:30-8:30 p.m.

Sunday, October 30

9:30-11:30 a.m., Youth Choir sings in 10:30 worship

Thursday, November 3 and 17

7:30-8:30 p.m.

Thursday, December 1, 8, 15

7:30-8:30 p.m.

Thursday, December 22

6:00-8:30 p.m., Rehearsal for Christmas Eve and Christmas Party

Saturday, December 24

3:30-5:30 p.m., Youth Choir sings in 4:30 Christmas Eve service

Junior Choir postponed

Due to low attendance this fall, Junior Choir (grades 2-6) will be postponed and re-evaluated. Singers in grades 5 and 6 are invited and welcome to sing with Youth choir, which meets twice a month on Thursday evenings from 7:30-8:30 p.m. (see schedule). If you have a child in grades 2-6 who is interested in singing in choir, please contact Leah Bergman at 319-351-2660 or leah.bergman@firstpreswiowacity.org

Come sing with the Sanctuary Choir!



We want YOU to come sing with us! Sanctuary Choir is a warm, welcoming, and supportive group of singers who help with music leadership most Sundays at the 10:30 a.m. worship service. Rehearsals are Wednesdays from 7-8:30 p.m. Now is a great time to check it out as we start practicing for the season of Advent. You are always welcome to drop in and see what it's all about!

How will Jesus vote this year?

Join Jordan Smith Sunday, October 23 and October 30 in Coover Lounge at 11:45 a.m. as we listen and discuss with Jordan the following topics:

How Will Jesus Vote This Year? This simple question yields a wide variety of troubling responses, as well as hopeful ones, among the numerous groups and people that make up modern Christianity. Contemporary conflicts among Christians have deep roots in the volatile disagreements among the early followers of Jesus as they pursued questions such as “Does Christian mean anything when so many disagree on its definition in such a tumultuous age?” and “What is our role in an age of crisis?”

Jordan Smith will focus on the turbulent first century CE/AD and the historical and social contexts that influenced Jesus and his early followers. The first talk, “*Jesus Lost and Found*,” peels back the Jewish and Roman cultures in which Jesus was embedded and questions what we know, if anything, about the flesh and blood Jesus. The second talk, “*Is Good News Singular or Plural?*” examines the worlds of the Gospel writers and how each uniquely portrayed Jesus and the implications of

following him. Both talks will lead to reflections on what it means for people to claim Christian faith today. Plenty of time will be left for questions and conversation as we follow Jesus to the ballot box!



Jordan Smith came to the University of Iowa in 2008, where he teaches classes for both the Religious Studies and Classics departments and has served as the Undergraduate Outreach Coordinator for the Religious Studies Department since 2014. His general area of academic specialty is Judaism and Christianity in the Greco-Roman world, and his specific interests are in the development of afterlife and martyr ideology from the ancient to the modern worlds. He is currently writing a book on martyrdom and human self-sacrifice in early Christianity. He has been lucky enough to travel the world in his study, presenting at conferences and participating in international programs across the United States, Europe, and Israel. He also appeared in several episodes of the History Channel documentary *Bible Secrets Revealed* in 2013.



Relax, Recharge, Refresh!

Laughter and Latte Lite Women's Retreat will be held on October 29, 2016 at FPC Iowa City from 8:30 – 3:30. Check out the poster in Ryerson Fellowship Hall and sign up. Join us for a time of making connections with other FPC women, laughing, eating, praying, worshipping, doing Yoga, singing, sharing stories and much more. The cost is \$15. Scholarships are available by contacting Judy Whitford. For questions contact members of the retreat planning committee: Patti Bahr, Stephanie Brentner, Nancy Gardner, Ann Robinson, or Judy Whitford.

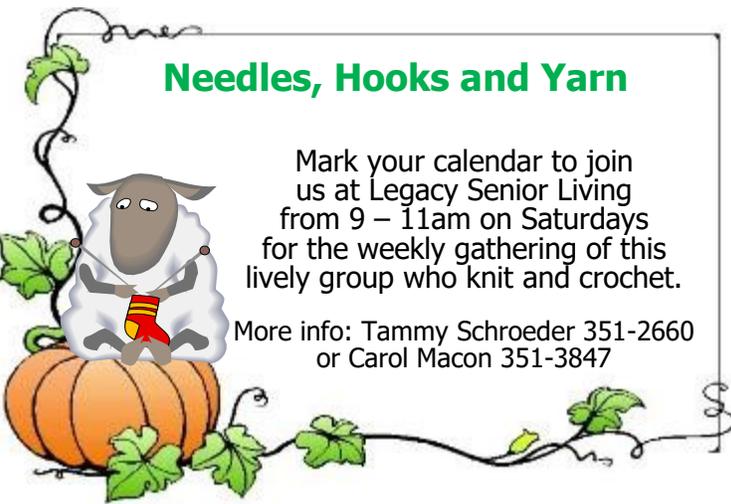
Wednesday Morning Bible Study

Join us in Coover Lounge from 9:30 – 10:30 a.m.
We are continuing to study the Book of Revelation.
The class is led by Sadie May and Pastor Sam Massey.
New members ALWAYS welcome.

Confirmands and Mentors

FPC's Confirmands and their mentors are invited to a lunch November 13 at 11:45 in Coover Lounge. This will be a time of icebreakers and getting-to-know-you activities.

Needles, Hooks and Yarn



Mark your calendar to join us at Legacy Senior Living from 9 – 11am on Saturdays for the weekly gathering of this lively group who knit and crochet.

More info: Tammy Schroeder 351-2660 or Carol Macon 351-3847

CAMP WYOMING



The First Presbyterian Church is having a family winter trip! The weekend of **January 13–15, 2017** join us as we play, worship, and grow together at Camp Wyoming. We hope that you and your family can join us!

Cost is \$30 per person, per night (children 0–5 are free). Scholarships are available, so please talk to Anna or Leah for more information. Families must register by November 6 if they are interested.

Look for the information table in Fellowship Hall!



Save the Date!

June 25–30, 2017

EDGE SUMMER MISSION TRIP
Asheville Youth Mission

Youth in 9th–12th grades this school year should save the date! This will be an AMAZING experience!

Hope you can join us!

September 2016 Session Highlights

submitted by Nancy Weber, Clerk of Session

The session met September 20, 2016 in Coover Lounge at 7:00 p.m. Pastor Sam called the meeting to order and lit the Christ candle. He read a passage from the book of Isaiah and then led us in prayer.

Special guest from the Committee on Preparation on Ministry Anita Burnett was welcomed, as was Jeremy Fletcher on behalf of REALM Planning.

The financial report, presented by Larry Bruner, was received. He reported that we appear to be in good shape at this point. As to the financial review, Elder Dale Kraus said they have received a variety of recommendations from the firm doing the review. The finance committee is preparing a list of actions for session to take in response. It will share the final review document and the recommended actions to be taken probably by the next meeting.

Minutes of the August 16, 2016 stated session meeting were approved.

Anita Burnett visited on behalf of the presbytery's Committee on Preparation for Ministry to explain the Commissioned Ruling Elder process.

A motion from Elder Ann Grosscup to name Chitoka Guerrero-Webb to assist the deacons with congregational care through December 31, 2016 due to Ben Urick's resignation and departure from our region (Nominating Committee will replace Ben through normal processes thereafter) was approved by email.

A motion to use \$1,500 unrestricted money from Burianek trust to send Anna Sheetz and Leah Bergman to attend the conference on Children, Youth, and Family Spiritual Formation in the Twin Cities in October, and to reimburse Tammy Schroeder from her continuing education money was approved by email.

A motion welcoming staff to attend session meetings as often as they would like for the next 6 months was approved. This will be re-evaluated after six months.

A motion permitting, for six months, the establishment of a temporary, semi-office in church lower level Rm. 14 for Refugee and Immigrant Association volunteers to meet with needy refugees and immigrants on Tuesdays, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., plus meet once a month on Saturdays for board meetings, beginning mid-October, 2016, was approved, with provisions to review after six months.

A motion from Administration and Personnel to hire candidate Erin Landsee as the part-time assistant to Leah Bergman, Minister of Worship, Music, and Children's programs was approved.

The REALM Planning report on long-range plan was given by Carol Ulch and guest Jeremy Fletcher. Carol talked process. Jeremy briefly explained the Long Term Planning document. Carol distributed the "2017 Operational Plan-Preparation" document and briefly spoke about budget formation and goals. Q&A followed. A motion was made and approved to receive the current iteration of the long-term planning report.

A motion was approved stating that, in compliance with Presbytery policy, the session of First Presbyterian Church, Iowa City request the Presbytery of East Iowa to concur with the institution of a capital campaign with a goal of \$1.15 million, a sum exceeding 10% of the church's operating budget (\$515,482).

Per Worship and Celebration's concern about crowding during intinction, a motion was made and approved to remove the first pews on each side at the front of the sanctuary.

Session approved dismissal with thanks for the search committee that brought us our new staff. Pastor Sam will write thank you notes to committee members.

Session discussed ways to alter/shorten Facebook postings of FPC services. Elder Richard Van Rheeden, who films and posts the services, asked what to remove from posts. During discussion a reminder was made that permission from parents allowing their minor children to be shown in church pictures and videos must be obtained through email or in writing.

Elder Vern Dengler brought up the question of whether we need an automatic door on the lower level. He also said that an extra \$40,000 may be needed to engineer the boiler.

Elder Ann Grosscup said the nominating committee requests more suggestions for deacons and elders.

Elder Dale Kraus reported briefly about the September 17, 2016 Presbytery meeting that he and Pastor Sam attended.

Elder John Barr gave a very brief update on the capital campaign.

A motion adjourning with sharing of joys and concerns, followed by prayer, was approved. Pastor Sam closed us in prayer.

The next session meeting will be held October 18, 2016, at 7 p.m., in Coover Lounge.



COOKIE WALK! 30th ANNIVERSARY Saturday, December 12

It is time to celebrate 30 successful years of our COOKIE WALK!

The thousands of dollars we have raised over those years have been invested in a number of mission projects. This year is no exception, as money will be directed to an all church food packing event. Just think how many lives have been touched by your baking cookies.

Keep up the good work and join the army of cookie bakers again this year. Let's make this one the biggest event ever.

Further information and questions to Sally Rickey, 337-9044



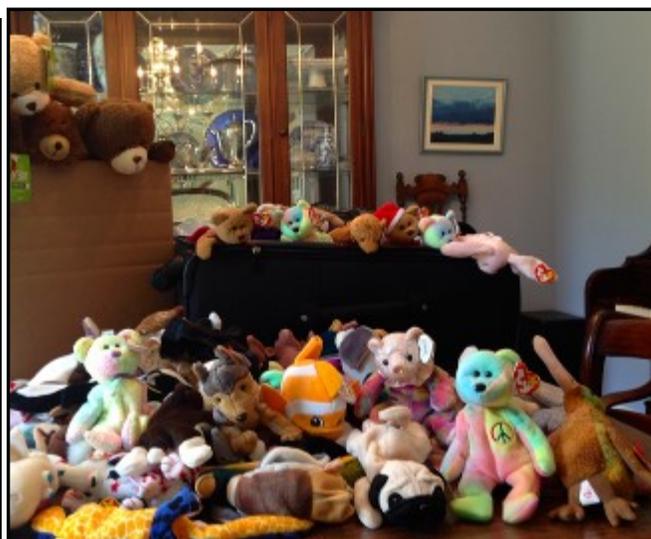
Pastor At Large

Recently members of the Consultation of Religious Communities have been invited to participate in dialogues with overseas leaders about issues of mutual concern. These dialogues are sponsored by the CIVIC's State Department project and occur in safe places where respectful conversations can occur. Last month, Pastor Sam and two other CRC members met with Muslims from Afghanistan and Pakistan to reflect on how moderates of different religions can build social capital with one another and resist extremism. This month Pastor Sam and one other pastor met with members of India's transgender community (one was a Bollywood director!). The conversation focused on how global faiths can understand and resist oppression of those who feel called to have a different body than the one into which they were born. Pastor Sam remarked about how much he learned through these conversations. He was especially amazed by how much these Hindus, Sikhs and Muslims know about the Christian Scriptures and how freely they spoke of Jesus and his love for all people. Pastor Sam wonders if we know our Bibles as well or are willing to speak so freely of the love of Jesus. He says he found it humbling.

**The October EAT OUT GROUP
has been cancelled. Boyd's has
closed and will not reopen.**



Becky Ross snapped this photo after Adele's first alteration lesson and both women think the dress turned out great. Adele was proud of her accomplishment ... (Becky was, too!) FPC and Holy Jerusalem Pentecostal Church (HJPC) members continue to meet regularly for learning and laughter in the lower level of FPC.



Veda's Visit

In September, Veda Gill visited our area, making stops in the Quad Cities, Cedar Rapids, Mediapolis, and, of course, here in Iowa City, where she attended a donor luncheon and a Friends of Pasrur potluck. She brought us positive news from the Pasrur Christian Girls' School. The Pasrur School's scores on standardized tests are extremely high and the girls have won several academic competitions. In addition, the income from tuition for the school has increased dramatically. This moves the school a good deal closer to its long-term goal of sustainability.

Stuffed Animal Donation

Last spring, we asked for donations of new and gently used stuffed animals, for our Pasrur Boarding House girls' Christmas presents. The girls at the school are 4–18 years old and are away from home. Veda suggested that they would really appreciate a little stuffed toy. We hoped to get enough for all 100 girls. We received **206 stuffed animals** from our generous congregation! All were packed in two HUGE suitcases that Veda took back with her. She will see that they are given to the girls at the boarding house. She said for most of the girls, it will be the first toy they have ever received.

(Parking Lot cont. from page 1)

lets a seal coated roadway cure for about two weeks. Given the time of year, night time temperatures, and the limited traffic on our parking lot compared to a typical city residential street, we are going to let the parking lot cure for about four weeks. This means that the loose rock will be removed no later than the end of next week. After the loose rock is removed, the parking lot will be restriped and signs repositioned as necessary. The total number of spaces will be comparable to previous layouts and the number of handicapped accessible spaces will be as before. Parking space widths and aisle widths will conform to applicable standards. Restriping will occur yet this fall.

I understand that some expected to see a black thick surface associated with a very costly asphalt reconstruction of our parking lot. Seal coat surfaces, such as the one we now have, will darken with weather and traffic. Eventually, the parking lot will be a darker gray (not black), but again, this process will take longer in a parking lot than a city roadway due to less traffic.

Yet at the end of the process we will have a sturdy, highly functional, and striped parking lot that will serve the Lord for years.

In addition to the parking lot repair, I have also taken on the project of extending a 1-inch water line and electrical service from our building to the garage. Since this type of work is outside my professional experience, I need to do some more study before proposing bid numbers for it. I expect to spend time over the winter and take bids in spring 2017 for work during 2017. Water and electrical lines can be directionally drilled under the parking lot without disturbing the surface. I will know more about associated cases after the study phase. More to follow on this.

You will see me singing in the choir, ringing bells, playing in the brass group or orchestra, or chugging coffee in our fellowship hour. Sam or Tammy Foster can point me out to you. I am pictured in our directory. I would be glad to answer questions one-on-one and make sure you have good information.



CHRISTMAS IS COMING!



~~**THE GOOSE IS GETTING FAT.**~~



NO! NO!

THE CRAFT BAZAAR IS COMING BACK.

Once again there will be a two-part bazaar in conjunction with our annual Cookie Walk on Saturday, December 12, and we need your help. We want handmade items... AND ... gently used items. It is no secret that there are many in this congregation with a multitude of creative talents. Why not exercise at least one of them and create something for the bazaar? Please think seriously about handmade items you are willing to create and donate to sell. Further ... let us know what you have in mind. This will help us plan accordingly with our publicity, display space, etc. There is a sheet in Ryerson Fellowship Hall to sign up once you have made your decision.

Questions or further information contact Nancy Ross, 3337-5436, therosses@mchsi.com.

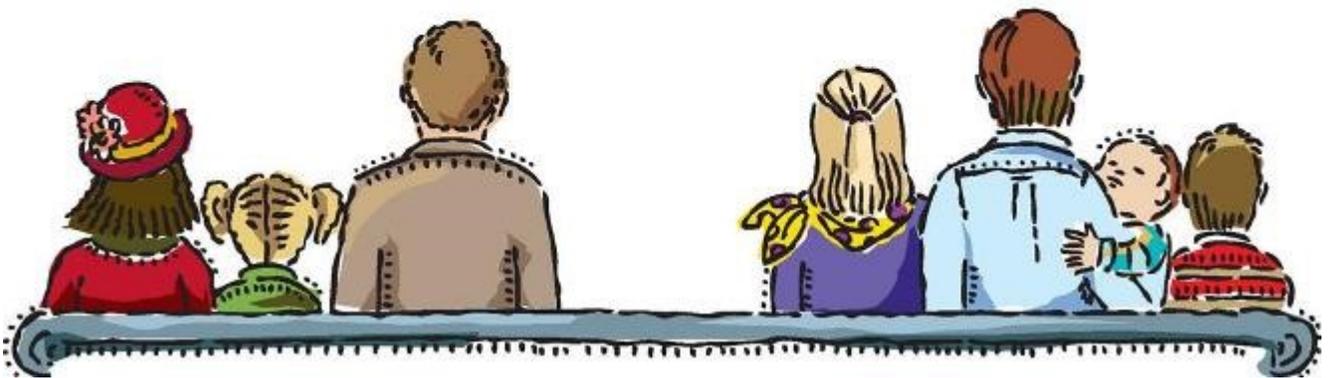


Thank you to all who have signed up to receive the newsletter on our website!

Once you have signed up, each month you will receive an email letting you know that the newsletter has been posted to the website, along with a link that will take you there directly. Contact Tammy Schroeder at 351-2660 by November 1 to be included in the next monthly email reminder.

Someone missing from your pew?

Knowing who is sitting with you in your pew, and letting us know when someone “goes missing,” helps keep track of our folks and provides timely pastoral care. Please let Pastor Sam know when your pew mate is missing more than a few Sundays or if you know of someone needing a pastoral contact.





**Don't be late for church!
Set your clocks back an hour
Saturday, November 5.**

FPC Book Club Invites You!
The book club meets in Ryerson Fellowship Hall from Noon - 1 p.m.

Oct. 26: *The Nightingale* by Kristin Hannah

Nov. 30: *Me Before You* by Jojo Moyes

Bring your lunch and share in the fellowship. For more information, contact Jan Walker at 358-6737



If you telephone the church office sometime between 12 noon and 1 p.m. and are directed to voicemail, please be patient. Staff takes 30 minutes a day for shared food, fellowship, and team building, so the actual time varies according to the needs of the church. At other times we may be on another line or in another part of the building addressing a ministry need. We will return your call!

First Presbyterian Church
2701 Rochester Ave.
Iowa City, Iowa 52245



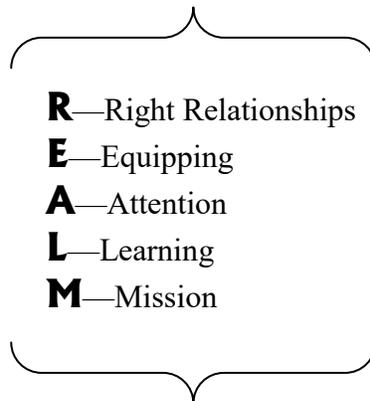
Public Office Hours:
9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Monday - Thursday
except holidays or when announced
Ph 319-351-2660
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Our Mission:

"Empowered by the Holy Spirit, to share the Word of God through Jesus Christ and to live lives of justice, mercy and faith."