FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH NEWTON, IOWA 641-792-2790

"The Mission of First Presbyterian Church of Newton, lowa 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



June 2018

Meghan's Musings

What in the world is EAD?

Ecumenical Advocacy Days (EAD), as the website explains, "began in 2003 as a coalition of sponsor organizations holding an annual national education and advocacy conference around different social justice issues for Christian advocacy. Since then it has become the premier Christian advocacy event in the United States, bringing together 1,000 faith advocates each year to mobilize for action and to make a public witness on Capitol Hill. EAD has addressed such issues as food justice, economy & livelihood, poverty & hunger, immigration & refugees, climate change, national & international security, and issues especially affecting women and children around the world."

Mission Statement for EAD is: "a movement of the ecumenical Christian community, and its recognized partners and allies, grounded in biblical witness and our shared traditions of justice, peace and the integrity of creation. [The] goal, through worship, theological reflection and opportunities for learning and witness, is to strengthen our Christian voice and to mobilize for advocacy on a wide variety of U.S. domestic and international policy issues." The tag line on the logo is: Ecumenical Advocacy Days: for Global Peace with Justice. (I just love that global peace with justice.)

Last month, along with three others from our presbytery, I attended the 16th EAD gathering. We were joined by lots and lots of other Presbyterians, In fact, the PC(USA) was the single largest denominational representation. (woo hoo!)

Each year has a theme and this year's theme was "A World Uprooted: Responding to Migrants, Refugees and Displaced People." Of course the Bible is full of commands that we care for our neighbor and the stranger in our midst. One of many, many references from the Hebrew Scriptures comes from Deuteronomy 10: 17-19: ¹⁷For the Lord your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great God, mighty and awesome, who is not partial and takes no bribe, ¹⁸who executes justice for the orphan and the widow, and who loves the strangers, providing them food and clothing. ¹⁹You shall also love the stranger, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt."

And, of course, when asked what is the greatest commandment Jesus replied "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself." ²⁸And he said to him, "You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live." (Luke 10:27) And when asked, but who is my neighbor, Jesus tells the story of the Good Samaritan.

And, of course, there's Jesus' words from Matthew we hear every 3rd year on Christ the King Sunday: ³⁴Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; ³⁵for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ³⁶I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' ³⁷Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw

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you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? ³⁸And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? ³⁹And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' ⁴⁰And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.' (Matthew 25: 34-40)

And so: "A World Uprooted: Responding to Migrants, Refugees and Displaced People". Global Peace with Justice.

The general format of EAD is it starts with a gathering and worship celebration service on Friday night, then Saturday and Sunday are packed with speakers, panels, worship and workshops (so many workshops it's almost impossible to choose). And then the culmination of Ecumenical Advocacy Days is the actual advocating: meeting with our legislators (or more often their staff).

There's also a pre-EAD gathering that PC(USA) Office of Public Witness and the national Compassion, Peace and Justice host which follows a similar format and takes place at New York Avenue Presbyterian Church, where Abraham Lincoln and his family worshiped and Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. once preached.

I don't want to throw a bunch of facts and figures at you, they're often difficult to absorb but just a few:

- World wide, there are currently more than 65 million people displaced.
- All of them want the same thing: a safe place to call home.
- It is estimated that by 2050, we may have an additional 150 million climate change refugees.
- One of the panelists was from Tuvalu: a tiny South Pacific island that is already feeling the consequences of climate change and facing an existential crisis. What do you do when rising oceans threaten the very existence of your entire country?

One of the first speakers was Dr. Elizabeth Ferris who has a long career in the field of migration and refugees. She currently works at the Institute for the Study of International Migration at Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service, serves as a senior fellow in Foreign Policy at the Brookings Institution. In 2016 she served as senior advisor to the U.N. General Assembly's Summit for Refugees and Migrants in New York. Ferris started her speech stating that in her decades of experience, she has never seen a worse time for working with refugees.

So, as I mentioned before, after 3 days of speeches and worship and learning about the issues, we head to Capitol Hill to the Advocacy part: advocated for the unrooted peoples.

I also wanted to mention something that I had the opportunity to learn just a bit more about and I hope to continue to learn in the coming months and share with you:

I attended a workshop on South Sudan and became aware of some of the mission that the PC(USA) is currently engaged in there. I'm hopeful that our church and presbytery can become engaged helping to bring peace to our Sisters and Brothers in Christ in South Sudan.

In closing, I'd like to share something one of the speakers at the CPJ re-conference said. Rev. Elmer Zavada is a Nicaraguan now living in Kentucky. He said, "When we're talking about the situation in Syria, South Sudan, [Central America, etc.] we are talking about ourselves."

The question is, what are we going to say about ourselves? How will we "love the stranger" as God commands, remembering that we, too, "were strangers in the land of Egypt." How will we love our neighbor as ourselves as Jesus commands? How will we feed Christ, provide drink to Christ, welcome Christ, clothe Christ, care for Christ, visit Christ in prison?

Prayers for Tom and Susan Weeks and their families. Tom was just diagnosed with leukemia. There are still tests to be done but it appears to be a form that can be controlled through medication and is not fatal.



Kenneth "Ken" Joseph Johnson, the son of Joseph C. and Edna M. Kehm Johnson was born on July 17, 1924 in Mason City, Iowa. He was a graduate of Mason City High School in 1942. He received a B.S. degree in Industrial Engineering from Iowa State University in Ames. Ken served his country in the U. S. Army during WW II.

On August 6, 1949, Ken was united in marriage with Betty Lou Rampton in Mason City. They were blessed with two children, Neil and Jean. Ken was Chief of Methods Engineering at the Maytag Company for 35 years. He was a member of the First Presbyterian Church, Maytag Management Club and Newton Elks Lodge 1270. He enjoyed

dancing, reading, golfing, fishing, hunting and bowling.

Ken died on Saturday, April 21, 2018 at the Skiff Medical Center in Newton. He was 93. Ken's funeral service was held on Saturday, April 28th at the First Presbyterian Church. Memorials were to the First Presbyterian Church or to the Good Samaritan Fund of Park Centre.

Those left to honor Ken's memory are his children, Neil (Denise) Johnson of Kansas City, Missouri and Jean (Greg) Hanson of Pleasant Hill; grandchildren, Kellie (Brad) Johnson of Overland Park, Kansas, Jill (Adam) Tilton of Leawood, Kansas, Chelsea (Andy) Reed of Ankeny, Melissa (Adam) Stone of Des Moines and Joe Hanson of Altoona; great-grandchildren, Belle, Aiden, Ellis, Henry, Sydney, Abby, and Ben. Ken was preceded in death by his parents, wife, Betty Lou in 2014; son, Roger in infancy; and two brothers, Donald and Everett.



Beginning Sunday, June 3, we will return to our summer hours. We will have Fellowship at 9:30 am and worship at 10:00 am. There will also be Fellowship after worship. Please be sure to mark your calendars.

Remember, summer is not a time to take a vacation from church.

Vacation Bible School is taking on a new format this year. There will be two sessions, Friday, June 29 from 5 to 8 pm and Saturday, July 30 from 9 am to 12 pm. We will be partnering with United Presbyterian Church and First Lutheran. The theme is "Polar Blast", which will feature glaciers and penguins.

Jane Repp is heading up the kitchen crew, who will be preparing a kid-friendly meal for Friday evening. Snacks will be furnished on Saturday morning. Be watching the bulletins and church Happenings for requests for food items to be donated. Information will also be available on registration.

The program will be a part of a combined church service on July 1 held at First Presbyterian. Please be willing to help in any way you can.





Celebrating our 2018 Graduates

Natalie Camp is the daughter of Randy and Carol and younger sister to Katelyn and Dylan. Her grandparents are Joan Benscoter and Larry and Janice Camp.

During high school, Natalie was a member of Student Council all four years; a member of the National Honor Society, served as a Chamber Choir Ambassador and was President of the Chamber Choir and Vice President of Thespians her Senior year. Add to that being drumline section leader of the marching band this year along with being the varsity tennis team co-captain. Natalie was also a Rotary "Student of the Month".

Most little girls in town know Natalie as Belle, the character she played in the 2017 musical of *Beauty and the Beast*. This was only one of the many plays Natalie was in, as she was in all the spring and fall plays during her high school career. In her younger years, she also was seen on the stage of the Newton Community Theatre.

Many honors were received by Natalie, such as being in the Opus Honor Choir for 3 years, receiving top ratings in state solo choral contests, selected for many honor choirs, including the Meistersingers Honor Choir at Wartburg and the North Central American Choral Directors Association Honor Choir and receiving Iowa High School Musical Theatre Awards. She also received scholarships and was the National School Choral Award recipient.

Natalie also found time to work in the floral department at Hy-Vee. She plans to attend Wartburg College in Waverly, Iowa, to major in Music Therapy and Music Education.



Stan and Carma are parents to Garrett Sturtz. To round out the family, Garrett has two older siblings, Mallory and Chandler and brother-in-law, Jack. Henry and Arlene Horstmann and Norma and the late Dale Sturtz are Garrett's grandparents.

Garrett was one of the class Valedictorians, graduating with highest honors. He has been a member of the National Honor Society and was a Rotary "Student of the Month".

Sports, especially basketball, have been Garrett's major interest. He played varsity soccer, varsity baseball one year and varsity football three years, being the starting the quarterback his junior and senior years. He also was recognized as 2nd team all district quarterback his junior year and 1st team all district quarterback his senior year.

Basketball awards and recognitions have been many. To highlight a few, Garrett received the US Marine Corps Distinguished Athlete Award, President's Education Awards Program for Outstanding Academic Excellence, the NHS Bernie Saggau Award, recognitions from the Des Moines Register, named as an Esmark High School All American, and McDonald's All-American nominee.

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Garrett was awarded the Presidential Scholarship from Drake, recognizing outstanding achievements and leadership. He was unanimously named to 1st Team All Conference in

basketball, both his junior and senior years. Garrett set numerous basketball records his senior year, some that broke his brother's records.

Garrett went on the Work Week trip to Winnebego, NE. He was one of the guys who learned how to roof a garage.

He begins classes at Drake University on June 22, majoring in Business. Garrett will be a part of the men's basketball team and will begin training in June.



Budget and Finance Corner

Jen Norvell, Chair

Operating Revenue and Expenses for the month of April:

- ♦ Pledges for the month were \$11,749. This was \$1,794 above budget for the month.
- Other Regular Giving, which represents donations from people who tithe, but do not pledge, was \$950 for the month, which was \$547 above budget.

Other Income for the month:

- Received \$250 from the Retired Teachers Association for use of our church.
- Received \$231.52 in per capita donations, bringing our total for the year to \$3,069.56. The budgeted amount for the year is \$4,461.
- The Memorial Fund received donations honoring Ken Johnson and Warren Jontz.
- ♦ The Funeral Luncheon fund received a donation from the Jontz family and paid related expenses.
- The 2017 One Great Hour offering received an additional \$115.48, bringing our total to \$655.48.
- ♦ The International Mission account received a \$155 donation for Days for Girls and paid related expenses of \$149.99.

Expenses for the month:

- ♦ Since February, we have experienced a \$6,294 decline in our market investments.
- Building & Grounds Expense was \$1,055 above budget due to repairs to the ceiling caused by water damage and replacement of a circuit board.
- The Undesignated Mission fund paid expenses of \$156.68 related to the guest pastor Nancy Lister-Settle, made a \$300 donation to the First Arabic Presbyterian church and agreed to move \$700 from Mission opportunities to the Ramp Building Fund.

In total for the month, expenses were \$139.24 below budget.

Year-to-date through April

- ♦ Year-to-date pledges are \$17,300 over budget
- ♦ Other Regular Giving is \$1,754 over budget
- Expenses are \$1,074 over budget



ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Tuesday, June 5, 2018 4:30 to 7:00 pm

First Presbyterian Church

220 N. 2nd Avenue East – Newton

Freewill offering

Menu:

Hot shredded chicken or barbequed pork sandwich

Potato Salad

Cole Slaw

Baked Beans

Assorted Homemade Pies and Cakes

Homemade ice cream (vanilla, chocolate, strawberry or

pineapple)

Fund raiser for various mission projects

Bring your friends and family!!

The next edition of the Messenger will be for July and August and will be distributed in mid-July.

Please don't wait to submit any news you might have for the church family. If you want it in the Messenger, send it electronically to Mickey Van Baale at grandmavb1@gmail.com. If you want it in the bulletin and/or Church Happenings, send the information to the church office at new1pres@iowatelecom.net.



Church Life

Tara Zehr, Chair

On May 27th, 64 people celebrated the graduation of Natalie Camp and Garrett Sturtz. The Christian Nurture Committee decorated the tables beautifully with red and black, Newton colors. Eggs, fruits, breads, muffins, rolls and drinks were also provided by the Church Life Committee. It was a wonderful breakfast celebrating two successful graduates.

We will take the month of June off from Church Life events, but come see us on Sunday, July 15th for Worship at Woodland.

July 15, 2018, 10:00 a.m.	Worship at Woodland, jointly with Worship and Music Committee
August 26, 2018, 10:00 a.m.	Rally Day ecumenical worship service
September 16, 2018, 4:00 p.m.	Hayride and weenie roast at the Ritter Camp
October 14, 2018, 4:00 p.m.	Progressive Dinner
November 18, 2018, 11:30 a.m.	Thanksgiving Feast and Communion, jointly with Worship and Music Committee
December 16, 2018, 4:00 p.m.	Christmas caroling followed by chili supper

Worship and Music

Linda Kirchhoff, Chair

Worship services since the last committee meeting were reviewed. There were no concerns noted. It was noted that Warren Erickson's direction of the choir during Holy Week was appreciated.

Meghan gave a brief summary of her experience at the Public Advocacy event she attended in DC recently.

The following upcoming events/special services were discussed:

June 3 through Sept. 2 – communion will be served by intinction.

July 1 – Joint worship service of the churches involved with the two-day VBS being held June 29-30 at First Presbyterian.

July 15 – Worship at Woodland.

Aug. 26 – Ecumenical Rally Day is on the calendar, but Meghan is unsure this is going to happen this year.

Exchange services with UCC have not been discussed yet; Meghan will talk with the UCC pastor.

Larry Anderson stated he is making plans to schedule people to provide special music through the summer.



The Membership Committee held a special meeting on May 24 to pick out the photos we want to use in the new brochure. Dave Stolper and Gary Parsons have taken a lot of pictures the last 2-3 months plus we have some Doug Cutts, Marlys Grimm, Linda Anderson and others have taken. We should be able to find some excellent photos to use. Thanks to all that have contributed.

MOMENT With not as many kids in sports as in past years it is more difficult to find material to place on the Narthex bulletin board. Mission committee will be taking over that bulletin board. Our committee will use the bulletin board outside the entrance to Fellowship Hall.

Membership (with Barbara's help) has come up with a list that will enable the ushers to easily check attendance on Sunday and make it easier to identify people that have changed their attendance pattern which might signal the need for church support thru Member Care or Deacons.

We are still available to transport people to church when needed. We also may be able to help take people to doctor appointments. In either case contact Gary Parsons at 792-6753.

Helyn Wohlwend, Moderator



At their May 20 meeting, deacons:

- Learned that Gladys Sparks had briefly been in the hospital but has returned to Nelson Manor.
- Due to two vacancies on the board, decided to form five visitation teams rather than six.
- → Heard from Meghan that Jack Nicholson would welcome rides to church, and that deacons should now visit Matt Illingworth in the morning due to a schedule change.
- Heard that the deacons sent 30 cards to church family members during April.

Diane Moles, Moderator

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.

Mission Coalition: Linda Curtis-Stolper reminds us that First Presbyterian Church members will help with delivering weekend meals to persons in our community during June. A sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall. Please check your schedule and sign up if you can help with this ministry. There may only be 3-4 persons receiving the meals on a given day, but it's important that they are served!

Neighbors Helping Neighbors: First Presbyterian members are being very generous in donating quarters to the Neighbors Helping Neighbors Laundry Nights. During June, we are taking the next step and serving as volunteers to help at the laundromat. Laundry nights in June will take place on Monday, June 11 and Monday, June 25 at the Newton Laundromat behind Domino's on E. 17th St. N. A sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall. We need 5 volunteers from 4:00-6:00 pm and 3 volunteers from 6:00-8:00 pm on each of the Monday nights. If you have any questions about this, call Linda Curtis-Stolper (641-840-2417).

Neighbors Helping Neighbors summer clothing give-away will be Sat., June 9. We need your help! As you sort your spring/summer clothing and make decisions not to keep something - please consider donating to this cause. We can use clean clothing in good repair. Please realize that we will throw away clothing that is not fit to be worn, and do not bring it to us. Everyone wants to look presentable. Do not bring winter clothing at this time. You may bring donations to First Presbyterian Church office during office hours (9:00-1:30 M-Th) or First Lutheran Church office during office hours (8:30-12:30 M-F).

The Take Away Hunger program will be having a packaging event on Saturday, July 7. Mission Committee has set aside \$360 to pay for a twelve person team for the 10-11 a.m. time slot on that day. Anyone interested in helping package food to be sent where needed overseas should sign up on the TAH sheet located on the Mission Bulleting board in fellowship hall. If you have questions, contact John Taylor (641-792-6990).

Cents-ability's "noisy" offering was dedicated on Sunday, May 20. The proceeds will be divided with 50% going to a local mission and 25% each to the hunger programs for the Des Moines Presbytery and the national/international Presbytery. Thank you for sharing your blessings with others!

Days for Girls, Newton Team, will be meeting in fellowship hall every 4th Thursday of the month from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. to share our stories as we create parts and pieces for the sustainable hygiene kits (June 28). Our last contribution of 60 kits was given to Crystal Schwandt of the Cedar Rapids DfG Team who will be traveling to Haiti in June. A light lunch is served. Please join us June 28!

A \$100 donation was given to the Iowa Food Bank which sponsors the Backpack Buddies program here in Newton.

The SHARE June 2018 Menu is located on the Missions bulletin board in Fellowship Hall. Order before June 8th for pick-up on the 23rd. Make checks payable to: First Christian Church. To order call Julie @ 641-792-5850. Questions? contact Linda Anderson 641-521-1153



June 2018 BIRTHDAYS & EVENTS

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
9:30 a Fellowship 10:00 a Worship 11:00 a Fellowship					1	2 John Miller Suzanne Funk Marilyn McCallister 8:30a Make Ice Cream for Social
3 7p New Members Meet with Session	4	5 4:30p-7:00p Ice Cream Social	6 6p Membership	7 Jeannette Shannon 6:30a Early Men's Group 9a Men's Group 3p Chair Yoga	8	9Tom Cheney
10 9a Deacons	4p-6p - 1st shift Laundry Night 6p-8p-2nd shift Laundry Night	12 11a Gentle Yoga 3:30p Mission	13 6p Budget & Finance	3p Chair Yoga Plag Day	15 Matt Illingworth	16
HAPPY FATHER'S DAY	18 5:30p Building & Grounds	19 11a Gentle Yoga 6:30p Session	20	21Terry Rickers Val McKee Dave Stolper Cheryl Ritter 6:30a Early Men's Group 9a Men's Group 3p Chair Yoga	22Jordan Norvell Vince VerSteegt Articles due for the Messenger	23 Kelly Koenen
24	25 4p-6p - 1st shift Laundry Night 6p-8p-2nd shift Laundry Night	26	27 Shirley Mielke	9a-2p Days for Girls	29 Don Fisher Lauren Ferguson 5p-8p VBS (Meal included)	30 9a-12p VBS



	3	10	17	24	
Worship Leader Mickey Van Baale	Gary Parsons	Jane Repp	Linda Campbell	Joan Tyler	
Host Elder/Deacon Church Life	Linda Erickson	Helyn Wohlwend	Shirley Stevens	Dana Hashman	
Greeters Julie Brodersen	Chris & Peggy Lickiss	Janet Shields Kim or Kert Schnell	Dick & Shirley Mielke	Randy & Carol Camp	
Ushers Mickey Van Baale	Tom & Nancy Mott	Dana Hashman Mickey Van Baale	Les & Kay Gause	Dave Stolper Linda Curtis- Stolper	
Audio Shirley Stevens	Shirley Stevens	George Wilkening	Dan Ritter	Kyle Doerring	
Counters Budget & Finance	Mary Roskilly Bev Rossow	Dan Ritter Don Black	Dave Stolper Kathy Ventling	Tara Zehr Bret Doerring	
Bread Ministry Baker <i>Barb Taylor</i>	Jane Repp	Val McKee	Dixie Zegers	Sharon Black	
Bread Ministry Taker Barb Taylor	Carol Russell	Toni Peska	Dana Hashman	Nancy Mott	
Communion Set up Worship & Music	Larry Anderson				

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

641-792-2790

Return Service Requested

Lectionary —

June, 2018

June 3 - 2nd Sunday after Pentecost 1 Sam. 3:1-10 (11-20); *Ps. 139:1-6, 13-18;* 2 Cor. 4:5-12; Mark 2:23-3:6

June 10 - 3rd Sunday after Pentecost 1 Sam. 8:4-11 (12-15), 16-20 (11:14-15); Ps. 138; 2 Cor. 4:13-5:1; Mark 3:20-35

June 17 - 4th Sunday after Pentecost Father's Day

1 Sam. 15:34-16:13; *Ps. 20*; 2 Cor. 5:6-10, (11-13) 14-17; Mark 4:26-34

June 24 - 5th Sunday after Pentecost 1 Sam. 17:(1a, 4-11, 19-23) 32-49 and *Ps. 9:9-20; or 1 Sam. 17:57-18:5, 10-16* and *Ps. 133*; 2 Cor. 6:1-13; Mark 4:35-41

July, 2018

July 1 - 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time 2 Sam. 1:1, 17-27; *Ps. 130*; 2 Cor. 8:7-15; Mark 5:21-43

July 8 - 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time 2 Sam. 5:1-5, 9-10; *Ps. 48*; 2 Cor. 12:2-10; Mark 6:1-13

July 15 - 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time 2 Sam. 6:1-5, 12b-19; *Ps. 24*; Eph. 1:3-14; Mark 6:14-29

July 22 - 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time 2 Sam. 7:1-14a; *Ps. 89:20-37;* Eph. 2:11-22; Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

July 29 - 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time 2 Sam. 11:1-15; *Ps. 14*; Eph. 3:14-21; John 6:1-21