

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



MARCH, 2014

Message from Pastor Linda

Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on March 5. Lent is a time for prayer, fasting, and self-examination as we prepare to celebrate the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ on Easter. It is a period of 40 days, like the flood of Genesis, Moses' sojourn at Mount Sinai, Elijah's journey to Mount Horeb, Jonah's call to Ninevah to repent and Jesus' time of testing in the wilderness. (The Sundays in Lent are not counted in this reckoning of the time between Ash Wednesday and Easter, as every Lord's Day is a celebration of the resurrection of Jesus Christ.)

Lent gives us an opportunity to devote particular time and thought to what it means to say that in baptism, we are united with Jesus in his life, death, and resurrection. To appropriate the new life that is beyond the power of death means we must die with Christ who was raised for us. To live for Christ, we must die with him. New life requires a daily surrendering of the old life, letting go of the present order, so that we may embrace the new humanity. "I die every day!" asserts Paul (1 Corinthians 15:31). Resurrection necessitates death as a preceding act. The church's peculiar Lenten claim is that in dying we live, that all who are baptized into Christ are baptized into his death. To be raised with Christ means one must also die with Christ. In order to embrace the resurrection, we must experience the passion of Jesus. The way of the cross, the way to Easter, is through death of the "old self". In dying, we live.

Pick up a Lenten calendar and a fish bank (both are available in the narthex) and use them as part of your Lenten discipline. The calendar was written with our younger members in mind, but activities can be adapted for any age; we're all children of our Father God in heaven! If a particular activity doesn't fit your circumstances, come up with an alternative that fits better. The point is that we can all benefit from giving of our finances, of our material possessions, and of ourselves during this time of fasting, of making sacrifices that lead us to think about the sacrifice Jesus gave on our behalf. Sharing in the activities as a congregation will allow us to support each other during this journey of reflection and deepening of faith while leading us to give of ourselves in concrete ways that will benefit others.





In Our Prayers

- + Roger and Harriett Harmelink. Roger had to go back to Mayo Clinic and thought he might have to undergo some further surgery. Luckily no surgery was required, so prayers are needed for his continued healing.
- + Alex Burrows, granddaughter of John and Barb Taylor, as she seeks help in dealing with personal issues.
- + Kimberly Schnell and Tom Mott as they go to El Salvador to teach the children or fit residents with eyeglasses.
- + Peace around the world for all people.

Ice Cream Social

Barb Taylor, Chairperson

The ice cream social is scheduled for June 3. Get it on your calendar and plan to come to help out the work week group. The youth going will be the ice cream makers this year, but they need some help. We are short on ice cream machines. We prefer the electric kind vs the hand cranked. If you have an ice cream maker that we could use on May 31, please let the church office know. The more we have, the faster we get done. Also needed are bags of ice cubes, starting the first of May. We have plenty of freezer space, so if you would be willing to bag up some ice from your ice maker, we would appreciate it. And be looking through your cakes and pies recipes, so you will be ready to sign up to donate when it comes time to sign up for them.

The Sundays at 4 committee has two events planned for the month of March



Arias in Newton returns for Second Year



The Third Annual *Arias in Newton* concert will be held on **Sunday, March 9 at 4:00pm**. The concert is part of the programming for the Newton Chapter of Des Moines Metro Opera's Guild Chapters. The concert will consist of arias and ensemble pieces performed by the OPERA Iowa Educational Touring Troupe, a five-singer troupe of young professional artists, selected from more than one thousand national auditions, that acts as the educational arm of Des Moines Metro Opera. The troupe is currently in the middle of a ten-week tour around the state and parts of Missouri performing in schools and community concert

venues. *Arias in Newton* is part of their performance schedule and they will perform selections from opera and musical theater. Their program includes selections from Mozart, Donizetti and other luminaries of the operatic repertory. They will sing highlights from some of opera's most popular pieces like *The Magic Flute* and *Carmen* as well as highlights from the Broadway stage. General tickets are \$15, \$10 for Guild members and \$5 for students. Proceeds go to support the Newton Guild.

Mark your calendars for **Sunday, March 16, at 4:00 P.M.** when we will welcome back to our sanctuary soprano Randye Jones, with our own Marlys Grimm on piano. They will present a program entitled "Love's Sweet Refrain" with works from Vivaldi and Verdi to Gershwin and Randye's signature spirituals. Randye is a doctoral candidate at the University of Iowa who lives and works in Grinnell. You won't want to miss this thrilling recital! Invite your friends! A reception will follow in fellowship hall.



Presbytery Meeting Report

By Linda Anderson

The 494th stated meeting of The Des Moines Presbytery was held at Ankeny Presbyterian Church on Saturday, February 8.

Here are the highlights from that meeting:

The Compassion, Peace and Justice Task Force (CPJ) has a new moderator and a new meeting time. The new moderator is Rev. Michelle Parsons. The next meeting time will be Monday, March 10 at 4:30 pm. They are interested in additional members who have a desire to help promote social ministries in the Presbytery of Des Moines.

The Budget and Finance committee approved the donation of 40% ownership of the La Casa Pastoral property in Berlin, El Salvador to the Presbytery of Des Moines from the Rev. Robert Cook. All costs in the transfer of ownership will be covered by Companeros.

The Congregational Health Task Force is organized, working, and exploring ways to support the health of our 57 congregations. They informed us of a speaker who will be at the Global Pavilion in Pella, IA. Peter Steinke is being brought to Pella through the Vermeer Charitable Foundation on Mar. 31 and April 1. The theme is "When God does a new thing, what do you do with the old things?" Registration is \$25. Visit: www.vermeer.com for more information.

Leadership Council planned small group conversations which happened right after announcements after lunch. The group was divided into 4 groups alphabetically and a series of questions were asked on the topic "What Do We Want the Presbytery to Be"? Some of the discussion in our group centered on trying to use technology to hold meetings, instead of leaving out so many who can't attend due to distance, etc. Expect more to come on these small group break-out discussions with topics of: How Do We Do Budget?; General Assembly Report; and Where Two or Three Are Gathered.

(Continued on page 6)

Worship & Music Committee

Linda Kirchhoff, Chairperson

The questionnaire/ surveys that congregation members filled out a while ago were reviewed, results were compiled and the information was dispensed to Session members, Pastor Linda, Jenny Verwers, and Mary Jane Tripp, according to the information given.

Our thanks to Mary Jane Tripp for lining up congregation members to make breakfast and do devotions for the Lenten breakfasts. See page 5 for the complete listing.

Our committee is looking into possibly providing gluten free communion wafers. The cost was investigated but a decision hasn't been made as yet on the need to provide these.

We have instructed Jenny, our office manager, to order new candles for our pew candle holders used during the Christmas Eve service. Two boxes containing 12 candles each have been ordered, as there are 30 candle holders, but only 10 candles that can be reused.

The committee is asking that the building of a permanent, attractive, and useful ramp for the sanctuary be again considered by Session.

Budget and Finance Corner

Terry Rickers, Chairperson

Pledges for the month of January were \$29,410. This was \$3,814 higher than budget. Other regular giving was \$1,015, which was \$279 higher than budgeted. The church's per capita payment was remitted to Presbytery. Total expenses were \$377 under budget.

The Foundation received \$10,000 from the Swanger memorial. The Muñozes fund received donations and paid expenses related to the February trip. The funds were disbursed for fertilizer, scholarships, feed bags, healthcare and school supplies. The Work Week fund received contributions of \$631 for the pork loin luncheon fundraiser.



Sermon Schedule for March, 2014

March 2 - Matthew 17:1-9 This Is My Son

March 9 - Matthew 4:1-11, Rom. 5:12-19
In the Beginning

March 16 - John 3:1-17, Psalm 121
Answering the Call

March 23 - John 4:5-42, Rom. 5:1-11
What Do You Want?

March 30 - John 9:1-41, Eph. 5:8-14 George Wilkening will be filling the pulpit.

Church Life Activities

Randy Camp, Chair

Potato Bar on March 16th

The annual Potato Bar will be held on Sunday, March 16, 2014, immediately after worship in Fellowship Hall. Come and have a big baked potato and load it up with your favorite toppings: chili, cheese, butter, broccoli, green onions, tomatoes, sour cream, and onions. Dessert bars and beverages will also be served and a free-will offering will be taken. The funds raised are used by the Church Life Committee for other events during the year.

Next event: Easter Breakfast on April 20th

Your Church Life Committee:
Dan Ritter, Randy Camp, Nancy Mott, Kay Parsons, Janie Moles, and Diane Moles

The session has asked the Membership Committee to establish guidelines as to what information is appropriate to have on our website and if some material should be available only by using a password available to members. The committee will be meeting with Marlys Grimm to try to determine these guidelines.

We are going to try to start updating the church directory this month.

Clarice Sigurdson has been serving as our volunteer caller for over a year and has requested that someone else take over her duties. Joan Rusk has agreed to serve in that capacity with Clarice serving as back up. We very much appreciate Clarice's help over the last year and Joan's willingness to take over. Their job is to call church volunteers each week to remind them of their assignments that week.

We would like to remind everyone that there is a Transportation Ministry in place whose job it is to transport people to and from church who otherwise might not be able to attend. If a ride is needed please call Bret Doerring (792-2208) or Gary Parsons (792-6753) preferably by Friday or Saturday before the Sunday the ride is needed.

Gary Parsons, chair

MEMBERSHIP



MOMENT



Spring Ahead

Daylight Savings Time begins on Sunday, March 9 at 2:00 a.m. Be sure to set your clock ahead an hour before going to bed

on Saturday night, March 8. Unfortunately, when we spring ahead, we lose an hour of sleep.

Highlights from Session

Dave Boyd, Clerk of Session

- Approved moving August 10 worship to Woodland park for our annual Worship In The Park and picnic
- Heard a report from the recent Presbytery meeting where an Overture to replace para W-4.900 of the Book of Order was passed and sent on to General Assembly
- Elected Cheryl Ritter and Dave Boyd to be Treasurer and Clerk of Session respectively for terms of 1 year

LENTEN BREAKFAST/DEVOTIONS

	<u>MARCH 5</u>
Breakfast:	Jane & Carl Repp
Devotion	Linda Curtis-Stolper
	<u>MARCH 12</u>
Breakfast	Linda Anderson
Devotion	Larry Anderson
	<u>MARCH 19</u>
Breakfast	Sharon Black
Devotion	Don Black
	<u>MARCH 26</u>
Breakfast	Kay & Gary Parsons
Devotion	George Wilkening
	<u>APRIL 2</u>
Breakfast	Shari & Larry DeCook
Devotion	Kim DeGraff
	<u>APRIL 9</u>
Breakfast	Nancy Mott
Devotion	Mickey Van Baale
	<u>APRIL 16</u>
Breakfast	Linda & Warren Erickson
Devotion	Terry Rickers

A big "thank you" to Mary Jane Tripp for once again making the calls and putting together our cooks and the people for doing devotions each week. We appreciate your time and organization.

If you have not attended in the past, try it this year. We start breakfast at 6:45 a.m. with devotions following. We are finished by 7:45 to 7:50 a.m. so you can get to work on time, if that is necessary.



**Breakfast
and Devotion**

Christian Nurture

Virginia Bennett, Chair

1) Curricular Plans for Kids Action Hour. The life of Jesus will be studied during Lent.

2) WOW BEGINS: WOW began on February 9 and has been up and running for 3 weeks. The remaining dates are March 5, 12, and 19. Times are 4:30 to 6:00 PM, with the group dinner from 5:30 to 6:00 PM. We will partner with First Lutheran once again. All activities will take place at the Lutheran Church, except dinner will be served at our church on March 5, 12, and 19.

3) Graduation Breakfast: Sincere thanks to the Church Life Committee for volunteering to prepare and serve the breakfast. Christian Nurture will manage all other aspects of the breakfast, including invitations, decorations, program, and booklets, etc.

4) Facilities: We discussed the need for more heat on the second floor during Kids Action Hour. The rooms are quite cold. We also talked about the Tower Room and how it might be renovated and used by the current middle school and high school students.

Wednesday Night Free Meals

We are up for another community meal March 26. Menu is chicken and noodles, mashed potatoes, carrots and fruit crisp. We will need volunteers to help cook and serve. The April meal will be the 23rd with a menu of Poor Man's Lobster (salty pollock), baked potato, broccoli and chocolate chip bars. We will need helpers and some cookie bakers for this one. The location of the April meal will be moved, as there is a conflict at the United Methodist Church. Watch the bulletin and church happenings for the location. April 30 is a 5th Wednesday, so there will be an all church meal again. With all churches helping, it is easy to get too many volunteers, but we do need to participate in some way.

Barb Taylor, Coordinator from First Presbyterian

Presbytery Meeting Report

(Continued from page 3)

The Bills and Overtures Task Group report included 2 overtures, one of which passed and one which didn't. The Marriage Equality Proposed Amendment, On Amending W-4.9000, Marriage passed 48 to 26. This is an overture to the 221st General Assembly, which will be held in Detroit in June. I feel that this is an important enough issue to include the wording here.

Amend W-4.9000 by striking the current text and replacing it with the following:

"Marriage is a gift God has given to all humankind for the well-being of the entire human family. Marriage involves a unique commitment between two people to love and support each other for the rest of their lives. The sacrificial love that unites the couple sustains them as faithful and responsible members of the church and the wider community.

In civil law, marriage is a contract that recognizes the rights and obligations of the married couple in society. In the Reformed tradition, marriage is also a covenant in which God has an active part, and which the community of faith publicly witnesses and acknowledges.

If they meet the requirements of the civil jurisdiction in which they intend to marry, a couple may request that a service of Christian marriage be conducted by a teaching elder in the Presbyterian Church (USA), who is authorized, though not required, to act as an agent of the civil jurisdiction in recording the marriage contract. A couple requesting a service of Christian marriage shall receive instruction from the teaching elder, who shall agree to the couple's request only if, in the judgment of the teaching elder, the couple demonstrates sufficient understanding of the nature of the marriage covenant and commitment to living their lives together according to its values. In making this decision, the teaching elder may seek the counsel of the session, which has authority to permit or deny the use of church property for a marriage service.

The marriage service shall be conducted in a manner appropriate to this covenant and to the forms of Reformed worship, under the direction of the teaching elder and the supervision of the session (W-1.4004-4006). In a service of marriage, the couple marry each other by exchanging mutual promises. The teaching elder witnesses the couple's promises and pronounces God's blessing upon their union. The community of faith pledges to support the couple in upholding their promises; prayers may be offered for the couple, for the communities which support them, and for all who seek to live in faithfulness.

A service of worship recognizing a civil marriage and confirming it in the community of faith may be appropriate when requested by the couple. The service will be similar to the marriage service except that the statements made shall reflect the fact that the couple are already married to one another according to the laws of the civil jurisdiction."

Presbyterian Women of the Presbytery announced that The Spring Connection is set for Sat. April 5 and will most likely be at St. Paul Presbyterian in Johnston.

The next Presbytery meeting is Tuesday, May 20 in Lucas and will be held in the Community Center.

Respectfully submitted by Linda Anderson, commissioner



The
Presbytery of Des Moines

Partnering with congregations & clergy to minister in a changing world.

Mission Committee

By Linda Erickson, Chair

Work Week 2014

Work Week for 2014 will be in Winnebago, Nebraska, from July 5-12. Winnebago is a small community on the Indian reservation of the Ho-Chunk tribe and is located about 20 miles south of Sioux City, IA. We will be hosted by a church of the Reformed Church in America, which has had a presence there for over 100 years.

Here is part of an email message from Rev. Lowell TenClay, pastor of the church:

We believe God gives each of us gifts and resources specifically for other people. If we don't have opportunity to use those resources, we fail to accomplish what we have been called to do. In Winnebago, we provide opportunity. That is the gift God has given us to share. We have projects available from unskilled painting and yard clean-up to access ramps, home cleaning, repair and renovation, floor replacement, cabinet varnishing, drywall repair, applying siding, fence building, and more. We operate on a limited budget, so support for those projects that require materials comes from two areas. The mission teams provide some materials, and the tribe provides materials where we can justify it from their perspective. We have an excellent relationship with housing, emergency housing, and the tribal council, and have been able to work well with them in the past. Some people are not gifted in physical work, but work well with children. VBS-like craft programs and activities are appreciated though we never know how many children will appear. We have also done a number of basketball tournaments to try to reach out to teens and young adults. Soccer and softball are becoming more interesting to our people as well. We will do our best to match your gifts to an opportunity.

In a phone conversation he further stated that there are over 100 houses in the area that are currently uninhabitable, waiting for renovation so that existing families can use them. It sounds as if we will have work to do!

We hope to learn about the history of the Ho-Chunk tribe as a way to understand their present situation and their aspirations for the future.

A group from Brooklyn Presbyterian Church will be going with us. Anna Hilpiper, Dana Hashman's daughter, is heading this up. Their church wants to start the tradition of going on Work Week trips, so they will be learning the ins and outs of putting a trip together. The Brooklyn group will be holding a barbeque rib dinner as a fund raiser to help with expenses.

Our initial fund raiser was a pork loin lunch after church on January 12. We served 57 people and raised \$600. Thank you to those who helped us out. Our other two fundraisers will be the Spring Luncheon and Style show in conjunction with Mode Huis. This event will be on **Friday, April 4**. The annual ice cream social will be **Tuesday, June 3**. We hope you will support us in these fundraisers. Additional ones may be added, if needed.

The Steering Committee -- Larry & Linda Anderson, Julie Fisher, Dana Hashman, Mickey Van Baale and George Wilkening



Report on 2014 Delegation to Muñoces, El Salvador

The delegation representing First Presbyterian Church left on a 5:30 AM flight on January 21, arriving at the San Salvador airport about 12:20 PM. Larry Anderson and Isaac Mathison-Bowie had made this trip before, but for Brian Anderson and Anders Hopkins it was a new experience. We were all very hungry after having nothing to eat for at least 8 hours, so we bought fast food chicken at the airport. We left the fresh veggies alone, as that's one of the first rules of eating in El Salvador. We were all enjoying the warmth of the Salvadoran sunshine, having left sub-zero weather behind.

The early arrival allowed us to make the 2 ½ hour trip to Berlin and settle in early to La Casa Pastoral. Katherine Pater, the Compañeros mission coworker in Berlin, had met us at the airport, and we met Blanca and Cecilia, members of the pastoral team, at La Casa.

The pastoral team insists, rightly, that delegations with first-timers spend time visiting sites that commemorate the horrors of the civil war that raged in the country from the late 1970s to 1992. It is beyond dispute, in our view, that the USA contributed to those horrors by providing funding and training for military operations that committed atrocities against innocent people. This is not a political stance, but rather a humanitarian one. It is sobering to visit El Mozote and hear the story of the systematic torture and murder of hundreds of men, women, and children. The list of names at the memorial begins with Concepcion Sanchez -- a three day old baby girl. One woman miraculously escaped to tell the story of this massacre, but there were many, many others equally horrific during the war.

The next three days we traveled to Muñoces and back, bouncing in the back of the pickup as we made the 50 minute trip of about 6 miles. We were greeted warmly by the community and had our initial meeting with the Directiva, the eleven members of the community elected to oversee community projects in partnership with the pastoral team and with us. That was a joyful meeting, but also one in which we heard first-hand of the ongoing difficulties of making a living in subsistence farming. These friends of ours work extremely hard, but due to systemic inequities in the Salvadoran economy in which the deck is stacked against them, they cannot get ahead.

Despite this, as we proceeded to make our visits to each home in the community, we were greeted by smiling faces indicating warm acceptance. We inquired about each family's health, how the water tanks are working, how the children are doing in school, and so on. They expressed much appreciation to our church for providing the tanks, the high school scholarships, money for medical needs, and for the small gifts we bring each time we visit – this time, bags containing basic food necessities. And they asked about people from our church they've come to care about and who didn't make the trip this year.

We interrupted our visits each of the first two days to have some fun with the kids. We had invited them to bring something they could play like a percussion instrument, and they brought plastic containers, cans, sticks, and a whole array of "drums." We then had them imitate us in basic rhythms in a drum circle. Some of the kids caught on easily, while others seemed to have trouble with the whole concept. Nonetheless, there were recognizable rhythm patterns emerging, and everyone had a good time.

Each evening we sat down with Katherine, and sometimes with Blanca and Cecilia, and reflected on the day. One evening Katherine helped us understand the importance of liberation theology as the basis for the work in the communities – that it's through solidarity with the poor that we experience and build the Kingdom of God. These conversations were invaluable in integrating our experiences and increasing our understanding of why we were there.

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On our third day in Muñoces we met again with the Directiva and had a signing ceremony for the covenant relationship among our church, their community, the pastoral team, and Compañeros, which was extended for another three years. We then departed for nearby El Tablon, where we had been invited to attend a wedding. This turned out to be one of the more uncomfortable experiences we had. Let's just say that we violated many of the taboos about wedding crashing in our culture, but had we declined the invitation, that would have been the ultimate violation in that culture – so we just did our best to enjoy the ride. We returned to Muñoces and had our annual fiesta. We brought four piñatas which the children gleefully broke open, creating a frenzy to pick up the candy. The pleasure this brings to the adults is visible in their expressions. We said our good-byes – including especially warm ones from some of the Directiva – and bounced our way back to Berlin.

On Sunday morning we met at La Casa with the four students from Muñoces who are using our scholarship money to help them attend high school in Berlin. We then attended mass at the church in Berlin. After Skypeing with you all as you prepared for the annual meeting in fellowship hall, we left for San Salvador.

There we visited the National Cathedral where Archbishop Romero is entombed. Our friend and driver Alfredo took us to see some other sights in the city. We stayed at a very nice guest house, went out to dinner, found an ice cream place for dessert, and relaxed. The next day we took in the other important memorial sites – the Parque Cusclatan civil war memorial wall; the Divina Providencia cancer hospital where Oscar Romero lived and worked, and where he was assassinated in 1980; and the University of Central America, where in 1989 six outspoken Jesuit priests were murdered in grisly fashion along with their housekeeper and her teenage daughter. These places inspired moments of silent individual reflection.

Our last event was to see the magnificent views at Puerto del Diablo – Door of the Devil -- outside San Salvador. All of mountainous El Salvador contains breathtaking views, but this was especially gorgeous. It offered some hiking opportunities as well.

We embarked on our trip home early the next morning and arrived in Houston amid sub-freezing temperature and freezing rain. So we were delayed in getting home by a few hours, but all arrived safe and sound – and ready to go back again as soon as we can.

We all thank the congregation again for letting us represent you in this relationship.

Larry Anderson

Commissioning and Laying on of hands of Brian Anderson, Larry Anderson, Anders Hopkins and Isaac Mathison-Bowie. Sara Hopkins and Pastor Linda presided. The laying on of hands was by those who have gone to El Salvador before.



Outreach to El Salvador

The successful delegation to Muñoces in January doesn't end the outreach from First Presbyterian to El Salvador. Kimberly Schnell left in February for a month of teaching English to children in Berlin, El Salvador. She has taught for several years at a school known as Brisas del Sol, named for the original community near Berlin that was destroyed a few years ago during an earthquake. The community was relocated to Berlin and, with support from the Pastoral Team and churches in the Des Moines Presbytery, the school was rebuilt and renamed "Friends of Iowa" school.

In March, Tom Mott will continue his 12-year participation with a medical delegation that will be based in Berlin and offer clinics in some of the villages nearby. This delegation was begun by First Presbyterian in the 1990's and is now a project of the Catholic Church. Tom has sought some training as an optician so that he can fit glasses for people in need of visual assistance during the clinics.

Kimberly and Tom were commissioned for their work during the February 16 worship service. They will be back in time to join the January Muñoces delegation of Larry and Brian Anderson, Anders Hopkins, and Isaac Mathison-Bowie for a presentation about their adventures on March 30. The El Salvador interest group is planning a light lunch following worship and our El Salvador adventurers will show pictures and tell stories following the lunch. Please mark your calendars and plan to stay awhile on **March 30!**



Commissioning and laying on of hands for Tom Mott and Kimberly Schnell before their departure to El Salvador. Pastor Linda presided.

Kids Against Hunger Event

John Taylor, Board Member

On Saturday, February 15, seventeen people, youth and adults, representing our church met at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church to participate in the first packaging event of 2014 for Kids Against Hunger. Those who helped were Pastor Linda, Kelly and Skye Koenen, Marilyn McAllister and Kathy Peterson, Emily Miller, Nancy Mott, Jordan and Allie Norvell, Cheryl, Brad and Megan Ritter along with Cheryl's mom, Marlys Smith, John and Barb Taylor, Helyn Wohlwend, and Mickey Van Baale.



Skye holding one of the finished meals.

As a team, we put soy products, vitamins, dehydrated vegetables, and white rice in a special 3-ply plastic bag which helps prevent spoilage and protect against insect or rodent problems. Properly packaged bags have a shelf life of up to 3 years.



Barb and John

After the ingredients were put in the bags, each bag was weighed to ensure they have the correct amount. Rice can be added or removed to reach the desired amount.

The bags are then sealed and boxed with 216 per box. Each team did 8 cases, which is 1,728 meals. The meals go to many countries, as well as places in the United States.

Thank you to the people who couldn't attend but supported us monetarily. It costs \$30 per person on a team, and we had enough money that the 6 youth didn't have to pay.



Cheryl and Marlys.

(Left front to right front)

Kathy, Marilyn, Pastor Linda, Skye, Mickey, Allie, Megan, Emily, Brad, Jordan, Kelly, Nancy, Helyn and John.



Emergency Closure of the Church

With winter weather approaching, 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

PNC Report

Even though our duties are not completed until Rev. Davis arrives in June, our activities have slowed for the moment. Our committee would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone in the church for their wonderful and complete support during the past year or so. We just felt it at every level and still do and we are very thankful for all of you.

Gary Parsons, chair, Larry Anderson, Ann Cutts, Steve Hopkins, Linda Kirchhoff, Kelly Koenen, Joan Tyler

First Presbyterian Church
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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

Pastor Linda's Schedule:

Sunday: 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Monday: 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Tuesday: Out of Office

Wednesday: 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Thursday: 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Friday: as needed

Saturday: as needed

(Hours may vary from week to week based on her need to be at the church for meetings, etc.)

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2014 BIRTHDAYS & EVENTS

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat



<p>2 Katelyn Camp</p> <p>4:45 pm Personnel</p> <p>7:00 pm Christian Nurture</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p> <p>6:45 am Lenten Breakfast</p> <p>9:30 am WBS</p> <p>4:30 pm WOW</p> <p>5:30 pm Community Meals Membership</p> <p>6:00 pm Spanish Plus</p> <p>7:00 pm Choir</p>	<p>6 Jennifer Ventling</p> <p>6:30 am Early Men's group</p> <p>9:00 am Men's group</p> <p>4:30 pm Missions</p>	<p>7</p> <p>4:30 pm - Mission Committee</p>	<p>1</p> <p>9:00 am Spanish Plus</p> <p>8 Barb Gallaher</p> <p>9:00 am Spanish Plus</p>
<p>9 Kevin Peska 9:00 am Deacons</p> <p>Day Light Savings time Begins</p> <p>Sundays @ 4</p>	<p>10</p> <p>6:00 pm Worship & Music</p>	<p>11 Linda Curtis- Stolper</p>	<p>12</p> <p>6:45 am Lenten Breakfast</p> <p>9:30 am WBS</p> <p>4:40 pm WOW</p> <p>5:30 pm Community Meals</p> <p>6:00 pm B & F Spanish Plus</p> <p>7:00 pm Choir</p>	<p>13 Mary Ann Ringgenberg</p> <p>10:15 am Park Centre Nursing Worship</p> <p>10:45 am Park Centre Library Worship</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p> <p>9:00 am Spanish Plus</p> <p>CL set-up for Potato Bar</p>
<p>16</p> <p>Potato Bar</p> <p>2pm-6pm Sundays @ 4</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18 Virginia Bennett</p> <p>7:00 p.m. Session</p>	<p>19 Vickie Carson</p> <p>6:45 am Lenten Breakfast</p> <p>9:30 am WBS</p> <p>4:30 pm WOW</p> <p>5:30 pm Community Meals</p> <p>6:00 pm Span +</p> <p>7:00 pm Choir</p>	<p>20</p> <p>6:30 am Early Men's group</p> <p>9:00 am Men's group</p>	<p>21 Julie Fisher</p>	<p>22 Elsie Nelson</p> <p>9:00 am Spanish Plus</p>
<p>23 Dan Skokan</p> <p>6:00pm-7:00pm Work Week Covenant Meeting</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26 Don Black Elizabeth Mount</p> <p>6:45 am Lenten Breakfast</p> <p>9:30 am WBS</p> <p>5:30 pm Community Meals</p> <p>6:00 pm Span +</p> <p>7:00 pm Choir</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29 Ruth Appleby Loretta Wendt Les Gause</p>
<p>30</p> <p>El Salvador Presentation</p>	<p>31 Landon Ferguson</p>				<p>9:00 am Adult S. S.</p> <p>9:15 am Kid's Action Hour</p> <p>10:00 am Fellowship</p> <p>10:25 am Announcements</p> <p>10:30 am Worship</p> <p>11:30 am Fellowship</p>	

March



Volunteers

March	2	9	16	23	30	April 6
Worship Leader <i>Office</i>	Bev Rossow	Doug Cutts	Sara Hopkins	John Taylor	Kim Miller	Dave Stolper
Host Elder/Deacon <i>Diane Moles</i>	Terry Rickers	Linda Kirchhoff	Linda Erickson	Sharon Black	Shari DeCook	Roger Harmelink
Greeters <i>Julie Brodersen</i>	Randy & Carol Camp	Kevin & Toni Peska	Terry Rickers Bev Rossow	Chris & Peggy Lickiss	Doug Cutts Wilma Manning	Janet Shields Pat Mitchell
Ushers <i>Office</i>	Mary Jane Tripp Sandy Cheney Suzie Funk	Camp Family	Kevin & Toni Peska	Ritter Family	Leonard Family	Pete & Pat Koppin
Audio <i>Les Gause</i>	Jay Koenen	Jay Koenen	Dan Ritter	Dan Ritter	Dan Ritter	Brad Ritter
Candlelighter <i>Office</i>	Megan Ritter	Emily Miller	Allie Norvell	Natalie Camp	Garrett Sturtz	Jordan Norvell
Counters <i>Terry Rickers</i>	Dan Ritter Bill Shields	Jonnie Carpenter	Kelly Koenen Marshall Critchfield	Terry Rickers Dave Boyd	Dan Ritter Bill Shields	Roger Harmelink Dave Stolper
Bread Ministry Baker <i>Barb Taylor</i>	Mickey Van Baale	George Wilkening	Barb Taylor	Linda Campbell	Jane Repp	Val McKee or Joan Tyler
Bread Ministry Taker <i>Barb Taylor</i>	Mickey Van Baale	Mary Jane Tripp	Barb Taylor	Linda Campbell	Carol Russell	Joan Rusk
Communion Set up <i>Linda Kirchhoff</i>	Gary Parsons Jonnie Carpenter					Randy Camp Linda Kirchhoff

First Presbyterian Church
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641-792-2790

Return Service Requested

Lectionary —

March, 2014

March 2 - Transfiguration of the Lord

Exod. 24:12-18; *Ps. 2 or Ps. 99*
2 Peter 1:16-21; Matt. 17:1-9

March 9 - 1st Sunday in Lent

Gen. 2:15-17; 3:1-7; *Ps. 32*
Rom. 5:12-19; Matt. 4:1-11

March 16 - 2nd Sunday in Lent

Gen. 12:1-4a; *Ps. 121*
Rom. 4:1-5, 13-17; John 3:1-17

March 23 - 3rd Sunday in Lent

Exod. 17:1-7; *Ps. 95*; Rom. 5:1-11
John 4:5-42

March 30 - 4th Sunday in Lent

1 Sam. 16:1-13; *Ps. 23*; Eph. 5:8-14
John 9:1-41

April, 2014

April 6 - 5th Sunday in Lent

Ezek. 37:1-14; *Ps. 130*; Rom. 8:6-17
John 11:1-45

April 13 - Passion/Palm Sunday (*Holy Week Begins*)

Palms: Matt. 21:1-11; *Ps. 118:1-2, 19-29*
Passion: Isa. 50:4-9a; *Ps. 31:9-16*
Phil. 2:5-11; Matt. 26:14-27:66 *or*
Matt. 27:11-54

April 20 - Resurrection of the Lord/Easter

Acts 10:34-43 *or* Jer. 31:1-6
Ps. 118:1-2, 14-24; Col. 3:1-4
John 20:1-18 *or* Matt. 28:1-10

April 27 - 2nd Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:14a, 22-32; *Ps. 16*
1 Peter 1:3-9; John 20:19-31