



Christmas Eve Service

For unto us a child is born ... (Isaiah 9:6)
Celebrate Christmas With Us.

On **Christmas Eve** we will celebrate with two worship services 4:30 and 7:00 p.m. This will be a time to sing the much beloved hymns of the season.

- A prelude with congregational carol singing will begin 10 minutes prior to each service with many of our favorite carols.
- The worship service will tell the story of Christmas through carols, hymns, and scripture. The message will explore the meaning of the Incarnation through story.

On **Christmas Day**, Sunday, December 25 at 10:30 a.m., we will gather in Ryerson Hall for worship and celebration. The message will be one of Peace on Earth and Goodwill toward all.

Join us ... and bring a friend, or invite someone who has not yet returned to our worship life together.



Christmas Extravaganza is Coming!

**On Sunday, December 18, join the
CE Ministry from 9–10:15 a.m.**

Come enjoy a warm and tasty breakfast as the youth raise funds to support their Summer 2023 Mission Programs.

As you eat, enjoy the original Christmas play by Layne Sheetz, performed by the FPC Youth and Children.

There will be no Sunday School this day, please come and enjoy the festivities!



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Glimpse of Grace

"Come now, let us reason together, though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be white as snow" the prophet Isaiah declared.

With the winter months upon us and plummeting temperatures, the landscape becomes a wonderland as gently falling snow covers the ground. Leaves and toys, garden tools that were not put away, and other miscellaneous things lie hidden below a blanket of white.

Yesterday's tire tracks and footprints disappear with each new fresh layer of snow. The snow acts as a cold blanket insulating bulbs and seeds that lie in wait for a spring melt and a new birth.

In speaking to a people broken by sin, Isaiah proclaimed a word of hope. God covers the brokenness of our past for those who have a penitent heart with a blanket of forgiveness.

We may not be able to change the past, but we can learn from it, and by the grace of God, begin to write a new future.

Pastor Frosty



Dr. Schnoor to Speak on Climate Change on February 19, 2023

The Reconciliation Team is excited for Jerald L. Schnoor to speak about climate change following the service on Sunday, February 19, in Ryerson Hall. Dr. Schnoor teaches Civil and Environmental Engineering and at The University of Iowa where he also serves as the Occupational and Environmental Health. He is a Co-Director for Global and Regional Environmental Research. Dr. Schnoor has testified several times before Congress on the importance of passing the Clean Air Act. We hope you can join us to hear his important message.



First's Family

If you have a news item for the First's Family News, please submit it for publication by January 2 to tammy.foster@firstpreswiowacity.org. Thank you!

December 15-31

12/17 Roxanne Boysen
12/18 Chitoka Webb
12/19 Deb Bolland
12/20 Tammy Foster
12/20 Ryan Brentner
12/21 Helen Sheets
12/22 Cory Morris
12/23 Sarah Parker
12/23 Phillip Mitchell
12/24 Joe Graves
12/24 Erick Fletcher
12/27 Lucille Hamilton
12/28 Sarah Klemuk
12/29 Devin Raffensperger
12/30 Mike Sheetz
12/30 Eugenia Byamungu



January 1-15

1/3 Mike Raffensperger
1/4 Margaret Bruner
1/4 Bryce Christensen
1/6 Reg Cooper
1/7 Ann Burton
1/7 John Ruyle
1/9 Shea Paulsen
1/10 Brian Kleis
1/12 Liz Bolin
1/13 Linda Couch
1/13 George Minot
1/14 Wanda Martin
1/14 Ben Nicholson
1/14 Oliver Sheetz



We extend our sympathy to:

The family and friends of **Earl Nelson**, who passed away on November 11, 2022.

Judy Terry and her family on the death of her sister, **Beverly Naverson**, from Waterloo, who passed away on November 13, 2022. Her funeral service was at Friendship Village on Friday, November 18, 2022.

Helen Chadima and Kitty Chadima on the death of **Bruce Chadima** on December 4, 2022.

Thank You, Good and Faithful Servants

We lift up in the spirit of thanksgiving for the ministry of **Layne Sheetz** and **Judy Whitford**.



Layne began his non-ordained ministry at FPC as Assistant to the Minister of Equipping Programs, July 10, 2016.

Judy joined the non-ordained staff in November of 2015, as the Interim Director of Equipping Ministry. In July of 2016, she became the Assistant to the Minister of Youth, Adult and Servanthood Programs.

We have greatly appreciated their ministry in our midst.

Well done, good and faithful servants.



The gifts of
Christmas and
Epiphany set an
example for
Christians today.



This time of year is a time of gift giving and generosity. In the story of Christmas we are reminded that God so loved the world that God gave the world a Son, not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him.

At Epiphany, Magi from the East followed a star and brought the new born Savior of the world gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. The gifts of Christmas and Epiphany set an example for Christians today.

As 2022 draws to a close, you may want to take the opportunity to make a “second mile” financial gift to the ministry of First Presbyterian Church. Perhaps you wish to donate:

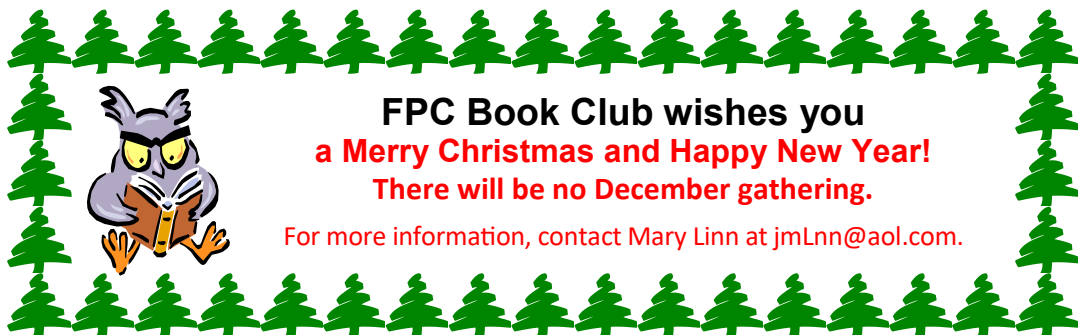
- appreciated stock,
- a required minimum withdrawal,
- the cash value of an insurance policy that is no longer needed,
- share part of a year end bonus,
- or just make an extra contribution out of a year end bonus or gift.



If you feel so led to make a “second mile” financial gift to the ministry of the church, FPC’s Treasurer or the Manager Finance and Purchasing can assist you or answer questions. Call the Church Office and you will be connected with the correct person.

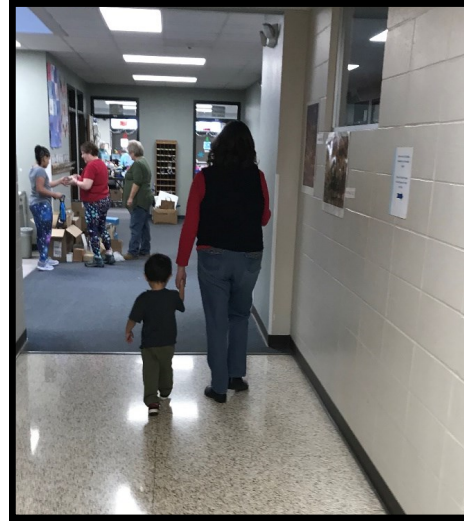
Have a happy and blessed Christmas and Epiphany.

Interim Pastor Frosty Krummel



Report on Gifts for Parents

After a two-year absence, the Consultation of Religious Communities *Gifts for Parents* returned to St. Mark's United Methodist Church on Saturday, December 3. This event provided children, 4–14 years old, with the opportunity to select a free gift for three important adults in their lives. Information about the event was shared through the Iowa City Community District Student/Family advocates and local neighborhood centers. Families could pick up a color-coded time-specific admission ticket at the CommUnity (formerly the Crisis Center) food bank during the prior two weeks.



A wide range of wonderful gifts were donated by local faith communities and organizations. Items were received, sorted and organized by volunteers on December 1 and 2. Families were admitted at their assigned time (or later), and each child was welcomed by an adult escort who assisted them in making gift selections. Each gift was wrapped and labeled with the name of the intended recipient. Families had the opportunity to enjoy a pancake and turkey sausage breakfast provided by the St. Mark's Men's Group. Thank you FPC members, for your many wonderful gift donations and volunteer hours!

Although 131 families had secured reservation tickets, only 59 families attended the event. Nevertheless, 186 children experienced the joy of selecting gifts for others and all of the families appreciated our hospitality during this holiday season. Gifts not selected were shared with the following non-profit organizations: Crowded Closet, Domestic Violence Intervention Program, Goodwill, Open Heartland, Salvation Army, and Shelter House.



Thank you for your financial support of the ongoing ministry of First Presbyterian Church. As of this publication FPC received pledges totaling \$324,438.

The 2023 budget will be written based on pledges, investment income, non-pledged income, and projected miscellaneous income.

Spread kindness and live generously.





You're Invited to Join Us This Winter at Camp Wyoming!

Friday, January 20–Sunday, January 23

Come when you can, leave when you have to!

This retreat is for people of all ages! We'll stay in the Owl's Nest with 30 beds in 15 rooms! There is more than enough room for a gaggle of kids, a group of coffee sipping adults, and sleeping late teenagers!

So Why Go on This Retreat?

This retreat is intended to allow families to connect with each other and recover from the holiday season out in God's good earth. This is the best way to Rest, Relax, and Recover!

Cost will be \$45 per person.

Talk to Anna Sheetz for more information!



College students returning for Winter Break are invited to **Meet-Up** with Anna for lunch and fun! We'll meet these dates:

Thursday, December 22 at 12 p.m.

Thursday, December 29 at 12 p.m.

Thursday, January 5 at 12 p.m.

Let's get together and reconnect!



**Thursday, December 22,
5:30–7 p.m.**

You are invited to a Dinner and Game Night to celebrate Christmas with your FPC Family!

This event is for ALL AGES!

Dinner, Board Games, and an Escape Room!



BE CURIOUS

Curious about anything happening at FPC?

Connect with Anna Sheetz at

Anna.Sheetz@firstpresbiowacity.org.

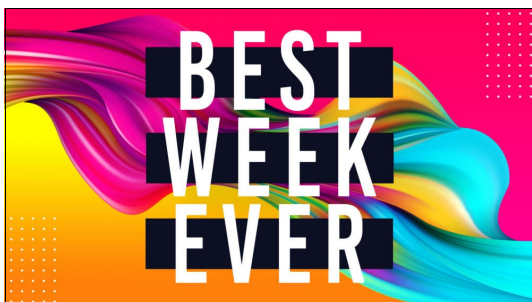
Summer 2023 Trip for Current 6th, 7th, and 8th Graders!

We've been invited by Saint Andrew's Presbyterian Church to the BEST WEEK EVER!

The Dates are June 11-17, 2023.

During this week, we'll be at Camp Stronghold with other middle schoolers from all over the Presbytery. We'll learn about God, have a lot of fun, and do mission work together. This is a great opportunity to get to know God, yourself, and our PCUSA siblings in the area!

Please connect with Anna at Anna.Sheetz@firstpresbiowacity.org for more info! (Total trip cost is \$300, first deposit of \$50 is due December 18.)





**Is your New Year's resolution to engage more in your spiritual life?
Have no fear, lots of AWESOME stuff is happening here!**

Sunday School for All Ages *Each Sunday from 9–10 a.m.*

Children and youth will learn about God, Jesus, themselves, and so much more. This is a great time for youth of all ages to connect with beloved church members who treat them like family!

There are also two adult offerings at this time: **The Wired Word**, a topical discussion about the 'hot topics' of the day. Come see where the news intersects with faith and become a more faithful person!

The Parent's Class is a time for parents of children and youth of all ages to come together. Often with a topic to guide the conversation, this is a time primarily for support, relationships, and faithful community building through the trials of parenting.

From 10 a.m. until worship at 10:30 a.m., there will always be a nutritious, oftentimes fun, breakfast to keep your tummies full and prepared to worship God! This is a time to connect with friends and your FPC Faith Family. Everyone is welcome to this time, whether you came to Sunday School or not!

High School Small Group

New Time: Thursdays, 3:30–4:30 p.m.

Beginning in the New Year, high schoolers are invited to meet with Anna each week around town to connect, learn about themselves, faith, and so much more.

5th–8th grade Youth Group

New Time, each Sunday from 4–5 p.m.

Youth in 5th–8th Grade are welcome to gather, play games, grow in faith, and go out with new friends each week. There is always something for everyone at this youth group and new friends are *always* welcome to join us!

There is a Community Dinner each Sunday at the new time from 5–6 p.m. Come and eat together with only two rules—we sit all together at one table and there are no phones allowed! We have a lot of fun eating and talking each week, following the example of Jesus and his disciples! Everyone, of any age, is always welcome to join us in Ryerson Hall from 5–6 p.m.

Grow Groups; Old Testament

New Time, each Sunday from 5–6 p.m. OR Mondays from 9:30–10:30 p.m.

Step right up and join this amazing group of Bible readers. Each day, the participants interact with their Bibles as we are walking through the Old Testament. You are welcome to dive in, we'll get you up to speed, and off we go—off to meet the Old Testament God, which so often Christians don't know enough about!

Jeremiah Justice Initiative

New session: January 15–April 2, 2023

New time: 7–8 p.m.

This program, started by Layne Sheetz, continues in this new year. Members who have been in this community for years and newly interested participants will choose a book based on social justice. We will meet weekly, discuss a chapter or so, wrestle with our privilege, and learn to do as Jeremiah 22:3 tells us, "The Lord proclaims: Do what is just and right; rescue the oppressed from the power of the oppressor. Don't exploit or mistreat the refugee, the orphan, and the widow. Don't spill the blood of the innocent in this place."



**Vacation Bible eXperience is
returning Summer 2023!**

**Save the Date
August 7–10, 2023
More information to come!**



I don't know about you but these cold winter winds are inviting me to dream of Summer! Check out all these awesome ways to get away with your FPC Family this Summer, 2023! Please contact Anna at Anna.Sheetz@firstpresiovacity.org if you are interested in attending or supporting these groups and programs.

Thank you!

Summer Trip for High School Group



c r o s s
M I S S I O N S

Due to lower than anticipated numbers, the Intergenerational Trip to Nashville will be canceled. ... But have NO FEAR!

We will accompany Saint Andrew's High School Youth Group to the Cross Mission in Charlotte, North Carolina! The short of it is this: **The dates will be the same—Saturday, July 15 to Saturday, July 22.**

The difference in monies will be absorbed by fundraisers- so the financial impact on families will be the same (\$325).

The details:

What is The Cross? The CROSS connects with ministry partners who are: housing our homeless neighbors, equipping marginalized youth, providing dignity to the elderly, and giving hope to the incarcerated. Our hope is that your group will “cross over boundaries that divide us, cross out stereotypes that judge us, and share Christ’s love” as you connect with our partners and neighbors all over the city.



Thank you to everyone who contributed to the prek/k Sunday School class cereal drive. We collected over 110 boxes of cereal! The cereal was delivered to the Domestic Violence Intervention Program. The kids were happy and proud to help others as God has taught us to do.



Alli from DVIP (left) happily received the boxes of cereal Sharon Raffensperger and David Van Dusseldorp delivered to the center on behalf of the prek/k class.

Welcome the Rev. Nathan Willard

Applause erupted in the congregation on Sunday, November 13 as the unanimous decision was announced to welcome Rev. Dr. Nathan Willard as our next pastor. Pastor Nathan will begin his services at FPC on Sunday, February 1. Arriving with Pastor Nathan will be his wife, Elizabeth Yale, and children Martha and Teddy.

Pastor Nathan is quite familiar with Iowa City having graduated from City High before earning degrees from Harvard and Yale Divinity School. Previous to his arrival to FPC, Pastor Nathan has been serving in the Ankeny (IA) Congregational Church.

(For more information about Pastor Nathan's training, experience, and talents, please refer to the article in last month's newsletter.)

We look forward to welcoming



Kyle Coleman — Director Of Music

We are excited to welcome J. Kyle Coleman to the First Presbyterian Church family as our new Director of Music. His official start date will be January 1, 2023.

Kyle is a conductor, pianist, organist, educator, and composer/arranger. He is a recent graduate of the University of Iowa (Master of Arts), where he studied Choral Conducting and Pedagogy. Born and raised in Gadsden, AL, Kyle began studying music at the age of seven and has not stopped since. He has worked as a church musician since the age of 14 when he acquired his first job as pianist at Oak Bowery Baptist Church in Ohatchee, AL. He earned a Bachelor of Music degree in Piano Performance and Pedagogy (2017) in Rome, GA, where he worked as a staff accompanist and church musician. In his senior year of college, Kyle met the love of his life, Abigail Marie, a costume designer, whom he married in 2016. They moved to Iowa City together in 2020 to begin their respective graduate degrees.

Kyle's musical experience spans a variety of styles and traditions, having performed as a soloist, accompanist, collaborative artist, guest conductor, and in ensembles across the southeastern United States, and more recently Iowa's CRANDIC region. He teaches private piano lessons, has written and arranged commissioned works for various occasions, and has guest conducted choirs and theater pit orchestras at the professional, collegiate, and community levels.

Kyle's hobbies include a love of coffee, composing music, reading and writing as much as possible, closely following college football, and improv comedy. He is thrilled to join in the good things happening at FPC and invest in this community.



Please join us in welcoming Kyle to First Presbyterian Church.



Plant a Seed - Create a Legacy
The FPC Endowment and Memorials Committee
Bob and Millie Youngquist, Coordinators

Thoughts on the FPC Endowment

One of the greatest joys of the Endowment Committee is to review applications for worthy projects and to be able to support them financially. This past year, we held an application cycle in Spring and awarded \$25,250 in grants to members of our church's staff, the Kindness Campaign, the Enikahole Ministries in Cedar Rapids, FPC's Dodekah trip and the Domestic Violence Intervention Building Campaign in Iowa City.

It should be noted that our committee is working to establish a somewhat regular application period that will remain at a standard time each year on everyone's calendar. Not only does this help those who need to prepare applications for our funding, but this also helps our committee to better weigh incoming requests and seek to maintain a balance of grants between church, local and international missions with the funds that are available to us. We work to utilize our funding as wisely as possible.

The funding we distribute comes to us once a year, usually in January or February. We are only allowed, per FPC policy, to take a distribution of up to 5% of our holdings in any given year. Once we have distributed these funds each year we must wait until the following year for additional funding to arrive. For this reason, random grant requests we receive outside this period cannot be considered unless we have additional funding available.

We frequently receive more requests than we can cover financially. However, there is one major way we can remedy this situation: increase the size of the endowment fund that we draw upon. Simply put, we encourage your giving to this fund. Not all giving has to be through an estate plan or after a death. It is also possible to give appreciated stocks and bonds as well as IRA rollovers. One could give life insurance policies that are no longer needed. Real estate is always transferrable. Outright monetary gifts are also welcome. Our newsletter columns and church bulletins have been full of illustrations as to how you might give to support our endowment — and you don't have to be wealthy to give to the endowment. All levels of giving are deeply welcomed. We would be happy to visit with you about any of these possibilities. As usual, we suggest that you should work with your financial advisor when making any large financial gifts.

Consider this an invitation to "pay it forward." What is your vision for the future of our church? What kind of needs could be met, or people served now or in 10, 20, even 50 years? You can help make that vision a reality with a gift to our endowment.

Everyone shall give as they are able, according to the blessing of the Lord your God that he has given you. Deuteronomy 16:17

Feeling stressed and overwhelmed?

Who isn't with the holidays around the corner, in the middle of a pandemic, the days are shorter, the nights are longer and the temps are colder?

Here is a little puppy love to remind you that the Prayer Post is waiting for you to leave your worries to God. Stop by, drop off a confidential prayer request and take a deep breath; we are all in this together!



Session Meeting Highlights

Submitted by Interim Clerk, Nancy Weber



The Session met Tuesday, November 15, 2022 at 7 p.m. in Coover Lounge at FPC. Pastor Frosty Krummel called the meeting to order, declared a quorum, and offered the opening prayer.

Minutes of the October 18, 2022 stated Session meeting, the October 30, 2022 Congregational meeting to elect new officers, and the November 13, 2022 Congregational meeting to elect Rev. Dr. Nathan Willard as FPC's new pastor were approved.

Administration committee's Jeff Orris presented the following motion: "The Administration committee asks Session to approve their recommendation to allow the current contract agreement with Orbit Business Technologies to expire as of January 31, 2023, and immediately begin a non-binding, non-contractual business relationship with Digital Stew Services, Inc to start purchasing equipment and transitioning network access to provide FPC with IT security and support needs going forward." The motion was approved.

A motion to distribute Personnel Committee's letter to the congregation concerning staffing changes was approved.

An update on the current status of the Stewardship campaign was given; as of November 15, 2022 it totaled \$309,189.

Concerning the Alternative Energy task force plan proposal, Elder John Barr reported that four members of the Reconciliation committee have volunteered to be on the task force. A motion to form the task force consisting

of John Barr, Jane Cranston, Perry Ross, and Becky Ross, with the Ross's serving as co-moderators was approved.

Elder David Van Dusseldorp reported that Endowment had \$7,600 in grant money yet to be dispersed.

Session members who attended the recent Sunday dinner with youth had good things to say about the chance for interaction between adults and the youth.

Finance Committee moved that Session request the full amount of \$36,178.28 from the church's Endowment fund to address shortfalls in the 2022 budget. The motion was approved.

Elder Barr shared information on the upcoming Consultation of Religious Communities meeting, where a vote would be taken on whether or not to dissolve the CRC organization.

New Session members will be joining the December 2022 stated Session meeting.

Jim Claypool will serve as Clerk of Session beginning January 2023.

The death of Earl Warren Nelson, on November 11, 2022 was noted.

Closing prayer was offered by Jeremy Fletcher.

Next Session meeting will be December 20, 2022, in FPC Coover Lounge.

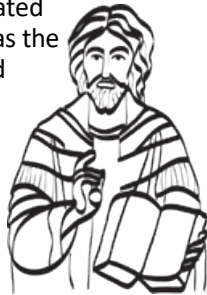


BIBLE QUIZ

A New Testament book says God designated Jesus as a “high priest” and that Jesus was the most perfect mediator between God and humans.

Choose the name of the book below:

- A. Romans
- B. Hebrews
- C. Matthew
- D. Revelations



Answer: B (see chapters 5:1-10 and 9:11-15.)

Needles, Hooks and Yarn

We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Healthy, Happy New Year!

Interested in joining this group of knitters and crocheters? Contact Tammy Schroeder at 319-351-2660.

We look forward to seeing you in 2023!



Flood Relief for Pasrur School Families

This year the Pasrur Christian School was affected by the flooding in Pakistan. It did not occur in the first wave of floods, but when the levees broke, the boarding house girls' families were underwater. This left the already impoverished Christian families in a dire situation. They did not have enough food to feed their families. Once again, people rallied to help them. Through private donations, and a donation from FPC's Reconciliation Ministry, \$11,375 was raised to provide food and medical supplies for the families until the water drained and they could replant their crops. Thank you doesn't seem like enough to describe their gratitude.

The Dodekah group prepares for their Scotland trip (May 2023, tracing the history of Presbyterianism) by having a traditional Scottish Christmas meal on December 11.



Nominating Committee Presents Slate on Sunday, October 30, 2022

Report of the 2022 Nominating Committee and election of officers, Endowment/Memorial Committee and Nominating Committee at-large members

Elders: Class of 2024, Nancy Ross; Class of 2025, Jen Adams, Jeremy Fletcher, Nancy Gardner, and Mary Ellen Stamp

Deacons: Class of 2025, Rick Boland, Mary Linn, Jean Mafirira, and Jeanie Wade-Nagle

Endowment/Memorial Committee: Class of 2023, Amy Hackman; Class of 2024, Rob Ketterer; Class of 2025, Eric Forsythe

Officer Nominating Committee for 2023: Rhonda Barr, Anita Burnett and Perry Ross

The 2022 Officer Nominating Committee: elected by the congregation — Rhonda Barr, Anita Burnett, David Carlson, Nancy Gardner; elected by the Session — Leann Graves, moderator

Elder Nominee, Class of 2024

Nancy Ross is “Mom” to three grown children and spouses and “Grammy” to five grandchildren. She taught in primary classrooms and as a reading specialist in the Iowa City schools. Her retirement is filled with a variety of social groups, travel, summer lake life at their Minnesota cabin, exercise, reading, crafting, and spending as much time as possible with family and friends. Don (from whom she is recently widowed) and Nancy were married in Old Brick in 1964. Over the ensuing years this church has been an integral source of spiritual growth and nurture for her and her family. Nancy has been a member of many FPC groups ... education, music, mission, Bible study, women’s activities, Session, Deacons, and numerous committees / councils. She looks forward to being part of First Church as we navigate some uncharted waters ahead.

Elder Nominees, Class of 2025

Jen Adams joined FPC in 2007 and has served as a Deacon, on the Christian Education Committee, and as a Sunday School teacher. She worked as an oncology social worker at UIHC for 17 years before transitioning into the role of clinical research in the cancer center. Jen lives in Iowa City with daughter, Vivian, a 7th grader at Southeast, and their chocolate labradoodle. She enjoys dinner out with friends, reading, walking the dog, and anywhere near the beach.

Jeremy Fletcher was born and raised in a small town in northeast Nebraska. He and his wife, Amy, moved to Iowa City in 1997. They have two sons, Erick (a math teacher at Southeast Junior High) and Joshua (a senior at Iowa State University). Jeremy is a biological anthropologist by training but currently works at ACT as a program manager. In his free time, Jeremy enjoys reading (sci-fi, fantasy, history, and theology), Nebraska Cornhusker football and volleyball, and taking hiking trips with Amy. Jeremy and Amy first attended First Presbyterian Church in 2008 and became members in April, 2009. Jeremy has served as a Deacon, on the Outreach Council, and in the REALM Planning Ministry. He is finishing his first term as an Elder and serves on the

Personnel Committee. Jeremy looks forward to finding new and innovative ways to serve God, our congregation, and our larger community.

Nancy Gardner has been a member of FPC for almost 40 years. She and her husband, Scott, live on a farm north of Iowa City and have two grown daughters and three adorable grandkids. Over the years, Nancy has held several leadership positions, including terms as an Elder and Deacon, and serving on the Personnel, Finance, Nominating, Endowment, and Stewardship Committees. She also enjoys playing in the JuBELLation handbell choir, teaching Sunday School, and participating in Friends of Pasrur. After retiring as an elementary principal several years ago, Nancy most recently filled in as the church’s Interim Administrator until Frosty (thankfully) arrived! In her free time, Nancy enjoys working with the staff at Little Creations Academy, traveling, and throwing her grandkids into the alligator pit (i.e. a queen-size bed). She loves witnessing the impact FPC makes in the lives of people in the church, in the community, and around the world, and looks forward to serving again on the Session.

Mary Ellen Stamp has been a member of First Presbyterian Church for over 40 years, and she was married to Jerry by Jack Zerwas at the church nearly 40 years ago. She has two stepdaughters, Stephanie Stamp and Carrie Clark, and five grandchildren, Ryan, Braden, Demetrius, Lexi, and Chase. She recently retired after 44 years at U.S. Bank. Mary Ellen has previously served FPC as an Elder, Deacon, chair of FPC’s 175th Year Celebration, Nominating Committee member, and chair of Worship Council. Currently, she is a member of the Sanctuary Choir, JuBELLation Bell Choir, and member of both the Finance and Endowment Committees. She also serves on the Board of Directors of the United Presbyterian Home in Washington. Mary Ellen enjoys traveling, spending time with her family, playing French horn in the New Horizons Band, playing the mountain dulcimer for fun, and learning the ukulele.

Deacon Nominees, Class of 2025

Rick Boland

- A. I'm Rick Boland (I do not refer to myself in the third person.)
- B. I'm retired from general hard work.
- C. My wife, Deb and I have been members of FPC since 2006.
- D. I went to the Kurt Vonnegut school of writing—start as close to the end as possible.

Mary Linn is a retired early childhood educator, having worked in the West Liberty, Durant, and Wilton school districts for 18 years. She and husband, Jim, have two adult daughters, two grandchildren, and several “grand mammals.” She has been a member of First Presbyterian Church since 1980. She helps coordinate FPC funeral receptions and is a member of the FPC Book Club and the Friends of Pasrur. Mary has served as Elder and Deacon in the past and presently serves as a Deacon in the Burgundy neighborhood and on the Administration and Leadership Committee. She enjoys practicing yoga, reading, sewing, and lunching with friends. Mary and Jim are looking forward to visiting Scotland with the Dodekah group in the spring of 2023.

Jean Mafirira joined First Presbyterian during Sam Massey's pastorate. Jean came to Iowa City in 2013 from Concord, New Hampshire, for economic reasons and to be closer to a cousin who lives in this area. Initially, he worshipped with the African congregation that used our youth room for worship on Sunday afternoons. Meeting Pastor Sam through that connection, Jean became increasingly curious about Presbyterianism. He attended worship a few times and was drawn to our music ministry and leadership style. As he learned more, he decided to become a member of FPC. He has sung in the choir and enjoys new friendships. In 2015 he married Nadine, and they have three children: Joanna, Isabella, and Hope. The older girls attend Borlaug Elementary School. Jean is employed at Loparex. When not busy with work and family, he enjoys reading, music (especially piano), and quiet time for spiritual disciplines. Attaining a college degree continues to be a goal for Jean, but that work has been put on hold several times. His college credits are with Eastern University, a Christian college in St. Davids, Pennsylvania.

Jeanie Wade-Nagle grew up in Kansas and has lived in Connecticut, Illinois, and in Iowa since 1985. She has roots in the Presbyterian Church but has also been active in Baptist and Methodist churches. She is a retired educator—teacher, consultant, and administrator. Jeanie was a part of the REALM committee, is a Deacon, and participates in Wired Word and Jeremiah Justice Initiative at FPC. She enjoys

reading, walking, traveling, and spending time with family — you may know her son, Travis Martin, his wife Kayla, and their three children. She lives with her husband, Gary.

Endowment Committee, Class of 2023

Amy Hackman grew up in Ames, Iowa, and graduated from ISU. She was a member at Collegiate Presbyterian Church in Ames before moving to Iowa City in the early 2000s and then became a member at FPC. She has worked as a public health dietitian at Johnson County for two decades. Over the years, Amy has served as a Deacon, sang in the choir, and participated in the Jeremiah Justice Initiative. She and her husband, Jason, live in west Iowa City.

Endowment Committee, Class of 2024

Rob Ketterer was raised in Monmouth, Illinois, and was confirmed at Faith United Presbyterian Church. He was a professor of Classics at the University of Iowa from 1988 until his retirement last spring. Rob and his wife, Meg, joined First Pres in 1998 during Tom Brown's time as pastor. Rob has served on the Worship Council and on the Session. As an Elder, he chaired the FPC Nominating Committee. Rob welcomes the opportunity to serve on the Endowment Committee as a way to rejoin the FPC community after the long Covid hiatus.

Endowment Committee, Class of 2025

Eric Forsythe grew up in Erie, Pennsylvania, son of actor-parents (dad was a Tony-winner). In Erie, he sang in the Presbyterian Church's children's choir. After moving to the New York area, he continued to sing in the Presbyterian Church and other choirs, including US All-Eastern. He studied acting and stage direction at Dartmouth and Carnegie-Mellon and launched into a professional and academic theatre career. In 1986, he became head of acting and directing at the U of Iowa, as well as Artistic Director of Iowa Summer Rep. Shortly thereafter, he married Kitty Sandholm and, with their children, Grant and Gwyneth, became members of First Church. Eric is a member of the choir and has served as an Elder.

Nominating Committee, Class of 2023

Rhonda Barr has been a member at FPC for over 37 years. She is married to John and has three grown sons: Greg, Tom, and Evan. She worked at UIHC as a physical therapist for 41 years, now retired for the past five years. Rhonda has served FPC in various capacities: Elder, Deacon, Sunday School teacher, and Congregational Health Ministries, for which she is currently the chair. She is also a facilitator for the Honoring Your Wishes program at FPC. Rhonda is a long-time member of the JuBELLation choir and

frequently assists worship as a Lay Liturgist. She served on the Nominating Committee in 2022 and now looks forward to continuing to serve in this capacity in 2023.

Anita Burnett retired from a career as a church educator that took her to six congregations in four states. Spouse, Gary, and Anita have two children; one died in 1986 and the other lives in Columbia, SC. They have one grandson, a young adult who recently relocated from Iowa to Columbia, SC. Anita has been ordained both Deacon and Ruling Elder, positions that brought service in three congregations. She loves the connectional nature of the PC(USA) and cherishes opportunities to serve the larger church, as well as locally.

Perry Ross and his wife, Becky, have been members of First Presbyterian Church since 1993. Perry's a lifelong Presbyterian and has served on the Session, as a Deacon, and on the Nominating Committee in the past. He has taught Sunday School and Vacation Bible School at the church many times. Becky and Perry also serve on the Green Team.

While the worship and service to God are vital to Christian life, your safety is our priority. We ask that you make the best decision for you and your family and do not attempt travel during inclement weather.

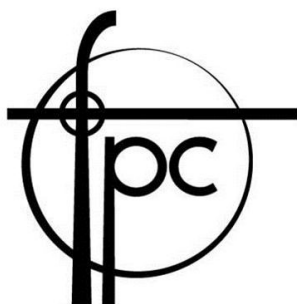


If **Iowa City Community School District** delays or cancels school and events due to weather, the church office will also be closed and any scheduled activities cancelled.

We will advise you of cancellations by changing the church's outgoing voicemail message, posting on our website and on Facebook. In addition, cancellations of church activities will be posted on KCRG-TV .

First Presbyterian Church

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Public Office Hours:

9:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m. Monday—Thursday
except holidays or when announced

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