

CONNECTIONS

Above the Cross of Jesus...by Chuck Hanson, artist



Descriptions with Bible verse reference:

1. The band of yellow light represents Jesus saying to the man on his right, "I tell you the truth, today you will be with me in Paradise". **Luke 23:43**
2. Pilate, at the top left, is washing his hands and saying to the crowd: "I am innocent of this man's blood. It is your responsibility." **Matthew 27:24**
3. The soldier at the bottom left is holding the stick with a sponge of vinegar on it. The cup of vinegar sits on the ground near him. **Matthew 27:48**
4. The hammer and nails that lay on the ground are left from nailing Jesus to the cross.
5. The soldier to the right holds a spear that was used on Jesus.
6. When Jesus had breathed his last, the centurion who stood in front of Jesus and saw how he died said: "Surely this man was the Son of God" **Mark 15:39**

The letters on the upper right using cracks in the ground and rocks spell:

FOR US
0 A.D.
To
NOW A.D.

Pastors Report...by Deb Kinney

February 2011

Worship

4 worship services

Christian Education

Led 6 Bible studies on Wednesday mornings

Counseling

10 Drop-ins/appointments/calls

3 sessions with youth

Visitation

3 hospital/home visits

Sent 5 cards/postcards

Church Meetings

Worship

Staff (2)

Welcome

Soup Supper committee

Deacons

Session

Church Activities/Events I Attended

Movie Night

Soup Supper

Hazel's Birthday Party

Yum Yum

Presbytery Activities/Meetings

Committee on Prep for Ministry

Presbytery Meeting in Williamsburg

Ordination Grading in Chicago 2 days

Moderate Session for Wapello Pres.

Church

Prep for CPM, working with candidates

Education

Prep for Bible studies

1 Spiritual direction session

Prep for Ash Wednesday, Lent

Community

3 Kiwanis lunches

1 Spiritual Direction session

American Cancer Society Relay For Life...Ed & Pat Whitmore

Celebrate

Remember

Fight Back

The countdown for the 2011 American Cancer Society's Relay For Life began on Tuesday evening, March 22nd. Tables were set up in the large conference room at the Burlington Library, colorfully displaying information about the relay. Stations were set up showing how to register, advertise, raise money and provide opportunities to honor survivors, caregivers and memorials of those claimed.

Our church had a wonderful response to the idea of forming a team for the relay. We have 21 people signed up to participate in the Relay For Life, Friday and Saturday, August 5-6, 2011. There is always room for more walkers as well as volunteers. For more information or if you are interested, give us a call: 752-0468 or e-mail quiltedpiper@msn.com

Glimpses of Grace . . . by Deb Kinney

Spring is in the air, Easter is just a few weeks away, the robins have returned and all is fairly right with the world. The reason all is fairly right with the world, the reason that the earth continues to spin on its axis and the reason the seasons continue like clockwork is God's faithfulness and love. In God we live and breathe and move and have our very being, the Apostle Paul told the people of Athens. That truth of the 1st century is still the truth of the 21st century. God sustains and God provides, whether we realize it or not, whether we acknowledge it or not, whether we understand it or not. All because of His incredible and boundless love for us.

Nowhere is God's love better revealed than in what happens during Holy Week. And in particular, what happens in the Garden of Gethsemane and then on Good Friday. In the Garden Jesus suffers and prays. The Gospel writers let us know that Jesus was depressed and confused; Jesus was sorrowful to the point of death; Jesus was in such anguish that He sweat drops of blood. In the Garden, Jesus was also deserted by His closest friends who were unable to stay awake and pray. Yet, in the Garden, Jesus continued to pray because Jesus wanted to obey; obedience to God's will was Jesus' greatest desire. Jesus, who is fully human and fully divine, knows that obedience to God's will is not always easy nor is that obedience something to which humans naturally submit. However, in the midst of His time of prayer Jesus shows His love for the Father by submitting His will to the Father's will. Jesus shows His love for the Father by obeying. Jesus shows His love for the disciples and for you and me by obeying.



Hebrews 5:7-9: 'During the days of Jesus' life on earth, He offered up prayers and petitions with loud cries and tears to the One who could save Him from death, and He was heard because of His reverent submission. Although He was a Son, He learned obedience from what He suffered and once made perfect, He became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey Him...'

Good Friday is also an amazing demonstration of God's love. Scholar Richard John Neuhaus in his preface, *Death on a Friday Afternoon*, writes, 'Good Friday is not just one day of the year. It is a day relived in every day of the world, and of our lives in the world.' He goes on to say Good Friday is not a sad but needed prelude to the glory of Easter, though some churches and Christians like to go from the joy of Palm Sunday straight to the joy of Easter. Rather, 'every day of the year is a good day to think more deeply about Good Friday, for Good Friday is the drama of love by which our every day is sustained.'

'Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends,' Jesus says. And then He did lay down His life for you and for me. May this holy season, this upcoming holy week and the rest of 2011 be a time in which you and your loved ones experience richly the drama of God's love for you.

What is Per Capita?

Per capita seems to be a difficult idea to wrap one's head around so here is the official PC(USA) definition followed by definitions found in two church newsletters.

"Per capita is an opportunity for all communicant members of the Presbyterian church through the governing bodies to participate equally, responsibly, and interdependently by sharing the cost of coordination and evaluation of mission; and of performing ecclesiastical, legislative, and judicial functions that identify a Reformed Church, while at the same time strengthening the sense of community among all Presbyterians" (*GA Minutes*, Part I, 1995). "Per Capita is a way for individual churches to share in the expenses incurred by the larger PC (USA) church. It supports the important work of the General Assembly as well as the work of our synods and presbyteries. It is the financial grease that keeps the greater church's cogs spinning, just as our weekly offering keeps St. Andrew running. Churches are assessed a fee based on confirmed members." (St. Andrew Presbyterian Church, Iowa City)



"We who worship in Marion are tied to the larger church in ministry. One concrete form of the connection is our per capita. Every Presbyterian church in the country is required to pay a certain amount for each active member on its rolls. This money goes to support the work and ministry of our church throughout the country. Each governing body above the Session has staff members and expenses that support the work of the church. Unlike pastors, these individuals have no congregation to support their ministry. Although their ministry may not be as "glamorous" as missionary work in South America, they are essential to the life of the Presbyterian Church." (First Presbyterian Church, Marion)

Per Capita for First Presbyterian Church is \$30.40 for 2011. Please write per capita on the memo portion of your check or on your envelope so that it is recorded properly.

Review of Brian McLaren's Lecture & Workshop

by A. J. Plummer, Director of Christian Education at Westminster Presbyterian Church

On March 4-5, author Brian McLaren spoke and shared insights with a sizeable group of ecumenical clergy and lay leaders from across Eastern Iowa. In a lecture on Friday night and a workshop on Saturday, McLaren presented thought-provoking information on the emerging church of the 21st century.

One of the most insightful anecdotes utilized was likening the current movements of the church to that of a forest fire. In forests, large trees suck into their trunks all the nutrients from the surrounding ground, preventing any low-lying plants from receiving necessary nutrients not to mention sunlight. When a forest fire occurs, the trees are burned to ashes, redistributing the nutrients, and after several months, the forest grows more verdantly than before. In many ways, this is the exact cycle of the church. Our initial reaction to these "fires" or changes is to try to extinguish them; however, if we have the necessary faith to weather the storm, we will find an end result that is more alive and more fruitful than ever before.



In this way, McLaren indicated that we are once again on the precipice of monumental change in our understanding of being a Christ-follower in the 21st century. Through a revitalization of what it means to be Christian community (even reaching out to others beyond the bonds that tie us to Christ) as well as our spiritual formation through many forgotten spiritual practices, McLaren envisions a future in which a greater awareness and contextual understanding of Jesus Christ, both man and Savior, will abound not just for the benefit of Christians but for peoples of all faith traditions and belief structures.

Thank You...from Christian Education...by Kathi Linn

You are Amazing!

I wish I could do more than merely say “thank you” to all of the wonderful people of FPC who support the children and youth programs in our church.

Thanks to five families, \$750 has been donated toward sending teens to a weekend Christian conference in Chicago April 1-2. This trip has been a highlight of their Christian education each year and, thanks to you, it will continue to be a memory they will treasure.

Thanks to everyone for supporting PB&J, our mid-week program for our youngest children and the friends they bring with them each week. We no longer need donations! Bless you for feeding them so well all year.

Thank you in advance for your support of the children's and youth's Easter activities. You have answered our request for supplies for the Palm Sunday pancake breakfast and the annual Easter Egg Hunt and party. Donations are still arriving.

Without your help many of these annual activities would not have occurred.

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of heaven." I believe that Jesus knows what you have done for His children, and blesses you for it.

C.E. AND EASTER GO HAND IN PAW...by Kathi Linn

Easter is the most important time for children to learn about God's gift to them. It is the heart of our faith and FPC teachers make sure that the true meaning is taught each year.

This year both the Sunday morning and the Wednesday evening programs will use the Veggie Tales DVD titled “An Easter Carol: The Story of Jesus' Resurrection”. They will learn that the hope of Easter is everlasting life.

Children are also invited to enjoy an old-fashioned Easter Egg Hunt during our annual Easter party on Saturday, April 16. Meeting from 10:00 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. children through the 5th grade will be treated to an Easter egg hunt, craft time, snacks and gift packages for everyone who attends. *Children must bring their own baskets for the hunt!*

This is open to all children, so friends and their parents are invited as well. We want everyone to know that FPC cares about children and young families.

The next day, Palm Sunday, the Garcia family will again prepare and serve a pancake breakfast to the congregation. They will begin serving at 9:00 a.m. and close the kitchen at 9:50 a.m. so everyone can get to church by 10:00. Money raised will go into the general C.E. fund to cover the needs of our children and youth programs during the rest of the year.

Borrow a child if you need to, and join us at any or all of the Easter events held at your church.



Notice: Date Change for Volunteer Luncheon...by Polly Rein

Because there are conflicting community activities on April 9, the Congregational Life Committee has changed the date of our Volunteer Recognition Luncheon to JUNE 11 in Fellowship Hall. Please, all volunteers, put this date on your calendar and remember to sign up by June 8. The signup sheet will return to the "kitchen counter" on May 11.



Newsworthy Notes



Please give a huge 'thank you!' to Linda Tickel for all the years she has been one of the friendly faces greeting folks here at FPC. Linda has served as a second Sunday greeter since Frosty and Sue Krummel were pastors here ... that is a lot of Sundays and a lot of smiles and handshakes! Linda also organizes and coordinates the greeters' ministry.

Please give another huge 'thank you!' to Andy and Debbie Opiekun for all their work behind the kitchen counter. The Opiekuns have been organizing, cooking and cleaning up after our Lenten suppers (5 weeks) for the past few years. They keep us well-fed and friendly!

Everyone who volunteers their time is greatly appreciated. And any time one person is noted for their long service, others may be left out. We apologize in advance for that. However, if you know of a longtime volunteer you would like mentioned and noticed, please let the church office know.

We hope to change our wall photos on a regular basis. If you would like to purchase a photo that has been 'retired', please talk to Sandy Morrison in the church office. The photos are 'retired' once they have been removed from the wall (and not a second before! :-))



The Worship Team continues to seek new ways to enhance the worship experience by using E.P.I.C. as our guide: **Experiential, Participatory, Image-driven, Community**. If you have an interest in drama, special music or being a liturgist on Sundays, please contact a member of the Worship Team: Pat Whitmore, moderator, Carol Brotherson, Eva Ann Elmer, Terri Huddleston, Randy Kinney, Marilyn Nuss or Ken Velharticky.

Memorial Day...May *Connections*



We will be honoring those who have served their country in a Memorial Day article in the May *Connections*. If you have someone in your family that you would like to have recognized in our Memorial Day article, please let the office know. You may send a picture or just their name. Deadline for May *Connections* is April 22.

From the Trustees

Statement of Income & Expense January 31, 2011

	Budget	Actual	Variance	Percent of Budget
Income				
Offerings	170,981.00	17,938.71	153,042.29	10.5%
Investment In- come	65,027.00	39,311.95	25,715.05	60.5%
PerCapita	5,000.00	60.60	4,939.40	1.2%
Total Income	241,008.00	57,311.26	183,696.74	23.8%
Expenses				
Personnel	137,266.00	10,429.23	126,836.77	7.6%
Christian Educa- tion	3,000.00	172.43	2,827.57	5.7%
Congregational Life	2,250.00	60.98	2,189.02	2.7%
Deacons	250.00		250.00	0.0%
Mission	26,202.00	1,374.32	24,827.68	5.2%
PerCapita	9,758.00		9,758.00	0.0%
Property	48,104.00	5,206.20	42,897.80	10.8%
Finance	9,178.00	601.01	8,576.99	6.5%
Worship	3,000.00	591.38	2,408.62	19.7%
Welcoming Com- mittee	2,000.00	819.50	1,180.50	41.0%
Total Expenses	241,008.00	19,255.05	221,752.95	8.0%
Differential		38,056.21		

From the Trustees

Statement of Income & Expense February 28, 2011

	Budget	Actual	Variance	Percent of Budget
Income				
Offerings	170,981.00	33,464.42	137,516.58	19.6%
Investment In- come	65,027.00	39,321.39	25,705.61	60.5%
PerCapita	5,000.00	234.30	4,765.70	4.7%
Total Income	241,008.00	73,020.11	167,987.89	30.3%
Expenses				
Personnel	137,266.00	20,493.22	116,772.78	14.9%
Christian Educa- tion	3,000.00	272.80	2,727.20	9.1%
Congregational Life	2,250.00	116.96	2,133.04	5.2%
Deacons	250.00	20.00	230.00	8.0%
Mission	26,202.00	3,135.16	23,066.84	12.0%
PerCapita	9,758.00		9,758.00	0.0%
Property	48,104.00	10,502.46	37,601.54	21.8%
Finance	9,178.00	1,968.04	7,209.96	21.4%
Worship	3,000.00	878.74	2,121.26	29.3%
Welcoming Com- mittee	2,000.00	899.50	1,100.50	45.0%
Total Expenses	241,008.00	38,286.88	202,721.12	15.9%
Differential		34,733.23		

Mission News...Mike Gorman

Japan Recovery - One Great Hour of Sharing

Since the devastating earthquake and resulting tsunami that struck Japan killing thousands and causing radioactive releases from nuclear reactor breaches, the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) continues to pray, solicit donations and work with partners to form a response to the disasters.



Presbyterian Disaster Assistance sent \$100,000 from One Great Hour of Sharing funds to partner Church World Service to assist in Japan's recovery. First Presbyterian Church will be supporting the recovery efforts in Japan through our generous One Great Hour of Sharing donations obtained on Palm Sunday.

International Food Relief - Kids Against Hunger

Saturday, April 9 at 9 AM in Messiah Lutheran Church members of First Presbyterian Church have an opportunity to package a unique mix of rice, soy, vegetables and vitamins specially designed to jump-start malnourished bodies. During this one hour donation of your time, we can complete packages that will supply approximately 4,000 meals! So, if you haven't had a chance to sign-up for this mission activity yet ... there are still a few slots open on the list in the Fellowship Hall!

SouthEast Iowa Community Action Organization - Come to Church with a Can



The congregation has provided **222** items toward our 2011 goal of **1200** for the first quarter of this year.

The Neighborhood Center has expressed much appreciation for our continued support.

Soup Supper Update...by Cindy Murphy

Congratulations and Thank You!



Because of all the great help we had at the soup supper and in providing desserts, the church was able to make a profit of over \$290 on the event. That is fantastic! Even more impressive is the great effort that so many people put in to make this activity a success. We had 40-50 people cooking, setting up, washing dishes, serving, making desserts, and helping in other ways. That is exciting! We served around 75 people, and got many rave reviews on the soup. Of course, we also learned some things that can be improved for the next time, but that is also good! Again, thanks to everyone who helped, provided a dessert, or came and ate.



Serving You...

USHERS...

- April 3: *Dick Fischer, Dennis Daedlow, Chuck Hanson, Bruce Morrison, Tom White
 April 10: *Curt Blom, Rex Beetner, Ken Newton, Sandy Russell, Toshiko Velharticky
 April 17: *Mike Gorman, Carl Boley, Barb Garcia, Caleb Hemphill, Wilma Hemphill
 April 24: *Craig Gilchrist, Jim French, Elmer Johansmeier, Pat Saldeen, Shirley Webster

GREETERS...

- April 3: Bonnie White, Terri Huddleston
 April 10: Pat Shaffer, Jean Miller
 April 17: Dick Fischer, Mark & Deb Scott
 April 24: Marilyn Malcom, Polly Rein

LITURGISTS...

- April 3: Jim French
 April 10: Jim Elmer
 April 17: Ramona Sandrock
 April 24: Polly Rein

ELDERS: Marcia Bailey, Claudine Capps, Ted Francis (clerk of session), Mike Gorman, Bruce Morrison, Sue Sattler, Becky Stensland, Tom White, and Pat Whitmore.

DEACONS: Toddy Gorman, Jo Hamilton, Lou Harter, Don Krekel, Jill Mehaffy-Nalley, Penny Rucker, Carl & Donna Siefken, Linda Tickel & Ken Velharticky.

TRUSTEES: Dick Fischer (Secretary), Tom Murphy (President), Debbie Opiekun (Vice President), Marilyn Leight (Treasurer).

COMMITTEE MODERATORS:

- | | |
|--|--|
| Christian Education: Becky Stensland | Nominating: Bruce Morrison |
| Congregational Life: Claudine Capps/
Polly Rein | Personnel: Ted Francis/Cindy Murphy |
| Deacons: Jill Mehaffy-Nalley | Property: Tom Murphy |
| Endowment: Francis McAllister | Maintenance (sub-committee of
Property): Tom & Bonnie White |
| Memorials: Marcia Bailey | Welcoming: Sue Sattler |
| Mission: Mike Gorman/Bruce Morrison | Worship: Pat Whitmore |

This Month's Birthdays



- April 1 Janice Kemp
 April 2 Marion Shaffer
 April 3 Nick Logan
 Tom Russell
 Julie Schulthies
 April 4 Dal Thompson
 April 6 Claudine Capps
 Sundi Simpson
 April 7 Jeanne Friday
 April 9 Jessica McCormick
 April 10 Charles Hanson
 Pat Shaffer
 April 12 Shelley Hohenthauer
 Harrison Murray
 April 13 Charles Bell
 Ted Francis
 April 16 Sally Bell
 Thomas Clayton
 April 17 Lee Parks
 April 18 Scott Eibes
 April 19 Joe Sattler
 April 23 Lola Eberhard
 Tosh Velharticky
 April 24 Bruce Morrison
 April 25 Pat Saldeen
 April 26 Colleen Wittkamp
 April 27 Alisha Buckles
 Ruth DeGrange
 April 28 Nancy Lazenby
 April 30 Geniece Repertinger

You've got a great opportunity!

Beginning June 12th (second Sunday in June), you are invited to teach for our Children's Church. This will be held during worship, after the children's message and leaders are needed. The Christian Education Committee is offering this opportunity to adults who are interested, for the benefit of the young ones in our church. Feeling like it would be a good thing? Contact Becky Stensland, CE Moderator, or Kathi Linn, CE Director, by the end of April.

Session Minutes...by Ted Francis

A stated meeting of the Session of First Presbyterian Church, Burlington, Iowa was held in the church parlor on February 21, 2011. The Moderator, Rev. Deb Kinney, opened the meeting at 7:01 p.m. with prayer. A quorum was present.

Present were: Moderator Deb Kinney and Elders Marcia Bailey, Claudine Capps, Ted Francis, Mike Gorman, Bruce Morrison, Sue Sattler, Becky Stensland, Tom White, Pat Whitmore

A motion to approve the agenda with additions was APPROVED by voice vote.

Minutes Approval

- Minutes from the Stated Meeting of the Session on January 3, 2011 were APPROVED by voice vote. Minutes from the Congregational Meeting on January 30, 2011 were APPROVED by voice vote.

Reports of All Church Committees and Organizations

- A motion that the Session received and reviewed the 2010 reports from all church committees and organizations was APPROVED by voice vote.

A motion that the Session received and reviewed the Presbytery Statistical Report for 2010 was APPROVED by voice vote.

Staff Reports

A motion to receive the staff reports was APPROVED by voice vote.

Committee Reports

Mission: Mike Gorman said the cost of the 2011 Backpack mission project will be paid for from the Hannah Endowment mission funds.

Congregational Life: Claudine Capps stated a concern that the committee's budget has been cut 80% for 2011. In addition, other groups use funds from the committee for their activities. Rev. Deb Kinney said the church's new accounting program will make it easier to monitor the committee's expenditures.

Personnel: The Session reviewed the proposed 2011 Terms of Call for Rev. Deb Kinney. Due to budget constraints the proposed 2011 terms are the same as 2010. Ted Francis expressed concern that the pastor's salary continues to be at the low end of Presbytery's compensation schedule and with no increase since 2009 the pastor's salary is not advancing with experience as recommended by Presbytery.

A motion to receive the reports from the standing Session Committees; Maintenance, Property, and Stewardship Committees; Deacons; and Trustees was APPROVED by voice vote.

Report of the Clerk

- A request from Kathi Linn to use all levels of the church from 8:00 p.m. February 25th through 8:00 a.m. February 26th for a SMUC lock-in was APPROVED by voice vote.
- A Small Groups Ministry request from Cindy Murphy to use the church facility for a church and community soup supper on February 26th from 4:30-7:00 p.m. with proceeds going into the Special Projects Fund was APPROVED by voice vote.
- A request from Jamie Thompson to use the church for a baby shower for Whitney Kinney on Sunday, June 26th from 1:00-5:00 p.m. was APPROVED by voice vote.

A request to transfer the membership of Anna Krummel to The First Federated Church, Peoria, IL was APPROVED by voice vote.

Old Business

By-laws Revision: A motion was made and seconded to table discussion and consideration of the proposed changes recommended by the By-laws Task Force. The motion failed due to a tie vote by show of hands. A motion to hold off any further work on the by-laws until the New Form of Government is announced at the 2012 General Assembly was APPROVED by voice vote. The clerk was directed to send a letter of thanks to Polly Rein, Mr. Shirley Webster, and Bob Cameron expressing the Session's gratitude for the time they spent working on the By-laws project.

Sunday School: Becky Stensland reported the Christian Education Committee has made no decision regarding Sunday School.

Confidentiality: Rev. Deb Kinney distributed *Standards of Ethical Conduct Approved by the 210th General Assembly, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)*. Session members were asked to read it for future discussion.

Love Fund Guidelines: A motion to accept the Love Fund Guidelines prepared by the Deacons and Mission Committee was APPROVED by voice vote. A motion to include the Love Fund Guidelines in the Minutes of the Session was APPROVED by voice vote.

Love Fund Guidelines as Approved by Session on February 21, 2011

The Love Fund is being established to provide money for anyone in the congregation who is in need of financial help because of unforeseen circumstances – to help them out of a tight spot. It is to be funded solely by donations.

Sources of Income:

- Seed money from Riceland Food, Inc.
- Loose offering around Valentine’s Day
- Love Fund envelopes in pews; congregation can donate anytime
- Fundraisers or Special Appeals if someone needs extra help

How it works:

- The fund will be under the Deacons, which will make decisions on requests for money.
- Recommendations can come from anyone – the pastor, elders, deacons, members of the congregation.
- When a need is brought to the Deacons’ attention, they will decide the amount to be dispersed, and ask the Board of Trustees to pay the money from the Love Fund.
- The amount given will depend on the need and how much money is in the Love Fund.

New Business

Budget: A motion to accept the 2011 budget with income and expenses of \$241,008 was APPROVED by voice vote. A motion directing the Trustees to review by August 1, 2011 the amount of farm rent received from the Mason Road Property was APPROVED by voice vote.

Mason Road Task Force: By voice vote the Session APPROVED the following guidelines for the Mason Road Task Force:

- Research and make recommendations for the future use of the Mason Road property
- Explore options and how to fund them including operating costs
- Prepare a short term plan (1-5 years) and a long term plan (10+ years)
- Explain the process that led to your recommendations
- Update the Session at their September 2011 meeting
- The Task Force may request to meet with the Session anytime they need input. To request a meeting with the Session contact the clerk.
- Update the congregation at the 2012 Annual Meeting. The report will include where you are and how you got to this point.

Rev. Deb Kinney will be a resource and consultant on an as needed basis.
A trustee will serve as the initial facilitator and as a liaison to the Board of Trustees.

Special Called Congregational Meeting: A motion was APPROVED by voice vote to call a Special-Called Congregational Meeting after the 10 a.m. worship service on Sunday, March 13 in Fellowship Hall to receive the 2011 Budget and approve the Pastor’s Terms of Call, including the financial package. No other business will be conducted at this meeting.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was APPROVED by voice vote.

Rev. Deb Kinney closed the meeting with prayer at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ted Francis, Clerk of Session

Rev. Deb Kinney, Moderator

Minutes of the Special-Called Congregational Meeting

March 13, 2011

A Special-Called Congregational Meeting of First Presbyterian Church, Burlington, Iowa was held in Fellowship Hall on March 13, 2011. The Moderator, **Rev. Deb Kinney**, opened the meeting at 11:03 a.m. with prayer.

Quorum:

A quorum was present.

Reading of the Call

Ted Francis, Clerk of Session, read the call for the Special-Called Congregational Meeting:
 “A Special-Called Congregational Meeting will be held after worship service on Sunday, March 13 in Fellowship Hall. The purpose of the meeting will be to receive the 2011 Budget and approve the Pastor’s Terms of Call, including the financial package. No other business will be conducted at this meeting.”

Receiving the 2011 Budget

President of the Trustees, **Tom Murphy**, presented the 2011 budget that the Session approved on February 21, 2011 and answered questions from the congregation. A motion to receive the 2011 budget was APPROVED by voice vote.

Vote on the Terms of Call for Rev. Deb Kinney

Co-Moderators of the Personnel Committee, **Ted Francis** and **Cindy Murphy**, presented the 2011 Terms of Call for **Rev. Deb. Kinney** and answered questions from the congregation. A motion to approve the 2011 Terms of Call for **Rev. Deb Kinney** was APPROVED by voice vote.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was APPROVED by voice vote.

Rev. Deb Kinney closed the meeting with prayer at 11:21 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ted Francis, Clerk of Session

Rev. Deb Kinney, Moderator

Church Connections

PW News

April 6

Location: Eva Ann Elmer's home
 Co-Hostesses: Penny Rucker
 Study Leader: Eva Ann Elmer
 Mission: Toys for the Treasure Chest



Movie Night

Movie night is **April 8th**. Everyone is invited to join us in the Chapel at 7:00 p.m. to watch the movie and feast on snacks. We will be finished by 9 p.m.



SMUC Calendar

April

3—No SMUC
 10- SMUC 6:00 p.m.
 17- SMUC 6:00 p.m.
 24—No SMUC



Yum-Yum Club

Thursday, April 14th



The Yum-Yum Club dines out once a month at a different local restaurant. This month they will be sampling local cuisine at 6:30 p.m., at Uncle Ronnies Call Gormans at 208-0842 to make reservations.

Presbyterian Women Spring Workshop

The spring workshop will be held at the First Presbyterian Church in Iowa City, IA on Saturday, April 16, 2011.



Reservations are due April 9th, cost is \$5.00.

The speaker will be Denise England, "Mission in Egypt". Workshops will be presentations of next year's Horizons Bible Study and Mission Sharing.

Dear FPC famly,
 The condolences, prayers, cards, etc., which have been received after my husband, Claude, passed away, have been so much comfort. I will be eternally grateful.



"Vi" Ernst and family

Dear Church Friends,
 I would like to thank you for the prayers, calls, visits, cards and food during my hospitalization and recuperation at home.

Jane Snider



It is that time again to purchase Easter lilies in honor or in memory of loved ones. The price is \$10.00 each and there are forms in Fellowship Hall that you can place in the collection plate or bring to the office.

You can call the office to place an order as well.

The deadline for purchase is April 3rd.

EASTER EGG HUNT

Mark your calendars for April 16th from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Bring your children and grandchildren for the Annual Easter Egg Hunt at FPC.



Staff Recognition Reception

Congregational Life Committee, Brenda Fredericks, Tom Murphy, Ramona Sandrock, Pat Shaffer, along with co-chairs, Claudine Capps and Polly Rein hosted a reception for Staff on March 20.

Justin Randall missed the picture and Linda Hale was out of town.



It's Coming! ...by Polly Rein

Our annual Ladies' Night Out will be held on May 14th, beginning at 6:00 p.m. We're going "off-site" this year to the Townhouse Hub on Main Street to their room reserved for larger groups. You'll be able to order (and pay for) whatever you'd like to have for dinner, and enjoy the fellowship of all women in our church. Of course you can invite all female friends, relatives, neighbors, co-workers and strangers on the street. We'll have our usual interesting door prizes, but you need to come and bring your guests to know what else might be in store. :-) Signup sheet will be in Fellowship Hall beginning April 6th.






"Your great learning is driving you mad." ... by Kathi Linn

Those words were said to the Apostle Paul by Festus, governor of Judea. Paul replied that he was not mad, but speaking the sober truth.

In March I was able to attend two "learning" sessions as required in my position description. I am not yet mad.

The first class was a free two hour training session on how to keep children and youth safe in the church. It was taught by an attorney-turned-seminary professor and was sponsored by the Burlington Police Department. This class was taken by a number of area pastors as well as youth leaders and a lot of good ideas were shared by all. We ran out of time before we ran out of material.

Thanks to a generous donation, my entry fee to a national youth ministry conference was paid and I attended four days of intense training in Chicago. During this time I took classes on Bible Interpretation; Best Practices for Teaching Teens the Bible; Made by God: You in Ministry; and Equipping Teens to Reach Their Friends for God, to name just a few. These classes were taught by college professors and accomplished authors on youth ministry. The information I gathered at the conference has been shared with others. Both children and the church should benefit from this.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
APRIL					1 Dare2Share	2 Dare2Share
					 April Fool's Day	
3 No SMUC 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Worship	4 6:00 PM Deacons Meeting 7:00 PM Worship Committee	5	6 7:15 AM Men's Bible Study 8:30 AM Women's Bible Study 9:45 AM Presbyterian Women 5:30 PM Lenten Supper 5:30 PM Youth Club 6:00 PM Handbells Practice 6:00 PM Lenten Liasons 7:00 PM Choir Practice	7 10:30 AM Gems 6:00 PM Lenten Play Practice	8 7:00 PM Movie Night	9 9:00 AM Kids Against Hunger @ Messiah Luthern Church
10 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Worship 6:00 PM SMUC	11 7:00 PM Christian Education Meeting	12 7:00 PM Mason Road Task Force	13 7:15 AM Men's Bible Study 8:30 AM Women's Bible Study 5:30 PM Lenten Supper 5:30 PM Youth Club 6:00 PM Handbells Practice 6:00 PM Lenten Liasons 7:00 PM Choir Practice	14 10:30 AM Gems 6:00 PM Lenten Play Practice	15	16 9:00 AM New Member Class @ FPC 9:00 AM Road Clean-Up/ Hwy 61 10:00 AM Easter Egg Hunt @ FPC
17 Palm Sunday Pancake Breakfast (9-9:45 am) 9:00 AM Sunday School (last day) 9:00 AM Donkey Walk 10:00 AM Worship 6:00 PM SMUC 	18 7:00 PM Session Meeting	19	20 7:15 AM Men's Bible Study 8:30 AM Women's Bible Study 5:30 PM Youth Club 6:00 PM Handbells Practice 6:00 PM Lenten Play Practice 7:00 PM Choir Practice	21 10:30 AM Gems 1:30 PM Hope Haven Birthday Party 7:00 PM Maundy Thursday Service	22 The Church Office  Will Be Closed:  GOOD FRIDAY	23
24 Easter Sunday New Members Received No SMUC 10:00 AM Worship 	25 5:00 PM Trustees Meeting 6:30 PM Book Study @ Uncle Ronnies	26	27 7:15 AM Men's Bible Study 8:30 AM Women's Bible Study 5:30 PM Youth Club (last day) 6:00 PM Handbells Practice 7:00 PM Choir Practice	28 10:30 AM Gems	29	30

Because We Care...by Carl Boley

Spring Road Clean-up will be Saturday, April 16th. We will begin at 9:00 a.m. and should finish around 11:30. Any able-bodied person over the age of 14 is welcome to take part in this semi-annual event.

We will meet at the Nazarene Church, located at the intersection of Rt. 61 and Mason Road. A sign-up sheet is on the counter in Fellowship Hall. The more people who help, the less work for each individual.