

April Connections 2016

All-Church Family Birthday Party...by Camille Reynen

Happy Birthday Everybody...Happy Birthday to YOU!

Please join us in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday, the 17th of April, immediately following worship, for an all-church-family birthday party!

Please sign up in the fellowship hall so we know how much food to prepare.

In honor of Everybody's Birthday, a gift for the Treasure Chest would be greatly appreciated!
See the list below for suggestions....

- Teethers
- Bubbles
- Rattles
- Pacifiers
- Mobiles
- Light-up toys
- Busy boxes
- Mirrors
- Sleepers
- Crib gyms
- Musical toys
- Games
- Sound books
- Stacking toys
- Baby mirrors
- Building blocks
- Cars/trucks/boats
- Children's music
- Interactive toys
- Tool sets
- Kitchen play sets
- Videos & dvds-G,PG,PG-13
- Musical instruments
- Trains
- Crayola Wonders
- Lotion gift sets
- Stickers
- Potato heads
- Character toys
- Playing cards
- Action figures
- Puzzles
- Books
- Dolls
- White t-shirts
- Legos
- Building sets
- Science kits
- Play-doh
- Dinosaurs
- Barbie's, etc.
- Washable markers
- Doctor kits
- Poster art
- 3-D puzzles
- Jump ropes
- Address books
- Stationery
- Disposable cameras
- Diaries
- Craft kits
- Word search books
- Models & glue
- Photo albums
- Sports videos
- Hair accessories
- Gift cards
- Hawkeye apparel
- Phone cards
- Lip balm

Holy Week Schedule

Palm Sunday

March 20

9 a.m. Donkey Walk

Snake Alley

(No childcare today)

10 a.m. Worship Service

Good Friday

March 25, 7 p.m.

The Chapel

Maundy Thursday

March 24, 7 p.m.

The Chapel

The Lord's Supper

Easter Sunday

March 27

7 a.m. Sunrise Service

At home of Bill & Sue Carter

500 Washington Road, WB

Pancake breakfast following

10 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary

Polishing the Jewel

A new fundraising campaign from the Trustees will be moving ahead in the very near future as we seek to ‘Polish the Jewel’ that is our Aeolian-Skinner organ. The pipe organ, which has been valued at \$714,600, was built in 1949. Over the course of last year, our organist Randy Webster discovered that the organ is showing signs of aging and having operational difficulties. As a result, it is in need of some rebuilding and renewing. The repairs currently needed, which include restringing the chimes and rebuilding the console, total around \$72,000. Beyond these immediate repairs, we have been advised that at some point down the road the leather pouches in other parts of the organ will need to be redone, but it is not an immediate concern.

The good news is that we have been gifted money from a life insurance policy that Ken Newton left the church when he died. When the family was notified that the money received would be used for the organ repair, Ken’s son, Ken Newton, Jr. replied: “The family is very pleased the funds are being used to support and repair the organ. Our dad loved to sing the traditional hymns and hear the beautiful organ played during your services and would have been so happy that his contribution will be helpful to support the music program. God bless and thank you ...”

The Trustees, with Session approval, have also decided to take some money that had been held in reserve the past few years and put it toward the organ repair. ‘Polish the Jewel’ will be a perpetual fund that will be used solely for the purpose of rebuilding and renewing the organ as needed.

You may remember that not so very long ago we had extensive work done on the organ. In 2011, 22 pouches on the ‘Great Organ’ were re-leathered for approximately \$22,000. According to Rodney Levsen, president of Levsen Organ Company, we don’t have any other leather failures at this time.

For those with longer memories, you may remember that a terrific rainstorm in 1990 flooded the boiler room and created damage to the combination action of the organ console which was installed there. It was replaced in 1992 for \$22,553.40. No other console renewal work was done then. For those with even longer memories, you may remember that the coupler stack in the console was re-leathered in 1970.

That means now is the time to move forward on the parts of the ‘jewel’ that have not had work done. The first ‘polish’ will be done on the chimes. Chimes are hung on braided cords that are deteriorating with age and already four chime tubes have fallen down into the organ. There are 25 tubes that will be restrung this spring.

The second ‘polish’ will be a rebuild of the console. The average life for organ consoles, according Levsen, is about 40-50 years and ours is ready for a rebuilt and upgrade. Levsen has promised that the rebuild will not detract from the historic or intrinsic value of the organ.

According to Levsen, all the perishable leather pouches in the console will be removed and replaced with solid state controls. Aging key switches will be replaced with state-of-the-art optical key switching. Our double-cotton-covered, wax impregnated wiring, which is somewhat of a fire hazard, will be replaced with PVC wire. Also included will be a digital control system that will include an automatic player with flash drive memory, capable of storing hours of recording (so when Randy is ill or away, we can still have his organ music playing). Other features will add to Randy’s convenience as organist. The organ will be down for five to eight weeks during the rebuild process, which we plan to happen during the summer months.

New Office Hours beginning April 4

OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Thursday

8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Closed for Lunch 12-p.m.-1:00 p.m.

1:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Friday Closed

Sandy Morrison will not be in the office on Mondays or Fridays beginning April 4. She will be in the office on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 8:30 a.m. until noon and after lunch from 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Pastor Deb’s hours will remain the same, Monday through Thursday from 8:30 a.m. until noon and after lunch from 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Trustee Report

Statement of Income & Expense February 29, 2016

	Budget	Actual	Variance	Percent of Budget
Income				
Pledge	179,254.00	26,435.00	152,819.00	14.7%
Non Pledge	21,028.00	3,916.80	17,111.20	18.6%
Investment In-	17,700.00	2,907.20	14,792.80	16.4%
Misc Income		556.00		
Total Income	217,982.00	33,815.00	184,167.00	15.5%
Expenses				
Personnel	145,147.00	23,529.85	121,617.15	16.2%
Youth Ministries	3,580.00	362.21	3,217.79	10.1%
Radical Hospital-	2,235.00	189.39	2,045.61	8.5%
Deacons	760.00	91.50	668.50	12.0%
Property	62,210.00	10,056.62	52,153.38	16.2%
Worship	4,050.00	377.00	3,673.00	9.3%
Total Expenses	217,982.00	34,606.57	183,375.43	15.9%
Differential		-791.57		
Estimated Income Hanna	\$29,000.00	\$8,868.77	20,131.23	30.6%
Mission Budget	\$30,580.00	4,290.05	26,289.95	14.0%
Differential		4,578.72		

**Per Capita
Apportionment
for 2016 is \$33.00**

Minute for Mission

Come to Church with a Can

Come to Church with a Can has a great start to 2016 with **207 food items** provided to the Des Moines County Community Action Neighborhood Center on Jefferson Street. We encourage everyone to continue our support of families & individuals in need in the Burlington area.

Easter food baskets

Easter food baskets are being delivered to 18 families in our Burlington community on Palm Sunday weekend. Many thanks go to members of the congregation who are providing half of the food items as canned goods while perishable food items are being delivered to the church from local grocery stores.

From University of Iowa Children's Hospital

Dear Friends at First Presbyterian Church,

Thank you for your kind donations to the pediatric unit of our hospital. The kids love getting prizes and having toys to play with while in the hospital. It helps keep their mind off of the scary experience that they are going through!

We really appreciate your generosity and your effort to support our patients and families here at the University of Iowa Children's Hospital. Thank you again for your kindness.

Easter Cards

The missions committee was challenged to think of ways to integrate children into some of its missions and outreach opportunities. Janet Calvin took the challenge to heart and asked Sue Sattler, one of the faithful Sunday School teachers, if our children might make Easter cards for the children in the cancer unit in Iowa City and for children at the Great River Medical Center. Sue agreed, and the last few Sundays has been overseeing this effort by our children. When the cards were completed on March 13, the children went to the Treasure Chest in Fellowship Hall, prayed for the children who will be receiving the cards, and then placed the cards in the Treasure Chest. Janet will be sending the Easter cards with the gifts collected in the Treasure Chest this month.

From Janet Calvin

The gifts in the Treasure Chest have a very special meaning for the children; that someone cares for them. This month they will have a very special surprise. Our children at First Presbyterian have made Easter cards for each child in 3JC and for children in Great River Medical Center, Pediatric Unit. They will be delivered with the Treasure Chest gifts. Thank you to our children for caring and praying for the children who need our prayers.



Call the Pastor! ...by Timothy Merrill @ Home Touch

Most pastors will agree that one of the most frustrating experiences of pastoral care is the church member who will not call the pastor in times of need. And worse, sometimes, the pastor is then criticized for not making a hospital call or visiting the home. Pastors can do many things, but they cannot read minds and are not capable of telepathic communication. They can, however, receive emails, text messages, Facebook posts, and phone calls.

This is why it is important to encourage the homebound to call their pastor in times of need.

Are you discouraged and worried? Call the pastor. Tell him or her about your concerns and let them pray for you. Your pastor likes to do this.

Are you going into the hospital? Please tell your pastor! The pastor considers hospital visitation an important aspect of pastoral care. Pastors are pastors because they are blessed to be a channel of grace and support for people in their hour of need. But if pastors do not know about someone's hospital stay, they can't do what God has called them to do.

Would you like some company? Call the pastor! Pastors don't mind visiting the homebound. In fact, it is part of their job description! They love to do it. Perhaps you do not have a particular reason to see the pastor. But, nevertheless, you feel it would be good to have some company, and perhaps it has been a while since you have visited with the pastor. Put in a call!

Saturday Work Party ...by Ed Whitmore

More than a dozen workers showed up Saturday morning, March 12, to spruce up the church and grounds. The worker bees were **Connie Bowen, Vickie Carhoff, Jim Erickson, Lou Harter, Terri Huddleston, Larry Lazenby, Jessie McCormick, Bruce Morrison, Pat Saldeen, Randy Webster, Bonnie White, Pat & Ed Whitmore.**

Work accomplished included cleaning out the window wells, raking the twigs and leaves from the lawn area, blowing the leaves from the White Memorial Garden, and removing all the Christmas decorations from the back room to the basement.

And, the business of removing the yellow curtain room dividers in the Fellowship Hall was attempted. Jim Erickson made a heroic two hour effort, but at the end of the shift the curtain had won the first round. But Jim is a very determined person, and plans have been laid, and a crew put together, for another assault on that stubborn beast. The smart money would be on Jim and his crew.

The Trustees and the Worship Committee thank all who participated.



Staff Reports

February, 2016

Pastor Deb Kinney

Worship

- 5 worship services
- 3 children's messages

Education

- 8 Bible study groups

Connections

- 32 Drop-ins/appointments/calls
- 2 home/hospital visits
- 10 cards/letters sent

Church Meetings

- Missions
- Worship
- Nominating (2)

Church Activities/Events Attended

- Knitwits
- YumYums

Other

- Hope Haven Birthday party
- South Hill Neighborhood Assoc. banquet
- Connections work
- Presbytery book study
- Separate meetings with staff (13)


Minister of Faith & Worship

February, 2016

Randy Webster

- Sunday Worship services (4)
- Ash Wednesday service
- Worship Committee meeting
- Staff meetings

- Worship planning and consultation with the Pastor
- Preparation for Lent, Holy Week and Easter
- Soloist and choir rehearsals
- Private practice
- Connections submissions

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Office Closed 12:00 PM - 4:30 PM PEO HU	2
3 8:30 AM Choir rehearsal 9:00 AM Sunday School for Children 10:00 AM Worship	4	5	6 7:15 AM Men's Bible Study 8:30 AM Women's Bible Study 9:45 AM PW 6:00 PM Handbell Practice	7	8 Office Closed	9
10 9:00 AM Sunday School for Children 10:00 AM Worship/Handbells	11	12 4:00 PM Youth Ministries 6:00 PM Worship Committee	13 7:15 AM Men's Bible Study 8:30 AM Women's Bible Study 9:30 AM Knitwits 6:00 PM Handbell Practice	14 4:00 PM Trustees Meeting	15 Connections Deadline Office Closed	16
17 9:00 AM Sunday School for Children 10:00 AM Worship/ Youth Sunday 11:00 AM All-Church Birthday Party	18 7:00 PM Session Meeting	19 6:00 PM Deacons Meeting	20 7:15 AM Men's Bible Study 8:30 AM Women's Bible Study 6:00 PM Handbell Practice	21 1:30 PM Hope Haven Birthday Party 6:00 PM Yum Yum Group-Mi Pueblo Real	22 Office Closed	23 9:00 AM Highway Clean Up
24 9:00 AM Sunday School for Children 10:00 AM Worship/Handbells	25 7:00 PM Mission Committee	26	27 7:15 AM Men's Bible Study 8:30 AM Women's Bible Study 6:00 PM Handbell Practice	28	29 Office Closed	30

Church Happenings

PW News



April 6, 2016
At 9:45 a.m.

Co:Hostesses: Marilyn Nuss at Church
Janet Calvin
Study Leader: Marilyn Leight
Mission: Toys for the Treasure Chest



Yum Yums



We will meet on April 21, 6:00 p.m. at Mi Pueblo Real on Agency Street. There is a sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall. We urge everyone to come. Call Bonnie White or Sue Carter for more information.

From **Gina Hardin**, Associate Executive Director of the Domestic Violence Shelter: Thank you so much for your generous contribution. We have lost our grant funding and your contribution will help offset the cost of operating our Shelter.

We continue to support our community through these and other organizations.

SPIRITUAL LEADERSHIP TEAM: Charles Bell, Jim French, Steve Hemphill, Cheryl Lotz, Marilyn Nuss, Camille Reynen, Julie Schulthies, Ed Whitmore, JoAnn Williams (Clerk of Session), ruling elders.

SERVANT LEADERSHIP TEAM: Bill Carter, Sue Carter, Adele Coulter, (secretary), Ruth Francis, Barb Garcia (moderator), Craig Gilchrist, Carey King, Pat Saldeen, Jay Schafer, (vice-moderator), Jolene Schaffer, Sandy Smith, Pat Whitmore.

GOD'S STEWARDS TEAM: Connie Bowen (Secretary), Terri Huddleston, Larry Lazenby (Co-President), Francis McAllister, (Treasurer/Co-President), Chuck Rucker.

Beginning in April; New Office Hours

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Closed for Lunch 12p.m.-1 p.m.

1:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Friday Closed



April 1.....	Janice Kemp
April 3.....	Nick Logan
.....	Tom Russell
.....	Julie Schulthies
April 4.....	Dal Thompson
April 6.....	Sundi Simpson
April 10.....	Charles Hanson
April 12.....	Harrison Murray
April 13.....	Charles Bell
.....	Ted Francis
April 16.....	Sally Bell
April 18.....	Scott Eibes
April 23.....	Lola Eberhard
.....	Tosh Velharticky
April 24.....	Bruce Morrison
April 25.....	Pat Saldeen
.....	Ruth DeGrange
April 28.....	Nancy Lazenby
April 29	Christine Stensland

First Presbyterian Church
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