

Dear sisters and brothers of First Presbyterian Church,

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

Calling all faithful people who love God and neighbor! **Please say yes!**

Sometime in the next few weeks you may be approached by someone from church asking you to have a “one-on-one” interview (conversation). He or she is asking you to sit down for 30 minutes to an hour and share your life story, in as much detail as you wish. **Please say yes!** It should be fun for you, you will be part of an important process in our congregation to develop deeper and broader relationships, and your input is needed!

The person who interviews you especially wants to know two things from you.

- First, what happened in your life that has made you such a compassionate person? Put another way, **what events shaped you so much that you feel that it is in your self-interest to ensure that all people get justice?**
- Second, what is happening in our region to people that bothers you? **What is the issue that agitates you into wanting to join with other concerned people to take action for the sake of justice?**

Your life story, and the events in it that made you into the compassionate person you are, is confidential between you and the person with whom you speak. They are, after all, your story and your life-shaping events!

Your answer to the second question will be combined with the answers of approximately 90 of your friends and neighbors who participate at First Presbyterian Church. Your answers about your concerns for our community will be shared—without names attached—with members of the 15-plus congregations and organizations that are now also part of Johnson County Interfaith Cluster (JCIC). They will also be doing one-on-ones with their people!

Put together, this input from hundreds of faithful persons in our community, combined with information gained from research, will allow the new JCIC to set an agenda for regional social change around issues of racial justice. This sort of initiative is called faith-based community organizing, which is the DNA of JCIC. Its objective is the beloved community of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

(Pastor's letter cont. on page 2)

“When the Immigrant Resides with You in Your Land”

“... you shall not oppress the immigrant. The immigrant who resides with you shall be to you as the citizen among you; you shall love the immigrant as yourself, for you were immigrants in the land of Egypt: I am the Lord your God” (Leviticus 19:33-34 and 24:22).

What does it mean to love Jesus Christ in a society hostile to unregistered immigrants, the very ones for whom God says we must care, the ones whom Jesus called the least of his sisters and brothers? **We will be discerning this very question on Sundays, April 18, 22 and 29, following worship, approximately 12 noon to 1:30 p.m. in Ryerson Fellowship Hall.** Light snacks will be served. Questions? Ask Pastor Sam, .sam.massey@firstpreswacity.org.

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(Pastor's letter cont. from page 1)

Here is a bottom line for faithful people like us and for the entire JCIC organization:

Compassionate people get agitated when other people around them don't live in circumstances that they can call just.

Compassionate people find it in their own self-interest to build a community that allows everyone to achieve just circumstances.

As we learned beginning in church school, peace without justice is impossible. Achieving justice often requires us to join hands with others in the community in order to have impact. JCIC is creating a community of joined hands and hearts.

Who are the gifted and trained one-on-one interviewers who have volunteered to be part of this important effort that has the goal of transformative change? Who wants to sit down and have a conversation with you? You probably know them! They are

Marcia Akin
Nancy Gardner
Ann Grosscup
Sherry Lohman
Kory May
Judy Terry

Paul Akin
Louise Gisolfi
Leora Houghton
Lara Marsh
Jeff Orris

Michelle Bessman
Bob Goodfellow
Warren Jensen
Becca Sutlive Morgan
Barb Stanerson

Please say yes! Faith always expresses itself as hospitality, so please be receptive to the aforementioned persons if they ask you to sit down and have a one-on-one with you: **Please say yes!**

Your friends, your neighbors and your community all need your input for doing justice, as God bids us to do (Micah 6:8; Matthew 23:23). Furthermore, if you would like to be part of this justice-making process and haven't been asked, please contact Nancy Gardner (nancy.hayes.gardner@gmail.com) or Pastor Sam (sam.massey@firstpresbiowacity.org) (or at 319-351-2660).

Thank you and God's blessings.

Your Pastor, Sam

Generosity Encouraged

"But just as you excel in everything— . . . —see also that you excel in this gift of giving." 2 Corinthians, 8:7

The "gift of giving" is a grace of many forms—each fitting to our own individual abilities, knowledge and passions.

Feeding someone in need or simply out of hospitality is a passion shared by many of us at FPC.

The Deacon Caring Connection's Meal Train is our vehicle to organize and facilitate the congregation's awareness and ability to provide meals to those in need. A "need" may be due to illness, surgery, recovery from an accident, birth of a baby, the passing of a loved one, a lost way or a need for community love.

Preparing a meal is a daily routine necessary to our well-being. When we know of someone who is currently unable to meet this need, it is natural to step up and share our love in the universally appreciated form of a meal.

FPC currently has 11 people signed up for this important work of the Church. We need more! All are invited to join this group of givers!

It is easy! Just ask me to add you to our email distribution list. When there is a need, you will be included in the group's email notification and given a link to our online Meal Train.com application. Once on the site, first, please register yourself. Then you will see all the Who, What, Where & When's of the meal need. Enter your choice of the day you would like to deliver the meal on the individual's calendar. You will see all the available dates and those who have already signed up and the meal they are providing.

You are invited to be a generous giver of a meal.

Blessings,
Linda Couch, Deacon Meal Train Coordinator
lcouch@southslope.net

Deacon Bench



You Are Invited . . .

To remember and to act

Fifty years ago April 4 . . . Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was gunned down in a Memphis, TN motel balcony.

Fifty years ago . . . the Kerner Commission reported on civil and racial unrest in the United States and observed that “our nation is moving toward two societies, one black, one white – separate and unequal.”

In the past 5 years . . . the nation has experienced an uptick in civil unrest reminiscent of the 1960s in places like Ferguson, Baltimore, Charlottesville and St. Louis. As Dr. King noted, “A riot is the language of the unheard.” The NAACP has noted recently that in spite of the election of an African-American president, the American experience of relationships between races is eroding and that increasing civil unrest and even violence is a distinct possibility.

In a speech in 1852 . . . Frederick Douglass said, “If there is no struggle there is no progress. Those who profess to favor freedom and yet deprecate agitation are men who want crops without plowing up the ground; they

want rain without thunder and lightning. They want the ocean without the awful roar of its many waters. This struggle may be a moral one, or it may be a physical one, and it may be both moral and physical, but it must be a struggle. Power concedes nothing without a demand. It never did and it never will.”

In 2018, you are invited to be a part of a non-violent struggle by the simple acts of

- expanding your network of relationships
- listening
- sharing
- gathering and
- insisting that the regional, state and national conversations and policies around race change to the benefit of persons of every color and background.

You are invited to the movement. You are invited to use your power to empower others. You are invited to be part of the Johnson County Interfaith Cluster (JCIC).



Applications are now being accepted for the **William B. and Sharon P. Oglesby Scholarship at The University of Iowa – deadline is June 5.**

In 2002, William and Sharon Oglesby, members of FPC, made a gift to The University of Iowa Foundation to establish a scholarship for deserving UI students who are members of First Presbyterian Church in Iowa City.

“Sharon and I have worked in education at the high school and university levels our whole lives,” William Oglesby said, “and we believe education is the biggest factor not only in one’s financial success, but in one’s aesthetic enjoyment of life.” Added Sharon Oglesby, “The scholarship seemed like a way to blend our lifelong commitments to education and to the Presbyterian Church.” The Oglesby Scholarship is awarded based on need and merit.

Eligibility Criteria:

- The applicant must be a member of First Presbyterian Church, Iowa City, Iowa.
- The applicant must be attending The University of Iowa in 2017-18.
- The applicant must have a minimum GPA of 3.0.
- Application must be made using the form available in the church office.
- The scholar(s) will be recommended by the FPC Scholarship Committee to The University of Iowa Foundation. The grant will be awarded by The University of Iowa Financial Aid office.
- The application and all supportive documentation must be postmarked or delivered to the church office (2701 Rochester Ave., Iowa City, Iowa 52245) no later than June 5, 2018.

All applicants, recipients and those not receiving a scholarship award, will be notified no later than the last Friday in June. One or more scholarships will be awarded.

Thank you from one of Jesus' Matthew 25:40 families!

Four weeks ago a local immigrant family connected to elder and church member Michelle Bessman through a child she knows at school. The family was in need of our immediate assistance. The sole wage earner, with no prior criminal history, had been detained by the authorities for three weeks based on a suspicion that he was insufficiently documented. The family with four US-born children, ages 9 months to 10 years old, was in immediate need of:

- Money for rent, telephone, heating and electricity, and water (\$365) and
- Tangible items: Pampers (size 4), wipes, shampoo, toilet paper, toothpaste, soaps for bathing, dishes and clothes and food (nothing fresh, please).

Goods and \$ were collected for this family. The goods were given immediately and the money is being shared to meet the family's need in \$500 installments through the Center for Worker Justice. This is how we protect the family from financial predators and insure it is being used for needs over a longer duration.

The immigrant family from Michelle's school asked her to thank you (FPC members and friends) for your generous support. Now four weeks after his car slid into a ditch, the father has been released from ICE detainment. The family is currently waiting for further notice from ICE to know if the father will be allowed to stay in the United States or if he will be deported. The whole family would appreciate continued prayer support as they face an uncertain future.

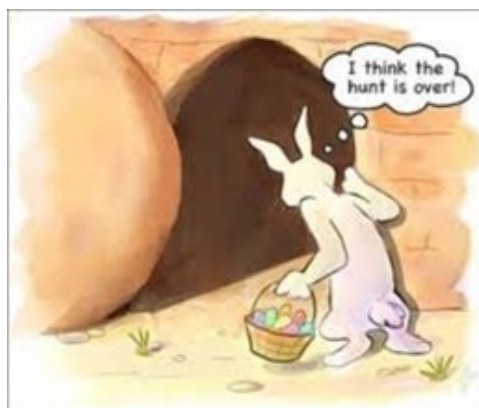
Michelle adds her thanks to the family's for your generous response to its need.



Thank you to all those who have made this past Lenten season so special for so many of us. Time and space do not allow me to mention all of our musicians, Divining series participants, JCIC core team members, last minute snow shovelers, fellowship hour providers, newsletter mailers, long range plan reorganization contributors, youth group helpers, confirmation student mentors, caregivers . . .and so many more. The list goes on and on! I am especially grateful for those who stepped up during my recent illness. I thank God for all of you!

With loving appreciation,
Pastor Sam

**Happy Eastertide!
He is still Risen Indeed!**



First's Family

If you have a news item for the First's Family News that you'd like to share, please submit it for publication by May 1 to tammy.foster@firstpreswacivcity.org. Thank you!



April 16-30

4/16 Calvin Martin
4/16 Graham Scott
4/17 Candace Wiebener
4/18 Betty Lacina
4/19 Jamie Helmick
4/19 Phonix Skyles
4/21 Gerianne Schaefer
4/22 Bruce Guither
4/22 Tyler Fay
4/23 Jenny Kirschling
4/23 Rachel Marsh
4/24 Matthew Dodge
4/24 Matthew Morgan
4/26 Ann Muilenburg
4/28 Erin Suh
4/29 Gina Pottorff
4/30 Bill Preucil
4/30 Vern Dengler

5/2 Kevin Keith
5/4 Kory May
5/6 Larry Bruner
5/6 Robert Ketterer
5/6 Kate Degner
5/7 Kathy Clifton
5/7 Leah Bergman
5/7 Aurora Kennerly
5/9 Sharon Van Dusseldorp
5/9 Debbie Torrens-Semler
5/10 MaryAnn Clemons
5/10 Susan Van Duyn-Phipps
5/10 Mike Phelps

May 1-16

5/10 Jim Jacobus
5/11 Barb Stanerson
5/11 Ashley Nicholson
5/11 Rory Cargill
5/11 Quincy Cargill
5/12 Darin Schroeder
5/13 Janet Bain
5/13 Cynthia Chou-Liang
5/13 Sully Steen
5/13 Esther Puderbaugh
5/14 Devin Smith
05/16 Faraja Bigaba



**Known
to have been
Hospitalized:**

**MaryAnn Clemons, Peggy Guither,
Maeleen Thorius, Helen Chadima
and Jan Erickson**

Spring is here!

When you have seedlings or produce, please remember to bring some to the produce exchange in Ryerson Fellowship Hall for sharing with the rest of the congregation.



With Deepest Sympathy

Please keep the family of **Sara Schwartz and Mike Anderson** in your prayers. Sara's mother Judy Schwartz passed away on March 17. Services were held on March 21 in Winterset, Iowa.



Worship & Celebration Ministry

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

Choir Schedule for May

As we wind down to the end of another season of singing, all of the music ministries will begin enjoying a well-deserved summer break. Thank you to all our music ministry volunteers for your faithful service throughout the year.



Sanctuary Choir

The Sanctuary Choir will sing through May 20. Final Wednesday rehearsal will be on **Wed., May 16** at 7:00–8:30 p.m. Thereafter, please consider joining the “Drop-in” choir, meeting the first Sunday of the summer months and providing special music during summer worship services.

Youth Choir

Will have their **final rehearsal on Thursday, May 10** at 7:30–8:30 p.m. They will sing for worship on Youth Sunday, May 13. They will also join the Sanctuary Choir in singing on May 20. We will have a final potluck and celebration with the youth groups on May 17 from 6–8:30 p.m.

Summer soloists

Our singing and instrumental choirs graciously provide worship leadership from September through June. For the Sundays from June 10–Sept. 2, they will get a well-deserved vacation. During that time we welcome soloists to provide music each Sunday for our 10:30 a.m. service. Adults who have musical gifts you’d like to share, whether vocal or instrumental, college students home for the summer, children and youth who have appropriate repertoire for worship—all are welcome to sign up for a Sunday of music leadership. There is a sign-up sheet on the choir room door (down the hall near the bathrooms), or you may contact Leah Bergman at 351-2660 or leah.bergman@firstpreswiowacity.org.



Summer “Drop-In” Choir

Are you interested in singing in choir but don’t have the time to commit during the year? Have

you wanted to give it a try but feel intimidated? Do you want to try something new and creative with a low commitment this summer? Come on the first Sunday of the summer months to the FPC summer “Drop-In” choir!

When: Sundays June 3, July 1, August 5, and September 2

Time: 9:15 a.m.

How: Just show up on the first Sunday of the month at 9:15 a.m. We will learn an easy, fun, accessible piece of music and then sing it during worship that day!

Who: Anyone willing to give this a try. Ages 10 and up welcome!

Bring friends and family and have fun making music with one another!

Youth Sunday, May 13

We celebrate children and youth in our congregation EVERY Sunday, but on Sunday, May 13 youth grades 4–12 will lead us in the worship service. They have created and written all of the parts of worship for the day as well as providing music, the sermon, and leadership.

It will be a fun and busy morning as we also celebrate a baptism during worship!



Note from a Composer

(On March 18, the Sanctuary Choir sang the anthem, "Don't Be Weary, Traveler," arranged by Karen Seals. Below is an email I received from Karen thanking the choir and our congregation for our ministry.)

Hello, Ms. Bergman,

My name is Karen Seals. I have not met you, but I want to send a word of thanks to you, the choir, and instrumentalists for your upcoming performance of my arrangement of "Don't Be Weary, Traveler" (tomorrow, March 18).

Periodically I search online for information on various performances which occur from time to time across the nation. Last evening I found your Master Choir Schedule, March–April, 2018.

Your church happens to be located in the city where my father died so many years ago (1957, Veterans Hospital). My mother also has passed away (1999), but this is not yet noted in my dedication printed on the music (hopefully upon a next reprint, this will be noted). I'm so grateful to have been blessed with two of the most loving parents a person could have. I will be thinking of them and thinking also of you and the choir as you perform my arrangement tomorrow.

I also will be thinking of my late husband, Dr. Thomas Johnson, who passed away eight years ago this coming June 17th. Some of his ancestors (great grandparents) endured the atrocities of slavery. May God forever bless them and all who endured unbearable things we cannot fully imagine. Their music leaves a lasting tribute to their unmovable faith and endurance.

Thank you again for your upcoming performance and for your own special tribute to a strong people, to their faith, and to God. As my composition professor stated after I wrote this arrangement, "People in Heaven are thanking you for remembering their music." They are thanking you, too.

I wish you all the very best in your endeavors and your ministries. May God bless all of you and your dear families.

Sincerely,
Karen Seals

Waiting & Watching May 20, 3:00 p.m. First Presbyterian Church

CSIC is thrilled to welcome Robert Demaree to the podium as guest conductor for our final concert of the season. This highly diverse program features works by Mendelssohn, Holst, Whitacre, and Bizet on the interminable subject of watching and waiting.



EARTH DAY



On April 22 we will celebrate Earth Day in worship by singing, speaking, listening, and exploring ways to praise God's beautiful creation. Come to worship at 10:30 a.m. ready to think about how to care for God's world.

Be sure to visit FPC's new FAMILY RESOURCE ROOM!

It is located on the lower level, on the right hallway when you go down the stairs. Walk down the hallway and it is the second to last door on the left. This used to be the old drama room. We are excited to offer this new opportunity for families of all ages!



There is a quiet corner for reading, a children's book nook, a church calendar, and a computer to use. There are also a variety of books, from children's Bibles to helpful resources on how to talk to your children about death, divorce, and God. We will soon have crafts for parents to take home!



Spring Cleaning?

We are looking for new resources. If you have community connections, books about parenting and tough issues, activities for young children to do, easy recipes for busy parents, etc. We'd love to incorporate community wisdom and helpful resources into this room. Please contact Anna at Anna.Sheetz@firstpresbiowacity.org if you have any questions or ideas.

VBS 2018

AMPED

LIVE FULLY ALIVE!

Monday, August 6–Thursday, August 9
6:30–8:30 PM

We are looking for volunteers now! Please contact Anna at Anna.Sheetz@firstpresbiowacity.org



Youth Group Schedule:

Thursday, April 19, 6–8:30 p.m.

Our last Tough Topic night! Youth Choir will meet from 7:30–8:30 p.m.

Thursday, April 26, 6–8:30 p.m.

A BIG GAME! Come join a Big Game!

Thursday, May 3, 6–8:30 p.m.

POTLUCK & MISSION NIGHT at the Bird House. We will need drivers. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Anna.

Thursday, May 10, 6–8:30pm

We will continue our Prep for Youth Sunday. Youth Choir meets 7:30–8:30 p.m..

Thursday, May 17, 6–8:30pm

THE LAST HOORAH! Join us for the **BIGGEST GAME YET!** Come celebrate the end of another tremendous year of youth group!

Equipping Ministry



Think you have the best chili in town? Prove it!

Support the Summer Mission Trips by donating your best batch of Chili!

On Pentecost Sunday, May 20, the youth group will collect donations of chili. After worship, participants can sample various chilies and vote using their monetary donations. The chili with the highest collection by 12:45 p.m. will be awarded a trophy by our Youth.

If you would like to donate a chili, please email Anna at Anna.Sheetz@firstpreswiowacity.org with your name, your chili's name, and ingredients. Or return this form by May 13:

Name:

Chili Name:

Ingredients:

Congratulations!

Ryan Brentner
Kenneth Noble
Gabe Orris
Elliot Suh

**CONGRATULATIONS to
FPC's Confirmation Class of 2018!**



March 2018 Session Highlights

-submitted by Nancy Weber, Clerk of Session

The session met March 20, 2018 in Coover Lounge at 7:00 p.m. Pastor Sam called the meeting to order and lit the Christ candle. Elder Michelle Bessman gave the opening devotions, from d365, asking "What does it truly mean to praise God?" To think about: perhaps it is rather more in the doing than in the singing.

John Barr, from the Capital Campaign Implementation Committee (CCIT), presented two motions, which were both approved by Session:

1.) From the CCIT Technology Subcommittee: That we now proceed with installing a ceiling-mounted motorized screen & projector in Ryerson Hall, at the cost of \$10,548.48.

2.) From the CCIT Kitchen Subcommittee, and Buildings & Grounds: That McCreedy-Ruth Construction of Riverside be selected as the general contractor for the kitchen renovation project, subject to a quote that Session finds acceptable.

Treasurer Larry Bruner reported that, compared with last year's financial status, we are level or a bit ahead at this point.

Session approved minutes of the following meetings: February 20, 2018 stated session meeting, March

11, 2018 special session meeting, and the February 25, 2018 special session meeting to welcome new members. A special session meeting and potluck on March 27, 2018 to welcome new confirmands was approved, and final approval of the motion on revision of the endowment articles was given.

Session voted to post the fee schedule for use of the kiosk near the kiosk, with Finance and Stewardship committees delegated to write and post the text. Also approved was the use of 200 feet of cat5e ethernet cable to run a temporary hard wire connection to test for better live stream video and sound. The test could be on a Sunday morning service or for one of Pastor Sam's short videos. The purpose of the test is to plan for a better streaming service in the future.

Anna Sheetz, Minister of Equipping, explained a motion from Equipping, which Session approved: To explore the Dodekah Ministry (meant for discipleship for high schoolers and adults) within the context of the planning process.

A motion from Equipping, to order pumpkins for a Fall Pumpkin fundraiser that will help fund the proposed Dodekah Ministry, was approved.

Session voted to approve a request that Pastor Paul Akin be officially invited to assist with FPC Stewardship leadership this year.

Session met with FPC member Gary Olson about becoming a Commissioned Ruling Elder. Gary spoke about his faith journey and what becoming a CRE means to him. Session voted to approve his request and send to Presbytery. Elder Richard Van Rheeden will be his supporter.

Session authorized B&G to investigate options for repair or replacement of the mower.

Elder Richard Van Rheeden talked about the use of 200 feet of cat5e ethernet cable to run a temporary hard wire connection to test for better live stream video and sound. A short discussion followed about the quality of the worship service music over the Internet. There was concern expressed that it does not sound good—the piano, the brass, etc. Richard is asking for feedback from Session and FPC members, and to be specific as can be.

Elder Ann Grosscup closed the meeting with prayer. The next session meeting will be held April 17, 2018 at 7 p.m., in Coover Lounge.

Did you know that FPC has a representative on the Board of Directors of Ecumenical Towers Corporation? The board oversees the management of the Ecumenical Towers building. The apartments for 81 low-income seniors are located at [320 E Washington St.](#) The board sponsors four events throughout the year for the residents. The fall dinner is one of the events and was on November 16. The residents look forward to the dinner that has been catered by Mrs. Ila Miller of Kalona for several years. While the residents were getting seated and eating their meals, Pastor John McKinstry and two First Christian Church members provided musical entertainment. At another event during the week of Christmas, the board distributes "Santa Sacks," which include a sack with fresh fruit, candy, and envelopes of cocoa and microwave popcorn, to each resident. The last two annual events are a soup supper in March, which took place on March 15, and an ice cream social in July. The walls in the Community Room, the lobby and the hall on the ground level received a new coat of paint, the insulation of some pipes on the first floor was completed and new carpeting was installed late last fall. The windows on the north side will be replaced as soon as we have the money to do so. If you have not had a chance to visit this wonderful home for low-income seniors, stop by sometime. It truly is a great place to call home. *Bonnie Bender, FPC Representative*

Trip to Pakistan 2018



The Friends of Pasrur is planning a trip to Pakistan through the Friends of the Presbyterian Education Board (FOPEB). We will visit the new Pasrur Christian Boys School and be there for the dedication ceremony. These trips are fascinating, meaningful, and profoundly moving.

The dates for the trip are October 25–November 5. During our stay, we will visit the PEB offices, the PEB schools, the Presbyterian church in Lahore, and enjoy sight-seeing and shopping. Our hosts take very good care of us and will squire us around with great care and consideration. The only cost is airfare, which usually runs around \$1,200.

We hope you will consider joining us for this important mission trip. It is a once-in-a-life time opportunity.

It is assumed those who join us will return to help us raise funds for Pasrur. Please let me know soon if you are considering traveling with us.

Jane B. Cranston, jane-cranston@uiowa.edu, home: 319-339-1102, cell: 319-621-3625

MONEY MATTERS

Larry Bruner, Treasurer

	Contributions	Misc. Income <small>Building Use, Walker Trust, Bank interest, etc.</small>	Total Income	Total Expenses	Over/Short
January	\$34,932.57	\$149.49	\$35,082.06	\$46,527.51	-\$11,445.45
February	\$46,275.64	\$191.15	\$46,466.79	\$46,742.39	-\$275.60
March	\$40,256.65	\$343.13	\$40,599.78	\$50,842.68	-\$10,242.90
2018 Totals	\$121,464.86	\$683.77	\$122,148.63	\$144,112.58	-\$21,963.95

Capital Campaign Implementation Taskforce (CCIT) Update

Submitted by John Barr, CCIT chairman



The following is a detailed update to our CCIT annual congregational report, published in the *2017 Report of the Year* (copies available in the church office):

1. To date, we have received campaign pledges totaling \$1,139,000, with \$815,551 collected so far in donations. Keep in mind that we are only in our second year of campaign collections, so we are grateful to God to be ahead of schedule in actual giving.
 2. Thus far administrative costs, including office supplies and event costs for our fundraising efforts, have totaled \$68,195.
 3. Before the end of 2016, two high-priority campaign projects were completed at a cost of \$201,575: the parking lot was resurfaced, and the organ was refurbished and returned to service.
 4. During 2017, the CCIT and the FPC Building & Grounds Committee, with approval of Session and the Presbytery of Easter Iowa, secured the services of Walker Cohen Lorentzen Architects, as design consultant for the boiler/air handler and elevator projects, at the estimated cost of \$95,500.
 - a. Part A of this project (schematic design for HVAC replacement and conceptual plan for the elevator) has been completed.
 - b. Part B, now underway, calls for boiler replacement to begin in July and be completed by the end of October, 2018. An analysis of impact on the organ of elevator construction and operation will be completed.
 - c. Based on Impact Study findings and sufficient funding, Part C will be undertaken to install the elevator by the end of October, 2019.
 - d. Estimated cost for the boiler / air handler is \$387,000. The revised estimate for the elevator is \$320,000.
 5. Two CCIT subcommittees are overseeing kitchen renovation and updates to audio-visual technology in Ryerson Fellowship Hall and the sanctuary.
 - a. McCreedy-Ruth Construction is serving as kitchen general contractor, Kitchens by Design as design consultant, and Rapids Wholesale Equipment as appliance consultant. It is anticipated that this project will be completed before the end of August, 2018. Estimated total cost for this renovation is \$100,000.
 - b. Conference Technologies, Inc., is design consultant for technology involving sanctuary audio and a video camera system (for enhanced live streaming of services), narthex audio and video messaging, and a fixed projector and large retractable screen in Ryerson Fellowship Hall, estimated to cost \$84,000. Because of concerns related to the completion of elevator planning, this project has been largely placed on hold. However, installation of the projector and screen (with protection from other construction) should be completed by July.
 6. The Congregational Health Ministries Team is in the process of replacing additional pews with chairs matching those already in use. The cost for this will be approximately \$5,000, considerably less than the initial estimate of \$20,000.
 7. A Mission Tithe of \$50,000 (and the additional \$50,000 pass-through donation) from the Wilson Family Foundation was contributed towards construction of the Pasrur Boys' School. An initial Mission Tithe donation of \$20,000 was directed to Iowa Valley Habitat for Humanity for the Interfaith Build in Hills, Iowa, dedicated in September. An estimated additional \$30,000 will be given to Habitat as donations continue to come in.
- During 2017 and up to the present time, new pledges for the Capital Campaign were not solicited in order to keep the congregation focused on the needs of the FPC annual budget. Early this year, we were able to secure \$68,195 from endowment income to cover the administrative costs noted above in item #2.
- At this point, an additional \$222,270 in pledges will be needed to fund all of our building projects. Within the next two weeks, the CCIT will reach out to new members and others who have yet to make a campaign pledge.
- We rejoice that contributions have remained robust since the beginning of our Capital Campaign, which is to continue through 2019. Your prayers and new pledges of financial support for the successful completion of the campaign are most certainly needed and will be greatly appreciated. Please contact me with any questions that you might have at (barrjohnno@sau.edu) or 319-338-7740.

FPC Book Club Invites You to Join Us

April 25 *Let the Great World Spin* by Colum McCann

We meet the last Wednesday of the month
 from Noon to 1pm at 1095 Silvercrest Circle #223
 (Legacy Senior Living– Scott Blvd)

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



**Needles,
Hooks
& Yarn**



This small group comes together to share each others company while we knit and crochet.

If you would like to join us, we would love to have you; we meet at Legacy Ridge from 9:00–11:00 on Saturday mornings.

For more information contact Tammy Schroeder at 351-2660



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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
- **New members ALWAYS welcome.**

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Eat Out Group
April 19 at 6 p.m.

Host: Ann Robinson
 354-3350



(Formerly Mondo's on the Coralville Strip)

Dear First Presbyterian Church,

On behalf of the Inside Our Reentry Board, staff, volunteers and participants we serve, thank you for your generous donation to support our work with returning citizens. We could not do what we do without the support of our local faith communities.

Thank you!

*Mike Cervantes and Jamie Kearney,
Inside Out Reentry Staff*

Monthly Mission April Showers

Items needed: shampoo, conditioners, soaps, combs, brushes, toothbrushes and toothpaste, wash cloths. We welcome items from your hotel stays. Consider making a family trip to the Dollar Store. For more information, contact Judy Terry at 319-499-8168.



Prayer Squares Available on Narthex Table

Please feel free to take a *Prayer Square*, 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.*





PENTECOST SPECIAL OFFERINGS

CHILDREN AT RISK • YOUTH • YOUNG ADULTS

Pentecost Offering

This year on Pentecost Sunday, May 20 we will celebrate the birthday of the Church. On this date, and as we have since 1998, we will receive the Pentecost Offering. This denominational special offering is intended to nurture the faith of children, youth and young adults.

40% – Benefitting local area youth.

25% – Young adult volunteer programs throughout the world.

25% – Youth ministries that guide youth.

10% – Child advocacy.

While each of these ministries are important, please know that 40% of your Pentecost Offering will directly benefit Johnson County youth. Offering envelopes will be in the pews Sundays, May 20 and 27.

Thank you for your generosity!

The women of Martha's Circle thank those who contributed to the "Free the Girls" mission project.

Whether you gave money or bras, your response has been truly amazing! We are preparing for our next shipment of 100 bras. With each bra, one dollar is given to support the shipment of the items to countries in Africa or Latin America. In addition, we pay about \$18 to mail the bras to the Indiana clearing facility. As most of you know, this mission is supported by the greater Presbyterian Church. The goal of "Free the Girls" is to rescue women from sex trafficking, to educate them and to help them become self-supporting business women. Martha's Circle would like to make two shipments per year. Please consider us when you are cleaning your closet. Of course, we would love financial donations as well. In the case of "Free the Girls," a relatively small amount of money can make a huge difference in a woman's life. Thank you. If you have questions, contact Helen Sheets or Maeleen Thorius.

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.firstpreswacivcity.org
Except holidays or when announced

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