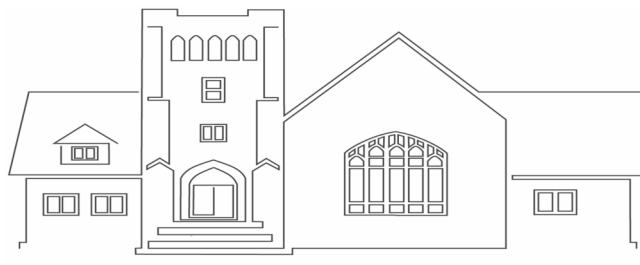


**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
NEWTON, IOWA
641-792-2790**

THE MESSENGER



AUGUST, 2011

WELL DONE, GOOD AND FAITHFUL SERVANTS!!!

Rev. Tiare L. Mathison

You are cordially invited to attend a party in your honor on Sunday, September 11, 2011 at First Presbyterian Church, Newton, 11:45am in Fellowship Hall.

Our party will be a celebration of 10 years of mission and ministry together. We have accomplished so much in serving God in this place and around the world. Here is a short list (please feel free to add your own and let me know):

LOGOS – Wednesday night programs for children/youth
Foundation
Women/Girls Celebration
150th Anniversary Celebration
RAGBRAI Dinner – 868 people served!!!
Sundays at 4
Membership Committee
Website
Church Directory
All Church Canvas
Women's Bible Study
Older Men's Group
Younger Men's Group
Disaster Response Team
Annual Choral Festival with the high school choir and Central College
Receptions Committee
El Salvador Mission continued and strengthened with relationship with Muñoces
Spanish Class
Work Week

This list represents some of the things we have done together beside our regular weekly worship, committee work, session, Sunday School for all ages, book studies, and Vacation Bible School. The Holy Spirit is definitely in the house!

Our party will begin after worship with a pork loin and corn lunch. Look for more details in the bulletin. Thanks be to God for each and everyone of you. Together we have been church.

Help Needed for Mission Committee

We are looking for someone to represent First Presbyterian on the Mission Coalition group. They meet 7 months of the year on the 4th Tuesday of the month at 7:15 at the McCann Center at Sacred Heart church. This is the group that arranges for meals on the weekend for the shut-ins, arranges that all PI clients and nursing home residents receive gifts at Christmas, helps Salvation Army with the Kettle campaign, etc. I have been serving on this committee and find it necessary to give up this responsibility.

We also need to find a representative on the Companeros Committee, another committee I have served on. This is the Presbytery group that oversees and supports the El Salvador mission. Every church with a partnership such as ours needs to have a representative on this committee. I have done this for several years and it is now someone else's turn. This group meets the first Tuesday of the month at 6:30 at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Des Moines.

Finally, I am giving up leadership on the El Salvador committee here at First Presbyterian church. The group has been meeting the second Sunday of the month after church. We often go out to lunch at a local Mexican restaurant.

If you are interested in any of these opportunities, contact me at 792-5220 or 521-1153.

Linda Anderson for the Mission Committee

Regular Church Hours

Starting Sunday, September 11, we will return to our "regular" church schedule. Adult Sunday School will be at 9am, with Fellowship at 10am, Worship at 10:30am and Fellowship at 11:30. Please mark your calendar.

Ann Cutts, Worship and Music Committee

Worship in the Park

Please join us for worship at Woodland Park on August 14 at 10:00 a.m.. Following the service will be a picnic and softball game. Meat, drinks and table service will be provided. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share as well as your lawn chair and glove. You may either participate or cheer as the adults prepare to take on the youth in a rousing game of softball.

Ann Cutts, Worship and Music
Dan Ritter, Church Life (or Party Committee)



"TAKE ME OUT TO THE



*Ball Game!"
Adults vs Young Adults*

Budget and Finance Corner

Paula Moore, Chairperson

Historically, pledges during the summer taper off and then seem to pick up in the fall. The Budget and Finance is concerned as year-to-date pledges are below the budgeted amount by almost \$12,000. We continue to keep expenses under check but there are commitments we must pay to Presbytery and always unforeseen repairs that appear from time to time.

We respectfully request you prayerfully consider your circumstances and continue to support your church and the programs we offer by honoring your pledge commitment.

Little church has been successful this summer and will continue. Plans are being made for the starting of WOW. Be watching the bulletin, church happenings and future Messengers for updates.

Kathy Ventling, Christian Nurture

Be Praying For ...

*George Wilkening who is recuperating from his recent knee replacement.

*Larry Anderson's father, Lester, who had emergency hernia surgery and after going home developed fluid around his heart and is again in the hospital.

*Larry Anderson's nephew, Daniel, who fell two stories and severed his spinal column. Daniel, who is a diagnosed schizophrenic, will no longer be able to walk due to the spinal injury.

*Our recent high school graduates, Jenna Blunt, Dylan Camp, Jack Carpenter, Anders Hopkins, Keegan Lockhart, Jake McCulley, Isaac Mathison-Bowie, Laura Miller, and Mercedes Wathen, as they make their transition to the next phase of their life. Also for their parents as they let their children spread their wings and fly.

*All students, teachers and administrators as a new school year begins.

MEMBERSHIP



MOMENT

The Membership Committee is bringing the church directory project to a close on Sept. 1. We have tried to contact those who have not had pictures taken or had representation in the directory. We are down to just a few, but are having great difficulty contacting those that are left. If you have not been contacted and wish to be represented in the directory, please contact John Taylor at 792-6990 or barbjohn@pcpartner.net by Sept 1 to make arrangements.

We have started a new ministry called Member Care. Barb Gallaher has agreed to be the coordinator. It will be more informal and of shorter duration than the Deacon Ministry. If you know of someone you think would benefit from the contact of fellow members please contact Barb at 792-6752. Thanks John and Barb for your help!!



Joan Aldridge and family on the recent death of Dave. Dave died on August 1 at the Monarch Wing at Skiff.

Services were held at First Presbyterian Church on Friday, August 5, with Rev. Tiare Mathison presiding. Dave had prepared his funeral service, which included a congregation song where he had written words to the tune of "Abide with Me" and a message to all who attended. Not only our church family, but the entire community feel a great loss.



Thank you so much for all the cards and prayers and support as our father and grandfather Max Curtis moved on to his new life. He lived a full life that had become very limited in recent months; he was extremely ready to be with my mother and his deep faith assured him of that reunion. Thanks be to God!

Linda Curtis-Stolper, Dave and Sean Stolper

Congratulations to Kyle Schnell and Monica Lane on their recent marriage. Kyle and Monica were wed on August 6 at First Presbyterian Church. Rev. Tiare Mathison officiated at the ceremony. Kyle is the son of Kim and the late Jim Schnell. Monica is the daughter of Rusty and Roxie Lane. The couple will make their home in Ames.



Dear Friends at First Presbyterian: Thank you so much for the gracious gifts of money, gift card and gift items. They will be used in my new ministry endeavors. You continue to be a very generous and caring community. What a blessing you all are and what an honor it is to serve God together with you all. Thanks again for your gifts, support and care.

Love, Sara Hopkins

Summer Special Music and...

We are into our last month of Summer special music. Thank you to those whom gave of their gifts during these summer months. We are still in need of someone to furnish Special music on **August 28 and September 4**. Please let us know if you would be willing to fill one of those spots
 Contact Larry Anderson (641-792-5220) or Kim Schnell (641-792-4930), or the church office. Thanks!



...Choir Practice

Soon it'll be time to get back to choir practice!

Our first worship service to sing for will be Sept. 11. As you know, that's the 10th anniversary for 2 things: the 9-11 attacks, and the beginning of Tiare's ministry among us. For those reasons, I would like to prepare an anthem that will take more than the average amount of work for a first Sunday. Not a new one, but one that will take more than one rehearsal.

So I would like to start regular rehearsals on Wed., Aug. 31. We'll meet at 7 PM. We always welcome new members to the choir. Perhaps you have been a member in the past - come back, we've missed you. Or is God giving you a nudge to join the choir? We are always looking for new members. Please come.

I look forward to seeing everyone and doing the ministry of music.

Larry Anderson
 Choir Director



Ordinary encounters, extraordinary power

A MONTHLY COLUMN BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY STATED CLERK
Office of the General Assembly
 by Gradye Parsons
General Assembly Stated Clerk

STORM LAKE, IOWA – Life after disasters is full of stories of tragedy and miraculous survival. Recently, I visited Joplin, Missouri, which was devastated by a class E-5 tornado in May. It was the deadliest tornado since 1950, killing over 155 people and destroying around 7,000 homes. The tornado tore a path three-fourths of a mile wide and ten miles long through town.

It is difficult to see what force the church has against the magnitude of such destruction. Yet, what impressed me in Joplin is the extraordinary power of the ordinary life of the church.

I sat in a room in a church basement as I listened to people share their stories and their hopes. Nearby was a pair of Mr. Coffee machines. I could not help but think how many church suppers, session meetings, Presbyterian Women gatherings, and more had been supplied with caffeine from those two coffee makers.

It is through such ordinary encounters that community is built, which, in turn, creates the life of the church that rises from the ashes and responds.

I witnessed church groups on mission trips respond as they removed debris and separated material for the landfill in 104-degree weather. Participants ranged in age from teenagers to older teens in their 80s. At the end of the day, they will take turns for showers, eat pre-fab lasagna, and go to sleep on air mattresses. They will rise the next day and do it again.

As of mid-July, a total of 335,795 volunteer hours had been given in Joplin. This is being repeated in other disaster areas in Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, and more. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) factors these
(Cont. on page 5)

We Need Your Help for Presbytery Meeting

On August 20, our church, along with the congregation of UP church will be hosting Presbytery. The morning will start at 8:30 a.m. at our church with registration. Refreshments are served during this time.

The morning session will be held at our church. The group will then have lunch at United Presbyterian church. It has not been determined yet which church will have the afternoon session.

So far, three members have contacted me that they will help. We need more. We will need
*2 people besides myself to handle registration and to collect money for the lunch/reservation funds.

*2 people to be in the nursery, if there is a need for child care

*Help with refreshments served during registration

*2 or 3 people to serve as greeters - to welcome our guests, provide information on where registration is being held and where restrooms are located and any other tasks to make everyone feel at home.

Please check your calendar and let Mickey Van Baale know if you would be able to help. You can get this information to her by phone:641-521-0549 or email: vanbaaleent@iowatelecom.net.

First Presbyterian has been know for several outstanding qualities - hospitality being at the top. Let's show it once again!



Highlights from Session

By Dave Boyd, Clerk of Session

As the Session usually does not meet in July we go back to the June meeting for highlights such as . . .

- In accordance with the new Form of Government adopted by PC(USA) which requires we state our church's quorums for our meetings, we voted to maintain the current quorum standards for all meetings of the Session and Congregation. This action does *not* affect the Corporation.

- Then at the meeting on July 21 which was to be a long-range planning session, we conducted a regular meeting to address 3 issues --

- Approved having Elders serve The Lord's Supper on Work Week

- Tiare's resignation

- Tiare's severance package

The July 21 meeting was attended by representatives of the Des Moines Presbytery's Congregational Care Committee and the Professional Care & Development Committee

The Session's next meeting will be August 16.

- A Congregational meeting was held on Sunday, August 7 to recommend approval of Tiare's resignation to the Des Moines Presbytery. The motion passed on unanimous voice vote.

Ordinary encounters, extraordinary power (Cont. from page 4)

volunteer hours into matching grants at a rate of \$16 an hour, which adds up to over \$5,000,000 in labor.

The ordinary life of the church is more than a match for the extraordinary disasters that can happen to us. That ordinary life is built on the call we receive from the Spirit to follow Jesus Christ. That call puts us in communities of very ordinary people who together, with God's help, do extraordinary things.



A group is investigating the idea of going to Joplin MO in early October to help with the rebuilding work going on there. If you are interested or even just curious, please contact Dave Boyd or Val McKee for more information and background on working with PDA in this kind of situation.

Thanks!
Dave Boyd

First Presbyterian Church
220 N 2nd Ave E
641-792-2790
Email: new1pres@iowatelecom.net
(this email goes to Jenny Verwers, Office Mgr)

Website: www.newton1stpresbyterian.org

Church Hours: M, W, Thurs: 8am to 4pm
Custodian Hours: M-Thurs: 8am to 11am

Tiare Mathison, Pastor - 641-792-2790
tmath@iowatelecom.net

Effective February 19, 2010

The church and church office are closed on Fridays. Tiare can be reached in case of emergencies at 641-840-0109.

West Virginia - What an Experience

By Mickey Van Baale, for the 2011 Work Week Group

John Denver's song "*Country Roads*" became the theme song for 18 members of our church as we spent a week in Kopperston, West Virginia for the 2011 Work Week. Harry and Wandalene Drake were our hosts. Harry is the site supervisor working for West Virginia Ministry of Advocacy and Work Camp, and Wandalene served as our house mother. They shared the residence with us, eating meals and participating in devotions and writing us love lines. Harry found the projects we worked on, bought the materials, and checked on the work sites to make sure all was going well. Wandalene was always making us goodies and would do food prep for our evening meal, if necessary.

We were divided into three groups. The first group, consisting of Dick Mielke, Larry Anderson, James Leonard and Peder Hopkins, worked at Donnie's home. They replaced the subfloor and floor that had been ruined due to a leaky water heater, finishing up by laying linoleum. The last day was spent at a different location putting a tar type paint on the roof of a trailer.

Group two, Steve Hopkins, Helyn Wohlwend, Josh Zieman and Alex Bebout, worked at Peggy Sue's home. They built a deck from the bottom up. The most rewarding part of the week for this group was the interaction they had with 2 neighbor boys who had no home life.

The final 10, Isaac Mathison-Bowie, Dylan Camp, John and Barb Taylor, Linda Anderson, Blake Wathen, Ben Ellis, Julie Fisher, Rachel Rickers and myself, worked at Roberta's home. We cleaned her immense collection of nick knacks (mostly apples) and pictures, painted her dining room, kitchen, wash room and the ceiling of her living room, tore the old floor boards off her back deck and replaced them and removed the old underpinning (or skirting as we know it), built a new frame and started replacing the skirting.

Please ask any of the participants to tell you the stories of this trip. Some are funny, some sad. We quickly became attached to all the people there and know we have new friends in Christ. This was the 29th Work Week trip - a great intergenerational experience. We thank all of you for your continued support as we build a Christian community among ourselves and spread the word of God by word and deed to many.

County Fair Winners

Ten of our youth are involved in 4-H and participated in the Jasper County Fair. Here are the results. Congratulations to all and good luck at the State Fair. We'll be anxious to hear of those results.

Samatha Cutts

Received 5 blue ribbons on her photography projects with two of them being chosen to go to the state fair. She received a blue ribbon on her woodworking project and it will also go to the state fair

James Leonard

Won the Advanced Feeder Cattle and also highest rate of gain. Showed sheep and got blues. Showed Market Lead in Steer and got a blue. Communications: Did an educational presentation with another 4her and is going to state fair. Taking Sheep and swine to the state fair

Macy Leonard

Intermediate pig showmanship. Showed swine and got blues. Advanced Feeder Cattle Blue. Taking Sheep and swine to the state fair

Emily Miller

Has two projects that received purple ribbons and selected to move on to state fair: Educational Presentation – Ear Notching (pig) and Refinished Oak Chair, plus, (3) Clothing projects – two purchased outfits and one quilt - all blue ribbons – one considered for state fair. Food and Nutrition poster – blue ribbon. Rabbits – Intermediate Showmanship Champion and 3 blue ribbons – Dutch and Holland Lop rabbits. Horse – Intermediate Showmanship Reserve Champion, Jr. Horsemanship Champion, Blues in trail, walk/trot, pleasure, English pleasure, English equitation, and color breed. Swine – Jr. Swine Showmanship Champion and 1 blue ribbon for market gilt. Clothing Selection – blue ribbon. \$15.00 Challenge – Jr. Champion

John Miller

Swine – (3) blue ribbons in market gilt and barrows classes. Mechanics – blue ribbon on changing ATV Oil project. Welding – blue ribbon on welded hog gates.

Megan Ritter

Megan took 7 projects to the county fair and got all blue ribbons. The projects were in Photography, Food & Nutrition, Horticulture, Personal Development, Clothing and Rabbits. Three of her projects were selected to go to the State Fair and she will also be doing a cooking demonstration at the State Fair. In addition, her club, the Jolly Workers 4-H club (whose leader is Michele Leonard) will be doing a "Share-the-Fun" activity at the State Fair.

Bridget Swank (Carson)

Won Grand Champion Market Individual in the Swine Division. Baked a Rhubarb Pie which was given a blue ribbon. Made a Hypertufa leaf and received blue ribbon. Entered some pictures and photos and received blue ribbons.

Devin Swank (Carson)

Made Peanut Butter Balls which were given blue. Made a Hypertufa leaf and received blue ribbon. Entered some pictures and photos and received blue ribbons.

Indy Swank (Carson)

Made a Hypertufa leaf and received blue ribbon. Entered some pictures and photos and received blue ribbons.



Happy Birthday!

- 1 Rachael Rickers
- 4 Linda Campbell
- 7 Frank Buckley
- 8 Lois Harrington
Vicki Norrish
- 9 Nancy Shields
- 10 Pat Mitchell
Dixie Zegers

- 12 Branson Versteegt
- 14 George Wilkening
- 16 Cheryl Case
- 17 Dale Gardner
- 18 Michelle Leonard
- 19 Helyn Wohlwend
- 20 Mercedes Wathen
- 21 Fran Hoffman
- 23 Gary Haynes
Larry Rossow
Karen Wathen
Debbie Abel
- 28 Bill Zegers
- 29 Danielle Hamilton
- 30 Blake Wathen
Kimberly Schnell

August Events

- | | | | | |
|---|-----------|------------------------|----|---|
| 2 | 5:00 p.m. | Personnel | 14 | Worship and all Church picnic
at Woodland Park |
| 4 | 9:00 a.m. | Men's Fellowship | | |
| 5 | 6:30 a.m. | Men's Group | 16 | 5:45 p.m. Session Meal |
| | 1:30 p.m. | Park Centre Worship | | 7:00 p.m. Session |
| 7 | 8:30 a.m. | Church Life | 18 | 9:00 a.m. Men's Fellowship |
| 8 | 1:30 p.m. | Newton Village Worship | 19 | 6:30 a.m. Men's Group |
| | 4:00 p.m. | Building & Grounds | | |
| | 6:00 p.m. | Budget & Finance | | |
| | | Worship & Music | | |
| 9 | 5:00 p.m. | Mission | | |

Sunday Worship Hours

- 9:00 a.m. Adult Sunday school
- 10:00 a.m. Worship Service
- 11:15 a.m. Fellowship



First Presbyterian Church
PO Box 7
220 N 2nd Ave E
Newton, Iowa 50208

641-792-2790

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Newton, Iowa

Permit No. 258

Lectionary —

August, 2011

August 7 (19th Sunday in Ordinary Time)

Gen. 37:1-4, 12-28; *Ps. 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b*
Rom. 10:5-15; Matt. 14:22-33

August 14 (20th Sunday in Ordinary Time)

Gen. 45:1-15; *Ps. 133*; Rom. 11:1-2a, 29-32
Matt. 15:(10-20) 21-28

August 21 (21st Sunday in Ordinary Time)

Exod. 1:8-2:10; *Ps. 124*; Rom. 12:1-8
Matt. 16:13-20

August 28 (22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time)

Exod. 3:1-15; *Ps. 105:1-6, 23-26, 45c*
Rom. 12:9-21; Matt. 16:21-28

September, 2011

September 4 (23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time)

Exod. 12:1-14; *Ps. 149*, Rom. 13:8-14
Matt. 18:15-20

September 11 (24th Sunday in Ordinary Time)

Exod. 14:19-31; *Ps. 114 or Exod. 15:1b-11, 20-21*
Rom. 14:1-12; Matt. 18:21-35

September 18 (25th Sunday in Ordinary Time)

Exod. 16:2-15; *Ps. 105:1-5, 37-45*
Phil. 1:21-30; Matt. 20:1-16

September 25 (26th Sunday in Ordinary Time)

Exod. 17:1-7; *Ps. 78:1-4, 12-16*
Phil 2:1-13; Matt. 21:23-32