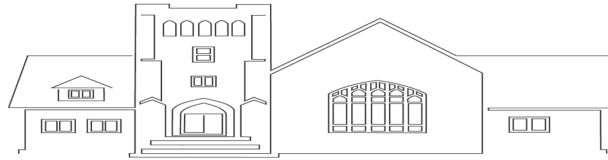


FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
NEWTON, IOWA
641-792-2790

"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 2017

Meghan's Musings

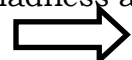
New Christmas Traditions

Each year I struggle with what I perceive to be the capitalist/secular takeover of Christmas. That is to say, the consumerism and materialism of this season that seems to dwarf, if not completely extinguish, the religious significance of the holiday. While the very word "holiday" comes from the contraction of "holy day", there is little holiness to be found in our society this time of year when stores, advertisements and seemingly the very air we breathe is emphasizing: more, better, bigger, if-you-really-love-them-you'll-give-them-a-really-expensive-gift, if-your-Christmas-isn't-"perfect"-you're-a-failure, and.. well, you get the point. No wonder so many people struggle with depression this time of year!

I have two favorite books that offer hope for taking back Christmas. The first is *Hundred Dollar Holiday* by professor, environmental activist and Methodist Sunday school superintendent Bill McKibben. Now, I'm the first to admit that that title can be a bit off-putting. Who, other than Ebenezer Scrooge would promote a \$100 Christmas? (And I believe that price tag is not just for him but for his entire family.) But the book provides a fascinating history of how this holiday came to be celebrated as it is in the US (hint: it has precious little to do with the church or the Baby Jesus) as well as a wonderful discussion of the many reasons, including not only religious but also environmental and our own happiness, to change our approach to the holiday so that we can truly have a Merry Christmas, rather than attempting the impossible: to manufacture a TV-perfect experience. McKibben also shares some of his own family's Christmas traditions as examples of ways to have a less expensive, less stressful and, with God's help, more blessed and merry Christmas. But as he notes, "There is no ideal Christmas; only the Christmas you decide to make as a reflection of your values, desires, affections, traditions." There's nothing magic about \$100, it's just a rhetorical number his family came up with that is meant not to "hem you in" but to "spur your creativity." He also adds, "...if it takes you two hundred dollars to celebrate Christmas the way it seems to you it should be celebrated, then that's fine. If you can do it on fifty dollars, that's fine, too (unless you're just being cheap)."

The other book, *Scroogenomics: Why You Shouldn't Buy Presents for the Holidays* by Joel Waldfogel, takes an economic view at holiday spending and... well, you can guess where he's going with it from the title. Here's the opening of the book description:

Christmas is a time of seasonal cheer, family get-togethers, holiday parties, and...gift giving. Lots and lots—and lots—of gift giving. But how many of us get gifts we like? How many of us give gifts not knowing what recipients want? *Scroogenomics* illustrates how our consumer spending generates vast amounts of economic waste—to the shocking tune of eighty-five billion dollars each winter [as of 2009 publication], much of it financed by credit cards. Economist Joel Waldfogel shows us why it's time to stop the madness and think twice before buying gifts for the holidays.



Continued from page 1

Don't get me wrong, I love gift giving and receiving as much as the next person, but I just hate to see the gifts part overshadow the Good News of the Gospel part that the holiday is meant to be about: that God so loved the world that Christ became incarnate—God With Us—in the form of a poor, helpless baby to live and breathe and have a human experience with us and for us.

But rather than go on and on about mindful gift-giving that, hopefully helps make the world a better place while sharing your love with the recipient (think: alternative gifts such as fair trade, Presbyterian Gift Catalog and Heifer International), this year I'd like to share with you some ideas of how to meaningfully celebrate the Twelve Days of Christmas (which BEGIN not *end* on December 25). This calendar was developed by my colleague Rev. Mindi Welton-Mitchell (<http://rev-o-lution.org>). I encourage you to use and adapt it to take back the Twelve Days of Christmas. Have a Blessed Advent and a Merry and *Meaningful all Twelve Days* of Christmas!

The Twelve Days of Christmas

December 25th First Day of Christmas	December 26th Second Day of Christmas	December 27th Third Day of Christmas	December 28th Fourth Day of Christmas	December 29th Fifth Day of Christmas	December 30th Sixth Day of Christmas	
The Gift of Christ Luke 2:1-7	The Gift of Creation Luke 2:8-20	The Gift of Thankfulness Psalm 136:1-9	The Gift of God's Presence Psalm 139:1-12	The Gift of Sharing John 6:1-14	The Gift of Celebrating Psalm 100	
Give and share gifts	Recycle wrapping paper, make cards or a new ornament!	Write thank-you cards	Visit someone who may be alone during the holidays	Go through your toys and clothes to donate	Go caroling and celebrate Christmas is still here!	
December 31st Seventh Day of Christmas New Year's Eve	January 1st, 2018 Eighth Day of Christmas New Year's Day	January 2nd Ninth Day of Christmas	January 3rd Tenth Day of Christmas	January 4th Eleventh Day of Christmas	January 5th Twelfth Day of Christmas	January 6th Epiphany
The Gift of Memory Deuteronomy 6:4-9	The Gift of New Hope Isaiah 61:1-3	The Gift of Invitation Philippians 1:3-8	The Gift of Blessing Luke 2:21-40	The Gift of Time Psalm 131	The Gift of the World John 3:16-17	Sharing the Good News Matthew 2:1-12
Share a favorite memory from the past year	Share one thing you'd like to do in the new year	Invite friends over for a playdate!	Bake Christmas Cookies one more time!	Turn off electronic devices for one hour	Go for a nature walk!	Put away your Christmas decorations!



- ✚ Kenny Johnson, who is recovering from a broken rib.
- ✚ Macy Jontz, who continues to recover from her broken hip, but has moved back to their apartment at Park Centre.
- ✚ Warren Jontz continues to be in the nursing home section at Park Centre as Macy cannot take care of him yet. He does go to Willowbrook daily.
- ✚ Nancy Shields, who is recovering well after a fall.
- ✚ Ann DeGrado, who continues to recover from her recent surgery.
- ✚ Nathan Howell, who is looking for a job.



Carol and David Hammer--(Carol is formerly Carol Soderblom Proctor) have moved back to Newton and live at Park Centre. Please welcome Carol back to Newton, along with David.

Nominating Committee

Bev Rossow, Chair

A congregational meeting will be held after worship on Sunday, December 10 to elect new officers. At the time this article is being written, we do not have a full slate of officers. We still need 2 more Elders to fill 3-year terms. Nominations will be taken from the floor at the meeting, but the person nominated needs to have been asked and agreed to serve prior to the meeting. The nominees are:

Nominating committee, 3-year term, member at large: Jane Repp

Deacons:

1 year term to finish Hopkins' term - Elsie Nelson

3 year terms - Shirley Stevens, Janet Shields, Linda Erickson and Barb Gallaher

Elders:

2 year term to finish out a term coming open - Karen Quinn

3 year terms - Mary Roskilly and Helyn Wohlwend

Christian Nurture

Karen Quinn, Chair

The elder discussion group, for those from 65 to 105 or up, has been meeting at 1:00p on Wednesday. The meetings have been going well. We have a really good time just talking about all kind of things. Feel free to join the group at any time, as our topics of discussion change weekly.

The All Church Pageant will be during Christmas Eve morning worship service. I will do the reading this year and also helping will be Val McKee, helping people with costumes and Sandy Simbro playing the music. This is always a fun worship activity that many look forward to. Please be willing to participate.

Church Life

Tara Zehr, Chair

We hope to see everyone at our final event of the year, caroling and chili, on Sunday, December 17 starting at 4 pm.

Date & Time	Event
December 17, 2017, 4:00 pm	Christmas Caroling followed by supper

Thanksgiving luncheon saw close to 80 people eat, visit and take communion on Sunday, November 19. Three turkeys were roasted by Diane Moles, Nancy Mott and Tara; a 5-lb ham was also baked Sunday morning. Two turkeys were donated by the Kirchoff and Mott families. A wide selection of food was brought by everyone else with a wonderful selection of desserts! Communion was organized jointly with the Worship and Music committee. Elders at each table brought the elements to the table and served communion. Thank you to all who participated.



At our November meeting we:

- ◆ Heard reports on visits made.
- ◆ Reviewed an update from Meghan Davis on visits she had made during the month.
- ◆ Discussed our financial status. Due to a misunderstanding, we had not been receiving requests for donations, so our balance was a little over \$800. We now have the mail from organizations needing financial help. It was the decision of the group that we place our emphasis on giving to Newton/Jasper organizations over some others. The final decision was to give \$200 to the Salvation Army, and \$100 each to Friends in Hope and Neighbors Helping Neighbors.

The next meeting will be December 10.

Mickey Van Baale, Moderator



Nancy Lister-Settle is recognizing five churches, one being ours, that have qualified to be a Certified Hunger Action Congregation. Representing our church and standing in the center of the picture are Rev. Meghan Davis, Gary Parsons, Linda Curtis-Stolper and Mickey Van Baale.

MEMBERSHIP



MOMENT

TRUNK OR TREAT

Gary Parsons reported very good participation by First Presbyterians in Trunk or Treat, held on Tuesday, October 31, 2017.

HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETICS AND ACTIVITIES

A group of 14 people representing FPC attended a recent dinner and very enjoyable play at the high school in which Natalie Camp performed. (See a picture on page 8)

HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETICS AND ACTIVITIES

Upcoming events include the NHS Winter Vocal Concert on Monday, December 18 and the boys' basketball game vs. Oskaloosa on December 19 ("Christmas in the Gym"), with the Pacesetters performing at halftime. We will work on rounding up groups to attend each of these.

SUDANESE MINISTRY

We are trying to arrange a visit to First Presbyterian Church by Ekram Kachu, Pastor of the Sudanese congregation in Des Moines (officially First Arabic Presbyterian Church). More information will be provided once we have been able to work out a date and time for that visit.

PEW

A PEW ("Pray, Eat, Work") event will be planned for sometime in January or February.

Retention of Church Members and Acquisition of New Church Members

Meghan Davis will soon be starting a membership class and is following up with potential participants. We are very pleased that some of our church members who we hadn't seen for awhile have attended worship in the past few months. We hope that all of our congregation will be aware of who's present in church and take the time to greet both newcomers and old friends.

Church Brochure

A new church brochure (the tri-fold publication with pictures and information about the church) is being prepared and edited. We hope this brochure will be useful to visitors and informative to church members!

Worship and Music

Linda Kirchhoff, Chair

Our committee reviewed a draft of this year's Advent booklet that Dave Stolper and Linda Curtis-Stolper put together. Since the number of contributors were fewer this year, Barb Gallaher pulled 12 articles from past booklets to use. The Advent booklets have been printed, assembled and distributed. If you did not receive one, please contact Barbara in the church office.

The All Saints service was held on November 5. Linda Curtis-Stolper filled the pulpit on November 12, as Meghan was out of state. Linda also was available for pastoral care during Meghan's absence. Our committee was in charge of the communion following the Thanksgiving feast on November 19.

The Advent wreath will be set up prior to December 3, the beginning of Advent. Those that will be doing the readings and lighting the Advent candle each Sunday will be: December 3 - Carl & Jane Repp; December 10 - Chris & Peggy Lickiss; December 17 - Dan, Cheryl, Brad and Megan Ritter; December 24 morning service - Kevin & Toni Peska and family; Christmas Eve - Linda Kirchhoff and grandchildren.

Continued on page 6

Budget and Finance Corner

Bev Rossow, Chair

Operating Revenue and Expenses for month:

- ◇ Pledges for the month of October were \$12,403. This was \$1,759 above budget for the month.
- ◇ Other Regular Giving, which represents donations from people who tithe, but do not pledge, was \$840 for the month.
- ◇ Investment income was strong for the third quarter, adding \$3,902 to income.

Other Income for the month:

- ◇ The International Mission fund received \$8 from the sale of olive oil.

Expenses for the month:

- ◇ The Memorial fund paid expenses of \$2,240 associated with a memorial project to replace several plumbing fixtures in the church, in memory of Janie Moles. The donations received to cover this project were received in previous months.
- ◇ The Capital Development designated gift of \$10,000 from the Swanger family was transferred to the Capital Development Maintenance fund to help pay for the front step replacement project.
- ◇ The Rural Harvest Special Offering collected \$305.
- ◇ The International Mission fund received and remitted donations of \$383 for the Crop Walk.
- ◇ The Undesignated Mission fund made the following donations: \$150 to the Salvation Army holiday gift baskets, \$57.72 to Church World Service for school kits and paid \$197.40 for style show expenses.
- ◇ The Sundays at Four fund paid a \$50 honorarium to Randye Jones for her concert.

In total for the month, expenses were \$480 above budget.

Year-to-date through September:

- ◇ Pledges are \$1,064 above budget.
- ◇ Other Regular Giving is \$2,752 over budget.
- ◇ Expenses are \$871 over budget.
- ◇ For the year, the church is experiencing a shortfall of \$12,523. The 2017 anticipated annual shortfall was \$26,417.



Continued from page 5

Other discussions and special services planned are:

- * Decorating the church
- * Having forms weekly in the bulletin to order poinsettias.
- * The Blue Christmas service will be December 21 at 7 pm.
- * The Christmas pageant will be during the morning worship on December 24, with the Christian Education Committee in charge.
- * Christmas Eve service is at 7 pm. The structure of the service will continue to be lessons and carols.
- * December 31 service will be a carol sing again this year.
- * Sandy Simbro reported that the echo organ's use is limited due to insulation having been blown into the area where the controls for the shutters are. Quimby is scheduled to come for organ tuning soon, so Sandy will ask for an estimate for the cost of fixing the problem.
- * Larry Anderson stated the piano is due for tuning. Sandy will contact Seth Banwell, who has recently obtained certification as a piano tuner.

Mission Committee

Marilyn McCallister, Chair

The purpose of the Mission Committee is to recommend, approve, manage, and terminate mission projects. The committee communicates about opportunities for mission involvement and promotes congregational participation.

Hunger Congregation Certificate --- At the last Presbyterian meeting, our church, along with four others, were recognized and received a certificate from the Hunger Action Advocate Committee. The certificate indicates we have qualified to be a Certified Hunger Action Congregation. Information on how we achieve this qualification was in the November Messenger. The certificate is displayed on the Mission bulletin board in Fellowship Hall. There is a picture on page 4.

Rural Harvest Offering – Promotion and collection conducted in October totaled \$305.

Mission Coalition Bell Ringing Thank you to all who volunteered time to help the Salvation Army's Red Kettle bell ringing at Farver True Value on Saturday, December 2."

Mission Coalition Gift Giving Opportunity to Progress Industries residents who do not have family close by. First names with list of gift ideas will be located in the narthex. Return wrapped gifts, labeled with recipient's name, to the church by Sunday, December 17. They will all be delivered to Progress Industries on Monday, December 18. Questions, contact Linda Curtis-Stolper. Thank you!

Advent Angel Tree is decorated with Angels from the Salvation Army. Each angel has the age and gender of a child from a family in need. Help out by selecting an angel, purchase a gift, bring the **unwrapped** gift with angel attached and place under the Advent Angel Tree. Thanks for your help!

Presbyterian Gift Giving Catalog – A great opportunity for alternative Christmas gifts are items shown in this catalog. Copies can be found on the table in the hall across from the church office. This is perfect for those family members or friends who are hard to buy for. Why not check this out and give a gift to a family in need in honor of your loved one.

Ramp Building Ministry – The ramp for Charlie Brown was completed on Friday, November 24. The lumber and materials were paid for with funds left in the ramp ministry funds and funds from Kid Assist of Jasper County. Volunteers included Val McKee, Shirley Stevens, Dana Hashman, Kris Simbro, George Wilkening, Dick Mielke, Meghan Davis, and Linda and Larry Anderson. Sandy Simbro provided goodies. A meal was provided by Sharon Brown with help from friends. Charlie is looking forward to returning home from the rehab facility where he has been staying since earlier this fall. Thanks to the church for supporting the Ramp Ministry. If you know of someone who is in need of a ramp and can't afford it, please contact Linda Anderson at 641-521-1153. (Pictures on page 8)

Helping Neighbors –On behalf of Neighbors Helping Neighbors, thank you to folks who have generously donated to help pay for laundry nights for homeless individuals. As we finalize plans to begin more kinds of activities to reach out in support of such persons, your continued involvement will be appreciated

Christmas Joy Offering – "Thanks be to God for this indescribable gift." 2 Corinthians 9:15 The Christmas Joy Offering supports our past and present leaders by providing critical financial support and grants for current and retired Presbyterian church workers in their times of need. The Christmas Joy Offering also prepares the way for future leaders through support of racial ethnic schools. Many of the students attending Presbyterian-related racial ethnic schools and colleges are the first in their families to enroll in higher education. **Consider giving to the Christmas Joy Offering this December.** Indicate "Christmas Joy" on your check's memo line or use a Christmas Joy Offering envelope from your Sunday bulletin or located in the church narthex.

Days for Girls – As of 11/16/2017, one hundred seventy five (175) sustainable feminine hygiene kits have been created!! Thank you to all the volunteers participating in this much needed ministry. No workshops are planned in December, 2017. Our next scheduled DfG workshop is Thursday, January 25, 9 – 2 p.m. in our fellowship hall. All are welcome to join us!

Our Members at Play and Work

Natalie Camp (center of 1st row) was a member of the NHS production of "Dinner at 8, Murder at 9". Those that attended the sit-down dinner and play were Tom and Nancy Mott, Larry and Linda Anderson, Gary and Kay Parsons, Erick and Tara Zehr, Dave Stolper and Linda Curtis-Stolper, Marilyn McCallister, Kathy Peterson, Dana Hashman and Mickey Van Baale. Mary Jane Tripp and Suzy Funk attended the Friday night performance.



Ramp building in Colfax



Mary, the home owner



Work on the Colfax ramp



Those who helped were Larry and Linda Anderson, George Wilkening and Shirley Stevens, Dana Hashman, Jenny Anderson Dick Meilke, and Cory Giesking.



Finished ramp and workers in Colfax

Ramp building in Newton

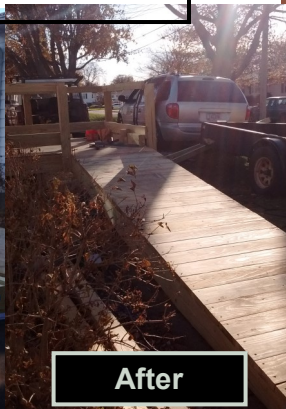
Workers were Meghan Davis, Kris Simbro, Dana Hashman, George Wilkening and Shirley Stevens, Larry and Linda Anderson, Val McKee and Dick Mielke.



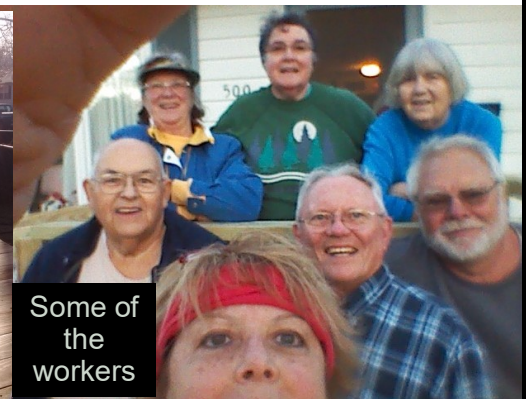
Before



During



After



Some of the workers

Report on Presbytery Meeting

By Mickey Van Baale

On November 14, Linda Curtis-Stolper, Gary Parsons and myself attended the 510th stated meeting of the Des Moines Presbytery at Central Presbyterian Church in Des Moines. Meghan Davis was able to join us in the afternoon.

Following some regular preliminary business, we had a wonderful worship service celebrating the 500th anniversary of Reformation. Rev. Alex Thornburg of Heartland church in Clive gave a moving sermon entitled "Foolish Fumblers". This was based on an experience of his youth playing football and waiting to hear his name over the loud speaker for scoring a touchdown. Instead, when his name was finally announced near the end of the season, it was because he fumbled the ball! Like many, we long to be recognized for our shining moments, when it is our fumbles, which we all make plenty of, that seem to be pointed out; but these are the times we learn from our errors.

Presbytery also:

- ◆ Approved the contract between the Presbytery and Jim Koopman, Interim Executive Presbyter for another year, ending June 30, 2018, but can be renewed again after that.
- ◆ Approved the budget for 2018. This was seasoned with discussions, as cuts to some programs had to be made to maintain a balanced budget.
- ◆ Approved raising the per capita amount for 2018 to \$43.52. Of this amount, \$7.73 goes to General Assembly, \$5.40 goes to Synod, and \$30.39 goes to Presbytery. Instead of submitting the amounts to Synod and GA at the beginning of the year, it will be submitted as money is received from the churches in our Presbytery.
- ◆ Older Adult Ministries presented and honored 15 recipients of the "Faithful Through the Years" recognition. It was announced that starting in 2018, the recognitions will be done at each Presbytery meeting rather than all at one. It is hoped that a recipient will be named at the Presbytery meeting closest to their home church, allowing all honorees to attend and for members of their home church to also come for the program.
- ◆ Learned that Linda Curtis-Stolper will be Moderator for the Committee on Preparation for Ministry and Gary Parsons will serve on the Leadership Council. Approved these and all recommendations from the Nominating Committee for positions on various committees.
- ◆ Approved Sheryl Puderbaugh of First United Presbyterian Church in Winterset to become a candidate for ordination. She is attending Dubuque Seminary.
- ◆ Heard an update on CROSS Ministries
- ◆ The Compassion, Peace and Justice Task Force of which our own Rev. Davis is the Moderator, announced that they are encouraging people to go on a BorderLinks delegation in Arizona in February. BorderLinks provides educational programs in the US-Mexico borderlands, helping participants deepen their understanding of borders, immigration, and social justice. For more information, contact Rev. Davis.
- ◆ The Hunger Action Advocate Committee presented Newton First and four other churches with a certificate indicating we have qualified to be a Certified Hunger Action Congregation. See more information in the Mission Committee report and the picture on page 4.
- ◆ Celebrated the Honorable Retirement of Rev. Ken Arentson of Westminister Church in Des Moines and Rev. John Reynolds, Jr., of Brooklyn and Malcom churches. Several shared remembrances of both and some members of their churches were in attendance.
- ◆ During the report of the Sudanese Support Team, learned that their weekly services are broadcast via Facebook and are being watched by people around the world. Very exciting news!

The next meeting will be in February at St. Paul Presbyterian Church in Johnston.



2017 **BIRTHDAYS & EVENTS**

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

<p>9 00a Adult Sunday School</p> <p>10:00a Fellowship</p> <p>10:30a Worship</p> <p>11:30a Fellowship</p>					<p><i>1 Dick Means</i></p>	<p><i>2</i></p> <p>9a-2p Salvation Army Bell Ringing at True Value</p>
<p><i>3 Warren Jontz</i></p>	<p><i>4</i></p>	<p><i>5 Peter Van Elswyk</i></p> <p>11a Gentle Yoga 6:30p Worship & Music</p>	<p><i>6</i></p> <p>9:30 WBS 7p Choir</p>	<p><i>7 Steve Roese</i></p> <p>6:30a Early Men's Group</p> <p>9a Men's Group</p> <p>3p Chair Yoga</p>	<p><i>8 Len Woythaler</i></p>	<p><i>9</i></p>
<p><i>10</i></p> <p>9a Deacons 11:30 Congregational Meeting to elect new officers</p>	<p><i>11 Joan Tyler</i></p>	<p><i>12</i></p> <p>11a Gentle Yoga 3:30p Mission</p>	<p><i>13</i></p> <p>9:30 WBS 5:15p Membership</p> <p>6p Budget & Finance</p> <p>7p Choir</p>	<p><i>14</i></p> <p>3p Chair Yoga</p>	<p><i>15</i></p>	<p><i>16</i></p>
<p><i>17</i></p> <p>4p - Caroling</p>	<p><i>18 Randy Ferguson</i></p> <p>7p NHS Vocal Winter Concert</p>	<p><i>19 Amy Doerring</i></p> <p>11a Gentle Yoga 6:30 Session 7:30p NHS boy's basketball game,</p>	<p><i>20</i></p> <p>9:30a WBS 7p Choir</p>	<p><i>21</i></p> <p>6:30a Early Men's Group</p> <p>9a Men's Group</p> <p>3p Chair Yoga</p> <p>7p Blue Christmas Service</p>	<p><i>22</i></p>	<p><i>23</i></p>
<p><i>24</i></p> <p>10:30 All Church Christmas Pageant</p> <p>7p Christmas Eve Service</p>	<p><i>25</i></p>	<p><i>26</i></p> <p>11a Gentle Yoga</p>	<p><i>27</i></p> <p>9:30a WBS 7p Choir</p>	<p><i>28 Linda Kirchhoff</i></p> <p>3p Chair Yoga</p>	<p><i>29</i></p>	<p><i>30 Toni Peska</i></p>
<p><i>31</i></p>  <p><i>New Year's Eve</i></p>						

**SCHEDULE
OF**



VOLUNTEERS

December	3	10	17	24	31
Worship Leader <i>Mickey Van Baale</i>	Bev Rossow	Linda Campbell	George Wilkening	Mickey Van Baale	Jane Repp
Host Elder/Deacon <i>Church Life</i>	Mickey Van Baale	Tom Mott	Julie Fisher	Dana Hashman	Dave Stolper
Greeters <i>Julie Brodersen</i>	Gary & Kay Parsons	Kevin & Toni Peska	Terry Rickers Bev Rossow	Cole Doerring Carroll Brodersen	Chris & Peggy Lickiss
Ushers <i>Mickey Van Baale</i>	Tom and Nancy Mott	John and Barb Taylor	Gary and Kay Parsons	Terry and Cathy Rickers	Dan and Cheryl Ritter
Audio <i>Mickey Van Baale</i>	Erick Zehr	Erick Zehr	Dan Ritter	Brad Ritter	Kyle Doerring
Counters <i>Budget & Finance</i>	Dave Stolper Roger Harmelink	Bret Doerring Tara Zehr	Jonnie Carpenter Sandy Cheney	Jen Norvell Janet Shields	Terry Rickers Chris or Peggy Lickiss
Bread Ministry Baker <i>Barb Taylor</i>	Jane Repp	Val McKee	Dixie Zegers	Sharon Black	Diane Moles
Bread Ministry Taker <i>Barb Taylor</i>	Carol Russell	Toni Peska	Dana Hashman	Nancy Mott	Barb Gallaher
Communion Set up <i>Worship & Music</i>	Tom Mott Val McKee				

First Presbyterian Church
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Newton, Iowa 50208

641-792-2790

Return Service Requested

Lectionary —

December, 2017

December 3 - 1st Sunday of Advent

Isa. 64: 1-9; *Ps. 80:1-7, 17-19*; 1 Cor. 1:3-9;
Mark 13:24-37

December 10 - 2nd Sunday of Advent

Isa. 40:1-11; *Ps. 85:1-2, 8-13*;
2 Peter 3:8-15a; Mark 1:1-8

December 17 - 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 24 - 4th Sunday of Advent Christmas Eve

Isa. 9:2-7; *Ps. 96*; Titus 2:11-14;
Luke 2:1-14 (15-20)

December 31 - 1st Sunday after Christmas Day

Isa. 61:10-62:3; *Ps. 148*; Gal 4:4-7
Luke 2:22-40

January, 2018

January 7 - Baptism of the Lord

Gen. 1:1-5; *Ps. 29*; Acts 19:1-7;
Mark 1:4-11

January 14 - 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 21 - 3rd Sunday after Epiphany

Jonah 3:1-5, 10; *Ps. 62:5-12*;
1 Cor. 7:29-31; Mark 1:14-20

January 28 - 4th Sunday after Epiphany

Deut. 18:15-20; *Ps. 111*;
1 Cor. 8:1-13; Mark 1:21-28