



August 15–September 15 2021

Volume 65 Issue 8

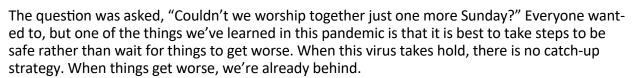
Message

from the

Dear Members and Friends,

Session voted at its meeting last night, August 17, to return to Phase 2 of the reentry policy beginning Friday, August 20. Phase 2 means we will not be worshipping together in the sanctuary and will be returning to streaming only.

No one wanted to take this step. But, with the rapid rate and high level of infection, it is the responsible step.



How long will we be at phase 2? No one knows. What we do know is we look forward to the day when we can gather safely for worship.

The office will remain open regular hours with everyone wearing masks, keeping social distance, and washing hands.

In the meantime, I hope children and teachers will wear masks at school.

If you were to name a feeling, it was probably in the room last night: sad, angry, worried, let down, confused, helpless, conflicted, pensive, deflated, lonely. However, we've made it this far. Even though we don't know how long we'll be living in these conditions, we can do it again.

I'm grateful that you're here, are healthy, and, even though we cannot touch each other, that we'll treasure what connection we can make by text/phone/email/social media/zoom.

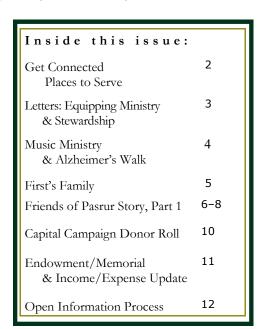
It is a privilege to be your pastor. I thank God for you.

Be still. Know that God is God.

With gratitude,

Terry

he/him/his







First things first ... You need to sign into My First Pres; it is a portal on the website that lets you update your contact info, add a family photo, see your financial gifts, set up online giving, print directories, and view the church calendar. Instruction to sign in, below in green box.

Sign in to My First Pres

- 1. Go to FPC website, https://firstpresiowacity.org/, scroll down to the My First Pres box
- 2. Click on "Need a Login? Click Here"
- 3. You will be asked to enter your first name, last name and email. Enter this info and click "Find Me"
- 4. You should see a note congratulating you on setting up your account.
- 5. Once you see that note, check your email for your username and temporary password
- 6. You will be able to change password once you login
- 7. You should open up to the HOME screen; look at MY COMPLETE PROFILE for your personal information, PLEASE make sure your address and phone numbers are correct, feel free to make any changes needed. Note: changes are verified and may take 24 hours to show up. You can also sign up for online giving, pledging and see your yearly giving.

This is where it gets handy ... Now that you have My First Pres set up, you have the option to download the **Church Life** app to your phone or tablet! **Church Life** keeps you organized by allowing you to see calendar events, locate your friends' contact info (church directory at your finger tips); text, email and call plus get directions to map visits all on the go. You can keep track of your pledge and gifts to FPC, too.

Instructions below in blue box.



- Download Church Life
 iPhone– App Store Android– PlayStore
- Log in
 Use the same username and password you use for MyFirstPres.

For technical support contact Tammy Schroeder at tammy.schroeder@firstpresiowacity.org

Places to Serve



Male leader (4th–6th Grade Youth Group) Sunday Evenings

Any Gender for Game Group (once a month – Sunday Night)

Any Gender leader (7th-12th Youth Group) Sunday Evenings

4–5 Sunday School teachers as we return to children's specific programming

Male leader for Confirmation (Sunday mornings starting in October)

Hello FPC Families and Friends!

Equipping Ministry is excited to begin the fall season with wonderful education programs to suit all needs in the congregation. To do this we need to have wonderful people from the congregation share their time to teach all generations about the love of God and the salvation provided through Jesus Christ.

Over the summer, Session has been working to be able to provide a safe and fun learning place for our children and youth as well as the adults in the congregation. One of the ways this was done was by reviewing and updating the Child and Youth Protection Policy at FPC. This document is available at the church for anyone to

review. As parents of children or youth involved in activities at the church or as someone who serves to educate these children and youth, you should take the time to review this document so you are familiar with how the church is making the safety of our youth and children a priority.

Due to the changes in the Child and Youth Protection Policy, we must have servant leaders if we want to sustain the programming we have had in the past. If you are one of those wonderful people or would like to give your time to help us provide the necessary programming for all generations, there will be training dates scheduled in January of every year to make sure that our servant leaders are familiar with the Child and Youth Protection Policy and any updates made over the years, have the ability to participate and be trained in CPR and many other training opportunities that may be beneficial in your dedication to help support the church.

Equipping Ministry is also always looking for parents, grandparents, educators or anyone interested in making our church's Christian Education program something special. If you would like to be part of serving with the education of our children, youth and adults, please contact me at ajmommy@mchsi.com or feel free to stop by one of our meetings, which are held the first Tuesday of the month at 5:30 p.m. in Coover Lounge.

Looking forward to a wonderful year and can't wait to see where we are heading.

Thank you!

Cathe Franz, Equipping Ministry Moderator

Hello, Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

My name is Kory May and I'm the Stewardship chair. Stewardship chair? What is that? What is stewardship?

I apologize for not being in your face over the last few months. **The definition of stewardship is:**

- 1: the office, duties, and obligations of a steward
- 2: the conducting, supervising, or managing of something *especially*: the careful and responsible management of something entrusted to one's care; *stewardship* of natural resources.

Definitions that include the word in question frustrate me.

Well, hmph. What's a steward? One employed in a large household or estate to manage domestic concerns (such as the supervision of servants, collection of rents, and keeping of accounts);

And one who actively directs affairs: MANAGER.

By all accounts, this role is a servant role. I serve you as steward of your tithes and offerings. Please take a moment to silently thank those who serve the church as Deacons, Elders, staff and volunteers. They make things happen here as we live all the other aspects of our daily lives. Here's my stewardship request: Where can you serve the church? Is it in ministry like youth group or

grounds? My ask isn't limited to just young people. Do you have skills that would strengthen a Session committee? Our congregation has considerable knowledge and wisdom within itself. Share them.

The church is much more than a physical structure that needs upkeep. We're the mortar that holds the bricks of faith together. We're stronger together than apart. Of course, we need your tithes and offerings, but we also need YOU.

Eventually, it will be safer for all of us to reconvene at First Presbyterian Church. That will be a glorious day. Until then, we still must care for each other, our ministries and church itself. Please consider what you can contribute and do so. In the name of the Triune God, may we be blessed.

Kory May

s each has
received a gift,
employ it for
one another,
as good stewards
of God's varied
grace.
1 Peter 4:10

Music in Worship

By Melissa Moll

During our worship this month, the music surrounding the confession is *Take, O Take Me as I Am* (Glory to God #698). This verse was written by John L. Bell, a member of the lona Community on a Hebridean island off the west coast of Scotland. On this tiny island, the Irish monk Columba established a monastic settlement in 563 AD. Many centuries later, in 1938, minister George MacLeod founded the lona Community as a place of hospitality, sanctuary, and challenge motivated by a shared commitment to Jesus Christ. Daily services continue to draw visitors on their own pilgrim journeys.

Focused on the renewal of congregational worship, John Bell has written many hymns and published collections of songs gathered from around the world. Our *Glory to God* hymnal includes 18 songs credited in all or in part to John Bell. (For a full listing, see Bell's entry in the index on page 991 of *Glory to God*.) Much of Bell's work was prompted by a desire to fill in the gaps he saw in the available hymnody:



"I discovered that seldom did our hymns represent the plight of poor people to God. There was nothing that dealt with unemployment, nothing that dealt with living in a multicultural society and feeling disenfranchised. There was nothing about child abuse..., that reflected concern for the developing world, nothing that helped see ourselves as brothers and sisters to those who are suffering from poverty or persecution" [from an interview in *Reformed Worship*, March 1993].

Bell's *Take, O Take Me as I Am* is a prayer at once both simple and profound. The final phrase draws from the poetry of Song of Solomon 8:6:

Set me as a seal upon your heart, as a seal upon your arm; for love is strong as death, passion fierce as the grave.

Bell's text calls upon God to take up residence within the depth of our beings: ... set your seal upon my heart and live in me.

God's love is indeed as strong as death, fiercer than the grave. In these days when we seem to take two steps forward, one step back through the pandemic, we can rest assured that God loves us as we are, uses whatever we have to offer in ways that enrich and enliven the world around us, and settles deep within our hearts.

For more on the Iona Community, including reflections, podcasts, and service recordings, visit https://iona.org.uk/.

Phelps Organ

You may have missed the voice of the Phelps Organ in worship recently. It has electrical issues with the stop action—the knobs on either side of the organ bench that control which "stops" or sets of pipes will sound when a key is played. These electrical issues are unrelated to the restoration work undertaken in 2016, which focused on structural repairs to the case, pipe work, and tonal finishing. We are exploring options to fix the current electrical issues and will provide updates as we have them.



Join TeamFPC to Walk to End Alzheimer's on Sunday, September 19.

Contact Tammy Schroeder, 351-2660, for Walker and Donation information.

Help us reach our fundraising goal of \$1,200.

All money raised will go to Alzheimer's Association for research and to enhance care and support for all affected by this disease.

Facts About Alzheimer's:

- It is the 6th-leading cause of death in the U.S. and the <u>only</u> cause of death in the top 10 that cannot be prevented, cured or slowed.
- 1 in 3 seniors die with Alzheimer's/dementia.
- More than 5 million people in the U.S. are living with the disease.
- Someone develops Alzheimer's/dementia every 66 seconds and 2/3 of them are women.

First's Family

If you have a news item for the First's Family News, please submit it for publication by September 1 to tammy.foster@firstpresiowacity.org. Thank you!

August 15-31

8/15 Gary Olson 8/16 Tony Warren 8/16 Ben Faden 8/16 Charlie Faden 8/17 Steve Dodge 8/20 David Van Dusseldorp

- 8/20 Lauren Dengler
- 8/20 Braden Brentner
- 8/21 John Clark
- 8/23 Millie Youngquist
- 8/24 Becky Ross 8/26 Jean Mafirira
- 8/27 John Feagins8/27 Thomas Morgan
- 8/28 Doug Gwinn8/31 Linda Younkin

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

September 1-15

9/3	Alicia Andrews		
9/8	Marilou Gay		
9/9	Doran Pearson		
9/13	Perry Ross		
9/14	Janie Schomberg		
9/15	Molly Molsberry		

Congratulations to Chitoka Webb!



Congratulations to Chitoka Webb on appointment to an internship at First Presbyterian Church, San Rafael. She will be assisting in worship, preaching a few times, teaching, working with church volunteers, and providing pastoral care. This is another key step in her process toward ordination as a teaching elder.

Chitoka has received a grant from P.E.O. International to continue her work in the Masters in Divinity Program at Berkeley. Chapter KZ of P.E.O. has several members from First Presbyterian Church. Chitoka was nominated by this Chapter. It is exciting to see Chitoka continue her education in the ministry!



We extend our sympathy to the family and friends of **Shirley McFarland**, who died on July 14. Her funeral was on July 23 at FPC and led by Pastor Terry Purvissmith.

And to the family and friends of **Marguerite Morey,** who died on Aug. 14. Graveside service will be on August 21 in Monticello and officiated by Pastor Terry.

The Presbytery of East Iowa has been notified by the Mission Specialist for Special Offerings from the Presbyterian Mission Agency of the churches within the Presbytery which have been faithful stewards contributing to special offerings. Congratulations to First Presbyterian, Iowa City for our inclusion as one of the churches recognized for our faithful participation.



I was asked to update the History of the Friends of Pasrur. Mary Linn had done an excellent job years ago, which I used as a basis. I wanted to update it, add pictures and include all the mission trips etc. our church has taken. The story itself is complicated so we wanted it compiled and deciphered with dates and photos all in one place. When it was completed, the consensus was that it should be shared with the congregation. With the photos, it is so large we decided to include it in the newsletter in installments. Here is the first installment:

The Story of Friends of Pasrur

The History of First Presbyterian Church of Iowa City's Friendship with the Pasrur Christian Girls Higher Secondary School in Pakistan

By Jane Cranston and Mary Linn (2021)

The First Presbyterian Church in Iowa City's (FPC) relationship with the Pasrur Christian Girls School in Pakistan has spanned 20 years and has involved many people, all of whom are important. It is a proud and somewhat miraculous history of events that deserves to be recorded accurately and all in one place. We hope we have done it justice.

The events described flow from our friendship with Veda Gill, who is the hardworking, ever-inspiring engine of the PEB (the Presbyterian Education Board). With unflappable persistence and relentless hard work, she has developed a school system of beautiful buildings, well-educated students, and positive staff members. Veda puts her considerable faith into practice in the way she deals with people and challenges. Many people (including us) call her "sister." Veda is an inspiring evangelist who leads by example. Her fundraising and her management convey integrity, trust, and her unique spirituality. Veda's faith is contagious.

Being a part of this process has given us the opportunity to witness miracles. In 20 years, we have helped to erect five substantial educational buildings and sent hundreds of girls to boarding school, where they are safe from harm and getting a first-class education. In addition, it is not possible to read the events that follow and not be inspired by the generosity and vision of the members of the Friends of

Pasrur committee and our church. Hundreds of destitute Christian girls have been rescued from their situation. In Pakistan, they are persecuted because they are female, because they are Christian, and because they are poor. The vision of the Presbyterian missionaries was to serve the poorest of the poor, and that continues today.

Any summary of events regarding the Pasrur Christian Girls School would not be complete without acknowledging the work of Herb and Janice Wilson. They have been major contributors to building projects, major donors to the scholarship program, participants in the Friends of Pasrur committee work and a constant source of inspiration.





Timeline of Events

1854

The United Presbyterian Church begins its missionary program in education and medicine in Pakistan.

1898

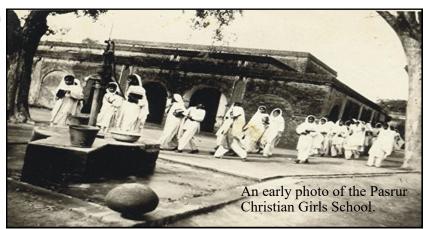
The Pasrur School and orphanage is founded by Miss Allison (a Presbyterian missionary from Philadelphia) after six orphaned girls are dropped off at her door during an epidemic.

1947

Pakistan gains independence as a nation and separates from India.

1972

President Bhutto nationalizes 3,334 institutions, including all missionary and church-run schools. The Presbyterian schools are taken over by the Pakistani government. The schools are not well-managed and soon became decrepit.



1998

The Pakistani President devises a new Educational Policy, which includes the denationalization of missionary and church-run schools. Schools are given back to the Presbyterians in deplorable condition.

1999

In February, Veda Javaid Gill, Executive Director of the Presbyterian Education Board (PEB) in Pakistan, visits First Presbyterian Church, Iowa City as part of the "Mission to the USA," sponsored by PCUSA. The PEB overseas 12 newly denationalized schools in the Punjab region of Pakistan. Veda's visit is arranged by Rev. Tom Finley Brown, minister of FPC. Veda is able to stay with our congregation for a month and develop many lasting friendships. Veda shares the story of the Presbyterian Church in Pakistan and its history with regard to the Presbyterian missionary schools. She explains how the PEB came to have many decrepit schools returned to them.

Pervez Musharraf, the tenth president of Pakistan, follows a more pro-Christian policy. He continues the process of returning missionary and church-run schools to Christians.

2000

In October, Elaine Markuson, FPC mission council member, visits the school at Pasrur, Pakistan and reports on the appalling conditions there. "Project Pasrur" is launched. She asks the church to help. In November, FPC Session votes unanimously to give funds toward construction of a new multipurpose building for the Pasrur school.

2005 Pakistan Mission Trip I

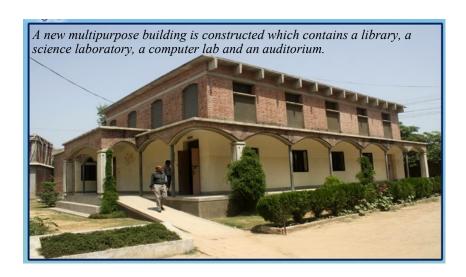
Pastor Ed Morgan and Elder Nancy Ross visit Pasrur to help dedicate the multipurpose building.



Jane Cranston and Veda Gill on her first visit to the U.S.



Rev. Ed Morgan is with a group of students from the Pasrur School.



Janice and Herb Wilson pledge \$150,000 towards the construction of the boarding house/dormitory and challenged the FPC congregation to raise another \$150,000 to construct the building immediately. FPC raises the funds.



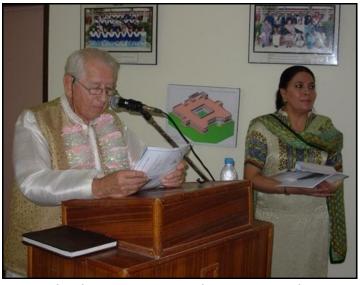
Pasrur boarding house for impoverished Christian girls is completed.

2007 Pakistan Mission Trip II

The boarding house/dormitory for 100 impoverished Christian girls is completed.

In November, Rev. Ed Morgan, David Ketterer, Paul Schaefer, Herb Wilson and Elaine Markuson represented the FPC congregation at the dedication of the boarding house.

Jane Cranston The Friends of Pasrur (To be continued ...)

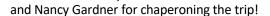


Herb Wilson preparing to speak to a group in Pakistan about the building of the Pasrur Boarding house.

Little Creations Academy Takes a Visit to Calico Farms

By Nancy Gardner

Early in August, kids and adults at Little Creations Academy headed off for a visit to Calico Farms in Iowa City. As part of a Farm to Early Care and Education grant, the children saw first-hand how a wide variety of vegetables are grown and harvested. Owner Bonnie Riggan did a wonderful job of answering questions and even allowed the children to sample beans and peppers right off the vines. The pet goats, Diego and Clyde, were a definite hit! Thank you to FPC members Jeanie Wade-Nagle, Liz Bolin, John Barr,





It was a great time at Calico Farms!



Did you know that FPC has an AED (Automatic External Defibrillator)? Do you know where the church's AED is located?

IF NOT, take a moment to find it, someone's life could depend on it.

The AED is located outside the sanctuary, in the narthex, on the tan brick wall, above the fire extinguisher between the repository and glass wall.



First Presbyterian Church Capital Campaign, 2016–2020 "Building God's Future for our Next 175 Years"

Pastor: Reverend Samuel Massey Chairpersons, John Barr & Ken Fisher

Volunteers: Rhonda Barr, Leah Bergman, Rebecca Blair, Larry Bruner, Jim & Deann Claypool, Ed Cranston, Vern & Anne Dengler, Sue, Farran, Jeremy & Amy Fletcher, Tammy Foster, Nancy Gardner, Warren Jensen, Carol Kirsch, Brian Kleis, Dale Kraus, Mary Linn, Tom Martin, Sadie May, Dwight Miller, Cory & Linda Morris, Bonnie Neubauer, Sue Olson, Don & Nancy Ross, Connie Richardson, Sally Rickey, Tammy Schroeder, Layne Sheetz, Valerie Soemadi, Judy Terry, Lee Tippe, Richard Van Rheeden, Chitoka Webb, Nancy Weber, Judy Whitford, and Bob & Millie Youngquist.

Donors:

Paul & Marcia Akin Leroy & Janet Bain John & Rhonda Barr Janice Baumback Bonnie Bender

Marvin & Darlene Bergman

Rick & Deb Boland

Liz Bolin

Thomas & Roxanne Boysen

Stephanie Brentner Larry & Margaret Bruner Lucille Burianek Trust Anita & Gary Burnett Richard & Ann Burton David & Norma Carlson Norvall & Mary Ann Clemons

Kathy Clifton Linda Couch Ed & Jane Cranston Sue Dallam

Joan Decker

Vern & Anne Dengler

JJ Deryke

Delbert Disselhorst

Pat Dustin Jan Erickson

Jeremy Faden & Sarah Klemuk

Mike & Sue Farran Ann Feddersen Tim & Cathy Fehr Ken & Ednamae Fisher Jeremy & Amy Fletcher Bill & Kathy Follows Jeff & Tammy Foster Nancy Gardner Marilou Gay

Louise Gisolfi & Warren Jensen Robert & Renee Goodfellow

Joe & Leann Graves Chad & Chris Greimann Phillip & Janet Grimes

Ann Grosscup

Bruce & Peggy Guither

Dorothy Hoak Randy Howe Jim & Laura Jacobus

Pam Kautz

Robert & Margaret Ketterer Lee & Carol Kirsch John & LeeAnn Koch Christine Kolarik Dale Kraus & Rose Metz

Betty Lacina

Louise Larew Mary Linn

Dave & Sherry Lohman

Keith Long

Carol Macon

Andrew & Lara Marsh Tom & Wanda Martin

Ed Mason

Sam & Susan Massey

Kathy Maxey

Paul & Joan Maxwell

Sadie May

Phyllis May-Machunda Francis McConnell Joyce McMaster

Ted & Barbara McMurry Duane & Betty McNeal

Barb Meier Dwight Miller Pauline Miller Ken & Chris Miller Earline Moll

Gregory & Ann Muilenburg

Jack Newman

Ben & Rachael Nicholson

Faryle Nothwehr Gladys Nugent Estate Gary & Sue Olson

Aimee Meardon-Orris & Jeffrey Orris

Daissy Owen Mary Palmberg Wayne Patton Jack Perkins Bill & Doris Preucil Larry & Virginia Pugh John & Sharon Raffensperger Constance Richardson George & Sally Rickey Ann Robinson Don & Nancy Ross

Perry & Becky Ross Bill Rubright Paula & Kemal Sanan

Paul & Gerianne Schaefer

Eric Scholtz

Steve & Janie Schomberg Darin & Tammy Schroeder

Clyde & Kay Seery Mike Sheetz Jane Skinner Greg & Jeri Smith

Andreas & Valerie Soemadi Steve & Carol Spangler MaryAnn Spilger

Jerry & MaryEllen Stamp Earle & Nancy Stellwagen David & Joyce Stochl

Rebecca Stockman

Hongwook Suh & Sunhyoung Lee

Joey Summerwill Judy Terry

Dan & Laura Thedens

Guerin & Mary Kay Thompson

Jerry & Maeleen Thorius

Carol Ulch

Linda & Fred Uthe David Van Dusseldorp & Debbie Beermann Sharon Van Dusseldorp Susan Van Duyn-Phipps

Richard Van Rheeden & Rebecca

Blair

Glenn & Audrey Van Roekel

Ruth Van Voorhis Esther Viksten

Anthony & Nancy Warren

Nancy Weber Judy Whitford Al Wicks

Candace Wiebener Herb & Janice Wilson Jeanette Winegarden Doris & Dale Woods

Bob Yager

Bob & Millie Youngquist Dwight & Linda Younkin

Gloria Zajicek

Outcomes:

A total of \$1,213,920 was raised through pledges, donations, rebates and endowment income. Projects, in order of completion, were: restoring the Phelps organ, resurfacing the parking lots, replacing some pews with chairs, installing a video projector and retractable screen in Ryerson Hall, renovating the kitchen adjacent to Ryerson Hall, installing a high efficiency three-stage boiler, constructing a three-level elevator (basement to choir loft), and fulfilling our Mission Tithe (permitting construction of the Boys' School in Pasrur, Pakistan, and three Iowa Valley Habitat for Humanity homes in Iowa City).



This month's column comes more as a reminder that our grant cycle is now open to support the needs of our church, our community and our world. All applications are due by September 1, 2021.

Who may request funding? The Session; the councils of the Church; a special Church committee or task force; ministerial or professional staff members; or a group, agency or charity not affiliated with the Church — if sponsored by any of the above.

All of the application guidelines and the purpose of our endowment grants may be found on the back of the "Request for Funding from Endowment Distribution" form which may be found on the church website under the "About" link. Then, select "Resources" and find the form under the heading "Congregation Resources." This pdf form may be filled out by computer or physically written upon. Please remember that it needs to be signed by the person submitting the application. Further communication. We hope to hear from you!

information about our grants was also included in our July column of this newsletter.

It is a joy to be at that giving time of the year. It is a chance for our endowment to support the many needs and projects for which it was created. Throughout much of the year, our articles have been designed to help our members plan their gifts to our wonderful church endowment. A guick review of our past newsletters will offer myriad ideas for how to give to the endowment. We certainly thank the many families that have made our endowment possible.

For now, be sure to enjoy the fruits of our labors as we seek to fulfill funding requests. Remember that all applications and any questions you may have should be sent to endowment@firstpresiowacity.org. We'll be quick to acknowledge the receipt of anything we receive so you can be assured we'll be in strong

Give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you. -- Luke 6:38

Income/Expense Update — July 2021

Co-Treasurers, Leann Graves and Nancy Gardner

	Current Month	Year to Date	Prior Year to Date
Income	\$ 44,331.34	\$359,855.12	\$426,540.40
Expense	\$ 53,296.63	\$332,821.05	\$633,873.35
Total +/-	(\$ 8,965.29)	+ \$ 27,034.07	(\$207,332.95)*

*The difference in the prior year to last year's Income and Expense is due to the Capital Campaign Project of the elevator.



First Presbyterian Church 2701 Rochester Ave., Iowa City, Iowa 52245 www.firstpresiowacity.org

Dear Members and Friends,

The Open Information process is now in operation through the FPC website. Session adopted its Open Information Policy in July to communicate to the membership about its work and the work of its committee. What follows are instructions for accessing information.

Instructions on viewing Open Access to Information documents on FPC Website

- ◆ Call Tammy Schroeder 319-351-2660 for the password
- ♦ Go to FPC website firstpresiowacity.org
- ◆ Scroll down Homepage to Open Access to Information
- ◆ Review list of Recently Updated documents
- **♦ Click View Repository**
- ◆ Enter Password and click enter button
- ◆ Click on Click Here button
- ◆ Page opens to Committee Folder listings
- ◆ Click on desired folder to open and views documents

Example:

Click on Session Folder — It will open with 2 sub folders

Minutes (contains Minutes from Clerk)

Monthly Packet (contains documents for preparation of said month's meeting)

Click on document you wish to see

Upen Kormation

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