



## ***The Grinnell Presbyterian***

*The monthly newsletter of First Presbyterian Church*

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**Office hours:** 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Monday through Friday

June 2017

Kirsten Klepfer, Pastor

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

*It's hard for most of you to know all that goes on at the church between Sundays. For just a glimpse into a small slice of the life of the week-day church I asked our office manager, Sheryl Parmley, to write the column this month. Most of you know that Sheryl pays bills, answers phones, puts together the newsletters and bulletins; but I suspect few of you know how much of her time is spent with folks who come to our church looking for assistance. Sheryl acts on our behalf as she reaches out in compassion and concrete care to every single person who walks through our doors. Enjoy!!! - Pastor Kirsten*

Oh no! The Office Manager is writing this month's Garden of Reading! Since starting on September 1, 2015 as Office Manager there has been a huge increase in people traffic here at First Presbyterian Church. I feel the increase is due to the The Food Recovery Network ministry here and an increase in the number of under-served residents of Grinnell. In a week there may be as many as 50 people here for The Food Recovery Network. There is not a day that goes by when people are calling or walking in looking for some sort of assistance. There have been as many as ten people in a morning and eight of those people waiting for me when I arrive at 8:10 a.m. and on a Monday morning all come out of one car! Each family situation is different and the needs may be different too.

Some things that we can offer to these people are a well stocked freezer of food that is provided by The Food Recovery Network. It is prepared foods ready to thaw and heat. Popular items are mashed potatoes, chicken and vegetables. Another thing that is stocked is bottled water. These things are in addition to the gas cards for medical appointments and Wal-Mart cards for personal products. Personal care items cannot be purchased with a food card and often MICA is out of those items.

Sometimes I feel helpless but know there is someone out there that may be able to help these people if we can't. Some people are really trying to better their lives even when it seems like it a tough road with no end in sight. All they are wanting is a normal life with reliable transportation, a job, clothes, book or magazine to read, being able to provide basic items such as water, laundry soap, other personal care items and food for their family. Often times they are looking for someone to listen to them. My goal is to make sure all who walk in the door feel welcome.

How do I feel when we have nothing to give them? Sometimes I lose sleep, as I did with one case only because their situation was beyond what I could imagine. Overnight I was able to come up with some ideas for them (and really wanted Pastor Kirsten to hurry back so she could help), and other times I go right back to what I was working on and don't give it another thought.

What would I do if I was in their situation? This is a question that I have asked myself many times. I know one thing I would use every available resource to better my life for me and my family.

The role of the Office Manger has changed. My duties now include light case management. Sometimes this may take a better part of a morning trying to sort out what is the best solution. When that happens all of the church duties are put on hold.

I have learned a lot about people and have heard many stories since September 2015, but the common thing here is that the human need is greater than the church need and somehow those church duties get done too!

Blessings,  
Sheryl Parmley  
Office Manger

Pastor Kirsten will be writing the July Garden of Reading again!



### RUMMAGE SALE—JUNE 16 AND 17

Our annual rummage sale will be held on June 16 and 17. I will have sign-up sheets for helpers in the Fellowship Hall. You can bring your used, clean items to the back (Southwest) Sunday School room between now and the sale dates. If you have a large item, please let Linda know and we will see if we can assist getting it here or make other arrangements. Please do not bring any TVs or microwaves. They often do not sell and cost us to dispose of them. Thank you very much.

Linda Cranston: 641-260-8071.

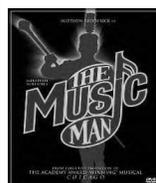


### ROADSIDE CLEAN-UP

Thank you very much for the help cleaning up the church sponsored road way east of Grinnell to: **Al Ricks, Tom and Emily Moore, Marta Miller and Linda Stoll.**

-Phil McCune

### SAVE THE DATE—JULY 14



Save the date for the next **All-Church Event** which will be on Friday, July 14. There will be a Music Man supper and then everyone can go and enjoy at performance of the Music Man together.

Additional details to follow in the July newsletter.



### JUNE BIRTHDAYS

- 3<sup>o</sup> Suzanne Schwengels
- 8<sup>o</sup> Marie Eisenman
- 12<sup>o</sup> Ed Phillips
- 15<sup>o</sup> Chris Day
- 18<sup>o</sup> Maggie Hoffstatter
- 20<sup>o</sup> Carol Weisskopf
- 21<sup>o</sup> Tom Moore  
Phil Moore
- 22<sup>o</sup> Marta Miller
- 25<sup>o</sup> Alana Ferguson
- 30<sup>o</sup> Julio Parmley

### THANK YOU

Thank you to our May coffee servers. They were **Carey Krull, Janice Logan, and**

**Montie Redenius.** Thank you to our potluck coordinators **Donna Ricks and Char Ewan.** Also, thank you to our cake baker **Ed Phillips** for the yummy birthday cake.



Earth laughs in flowers.  
-Ralph Waldo Emerson



Dream it, wish it, do it.  
-Unknown

### PIPES UPDATE

Work on the pipes will begin Tuesday, May 30.

### LET JUSTICE FLOW!

### SYNOD SCHOOL: July 23-28, BUENA VISTA COLLEGE IN STORM LAKE, IOWA

Synod School is a learning and personal enrichment experience for people of all ages. The week is designed for laity and clergy, individuals and families. Classes and activities are available for adults, youth, and children. Each day begins with intergenerational worship, after which the children and youth leave to enjoy their classes and activities for the day. The adults hear a keynote speaker, then they disperse to their classes for the day. Everyone comes together for meals, and each evening there is another intergenerational worship. There is a wide, wide range of classes ó some more experiential, some more academic, and everything in between. The classes are taught by experts in that area. The keynote speaker this year is the PC(USA) Stated Clerk, J. Herbert Nelson. Cláudio Carvalhaes will be leading evening worship. Nelson is a noted speaker and preacher, and is a strong force for issues of social justice. Carvealhaes is an activist, a minister, a professor, and a well-known musician. If you are interested, contact **Pastor Kirsten** for more information.

**THANK YOU**



**Chrissy Hazlett** for providing a list of Things That Will Make You Smile!

**Roger Bortell** and **Russ Stoker** for all their lawn and bush care.

**First Presbyterian Choir** for another fantastic year of music ministry, led by **Lyn Howerzyl** and **Mary Fopma**. What an amazing mix of musical gifts and love of worship and church. The result is an opportunity time and time again for all of us to be pulled from the ordinary into the sacred.

**Sunday school teachers** who prepared, taught, loved and shaped our young folks. Under the leadership of **Marta Miller**, who also taught our middle schoolers, we had **Karla Kriegel** teaching preschoolers, and **Tom Moore** teaching grade school.

**Carolyn Jacobson** and **Erik Simpson** for hosting the last college lunch of the year.

**Russ Stoker** and **Char Ewan** for organizing the Spring Clean Up Day, and for the many volunteers who gave of their time and elbow grease, both the day of, and those who worked on the kitchen in the weeks after.

### HOSPICE

Grinnell Regional Hospice offers an end-of-life option that provides patients and their families with comfort, support, compassion and dignity at the end of life. For questions please call 641-236-2418 or visit [www.hospice@grmc.us](http://www.hospice@grmc.us).

### SEG (SUSTAINABLY EMPOWERING GRINNELLIANS)

SEG is actively seeking donations to increase their ability to provide microloans to those without access to traditional financing resources. If you know someone who has a need for an emergency loan, please have them contact Jenn at [grinnellmicrofinance@gmail.com](mailto:grinnellmicrofinance@gmail.com). If you would like to donate please send your check to SEG, PO Box 481, Grinnell, Iowa 50112 or visit [www.segrinnell.org](http://www.segrinnell.org).

### STREET UPDATE

Fifth Avenue from State Street to Park Street remains closed for new street construction. Currently they are ahead of schedule and the targeted completion date is still the end of June weather permitting. Access to the church parking lot is from either Highway 6 or State Street.

### LECTIONARY IN JUNE

**June 4—Day of Pentecost.** Lectionary reading: Acts 2:1-4, Galatians 4:1-7.

**June 11—Trinity Sunday.** Genesis 1:1-2:4a; Psalms 8; 2 Corinthians 13:11-13; Matthew 28:16-20.

**June 18—2nd Sunday after Pentecost. 11th Sunday in Ordinary Time.** Genesis 18:1-15 (21:1-7); Psalms 116:1-2, 12-19; Romans 5:1-8; Matthew 9:35-10:8 (9-23).

**June 25—3rd Sunday after Pentecost. 12th Sunday in Ordinary Time.** Genesis 21:8-21; Psalms 86:1-10, 16-70; Romans 6:1b-11; Matthew 10:24-39.



### CLEANING PARTY A HUGE SUCCESS!

**THANK YOU AND BLESSINGS** from your **Facilities Committee** to the many people who worked at our Spring Cleaning day after worship on May 7.

Bushes were trimmed, beds weeded, branches picked up and flowers put into the flower pots. The pews were vacuumed and polished. The choir area vacuumed and picked up as well as the sacristy. Bottles of hand sanitizer were filled, windows washed and other areas tidied up. We are grateful to everyone who pitched in and helped make our church building and grounds even more beautiful.



### FOOD PANTRY UPDATE

The MICA Food Pantry is in need of **toilet paper, paper towels, boxes of Kleenex, small bottles of dish soap and laundry detergent, softener sheets, deodorant for men and women, toothbrushes and toothpaste (all sizes and kinds).** These items go very quickly at MICA. If you wish to make a financial donation please mark your check for the **“Poweshiek County Food Pantry.”** Please remember that during the summer the need is still there.

God didn't promise days without pain, laughter without sorrow, nor sun without rain. But God did promise strength for the day, comfort for the tears and light for the way. - Unknown (rev. 2017)

# June 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 5:15 Respite	2 12:00 Lectionary Bible Study	3
4 Holy Communion Food Pantry 2:00 Turlach Ur	5 7:00 Alanon	6 12:00 Food Recovery Network 4:30 Prayer	7	8 5:15 Respite	9 12:00 Lectionary Bible Study	10
11 Heifer 2:00 Turlach Ur	12 7:00 Alanon	13 10:00 Care Givers Group 12:00 Food Recovery Network Rummage Sale Set Up 4:30 Prayer	14 Rummage Sale Set Up 6:30 Deacons	15 Rummage Sale Set Up 5:15 Respite	16 12:00 Lectionary Bible Study Rummage Sale 4:00 SEG	17 Rummage Sale
18 2:00 Turlach Ur	19 Newsletter Deadline 5:30 Alanon Celebration	20 12:00 Food Recovery Network 3:00 Food Distribution 4:30 Prayer	21 6:30 Session	22 10:30 Newsletter Mailing 5:15 Respite	23 12:00 Lectionary Bible Study	24 7 a.m. Food Share
25 Birthday Sunday 2:00 Turlach Ur	26 7:00 Alanon	27 10:00 Care Givers Group 12:00 Food Recovery Network 4:30 Prayer	28	29 5:15 Respite	30 12:00 Lectionary Bible Study	

## HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE SESSION MEETING

### Reports from Working Groups

**Personnel** ó the Committee endorsed the salary increase for Mary Fopma. Mary will be asked if she is interested in leading the Bell Choir.

**Facilities** ó the pipe repair project will commence on May 30<sup>th</sup>; the kitchen door will be taken down for painting with a piece of plywood inserted until the door is returned; when the kitchen door is completed the west door will be taken down and painted; and, the front door needs to be adjusted as a result of the high winds from the storm earlier on May 17<sup>th</sup>.

A quote in the amount of \$9,580 from Manattø Inc. to seal and patch the parking lot was given to session members. Russ will go back to Manattø to request a discount for the church as a 501c(3) organization and ask the quote be extended beyond 30 days. No action was taken. The session will take up this item next month. During the cleanup day, a cracked window in the south Sunday school room was found. Char is working on obtaining quotes from Pella Windows and Hamilton Glass.

Due to the passing of Irma Arnaman, the make-up of the hospitality groups will be reviewed on May 24<sup>th</sup> when the hospitality group leaders meet to clean up the kitchen.

**Education** ó the Committee met on April 23<sup>rd</sup>. Sunday school students will have treats and take a walk on May 21<sup>st</sup> the last day of Sunday school; Pastor Kirsten will talk about present expectations during the childrenø time on May 21<sup>st</sup>; there will be a meeting with parents; next year there will be the same curriculum and teachers. In 2017-18 Julio Parmley, Zach Nickle, Miles McIntyre and Pete Simpson will go through confirmation class. The boys will be asked who they would like to be their mentors. Slane McCue and Lydia Klepfer will go through bible class with Janice Logan and receive their bibles in spring, 2018.

Susan McIntyre and Marta Miller are working on identifying a summer read. This fall the adult education theme will be undocumented immigrants. There will be no vacation bible school this summer; camps include Lakeshore Center and Pilgrim Heights. Synod will meet July 23<sup>rd</sup> through July 28<sup>th</sup>.

Upcoming events include Music Man musical and supper July 14<sup>th</sup> and Presbyterfest September 24<sup>th</sup>.

**Communications** ó Donna Ricks will act as secretary for the Memorials Committee; the committee is discussing how does communication fit into the church ó email, facebook, website, picture directory and talent survey.

### New Business

There will be no session meeting during the month of July.

Due to the death of Irma Arnaman the session will continue with eight members through the end of the calendar year.

**Communion to Homebound Members** ó Deacons Mary Lou Doty, Suzanne Redenius, Ed Phillips and elder Karen Phillips assisted Pastor Kirsten.

### PROJECT HOME MISSION

Project Home Mission is a program which helps families reach their true potential. Families can contact MICA to register their interest. Once accepted into the program, families can expect to work one-on-one every two weeks with a specialist who will assess the familyø strengths, goals and challenges. A plan is written just for the individual family with ongoing support and encouragement offered by the specialist working with that family. Budgeting, job counseling, finding housing and healthy food, working on educational goals, and helping with parenting resources are a few ways Project Home Mission can benefit a family. Do you know of an individual or family who could benefit from Project Home Mission? Please encourage them to contact MICA.



### SIGNS IN YARD

The Session has approved the signs in our church yard. ðNo matter where you are from, weøre glad youøre our neighbor.ö

If we have no peace, it is because we have forgotten that we belong to each other.  
-Mother Teresa



## SUMMER READ

Summer is coming and it is time for our new Summer Read. We have chosen a book on a very timely subject: the refugee crisis in the middle east. *A Hope More Powerful Than the Sea: The Journey of Doaa Al Zamel: One Refugee's Incredible Story of Love, Loss, and Survival*, by Melissa Fleming. This is an emotionally charged, eye-opening true story that represents the millions of unheard voices of refugees who risk everything in a desperate search for the promise of a safe future. Melissa Fleming sheds light on the most pressing humanitarian crisis of our time and paints a vivid, unforgettable portrait of the triumph of the human spirit. I will be putting out a sign up sheet for people who would like to participate. You can indicate if you would like me to order a book for you. They are \$15. There will be books to share and scholarships for anybody who wishes to participate. This book is also in Kindle edition and Audible. Feel free to order your own copy if you like. We will plan to hold our discussion(s) as soon as school starts in August or early September. Everyone is invited to participate in the discussions. If you have questions or would like me to order a book for you let me know. Susan McIntyre [omabluebird@gmail.com](mailto:omabluebird@gmail.com).

## 100+ PEOPLE WHO CARE GRINNELL

**100+ People Who Care Grinnell** made its first contribution of **\$6000** to the Tiger Packs program which benefits elementary students in the Grinnell óNewburg Schools. These packs are filled with shelf-stable nutritional food and are discreetly distributed to children at the end of the school week to ensure they have adequate nutrition for the weekend. Families of these children qualify through the free or reduced lunch program in the schools. Packs are prepared by volunteers with support from Hy-Vee and the Grinnell-Poweshiek Community Foundation. **100+ People Who Care Grinnell** was established in January of this year basing its structure on other People Who Care groups around the globe with the majority here in the States. Grinnell members meet four times a year and pledge to write a \$100 check at each gathering to support a local organization or cause. Three charitable or community serving causes are nominated by the members, and the cause receiving the most votes receives the checks. Change happens when we work together. Currently at sixty voting members, membership is open to anyone who will commit to the concept of making a \$100 charitable contribution to a worthy cause in the greater Grinnell area four times a year. Questions can be addressed to any of the founding board members: Chris Day, 641-485-6180; Dennis Day, 641-485-6118; Donna Ricks, 319-269-9626; or Al Ricks, 319-269-3475. The next meeting is **Tuesday, July 25, 5:30 – 6:30 p.m., at the Drake Community Library.**



### FOOD RECOVERY NETWORK

During the summer, we are still distributing food, but only on

**Tuesdays.** Also, please save your clean cottage cheese,

**cool whip, plastic ice cream containers or other plastic containers similar in size with lids.**

Please bring your **containers** to the **church kitchen.** The **Food Recovery Network** can use them for food distribution.

Rule # 1 of life, do what makes you happy.

ó Unknown

### DIRECTORY CHANGE

Erik and Peter Simpson and Carolyn Jacobson  
605 Van Horne Circle

Chris Day  
[cday7117@gmail.com](mailto:cday7117@gmail.com)

### THINGS THAT WILL MAKE YOU SMILE!

Chocolate milkshakes (or vanilla or strawberry or what ever favor you like)!



## SUNDAY SERVANTS

### JUNE

**4-** Liturgist: Dan McCue  
 Greeter: Linda Cranston  
 Deacon: Mary Lou Doty  
 Ushers: Chris and Dennis Day  
 Coffee: Phil McCune  
 Acolyte: Lydia Klepfer  
 Van Driver: Janice Logan  
 Nursery Volunteer: Emily Moore  
 Communion Servers: Jim Ferguson, Ray Peak  
 Offering Counters: Ray Peak and 2<sup>nd</sup> person as assigned by Finance Committee

**11-** Liturgist: Al Ricks  
 Greeter: Marv and Mary Lou Doty  
 Deacon: Chrissy Hazlett  
 Ushers: Al and Donna Ricks  
 Coffee: Marta Miller  
 Acolyte: Damien Nickle  
 Van Driver: Carey Krull  
 Nursery Volunteer: Jill Kaiser

**18-** Liturgist: David Cranston  
 Greeter: Jim and Sue Ahrens  
 Deacon: Mary Lou Doty  
 Ushers: Stan and Gail Greenwald  
 Coffee: Janice Logan  
 Acolyte: Zach Nickle  
 Van Driver: Montie Redenius  
 Nursery Volunteer: Marta Miller

**25-** Liturgist: Erik Simpson  
 Greeter: Jim and Alana Ferguson  
 Deacon: Denise and Rich Creps  
 Ushers: Debbie Schade, Rich Thorson  
 Coffee: Chrissy Hazlett  
 Acolyte: Julio Parmley  
 Van Driver: Al Ricks  
 Nursery Volunteer: Gail Greenwald  
 Cake baker: Karla Kriegel

### STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

	<u>April</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u>
Pledge Income	\$12,631	\$53,269
Budgeted	\$11,880	\$47,521
Total Income	\$13,233	\$56,178
Budgeted	\$12,371	\$49,487
Expenses	\$11,659	\$49,572
Budgeted	\$12,208	\$47,791

### JULY

**2-** Liturgist: Ray Peak  
 Greeters: Norm and Jo Schroeder  
 Deacon: TBA  
 Ushers: Roger Bortell, Char Ewan  
 Coffee: Ray and Marlene Peak  
 Acolyte: Miles McIntyre  
 Van Driver: David Cranston  
 Nursery Volunteer: Deb Martenson  
 Communion Servers: Dan McCue, Russ Stoker  
 Offering Counters: Stan Greenwald and 2<sup>nd</sup> person as assigned by Finance Committee

**9-** Liturgist: TBA  
 Greeters: Chris and Dennis Day  
 Deacon: Paul Parmley  
 Ushers: Russ Stoker, Linda Stoll  
 Coffee: Marta Miller  
 Acolyte: Slane McCue  
 Van Driver: John Martenson  
 Nursery Volunteer: Linda Cranston

**16-** Liturgist: TBA  
 Greeter: Marie Eisenman  
 Deacon: TBA  
 Ushers: Evelyn Freeman, Ray Peak  
 Coffee: Sheryl Parmley  
 Acolyte: Alana Ferguson  
 Van Driver: Karla Kriegel  
 Nursery Volunteer: Chrissy Hazlett

**23-** Liturgist: TBA  
 Greeter: Selva Lehman  
 Deacon: TBA  
 Ushers: Janice Logan, Char Ewan  
 Coffee: Debbie Schade  
 Acolyte: Zach Nickle  
 Van Driver: Carey Krull  
 Nursery Volunteer: Evelyn Freeman

**30-** Liturgist: TBA  
 Greeter: Art Heimann  
 Deacon: Paul Parmley  
 Ushers: Joy and Carey Krull  
 Coffee: Donna Winburn  
 Acolyte: Lydia Klepfer  
 Van Driver: Montie Redenius  
 Nursery Volunteer: Alana Ferguson  
 Cake baker: TBA and Doty Stoker

An obstacle is often a stepping stone.

-Prescott



First Presbyterian Church  
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Grinnell IA 50112

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Return Service Requested



### **SUMMER WORSHIP**

The worship time this summer will be 10:30 a.m. and that is no change from the rest of the year. There will be no Sunday School or Choir during the summer. There will not be Third Sunday Potlucks in June, July and August.