

Living a Vibrant Faith

Believing

Thinking

Acting

TEN GREAT WAYS TO GROW

2013

01

Join a Sunday School Class.

02

Join the Dirty Hands/Clean Hands group.

03

Dig Deeper into Bible Study. Come Wed. morning.

04

Join the Choir or Handbells. All are welcome!

05

Visit the Church library and borrow a book or video.

06

Make new friends. Come to Fellowship Hall after worship.

07

Find a quiet place and pray daily for world peace!

08

Make a meal for someone who is recovering.

09

Visit people who cannot get to church.

10

Serve in the community.

Glimpses of Grace...by Deb Kinney

In 1971, Leonard Bernstein was commissioned by Jackie Kennedy to produce a piece for the opening of the Kennedy Center of Performing Arts. *Mass* was the result. In one movement, Bernstein reflected on John 1 and this is what he wrote:

“Smother hope before it’s risen.

Watch it wizen like a gourd,

But you cannot imprison

The Word of the Lord ...

For the Word was at the birth of the beginning

It made the heavens and the earth and set them spinning,

And for several million years

It’s endured all our forums and fine ideas

It’s been rough

It’s been rough but it appears to be winning! ...

For the Word

For the Word created mud and got it going

It filled our empty brains with blood and set it flowing

And for thousands of regimes

It’s endured all our follies and fancy schemes.

It’s been tough,

It’s been tough, and yet it seems to be growing!

O you people of power,

O you people of power, your hour is now.

You may seem to rule forever, but you never do somehow.

So we wait in silent treason until reason is restored

And we wait for the season of the Word of the Lord.

We await the season of the Word of the Lord

We wait ... we wait for the Word of the Lord ...”

The good news for us as we enter into another new year is that the Word has arrived and the Word will arrive again in all fullness. The Word is also with us right now! How amazingly wonderful is that?!

Do you need to experience more of God’s Word in your life in 2013? In some ways we are in the ‘season of the Lord’ and have been for the past 2,000+ years. Together we are waiting for the fulfillment in all its wonderful goodness. As we wait, we can also experience because Jesus is Emmanuel, the With-Us-God. He joyously desires to be involved in the details of our lives every minute of every day this coming year. So, where do you need Jesus Christ to be more fully present these next 12 months? And what is keeping you from allowing that to happen? All you have to do is ask!

It has been said if we spend time praying for all that we are worrying about, we’d have fewer things to worry about. Why not give it a try?

From the Trustees...

Statement of Income & Expenses November 30, 2012

| | Budget | Actual | Variance | Percent of Budget |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|----------------------|
| Income | | | | |
| Pledge | 161,016.00 | 161,338.00 | -322.00 | 100.2% |
| Non Pledge | 27,015.00 | 21,867.86 | 5,147.14 | 80.9% |
| Investment In- come | 50,700.00 | 49,420.18 | 1,279.82 | 97.5% |
| PerCapita | 5,000.00 | 2,862.08 | 2,137.92 | 57.2% |
| Refunded 2012 Capital Cam Misc Income | 21,395.00 | 0.00 215.61 | | |
| Total Income | 265,126.00 | 235,703.73 | 29,422.27 | 88.9% |
| Expenses | | | | |
| Personnel | 162,501.00 | 134,452.90 | 28,048.10 | 82.7% |
| Educational Min- istries | 5,500.00 | 2,923.57 | 2,576.43 | 53.2% |
| Fellowship | 1,250.00 | 1,551.23 | -301.23 | 124.1% |
| Deacons | 250.00 | 111.11 | 138.89 | 44.4% |
| Mason Road | 2,295.00 | 850.00 | 1,445.00 | 37.0% |
| Mission | 20,040.00 | 16,734.87 | 3,305.13 | 83.5% |
| PerCapita | 5,000.00 | 4,998.24 | 1.76 | 100.0% |
| Property | 63,985.00 | 45,811.93 | 18,173.07 | 71.6% |
| Worship | 4,500.00 | 3,805.45 | 694.55 | 84.6% |
| Welcoming Com- mittee | 2,100.00 | 557.82 | 1,542.18 | 26.6% |
| Total Expenses | 267,421.00 | 211,797.12 | 55,623.88 | 79.2% |
| Differential | | 23,906.61 | | |



Newsy Notes



Please give a huge 'thank you!' to Bret Stensland for working many hours to complete the sound booth! Bret also has put in many hours learning and working the mixer board, the audio and video equipment so the transition with the new equipment into the flow of the worship service can be fairly easy.

Please give a huge 'thank you!' to the anonymous donor who helped make the new sound system and double projector system possible, along with money from the Gifts & Memorials Fund. The enhanced sound and visual quality is grrrrreat!



Please give a huge 'thank you!' to Carl Boley for once again organizing the bell ringers for the Salvation Army.

Please give a huge 'thank you!' to Cathy Brink, Cheryl Lotz and Pat Whitmore for once again coordinating the Angel Tree.



Worship Services & More

Worship Services & More

Jan. 6• *Joy, Joy, Joy!* based on Isaiah 60:1-6 and Matthew 2:1-12; communion will be served, Sunday school begins anew.

Jan. 13• *Renewed Beginnings*, based on Isaiah 43:1-7 and Luke 3:15-17, 21-22; renewal of baptismal vows.

Jan. 20• *God Rejoicing*, based on Isaiah 62:1-5 and John 2:1-11.

Jan. 20• Annual Congregational Meeting after worship.

Jan. 27• *All Things New*, a 6-member praise band from Mediapolis, will be leading us in worship.

Presbyterian Women



Behind the Scenes

Thanks to Tom White, who replaces light bulbs and ceiling tile and many tasks around the church, and sometimes gets a little dusty.

Have you seen the tuck pointing on the west side of the church done by mason, Richard Mauer and his helper?



Thanks again to Bret—see page 4.



Tales from Tammy

Do you want to be refreshed, revitalized, challenged and educated to grow in your marriage, mothering and faith? You are not alone! Come to a **Hearts at Home** conference and join with thousands of moms who share the same desire. The **Hearts at Home** conference is March 15th & 16th in Bloomington, Illinois. If you are a mom and interested in going to the conference and want more information, please let Tammy know as soon as possible so we can get you registered.



SuperStart! is a high-energy weekend event in which pre-teens can learn and grow in their relationships with friends, leaders and, most importantly, God. Throughout the event preteens will encounter Christ through worship, interactive teaching and small groups – all of which are designed with their unique needs and maturity in mind. Pre-teens who attend SuperStart! will



leave the weekend with not only a great experience, but also the teachings and foundation to further amplify Christ's call on their lives to become Kingdom Workers. This event will take place March 1st and 2nd in Bloomington, Illinois. If you have a child in 4th, 5th or 6th grade and would like more information, please let Tammy know.

Pageant Pictures



Mariners Schedule...by Cindy Murphy

Save the dates:

Mariners Activities

| <u>Activity</u> | <u>Date and Time</u> | <u>Location</u> |
|------------------|---|-----------------------------------|
| | January, 2013 | |
| Soup supper..... | Saturday, January 19 Cook and setup: afternoon | Church Serve: 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. |



Soup Supper Fundraiser: January 19, 2013

It's back, by popular demand! The Mariners will be hosting the annual Soup Supper Fundraiser on **Saturday, January 19, 2013 from 5 to 7 p.m. in Fellowship Hall**. Open to church members and the greater Burlington community, the menu will include soup recipes from John Dewey and Ed Whitmore. Also on the menu will be coffee, tea, lemonade, and homemade desserts. A free-will offering will be received. Any soup not sold on Saturday will be available for purchase on Sunday, following the Annual Congregational Meeting.

This supper gives several opportunities for everyone to get involved. We will be looking for people who are interested in helping to cook, serve, and clean up AND for donations of desserts. To volunteer, sign up on the sign-up sheets in Fellowship Hall.

All profits will go into the Special Projects Fund, to be used at the discretion of the Trustees. Remember that many hands make light work, and this will be FUN as well as FUNDRAISING! We hope to see all of you at supper on the 19th, either working or eating, or both!

Joe's Crab Shack



Worship

- 4 worship services
- 2 weddings
- 1 funeral & interment

Christian Education

- Led 6 Bible studies on Wednesday mornings
- Led 1 Advent study Wednesday night

Connections

- 20 Drop-ins/appointments/calls/notes
- 2 hospital visits
- 3 home visits

Church Meetings

- Session
- Trustees
- Missions
- Worship
- Staff meeting (4)

- Music team meeting

Church Activities/Events Attended

- FPC Family Nights (3)
- Discipleship Group (hosted)
- Knitwits

Mariners Night Out

- Veteran's Potluck

Education

- Prep for Bible studies/sermon
- Prep for youth group study

Presbytery

- CPM meeting (secretary)
- Provided 1 spiritual direction session
- Presbytery meeting

Other

- Connections* articles & coordination
- Worship service prep
- Float preparations
- Separate meetings with staff (5)
- Spiritual Direction

Community

- Young House Board Meeting
- Lighted Holiday Parade
- Community Thanksgiving Service reader

Worship

- Young Disciples (3)

Church Meetings & Events

- Meetings with Pastor (5)
- Mom's group (2)

Contacts

- Phone-calls and e-mails: 30+

Education

- Children's Sermon Prep (4)
- Kidz Zone Prep (4)
- Working in Kidz Zone (3)
- Attended Women's Bible Study (3)
- Helped prepare for Wednesday nights

Family Night (3)

- Cooked Wednesday night meals (2)

- Worked with the Wednesday nights Middle/High School group (1)

- Attended Bill Carter's Sunday morning group (2)

- Checked in on Godly Play and Teen Bible Study (4)

- Finalizing details for Wintertainment (Camp Wyoming)

- Preparing material for advent faire
- Prepared the bells for the parade
- Practice for the Christmas pageant (3)
- Gathering material for Christmas

pageant

- Walked in Holiday Parade

Serving You...



USHERS...

Jan. 6: *Jim French, Wilma Hemphill, Zach Hulett
Jan. 13: *Bill Carter, Adele Coulter, Chuck Rucker, Sandy Russell
Jan. 20: *Mike Gorman, Carrie Blom, Maddux Blom, Zach Hulett
Jan. 27: *Terri Huddleston

GREETERS...

Jan. 6: Bonnie White, Patty French
Jan. 13: Barbara & Curtis Blom, Penny Rucker
Jan. 20: Joan Hertzler, Marilyn & Don Leight
Jan. 27: Marilyn Malcom, Sandy Russell

FELLOWSHIP HOUR...

Jan. 6: Sue Lyon, Eva Ann Elmer
Jan. 13: Pat Whitmore, Cathy, Allie & Ashley Brink
Jan. 20: Congregational Meeting
Jan. 27: Jill Nalley, Joan Hertzler

ELDERS: Arnie Anderson, Charles Bell, Carol Brotherson, Dick Fischer, Jesse McCormick, Bruce Morrison, Cindy Murphy, Marilyn Nuss, Bonnie White.
Clerk of Session: Ted Francis

DEACONS: Nancy Beetner, Rex Beetner, Barbara Blom, Curtis Blom, Cathy Brink, Brenda Frederick, Sue Gilchrist, Don Krekel, Sandy Russell, Carl Siefken, Donna Siefken, & Ken Velharticky (moderator).

TRUSTEES: Carrie Blom (Secretary), Carl Boley, Debbie Opiekun, Kel Stensland (Vice President), Ed Whitmore (President).

Treasurer: Marilyn Leight

COMMITTEE MODERATORS:

| | |
|--|----------------------------|
| Educational Ministries: Arnie Anderson | Mission: Bruce Morrison |
| Endowment: Craig Gilchrist | Nominating: Bruce Morrison |
| Fellowship: Bonnie White | Personnel: Cindy Murphy |
| Maintenance: Jesse McCormick | Worship: Marilyn Nuss |

| | |
|------------------|------------------|
| January 3 | Carl Boley |
| | Ken Velharticky |
| January 4 | Sheri Armstrong |
| | Jim Hugg |
| January 6 | Brock Dengler |
| January 8 | LaDonna Putnam |
| January 15 | JoLynn Clayton |
| | Jane Snider |
| January 16 | Vi Ernst |
| January 17 | Rex Beetner |
| | Levizen Eipert |
| | Sally Jamison |
| January 18 | Bob Sattler |
| January 20 | Jeanine Anderson |
| January 21 | Lauren Briggs |
| | Vickie Carhoff |
| January 25 | Erin Abramsohn |
| January 29 | Anita Erickson |
| | Brenda Frederick |

General Assembly Report...contributed by Ted Francis-Part 3

Ordination Standards: The 2012 General Assembly chose to keep the current ordination standards approved in 2010 and ratified by presbyteries in 2011. An attempt to restore the requirements of “fidelity in marriage or chastity in singleness” to the *Book of Order* was defeated. The assembly adopted a statement that acknowledges “the Presbyterian Church does not have one interpretation of Scripture” when it comes to the choices ordained ministers make in the exercise of sexuality.

Governance: By a 480-169 vote the assembly defeated a recommendation that would have allowed for the creation of non-geographical presbyteries. By a closer vote, 364-293, commissioners referred the matter of re-drawing synod borders to a task force that will bring a report to the next assembly.

Other Items: Voted to keep four special offerings—One Great Hour of Sharing, Pentecost, Peacemaking, and Christmas Joy—in their current configuration. After singing from the new Presbyterian hymnal in worship, the assembly commended *Glory to God: The Presbyterian Hymnal* for use in Congregational worship. The assembly declared “a churchwide commitment to ignite a movement that results in the celebration of 1001 new worshiping communities in the next ten years.” (From the Presbyterian Leader)

Church Happenings

PW News

January 2, 2013



Co-Hostess: Donna Siefken @ church

Co-Hostess: Shirley Webster

Study Leader: Eva Ann Elmer

Mission: Toilet Tissue

All Things New

A Contemporary Christian Band from Mediapolis



January 27, 2013 10:00 a.m. worship service

Dear Deacons,

I just want you to know how much your meal ministry meant to me when I had my knee surgery. Not only did I enjoy Sue Gilchrist's timely visit but the wonderful homemade food as well. The vegetable soup, applesauce, bread and jam and brownies were delicious. I felt truly blessed by our wonderful God after her visit. Thank you FPC for your showering of love!



Ramona Sandrock

Yum-Yum Club

The Yum Yums plan to meet at the Broadway in West Burlington on January 17th at 6:00 p.m. Please call Toddy or Mike Gorman to make a reservation: 208-0842.



From the Fellowship Committee:

Thank you to all who provided cookies and candies for the Christmas Social.

Scholarship thank you notes were received from **Kady Dewey** and **Shawn Trosen**. Best of luck to both of you in pursuing your educational goals.

To the Knitwits:

Words cannot express how much the prayer shawl meant to me after my accident. It helped keep me warm and comfy during the difficult nights. Thank you.

Erin Ross

(Erin is the daughter of a friend of Terri Huddleston.)

From Terri Huddleston:

Thank you so much for the cake for Mom & Dad's (Tom & Bonnie White) day, it made a very special memory.



Sanctuary Decorating



Bell Ringers



Kids Against Hunger



Minutes of the Stated Meeting of Session November 19, 2012 1st Presbyterian Church, Burlington, Iowa

A Stated Meeting of the Session of First Presbyterian Church, Burlington, Iowa was held in the church parlor on November 19, 2012. Moderator **Rev. Debra Kinney** opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. with prayer. Devotions were from Colossians 1:15-22 read from *The Message*. A quorum was present.

Present were: Moderator Debra Kinney, Clerk Ted Francis and Elders Arnie Anderson, Charles Bell, Dick Fischer, Jesse McCormick, Bruce Morrison, Cindy Murphy, Marilyn Nuss, Bonnie White
Elder Excused: Carol Brotherson

A motion to approve the agenda with additions was seconded and approved by voice vote.

Minutes Approval

A motion to approve the minutes from the Stated Meeting of the Session on October 15, 2012 was seconded and approved by voice vote.

Staff Reports

A motion to receive the printed reports of the Pastor and Director of Educational Ministries was seconded and approved by voice vote.

Committee Reports

Mission: Twenty-one Thanksgiving food baskets were successfully delivered on November 17th.

Educational Ministries: The youth are raising funds to attend Camp Wyoming in December. A motion to permit the youth to sell poinsettias for Christmas as a fundraiser to attend Camp Wyoming in December was seconded. A motion to add the youth sponsored Pancake Supper on November 7th to the original motion was seconded and approved by voice vote. The amended motion permitting the youth to sell poinsettias for Christmas and serve a Pancake Supper on November 7th as fundraisers to attend Camp Wyoming in December was approved by voice vote.

Fellowship: A Christmas Social will be held on Christmas Eve following the 7:00 p.m. worship service. The congregation will be invited to donate cookies for the fellowship time.

Personnel: Staff evaluations will be held soon.

Nominating Committee: The committee is finalizing nominees for the 2013 Nominating Committee.

Trustees: A status report on the Stewardship Campaign was received including projected income and proposed expenditures. Committees with expenditure reductions need to submit line item changes to the trustees by mid-December. The session will vote on the 2013 budget at the December 17th meeting.

Following the entrance of a homeless person into the church building including Sunday mornings the Trustees submitted a proposal for session approval to keep the lower 5th Street door locked on Sunday mornings during worship. Concerns were expressed about the proposal and several ideas were discussed to improve church security. A motion to send the proposal back to the Trustees with a list of concerns and a request to develop a protocol to be followed if we have an unwelcome or possibly dangerous visitor was seconded and approved by voice vote.

Presbytery Report: Commissioner **Ed Whitmore** submitted a report from the Special Called Presbytery Meeting on November 8, 2012. The purpose of the meeting was to vote on a proposal to organize an Independent Administrative Commission to review the By-Laws and Operations Manual of Presbytery and amend any or all of these documents to conform to the New Form of Government. The need for an independent review came because many have felt a small council of individuals called the Administrative Unit had too much au-

thority regarding certain issues and questions within the Presbytery. The formation of the Independent Administrative Commission was approved by a vote of 44 yes, 25 no and 1 abstention.

A motion to receive the reports from the Standing Session Committees, Trustees and Commissioner to Presbytery was seconded and approved by voice vote.

Report of the Clerk

Becky Stensland and **Linda Parks** have asked to be moved to inactive membership. A motion to place **Becky Stensland** and **Linda Parks** on the Inactive Roll was seconded and approved by voice vote.

A motion to receive the clerk's report was seconded and approved by voice vote.

Old Business

The tabled recommendation from **Karen Dewey** on the wording revision of the Scholarship Guidelines remained tabled until a Gifts and Memorials Committee moderator is named.

During the October clerk's training the Stated Clerk of Presbytery announced that church newsletters should publish summaries of session meetings and not the minutes. This recommendation was discussed at the October 15th session meeting. Discussion continued during the meeting concluding with the clerk being asked to contact the Stated Clerk of Presbytery and ask what are the reasons for and against publishing session minutes in church newsletters.

At the October 15th session meeting the clerk was directed to investigate archiving our church records at the Presbyterian Historical Society. The session reviewed the information received from the Presbyterian Historical Society including the access to stored records and the cost of archival-quality microfilm services. A motion directing the clerk to continue studying the services offered by the Presbyterian Historical Society and submit an application for a Heritage Microfilming Grant was seconded and approved by voice vote.

The session will continue to review the responsibilities listed in the session committee handout received during the October 15th meeting for future discussion on revising the committees.

New Business

A motion to approve **Rev. Dr. Peter Reynen** to serve communion on Sunday, February 3, 2013 was seconded and approved by voice vote.

A non-serving elder is needed for the 2013 Nominating Committee. Session members were asked to review the list of non-serving elders and bring names of proposed candidates who are willing to serve on the committee to the December meeting.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was seconded and approved by voice vote.

Rev. Debra Kinney closed the meeting with prayer at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ted Francis, Clerk of Session

Rev. Debra Kinney, Moderator

JANUARY 2013

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|---|--|---------------------------|
| | | 1 Office Closed | 2 9:45 AM Presbyterian Women 7:00 PM Choir Practice | 3 10:30 AM Gems | 4 12:00 PM Annual Reports Due 7:00 PM Moms Group | 5 |
| 6 9:00 AM Godly Play/Sunday School 10:00 AM Worship | 7 4:30 PM Worship Team Meeting | 8 7:00 PM Mission Committee | 9 7:15 AM Men's Bible Study 8:30 AM Women's Bible Study 9:30 AM Knitwits 7:00 PM Choir Practice | 10 10:30 AM Gems 6:30 PM EMT | 11 | 12 |
| 13 9:00 AM Godly Play/Sunday School 10:00 AM Worship | 14 4:30 PM Trustees Meeting | 15 | 16 7:15 AM Men's Bible Study 8:30 AM Women's Bible Study 7:00 PM Choir Practice | 17 10:30 AM Gems 1:30 PM Hope Haven Birthday Party 6:00 PM Yum Yum Group | 18 7:00 PM Moms Group | 19 7:00 PM Soup Supper |
| 20 9:00 AM Godly Play/Sunday School 10:00 AM Worship 11:00 AM Congregational Meeting | 21 7:00 PM Session Meeting | 22 | 23 7:15 AM Men's Bible Study 8:30 AM Women's Bible Study 5:45 PM Handbell Practice 7:00 PM Choir Practice | 24 10:30 AM Gems | 25 | 26 |
| 27 9:00 AM Godly Play/Sunday School 10:00 AM Worship/All Things New | 28 | 29 | 30 7:15 AM Men's Bible Study 8:30 AM Women's Bible Study 5:45 PM Handbell Practice 7:00 PM Choir Practice | | | |