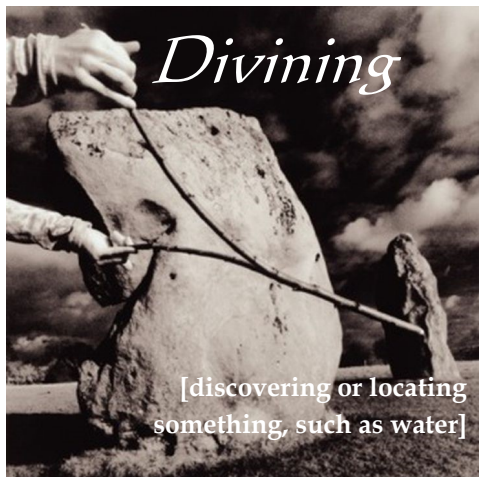


FIRST'S FAMILY



**February 15—March 15
2018**
Volume 62 Issue 2



This Lent, we will help each other search for the divine in our world during this season of journey, preparation, and contemplation. Starting with Jesus in the barren wilderness, we go in search of the baptismal water found in our celebration and renewal of baptism at the Easter Vigil. What do you use as your divining rod? How do you search for water? Where do you find the divine?

Lenten Worship:

Ash Wednesday, February 14, 7:00 p.m.
Sundays 10:30 a.m. (Lent I is February 18)
Palm Sunday, March 25, 10:30 a.m.
Maundy Thursday, March 29, 7:00 p.m.
Great Vigil of Easter, March 31, 7:00 p.m.
Easter Sunday, April 1, 10:30 a.m.



Join us for the 2018 Wednesday Evening Lenten Series "Divining: Stories of Faith." We will begin at 5:30 p.m. in Ryerson Fellowship Hall for a soup-supper followed at 6:00 with worship, the sharing of faith stories by a few of our members and discussion. We will finish at 7:00. Plan to join us for a time of fellowship, worship and listening to others' stories during this time of reflection.

February 21 – Jamie Helmick
February 28 – Edmond Bagaba
March 7 – Hongwook Suh
March 14 – Rebecca Blair
March 21 – Andreas Soemadi

New Prayer Center Opening Sunday, February 18

Beginning on the First Sunday of Lent, there will be a new prayer center on the lower level at the end of the hall to the right. During Lent, the prayer center will follow the theme of "Divining," exploring desert, water, and searching for the divine. The focus of the prayer center will change with the liturgical season. All are welcome to use the prayer center whenever and however they need to. Help and ideas for the prayer center are always welcome. Let Leah Bergman know if you are interested in being a part of this process. leah.bergman@firstpresioiwacity.org or 319-351-2660.



Inside this issue:

An Invitation:

Faith-Based Community Organizing	3
Deacon's Bench	4
First's Family	5
Session Highlights	6
Worship & Celebration Ministry	8-9
Equipping Ministry	9-12
Servanthood Ministry	13-14



Dear sisters and brothers of First Presbyterian Church,

The grace and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you!

The session of First Presbyterian Church has made the commitment, along with several local organizations, including other congregations, to create a new movement called the Johnson County Interfaith Cluster. JCIC is one of many such initiatives across the country being created by The Gamaliel Project based in Chicago and dedicated to grassroots faith-based organizing for justice.

We can anticipate blessings from this shared ministry. Without giving you all the details, faith-based community organizing builds the interior life of congregations through conversations and careful listening. It extends our relationships to diverse people of other congregations and organizations, thereby knitting together our local community. It identifies specific needs that people experience that are barriers to them creating a good, safe life for themselves. It holds elected officials and other civil leaders accountable for moving beyond mere words and actually fostering change that will benefit everyone, especially persons of color who are struggling.

Let us face this reality: Only through accountability does true change come.

Why should faithful people engage in this ministry that can sometimes invite us beyond our comfort zone? In a time when economic and political systems exploited people, Jesus taught that faithfulness means seeing our first priority as the realm of God and its right relationships of justice, mercy and faith. In a democracy such as ours, people of faith have the same calling. They also have greater opportunity to confront exploitation and insist on change. Indeed, it is our patriotic and spiritual duty to do so.

JCIC is an opportunity for you and me to transform our region through relationships, even friendships. Session and I need your assistance to follow Jesus and seek first the realm of God and its justice. I have done this non-partisan work in two communities in which I have lived, and I can assure you that people-power can make an enormous difference to lift the burdens of injustice. Accordingly, I know that for this effort to be successful, we need many compassionate, justice-seeking people from our congregation to assist.

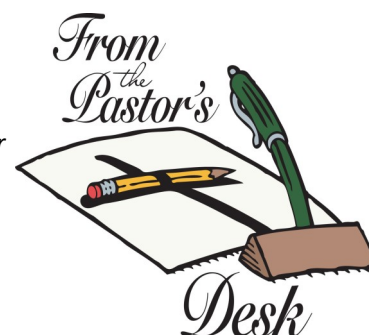
Below this pastor's page I give you an outline of how faith-based community organizing works in practice. Will you help lead in the creation of right relationships in our region and perhaps beyond it? If you are willing to be a part of the core team, please email me at sam.massey@firstpresiovacity.org or call me at 319-351-2660 with your questions. I look forward to hearing from you: Thank you!

I close with a quotation from Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., found in his *Letter from Birmingham Jail*. It was addressed to white moderates (now the progressives in our day) who meant well yet actually blocked the progress of the Civil Rights Movement:

First, I must confess that over the last few years I have been gravely disappointed with the white moderate. I have almost reached the regrettable conclusion that the Negro's great stumbling block in the stride toward freedom is not the White Citizen's Council-er or the Ku Klux Klanner, but the white moderate who is more devoted to "order" than to justice; who prefers a negative peace which is the absence of tension to a positive peace which is the presence of justice; who constantly says "I agree with you in the goal you seek, but I can't agree with your methods of direct action;" who paternalistically feels he can set the timetable for another man's freedom; who lives by the myth of time and who constantly advises the Negro to wait until a 'more convenient season.' Shallow understanding from people of goodwill is more frustrating than absolute misunderstanding from people of ill will. Lukewarm acceptance is much more bewildering than outright rejection.

Love and blessings,

Your pastor, Sam



How does faith-based community organizing work?

- The first step lies in an effort to build a core team of approximately 10–15 persons from First Presbyterian Church to help lead.
- The core team members will be trained and then asked to interview up to six other persons (members and visitors) in our congregation. The more volunteers we have for the core team, the fewer interviews any one person needs to do.
- Interviews are kept to an hour, if at all possible. The persons interviewed by the core team can be those known to the interviewer or not. Although called an interview, a typical interview is more like a conversation. A good guideline is that a person being interviewed should do 60-70% of the talking, although the interviewer is not being constrained from jumping

(Continued on page 3)

in when appropriate. The goal is to build relationships with several people, an outcome that will inevitably strengthen our congregation's human ties over time. The interviewer will not broadly share the content of the interviews with others, except in one specific detail, mentioned in the next bullet point.

- The persons who are interviewed are asked to tell their life stories and the interviewer will share parts of his or her own, as time allows. This sharing builds mutual relationships in our congregation. It is especially intended that two specific questions will be answered by the person interviewed:

*What circumstances has given this person a compassionate heart for those who hurt?

*What does this person believe are the deepest needs in our community and region that call for a response? ***This is the one answer that will be shared broadly, although without association with any particular name.***

- The core team members carry the answers received to the second question to a meeting with all of the other organizational representatives who engaged in a similar process in their respective organizations. Meeting together in small groups for dialogue, these persons together identify common concerns and prioritize them. Special weight is given to the answers of those who come from diverse experiences of racial disadvantage or even oppression. They bring the wisdom that comes from pain, while the rest of us bring our power and privilege to stand with them.
- Based on these priorities, strategic teams are created of diverse folks who study the selected issues, come up with desired outcomes, create effective strategies

to reach those outcomes, train persons to work these strategies, and then implement these strategies using the people-power built on relationships created by the whole organizing process.

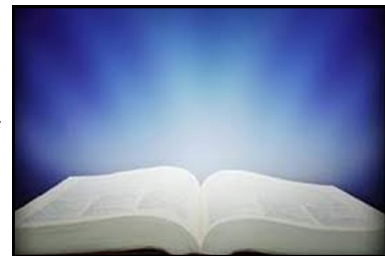
- Often the chosen strategy involves meeting as a large gathering of the faithful with community leaders and then asking these leaders to make commitments to specific actions for justice. Follow-up large gatherings typically are held a year later to celebrate victories, praise the community leaders who keep their promises, reinforce accountability for those who do not, and ask for new commitments. Again, only through accountability does change come.
- The organization begins with small achievable victories, such as what transpired Friday night, February 2. At that meeting the mayor, city manager and chief of police all committed to be as vigorous in pursuing investigations of racial incidents as the leaders in places such as the Quad Cities and Des Moines. They seemed to realize that they could do more to proactively battle racism and promised to rise to the occasion.
- This process repeats itself annually, although the volunteer commitment is only for this year unless the choice is made to sign up to be on a strategy planning study group that may have a longer life. A 2018 volunteer, after being trained, will most likely attend three large gatherings and spend 6 hours interviewing people.

Interested in helping? Contact Pastor Sam at 319-351-2660 or sam.massey@firstpreswacity.org.

New Member Class will be held on Sunday, February 18 from 12–3 p.m. in Coover Lounge.

This will be a 1-day class with a light lunch served. Childcare will be provided. *Please RSVP by February 11* for class material preparations and if childcare is needed.

To reserve your spot or for more information contact Pastor Sam at 351-2660 or by email: sam.massey@firstpreswacity.org



From the Deacon's Bench

Part of the role of Deacons is to foster relationships within our church family and nurture those relationships through various caring ministries. Each person in the congregation has been assigned two Deacons. These Deacon contacts are meant to supplement but not replace the need for pastoral care. We hope to ensure that everyone will get to know their Deacons and feel comfortable contacting them when there is a need for information about resources available or caring ministry services.

As of January 2018, the Deacons have been re-assigned to the Deacon Neighborhoods that were formed two years ago. There are nine geographical neighborhoods, each with a color name: Burgundy, Blue, Yellow, Orange, Red, Purple, Teal, Green and Fuchsia. In the coming weeks, your newly assigned Deacons will be contacting you by email, phone call or at church to introduce themselves to you. In most cases, your Deacons will live near you. We will hold our annual "Meet Your Deacons" event on March 18 before and after worship. This is a great time to meet other people who live in your neighborhood!

If you need assistance in the meantime, please contact the office. Staff will forward your request to the appropriate Deacons. You are also welcome to contact your 2017 Deacon Pair, and they will direct you to the appropriate Deacons. If you have any questions, please contact Rhonda Barr at jobtennis@mchsi.com or 319-936-5998.

Burgundy Neighborhood	Maeleen Thorius and Hongwooks Suh
Fuchsia Neighborhood	Deb Boland and Linda Couch
Green Neighborhood	Layne Sheetz and Judy Terry
Orange Neighborhood	Barb Stanerson and Chitoka Webb
Purple Neighborhood	Jennifer Adams and Tom Martin
Red Neighborhood	Jeff Orris and Sue VanDuyn-Phipps
Teal Neighborhood	Cory Morris and Jeri Smith
Yellow Neighborhood	Louise Gisolfi and Audrey Van Roekel



The **FINAL** Book and Bake Sale
(unless someone volunteers to take it on)
will be April 6 and 7, 2018.

PLEASE save all your books and puzzles.

Questions? Sharon Raffensperger, 351-6995 or jsraff63@gmail.com

EAT OUT GROUP
February 22 at 6 p.m.

Host: Val Soemadi, 354-1219



First's Family News

Newsletter DEADLine

The newsletter is designed to convey the life of the church to the congregation and to the broader church community. **The 1st of each month is the deadline to submit articles for inclusion in newsletters** for 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@firstpreswoacity.org. Thank you!

February 15-31

- 2/17 Audrey Kunangika
- 2/18 Peggy Guither
- 2/19 Cullen Schroeder
- 2/23 Ruth Van Voorhis
- 2/25 Grace Young
- 2/25 Patricia Bahr
- 2/25 Bradley Hamilton
- 2/28 Nancy Ross
- 2/28 Joan Decker
- 2/28 Deann Claypool
- 2/28 Byema Lipanda



March 1-17

- 3/1 Lily Skyles
- 3/3 Gloria Zajicek
- 3/4 Carol Kirsch
- 3/4 Lincoln Newbold
- 3/5 Matt Degner
- 3/6 Katie Vitosh
- 3/6 Shalom Bigaba
- 3/9 Laurelei Harris
- 3/10 Fred Uthe
- 3/11 Rebecca Morgan
- 3/11 Joshua Fletcher
- 3/12 Sue Dallam
- 3/12 Chris Kolarik
- 3/14 Tom Bergman

BAPTISM

Lucas William Edwards, son of Rachel and Jack Edwards was baptized on January 28 at First Presbyterian Church.

Scarlett Marie Sales and John "Jack" David Sales III, children of Christine Walsh and John Sales, were baptized on February 4 at First Presbyterian Church.

Our condolences to:

- **Keith Long** and family on the death of his wife **Hazel Long**, who died on January 25.
- **Tammy Schroeder** and family on the death of her mother **Boni Swails**, who died on February 14. A reception will be held on Saturday, February 24 at 10–11:30 a.m. at First Presbyterian Church, followed by interment at the columbarium.
- The family and friends of **John Piro**, who died on February 5. Services will be at First Presbyterian Church on Friday, February 23 at 10 a.m. followed by lunch. In Ryerson Fellowship Hall.



Known

to have been

Hospitalized:

**Jan Wicks, Brian Kleis,
Joe Stockman and
Shirley McFarlnad.**

January 2018 Session Highlights

Clerk of Session, Nancy Weber

The session met January 16, 2018 in Coover Lounge at 7:00 p.m. Pastor Sam called the meeting to order and lit the Christ candle. Elder Nancy Gardner spoke about Changes, Fears, and Faith, and read Psalm 27:1-3. She then led us in prayer.

Clerk passed around information sent by PCUSA on per capita, and will write a short explanation of per capita for the newsletter.

The birth of Oliver Layne Sheetz, son of Anna and Layne Sheetz, on January 14, 2018 was noted. The death of Dick Dustin on January 16, 2018 was noted.

Treasurer Larry Bruner reported that we ended up with a positive balance of \$1,800 for 2017. This is good news, especially considering that we launched the Capital Campaign.

Elder and Finance moderator Dale Kraus presented a motion which was approved: The December 2017 approved budget for 2018 was rescinded and replaced with the revised 2018 budget, which was distributed at the session meeting.

Pastor Sam left the room, and session members discussed his terms of call. Is he doing the job he is called to do? All present were asked for their input on positives and also on suggestions or concerns. An overwhelming number of positive comments were offered, and a motion was passed affirming the 2018 terms of call.

Minutes of the December 19, 2017 stated session meeting were approved. A motion from Worship and Celebration Ministry to keep the summer Sunday worship service at 10:30 a.m. was approved. A motion was approved via email to hold the Congregational meeting Sunday, February 11, 2018 after 10:30 services to address the Pastor's Terms of Call and elect Jeri Smith and Judy Terry as Deacons.

Session approved signing the covenant for membership in Johnson County Interfaith Cluster for the annual fee of \$600. Also approved were the four special annual offerings suggested by PC (USA) and up to three special offerings to be determined by Servanthood.

A grant of up to \$20,000 to New Creation Church from the Burianek Trust funds for the purchase of a 15-person van for their daycare was approved. It was

recommended that New Creation Church plan set-asides for routine maintenance and upkeep and investigate the need for seat belts and booster seats.

Session voted to make Assistant to Equipping Minister Judy Whitford half-time for the next two months and accepted Assistant to Minister of Worship Erin Landsee's resignation. Elder Nancy Gardner expressed appreciation for all Erin has done for FPC. We have really benefitted from her being here.

Elder Richard Van Rheeden reported on the recent Presbytery meeting, held January 13, 2018 at FPC. The Presbytery will be restructuring staffing and committees. New officers were installed. Presbytery is welcoming elders to volunteer to serve with the Presbytery, striving to make it broader and more inclusive. Richard encouraged session members to sign up.

An overture to General Assembly concerning ecclesiastical officers we passed in November 2017 was passed by Presbytery. We are the lead on this. It will go to General Assembly.

Elder Nancy Gardner reported that Erin Landsee's idea of Parents' Night Out was a good one. Elder Gardner is taking this on. Friday, January 26, 2018 there will be 11 kids. It's fun, and she encourages session members to help out as needed in the future.

CF Synod School is going to take more time to plan, so VBS may still be happening in some form.

Elder Van Rheeden announced that a Cedar Rapids Robert Burns supper would take place next Saturday night, January 27, 2018. There may still be FPC interest in this. Session voted to approve a three session member team to pursue the notion of hosting our own Burns supper.

Elder Van Rheeden reported that over \$6,000 was taken in via the Giving Kiosk in December 2017. A large chunk was for the cookie walk, some was for the capital campaign fund, and some for the general fund. The giving kiosk is offering convenience and the ability to track donations, but is perhaps not the best way to give for large donations due to the 1.5% surcharge.

Pastor Sam closed the meeting with prayer. The next session meeting will be held February 20, 2018 at 7 p.m., in Coover Lounge.

Save the Date!

Calling all couples! If your marriage playbook is getting dusty, you won't want to miss this Couples Retreat, sponsored by First Presbyterian Church, Iowa City on Saturday, April 28. Local Psychiatrist Dr. Marty Carpenter and Professional Life Coach Janice Baldes are partnering together to help you amp up your marriage playbook. They'll give you a highlight reel of the broken plays they see in their fields and they'll be sending you home with new plays to help bring more life, joy, and fun into your marriage. Save the date and stay tuned for more information!



Needles, Hooks & Yarn

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

More info: Tammy Schroeder 351-2660



Wednesday Morning Bible Study

Join us in Coover Lounge from 9:30–10:30 a.m.

We are continuing to study the Book of Romans.

The class is led by Pastor Sam Massey.

New members ALWAYS welcome.

Prayers & Squares



Prayer Squares available on the Narthex Table

Please feel free to take a *Prayer Square* during this Lenten Season; it is filled with comfort, love and prayers made for you by the hands of our Needles, Hooks and Yarn group.

Simply hold this small token and know that someone cares about you.





Worship & Celebration Ministry

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

YOUTH CHOIR

Youth Choir is open to 4th–12th graders interested in singing and leading worship through music. We work throughout the year to sing, play, and read the Word of God so that the youth can lead worship several times throughout the year. Rehearsals are held Thursdays twice a month from 7:30–8:30 p.m. Contact Leah Bergman at leah.bergman@firstpreswiowacity.org or call the church for more information.

Youth Choir Schedule (Grades 4-12)

February–May 2018

Thursday, February 15
7:30-8:30 p.m.

Sunday, February 18
9:30-11:30 a.m. Youth Choir sings in worship

Thursdays, March 1, 8, AND 22
7:30-8:30 p.m.

Saturday, March 31
6:30-9 p.m. Youth Choir sings and leads at Easter Vigil service

Thursdays, April 5 AND 19
7:30-8:30 p.m.

Thursday, May 10
7:30-8:30 p.m.

Sunday, May 13
9:30-11:30 a.m. Youth Choir sings and leads worship for Youth Sunday

Youth Choir will not meet during the summer. Rehearsals start up again in September.

A Lenten Reflection

by Leah Bergman, Minister of Worship and Arts

Often, the season of Lent is thought of as a time to simplify, to pare down our lives, to give up frivolities or things that are not necessary. Lent can often seem melancholy or just a “downer.” This Lent, we’re focusing on the theme of “divining,” of searching for water and searching for the divine. During these 40 days the focus is on preparing ourselves for reaching that beautiful rite during the Easter Vigil service of renewing our baptismal vows. Pastor Sam famously throws water in abundance over the congregation and we joyfully accept God’s grace through water washing over us.

As I was thinking about this anticipation for our baptismal renewal, I was reminded of one of the baptisms at FPC this fall. The little boy was in his mother’s arms and while Sam was praying and asking questions of the parents and congregation, the little boy was reaching out to the water in the font. He was so curious and it was almost as if he couldn’t wait to receive that acknowledgment that he is indeed a beloved child of God.

So this Lent, instead of simply thinking of giving things up and how Lent can seem dark and stagnant, let’s instead bring ourselves back to a sense of child-like wonder. Let us be delighted in the small things. Let us be held by those who love us. And let us reach out, without patience, for God’s grace and our reminder that we are all beloved children of God.

Amen





Fun and Fellowship at the Camp Wyoming Winter Retreat

FPC members gathered at Camp Wyoming for the weekend of January 12-14 to be in community with one another. We shared meals, played games, worshipped, enjoyed nature, relaxed, and got to know each other better. The theme for worship for the weekend was Samuel being called by God, and we talked and thought about all the ways that God can call to us. On the last day we were there we talked about why this retreat is so meaningful for those who attend, and there was lots to say!

- It's a time to get away from the business of our regular lives and slow down
- Everyone takes care of each other—we all help make meals and clean up, there's always an older child or adult to watch younger children, we take care of each other
- There's always someone around to play a game with!
- It's a chance to get to know our church family on a deeper level

We would love to be joined by more people for this special retreat experience in January 2019!

Baby Music Class

**Suzuki music class for babies and toddlers,
from birth through age 3, with a parent or Caregiver**

**Winter session runs
January 9–March 27**

**Join any time during the
session!**

**When:
Tuesdays 9:30–10:30 a.m.**

**Where:
First Presbyterian Church**

**2701 Rochester Ave,
Iowa City, IA 52245**



Songs, rhymes, stories and rhythm instruments are used to teach musical concepts, language and pre-reading skills, numbers, physical coordination, social and emotional skills, and much more!

Suzuki approach emphasizes positive communication and repetition, within a calm, nurturing environment

Parents learn to be active observers of their child's learning process, and build a repertoire of lullabies, action songs, and rhymes, with techniques for using them at home.

Class is ongoing—new students may join at any time.

Try out a class for free at any time!

For more information: www.firstpresidiowacity.org, leah.bergman@firstpresidiowacity.org, 319-351-2660

Equipping Ministry

Mission Trip

Sign up for the Intergenerational Mission Trip!

Houston Flood Relief

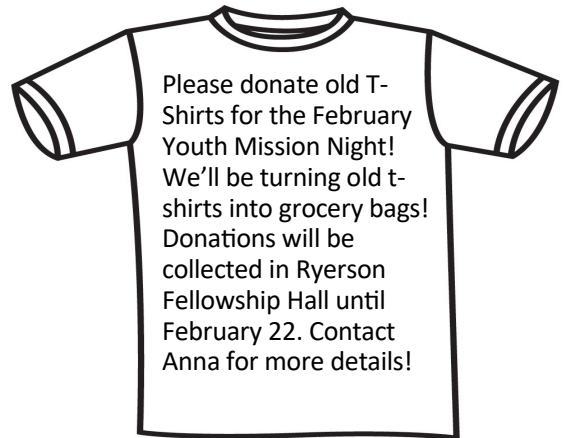
June 23–July 1

Deposit: \$100

Total Cost of Trip: \$200

Youth (16 years old +)–Adults

Sign-Up Forms are on located on the mission bulletin board
in Ryerson Fellowship Hall



Youth Group Schedule:

Thursday, February 22; 6–8:30 p.m.

FAMILY POTLUCK and MISSION NIGHT. Becky Ross will join us as we learn how to turn old t-shirts into grocery shopping bags!

Thursday, March 4, 6–8:30 p.m.

Senior High will continue their College Prep series and learn about loans from our own Stephanie Brentner. Junior High will continue their exploration of Luke.

Youth Choir meets from 7:30–8:30 p.m.

Thursday, March 11, 6–8:30 p.m.

Senior High finishes their College Prep series with a lesson on Time Management. Junior High finishes their Gospel of Luke series.

Youth Choir meets from 7:30–8:30pm

Thursday, March 18 No Youth Group

ENJOY SPRING BREAK!

Check out [SPACE] Online

[SPACE] online is a whole new way to experience faith at home and on the go!

You'll find:

- Bible Study that will walk through the whole Bible in a year (with some Pondering Points to get you thinking).
- All the Sunday morning classes and materials, so you can catch up at home
- Recommended podcasts, books, and blog posts

Find it on www.FirstPresIowaCity.org
Scroll ALL the way to the bottom of the homepage
Click [SPACE] Online.

[SPACE]

Faith in a Whole New Way

Sunday, February 18, 9 a.m. *

ReAffirmation (For 6th graders–adult): Meditative Jewish Literature

Confirmation: Presbyterian Polity

FPC Kids For Elementary Ages): Least of These

First Looks (Preschoolers): The Unloved Woman

Sunday, February 25, 9 a.m. *

ReAffirmation (For 6th graders–adult): Reading Scripture in Public

Confirmation: Presbyterian Worship

FPC Kids For Elementary Ages): Love Your Enemies

First Looks (Preschoolers): Peter's Denial and Restoration

Sunday, March 4, 9a.m. *

ReAffirmation (For 6th graders–adult): The Messiah

Confirmation: The Sacraments

FPC Kids For Elementary Ages): Abram Makes Peace

First Looks (Preschoolers): John the Baptist

Sunday, March 11, 9 a.m. *

ReAffirmation (For 6th graders–adult): The Gospel of Luke 1-9

Confirmation: The Life of Faith

FPC Kids For Elementary Ages): Isaac's Wells

First Looks (Preschoolers): Andrew and Peter; James and John

* The **Wired Word** will continue to meet in Coover Lounge each week, for 9th graders to adults. Check out the **What's Happening** board for the next week's topic!

Everyone Wins with Parents' Night Out!

Are you a parent who would love to have a safe and happy place for your children to stay while you enjoy some time for yourself? Are you someone who likes to have fun with kids? Or maybe you're a kid who would like to play while your parents take a little break? Our monthly Parents' Night Out has got everyone covered!

The third Friday of every month, parents of children ages 8 and younger are invited to drop off their children from 5:00–7:30. While parents enjoy some "time off," church volunteers provide games, snacks, and activities to keep everyone happy until they return!

Our next Parents' Night Out will be Friday, February 16. Parents are asked to make reservations for their children by contacting Nancy Gardner at nancy.hayes.gardner@gmail.com by February 9.

Volunteers are always welcome. It really is a lot of fun; just look at the photos below! Please contact Nancy Gardner if you can help out on February 16, or any other future Parents' Night Out. (Special thanks to the volunteers at January's Parents' Night Out: Jane Cranston, Nancy Ross, Jamie Helmick, and Nancy Gardner.)



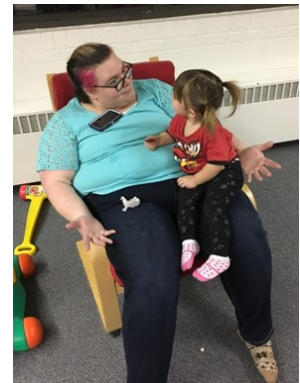
Lots of toys!



This group enjoyed a rousing game of Spons.



Who doesn't love Play-Doh?



Make new friends!

Did you know?



- An estimated 130 million cell phones are discarded annually in the U.S. alone.
- Cell phones contain toxic substances including Arsenic, Antimony, Beryllium, Cadmium, Copper, Lead, Nickel and Zinc which leach into soil and groundwater and form toxins during incineration which have been associated with cancer and a range of reproductive, neurological, and developmental disorders.
- The cadmium from a single cell phone is capable of polluting 158,200 gallons of water.

Rather frightening statistics, aren't they? What can you do to address this situation? Recycle of course!

Friends of Pasrur has a tub located in Fellowship Hall for you to recycle old cell phones. We also will recycle used ink cartridges, iPads, digital cameras, and iPods. For each item we recycle, Friends of Pasrur receives a small payment that we put towards expenses such as postage and printing costs. So your donation of used cell phones and ink cartridges helps both the environment and First Presbyterian Church's support of our girls in Pakistan! Just look for the clear tub by the Friends of Pasrur display in Fellowship Hall! Thank you!

Items Accepted	Items NOT Accepted
Ink cartridges	Toner
Cell phones	Cordless phones
iPads, iPods, laptops	Accessories - mouse or cords
Digital cameras	Camera cases, phone cases

Servanthood Ministry

Volunteers Needed at Little Creations Academy (LCA) Daycare Center

Little Creations Academy, the daycare center of New Creations International Church, 2929 E. Court Street, needs adult volunteers for three weekday openings: two for preschool (one at 9 a.m.–1 p.m.; the other at 1 p.m.–4 p.m.); the third from 12 p.m.–3 p.m., floating to cover staff breaks. Schedules can be arranged for sharing these positions. Volunteers need a state background check, but no prior childcare experience.

Volunteers will not be primary care providers, but will work alongside teachers, helping with basic childcare (e.g., hand washing, prepping for / cleaning up after activities, helping serve and clean-up after meals, and overall supervision of the children). Lesson plans and activities will be determined by paid staff. Volunteers

won't be responsible for any diapering.

If interested, contact LCA director Kimana Pearson at 319-499-1764 or via littlecacademy@gmail.com. Ideally these positions will be filled by March 1. Volunteers may qualify for the Foster Grandparents program (contact Julie Lefebure, 563-580-0458).

To date, LCA has benefitted from the collaboration of FPC's Mission Committee and Servanthood Ministry, and from Endowment funding to support its incorporation, and procure curricular materials, supplies and equipment. Our Burianek Trust has also provided funding to support the purchase of a used van to transport daycare recipients.

Monthly Mission Project

"Feminine February" – Feminine Hygiene

items plus diapers, toilet paper and Kleenex



Place your donations in the blue tub in Ryerson Fellowship Hall

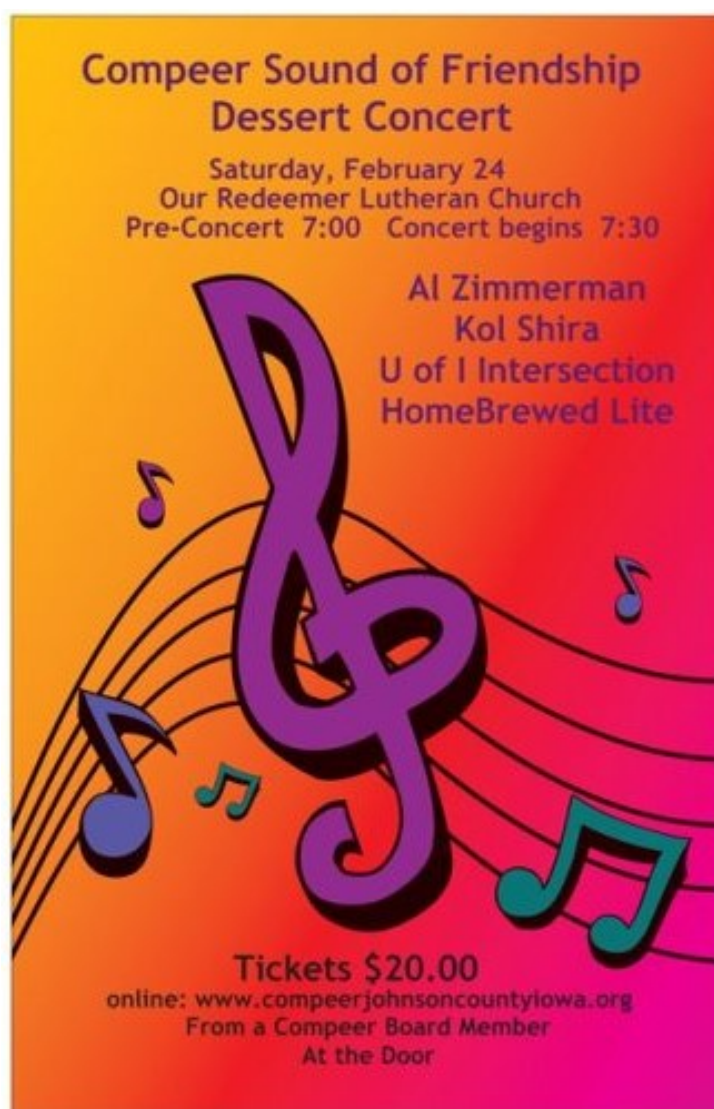
BIG Thanks to all who donated "undies"!

We delivered 170 pair to Four Oaks, Shelter House and Lucas School.



Compeer Sound of Friendship Dessert Concert

Please join Compeer in celebrating and supporting the mission of the Compeer Program to reduce the loneliness and isolation of adults living with mental illness by creating supported friendships with trained community volunteers. A local non-profit organization, the Compeer Program has promoted this mission for 17 years with funds raised by the "Sound of Friendship." This year's dessert concert will take place on Saturday, February 24, at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, 2301 E Court St., Iowa City. Pre-concert music of pianist *Al Zimmerman* will begin at 7:00 followed at 7:30 by *Kol Shira* performing a rich diversity of international music, bringing warmth, harmony, and soul. University of Iowa's *Intersection A Cappella*, a group of 10 male U of I students, will sing pop culture favorites and throwbacks to earlier eras. Lastly, Home Brewed Lite, a local mix of great musicians who play everything from blues, country, and rock and roll. Please join the performers and the Compeer Board for gourmet desserts following the concert. Tickets are \$20 each and may be purchased at www.compeerjohnsoncountyiowa.org, from a Compeer Board Member or by contacting the Compeer Office at 319-329-8000. Tickets will also be available at the door. First Presbyterian Church provides office space to Compeer.



FPC Book Club Invites You to Join Us

February 28, *Ethan Frome* by Edith Wharton

We meet the last Wednesday of the month from 12–1 p.m. at 1095 Silvercrest Circle #223 (Legacy Senior Living)

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



Food Buying Club Welcomes New Members

You are invited to join our food buying club that purchases monthly from United Natural Foods (UNFI) and Frontier Co-op, both major wholesale suppliers for New Pioneer Co-op. UNFI carries a wide variety of organic, vegan, low-salt, and gluten-free foods; Frontier Co-op carries herbs, teas, supplements, and personal care products. We pick up our purchases at First Presbyterian Church (our church liaison is Rhonda Barr) on the third Thursday of the month. This 37-year-old buying club is named “Koinonia,” from the Greek word meaning fellowship. We remain committed to our original goals – buying quality food inexpensively, discouraging over-packaged food, and promoting good health. Member households assist with the food pick-up and distribution 2-3 times a year and currently pay no fees. If you are interested in more details, contact coordinator Christine Mullen at christine.mullen@mchsi.com (337-5716).



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



Public Office Hours:

9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Monday - Friday
Ph 319-351-2660 www.firstpresidiowacity.org
Except holidays or when announced

First Presbyterian Church Staff

MINISTER OF WORSHIP AND ARTS

Leah Bergman
leah.bergman@firstpresidiowacity.org

DIRECTOR OF INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

Dennis Pedde
dennis.pedde@firstpresidiowacity.org

ORGANIST

Melissa Moll
melissa.moll@firstpresidiowacity.org

MINISTRIES COORDINATOR

Tammy Schroeder
tammy.schroeder@firstpresidiowacity.org

MINISTER OF EQUIPPING PROGRAMS

Anna Sheetz
anna.sheetz@firstpresidiowacity.org

ASSISTANT TO MINISTER OF EQUIPPING
PROGRAMS

Judy Whitford
judy.whitford@firstpresidiowacity.org

NURSERY SUPERVISOR

Debbie Torrens-Semler
deb.torrens-semler@firstpresidiowacity.org

FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Saira Steen
saira.steen@firstpresidiowacity.org

CHURCH MANAGER

Tammy Foster
tammy.foster@firstpresidiowacity.org

SEXTON

Gerald Hill
gerald.hill@firstpresidiowacity.org

PASTOR

Sam Massey
sam.massey@firstpresidiowacity.org