

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
NEWTON, IOWA  
641-792-2790

# THE MESSENGER



NOVEMBER 2010

## FOR ALL THE SAINTS...

Rev. Tiare L. Mathison

### WORD FOR THE DAY

Wednesday, Oct. 13

We are each other's harvest; we are each other's business;  
we are each other's magnitude and bond.

Gwendolyn Brooks

“So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone.

In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God.” Ephesians 2:19-22

As we enter this season of Thanksgiving, stop for a moment, take three deep breaths in honor of the Trinity, and remember your brothers and sisters in Christ, living and dead, who are part of your harvest, your business, your magnitude and bond. Remember their names and faces, their particular smell, their handshake or hug, the cadence of their speech, tenor of their laugh, twinkle of their eye. Bend your heart in prayer for their faithful witness in building a dwelling place for God. Now take a moment to imagine new faces coming into your harvest, your bond—younger families, new friends, co-workers, people who might want to know there is a place filled with welcome, grace, forgiveness and mercy. A gathering of people who long to share tremendous gifts of hospitality, who stay in relationship even across disagreements, who know their own sin and shortcomings very well, able to forgive themselves and one another.

We are called to be each other's harvest, magnitude and bond. In Christ we are being built together into a gorgeous home for God.



**Be Praying For:**

Denny Tripp and his family as Denny continues his fight to overcome his recent heart surgery followed by problems with his lungs.

Frank Vander Broek who is now at home recovering.

Larry DeCook who is home and recuperating from having both knees replaced.

Phil Pearson who is recuperating from a fall at the nursing home in Baxter.

Darrell Achtemeier who continues recovery.

Carol Goodwin after heart valve replacement.

Dorothy Eaton after a fall.

Darlene Johnson who is recovering from recent surgery.

John Taylor for gaining strength.

The amazing care givers to those we've listed above and those not mentioned.

Our current confirmation class.

Terry Rickers as he transitions to being a judge and gives up being an attorney.

Our country as our political divisions seem to harden.

Soldiers and families.



*Advent Booklet*

Work is beginning for the Advent booklet for 2010. The theme is: "Prepare the Way of the Lord".

**Please submit your articles to the church office by November 7th.**

Val McKee, Editor

**Deacon's Donations**

The Deacons have donated \$100 to Presbyterian Disaster Relief Assistance for Pakistan and \$120 for Kids Against Hunger. \$150 was donated earlier to the Salvation Army for Colfax Flood Relief. We continue to make our monthly visits to shut ins and those who need a little extra company.

Linda Kirchhoff, Moderator



**Congregational Meeting on November 21, 2010**

Linda Campbell, Chairperson

The Session has set November 21 as the date for the election of new Elders and Deacons. Six Elders and four Deacons will be elected; five Elders to serve three-year terms and one to serve a two-year term, and four deacons to each serve a three-year term. Nominations will also be accepted from the floor provided the party has previously agreed to serve, if elected.

Call me at 792-1144 or Tiare at 792-2790 if you have any questions.

## STEP UP TO THE PLATE FOR GOD'S TEAM

*Paula Moore, Stewardship Campaign Chair*

The annual Stewardship campaign continues and we're getting close to the end of the season. Please prayerfully consider helping to continue God's work through this church by returning the pledge cards by or before October 31. These pledged amounts help the session determine the budget for the calendar year. Without your support we could not continue to maintain this grand church and programs that are offered. Even if you cannot pledge a specific dollar amount, please indicate "give as able" and return the cards. This will help us as we make gentle reminder follow up calls in early November.



### Highlights from Session

*By Dave Boyd, Clerk of Session*

- Tuck pointing work almost complete on the tower and north wall of the church building.
- Repair on the burned out blower motor for the organ is in process.
- Election of new Elders and Deacons will be held November 21 at a Congregational Meeting immediately after worship.
- The change in Terry Ricker's position dictates we have a new agent for the corporation as well as a new attorney for the church.
- Approved a proposal to invite couples who are not members to use our church for their wedding, but only in strict compliance with guidelines set down by the Worship and Music Committee.
- Set time and place for the Session to discuss the Belhar Confession and its inclusion in the Presbyterian Book of Confessions.
- Approved a fund raising event in support of our work in Muñoces.
- Set January 30, 2011 for the Annual Meeting
- Cheered the fact that we will have an Advent Book this year

### News from Church Life

*By Dan Ritter, Chairperson*

On a beautiful October Sunday afternoon, 42 people gathered to participate in the First Presbyterian Church's 2010 Progressive Dinner. The four-course meal started with appetizers at Linda & Dick Means, then moved to 11 homes for the salad and main courses, and ended with desserts at Linda & Warren Erickson. An enjoyable time was had by all. If you have never attended the Progressive Dinner, make it a point to join us next year. You'll be glad you did. A special thank-you to Janie and Diane Moles for all their hard work in pulling all the details together for this great event.

November 21 will be our annual Thanksgiving dinner following worship. This will be a catered meal, so the Church Life committee will be taking reservations. Cost of the meal will be \$9 for adults (age 13 and up). Children 12 and under will eat for free. The meal will consist of turkey, dressing, mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, a jello salad and assorted pies. Those in attendance also celebrate communion following the meal.



Program Rehearsal

Calling all children and youth (and any parents interested in helping)! Mark your calendars for Christmas pageant rehearsals and the performance. On December 19, First Presbyterian Church will present a dramatization of Max Lucado's "The Crippled Lamb." Rehearsals are scheduled for the three Wednesday evenings prior to performance (December 1, 8, 15) from 5:00-6:30 and on the 19th at the Sunday School hour (9:00). Wednesday rehearsals will be followed by supper for participants. There are lots of parts, both speaking and non-speaking, and everyone is welcome!

Helyn Wohlwend, Director

## Foundation Dinner - November 15, 2010

To All Members of First Presbyterian Church:  
 You are cordially invited to a Dinner at the Church  
 On Monday, November 15, 6:00 p.m.  
 In addition to Music by the popular quartet, Cul de Sac,  
 Bob Le Blanc will speak on Investments, and an  
 Update on the Foundation will be given:  
 How it helps the church; how you can help it.  
 Donors are sponsoring the dinner, but your reservation is needed.  
 Please make your reservation by calling the church office, 792-2790.

Foundation Committee

Joan Tyler, Chairperson, Julie Brodersen, John Carl, Frank Liebl, and Jane Repp

**Please note that the date has been changed from November 8 to November 15**



## News from the Mission and El Salvador Committees

*By Linda Anderson, Chairperson*

Salvation Army- Save the Date. The Mission Coalition bell ringing day is the first Sat. in Dec.-the 4th. Volunteers will be needed from our church. Let me know if you will be able to help.

Mission Coalition- The McCann Center flea market was held October 23. Mission Coalition sold pies there, as in the past and our church furnished 8 pies. The proceeds will be split between RRACAP to help people with heating bills for next year and Hephzibah House which has a homeless ministry in the community.

El Salvador Comm - A delegation date has been set for the middle of Feb. 2011. Warren Erickson has agreed to lead the delegation to Berlin, El Salvador. We are looking for others who wish to join us. There is some money available from Companeros for first timers- especially youth.

We would like to have our Advent bazaar again. Since we don't have crafts to sell, we will be assembling "Gifts in a Jar" to sell and will put those together with the coffee. **The El Salvador committee is still in need of quart jars for our "Gifts in a Jar" project. Please bring any quart jars you have at home to the kitchen at the church for use by the committee. Thanks!**

Companeros has put together Mission Volunteer materials for those who wish to go to Berlin, El Salvador to work with the Pastoral Team. Please contact me if you are interested in the application. This would be a great opportunity for a summer internship or if you feel called to spend time in Berlin other than with our church's delegation trips



To Amy Doerring, the family, friends and fans of david m. bailey who died of brain cancer on October 2. We were fortunate to have david hold several concerts in our church. Amy was instrumental in bringing david to Newton the first time and became the photographer of many of his CD covers.



To Wendell and Loretta Wendt for being one of the 13 recipients of the Presbytery Older Adult Award. At the April Presbytery meeting, the Older Adult Ministries Task Force requested each Session within the Presbytery nominate at least one person who, given her/his contribution to the life and mission of the church, merits recognition at presbytery consideration for the Outstanding Older Adult Award

Session agreed that Wendell and Loretta be nominated. Necessary papers were submitted and Dave Boyd recently received confirmation of their recognition. All 13 recipients and their families will be recognized during dinner at the November 9 Presbytery meeting being held from 2pm to 7:30pm at the downtown Marriott in Des Moines.

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Church Hours: M, W, Thurs: 8am to 4pm

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

Tiare Mathison, Pastor - 641-792-2790  
[tmath@iowatelecom.net](mailto:tmath@iowatelecom.net)

Sara Hopkins, CLP - 641-792-2790  
[shopkins1@iowatelecom.net](mailto:shopkins1@iowatelecom.net)

**Effective February 19, 2010**

The church and church office are closed on Fridays. Tiare can be reached in case of emergencies at 641-840-0109.

**Delivery of the Messenger**

*By Mickey Van Baale, Editor*

Last month we indicated that the Session has approved that the Messenger would be delivered electronically to most members. **Again, a paper copy will be printed and delivered to those members who live at either Newton Village or Park Centre. Also, any members who would still like to receive a paper copy will notify Jenny at the church office by December 16, 2010, and your copy will be mailed.**

To view the Messenger on line, which will be the preferred method we suggest, you will need to log onto the church website: [www.newton1stpresbyterian.org](http://www.newton1stpresbyterian.org). This will take you to the home page of the site, where you will find seven green tabs across the top. Click on the "What's New" tab.

A drop down menu with 3 items will then appear. The first item is "Messenger". Simply click on the word "Messenger" and you will get a listing of all Messengers that are on line. You can select the one you want to read and it will appear in a PDF file. If you have not opened a pdf file before, you can get a free download at [www.get.adobe.com/reader](http://www.get.adobe.com/reader).

An announcement will appear in the weekly "Church Happenings" email to alert you when the Messenger is on the website, along with a link direct to the website. If you experience any problems viewing the Messenger on line, please call me at 521-0549, Marlys Grimm at [nmgrimm@live.com](mailto:nmgrimm@live.com) or Tiare at 792-2790.

## INFORMATION ABOUT P.D.A.

By Dave Boyd

It's only been within the last few years that I had any knowledge that Presbyterian Disaster Assistance existed as part of PC(USA). Now I just assume everyone knows what PDA is and how it works.

Not so I'm told!

Well here's some new stuff I learned recently:

- When disaster strikes, PDA sends in a member or 2 from their National Response Team to evaluate the need & the appropriate level of response. There is a member of this group living in Indianola, IA. The total group consists of only 60 people in the U.S.
- There are no work groups within PDA to send to an area. Rather, PDA coordinates volunteer work groups, supplies tools & equipment, supports churches who host groups of volunteers, and in some limited cases funds materials (lumber, sheet rock, paint) etc. for the recovery.
- There are multiple levels of support for disaster recovery:
  - \* First Responders, e.g. Police, Fire and National Guard personnel
  - \* Salvation Army & Red Cross are usually there quickly
  - \* Personal/business insurance (hopefully) fund most of the recovery
  - \* Government in the form of FEMA, and other local government entities
  - \* Local Long-Term Recovery Committees
- Jasper County has a Long-Term Disaster Recovery Committee in place & active for Newton & Colfax.
- Sarah Dyck is the coordinator for Eastern Iowa as they work through their flood recovery. She is housed with the East Iowa Presbytery.

I hope you find this information interesting and of some value to you. One-third of the One Great Hour of Sharing funds go to PDA and obviously the need is huge and on-going. As our work & discussions here in Jasper County continue I will make more information available so you can know what your church is doing to help others as part of our Mission in this place.



Thank you to my friends and family for your prayers, cards, food, calls, flowers and visits during my recent surgery and recovery. A special thanks to my daughter Tracie and friends who took me to the hospital daily for two weeks.  
Darlene Johnson

An excerpt from an email Lael Taft sent to many friends following Pat's death.

"Another special thanks to all of you who attended Pat's memorial service in Newton, along with a special thanks to Carroll and Julie Brodersen, who opened their home to me and let me stay with them, while I was in Newton for 5 days. It was so great to see so many close friends and familiar faces at the memorial, even if I was in no shape to sit and visit."

Our committee extends and ENORMOUS "thank you" to the calling teams who have given hours of their time to visit every household in the congregation, listening to the needs and desires of all. The feedback has been extensive, honest and varied. We will have an excellent tool for the Session to use in future planning. Please join us as we recognize our calling teams during worship on the Sunday of our Thanksgiving Feast for their service and ministry.

The new church registries are nearing completion. The plan is to begin distributing them by mid-November. We thank you for your patience in the endeavor.

Membership Committee  
 Cathy Rickers, Chairperson,  
 Marlys Grimm, Bev Rossow and John Taylor

**MEMBERSHIP**



**MOMENT**

**“Getting to know”**

**Jack and Joyce Nicholson**



Jack was born and raised in Newton, attending schools here and graduating from Newton High School. Joyce is a native of Colfax, where she attended school and graduated from Colfax High School. Joyce then attended Drake University.

Jack started his career by working with his mother at Nicholson Paint and Wallpaper. From there he went to the Newton Post Office, where he retired after 31 years of service.

The Nicholson's have 2 daughters, Janell McClellan and Janet Groen. Both daughters live in the Twin Cities. Janell is an underwriter for State Farm Insurance. Her husband, John, is the regional director of claim operations for Union Pacific Railroad.

Janell and John have a daughter, Jenna, who is married to David Istlick and they live in Minneapolis. Jenna is a senior HR director for Target Corporation.

Daughter Janet is director for Medicare for the Midwestern states for Humana Insurance.


Janet has two children, Jeremy and Kaytie. Jeremy works as a recruiter for Teksystems and Kaytie is between jobs right now. Both Jeremy and Kaytie live in Omaha.

Since joining First Presbyterian church in 1947, Jack has served as a Deacon and is a member of the Men's group. He also helps with the tape ministry.

Joyce joined our church in 1960, having belonged to the Colfax Methodist church and Des Moines First Methodist church prior. Joyce has served as a Sunday school teacher, Deacon, and is a member of the Women's bible study.

In his spare time, Jack volunteers at the Salvation Army loan closet, and is active with RSVP and NARFE. He also enjoys doing yard work and reading.

Joyce fills her time with her loves of cooking, baking and reading.



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## Lectionary —

### November, 2010

#### November 7

Hag. 1:15b-2:9; *Ps. 145:1-5, 17-21* or *Ps. 98*  
2 Thess. 2:1-5, 13-17; Luke 20:27-38

#### November 14

Isa. 65:17-25; *Isa. 12*; 2 Thess. 3:6-13  
Luke 21:5-19

#### November 21

Jer. 23:1-6; *Luke 1:68-79*; Col. 1:11-20  
Luke 23:33-43

#### November 28

Isa. 2:1-5; *Ps. 122*; Rom. 13:11-14  
Matt. 24:36-44

### December, 2010

#### December 5

Isa. 11:1-10; *Ps. 72:1-7, 18-19*  
Rom. 15:4-13; Matt. 3:1-12

#### December 12

Isa. 35:1-10; *Ps. 146:5-10* or *Luke 1:47-55*  
James 5:7-10; Matt. 11:2-11

#### December 19

Isa. 7:10-16; *Ps. 80:1-7, 17-19*; Rom. 1:1-7  
Matt. 1:18-25

#### December 26

Isa. 63:7-9; *Ps. 148*; Heb. 2:10-18  
Matt. 2:13-23