



## ***The Grinnell Presbyterian***

*The monthly newsletter of First Presbyterian Church*

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Facebook: [www.facebook.com/pages/Grinnell-IA/First-Presbyterian-Church-of-Grinnell/215357112478](http://www.facebook.com/pages/Grinnell-IA/First-Presbyterian-Church-of-Grinnell/215357112478)

July 2015

Kirsten Klepfer, Pastor

### **GARDEN OF READIN'....**

I know you all have been waiting with bated breath to hear more about my retreat in April. It's probably been hard to get through each day. Well, your waiting is over!

I did learn some things that I think might be worth passing on, so I'm doing a little passing here. This is a retreat I go to every year, and always the overarching focus is looking again at what we believe we are to be about in this world and then asking how we are measuring up.

Each year has also had a sub-focus. This year was spiritual disciplines. Let me say right up front that I have a knee jerk reaction to the words "spiritual disciplines." I resist anything that sounds even remotely new age. I also resist things that have been popularized in ways I think trivialize the original substantive, complex concept. And finally, I resist anything that I find difficult. All of these seem true to me about spiritual disciplines.

I was freed from that resistance a little bit at the retreat. Part of the reason for that was the route we took to get to spiritual disciplines.

After reviewing our values and what we think our call is in the world, we began to explore the times when we "lost our way." We thought of concrete examples and really tried to figure out what was going on. We asked if there were any clues that indicated we had lost our way. We asked what brought us back. And, most helpful to me, we asked what the barriers are to living as we believe we should or what are the things that consistently get in the way of me being who I believe I am created to be.

That was really helpful to me because then I could ask the question: Is there anything I can do or any practice, ritual, class, whatever or that would start to chip away at those barriers? For example, part of the idea behind meditation is if you practice letting go and paying attention day after day, year after year, you will be more likely to do that when things around you are stressful and chaotic. I needed to find my version of meditation.

Being able to honestly name my barriers really did help me think seriously about how to bring those barriers down. Just telling myself I should do things differently has been notoriously unsuccessful for me (maybe you're better at listening to yourself than I am!). Wondering if there are concrete things I can do to make me more aware of the times I'm lost, and remove the barriers that keep me from being my "best self," felt to me like the right way to enter the conversation about spiritual disciplines.

I did come away from the retreat with a discipline I am trying that might soften a couple of my biggest barriers. What I came up with surprised me or greatly. But I'm trusting that it came out of a good process, so I'm giving it a try.

Know that I'd be more than happy to talk with any of you who are wondering about the role of spiritual disciplines in your life. At the very least, there's some pretty good questions to think about along the way.

Peace,  
Pastor Kirsten

## FROM THE MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

Members of the newly-established Memorial Committee have worked at creating a "job description" which will guide the work of this committee. This month's information is a condensed version of what has been approved by Session for the Manual of Administration Operations (MOA). Next month "Guidelines for Memorials" will be shared.

### **1. What are the duties of the newly-established Memorial Committee?**

The Memorial Committee shall be responsible for celebrating past memorials, documenting memorial gifts given to the church, caring for all memorial monies, and planning for memorial giving in the future. Any memorial gift offers the opportunity for members and friends to contribute lasting memorials for loved ones.

### **2. How will this committee be structured?**

The committee shall be led by an elder who is serving on the current session. However, the elder may be a liaison to the Session with one of the committee members serving as a co-chair.

### **3. What are the duties of this committee?**

Act as a reception center for memorial gifts.

Establish and maintain guidelines for memorial gifts.

Develop and submit to Session an ongoing list of items and/or projects.

Recommend the purchase of memorial gifts to Session.

Create a "Book of Memorials" to be kept in the library as no plaques or memorial designations will be placed upon the memorial itself.

Work with the pastor to plan a dedication of memorial gifts on the Sunday closest to Memorial Day.

Work with staff and the Worship Committee to plan the All Saints Day observance.

Write articles for the newsletter.

Encourage planned giving through a person's lifetime and/or estate planning.

**Many thanks to committee members** Dennis Day, Miriam Baumann, Stan Greenwald, and Montie Redenius for giving their time and expertise. ó Donna Ricks, Session Committee Chair

## **THANK YOU**



**Ed Phillips** for the flowers in the planter outside by the church sign.

**Janice Logan** for the flowers on the north side of the building planted in memory of Diane Fowler.

Lots of folks who have been doing random church work to keep our building healthy and in functioning condition: **Russ Stoker, David Isch, Carey Krull, Roger Bortell.**

Thank you to **those who donated stickers and note pads** for the Kids' Worship Bags. Both of these are well-used by our children.

## **THANK YOU TO OUR JUNE COFFEE MAKERS /CLEANUP, CAKE BAKERS**

Char Ewan, Al Ricks, Katie Hoisington, and Donna Winburn, and cake baker Karla Kriegel.

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
**Office Manager Job Description**

First Presbyterian Church, Grinnell, IA, is currently seeking a self-motivated and well-organized individual to provide administrative support to the minister, church session, and congregational members. This is a part-time position averaging 20 hours per week beginning in the fall of 2015.

**Responsibilities:** The Office Manager maintains a welcoming and efficient office space where communication about all aspects of the church's mission and program can occur in a confidential setting. This position facilitates the church schedule, oversees the church's equipment and supplies, creates documents and reports that accurately record church business and finances, maintains regular office hours when church members can conduct church business, and acts in a variety of ways to support the minister, the members, the governing committees of the church, and the program of the church.

**Qualifications:** The ideal candidate will have the following skills:

experience with basic computer systems or ability to learn with little guidance;  
basic financial management and reporting skills;  
ability to welcome and assist people of diverse backgrounds and needs;  
ability to communicate verbally and in writing in an accurate and literate manner;  
ability to maintain confidentiality within the congregation and outside the work place;  
ability to make decisions about the effective running of the office without needing frequent supervision and direction.

**Application Process:** Please submit a cover letter and resume to Ms. Karen Phillips: ksiglerphillips@gmail.com or mail to Personnel Committee Chair, First Presbyterian Church, 1025 Fifth Ave., Grinnell, Iowa 50112. Application deadline is July 17, 2015.

(Please pass this on to anyone you think might be interested.)

**RUMMAGE SALE FRIDAY AND SATURDAY JULY 10-11!**



Our First Presbyterian Rummage Sale will be held on Friday July 10, 1:00 to 5:00 and Saturday, July 11, 7:30 to 12:30. Donations can be brought to the church and put in the large Sunday School room. Please bring your items no later than 4:00 pm Thursday, July 9<sup>th</sup>. There will be sign-up sheets in the fellowship hall for volunteers to help with the set up and the sale. Please do not bring TVs or micro-

waves as they usually do not sell and cost us to dispose of them. Proceeds will go to Kids Against Hunger and Heifer International. If you have questions, please contact Linda Cranston, 236-1105. Thank you. (There will also be a silent auction of special items one of which is a new kerosene heater that can be used to heat a room in event of a power outage. To purchase it new would cost about \$250. )

**KIDS AGAINST HUNGER**



Kids Against Hunger is an organization that gives healthy food to families in need, both in the United States and around the world. Many organizations around the Grinnell community support this ministry by coming together four times a year to package the food that is sent out. First Pres has been actively involved in Kids Against Hunger since its inception in here in Grinnell in 2006. This includes supporting our packaging teams with financial resources that cover the cost of the food. Each time our church teams participate we have to donate \$540.

For years we have had enough donations by people in our congregation to cover that. Right now we are running behind. All of that is a friendly reminder that if you want to participate in this ministry, we need both packagers and money.

## HIGHLIGHTS OF JUNE SESSION MEETING

### Reports from Working Groups

**Personnel** ó An update on the office manager position was given with the job description shared; these have been circulated to the local newspapers, our church's website, and various other job-related websites. Application deadline is July 17.

**Facilities** ó The Historical Society, Montezuma, was given a church plate and two old picture directories. Church projects in the near future are carpet cleaning in the Sunday School rooms, replacement of fascia boards, parking bumpers, and spraying.

**Education** ó The Expectations Committee has met to begin to determine what should be taught at each age level. They will continue this work.

**Mission** ó Volunteers were thanked for their faithful service with Food Recovery Network. There will be an evaluation of the program with college participants before the fall term begins.

**Financial Task Force** ó This task force continues to work on closing of yearly financial records and reviewing current financials.

**Memorials** ó Motion was made by the committee to use memorial funds to pay for the supplemental hymnal notebooks and sleeves. The estimated cost is \$1,000 and is given in memory of Ron Arnaman.

**Presbytery Report** ó Elder Marta Miller, commissioner, provided a written report from the meeting held on June 6 in Ames. It was the 500<sup>th</sup> stated meeting of the Presbytery of Des Moines and Presbytery of North Central Iowa. Phil Barrett, Presbyter, announced his retirement effective December 26, 2015. The Leadership Council is calling a special meeting in July to present and discuss the state of the Presbytery, staffing, ministry, the mission center and the financial picture; and, to discuss a transition plan with and for Phil. Marta and Pastor will attend.

**Communion to homebound members** ó Tom Moore and Suzanne Redenius assisted Pastor Kirsten during the month of June.

**PW Report** ó M&M Sunday generated donations totaling \$587.00 and expenses for IMA World Health in the amount of \$589.00. The balance on hand is \$87.41.

**Pastor's Report** ó Pastor Kirsten will be on vacation August 13-18. She will be attending Synod school at the end of July.

### SUMMER (FORMERLY CHRISTMAS) JOY OFFERING!

During the months of June and July, we will receive our Joy Offering. This is an important special offering of the PCUSA that goes to support a number of ministries in our denomination.

#### *The Board of Pensions Receives 50 percent of the Offering*

Through the Board of Pensions's Financial Assistance Programs, the Joy Offering recognizes the faithfulness of and retired church workers by providing funds to help them through difficult times.

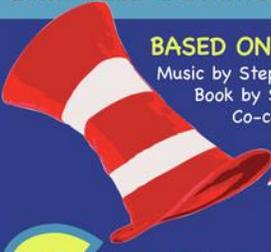
To help retired church workers and their surviving spouses, the board offers *Income Supplements* to raise incomes to a level where retirees can live modestly and continue to maintain their independence. If these individuals' income does not support their housing needs, the board provides them *Housing Supplements*.

#### *Presbyterian Racial Ethnic Schools and Colleges Receive 50 Percent of the Offering*

The Presbyterian Church has long promoted education through establishing and supporting racial ethnic schools. Joy Offering funds help with basic operating costs in addition to providing scholarships to deserving students. These institutions develop leaders in the church and in society, and they enable students to pursue their professional goals. All Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)-related schools and colleges are open to any qualified student regardless of race. For a list of schools supported by the Joy Offering, go to <http://www.pcusa.org/cjoffering/about.htm>.

GRINNELL COMMUNITY THEATRE PRESENTS

**BASED ON THE WORKS OF DR. SEUSS**  
 Music by Stephen Flaherty / Lyrics by Lynn Ahrens  
 Book by Stephen Flaherty and Lynn Ahrens  
 Co-conceived by Stephen Flaherty,  
 Lynn Ahrens & Eric Idle



*The Musical*  
**Seussical™**

**DIRECTED BY MIKE HUNTER**

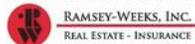
**FRIDAYS AND SATURDAYS  
 JULY 10 & 11 • 17 & 18  
 7:00 PM**

**GRINNELL HIGH SCHOOL  
 THEATRE / 1333 Sunset**

**ADULTS \$15 / STUDENTS \$9**  
 Tickets available at Grinnell Arts Center, McNally's,  
 Brown's Shoe Fit, online at [grinnellarts.org](http://grinnellarts.org) or at the door.

Seussical is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International.  
 All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI, 421 West 54th St.,  
 New York, NY 10019 Tel: (212) 541-4684 Fax: (212) 397-4684 [www.MTIshows.com](http://www.MTIshows.com)  
 For information about the arts in Grinnell contact 641-236-3203 or visit [www.grinnellarts.org](http://www.grinnellarts.org)

**The Redmond-Brownell Family**



## AN EVENING WITH DR. SEUSS PLANNED FOR ALL-CHURCH EVENT

Please reserve the evening of Saturday, July 18, for the next All-Church event ó an evening with Dr. Seuss! Plan to join your First Presbyterian friends for a Dr. Seuss-themed supper, then move on to the high school for the Grinnell Community Theatre's production of the musical "Seussical!"

The evening will get underway at 5:30 p.m. There is no charge for the meal ó but beware! You may be asked to try some rather unusual food items! Are you willing to tackle Green Eggs with Ham(salad)? How about Horton Hatches an Egg(salad)? Maybe you'll enjoy your Cat in the Hat parfait!

After supper, we'll travel on to the high school for the 7:00 p.m. production. Tickets for the musical can be purchased independently. Details are provided in the accompanying advertisement.

There will be a clipboard sign-up in Fellowship Hall, to assist with meal preparation and ride sharing. Even if your schedule leads you to attend the musical another evening, please plan to join the fellowship meal at the church.

Questions? Please don't hesitate to ask Al Ricks, All-Church events coordinator, or to give him a call at 319-269-3475.



### JULY BIRTHDAYS

- 1-Ryan Peak
- 5-Dallas Sterk, Connie Gause
- 9-Sara McCue, Lydia Klepfer
- 10-Cristy Peak
- 14-Marv Doty
- 15-Montie Redenius
- 16-Rich Thorson
- 22-Adalyn Scheffert
- 25-Miriam Baumann, Jonna German
- 29-Joyce Doonan
- 31-Saunia Powell

# July 2015

**Sun                  Mon                  Tue                  Wed                  Thu                  Fri                  Sat**

			1	2	3 12:00 Lectionary Bible Study	4
5 10:30 Worship Holy Communion 2:00 Turlach Ur	6	7 12:00 Food Recovery Network  4:30 Prayer Time  2:30-6:30 Food Distribution	8	9	10 12:00 Lectionary Bible Study  1:00-5:00 Rumage Sale	11 7:30-12:30 Rumage Sale
12 10:30 Worship Heifer Sunday 2:00 Turlach Ur	13	14 12:00 Food Recovery Network  4:30 Prayer Time  5:30 Second Mile	15	16	17 12:00 Lectionary Bible Study	18  5:30 All Church Event (See Article for details)
19 10:30 Worship 2:00 Turlach Ur	20 Newsletter Deadline	21 12:00 Food Recovery Network  4:30 Prayer Time  2:30-6:30 Food Distribution	22	23 10:30 Newsletter Mailing	24 12:00 Lectionary Bible Study	25
26 10:30 Worship Birthday Sunday 2:00 Turlach Ur	27 Pastor Synod School	28 Pastor Synod School 10:00-11:00 Hospice Care Givers  12:00 Food Recovery Network  4:30 Prayer Time	29 Pastor Synod School	30 Pastor Synod School	31 Pastor Synod School  12:00 Lectionary Bible Study	

## SUNDAY SERVANTS

### JULY

- 5ô Liturgist: Donna Ricks  
Greeter: Shelley Cranston  
Deacon: Janice Logan  
Ushers: Gail and Stan Greenwald  
Coffee: Janice Logan  
Acolyte: Damien Nickle  
Van Driver: John Martenson  
Nursery Volunteer: Emily Moore  
Communion servers: Donna Ricks,  
Linda Cranston, John Martenson  
Offering counter: Linda Cranston
- 12ô Liturgist: Donna Winburn  
Greeter: Montie and Suzanne Redenius  
Deacon: Doty Stoker  
Ushers: Russ Stoker, Irma Arnaman  
Coffee: Char Ewan  
Acolyte: Julio Parmley  
Van Driver: Carey Krull  
Nursery Volunteer: Linda Cranston
- 19ô Liturgist: Jim Ahrens  
Greeter: Chrissy Hazlett  
Deacons: Denise and Richard Creps  
Ushers: Shelly Cranston  
Coffee: Linda Cranston  
Acolyte: Miles McIntyre  
Van Driver: Montie Redenius  
Nursery Volunteer: Marta Miller
- 26ô Liturgist: Joy Krull  
Greeter: Ramona McCaw  
Deacon: Carey Krull  
Ushers: Rich Thorson, Chris Day  
Coffee: Bev Miller  
Acolyte: Zach Nickle  
Van Driver: Norm Schroeder  
Nursery Volunteer: Jill Kaiser  
Cake Baker: Marlene and Ray Peak

### AUGUST

- 2ô Liturgist: Mary Anne Nickle  
Greeter: Dallas and Lola Sterk  
Deacon: Phil McCune  
Ushers: Linda Stoll, John Martenson  
Coffee:  
Acolyte: Pete Simpson  
Van Driver: David Cranston  
Nursery Volunteer: Sue Ahrens  
Communion servers: Mary Anne Nickle,  
Russ Stoker, Char Ewan  
Offering counter: Russell Stoker

## STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

	<u>May</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u>
Pledge Income	\$10,194	\$55,871
Budgeted	\$10,214	\$51,071
Total Income	\$10,850	\$61,663
Budgeted	\$11,152	\$55,759
Expenses	\$10,554	\$59,788
Budgeted	\$11,434	\$57,171

## WORSHIP IN JULY

**July 5**—Holy Communion. Lectionary readings: 2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10; Psalm 48; 2 Corinthians 12:2-10; Mark 6:1-13.

**July 12**—Lectionary readings: 2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19; Psalm 24; Ephesians 1:3-14; Mark 6:14-29.

**July 19**—Lectionary readings: 2 Samuel 7:1-14a; Psalm 89:20-37; Ephesians 2:11-22; Mark 6:30-34, 53-56.

**July 26**—Lectionary readings: 2 Samuel 11:1-15; Psalm 14; Ephesians 3:14-21; John 6:1-21.

## CONTINUING EDUCATION DATES

Pastor Kirsten will be on continuing education leave from July 27 to August 1. She will not miss a Sunday, but there will be a guest preacher on the 2<sup>nd</sup>. Pastor Kirsten, Lydia, and Marta are going to Synod School at Buena Vista College in Storm Lake.

## CHURCH DIRECTORY CHANGES

### **Dan and Sara McCue—1116 Summer Street**

Let this be a reminder to please notify the church office of any changes to your Church Directory information. Also remember to update your directory with new information listed in the newsletter.

As we receive new members we will make a new page to include them in the Church Directory. There is a new page now on the table in Fellowship Hall for our recent member Selva Reissig Lehman. Be sure to pick up a copy so that your copy of the Church Directory will be current.

First Presbyterian Church  
1025 Fifth Avenue  
Grinnell IA 50112

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Return Requested

**CHURCH  
RUMMAGE SALE  
JULY 10, 1:00 to 5:00  
and July 11, 7:30 to 12:30**