

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
NEWTON, IOWA
641-792-2790

"The Mission of First Presbyterian Church of Newton, Iowa is to share the love of God and grow the body of Christ through joyful worship and fellowship, devoted prayer and study, and humble service in our community and world."

THE
MESSENGER



DECEMBER 2014

Meghan's Musings

The Case for Advent Hymns
Or
Why can't we sing Christmas Carols before Christmas?
Or
Why do you want to make your pastor cry?

Back in October, I was asked in a worship and music committee meeting whether we would be singing Advent or Christmas hymns leading up to Christmas. Without hesitation I declared that we will be singing Advent hymns. The unenthusiastic response of the committee to my off-the-cuff attempt to explain the importance of celebrating Advent in Advent and waiting until Christmas for Christmas made me think perhaps I should make a more articulate statement to the entire church family in my musings.

Now, down to the wire needing to write this article I'm feeling less inspired. The truth is, I really love many of the Advent hymns. They represent the longing and anticipation of the season and the longing of our souls (or at least my soul) that merits a season to itself, not to be short-changed by our desire for instant gratification. If we don't sing them now, when will we sing them? The truth is, we've been hearing the Christmas music in the stores and in TV ads and on radio stations since early November. Are we really longing to sing them in worship, too? (Obviously, for me the answer is "no" and yet for many the answer is "yes".) The truth is, it troubles the Spirit within me that capitalism has hijacked Christmas, turned it into a commercial event (and if you *really* want to make me cry, tell me about your Black Friday shopping adventures) and stripped away so much of the depth and significance of the Holy Day of December 25 and completely jettisoned the holy seasons of Advent and Christmas (the season that *begins* on the night of Christmas Eve and lasts for twelve days, not 24 hours) that one of the most significant ways I can think of to fight back, be counter-cultural and "keep the Christ in Christmas" is to hold on to the Advent hymns. (You can have my Advent hymns when you pry them out of my cold, dead hands. Or something...).

I posed the question of Facebook, asking my pastor-type friends to give me their best argument for Advent hymns. Here are a couple of the responses I received:

"Long and short of it is that we aren't there yet. A season of preparation, like we do for our homes, is needed. A season to remind us who we are awaiting isn't a bad thing. A season to count the days with eager anticipation. A season (4 whole weeks) to remember why it is such a big deal that a child was born in Bethlehem." ~Wade Halva

"I don't like singing about Jesus being born until he is. That, and if you look at infant mortality rates until rather recently, no new baby coming could be taken as a given." ~Katherine Craven

"Advent--and take notice that here I am going to explain to you the liturgical sense of this beautiful word--these weeks of preparation for Christmas are called Advent because the proper spirit is a waiting for the one that will come. Advent is 'coming.'" ~Monseñor Romero, December 3rd, 1978 (submitted by our mission co-worker Katherine Pater who added, "If someone wants to disagree with Romero, I can't help you.")

And so, my prayer for each and every one of you is that you may have a Blessed and Meaningful Advent. And a Merry Christmas! (But not until the night of December 24!)

Be Praying For...

- ✠ Dick Means who fell and broke his hip. He had surgery and is at Skiff. Due to a reduced immune system, he is currently in isolation and very ill.
- ✠ Those who are facing the Holidays for the first time without a loved one and those who are feeling that loss no matter how long it has been.
- ✠ People everywhere who are cold, hungry and homeless.
- ✠ Those that are suffering with the season's colds, flu, and other nasty germs.
- ✠ Our military personnel and their families who will be separated from each other during the Holidays.



Emmett Edward Zehr, son of Erick and Tara and grandson of Kevin and Toni Peska, was baptized during the worship service on Sunday, November 9. Rev. Meghan Davis officiated, indicating this was her first baptism here. Erick's parents, Rick and Pam, were also able to attend, along with Rachel and Taylor Peska and Erick's sister, Rachelle and brother, Jordan.

Congratulations to all.



Faithful Through the Years

By Gary Parsons

The purpose of the Older Adult Ministries Task Force's *Faithful Through the Years* award (formerly Outstanding Older Adult award) is to recognize older adults 55 years or older who exemplify positive images of aging personally, in the life of the church and also community. Further, this nomination process offers an opportunity for the Presbytery to recognize older persons who, by their example, serve as a role models to all the generations for growing older with a sense of God's grace. Those nominated are recognized each year at the November Presbytery meeting.

Joan Tyler was nominated by myself and our Session and although she was out of state, recognized at the Presbytery meeting. She was recognized at our church on November 23, and presented with the plaque and gift from the Older Adult Ministries Task Force. On page 8 is a copy of the information and picture that was shown at the Presbytery meeting. Below are the exact things Joan has done for our church.

Thank you for all you do, Joan and congratulations on a well deserved recognition.

- Served on the session for one three-year term. Participated in our church mission work week trip twice.
- Served on the church Foundation Board several terms, including one term as president.
- Has sung in the First Presbyterian Church choir since the 1970's
- Leads a Sunday School class, and has done so for 15 years.
- Serves on the church reception committee, and has done so for many years.
- Serves on the Membership Committee, and has done so for 6 years.
- Leads the Sundays at 4 Steering Committee as its chairperson, and has done so since its inception in 2001.
- Serves as a member of the most recent First Presbyterian Church Pastor Nominating Committee, 2013-2014.
- Served two terms on the Nominating Committee and a term on the Building and Grounds Committee.
- Was chosen as a mentor by a young person participating in confirmation class.
- Has been a member of the First Presbyterian Church Spanish Class since its inception.

Church Life Activities

Randy Camp, Chair

November: The Thanksgiving Feast was enjoyed on Sunday, November 23, by about 90 people. The tables were loaded with delicious food, starting down the line with turkey, ham, sweet potatoes, mashed potatoes, green bean casseroles, sweet corn pudding, hot vegetables, cranberry dishes, many fruit and vegetable salads, breads, and ending with desserts – pies, cakes, bars, and cookies. Following dinner, Gary Parsons presented Joan Tyler the “Faithful Through the Years” award from Presbytery for her church activities and volunteerism after age 55. Then, communion was held, led by Reverend Meghan Davis, with candle lighting, litany reading, singing “We Gather Together”, taking the elements, and prayer. The elements were on the communion table and blessed during the service and then brought downstairs before dinner. It was a wonderful time, with good food and fellowship, followed by a candlelight communion service.

December: We have a new fellowship opportunity for the entire church on Sunday, December 21, at 4:00. We’ll be caroling at various places in Newton until about 6:00, and then come back to Fellowship Hall for a chili supper followed by cookies – and maybe some cocoa, too. (Christmas Caroling with Chili, Cookies, and Cocoa – or, the 5C event!) If you’d like to bring a crock pot of chili or some cookies to share, please let Diane know at jasperdem@iowatelecom.net or 792-2133. We’ve scheduled this with the hopes that our college students will also be able to come. Meet at the church at 4:00 – we’ll have the song sheets ready and carpool to the caroling sites!

Your Church Life Committee:

Kay Parsons, Dan Ritter, Randy Camp, Nancy Mott, Janie Moles, and Diane Moles



**DON JUSTO
COFFEE
WITH
DIGNITY**



Our Sister Parish works with coffee farmers in Berlin, El Salvador to change the way coffee is sold. When you buy delicious Don Justo Coffee with Dignity you are ensuring:

- Fair prices for coffee growers and workers
- Environmental protection and biodiversity
- Profits from coffee sales are re-invested in Salvadoran communities
- Economic and social justice

Don Justo Coffee with Dignity boasts a delicate flavor, rich aroma and medium body, a result of a careful selection of a variety of 100% Arabica plants.

Fairly Traded

Our Sister Parish attempts to follow standards designed to reduce or eliminate inequalities found in the conventional coffee trade. Our mission is to promote fair wages, decent working conditions, and sustainable organic agricultural practices that allow Salvadoran workers the ability to earn an honest living with dignity.

For each pound of Don Justo Coffee with Dignity purchased, funds are divided into three categories:

- **The local economy in and around Berlin, El Salvador** (growing, harvesting, processing, roasting and grinding the coffee)
- **Administrative and supply costs** (bags, labels, flavor oils, and shipping to the United States)
- **The Pastoral Team** who assist with local social and economic development projects in and around Berlin, El Salvador

The El Salvador Interest Group will once again feature items for sale during the upcoming Advent Bazaar. Items will be available on Sunday mornings before and after church during Advent. A member of the interest group will be available if you have questions about the items. Items offered are Don Justo coffee in sample packets (makes 10 cups). These are displayed in First Presbyterian cups marking our 150th Anniversary. There are jewelry items, some scarves, Gifts in a Jar, etc., and there will be some Christmas ornaments for sale. Stop by and see how you can support our El Salvador mission by buying coffee and crafts from El Salvador and get a head start on your Christmas shopping.

Emergency Closure of the Church

With the arrival of winter weather, we have reviewed and updated our policies at First Presbyterian. In the event of severe weather, any changes to scheduled activities at the church will be communicated to KCOB Radio. They have assured us such information will be sent out over all 3 of their stations (1280 AM, 95.9 FM and KRTI 106.7 FM which covers Grinnell, Marshalltown, parts of Des Moines, etc.) In addition we have established an account with KCCI Television and WHO Radio. When severe weather occurs, check these sources. If First Presbyterian is not mentioned on any of these, then there is no change in our plans. However, if you have any doubts, please err on the side of caution and be safe!

The Session



Buildings and Grounds

Roger Harmelink, Chair

Things we have worked on this past month are:

- *Deanna and Harold Manley fixed the flashing on the tower roof.
- *Kevin Tish has been hired for snow removal this winter.
- *Replaced the leaking water heater.
- *Getting bids for design and replacement of the front steps.
- *Getting bids for replacement of the tower room.

Building
and Grounds
Committee



Budget and Finance Corner

Terry Rickers, Chair

Pledges for the month of October were \$11,699. This was \$205 below budget for the month. Other Regular Giving for the month was \$750, which was \$14 above budget.

Year-to-date pledges are \$2,863 lower than budgeted and year-to-date expenses are \$2,213 below budget.

The Foundation received \$1,000 from an estate plus another \$10 donation. The Kitchen renovation fund received \$503 from a memorial. We collected \$393 for the Rural Harvest offering and this was remitted to Presbytery in November. The Deacons contributed \$300 to Work Week and \$400 to the Salvation Army Wednesday night meal program and Compassion Fund. The Work Week fund also received \$500 from their work day donations.

The Budget & Finance committee sincerely appreciates the many generous stewardship pledges received from our church family.



Our Advent Book- "Great Expectations"- should be in your hands shortly. On behalf of the Worship and Music Committee, I wish to thank Sharon Black, Ann Cutts, Linda Curtis-Stolper, Tom and Nancy Mott, Linda Erickson, Val McKee, Bret Doerring, Jane Repp, Wendell Wendt, Mickey Van Baale, Norm Grimm, Megan Ritter, David Boyd, Kim DeGraff, Gary Parsons, Sandra Smit, George Wilkening, Kelley Koenen, Terry Rickers, Virginia Bennett, Tara Zehr, Toni Peska, Steve Hopkins, Harriet Harmelink and Meghan Davis for sharing their entries. Jenny Verwers printed the book, adding clip art. Mary Jo Niskin designed the cover. Those who helped with the final preparations were Sharon Black, Mary Jane Tripp, and Shirley Stevens. All of your talents are greatly appreciated.

Linda Kirchhoff

*Advent
Book*



"Great Expectations"

The Season of Giving (Mission Committee)

Linda Erickson, Chair

Once again there are many ways to give of your time and treasure during Advent here at First Presbyterian, Newton. As part of our Mission Coalition opportunity to serve our community, we will “ring the bells” for the Salvation Army Red Kettle Campaign on Saturday December 6. First Presbyterian has been assigned to ring bells in one-half hour blocks of time at Hy-Vee from 2-4 p.m. and Theisens from 5:30-8 p.m. The sign up chart will be on the Mission Board in Fellowship Hall or you may contact Marilyn McCallister, Mission Coalition representative, at 792-9688 or mcckp@iowatelecom.net to capture 1 (or more) of the 9 time slots.

Backpack stuffers will also be working that day to load backpacks with food for hungry Newton kids. Linda Curtis-Stolper will coordinate our participation in a packing event for Backpack Buddies on December 6 at St. Luke Methodist.

The Salvation Army “Angel Tree” will again be in the narthex. Gifts for Progress Industries clients will brighten the holiday season for those who don’t have family close by. We will have the opportunity to provide Christmas gifts to selected Progress Industry clients. Coming soon -- a paper tree will be displayed on the bulletin board across from the sanctuary with a client’s name and a few gift suggestions. Look for it!

A Christmas party for prisoners at the Newton Correctional facility has already been held but contributions to help pay for the stamps and refreshments can still be made. In partnership with Elim Lutheran church, cookies, juice and packets of 3 Christmas cards with the envelopes stamped were provided to the 350 residences on Sunday evening, November 30. Participating from First Presbyterian was Don Fisher, Dana Hashman, Doug Smith, Shirley Stevens, Mickey Van Baale and George Wilkening.

Our national Presbyterian Church also offers us opportunities to give during this season. Did you know that you can purchase a mule, a goat, or a family of chickens for hungry people around the world through our denomination? Seeds, farming tools, and water pumps are just some of the other ideas in the “Giving Catalog” published by the Presbyterian Mission Agency. You can find the catalog on the Mission bulletin board in Fellowship Hall.

Also, we will be participating in the Christmas Joy offering which benefits the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions, as well as education and leadership development at Presbyterian-related racial ethnic schools and colleges. You will soon be seeing more information in your bulletin each Sunday and envelopes will be available for your contribution on Sunday, December 21 and Christmas Eve.

You have already seen information on page 4 on our annual Advent bazaar and the items that will be for sale in Fellowship Hall during the Advent season.

This is truly the season of giving. We have been given the gift of our Savior and we respond by giving to others. Enjoy the pleasure of giving!



Worship and Music

Linda Kirchhoff, Chair

The Music and Worship committee met in November and reviewed past services. Of special note was the baptism service.

The new Christ candle has been placed in the sanctuary.

Plans were discussed for the communion service, which will be held after the Thanksgiving Feast.

The Advent booklet- "Great Expectations" – is completed. People have been lined up to light the Advent candles. The church will be decorated for the season following Thanksgiving. Poinsettias can be ordered by church members who may choose either to take the flowers home or leave them to decorate the sanctuary.

The Christmas pageant will be held December 21. The Christmas Eve service will consist of the Lessons and Carols, a short sermon, children's time, and candle lighting. Plans will be formalized at the December meeting.

The Lord's Prayer will be sung every other month during communion.

The committee discussed the new hymnal and decided to put the matter on hold for now.



Forms will be in the bulletin where you can order a Poinsettia to be used to decorate our Church chancel area. The cost this year will be \$10.25. Your form and money can be put in the collection plate on Sunday morning or left at the church office. Following our service on December 28, you may choose to take your flower home, or leave it to decorate our church during January.

Forms will be in the bulletin where you can order a Poinsettia to be used to decorate our Church chancel area. The

MEMBERSHIP



MOMENT

Trunk or Treat took place on October 30. We had 6 participants this year. The first year we had 2. Last year we had 4. It has grown and it is a lot of fun. We had church banners out so the "beggars" didn't mistakenly think we were Methodists. I purchased approximately 1100 pieces of candy and it was gone in about an hour.

We have decided to cancel our participation in the Christmas lighting parade (Fri. after Thanksgiving). There were a number of factors leading to this. This doesn't mean we won't consider it next year.

The directory update is progressing. Cathy Rickers indicated that she had progressed through the "G's" with regard to page prep.

The narthex bulletin board has been fun and we have been getting some positive feedback. The Mission Committee will be using it from about December 1 to about December 14 and the member features will be moved to the hallway bulletin board until their project is completed.

The Small Group Ministry scheduled a Sundays at 4 on October 26 featuring Linda C-S and Dave telling about their trip to Germany but we had to cancel due to the sewer back up. Due to scheduling problems and the holidays we will reschedule it in January, date to be determined.

The Small Group Ministry also sponsored a Sundays at 4 on November 16 which featured Samantha Cutts presenting a program on her trip this year to Fiji, Australia and New Zealand. It was well attended with about 22 there. Drinks were provided and pizza was ordered for the 14 that wanted it.

Gary Parsons, Chair



Nominating Committee

Virginia Bennett and Gary Parsons, Co-Chairs

Preceding church on November 23, a congregational meeting was held to elect new officers for the church. Elders elected were Bret Doerring, for a 2-year term and Tom Mott, Val McKee, Karen Quinn, Bev Rossow for 3-year terms.

Elected for a 3-year term as Deacon were Elsie Nelson, Elaine VanderBroek, Shirley Stevens and Dana Hashman.

The current Nominating Committee decided to change how the at large members for the committee are elected. When members are elected, it will be for a 3-year term. So, each year only one person will be elected for this committee, as one will be going off. Those elected to serve on the Nominating Committee for 2014 were Mickey Van Baale, Joan Tyler and George Wilkening. Joan will be going off and Steve Hopkins was elected for a 3-year term.

Installation will be held on Sunday, January 11 and the yearly retreat for Elders and Deacons will be on January 10. Thank you to the Nominating Committee for your hard work and thank you to the members listed above who have answered the call to serve our congregation.

Deacon's Report

Dana Hashman, Moderator

Rev. Meghan noted that youth members had made pumpkin bread for those on the visitation list, and asked deacons to deliver the bread and a card during visits. She also asked deacons to get a sense during visits of who would like to receive Communion.

In reviewing the financial reports, it was noted that a \$300 donation to Work Week has not been deducted from the Deacon's funds. Cheryl Ritter and/or Jenny Verwers will be contacted to get this corrected.

Several cards have been sent out during the past month. A card was read from Major Jeffrey Carter of Newton Salvation Army thanking the church deacons for past holiday donations and noting that a repeat donation would really help this year.

It was agreed to donate money to help Tom Weeks with medical expenses for his recent surgeries. This can be done through a website.

The Deacons also voted to donate \$100 toward expenses (food and postage stamps) connected with the Christmas party at Riverview Correction facility.

Deacons agreed to participate in the lighting of the Advent candle on December 21.



Operation Shoebox:

By Kelly Koenen, Christian Nurture

This is our 4th year participating in this ministry. It starts with the congregation collecting items to be packaged into the shoeboxes (for kids aged 5-14): school supplies, hygiene items for kids, small toys, and socks. Each box costs \$7 to ship, so donations were also appreciated.

During Action Hour on Sunday, November 16, we decorated, filled, wrote notes, and prayed for 8 boxes that boys and girls ages 5-9 will receive. Also, the congregation generously donated \$150 which Operation Shoebox will use to cover the cost of shipping for over 20 boxes! I delivered the boxes to the Marshalltown collection center on November 21. Thank you for your support of this project!



Let's Start at the Very Beginning...

There is a possibility of re-starting Spanish classes and we're trying to determine if there is enough interest to do so. If you would be interested in taking (or re-taking) Spanish I, please contact Joan Tyler at 792-1078 or Linda Erickson at 792-8630.

Highlights from Session

Dave Boyd, Clerk of Session

- Received a positive report on the progress of the Stewardship Drive
- Were informed the Advent book is complete and will be distributed the week of 11/23
- Per Capita amount will be \$40 for 2015
- Received final report from the Nominating Committee



Christian Nurture

Virginia Bennett, Chair

The all Church Christmas Pageant will be on December 21 during worship. It will be similar to what was done last year. There will be costumes for all who participate, and the hope is that this year's seniors in High School will serve as the narrators.

The Middle School/High School group continues to meet on the first Sunday evening of the month. In November, the group met at the church and made pumpkin bread for the Deacons to deliver to our home bound members. The next event will be December 7 - skating party in Des Moines.

The Children's Action Hour will be held on the 1st and 3rd Sundays only. This is for children from Kindergarten to Grade 6. Children who are over the age of 5 should stay with their parents on the other Sundays. Children under the age of 5 can be excused to the nursery after children's time. If you would be interested in teaching Action Hour one week, please let Stephanie Critchfield or Kelly Koenen know.

Continued from page 2 "Faithful Through the Years"

Joan Tyler

First Presbyterian Church, Newton

Joan is a lifelong member of the church and community. Her service reflects her wide range of interests, including people of all ages. Joan's service includes:

- Session (Membership, Bldg & Grounds)
- Church Foundation Board
- Choir member
- Sunday School teacher for 15 years
- Mission trips & Spanish class
- League of Women Voters
- Library board and United Way
- Opera Guild, Concert Association
- Book Club member for 50 years



"Joan's ability to serve in such diverse ways, combined with her joy in serving, strong leadership abilities, love and respect for others make her an invaluable member of this church and community."

– Elder Gary Parsons

Salvation Army Sunday

Food Pantry Needs

We have been notified that the Salvation Army Food Pantry is almost empty. They are also out of meat in their freezer. They have had over 800 persons the past three months coming in for assistance. In the past the Army would go to the Food Bank in Des Moines, but they are also very low due to high use and the number of organizations coming to them. The Salvation Army has also assisted with the Wednesday night meals for anyone in the community who would like to come.

Another need provided by the Salvation Army is backpacks and school supplies and this is done in August. We find this to be a very busy time, and we haven't participated in this activity the past few years. The Mission committee feels this is a worthwhile project and have come up with a way we can help out. We are asking that on the last Sunday of the month, or any time you are able, school supplies also should be brought to the church. Since we have available rooms on the second floor, we will store these items and take them to the Salvation Army next August. Any type of school supply would be accepted - #2 pencils, crayons, colored pencils, notebooks, file folders, child scissors, glue sticks, Kleenex, or ear buds are just a few items that are needed. A separate basket or other type of container will be placed in the narthex. Please give generously and often of both food items and school supplies to help out our neighbors who may be in need. Thank you.

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 Office Hours: M, W, Thurs: 8:30 am to 4:00 pm

Custodian Hours: M - Thurs: 8am to 11am

Rev. Meghan Davis' schedule

Office Hours

Monday & Thursday - 10 am - noon

Tuesday - 9 - 11 am

Wednesday - 11 am - 1 pm

Sunday: 9:30 am - 12:30 pm, afternoons and evenings as needed

Monday-Thursday 10 am - 6 pm, evenings as needed

Friday: day off

Saturday: as needed

(Hours will vary from week to week based on pastoral care issues, meetings and other events.)

"The Mission of First Presbyterian Church of Newton, Iowa is to share the love of God and grow the body of Christ through joyful worship and fellowship, devoted prayer and study, and humble service in our community and world."

DECEMBER 2014 BIRTHDAYS & EVENTS

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
9:00 am Adult SS Fellowship 10:00 am Worship 10:30 am Fellowship	1 Dick Means 6:15 pm Yoga Flow	2 11:00 am Gentle Yoga	3 Warren Jontz 6:00 am Yoga Flow 9:30 am WBS 5:30 pm Community Meals Membership 6:00 pm Spanish Plus 7:00 pm Choir	4 6:30 am Early Men's Group 9:00 am Men's Group 3:00 pm Chair Yoga 4:30 pm Missions	5 Peter VanElswyk	6 9:00 am Spanish Plus 10:00 am Yoga Flow
7 Steve Roesse Kids Action Hour MS/HS Skating Party	8 Len Wothayler Cal Fisher 4:45 pm Personnel 6:15 pm Yoga Flow 7:00 pm Christian Nurture	9 11:00 am Gentle Yoga 6:30 pm Worship & Music	10 6:00 am Yoga Flow 9:30 am WBS 5:30 pm Community Meals 6:00 pm B & F Spanish Plus 7:00 pm Choir	11 Joan Tyler 3:00 pm Chair Yoga	12 Caitlin Mellick	13 9:00 am Spanish Plus 10:00 am Yoga Flow
14 9:00 am Deacons	15 6:15 pm Yoga Flow	16 11:00 am Gentle Yoga 6:30 p.m. Session	17 6:00 am Yoga Flow 9:30 am WBS 5:30 pm Community Meals 6:00 pm Spanish Plus 7:00 pm Choir	18 Randy Ferguson 6:30 am Early Men's Group 9:00 am Men's Group 3:00 pm Chair Yoga	19 Amy Doerring	20 Wade Van Baale Noel Burton Wendell Wendt 9:00 am Spanish Plus 10:00 am Yoga Flow
21 Christmas Pageant 4:00 pm Caroling, Chili, Cookies & Cocoa	22 6:15 pm Yoga Flow	23 11:00 am Gentle Yoga	24 7:00 pm CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE	25 	26 Kyle Schnell	27
28 Linda Kirchoff	29 Chloe Geib	30 Toni Peska	31 Ed Mount Kent Brown			



“Well done,
good and faithful
servant!”

Matthew 25:21, NIV



December	7	14	21	28	January 1
Worship Leader <i>Office</i>	Linda Campbell	Val McKee	Dave Stolper	Harriet Harmelink	Dave Stolper
Host Elder/Deacon <i>Diane Moles</i>	Dana Hashman Diane Moles	Gary Parsons	Linda Kirchhoff	Terry Rickers	
Greeters <i>Julie Brodersen</i>	Dick & Shirley Mielke	Randy & Carol Camp	Terry Rickers Bev Rossow	Kevin & Toni Peska	
Ushers <i>Office</i>	Ritter Family	Miller Family	Kevin & Toni Peska	Don & Sharon Black	Kevin & Toni Peska Shirley Stevens
Audio <i>Les Gause</i>	Jay Koenen	Roger Harmelink	Roger Harmelink	Roger Harmelink	Brad Ritter
Candlelighter <i>Office</i>	Advent	Advent	Advent	Cody Barney	Skye Koenen
Counters <i>Terry Rickers</i>	Roger Harmelink Dave Stolper	Jonnie Carpenter	Kelly Koenen Marshall Critchfield	Terry Rickers Dave Boyd	Dan Ritter Bill Shields
Bread Ministry Baker <i>Barb Taylor</i>	Shari DeCook	George Wilkening	Barb Taylor	Linda Campbell	Barb Taylor
Bread Ministry Taker <i>Barb Taylor</i>	Mickey Van Baale	Mary Jane Tripp	Barb Taylor	Linda Campbell	Barb Taylor
Communion Set up <i>Linda Kirchhoff</i>	Roger Harmelink Norm Grimm				

First Presbyterian Church
PO Box 7
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641-792-2790

Return Service Requested

Lectionary —

December, 2014

December 7 - 2nd Sunday of Advent

Isa. 40:1-11; *Ps. 85:1-2, 8-13*

2 Peter 3:8-15a; Mark 1:1-8

December 14 - 3rd Sunday of Advent

Isa. 61:1-4, 8-11; *Ps. 126 or*

Luke 1:46b-55; 1 Thess. 5:16-24

John 1:6-8; 19-28

December 21 - 4th Sunday of Advent

2 Sam. 7:1-11, 16; *Luke 1:46b-55 or*

Ps. 89:1-4 19-26; Rom. 16:25-27

Luke 1:26-38

December 28 - 1st Sunday after Christmas

Isa. 61:10-62:3; *Ps. 148*; Gal. 4:4-7

Luke 2:22-40

January, 2015

January 4 - 2nd Sunday after Christmas day

Jer. 31:7-14; *Ps. 147:12-20*; Eph. 1:3-14

John 1:(1-9) 10-13

January 11 - Baptism of the Lord

Gen. 1:1-5; *Ps. 29*; Acts 19:1-7

Mark 1:4-11

January 18 - 2nd Sunday after Epiphany

1 Sam. 3:1-10 (11-20); *Ps. 139:1-6. 13-18*

1 Cor. 6:12-20; John 1:43-51

January 25 - 3rd Sunday after Epiphany

Jonah 3:1-5, 10; *Ps. 62:5-12*

1 Cor. 7:29-31; Mark 1:14-20