



## ***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

July 2017

Kirsten Klepfer, Pastor

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

Due to the efforts of a local Grinnellian, Monique Shore, the United Methodist Church in Iowa is appointing a task force to explore ways for the Iowa conference to support increased inpatient psychiatric beds and trained psychiatrists in Iowa.

Simultaneously, I am working with a small group of Presbyterians in Iowa to move our denomination in exactly that direction. We want permission to begin to assess our combined resources as Iowan Presbyterians that could be used to address the mental health crisis we face in this state.

A couple days after the Iowa United Methodist Conference approved Monique's proposal, I was talking to her husband, Craig. He was reading a book called "Christian Social Innovation" by L. Gregory Jones, and thought it was applicable to our efforts as denominations.

In the book, Jones recalls a conversation with a colleague of his at Duke University who was asking Jones about what had happened to the church. "I am curious why the Church lost interest in entrepreneurial approaches to social needs and problems. For most of American history, faith-based communities led the way in innovative approaches in sectors such as education, health, housing, food, just to name a few. This was particularly true when you think about approaches that achieved scale and scope: faith-based hospitals and hospices, colleges and universities founded by Christians."

This book gives voice to the very question I have been asking for the last couple of years when I have met with other Presbyterians around the state of Iowa; "didn't we used to build hospitals and schools? What happened?" Fortunately, I have found I am not alone in asking this question, nor am I alone in wanting to think in these terms again.

Starting this fall, the four Presbyteries in Iowa will be voting on a resolution to give a task force authority to move forward in thinking about how we can address this issue from a larger, systemic point of view, looking both to our history of building hospitals and schools, and looking to the future and all the new possibilities that exist in our time.

As we move forward in all this, I am reminded of that famous quote of Reinhold Niebuhr:

"Nothing that is worth doing can be achieved in our lifetime; therefore we must be saved by hope.

Nothing which is true or beautiful or good makes complete sense in any immediate context of history; therefore we must be saved by faith.

Nothing we do, however virtuous, can be accomplished alone; therefore we must be saved by love."

The issue of mental illness is complex, will not be solved in any of our life times, and we have dug a hole of substantial depth. But I am hopeful, I have been inspired by the incredible faith of many people, and I know how much love you all have in your hearts for God's people. That's more than enough to get no one to the next step.

Peace,

Pastor Kirsten



## ALL-CHURCH EVENT PLANNED FOR JULY 14!

How many trombones will lead the big parade as it passes through Grinnell this July? What trouble, right here in our hometown, can be eased by Professor Harold Hill?

You know the story of "The Music Man" of a fictional Iowa town in 1912 being fractured by the opening of a pool hall! Into this uproar steps Professor Harold Hill (Gary Conservatory, class of '05) who vows to form a brass band! What transpires next is told by Iowa's own Meredith Wilson in delightful musical form!

**YOU** are invited to enjoy a wonderful evening of music and fun as we attend the **July 14** (a Friday night at 7:00 p.m.) performance being produced

by the Grinnell Community Theatre! Our evening will begin with a Music Man-themed supper, at the church, starting at **5:30 p.m.** For those needing to come from work, serving will continue until 6:15. The light meal is being provided at no cost. Just come and enjoy! We'll also include, at the church, a little "Music Man" trivia and fun before sharing rides to the performance at the high school.

Please arrange for your own tickets to the performance. Tickets are on sale at the Arts Center and at McNally's, at a cost of \$15.00 for adults and \$9.00 for students. We hope you will be able to attend this evening of smiles, laughter, and song!

## RUMMAGE SALE THANK YOU

Thanks to everyone who donated items, helped with setup and clean up and worked at the sale. I want to especially thank **Doty Stoker, Barb Erquist, and Alana Ferguson** for being cashiers; **David Isch, Stiven Parmely, Carey Krull, Chrissy Hazlett, Ray and Marlene Peak, Russ Stoker, Chris and Dennis Day, Karla Kriegel, Bob and Carol Weisskopf, Donna Winburn, Meredith Breiting, Susanne Schwengels and Janice Logan.** If I left anyone out, please forgive my tired memory. \$1,695 was raised for Heifer International.

Linda Cranston



## CONTINUING EDUCATION DATES

**Pastor Kirsten** will be on continuing education leave from July 24 to July 28. She will not miss a Sunday, but **Susan McIntyre** will be the guest preacher on the 30th. **Pastor Kirsten, Lydia, Janice Logan and Marta Miller** are going to Synod School at Buena Vista College in Storm Lake.

## WANT A COPY?

Pastor Kirsten's sermons are available to you by email. If you would like to sign up for a copy, please contact Sheryl in the office.

Make today ridiculously amazing.  
-Unknown

## LECTIONARY IN JULY

**July 2—4th Sunday after Pentecost. 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time.** Genesis 22:1-14; Psalms 13; Romans 6:12-23, Matthew 10:40-42.

**July 9—5th Sunday after Pentecost. 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time.** Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67; Psalms 45:10-17 or Song of Solomon 2:8-13; Romans 7:15-25a; Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30.

**July 16—6th Sunday after Pentecost. 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time.** Genesis 25:19-34; Psalms 119:105-112; Romans 8:1-11; Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23.

**July 23—7th Sunday after Pentecost. 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time.** Genesis 28:19-19a; Psalms 139:1-12, 23-24; Romans 12-25; Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43.

**July 30—8th Sunday after Pentecost. 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time.** Genesis 29:15-28; Psalms 105:1-11, 45b or Psalms 128; Romans 8:26-39; Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52.

## FOOD RECOVERY NETWORK

Do you know of someone who would benefit from an additional food resource or more nutritious meals? The **Food Recovery Network** can help supplement food at no cost. The **Food Recovery Network** provides nutritious, pre-cooked, high quality meals, and much of the food may be frozen for later use. **Food Recovery Network** is happening each Tuesday from **12:00 to 1:00** at First Presbyterian Church during the summer. People are encouraged to come at 11:30 to sign in.

**THANK YOU**



**Janice Logan** for watering the flowers in The Phillips absence.

**Carey Krull and Russ Stoker** for removing the bushes and fence in preparation for the

pipe project.

**Karen and Ed Phillips** for assistance with the newsletter each month.

**David Isch, Carey Krull, Ray Peak, Al Ricks and Russ Stoker** for putting the fence back together.

**Dennis Day** for being our commissioner representative to Presbytery in June.

**Susan McIntyre** for helping Pastor Kirsten with Pentecost festivities!

## A JUNE THANK YOU!

Thank you to our June coffee and lemonade makers: **Chris and Dennis Day, Chrissy Hazlett, Phil McCune, and Marta Miller.** Thank you to **Karla Kriegel** who provided the yummy birthday cake on Birthday Sunday.



## PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

The Presbyterian Women are planning a fall fundraiser. More details to follow in future newsletters.

## SUNDAY SERVANTS

Scheduling of Sunday Servants for September through December will be starting soon! In the past we have scheduled using a list of names generated through the "Getting to Know You" from a 2015 update and by word of mouth. However, if you don't see your name on the Sunday Servants and want to be included, please let the church office know and Sheryl will pass that word along to those doing the scheduling. Please know you are not being intentionally excluded.

If we cannot now end our differences, at least we can help make the world safer for diversity.

-John F. Kennedy

The poetry of the earth is never dead.

-John Keats

## 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 Presbyterian Church has been actively involved in Kids Against Hunger since its inception here in Grinnell in 2006. This includes supporting our packaging teams with financial resources that cover the cost of the food. Each time our two church teams participate we have to donate \$720. Thank you to all who help make this ministry possible with money and time.

A sunrise is God's way of saying lighten up!  
- On a church sign in Ossipee, New Hampshire

## THINGS THAT WILL MAKE YOU SMILE!

The beach.



## **PIPE UPDATE**

As most of you know, we have been having some problems with our pipes. We've had some back ups, including a couple of Sundays when we've had to shut down our restrooms. After the facilities committee did some research, the session voted in May to hire someone to put a synthetic liner in our pipes, smoothing them out and letting things pass through more easily.

Unfortunately, as work began, we learned that the diameter of our pipes is smaller than originally thought, so the lining will not work for us. This is certainly not ideal, but it's also not catastrophic. Our pipes were thoroughly cleaned out, and we have changed some things internally (using thinner toilet paper and not using the garbage disposal in the kitchen), so we should be fine for quite a while.

Looking long term, without a new liner, we will need to have a thorough cleaning of our pipes periodically. It's difficult to predict how often that will be, but we're likely looking at every 5 ó 10 years. In the meantime, we will continue to ask folks to be conscious about what they put down our drains, and to flush twice when using the restrooms. Thanks for your understanding!!

## **SUMMER JOY OFFERING!**

During the month of July, we will receive our Summer Joy Offering. This is an important special offering of the PCUSA that goes to support important 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 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>.

## **UPDATE REGARDING REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT IN GRINNELL**

After multiple conversations with the two organizations that resettle refugees in Iowa, the possibility of resettlement of a family in Grinnell is very unlikely. Catholic Charities is not interested in placing families outside of Des Moines due to the logistics of case management and isolation of the family from other refugees. The Des Moines field office of the US Committee for Refugees and Immigrants (USCRI) indicate interest in exploring the possibility of resettlement in Grinnell. However, after much consideration the USCRI office concluded "it is unlikely that they would have the potential to resettle a family in Grinnell in the near future." Due to the public debate and uncertainty regarding the "US travel ban" USCRI stated they "currently do not have any arrivals, and it is a very muddy picture of what the future holds." Thus, at the present time it is not possible for the First Presbyterian Church of Grinnell to move forward concerning the possible resettlement of a family in our community. Should the picture change, I will keep the church informed. Many thanks are extended to the numerous congregants who have expressed an interest in being involved in the project. Respectfully, David Isch.

## CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP

Grinnell Regional Hospice offers a Caregiver Support Group for anyone caring for an adult loved one. The group provides caregivers with the opportunity to gain support, strength and encouragement from each other. The group meets the Fourth Tuesday of each month from 10 a.m. to noon at the First Presbyterian Church.

### SESSION

The Session minutes will return in August. There will be no Session meeting in July.



You begin to feel thirsty when your body loses 1 % of water. Taken from [www.did-you-knows.com](http://www.did-you-knows.com)



## JULY BIRTHDAYS

- 1-Ryan Peak
- 5-Dallas Sterk
- 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

## TRAVELS AND BLOG

**Alyssa DeBella**, a Grinnell College student that attends First Presbyterian Church is embarking on a travel adventure. If you are interested in following along her blog is [www.thewisewillow.com](http://www.thewisewillow.com). She will return to Grinnell in the spring of 2018.

## FOOD PANTRY UPDATE

First Presbyterian Church donated 119.2 pounds plus bread and milk vouchers in the month of May to the MICA Food Pantry. With our support and assistance MICA was able to provide food boxes to 230 families throughout Poweshiek County. Starting June 1 MICA clients are eligible to use the Food Pantry twice a month. **Remember items such as paper, hygiene, cleaning and dental products cannot be purchased with supplemental food programs.** Therefore, MICA Food Pantry looks to the community for support. Those items go quickly at the food pantry and those items are greatly appreciated when donated.



## CHURCH DIRECTORY CHANGES

This is 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.

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[www.glasbergen.com](http://www.glasbergen.com)



**"Wireless communication is nothing new.  
I've been praying for 75 years!"**

# July 2017

| Sun   | Mon                                     | Tue  | Wed                              | Thu  | Fri   | Sat   |
|---|---|--|----------------------------------|--|---|---|
|   |   |  |                                  |  |   | 1   |
| <b>2</b><br><b>Holy Communion</b><br><b>Food Pantry</b><br><b>10:30 Worship</b><br><b>2:00 Turlach Ur</b> | <b>3</b><br><b>7:00 Alanon</b>          | <b>4</b><br><b>Office closed for the holiday</b><br><br><b>12:00 Food Recovery Network</b><br><br><b>4:30 Prayer</b> | <b>5</b>                         | <b>6</b><br><b>5:15 Respite</b>  | <b>7</b><br><b>12:00 Lectionary Bible Study</b>   | <b>8</b><br><b>10 :00 to 3:00 Iowa Art Quilters</b> |
| <b>9</b><br><b>Heifer</b><br><br><b>10:30 Worship</b><br><b>2:00 Turlach Ur</b>                           | <b>10</b><br><b>7:00 Alanon</b>         | <b>11</b><br><b>10:00 Care Givers Group</b><br><br><b>12:00 Food Recovery Network</b><br><br><b>4:30 Prayer</b>      | <b>12</b><br><b>6:30 Deacons</b> | <b>13</b><br><b>5:15 Respite</b>   | <b>14</b><br><b>12:00 Lectionary Bible Study</b><br><br><b>1:00 Set-up for All Church Music Man Event</b><br><b>5:30 Dinner for Music Man</b> | <b>15</b>   |
| <b>16</b><br><b>10:30 Worship</b><br><br><b>2:00 Turlach Ur</b>   | <b>17</b><br><b>7:00 Alanon</b>         | <b>18</b><br><b>12:00 Food Recovery Network</b><br><br><b>3:00 Food Distribution</b><br><br><b>4:30 Prayer</b>       | <b>19</b>                        | <b>20</b><br><b>10:00 to 3:00 Donna Ricks</b><br><br><b>5:15 Respite</b> | <b>21</b><br><b>12:00 Lectionary Bible Study</b><br><br><b>4:00 SEG</b>   | <b>22</b>   |
| <b>23</b><br><b>10:30 Worship</b><br><br><b>2:00 Turlach Ur</b>   | <b>24</b><br><b>Newsletter Deadline</b> | <b>25</b><br><b>10:00 Care Givers Group</b><br><br><b>12:00 Food Recovery Network</b><br><br><b>4:30 Prayer</b>      | <b>26</b>                        | <b>27</b><br><b>10:30 Newsletter Mailing</b><br><br><b>5:15 Respite</b>  | <b>28</b><br><b>12:00 Lectionary Bible Study</b>  | <b>29</b>   |
| <b>30</b><br><b>Birthday Sunday</b><br><br><b>10:30 Worship</b><br><b>2:00 Turlach Ur</b>                 | <b>31</b><br><b>7:00 Alanaon</b>        |  |                                  |  |   |   |

## SUNDAY SERVANTS

### **JULY**

**2-** Liturgist: Ray Peak  
Greeter: Norm and Jo Schroeder  
Deacon: Marlene Peak  
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 the Finance Committee  
**9-** Liturgist: Montie Redenius  
Greeter: 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: Rich Thorson  
Greeter: Marie Eisenman  
Deacon: Mary Lou Doty  
Ushers: Evelyn Freeman, Ray Peak  
Coffee: Sheryl Parmley  
Acolyte: Alana Ferguson  
Van Driver: Karla Kriegel  
Nursery Volunteer: Chrissy Hazlett  
**23-** Liturgist: Marie Eisenman  
Greeter: Selva Lehman  
Deacon: Denise and Rich Creps  
Ushers: Janice Logan, Char Ewan  
Coffee: Debbie Schade  
Acolyte: Zach Nickle  
Van Driver: Carey Krull  
Nursery Volunteer: Evelyn Freeman  
**30-** Liturgist: Alana Ferguson  
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: Mary Lou Doty and Doty Stoker

Love is a fruit in season at all times, and within  
reach of every hand.ô Mother Teresa

### **AUGUST**

**6-** Liturgist: Mary Anne Nickle  
Greeter: Stan and Gail Greenwald  
Deacon: Mary Lou Doty  
Ushers: Rich Thorson, Damien Nickle  
Coffee: Marie Eisenman  
Acolyte: Damien Nickle  
Van Driver: Al Ricks  
Nursery Volunteer: Emily Moore  
Communion Servers: Karla Kriegel, Jim Ferguson  
Offering Counters: Russ Stoker and 2<sup>nd</sup> person as  
assigned by the Finance Committee  
**13-** Liturgist: TBA  
Greeter: Bob and Carol Weisskopf  
Deacon: Gail Greenwald  
Ushers: David and Linda Cranston  
Coffee: TBA  
Acolyte: Julio Parmley  
Van Driver: John Martenson  
Nursery Volunteer: Jill Kaiser  
**20-** Liturgist: TBA  
Greeter: Russ and Doty Stoker  
Deacon: Denise and Rich Creps  
Ushers: Donna and Al Ricks  
Coffee: Char Ewan  
Acolyte: Miles McIntyre  
Van Driver: David Cranston  
Nursery Volunteer: Sue Ahrens  
**27-** Liturgist: TBA  
Greeter: Dallas and Lola Sterk  
Deacon: Phil McCune  
Ushers: Marv and Mary Lou Doty  
Coffee: Chris and Dennis Day  
Acolyte: Slane McCue  
Van Driver: Karla Kriegel  
Nursery Volunteer: Marta Miller  
Cake Baker: TBA

## STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

|               | <u>May</u> | <u>Year-to-Date</u> |
|---------------|------------|---------------------|
| Pledge Income | \$11,540   | \$64,810            |
| Budgeted      | \$11,880   | \$59,401            |
| <br>          |            |                     |
| Total Income  | \$11,620   | \$68,799            |
| Budgeted      | \$12,371   | \$61,859            |
| <br>          |            |                     |
| Expenses      | \$11,547   | \$61,157            |
| Budgeted      | \$11,829   | \$59,620            |

First Presbyterian Church  
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Return Requested

Sunsets are proof that no matter  
what happens, every day can end  
beautifully.  
-Kristen Bulter