

Lenten Evening Zoom Worship

Wednesdays
March 9–April 13, 7:30pm



Join Leah Bergman for a series of meditative worship services on Wednesday evenings during Lent.

These will be brief (20-30 min.) services offered through Zoom Wednesday evenings from March 9–April 13 at 7:30 p.m. The services will consist of scripture, prayer, simple a capella singing, silence, and listening.

Watch your FPC Daily emails and Facebook for the Zoom link, or contact Leah for it to be sent to you each week.

For more information, contact Leah at
leah.bergman@firstpresioiwacity.org

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HOLY WEEK



SCHEDULE

The theme for this Lenten season has been "Deliver Us."

What do we (personally, as a church, as a world) need to be delivered from? Throughout the season we have written on ribbons what we need to be delivered from. They have been added to the tree on the chancel. On Easter Sunday we will turn these words on their head, and the tree will bloom as we are delivered as freed people by Christ's Resurrection. We will be delivered into hope and new life through Christ.

Stations of the Cross: April 10–April 17

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

Palm/Passion Sunday: April 10

9:00 a.m. Educational Opportunities
10:30 a.m. Worship, Paul Akin preaching

Maundy Thursday: April 14

7:00 p.m. Worship with Communion,
Loretta Ross presiding

Holy Saturday: April 16

7:00 p.m. Easter Vigil worship: Celebration of
Light, Word, Water,
and Holy Communion

Easter Sunday: April 17

10:30 a.m. Celebration of the Resurrection
Paul Akin preaching

Consultation's Corner

FPC is a founding member of the Consultation of Religious Communities (CRC; formerly known as the Ecumenical Consultation), a local network of faith communities, social service agencies, and advocacy groups. The CRC promotes interfaith dialogue, social justice, community service and dignity for all. The CRC "Common Fund" provides over \$35,000 in annual funding to CommUnity's *Emergency Assistance Program* for rent and utility assistance in Johnson County. CRC meetings at 10–11 a.m. on the third Wednesday of each month include an interactive education program. Two recent programs were of potential interest to FPC members:

The January meeting focused on the GuideLink Center, located at 300 Southgate Avenue, Iowa City. The center provides immediate onsite services for those 18+ years of age who are experiencing a mental health or substance use crisis. This community-initiated collaborative, led by the Johnson County Board of Supervisors, offers a welcoming space where experienced staff can deliver 24/7 services, including

rapid assessment, triage, stabilization, and follow-up resources. The Center has beds available for individuals who require stays of up to five days. For further information go to <https://guidelinkcenter.org/> or 319-688-8000.

The February focused on Houses into Homes (HIH), located at 401 6th Ave, Coralville. The mission of HIH is to help people feel the comfort of home, and to do so in a way that honors their experience and engages them with unconditional positive regard. The only organization of its kind in Johnson County, HIH provides gently used beds, furniture, and household items for families and individuals in Johnson County who are exiting homelessness, domestic violence, and other crisis situations. Currently, volunteers are especially needed for meal preparation and assisting with deliveries on weekdays using their own pickup trucks. For further questions, including how to donate household items or volunteer, go to housesintohomes.org or call 319-435-1075.

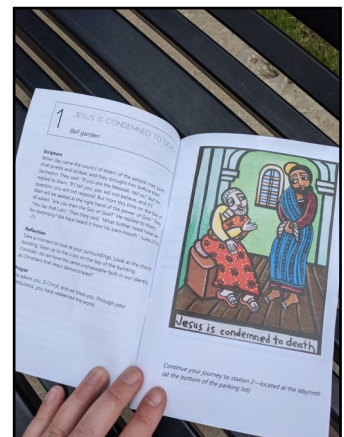


The Endowment Memorial Committee invites you to attend an estate planning seminar on Thursday, April 28 at 7:00 p.m. in Ryerson Hall. The speaker will be William Schwickerath, an attorney and trust officer at Hills Bank and Trust. William has experience in estate planning. There will also be an on-line option for this event.



Stations of the Cross

During Holy Week (April 10-17) a self-guided Stations of the Cross will be set up around the church grounds. Booklets will be available in a box outside, or inside the narthex. These booklets will guide you all the way around the church grounds, stopping at various points to read scripture, look at artwork, and meditate. This is open and available to people of all ages. If you are not physically able to navigate the church grounds, you are encouraged to use the booklet as you read, pray, and meditate on the artwork provided.



One Great Hour of Sharing – Our First PCUSA Special Offering in 2022

At the conclusion of World War II, Protestant churches in the U.S. appealed for relief and the reconstruction of devastated areas, primarily in Europe and Asia. A program called “One Great Hour” broadcast on March 26, 1949, closed with a request that listeners attend their local church and make a sacrificial contribution. It was estimated that more than 75,000 churches worldwide participated. The next year, the offering was repeated, using the name “One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS).” Over the past 70 years, OGHS has provided Presbyterians a way to share God’s love with our neighbors in need around the world.

The three programs supported by OGHS include: Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA), the Presbyterian Hunger Program (PHP), and Self-Development of People (SDOP). Each works 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.

Recent OGHS outcomes have included:

- **\$6.5 million** granted by PDA for the U.S. and 56 countries in 2020; \$3.5 million was for COVID-19 response.
- **5,676** PDA work team volunteers served in 2019.
- **4** grants impacting 20 countries given by PHP in 2019.
- **over 5,000** projects in economically poor U.S. communities and around the world which had an opportunity to develop solutions to their own challenges since SDOP’s inception.
- **over 17,000** people trained nationally and internationally by OGHS ministries.
- **234** certified Earth Care congregations helped care for creation.
- **51,000** trees planted around the world, with **1,097** congregations purchasing eco-palms for sustainable forestry.
- **\$190,000** recovered in stolen wages for hospitality workers in the U.S.

There are four different PCUSA Special Offerings each year. **Please be joyful and generous in giving to each, with this first being One Great Hour of Sharing.**

Donations accepted though Easter Sunday, April 17, can be made via our website at <https://firstpresbiowacity.org/donate-online/> or by check payable to First Presbyterian Church, with One Great Hour in the memo line.



FPC Afghan Refugee Taskforce Update

FPC’s Afghan Refugee Taskforce (John Barr, Nancy Gardner & Sharon Raffensperger) published its initial report in the December / January issue of *First’s Family* (https://firstpresbiowacity.org/wp-content/uploads/Dec-2021-Jan-2022_Website-nwsltr.pdf; see page 11), with links to information and resources.

By mid-November, 700 refugees had been placed primarily in Des Moines, Sioux City and Council Bluffs. The Catherine McAuley Center (CMC), Cedar Rapids, our closest designated Afghan Assistance Program site, had worked with 75 of these refugees regarding housing, furnishings, benefits, job placement, tutoring, and other basic needs.

Most recently the CMC has reported welcoming a total of 249 Afghans to Eastern Iowa (<https://cmc-cr.org/>). Here are a few ways the CMC suggests that we can help our new Afghan neighbors adjust to life in the United States:

Donate Household Items

Visit their [Amazon wish list](#) to send supplies directly to the Center, or drop off items to CMC at 1220 5th Ave SE, Cedar Rapids, IA.

Top needs currently include: sofas, loveseats, and arm chairs; dining tables and chairs; beds and dressers, especially twin; large stock pots and skillets; new twin and queen sheet sets; new pillows; hand soap and laundry detergent.

Volunteer on Moving Days

Sign up as a volunteer to help move Afghans into permanent housing and set up homes for families. Saturday opportunities are available.

Does your business have a box truck or larger vehicle that it’s willing to lend to the effort? Please contact volunteer@cmc-cr.org or call 319-731-0446.

Offer Information on Housing Resources

One of the greatest current needs is for permanent housing so that Afghan clients can move out of temporary hotel housing into their own homes. We welcome landlords or others with connections to housing to share those opportunities with staff. Please contact us at 319-363-4993 or email info@cmc-cr.org.



Herbert Allen Wilson

Jan. 31, 1928–Jan. 14, 2022

All the students and the staff wore white at the Pasrur Christian School on the day they held a memorial service for Herb Wilson. The whole school attended as well as the Presbyterian Education Board staff from Lahore. At the memorial, they renamed the Multi-Purpose Hall in Herb's honor. He was the primary donor for the building, which was the beginning of so many wonderful projects at the school.

Despite Herb's advancing age, I think we were all shaken by the thought that he was no longer with us. Aside from being a dear friend, he has been a leader and a visionary for the Pasrur Christian School in Pakistan. He challenged us. His gifts to the school were transcendent. By his example, he brought all of us on a faith journey that we could not have imagined. I am so grateful to him. We have been privileged, blessed, to have had Herb in our lives. This should be a time of thanksgiving for the gifts of faith and grace that he made possible for us. The challenge for us now is to take up the torch and continue the work that he began.

Jane Cranston
Friends of Pasrur



First's Family

If you have a news item for the First's Family News, please submit it for publication by April 1 to tammy.foster@firstpreswacivcity.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 Andrew Marsh
3/30 Sara Burton
3/31 Doris Yoder



April 1-15

| | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| 4/1 Leroy Bain | 4/7 Trevor Smith |
| 4/1 Milord Byamungu | 4/9 Joyce McMaster |
| 4/2 Caleb Davis | 4/9 Lee Kirsch |
| 4/1 Oscar Everhart | 4/10 Jack Edwards |
| 4/3 Bill Follows | 4/12 Glenn Van Roekel |
| 4/3 Sue Olson | 4/13 Jeremy Fletcher |
| 4/3 Travis Martin | 4/14 Elaine Tarnutzer |
| 4/4 Bob Dillin | 4/15 Maeleen Thorius |
| 4/6 Aimee Meardon-Orris | |
| 4/7 Ryan Dehner | |



Prayers for the family of **Debbie Beermann and David Van Dusseldorp** as they grieve the death of **Dean Van Dusseldorp**, David's brother and **Sharon Van Dusseldorp's** son. Dean passed away February 2 in Las Vegas near his daughter and son-in-law and granddaughters.

And the winner of the Stay Pawsitive website hunt is ...

Leah Tweedy was drawn to receive a Starbucks gift card for finding all 4 paws throughout the church's website. **CONGRATULATIONS!**
If you missed out on the fun, stay tuned for the next FPC website scavenger hunt.



FPC Book Club is meeting by Zoom

March 29: The Sentence by Louise Edrich

April 27: The Butterfly Effect by Rachel Mans McKenny

For more information and a Zoom link, contact Mary Linn at jmLnn@aol.com



EARTH DAY



On Sunday, April 24, we will celebrate Earth Day in worship. We will celebrate by singing, speaking, listening, and exploring ways to care for God's beautiful creation. Come to worship at 10:30 a.m. ready to think about how to care for God's world.

Camp Wyoming Retreat is Back!

**Sign up today:
March 25-27,
2022**

We'll rent the Owl's Nest (a big comfy house), eat together, play together, hike, explore, and who knows what more! This is a retreat for everyone!

Equipping Ministry requests \$30 per person for the whole weekend! Thank you to Equipping Ministry for providing funding to make this retreat accessible to all. If you need further financial assistance, please connect with Anna Sheetz to sign up today!

*A negative COVID test within 24 hours must be taken to attend this retreat (rapid home tests can be provided).



Bibles for Students



Equipping Ministry knows that during the last few years, students in 2nd grade or older have missed receiving their Bibles on Youth Sunday. This year we will remedy this situation! On Youth Sunday, May 15, 2022, all students who have not received their Bible will be gifted one during that church service.

Please save this date and let Anna know if your child in 2nd grade or older has not yet received a Bible.

Anna will be sending out a message around Easter to "RSVP" to this Bible gifting. We want to be sure not to miss anyone, so please, if you do not receive an email or communication, reach out to Anna at anna.sheetz@firstpresbiowacity.org.

Thank you! We're so excited!

GROW GROUPS

are off to a great start!

Equipping Ministry is proud to announce that 19 people have joined a Grow Group! What this entails is 1-3 passages of Scripture a day with 2-3 questions to answer. There has been excellent feedback about how easy it is to join, how amazing it is to get involved in their readings, and how much learning about the Bible is growing their faith! I (Anna) am amazed at how well participants are doing, how encouraged they are, and truly how curiosity is taking over!

The best part is that Grow Groups are not time dependent. This means, it is NOT TOO LATE TO JOIN! You can simply sit in (or ZOOM in) on Layne's Sunday Morning Class from 9:15-10:15 a.m. We have three groups, two of which are hybrid and one is totally virtual.

For everything you need and more to get started, go to the Grow Group Website at <https://firstpresbiowacity.org/ministries/christian-education/grow-groups/>

It's all right there for you—the questions, the readings, the ZOOM links!

If you have questions, email Anna at Anna.Sheetz@firstpresbiowacity.org

The Dodekah Ministry is Back!

Dodekah is a ministry that happens over 12 months, and ends with an international trip!

The current Dodekah Ministry members have decided to set their sights on our Presbyterian history in Scotland!

We are planning a trip in May 2023.

Mark your calendars for the informational meeting, May 15 after church!



δώδεκα

Mr. Rogers Sunday!
Wear your favorite
cardigan!



Third Sunday in Lent March 20 Happy Spring Break!

9:15–10:15 a.m.

Children will learn about listening to God. How do we do it? Parents' Class, Wired Word, New Members, and Grow Groups will also meet.

4:30–5:30 p.m.

The 4th–6th Grade Group will continue their series on the Royal Priesthood, talking about King David! Confirmation, too!

6:30–8 p.m.

7th–12th Grade Group will meet and continue their Lent series

Fourth Sunday in Lent, March 27 Camp Wyoming Getaway Weekend!

9:15–10:15 a.m.

Children will begin a three-week series on Environmental Justice with Leah Bergman and Jane Cranston! Parents' Class, Wired Word, New Members, and Grow Groups will also meet.

4:30–5:30 p.m.

The 4th–6th Grade Group will continue their series on the Royal Priesthood, talking about Jesus! Confirmation too!

6:30–8 p.m.

Lent series continues for the 7th–12th graders!

Fifth Sunday in Lent; April 3

9:15–10:15 a.m.

Children are in Week 2 of Environmental Justice with Leah Bergman and Jane Cranston! Parents' Class, Wired Word, New Members, and Grow Groups will also meet.

4:30–5:30 p.m.

The 4th–6th Grade Group will have their last series on the Royal Priesthood–YOU! Confirmation will also meet in Room 14.

6:30–8 p.m.

7th–12th Graders will finish their Royal Priesthood series!

Palm Sunday; April 10 Emily Sheetz's Baptism

9:15–10:15 a.m.

Children are in Week 3 of Environmental Justice with Leah Bergman and Jane Cranston! Parents' Class, Wired Word, and Grow Groups will also meet. New members will meet with Session members.

4:30–5:00 p.m.

The 4th–6th Grade Youth Group check in and play! Confirmation will also meet in Room 14.

5–6 p.m. All PM Youth Lent Event in Youth Rm

6:30–8 p.m.

7th–12th Graders will meet together.



**All Easter Sunday (April 17)
Christian Education Events Canceled
Happy Resurrection!**

SAVE THE DATE SUMMER TRIP



SKY RANCH
TEXAS COLORADO OKLAHOMA

On Sunday, February 20, the 7th–12th Grade Youth Group met to discuss PC(USA) Triennium, which was canceled due to COVID, and alternative COVID-friendly trip. We are now looking at the **dates of July 2–10** for a trip to Colorado (this is with a day of driving on each side). We would be taking an "Adventure Trip," which means staying in tents, repelling or rock climbing, kayaking, an overnight trip to a mountain peak and a sunrise prayer from the top of the mountain. The company we would be using is here: <https://skyranch.org/pages/adventure-wilderness>. This program is a Christian organization whose passion is introducing students to God through the majesty of creation. There will be daily devotions, faithful discussions, testimonies shared, and more. We will stay over night in Denver on both Saturday nights and we will be sure to catch at least one church service in a PC(USA) church. This trip is open for students completing 9th–12th grade. High schoolers are invited to invite their friends to join in! Parents, please talk to your youth and let Anna know a tentative YES or NO—Anna will send out financial information to you as soon as there is a head count. Scholarships are available.

An Update on the Phelps Organ

Melissa Moll, Organist

Since we began gathering in person again on Sunday mornings, you have likely noticed that we have not used the pipe organ during worship. The issues with the instrument's electric stop action continue, and currently the organ is playable but not dependable or predictable.

The visible parts of the stop action are the rows of draw knobs on either side of the organ console where the organist sits. Each draw knob controls a set of pipes that provides a particular sound, timbre, pitch, or combination. Usually, a stop's draw knob is pulled out to activate its set of pipes (hence the phrase "pulling out all the stops") and pushed in to deactivate. Inside the case, computerized processor cards translate the push/pull from the draw knobs and relay electrical signals to motors that control the flow of wind to the pipe chests. If a stop is pulled "on," its set of pipes receive winding. When the organist plays an organ key, wind is sent through the corresponding pipe(s), which produces the sound you hear.

The issues with the electric stop action began after the 2016 restoration of the instrument but are unrelated to that work. That restoration project centered on structural repairs to the case, pipe work, and tonal finishing. As things stand now, when you turn the organ on you cannot be certain which stops will work and for how long. At times they cycle on/off rapidly, at times the electrical signal will be relayed to only half of the pipes on the stop. On one day none of the stops on a manual will function, but the following day they will work again as normal. So overall the

instrument is playable, but not dependable or predictable.

The issues with the electric stop action began in the fall of 2017 and have continued off and on since then. Sometimes it has meant quick adjustments during worship or immediately before a service, depending on what organ stops were working at the time. Sometimes it has meant abandoning plans at the last minute and shifting to something else. Over these past five years we have tried various fixes but none have provided a permanent and sustained solution. The conclusion is that a more comprehensive fix is needed, likely entailing replacing the electric stop action. As an initial step, we are obtaining proposals which will outline an expected scope of work, cost, and timeline. Projects like these are always processes that require much conversation and decision-making. It may be a longer timeframe than we would hope, balanced between lingering effects from the pandemic and other transitions and needs within the life of the congregation, but we are working toward a day when the Phelps organ can once again fully support the congregation's voice at worship.

If you have any questions about the organ, please contact Melissa Moll or Leah Bergman.

2022 Communion Dates:

Dates are subject to change.

Currently communion is being offered by individual communion packets. This is subject to change as the pandemic is monitored.

| | |
|--------------|-----------------------------|
| March 13 | 2nd Sunday in Lent |
| April 14 | Maundy Thursday |
| April 16 | Great Vigil of Easter |
| May 15 | 5th Sunday of Easter |
| June 5 | Pentecost Sunday |
| July 10 | 5th Sunday after Pentecost |
| August 14 | 10th Sunday after Pentecost |
| September 11 | 14th Sunday after Pentecost |
| October 2 | World Communion |
| November 20 | Reign of Christ |
| December 11 | Advent III |



Needles, Hook and Yarn

Time to dust off those needles & hooks and start stitching!

If you are interested in joining this small group, please contact Tammy Schroeder at 319-351-2660.

Bible Quiz

Job's "friends" weren't exactly supportive when he experienced great trials.

Which of the following lists his friends' names?

- A. Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah and Malachi
- B. Eliphaz, Bildad and Zophar
- C. Melchior, Gaspar and Balthasar
- D. Philemon and Onesimus



Answer: B (See Job 2:11.)

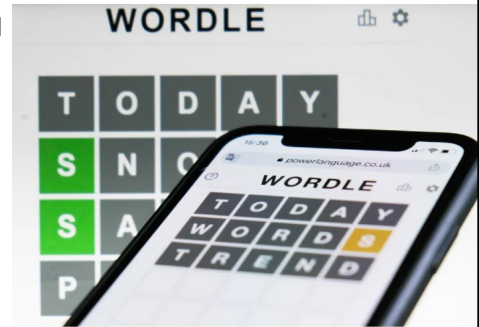
Do You Wordle?

Nancy Gardner, Interim Church Administrator

Okay, confession time ...I “wordle.” There, you have it, and I’m proud of it. Wait, you don’t know about Wordle? It’s a word guessing game that you can access once a day. Through a series of guesses, one learns which letters are correct and in the correct spot, which letters are correct, but in the wrong spot, and which letters are not in the word at all. Each Wordle is five letters long, and you have up to six guesses. I wordled “choke” like a champ, but “vivid” had me stumped. And, yes, wordle is now an acceptable verb.

One word, five letters, six attempts. But here’s an idea, what if we start to wordle with a focus on this season of Lent? A word a day, a word to ponder that will provide focus leading up to Easter. I’ve come up with at least five words to start with: *risen, cross, peace, bless, Bible*. How about... *Jesus*? Sure, it’s just a game, a fun game, an addictive game, but give it a different spin and you’ve got a whole new sense of wordling.

(Note to readers: I would be happy to introduce any and all to the world of Wordle. Just ask!)



Income / Expense Update — February 2022

Co-Moderators of Finance, Leann Graves and Nancy Gardner

| | Current Month | February 2021 |
|------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Income | \$ 30,112.44 | \$ 42,267.59 |
| Expense | \$ 38,788.59 | \$ 45,271.52 |
| Total +/- | -\$ 8,676.15 | -\$ 3,003.03 |

Session Meeting Highlights of February 2022

Clerk of Session, Nancy Weber

The session met February 15, 2022 on Zoom. Nancy Gardner, acting administrator of FPC, called the meeting to order. Elder Jeremy Fletcher led with devotions and prayer.

Rhonda Barr and Maeleen Thorius, members of the Congregational Health Ministry Team joined the meeting and spoke briefly about the proposed “Kindness and Caring” campaign. The Deacons’ motion to support the plan was approved, and Endowment’s motion to approve funding the program with \$1,500 from Endowment funds was approved.

A motion to nominate Mary Ellen Stamp as the FPC representative on the board of directors for the Presbyterian Home in Washington, IA was approved.

Elder John Barr reported on his review of the FPC Articles of Incorporations and By-Laws. The documents have been partially updated and/or corrected as needed. Work continues.

Equipping Ministry would like to re-start Time with Children during the Sunday worship service. This will

be discussed at the next Worship and Arts Ministry meeting.

Finance Committee continues to deal with budget issues, including increasing pledges. Session task force will be forming to look at how to sustain and balance the budget each year, and how to align funding with the goals of the church.

Pastor Gary Burnett served communion to one household on February 9, 2022.

Elder Sharon Raffensperger informed session that she is on the board of the Community Pastoral Counseling Service (CPCS), which offers pastoral counseling for a very reasonable fee. Their office is in the Congregational Church on Clinton St.

Elder Jane Cranston closed the meeting with prayer.



Congregational Health Ministries

The Iowa City Rotary Club and the Kerber HeartSafe Community Campaign are sponsoring a hunt for AEDs (Automatic External Defibrillators) in Johnson County. Do you know where your closest one is located? At work, school, stores and malls? Movie theaters? You never know when you will need one! Did you know we have one at FPC? See if you can locate it.

Look for AEDs during the month of April (April 1–30). When you find one, or more, email me (rhondabarr75@gmail.com) the location. I will submit our entries for FPC. Or, go to the website: <https://iowaheartsafe.org/> and report as an individual. There are prizes for the most entries, but the real benefit is in the knowledge acquired.

Bless your hearts!

Rhonda Barr



TREASURE HUNT

Find the most AEDs in Johnson County in April and win!

Win \$\$\$ and an AED!

What's an AED?

Automated External Defibrillator - it jump starts a stopped heart

Where do we look?

Anywhere in Johnson County from April 1 - 30, 2022

Who can compete?

ANY TEAM!

WIN PRIZES

1st PLACE: \$250 and an AED!

2nd PLACE: \$150

3rd PLACE: \$100

Details at iowaheartsafe.org

IT'S A FACT:
 Sudden Cardiac Arrest survival **DOUBLES** when a bystander uses an AED

Be Kind!!!

Submitted by Maeleen Thorius on behalf of the Congregational Health Ministry

We have all been impacted by the chaos of the pandemic, the hatred and distrust about race, police, vaccines, masks and the political divide in our communities, nation and world. For some of us, this has spilled over into family or friend relationships.

What does God tell us about these situations? St. Paul in Galatians 5:22-23 instructs us: "But the fruit of the spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, **kindness**, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law."

Have you seen young people sporting shirts with the saying "In the world when you can be anything, be kind!"? The Congregational Health Ministry has decided to respond to all this discord by sponsoring a "Kindness and Caring Campaign" during the month of September 2022. We are taking the young people's suggestion to "be kind" and putting it into practice!

"Are you kidding?" Is that what you are thinking? Or are you rejoicing in spirit, saying to yourself, "Yes! This is what we need, but what is it exactly? I'm a kind person already." I hope so, but this will be a campaign

to spread **intentional** acts of kindness within FPC and throughout the Iowa City community.

This is an intergenerational project including children and youth. People can participate in the campaign in organized intentional acts of kindness or can develop their own acts of kindness. We will provide a calendar of ideas and you can participate as much as you are comfortable. We also feel this is an outreach project letting people in Iowa City know that FPC is the "kind church" and all are welcome! Specific information will follow in the coming weeks.

This is meant as a spiritual journey for the giver and the receiver. Let us join together, spread kindness and live the Gospel wherever we go every day of the year, but this year let us make September a month of kindness.

If you have questions or would like to help with planning, call Maeleen Thorius (319-541-3161) mthorius@southslope.net or Rhonda Barr, rhondabarr75@gmail.com.

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First Presbyterian Church

March 15—April 15, 2022



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

Announcing Our Spring Endowment Distribution

Applications are due by May 4, 2022.

It's that time to consider applications for funding from the FPC Endowment Fund. The criteria for requests has long been available in our Endowment Plan and its appendices; however, we felt it might be good to highlight some of these thoughts directly in this column.

The "Request for Funding from Endowment Distribution" form may be found at https://firstpreswacity.org/wp-content/uploads/Request-for-Funding-from-Endowment-Distributions_20220208.pdf on the church website and 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. In either regard, it needs to be signed by the person submitting the application.

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.

Statement of purpose. The members of FPC honor the gifts and bequests of those who have gone before us by dedicating the spirit and income of the Endowment to the mission and needs of our church, our community, and our world.

Goals. Distributions from the Endowment shall be used to advance the presence and mission of the church in the lives of people locally, nationally, and globally. To that end, distributions shall be designated for major, long-term, recurring and/or special projects and ministries:

1. Within our local church and congregation, including the maintenance, repair, renovation, and new construction of facilities; and the acquisition of special equipment and supplies;

2. Within our local and regional community, including support for the victims of natural disasters, relief for the poor and destitute, and assistance to ecumenical needs and projects; and
3. Within the global community, with special emphasis on responding to poverty, neglect, abuse, homelessness, illness, malnutrition, exploitation, and crime; education, including Christian education; recognizing and nurturing gifts and attributes; and nurturing the faith.

Selection criteria

In reviewing and approving requests, the Endowment Committee and the Session shall use the following criteria:

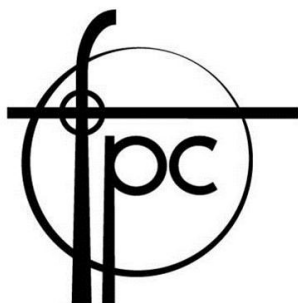
1. The request must meet the goals set forth above.
2. In any given year, distributions will be made to no more than six distinct ministries, at least two-thirds of which shall serve the local community.
3. Preference shall be given to proposals that seek to involve the congregation in the ministry. The committee and the Session may request assistance from a council, committee or task force to enlist congregational support for a ministry.
4. Although proposals of all sizes will be considered and/or approved, preference will be given to proposals that are anticipated to have significant impact.
5. Both single and multi-year proposals will be considered.
6. Requests for renewal of support beyond the original proposal may be considered. If possible, multi-year proposals should be approved in such a way that the end years are staggered.
7. The Endowment Committee and the Session shall encourage the approval of at least one new ministry in each three-year period.

Publicity

Those responsible for implementing funded proposals shall make every effort to recognize the funding source (FPC Endowment) in all written and oral presentations.

These guidelines stand today as they were revised in July of 2012.

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

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