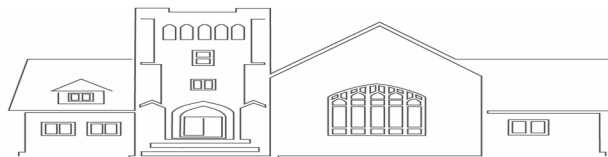


FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
NEWTON, IOWA
641-792-2790

"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



June 2019

Meghan's Musings

Worry

Some of you are familiar with the poems of Mary Oliver whose work is beloved and widely quoted by pastors. Mary Oliver died earlier this year prompting me to finally invest in *Devotions*, a collection of poems compiled from all her previous volumes. Below is one of my favorites.

I WORRIED

I worried a lot. Will the garden grow, will the rivers
flow in the right direction, will the earth turn
as it was taught, and if not, how shall
I correct it?

Was I right, was I wrong, will I be forgiven,
can I do better?

Will I ever be able to sing, even the sparrows
can do it and I am, well,
hopeless.

Is my eyesight fading or am I just imagining it,
am I going to get rheumatism,
lockjaw, dementia?

Finally I saw that worrying had come to nothing.
And gave it up. And took my old body
and went out into the morning,
and sang.

~Mary Oliver

Perhaps you are like me, like Mary Oliver says she once was: worrying a lot. Granted, there is a lot in this world and a lot in our lives worthy of worrying about. But there's also a lot we worry about that does not require our worrying... and we do anyway. I take heart in Oliver's final stanza: "Finally I saw that worrying had come to nothing. /And gave it up." I pray that each of us might learn to give up worrying that comes to nothing. Amen.

Summer Hours



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

Karen Quinn, Christian Nurture Chair

We are going back to the week-long, morning sessions for Vacation Bible School this year. VBS will be held June 17-21, 9 am to 11:30 am, with daily opening at First Lutheran. Each day will end there also. Churches involved are First Presbyterian, United Presbyterian and First Lutheran. The Salvation Army may also join.

This year's them is "Roar! Life is Wild - God is good." Sounds like it will be very exciting. Members of our church that will be helping this year are Karen Quinn as our church representative, Christian Nurture Chair; Jane Repp who will be doing the food at our church daily; Tara Zehr teaching the pre-school Class; Linda Gehling will be teaching the main theme; and Steve Gehling will be the emperor one day.

At **Roar VBS**, kids explore God's goodness and celebrate a ferocious faith that powers them through this wild life.

Kids learn God is good ...

Day 1: When life is unfair

Day 2: When life is scary

Day 3: When life changes

Day 4: When life is sad

Day 5: When life is good

Registration forms are located in the narthex, on the round table by the bell. It is also acceptable to wait and register on the first day. Registering ahead of time allows those helping with teaching and food to have an approximate number to plan for.



The program will be on Sunday, June 23 at First Lutheran Church during their worship hour. Invite your children, grand-children, neighbors children and children of friends to attend.



Clare L. "Bud" Peska, 83, of Sterling, Illinois, died Saturday, May 25, 2019 at his home. Funeral services were held Saturday June 1st, 2019 at Bethel Reformed Church, Sterling, Cremation will take place after the funeral, and burial at a later date.

Survivors include, his wife, Gloria; three daughters, Cindy (Richard) Ankeney of Galesburg, Colleen (Scott) McCarter of Sterling, and Melissa (Tim) Miller of Sterling; two sons, Kevin (Toni) Peska of Newton, IA , and Michael (Betsy) Peska of Carol Stream; two brothers, Jim (Rosanne) Peska of Fulton and Charles (Yvette) Easter of Arizona; Many brother and sister-in-laws, nieces and nephews, and a special nephew, John Segobiano; 12 grandchildren, Justin Ankeney, Sarah (Jeff) Myer, Tara (Erick) Zehr, Rachel (Bryce) Skaggs, Taylor (Michael) McGonegle, Melinda (Tim) Morgan, Heather McCarter, Erin (Ben) Scarbalis, Jamie (Scott) Gladstone, Jessica Sheppard, JD (Megan) Sheppard, and Tegan Miller; 10 great grandchildren with one more due in September. He was preceded in death by his parents; Step-father, Walter Easter; three sisters, Wilma Beukema, Christine Segobiano, and Judy Peska; one son-in-law, John E. Sheppard; and one great granddaughter Blaiksley Sheppard at birth.

Arlene Van Baale, 94, of Newton died on Monday, May 27, 2019, at Nelson Manor. The family greeted friends from 12-1 p.m., Friday, May 31, 2019, at the Wallace Family Funeral Home and Crematory. Immediately following the visitation a graveside service was held at Newton Union Cemetery.

Those left to honor Arlene's memory are her children, Wade (Mickey) Van Baale, Kurt (Myra) Van Baale, Ray (Shari) Van Baale, and Janet (Rick) Graber , all of Newton; eight grandchildren, Derik (Sarah) Van Baale of Shelby, Michigan, Jerry (Tammy) Van Baale of Grinnell, Machelle (Jan) Vos of Newton, Rick (Leslie) Jansen of Bennington, Nebraska, Chad (Tammie) Jansen of West Des Moines, Travis Jansen of West Des Moines, Rachael (Mark) Dickneite of Bloomington, Illinois, and Joanna (Dustin) Downing of Grain Valley, Missouri; 18 great-grandchildren; six great-great-grandchildren; close family friend, Val Imler; and many nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Lester on March 5, 1999; sisters, Viola (Fred) Van Baale and Katherine (Henry) Snetslaar; nephew, Morris Van Baale; and great-nephew, T.J. Spain.

Darlene Rederus Johnson, age 89, passed away on May 22, 2019, in Ft Pierce, FL from complications due to dementia. A celebration of life will be held at the Wallace Funeral Home in Newton, IA where the family will greet friends from 11 AM to 1 PM on August 7, 2019. A light lunch will be served. A private committal service will take place at a later time.

She is survived and lovingly remembered by her three children, Rod (Mari) Rederus, Robin Wilson, and Tracie (Kurt) Hauser; her grandchildren, Luke (Taylor) Rederus, Jenna Rederus (Justin Esdohr), Weston (Katrina) Wilson, Christopher Wilson, Julia (Peter) Gackenbach, Hans Hauser, and Hailie Hauser; and six great grandchildren. Darlene was preceded in death by her second husband Max Johnson.

(Continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 3)

Mark E. Sigurdson passed away on Thursday morning, May 30, 2019, at his home where he resided in Grinnell, IA with his daughter and son-in-law. A time of remembrance and celebration of life was held on Wednesday, June 5, 2019, at the American Legion in Newton, IA from 4 PM – 8 PM.

Mark is survived by his daughter and son-in-law Megan and Doug DeJong of Grinnell; his grandchildren: Darynne, Jeffrey (Bailey) and Abby; his mother Clarice Sigurdson of Newton; a sister Julie (Gene) Suhr of Rensselaer, Indiana; two nieces; and his many good neighbors and friends. He was preceded in death by his father Morris. "Mark will always be remembered for his zest of life and his outgoing personality".



We also offer our sympathy to Val McKee for the recent death of her sister, Audre. Audre died on May 16, 2019.



- † **Everyone working on the Ice Cream Social.**
- † **Those who will be volunteering in some capacity at Vacation Bible School.**
- † **Many who have been affected by the death of a loved one.**
- † **Those who have been killed and/or had a loved one killed by the continued shootings in our nation.**
- † **Those who have lost their loved ones and/or property through the acts of Mother Nature throughout the United States.**
- † **Anyone travelling as our summer vacation season begins.**
- † **Our school administrators, teachers, staff members and children as they enjoy the summer months to refresh themselves and recharge their batteries.**



Summer Adult Sunday Discussions -- Each Sunday during the summer, which began June 2, we will again take the opportunity to discuss topics from current affairs, science and faith, spirituality, and other aspects of what it means to be human. The format is to listen together to a podcast on a topic of interest and use that as a framework for discussion. Starting time is 8:45 AM so there is ample time before worship at 10. Give it a try -- all are welcome!

Per Capita

Jen Norvell, Budget & Finance

If you have paid your requested per capita, thank you so much. If you haven't had a chance yet — it's not too late! Again, the suggested amount is \$45.00. If you can't pay the full amount, pay what you can. If you can pay more, we appreciate your generosity.

ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Tuesday, June 11, 2019 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!!

SEE YOU JUNE 11, 2019

Church Life

Kay Parsons, Chair

Our next event will be Worship at Woodland on July 14. We will not be having one in June because of the Ice Cream Social on June 11, 2019.

July 14, 2019	Worship at Woodland, potluck to follow with Worship and Music Committee
August 25, 2019	Downtown churches Ecumenical Rally Day service
September 22, 2019	Progressive Dinner
October 20, 2019	Movie Night
November 24, 2019	Thanksgiving Feast and Communion, with Worship and Music Committee
December 15, 2019	Christmas caroling followed by chili supper



Music for Summer Worship -- Music is always an important part of worship at First Presbyterian Church -- it's one of the ways we experience our relationship with God. Consider what musical gifts you can offer this summer. And if you know of someone who should be invited to offer music, please let Larry Anderson know (641-521-1337). Thank you!

The following business was taken care at our May meeting:

- ◆ Minutes from our April meeting were approved.
- ◆ Reports on our April visits were given.
- ◆ Rev. Meghan Davis gave her report on visits and contacts she has had during the month.
- ◆ The deacon's fund balance stood at \$359.22 at the end of April.
- ◆ Learned that Shirley Stevens sent out 20 cards during the month of April.
- ◆ Was told that the cross arm on the new Easter lily cross will be altered to be longer and hold more lilies.
- ◆ Was given a recap on the lily delivery process

Diane Moles, Moderator



Worship and Music

Jeanette Shannon, Chair

The following items were discussed at our May meeting:

- * **Lenten Season:** A big thank you is extended to all who contributed to Lenten breakfasts. Food and devotions were both outstanding.
- * **Services during Holy Week:** These services went very well. There is a plan to extend the vertical row on the lily cross. There was also discussion as to whether all lights in the sanctuary should be extinguished except for the cross at the end of Maundy Thursday service. There is a concern as to whether there would be enough light for the congregation to exit safely.
- * **Graduation Sunday:** We have no one in the church graduating this year, so no breakfast or program will be held and we will not be having communion on Sunday, May 26, 2019.
- * **Summer Music:** There were several possibilities brought up for summer music. These will be relayed to Larry Anderson. All are welcome to participate or suggest someone.
- * **Worship at Woodland:** July 14 will be the service at the park. There will be a hymn sing. This committee needs to make sure the hymnals, offering baskets, and keyboard get there.
- * **There are further organ issues.** A part has been ordered and has arrived. Quimby Organ Company will be fixing the organ.



MEMBERSHIP



MOMENT

The Newton High School Girls Soccer game was a treat on Thursday, May 16. Allie Norvell was instrumental in a 2-1 victory over Pella Christian High School. Eleven of First Presbyterian members were there to cheer the team on to victory.

Plans are being made for the 4th of July Parade entry. The theme is Peace, Love and Freedom. Mark your calendar to be a part of the fun – walking or riding!

The Membership Bulletin Board is located at the base of the stairs into fellowship hall. Many delightful pictures and articles about our church family! TAKE A LOOK!

Updating the pictorial Church Directory is in the early stages. We'll keep you posted.

Thank you to all the volunteers who help with the Membership Committee tasks – Bread Ministry, Greeters, Transportation and PEW (Pray, Eat, Work) when needed – to name a few.

Respectfully submitted, Marilyn McCallister, Session Rep. & Chair

Neighbors Helping Neighbors and Mission Coalition

Linda Curtis-Stolper, Representative

Thank you to those of you who donated gently used items. You will be helping make a difference in the lives of others in our community! Donations were collected up until Monday, June 3 at both our church and First Lutheran Church.

The clothing giveaway was held Saturday, June 8, at the First Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall, from 10 am to 1 pm.



Donations for the
Homeless

Our church was scheduled to deliver meals on the week-ends in June for Meals on Wheels. Again, thank you to those who were willing to volunteer to cover part of this time. We are ensured that homebound people in town will receive week-end meals during June.



Seeking volunteers to help with basic cooking classes -- Starting in mid-July, weekly for 6 weeks, we plan to partner with Salvation Army in offering basic cooking instruction to participants in the food pantry and bread line ministries at Salvation Army. The Mission Committee is looking for people with basic cooking skills and good people skills who are willing to help empower recipients of food assistance to have more control over their lives by learning to better use the food items they are provided. We plan to use 3 instructor-volunteers per weekly session; if you are interested in volunteering for several session or maybe for just one, please contact Larry Anderson for more information (641-521-1337).

Mission Committee

Larry Anderson, Chair

Ice Cream Social

How many people does it take to put on First Presbyterian's Ice Cream Social? Yes, the answer is Everyone!!

Our Ice Cream Social will be held on Tuesday June 11 from 4:30-7:00. Here's how you can help:

*Thursday June 6 at 9am - Wash and organize ice cream buckets. Set up kitchen for making ice cream. Do you have an electric freezer that we can use? Let Barb Taylor know.

*Friday June 7 at 9am - Make Ice Cream. Lunch will be provided.

*Saturday June 8: Stir the Ice Cream. Did you know that the ice cream has to be stirred to help with the texture of the product?

*Sunday June 9: Move furniture in Fellowship Hall to set up for Ice Cream Social. Set up tables and supplies.

*Monday June 10: Cooking/Food prep day. Please say yes if you are called to help with food prep. The kitchen will be in use from 8:30am-5:00 pm. We will need lots of help. If you enjoy cooking, and want to help in the kitchen, please let Linda Anderson know.

*Tuesday June 11: The Big Day!! Please call Linda Anderson and let her know what shift you would like to work on the day. Do you want to scoop ice cream, serve food, wait tables, clean up, work in the kitchen, helping people with take out orders? We can accommodate you.

So, as you can see it takes everyone. Oh, and also people to come and eat. Invite your neighbors and friends. The money raised funds our mission projects; Ramp building, Days for Girls, Neighbors Helping Neighbors and others.

Linda Anderson

Ramp Building Two ramps in eight days!! Thanks to George Wilkening, Steve Gehling and Larry Anderson for being our ramp building team. Funds from last year's Ice Cream Social Fundraiser were used to buy the lumber and materials to build ramps in May of 2019 for people who needed them in Newton. Thanks to First Presbyterian Church for supporting the ramp building team. Please consider helping on the next ramp build if you are willing and able.

Linda Anderson

The synod Presbyterian Women (we all are PW whether we have a group or not) will be convening in Ames on June 20-23. The theme is "Out of the Believer's heart shall flow streams of living water." John 7:38..Some of the workshops: Book review - Waking up White and Finding Myself in the Story of Race. A simulation experience on domestic violence. Native American Stories: Hear stories of the women in the Dakota Presbytery. Flint, the Poisoning of an American City. And our Neighbors helping Neighbors will be recognized with a display!! See Barb Taylor if you would like to go, she has the application.

The next packaging event for the Jasper County Take Away Hunger program will be June 29. Again we would like a group of First Presbyterian there. It will be at St. Lukes church at 9-noon. Cost is \$30 for adults. First Pres will cover the cost of any youth that want to work. Let John Taylor know if you are interested so he can get the team on the books. It takes 10 to make a team.

2019 BIRTHDAYS & EVENTS

Sun **Mon** **Tue** **Wed** **Thur** **Fri** **Sat**

						1
2 <i>John Miller Suzanne Funk Marilyn McCallister</i>	3 4:45p Personnel 6p Book Club at Peanut Pub	4 11a Gentle Yoga	5	6 6:30a Early Men's Group 9a Prep for Ice Cream Social 3p Chair Yoga	7 <i>Jeanette Shannon</i> 9a Make Ice Cream	8 Stir Ice Cream
9 <i>Tom Cheney</i> 9a Deacons Set up Fellowship Hall for Social	10 Food Prep for Social 3:30p Mission	11 4:30p - 7p 	12 2:30p Membership	13 9a Men's Group 3p Chair Yoga	14	15 <i>Matt Illingworth</i>
16 	17 9a Vacation Bible School	18 9a VBS 11a Gentle Yoga 6:30p Session	19 9a VBS	20 6:30a Early Men's Group 9a Men's Group 9a VBS	21 <i>Terry Rickers Val McKee Dave Stolper Cheryl Ritter</i> 9a VBS Synod PW in Ames	22 <i>Jordan Norvell</i> Synod PW in Ames
23 VBS Program at First Lutheran Synod PW in Ames <hr/> 30	24 6p Pub Theology	25 11a Gentle Yoga	26	27 <i>Shirley Mielke</i> 9a-2p Days for Girls 3p Chair Yoga 6p-9p Evening Days for Girls	28	29 <i>Don Fisher Lauren Ferguson</i> 9a-noon - Take Away Hunger at St. Luke

Summer Worship Schedule	
8:45a Adult Discussions	10:00a Worship
9:30a Fellowship	11:00a Fellowship

SCHEDULE
OF



VOLUNTEERS

June	2	9	16	23	30
Worship Leader <i>Mickey Van Baale</i>	Tom Mott	Linda Kirchhoff	Bev Rossow	VBS Program and Worship at	Jane Repp
Host Elder/Deacon <i>Church Life</i>	Linda Erickson	Jen Norvell	Shirley Stevens	First Lutheran Church	Larry Anderson
Greeters <i>Julie Brodersen</i>	Chris & Peggy Lickiss	Janet Shields Rachel Skaggs or Taylor McGonegle	Cole Doerring & Carroll Brodersen		Randy & Carol Camp
Ushers <i>Mickey Van Baale</i>	Dave Stolper Linda Curtis- Stolper	Les & Kay Gause	Dana Hashman Mickey Van Baale		Kathy Ventling Jeanette Shannon
Audio <i>Shirley Stevens</i>	Dan Ritter	Shirley Stevens	Kyle Doerring		
Counters <i>Budget & Finance</i>	Terry Rickers Tom Weeks	Don Black Bev Rossow	Dave Stolper Kathy Ventling		Jonnie Carpenter Tom Weeks
Bread Ministry Baker <i>Barb Taylor</i>	Val McKee	Jane Repp	Dixie Zegers		Diane Moles
Bread Ministry Taker <i>Barb Taylor</i>	Val McKee	Toni Peska	Dana Hashman		
Communion Set up <i>Worship & Music</i>	George Wilkening Jeanette Shannon				

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

641-792-2790

Return Service Requested

Lectionary —

June, 2019

June 2 - 7th Sunday of Easter

Acts 16:16-34; *Ps.* 97;
Rev. 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21;
John 17: 20-26

June 9 - Day of Pentecost

Acts 2:1-21 or Gen. 11:1-9;
Ps. 104:24-34, 35b; Rom. 8:14-17;
John 14:8-17 (25-27)

June 16 - Trinity Sunday - Father's Day

Prov. 8:1-4, 22-31; *Ps.* 8
Rom. 5:1-5; John 16:12-15

June 23 - 2nd Sunday after Pentecost

1 Kings 19:1-4 (5-7) 8-15a; *Ps.* 42 and 43;
Gal. 3:23-29; Luke 8:26-39

June 30 - 3rd Sunday after Pentecost

2 Kings 2:1-2, 6-14; *Ps.* 77:1-2. 11-20;
Gal. 5:1, 13-25; Luke 9:51-62

July, 2019

July 7 - 4th Sunday after Pentecost

2 Kings 5:1-14; *Ps.* 30; Gal. 6:(1-6) 7-16;
Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

July 14 - 5th Sunday after Pentecost

Amos 7:7-17; *Ps.* 82; Col. 1:1-14;
Luke 10:25-37

July 21 - 6th Sunday after Pentecost

Amos 8:1-12; *Ps.* 52; Col. 1:15-28;
Luke 10:38-42

July 28 - 7th Sunday after Pentecost

Hosea 1:2-10; *Ps.* 85; Col. 2:6-15 (16-19);
Luke 11:1-13