



The Grinnell Presbyterian

The monthly newsletter of First Presbyterian Church

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February 2017

Kirsten Klepfer, Pastor

GARDEN OF READIN'...

“Sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, singing and making melody to the Lord in your hearts, giving thanks to God at all times and for everything.” - Ephesians 5:19-20

I am thrilled to tell you all that the music director search committee completed its work, and session approved the hiring of their recommended candidate. We will welcome Mary Fopma as our new music director on February 26th.

Mary will be a wonderful addition to our church family. She is a gifted musician with a particular love of church music and organ. She has played for churches throughout her life, starting with her childhood church where she learned to play organ. In addition to doing music for churches, Mary has been a long-time children's music teacher, currently serving at Central Iowa Christian School.

The committee was blessed with good candidates, and unanimously agreed that Mary would be the best person for our church. In addition to her musical talents, she has a deep sense of worship and wanting to use her gifts to connect congregations with God.

Mary is eager to get started. Though she doesn't start until the 26th because of previous commitments, she has already attended a worship committee meeting where we planned for Lent and Easter. She will be meeting soon with Lyn to get the lay of the land, and will spend time with me so both of us can get a sense of how we will best work together.

On her first Sunday, the committee hopes you all will stay after worship for some coffee and cake and a meet and greet with Mary and her husband, Alvin. I am truly excited for everyone to get to know Mary, but I am also genuinely excited for Mary to get to know you all. This is such a loving and welcoming congregation; I know what it's like to work for you all, and so I am anxious for her to experience what I do.

Music is in the air! Welcome Mary!!!

Peace,
Pastor Kirsten



INTRODUCING MARY!

My name is **Mary Fopma** and I am excited to have been offered the Music Director position here at First Presbyterian Church! I have been active in music ever since taking piano lessons in 3rd grade. After learning how to play the organ in high school, I became a church organist and have continued playing at the Sully Christian Reformed Church. I directed the choir there for 4 years as well. Currently I am the K-8 Vocal Teacher at Central Iowa Christian School here in Grinnell. My husband Alvin and I live on a farm south of town where we raised 4 children and are now grandparents to 12 grandchildren. I am looking forward to meeting all of you and getting to know the congregation as we work together to praise and worship God. If you would like to contact me, my email address is: mfopma@windstream.net.



SOUPEL BOWL OF CARING



On **Sunday, February 5**, our youth will be taking a special offering for **Souper Bowl Sunday**. This is a national organization that has been spearheading an annual drive for food and money for food banks across the country since 1990. We normally collect food on the first Sunday, so we hope this will be an especially large collection. The youth will have a kettle to collect money. **Everyone is asked to put \$1 in the soup kettle. Of course you can put more if you prefer. All money collected will go directly to the MICA Poweshiek County Food Pantry.** The only way we involve the national organization is by reporting our donation to them for their statistics and publicity.

The Souper Bowl Sunday movement is to help those who are hurting and hungry started with a simple prayer, by Brad Smith, a seminary intern at a Presbyterian church in South Carolina: òLord even as we enjoy the Super Bowl football game, help us be mindful of those who are with a bowl of soup to eat.ó For additional information please contact **Susan McIntyre**.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN NEWS

Our **Cookie Exchange** and a program on “**Love**” will be held on **Saturday, February 11th at 9:30 a.m.** in the Fellowship Hall. Please bring two dozen cookies to share for coffee time and to take an assortment home. **ALL** are welcome!



TAKE AWAY HUNGER PACKAGING EVENT FEBRUARY 12

We are planning on having both an adult and a Sunday School packaging team for the next Take Away Hunger (formerly KAH) packaging on **February 12th at 1:00 at St. Mary's Education Center**. A sign up sheet will be available on the table in Fellowship Hall. If you are not able to package, financial donations are always welcome.



ASH WEDNESDAY: MARCH 1ST AT 7 P.M.

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent. Attending the non-Sunday worship services throughout the year helps us all understand better the whole of the Christian story. In this case, Ash Wednesday sets the stage for the Lenten journey. The worship service will include communion and the imposition of ashes, an ancient rite signifying contrition, confession, and mortality. If you need a ride, please call the church office at 641-236-6059.

NARRATIVE LECTIONARY IN FEBRUARY

February 5: 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time. Lec-
tionary reading: Luke 7:1-17.

February 12: 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time. Lec-
tionary reading: Luke 7:18-35.

February 19: 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time. Lec-
tionary reading: Luke 7:36-50.

February 26: Transfiguration of the Lord. Lec-
tionary reading: Luke 9:28-45.

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

	<u>December</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u>
Pledge Income	\$13,280	\$144,649
Budgeted	\$10,583	\$127,000
Total Income	\$13,684	\$152,820
Budgeted	\$11,308	\$135,700
Expenses	\$13,528	\$142,556
Budgeted	\$11,829	\$141,956

MEET YOUR OFFICERS: WHAT DO THEY “DO”?

This is the time of year when we nominate, approve, examine, ordain, and install new officers. The congregation, at its annual meeting on January 15th, approved a new slate of officers. The session, at its January 22nd meeting, worked through business items required by the Book of Order.

In the Presbyterian church, we ordain people to two different offices in addition to the minister of the congregation. Together they make up the leadership of the congregation. Each office is specifically charged with leading the congregation in carrying out the ministry of the church. It is helpful to know what those offices are and whom you have elected to fill them.

Elder: Together with ministers of Word and Sacrament, elders exercise leadership and have responsibilities for the life of the church. It is the duty of elders, individually and jointly, to strengthen and nurture the faith and life of the congregation committed to their charge. Together with the pastor they should encourage the people in the worship and service of God, equip and renew them for their tasks within the church and for their mission in the world, visit and comfort and care for the people. (Book of Order)

Deacon: It is the responsibility of the deacons to minister to those who are in need, to the sick, to the friendless, and to any who may be in distress both within and beyond the community of faith. (Book of Order)

Your Elders: **Irma Arnaman, Dennis Day, Jim Ferguson, Stan Greenwald, Karla Kriegel, Dan McCue, Mary Anne Nickle, Ray Peak and Russ Stoker.**

Your Deacons: **Denise and Richard Creps, Mary Lou Doty, Gail Greenwald, Chrissy Hazlett, Phil McCune, Tom Moore, Paul Parmley, Marlene Peak and Ed Phillips.**

Nominating Committee for 2017: **Susan McIntyre, Karen Phillips, and Montie Redenius.**

Clerk of Session records the minutes of the session, keeps roll of membership and attendance of the session and preserves the records of the session. Your Clerk of Session: **Char Ewan.**

Treasurer: **Ed Phillips.**

February 2017

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

			1 12:00 Food Recovery Network	2 12:00 Food Recovery Network 5:15 Respite	3 12:00 Lectionary Bible Study	4 9:00 League of Women Voters Legislative Coffee
5 9:15 Choir, Sunday School Holy Communion Food Pantry 10:30 Worship 2:00 Turlach Ur	6 7:00 Alanon	7 12:00 Food Recovery Network 4:30 Prayer	8 12:00 Food Recovery Network 6:30 Deacons	9 12:00 Food Recovery Network 5:15 Respite	10 12:00 Lectionary Bible Study	11 9:30 PW Cookie Exchange
12 9:15 Choir, Sunday School Heifer Sunday 10:30 Worship 12:00 College Lunch 1:00 TAH 2:00 Turlach Ur	13 7:00 Alanon	14 10:00 Care Givers Group 12:00 Food Recovery Network 4:30 Prayer 5:30 Second Mile	15 12:00 Food Recovery Network 6:30 Session	16 12:00 Food Recovery Network 5:15 Respite	17 12:00 Lectionary Bible Study 4:00 SEG	18
19 9:15 Choir, Sunday School 10:30 Worship Third Sunday Potluck 2:00 Turlach Ur	20 Newsletter Deadline 7:00 Alanon	21 12:00 Food Recovery Network 3:00 Local Foods Distribution 4:30 Prayer	22 12:00 Food Recovery Network	23 10:30 Newsletter Mailing 12:00 Food Recovery Network 5:15 Respite	24 12:00 Lectionary Bible Study	25
26 9:15 Choir, Sunday School 10:30 Worship Birthday Sunday Meet and Greet for Mary Fopma 2:00 Turlach Ur	27 7:00 Alanon	28 10:00 Care Givers Group 12:00 Food Recovery Network 4:30 Prayer				

SUNDAY SERVANTS

February

5- Liturgist: Char Ewan
Greeters: Bob and Carol Weisskopf
Deacon: Phil McCune
Ushers: David and Linda Cranston
Coffee: Debbie Schade
Acolyte: Miles McIntyre
Van Driver: Paul Parmley
Nursery Volunteer: Sheryl Parmley
Communion Servers: Karla Kriegel, Ray Peak
Offering Counters: Russ Stoker and 2nd person as assigned by Finance Committee
12- Liturgist: Karen Phillips
Greeter: Selva Lehman
Deacon: Ed Phillips
Ushers: Janice Logan, Elizabeth Trimmer
Coffee: Emily Moore
Acolyte: Damien Nickle
Van Driver: Montie Redenius
Nursery Volunteer: Marta Miller
19- Liturgist: Alana Ferguson
Greeter: Art Heimann
Deacon: Chrissy Hazlett
Ushers: Montie Redenius, Roger Bortell
Potluck: Gail and Stan Greenwald
Acolyte: Zach Nickle
Van Driver: Karla Kriegel
Nursery Volunteer: Jill Kaiser
26- Liturgist: Ed Phillips
Greeter: Chrissy Hazlett
Deacon: Tom Moore
Ushers: Rich Thorson, Stiven Parmley
Coffee: Janice Logan
Acolyte: Peter Simpson
Van Driver: Paul Parmley
Nursery Volunteer: Alana Ferguson
Cake baker: Karla Kriegel

March

5- Liturgist: Karla Kriegel
Greeters: The McCue Family
Deacon: Mary Lou Doty
Ushers: Sue and Jim Ahrens
Coffee: Jim Ahrens
Acolyte: Julio Parmley
Van Driver: Montie Redenius
Nursery Volunteer: Greyson Bourgeois
Communion Servers: Dan McCue, Mary Anne Nickle
Offering Counters: Ray Peak and 2nd person as assigned by Finance Committee
12- Liturgist: TBA
Greeters: Norm and Jo Schroeder
Deacon: Paul Parmley
Ushers: Carolyn Jacobson and Erik Simpson
Coffee: Donna Winburn
Acolyte: Alana Ferguson
Van Driver: Carey Krull
Nursery Volunteer: TBA
19- Liturgist: TBA
Greeters: Dallas and Lola Sterk
Deacon: Marlene Peak
Ushers: Joy and Carey Krull
Potluck: Mary Anne and Kendall Nickle
Acolyte: Lydia Klepfer
Van Driver: Karla Kriegel
Nursery Volunteer: Sheryl Parmley
26- Liturgist: TBA
Greeter: Miriam Baumann
Deacon: Chrissy Hazlett
Ushers: Char Ewan, Linda Stoll
Coffee: Chris and Dennis Day
Acolyte: Slane McCue
Van Driver: Karen Phillips
Nursery Volunteer: Linda Cranston
Cake baker: Marlene Peak

CHECK IT OUT

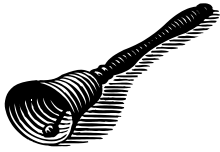
Have you visited First Presbyterian Church's website? It is www.fpcgrinnell.volasite.com.

No act of kindness no matter how small, is ever wasted.

ô Aesop

GRINNELL COLLEGE GRADUATION WEEKEND B&B

Several years ago, **Tom Moore** started a Bed and Breakfast program with some members of our congregation as a fundraiser for missions. First Presbyterian Church would like to continue the program if there is enough interest among members to do so. **If you would be willing to host one or more people for 2-3 nights, and offer them a continental breakfast in the mornings for graduation weekend May 20-22 please let the church office know at phone number 641-236-6059.** Additional information will be available in the next newsletter.



BELL CHOIR

There will be **no** Bell Choir practice in February. If you would like to join the Bell choir please contact Chris Day. Bell Choir will begin again in **March**. Watch the March newsletter for additional details.

RUMMAGE SALE ALERT!

Our annual **rummage sale** will be on **June 16 and 17**. Starting **June 1**, you can leave clean and working items in the far southwest Sunday School room. So, while doing your spring cleaning, keep this in mind. Please call Linda Cranston if you have any questions: 641-990-1610.

A SPECIAL NOTE OF THANKS...

Dear First Presbyterian Family:

I want to say thank you for such a wonderful farewell time together. It was so nice to read all of the cards and notes from you. The beautiful stained glass hanging is going to have a special place in our home that will always remind me of you. I appreciate all the thoughtful planning that went into everything from **Rich** singing "Untitled Hymn" and **Al** accompanying, to the details that **Donna** and **her team** made happen. Having **Karen** speak was so meaningful and while listening to **Pastor Kirsten** speak I kept thinking how she really made it easy and natural to serve at First Presbyterian. I will miss you all, but I will never forget you or your kind and caring ways.

ô **Lyn Howerzyl**

If a problem isn't worth praying about, it's not worth worrying about.

DIRECTORY CHANGES

Char Ewan

Email: cewan520@gmail.com

Maggie Hoffstatter

Heritage Manor Care Center

1743 South 8th Avenue East

Newton, Iowa 50208

Phone: 641-792-5680

As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them.

ô John F. Kennedy

LOVE CAME DOWN...

The opening line to a Christina Rossetti poem, "Love came down at Christmas, Love all lovely, Love divine," resonated loudly as so many of you, First Presbyterian members and friends, brought to the church kitchen cookies, breads, bars, bags of mixes, candy and fruit to share with those in Grinnell who were at work on Sunday, Christmas Day, serving the public. Then, following worship on Christmas Day, many of you packed up a plate of those treats and a bag of fruit, mixes, and breads to deliver into the community. We can't begin to list your names for fear of missing someone, so if you were one who helped in any way by donating, worshipping, delivering, or cleaning up please accept our thanks for making the day special to those in our community.

Love was definitely shown at Christmas!

-- **Karla Kriegel** and **Donna Ricks**, Worship Committee

MEALS ON WHEELS

Our church and the Episcopal church will be sharing the Meals on Wheels duty beginning **February 27 through March 24**. There will be a sign up sheet in the Fellowship Hall in February so you can pick your route and the days you can do the delivery. Delivery starts at 11:00 and usually takes about a half hour.

The only thing stronger than fear is hope.

ô United Nations Commission for Refugees

COPY OF THE SERMON

If you are interested in receiving a copy of Pastor Kirsten's sermon by email, please contact Sheryl in the office. She will add you to the email list. The email for the church is firstpresgrinnell@gmail.com. Printed copies will be still available for Sunday worship.

THANK YOU



MANY THANKS!

Karla Kriegel, Sara McCue, Karen Phillips, Al Ricks, and Rich Thorson for being on the search committee for the music director. Great work!!

Joyce Wubblels and Al Ricks for being our guest music directors while we searched for someone permanent.

To everyone who serves as a Sunday Servant each Sunday.

To the team of **Barb Erquist, Gail and Stan Greenwald, Janice Logan and Bev Miller** who assemble and prepare the newsletter each month for mailing.

Russ Stoker for keeping the church grounds looking good in the winter months.

Karen Phillips for providing the anthem words each Sunday for the bulletin.

GRINNELL COLLEGE STUDENTS

Grinnell College Students are invited for lunch and conversation on **Sunday, February 12** immediately following the morning worship service. The lunch will be held at the home of **Emily and Tom Moore**. Rides will be available. Feel free to invite a friend. Students will receive more information by email the week before the event.

FOOD PANTRY UPDATE

The need is always there. Please donate if you are able the first Sunday of the month. Currently **there** is a **critical need of paper products** as people cannot purchase these items with food stamps. Financial donations are also accepted.

DID YOU KNOW?

First Presbyterian Church has drivers available to take people to medical appointments. If you know of someone who could benefit from this service, please have them contact the church office at least two weeks in advance of the appointment. If you would be interested in volunteering to drive, please call the church office at 641-236-6059.

2016 GIVING STATEMENTS

If you would like a 2016 giving statement, please contact Sheryl at the office. She will either email or print one out for you. The giving statements are being done by request only.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

The **Bazaar** is scheduled for **Saturday, November 3**. Additional details to follow at a later date. If you have questions please contact Linda Cranston at 641-990-1610.

PRAYER CHAIN

Know someone in need of prayer, or have a prayer concern? Please contact Sheryl at the office, and it will get put on the prayer chain.

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 3^o Margaret McCulley
- 4^o Jackie Jaynes
- 5^o Meredith Breiting
- 14^o Donna Ricks
Debbie Schade
- 15^o Al Ricks
- 24^o Janet Carl
- 26^o John Peak



Try to be a rainbow in someone's cloud.
o Maya Angelou

2017 DEACON OFFICERS

Chair o Paul Parmley
Vice Chair o Marlene Peak
Secretary o Tom Moore
Treasurer o Mary Lou Doty

First Presbyterian Church
1025 Fifth Avenue
Grinnell IA 50112

Return Service Requested



GET INVOLVED!

At the beginning of every year, our session meets and decides how to organize itself to best accomplish its work that year. In part that includes looking at the committees of our church and figuring out who will lead them. But the session members are only the leaders ó we need people to be on the committees in order to have our church function well and fulfill its mission. Below are our committees, a brief description of what that committee does, and the session member(s) who leads it. If you are interested in any of these areas, please contact the session member and let them know.

The mission of the **Facilities Committee** is to ensure the building is in safe condition and the grounds are in acceptable appearance, and to coordinate use of our space to serve our mission. The facilities committee meets semi-regularly to plan and monitor progress on projects. (**Irma Arnaman and Russ Stoker**)

The **Christian Education Committee** is responsible for the Christian Education program for all ages. This includes, but is not limited to: Sunday School for all, Teacher recruitment and training, Youth Groups, Summer Vacation Bible School, confirmation class, Bible introduction for third graders and Bible Studies for various groups. The Christian education committee meets regularly to plan programs and discuss the educational needs of our congregation. (**Dan McCue**)

The **Mission Committee** works to extend the reach of our congregation into our community and the greater world community, guided by the principles taught us by Jesus to feed the hungry, clothe the poor, and treat others as we want to be treated. The mission committee meets on an as-needed basis. (**Ray Peak**)

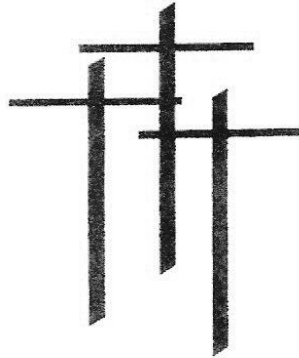
The **Worship Committee** creates worship settings in which the community comes together to praise and glorify our Creator God, and create meaningful worship that reflects the mission of First Presbyterian Church. The worship committee meets approximately four times a year to plan. (**Karla Kriegel**)

The **Finance Committee** is charged with responsibility to monitor all financial matters of the church including the preparation of a budget, which supports the church's vision and mission statement. The finance committee's work is concentrated in the fall when the budget is being prepared. (**Mary Anne Nickle and Dennis Day**)

The **Communications Committee** facilitates the understanding within the congregation about the activities of and in the church, who we are, and what opportunities there are for people to be involved. The communications committee meets semi-regularly to assess the communication needs of the church and to plan for projects. (**Dan McCue**)

The **Memorials Committee** is responsible for celebrating past memorials, documenting all of our memorial gifts, caring for the undesignated memorial monies, and planning for memorial giving in the future. (**Jim Ferguson and Stan Greenwald**)

2017 Lenten Luncheon Series:
Spiritual Disciplines
Sponsored by the Grinnell Ministerial Association



Beginning Wednesday, March 8 and for the next four Wednesdays, the community is invited to come and reflect on the theme of spiritual disciplines, why they are important and how easily they can become disconnected from our daily lives. The services will begin at 12:10 P.M. Following each of the Wednesday services, there will be a light lunch at 12:30. A freewill offering (\$5 suggested) will be taken for the meal and the ongoing ministry of the Ministerial Association. On Good Friday, April 14, there will be an expanded time of reflection. There will be no meal following the Good Friday service.

Date	Host Church	Speaker
March 8	First Baptist Church <i>Worship: Amos 5:18-24</i>	Rev. Kirsten Klepfer
March 15	St. Mary's Catholic Church <i>Prayer: Mathew 6:5-13</i>	Rev. Donovan Van Wyk
March 22	United Methodist Church <i>Fasting: Isaiah 58:3-7</i>	Rev. Wendy Abrahamson
March 29	St. John's Lutheran Church <i>Reading Scripture: Matthew 4:1-11</i>	Rev. Harley Schull
April 5	First Presbyterian Church <i>Keeping the Sabbath: Mark 3:23-28</i>	Dr. Dondrea Walker
April 14 (Good Friday)	St. Paul's Episcopal Church <i>Lenten Reflections</i>	Fr. Ron Hodges

Please plan to join us and invite a friend as we worship together.