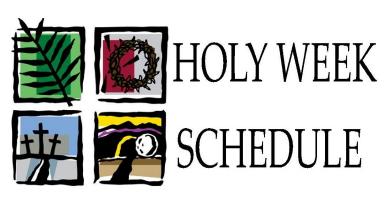




#### March 15-April 15 2021

Volume 65 Issue 2



#### Stations of the Cross: March 29-April 3

A self-guided stations of the cross will be set up outdoors on the church grounds during Holy Week

#### Palm/Passion Sunday: March 28

10:30 a.m. Worship on Facebook and YouTube

#### Wednesday Evening Prayer: March 31

7:00 p.m. Worship on Zoom

Maundy Thursday: April I

7:00 p.m. Worship with Communion on Zoom

#### Easter Sunday: April 4

10:30 a.m. Celebration of the Resurrection Worship on Facebook and YouTube

#### Zoom Evening Prayer Service Wednesdays 7:00 p.m.

Evening Prayer services will continue on Wednesday evenings on Zoom. These are brief evening prayer services from 7:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m. consisting of prayer, scripture, simple sung responses, and silence.



Check the FPC Daily email and Facebook, or contact Leah at leah.bergman@firstpresiowacity.org for Zoom login information.



This year, instead of our Easter lilies, there will be a collection of vegetable starters for our First Presbyterian Church Garden. There will be a collection space at the church building during Holy Week (from March 28-April 3) and then there will be a church planting event on Holy Saturday. For information or questions, please contact Cathe Franz at ajmommy@mchsi.com.

#### Inside this issue: 2 Grief Support Group to Begin 3 One Great Hour of Sharing Garden Planting Event Realm Ministry Entrepreneurs 4 Pasrur Scholarship Success 5 First's Family FPC Earth Care Congregation 6-9 Equipping Ministries 10 Capital Campaign Donor Roll FAO Endowment/Memorial 11 12 Get Connected with FPC



#### Dear Members and Friends,

Children are often asked "What do you want to be when you grow up"? A form of that question is asked of adults today. "What will the new normal look like?" The child's question is important as a child begins to imagine the future and her place in that future. The same importance can be attached to the question about the new normal, that is, our place in an imagined future.

From the Pastor

These are important questions, but this may be a more important question: Who do you want to be right now? This question is both

a personal question and an inquiry for our church: What do we want to be right now as a community of faith?

The "what" questions in the first paragraph are planning inquiries. The "be" questions of the second paragraph are faith questions. While we anticipate the future, God calls us to Christian living and mission today, in the now.

How are we loving our neighbor in the pandemic? How are we comforting the afflicted, feeding the hungry, freeing the oppressed, visiting the prisoner? How are we practicing our citizenship in God's realm? How are we living toward a more just society now?

With gratitude,

Terry

he/his/his



#### Congregational Health Ministry—Grief Group to Begin

We are all experiencing grief and loss of some kind as a result of the pandemic. For some the pandemic is accentuating more personal losses such as the death of a beloved family member, a dear friend, divorce, health changes or the loss of a job. There are many reasons for grief. A year ago we began a Grief Support Group at FPC. We met after worship on Sunday at the church. Although we cannot, at this time have such an in-person connection, we have been afforded the opportunity to meet via "zoom." The group will be facilitated by Sue VanDuyn and Maeleen Thorius. Sue was a school counselor and Maeleen was a psychiatric nurse practitioner. Both have experience in facilitating grief groups. If you are interested, please contact either Sue or Maeleen. We are hoping to begin Sunday, April 18 at 1:00 p.m. We can decide a schedule as a group after we meet for the first time. The group is very committed to confidentiality. We will need to know your wish to participate in order to send you an "invite." Please consider joining us.

Sue Van Duyn susanvdphipps@gmail.com 515-205-3576

Maeleen Thorius <a href="mailto:mthorius@southslope.net">mthorius@southslope.net</a> 319-541-3161

#### One Great Hour of Sharing - Our First PCUSA Special Offering in 2021

At the end of World War II, Protestant churches in the U.S. appealed for relief and the reconstruction of areas devastated by the war, primarily in Europe and Asia. In 1949, the leaders of several denominations organized an appeal to support their churches' separate campaigns. A program called "One Great Hour" was broadcast on March 26, 1949, and closed with a request that listeners attend their local church the following morning and make a sacrificial contribution. It was estimated that more than 75,000 churches world-wide participated. The next year, the offering was repeated, using the name "One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS)."

For more than 70 years, OGHS has provided us a way to share God's love with our neighbors in need. In fact, OGHS is the single, largest way Presbyterians come together every year to work toward a better world.

The three programs supported by OGHS — Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA), the Presbyterian Hunger Program (PHP), and Self-Development of People (SDOP)—all work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. From initial disaster response to ongoing community development, their work fits together to provide people with safety, sustenance and hope.

#### Demonstrations of the impact of the One Great Hour of Sharing to restore hope, feed the hungry, empower the oppressed include:

- **-\$4.1 million** granted by PDA in the U.S. & 57 countries in the first half of 2020
- **−94** grants impacting 20 countries given by PHP in 2019
- **−50** years of ministry for SDOP
- —over 17,000 people trained nationally & internationally by OGHS ministries
- -5,676 PDA work team volunteers served in 2019
- —234 certified PCUSA Earth Care congregations helped care for creation
- **—51,000** trees planted around the world
- —over 5,000 projects in economically poor communities in the U.S. & around the world have developed solutions to their own challenges since SDOP's inception
- -\$190,000 recovered in stolen wages for hospitality workers in the U.S.
- -1,097 Presbyterian congregations purchased eco-palms for sustainable forestry

We have four different PCUSA Special Offerings each year. Please be joyful & generous in giving to each, with the first being for One Great Hour of Sharing.

Donations accepted though Easter Sunday, April 4th, can made via our website at <a href="https://">https://</a> firstpresiowacity.org/donate-online/ or a check payable to First Presbyterian Church, with One Great Hour in the memo line.



#### Garden Planting Event—Holy Saturday, April 3

#### Join FPCers April 3 to help plant the FPC Garden!

The state of the s

This will be a safe event where masks will be worn and aim to stay 6 feet apart at all times. This day when we celebrate the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ—let's see how God will bless our 'dead' seeds with new life! This event will be Saturday, April 3 from 1–4 p.m. on FPC Grounds. To continue COVID precautions, we ask participants to join in order of their last name:

2:30–4 p.m. if your last name starts with M-Z

If you are not available to join, please consider loaning any gardening tools that will bless our work! **For any questions,** 

1–2:30 p.m. if your last name starts with A-L

please email: Cathe Franz, ajmommy@mchsi.com

#### **REALM Ministry Supports Black Entrepreneurs**

Submitted by Jeanie Wade-Nagle and REALM Ministry

You may remember when Elder Jeremy Fletcher mentioned in several FPC Daily reports that REALM Planning Ministry would be supporting two Black entrepreneurs in the University of Iowa's Venture School. This is a project to help support financial empowerment of people of color in our community to begin or grow Blackowned businesses. Three sessions of the seven weekly sessions have taken place and our entrepreneurs, Rachael and Theo, are gaining great ideas and guidance to develop their business plans. Rachael and Theo also have several team members joining them for the course sessions to help brainstorm and work on aspects of their business plans. We are grateful to Stephanie Brentner from FPC, and Ken Clair and Shawn Williams from New Creations International Church for joining Rachael's team. Community members Carmen Fleming and Adam Rees are part of Theo's team. In addition to the team members who attend the course sessions, FPC REALM members form a wider team for each entrepreneur to offer support.

One motivating aspect of Venture School is the opportunity to make connections with other budding business people and to network with others who can connect course members to helpful resources. There are specific steps to guide each entrepreneur through giving surveys to ensure that there is a need for their business and then developing the specific business plan. REALM members have been impressed with the questions, the plans and the conviction the entrepreneurs have to develop strong business plans which will launch them into successful businesses. This is believed to be a strong way to support financial empowerment for people of color in our community.

## Do you have an interest in audio-visual technology or know someone who is?

We are looking for individuals to assist with camera operation and video editing. Interested but not sure you have the right skills? We can teach you!







#### We're Celebrating!

Submitted by Nancy Gardner for Friends of Pasrur

Why are the girls in this photo jumping for joy? Because they just found out that they will be returning to the Pasrur Christian Girls School when classes begin again in April. That's right, through the generosity of our FPC members and others across the country, sponsors have been matched with each of the 100 Christian girls in the school boarding house. I think all of us can do a happy dance with that good news!

(Additional note: Anyone interested in being a part of Friends of Pasrur is always welcome to join us! Our next meeting is March 10 at 10:30 am. For more information, email me at <a href="mailto:nancy.hayes.gardner@gmail.com">nancy.hayes.gardner@gmail.com</a> or Leann Graves at Igraves@mchsi.com.)

Page 4 First Presbyterian Church March 15—April 15, 2021

## First's Family

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

#### March 15-31

- 3/17 Michael Anderson
- 3/18 Michelle Stevens
- 3/18 Jeffrey Orris
- 3/19 Sharon Raffensperger
- 3/19 Elizabeth Aubrey
- 3/21 Gerald Lowry
- 3/22 Joe Paulsen
- 3/24 Kitty Chadima
- 3/24 Cooper Kirschling
- 3/25 Mary Bergman
- 3/26 Rebecca Blair
- 3/26 Andrew Marsh
- 3/30 Sara Burton
- 3/31 Doris Yoder



#### April 1-15

- 4/1 Leroy Bain
- 4/1 Milord Byamungu
- 4/1 Oscar Everhart
- 4/3 Bill Follows
- 4/3 Sue Olson
- 4/3 Travis Martin
- 4/4 Bob Dillin
- +/4 BOD DIIIII
- 4/7 Trevor Smith
- 4/7 116 001 311110
- 4/8 John Koch

- 4/9 Joyce McMaster
- 4/9 Lee Kirsch
- 4/9 Billie Feagins
- 4/10 Jack Edwards
- 4/12 Glenn Van Roekel
- 4/13 Jeremy Fletcher
- 4/14 Elaine Tarnutzer
- 4/14 Claine Tarnutzer
- 4/6 Aimee Meardon-Orris 4/15 Maeleen Thorius

#### Dear FPC Members and Friends,

We said good-bye last week to Saira Steen who has served First Presbyterian Church as Financial Secretary for more than a decade. She has helped us track income and expenditures, prepared endless reports, helped us solve problems by text/phone/email, and attended countless meetings. The Administration and Personnel Committee, representing Session and the congregation, honored Saira with an end-of-service gift for her dedication to serving this congregation and God.

Sincerely, Chris Kolarik

Moderator, Administration and Personnel

# Thanks!

#### FPC has been certified as an Earth Care Congregation for the 4<sup>th</sup> consecutive year!

Even though 2020 was a very strange year we made it again! I would like to thank our FPC staff for the work they have done to make this possible. This certification is

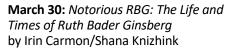


based on 4 categories: Education, Worship, Outreach and Facilities. I would also like to thank the 4 people who filled out those category sections: Anna Sheetz, Leah Bergman, Tammy Schroeder and John Barr.

FPC's Green Team hopes to have more activities or actions you can take to help us be more sustainable when we can get back together. Please think about things we might do that you would like to help with. Think green and get your vaccination!

## FPC Book Club invites you to join them on Zoom

We meet on the last Tuesday of the month, January through May, at 11:30 a.m. we will continue to meet on Zoom until we get the "go ahead" that we can meet in the church.



**April 27:** When We Were Young and Brave by Hazel Gaynor

**May 25:** A Confederacy of Dunces by John Kennedy Toole

For more information, contact Mary Linn at jmLnn@aol.com

## **Equipping Ministry is Taking Sunday School Outside!**

The **God in the Wilderness series** is an Outdoor Sunday school for elementary youth and younger!

This may not be your exact idea of a traditional Sunday school—it will be an intentional hour each week when we can connect with each other in a COVID-safe way and have a short discussion of where we found God in the wilderness that day.

Our God in the Wilderness series has started off slow but mighty! Check out some new updates as indicated in RED.



Sunday, March 21—We will meet-Church Grounds to prepare Church Garden

Sunday, March 28—Church grounds to prepare the church garden

Sunday, April 11—Waterworks Prairie Park in Coralville

Due to concerns about the growing popularity of this event—which would be a tremendous thing during a normal year but presents a risk during COVID—this group is only be open to elementary youth and younger. This means those from birth to 6th grade (including older siblings) are welcome to attend from 1–2 p.m. each Sunday.

#### A separate time for 7th-grade youth and older to meet once a month.

Due to fear of the groups being too large, there will be an age-specific time to meet—once a month until we gauge interest or the group desires to meet more often. This group will abide by the same guidelines as above. The times we will meet are:

Sunday, March 28, 2-3 p.m.

**Church Garden at FPC** 

Sunday, April 11, 2-3 p.m.
Waterworks Prairie Park in Coralville

#### 4th-6th Grade Youth Group has started a Cooking Class

In February, we made lasagna together over ZOOM. We were challenged for the next Cooking Event to be a dessert!

To satisfy the sweet cravings of our youth, on Wednesday, April 7, the 4th-6th Grade Youth Group will be making Puppy Chow!

Families will each need to buy and have these supplies for this event:

- Semisweet chocolate chips
- Peanut butter
- Butter
- Vanilla extract
- Salt
- Rice Chex Cereal
- Powdered sugar
- Mixing bowl
- Spoon to stir
- Large resealable bag



## YOUTH GROUP CURRENT SCHEDULE

4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade meets 3:30-4:30 p.m. on Zoom.

7<sup>th</sup>–12<sup>th</sup> grade meets from 4:30–6 p.m. on Zoom.

We will continue to meet on ZOOM for the time being.

Both Groups will use this meeting: Join Zoom Meeting

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84314271767? pwd=dDBNU1ppMVpzQTB4VzNOZmc4ZS84QT09

Meeting ID: 843 1427 1767 Passcode: 242461

\_\_\_\_\_\_

#### Wednesday, March 17, 2021

Youth Groups will be canceled. Happy Spring Break!

#### Wednesday, 24, 2021

4th-6th Youth, 3:30-4:30 p.m. We work on our Echo Curriculum to discuss the Wandering.

7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Youth, 4:30-6 p.m. We will finish our Easter Play and begin recording.

#### Wednesday, March 31, 2021

4th-6th Youth, 3:30-4:30 p.m. We will spend time learning about why Holy Week is significant and why we celebrate it.

7<sup>th</sup>–12<sup>th</sup> Youth, 4:30-6 p.m. We will finish recording our Easter Play.

#### Wednesday, April 7, 2021

4th-6th Youth, 3:30-4:30 p.m. Dessert night! Let's have a cooking class and make dessert for the whole family!

7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Youth, 4:30-6 p.m. GAME NIGHT! Are you ready to rumbleeee?

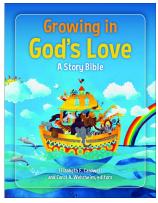
#### Wednesday, April 4, 2021

4th-6th Youth, 3:30-4:30 p.m. Let's learn about the worship service. Why do we do what we do?

7<sup>th</sup>–12<sup>th</sup> Youth, 4:30-6 p.m. We will start our yearly Tough Topics series.

Do you have any questions, ideas to add, or concerns? Please email Anna at anna.sheetz@firstpresiowacity.org

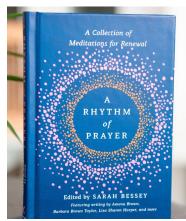
#### The Missing Piece? A Simple ZOOM Sunday School Returns!



I (Anna) have really loved getting together the few times for our God in the Wilderness series! I do feel like this scratches the itches of community in this wilderness of time and space. But I am feeling like our Bible teachings, prayers, and check-ins are missing. To remedy this, we are reinstating a simple ZOOM Sunday school each. Beginning Sunday, March 14, there will be a short Sunday school on ZOOM offered from 9:30–10 a.m. each Sunday.

The best part is that the PC(USA) has gifted FPC with 10 new Children's Bibles—<u>Growing in God's Love; a Story Bible</u>. *This Bible is AMAZING*. With no white Jesus, so many different pictures, and great follow-up questions. I am excited to say we have 8 Bibles that families can borrow to follow along each Sunday. These Bibles will be available for pick up beginning Monday, March 8th.

#### A Refuge for Overwhelmed/Stressed/Anxious/ Just 'DONE' Parents



Sarah Bessey recently came out with the book A Rhythm of Prayer: A Collection of Meditations for Renewal. She writes, "When I first began to envision this book about prayer, I knew right way what I didn't want to give you: a nice and tidy new set of prayers to co-opt for your own good. Nope, what I wanted was equal parts example and invitation, permission and challenge, to acknowledge the heaviness of our grief and at the same time broaden our hope."

As a mother with a growing child and one on the way, as a pastor who can not touch for pastoral care; as someone who organizes a family, grieves COVID, community, and hugs; struggles with politics; and balances it all with anxiety and depression—this book has been a balm for my soul and exactly what I have needed.

I would like to offer something that is partly book study, parthly "refuge moment" each week, and a place to simply connect—no agenda. It will be a time for parents to pray one prayer together and then have an open time

for whatever conversation needs to come up. You can get the book, someone can simply read the prayer, or the church can gift you a book.

If you are someone who would benefit from this for 30–60 minutes each week, during morning coffee, after kid's bed time, lunch time, etc., please email Anna at Anna. Sheetz@firstpresiowacity.org to sign up.





Each month, there will be 3 crafts with supplies prepared and ready to take home! These will be located in the entry (immediately inside the front door of the church). There will be instructions and all the materials needed per kit. Take one craft or all three! Once prepared, pictures can be posted with the hashtag #FPCCraftingClub. Crafts will be available on the 15th of each month.

March crafts are "Palm Sunday Hand Palms," "Spring Time Rain Cloud" and "Happy March Leprechaun." Come find these on March 15 right inside the front door of church!

#### Thanks for your donations!

Our Reconciliation Ministry would like to thank FPC members and friends for their donations of mittens and underwear to be shared with students at Lucas and Kirkwood elementary schools. A tub full of these items was collected from January 25 to February 25. This clothing will be delivered to the schools by RM chairperson Michelle Bessman.



We welcome Krista Livingston to service at First Presbyterian Church. She will fill the position of Manager of Finances and Purchasing. Krista, who lives in Davenport, founded her own salon that had nine employees. She then went to college, liked education so much that she continued her education to receive an MBA degree, has used her skills in finance in a local business and also managed a local restaurant. Krista knows church finance as she managed the finances in her local congregation for several years. Krista is working 17 hours a week with 5 of those hours in the office. She will attend Finance Committee meetings.

Terry Purvis-Smith, Interim Pastor



## A new Jeremiah Justice Initiative group will begin on April 18. This group will meet each Sunday night from April 18-June 27 (not on Memorial Day weekend) from 6-7:30 p.m.

As Jeremiah Justice Initiative wraps up its session reading *Be the Bridge* and working through more personal and communal conversations, we turn our focus to history to continue our education and discussion. Join us next session as we work through components of the *New York Times'* 1619 *Project*, which was co-created by Nikole Hannah-Jones who is from Waterloo, lowa and won a Pulitzer Prize for her work. Sessions will run from 6 p.m.—7:30 p.m.

via Zoom on Sunday nights. All are welcome to this discussion! Please contact Layne at

Layne.Sheetz@firstpresiowacity.org for more information.





Scripture-based study and discussion about current issues in the news.

We're excited to see you each and every Sunday.

Join Zoom Meeting

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89921391094? pwd=UTFieVdqcVgwZnhKQ2I0S2grNkNFQT09

Meeting ID: 899 2139 1094

Passcode: 134376

We hope you will think about joining us even if you have not been with us recently. Since we are not seeing one

another at church it feels good to connect each week. We have a consistent group of 8-10 participants and new people are always welcome. Please email Judy at Judy. Whitford@firstpresiowacity.org to get the latest topic!



#### Small Groups meets from April 18-June 20

Small Groups begin again April 18–June 20 meeting safely over ZOOM for an hour each week . Why did I sign up for a small group?

It is a weekly opportunity to connect with FPC people on Zoom—maybe even people that you did not know before. I have made two new friends since agreeing to lead a small group.

It is an opportunity to visit with others about the Sunday morning sermon.

It is an opportunity to lead a small group. In my small group we are now sharing leadership. I love it!!

It is incentive to listen to the on-line service every Sunday. Maybe even more than once. It is easy to quickly listen to the sermon again the day of our small group.

It is a weekly chance to grow in my faith and to challenge myself.

Email Anna today at <a href="mailto:anna.sheetz@firstpresiowacity.org">anna.sheetz@firstpresiowacity.org</a> to sign up for a small group. What a great way to pass the winter while we are waiting for COVID to pass. If you would like to talk to someone who has been in a small group email me at <a href="mailto:judy.whitford@firstpresiowacity.org">judy.whitford@firstpresiowacity.org</a> and I would be glad to arrange a time to talk with you on the phone.

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#### FPC Capital Campaign Donor Roll - PLEASE REVIEW

The Capital Campaign Implementation Taskforce (CCTI) recommended, and Session concurred, that our Capital Campaign conclude on December 31, 2020. What follows is a listing of all the individuals who generously made donations to the campaign over its four-year course. Please take a moment to review your listing for accuracy, reporting any errors or omissions to CCIT chair John Barr at <a href="mailto:BarrJohnO@sau.edu">BarrJohnO@sau.edu</a> or 319-541-3213 (by voice or text message). A formal listing of donors will be prepared and displayed at FPC.

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 Carlson Norvall 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 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 Jeffrey & Aimee Orris Daissy Owen

Mary Palmberg
Wayne Patton
Jack Perkins
Plate Income
Bill & Doris Preucil
Larry & Virginia Pugh
Sharon Raffensperger
Constance Richardson
George & Sally Rickey

Ann Robinson Don & Nancy Ross Perry & Becky Ross

Bill Rubright

Paula & Kemal Sanan

Debra Scanlon

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

Earle & Nancy Stellwa 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



#### Still more frequently asked questions

Here are more questions that we have encountered. We present them here for your perusal. Again, please know that the information in this column is just generic and is not meant to provide any actual legal advice. Please consult your attorney, accountant or tax advisor with regard to your personal situation.

### 6. What Are the Advantages to Making a Charitable Gift During My Lifetime?

A donor who is going to make a gift to charity must decide whether to make the gift while living or at death. Making a charitable gift while living provides several benefits over making a gift at death, including:

- A charitable income tax deduction.
- The removal of future appreciation on the asset from the donor's estate.
- The option of receiving an annual income stream each year in return for the gift.\*
- The opportunity for the donor to see his or her gift being put to good use.

In addition, making a lifetime gift, just as with a gift made at death, removes the value of the gifted asset from the donor's estate, reducing any associated estate tax liability.

\* Such gifts as this would be best to arrange through the Presbyterian Foundation with FPC named as the remainder beneficiary.

### 7. Can I Receive a Charitable Income Tax Deduction for Making a Gift of Securities?

Yes. In fact, if your securities (stocks or bond funds) have appreciated since you first bought them and if you have owned for them more than a year, you can gift them to charity at a significant discount to you.

Here's a hypothetical example of how this could work:

Jane Anderson bought \$3,000 of stock in Acme Food Company. Six years later, the stock is worth \$8,000. She would like to make a gift to her church's mission fund in South America. She could sell the stock, which would net her \$7,250 in a

15% capital gains tax bracket. She could then give this money to her church and be entitled to an income tax deduction of \$7,250.

If Jane had given her church the stock instead of the cash, the result would have been more favorable. The church could have sold the stock for \$8,000, and would not have had to pay any capital gains tax. Plus, Jane would have received a charitable income tax deduction of \$8,000 (the full, fair market value of the stock), even though the total cost of her gift would have been only \$3,000 (her original cost basis).

### 8. Can I Leave a Significant Gift to Charity While Not Depleting My Children's Inheritance?

Yes, through the use of "wealth replacement" life insurance. Using this technique, a donor transfers assets to charity. In return, the donor will be entitled to a charitable income tax deduction and, depending on the gift, may receive an annual income stream in return. These tax savings and/or income payments may be used to pay the premium payments on a life insurance contract with a face value equaling the value of the gifted asset. If an irrevocable life insurance trust or adult children hold the life insurance contract, the value of the contract will be excluded from the donor's estate. Upon the death of the donor, the beneficiaries of the contract will receive the death benefit income tax- and estate-tax free. It is a win-win-win situation for the donor, the charity and the donor's family.

### 9. How Can I Ensure That My Assets Go to My Heirs Rather Than to the IRS?

There are three places your money and assets can go after your death: your heirs, a charity or Uncle Sam. By planning carefully, you can control how much goes to whom. You can leave as much as you want to your spouse without paying estate taxes (the marital deduction). In addition, you can ensure that the IRS gets less of your estate by making charitable gifts. The charitable estate tax deduction is unlimited. If you have a sizable estate, consider how charitable giving can shrink your estate for tax purposes. It provides an opportunity for you to support the causes that are important to you rather than supporting the causes important to the U.S. government via the IRS. You do not have a choice about whether to give your estate away, but you do have a choice about who will ultimately receive it.

This is quite a lot of information for today. We'll have more thoughts next month. If anyone wishes to visit with Millie and Bob about any of these items, please feel free to let us know and we'll work to get together with you.

One gives freely, yet grows all the richer; another withholds what he should give, and only suffers want.

Whoever brings blessing will be enriched, and one who waters will himself be watered. – Proverbs 11:24-25

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

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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
- 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
- 2) Log in Use the same username and password vou use for MyFirstPres.

Should you encounter any issues feel free to email Tammy Schroeder at tammy.schroeder@firstpresiowacity.org

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