

# May Connections 2016

## Easter Season at FPC



## Hope Haven Birthday Party



# Glimpses of Grace

Dear friends,

We are going through a few changes at this time, as we prayerfully discern where God is leading us in the Youth Ministries.

We are saying, **'Many, many thanks!'** to **Sue Sattler** who has been a part of Christian Education ministries for 33 years. She is taking a much-needed break, but says she will be around to help when needed. We are also **offering our gratitude to Elder Marilyn Nuss**, for her work as moderator of the Youth Ministries Committee, and **Deacon Ruth Francis**, for her many years of service on the Committee.

We also want to say a grateful, **'Thank you!'** to the **Sunday school teachers** this past season: **Jim (& Patty) French, Pauline Johnson, Jill Mehaffy-Nalley and Amanda Young**. They provided lessons for our children week in and week out, and in the midst of our transition, it was very nice to have their input and faithful teaching and care. The good news is, all have signed up to help teach again in the fall, and **Debbie Opiekun** has also volunteered to teach when she is available. Woohoo!

And we want to thank **Wilma Hemphill** for her dedication and determination to continue our puppet ministry. Wilma has a desire to expand this ministry to include youth and adults whenever possible, but in the meantime we are glad she is working with the children.

More good news: You may have noticed that **Anna and Sara Dodge** have stepped in and up to give assistance where needed, so you will find them opening up and locking up the church, as well as helping in the nursery, in Sunday school, in KidZone and with the puppets ministry. These high school girls have also helped in the transition, with their cheerful attitudes and love of our children.



**Caleb Hemphill** has volunteered to help in KidZone twice a month this summer, while he is home on summer break. Caleb will be providing a short Bible lesson and games, and the Dodge sisters will be managing the crafts. Woohoo!

After talking with Passionate Worship and Youth Ministries, we have decided to intentionally incorporate our children and youth into the worship experience as much as possible. You may have noticed some of the children's messages merging into the sermons as well as providing interaction between the generations. This summer twice a month we will be having the children join us for the entire worship experience.

Also, we will be replacing Vacation Bible School with several mini-missions opportunities. The first will be working a line packaging food for Kids Against Hunger on Saturday, May 21 at 9 a.m. We will meet at Messiah Lutheran Church. During the summer on several Sundays after worship we will be going to the gardens of Debbie Opiekun, Leona Byars and Randy Kinney to plant, water, weed and cultivate. We will also be having a Bible lesson, snack and possibly some games. We also hope to be a part of the Downtown Partners' Farmers' Market, selling some of the produce to continue funding for our VisionTrust child in the Dominican Republic, as well as provide food for the Sandwich ministry.

We will keep you posted as we progress into summer as we firm up dates, times and places.

If you would like to help with any of these opportunities, please let me know.

In His service,

Deb



# Trustee Report

## Statement of Income & Expense March 31, 2016

	Budget	Actual	Variance	Percent of Budget
<b>Income</b>				
Pledge	179,254.00	43,736.00	135,518.00	24.4%
Non Pledge	21,028.00	5,985.82	15,042.18	28.5%
Investment In-	17,700.00	2,945.33	14,754.67	16.6%
Misc Income		836.20		
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>217,982.00</b>	<b>53,503.35</b>	<b>164,478.65</b>	<b>24.5%</b>
<b>Expenses</b>				
Personnel	145,147.00	38,786.24	106,360.76	26.7%
Youth Ministries	3,580.00	631.40	2,948.60	17.6%
Radical Hospital-	2,235.00	325.85	1,909.15	14.6%
Deacons	760.00	171.40	588.60	22.6%
Property	62,210.00	14,914.82	47,295.18	24.0%
Worship	4,050.00	406.97	3,643.03	10.0%
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>217,982.00</b>	<b>55,236.68</b>	<b>162,745.32</b>	<b>25.3%</b>
<b>Differential</b>		<b>-1,733.33</b>		
Estimated Income Hanna	\$29,000.00	\$8,868.77	20,131.23	30.6%
Mission Budget	\$30,580.00	5,548.25	25,031.75	18.1%
<b>Differential</b>		<b>3,320.52</b>		

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> 8:30 AM Choir rehearsal 9:00 AM Sunday School for Children 10:00 AM Worship/Choir Recognition 11:00 AM Congregational Meeting	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 7:15 AM Men's Bible Study 8:30 AM Women's Bible Study 9:45 AM PW	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> Office Closed	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> 8:30 AM Choir rehearsal 9:00 AM Sunday School for Children 10:00 AM Worship 	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 4:00 PM Youth Ministries 6:00 PM Worship Committee	<b>11</b> 7:15 AM Men's Bible Study 8:30 AM Women's Bible Study 9:30 AM Knitwits	<b>12</b> 4:00 PM Trustees Meeting	<b>13</b> Office Closed	<b>14</b> 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM Joint Officer Training
<b>15</b> Connections Deadline 8:30 AM Choir rehearsal 9:00 AM Sunday School for Children 10:00 AM Worship/ Youth Sunday	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 7:15 AM Men's Bible Study 8:30 AM Women's Bible Study	<b>19</b> 1:30 PM Hope Haven Birthday Party 6:00 PM Yum Yum Group	<b>20</b> Office Closed	<b>21</b> 9:00 AM Kids Against Hunger
<b>22</b> 9:00 AM Final Sunday School for Children 10:00 AM Worship	<b>23</b> 7:00 PM Mission Committee	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> 7:15 AM Men's Bible Study 8:30 AM Women's Bible Study	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> Office Closed	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> 10:00 AM Worship/Rev. Reynen 11:00 AM Graduate Recognition	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>				

### Important Information

Well, it has happened again. We had to have the plumber come and unclog the main drain from the church. Unfortunately no one was aware of the problem until the carpet was ruined in the KidZone basement.

First of all, we have OLD PIPES that cannot handle anything more than toilet paper. It is important that everyone is aware of this problem as it is quite expensive to have the plumber fix the problem.

There are wastebaskets in the stalls for any and all products that are not toilet paper. Please use them. Please talk to your children about this issue.

Examples of problem products are baby wipes, cleansing wipes, pads, tampons, etc. Again, please use the wastebasket for these items.

Thank you for your cooperation.

# Choir Appreciation Sunday, May 1...by Millie Comiskey

**Music is an integral part of worshipping God. God's people have always sung.**

**When the Israelites left Egypt, Moses sang.**

**When Samuel was born, Hannah sang.**

**When the exiles were in Babylon, they wondered whether their song was gone. It wasn't.**

**They still sang.**

**The book of Psalms is an ancient song book. The early church included spiritual songs and hymns with the singing of the Psalms. We have been singing ever since.**

(Adapted from a liturgy by Kevin Flannagan of Green Spring Presbyterian Church, Abingdon, Virginia.)

On Sunday, May 1, we will recognize the gift of music our choir has shared with us throughout the year.

*Being a member of the choir includes not only showing up to rehearsals, but also providing musical and spiritual leadership as our congregation worships each week. Besides singing the anthem, the choir provides leadership in hymns and other music during the service. Participating in worship as a choir member is a sacred responsibility that entails not only the singing of words and notes with the tongue and voice, but singing with the mind and spirit. If you see a choir member be sure to thank them for sharing their time and talents this year!*

## Worship Schedule

**April 24:** Special music by Hallelujah Handbells; *All Things New* from John 13:31-35; Rev. 21:1-6.

**May 1:** Communion; *Heaven, for Real!* from Psalm 67; Rev. 21:10, 21:22-22:5.

**May 8:** Ascension; *Waiting for the Gift* from Psalm 47; Acts 1:1-11.

**May 15:** Pentecost; *The Gift* from Psalm 104; Acts 2:1-21; final Sunday choir sings until fall.

**May 22:** Trinity; *Love Poured Out* from Psalm 8; Romans 5:1-5; final children's Sunday school until fall.

**May 29:** Graduation Sunday; Rev. Dr. Peter Reynen to preach.

**June 5:** No communion; the Rev'd Randy Webster to preach.

**June 12:** Rev'd Webster to preach.

**June 19:** Rev. Dr. Reynen to preach.

**June 26:** Communion; *Keeping in Step with the Spirit* from Psalm 77:1-2, 11-20; Galatians 5:1, 13-25.

## Alice Naylor Camp Wyoming Scholarship Fund

Summer camp is coming! Are you ready? Are your kids, grandkids, neighbor kids ready?

Summer camp can evoke many memories: Campfires, camp songs, s'mores, friendships, crazy activities, sleeping in cabins, being away from home...the list is endless.

First Presbyterian Church has supported Camp Wyoming, our Presbytery of East Iowa camp, for decades. Countless children and youth have enjoyed the various camping experiences that Camp Wyoming sponsors and this year is no different. One of the reasons we support Camp Wyoming is due to its providing 'a sacred space where kids and youth can grow in a cooperative environment set apart from the distractions of life.' Camp allows every camper a chance to learn more about who they are and who they want to become as they grown in their faith in Jesus Christ.

But camp can be expensive. Most weeklong camps cost, at a minimum, \$400, with the partial-week camps starting at \$125 and going up to \$210. In the past the youth have had fundraising activities to help with some of the cost, with parents/grandparents covering the rest. With our budget constraints, we have less money to help with scholarships and fewer youth to help with fundraising.

However, the good news is, Jack Naylor has just established the Alice Naylor Camp Wyoming Scholarship Fund, starting with memorial money given in memory of Alice, that will provide financial assistance to any child who wishes to attend Camp Wyoming this year or in future years. Thank you, Jack!

If you would like to donate to this fund, you can through the church office. We currently have 6 children planning on attending summer camp.

## Staff Reports

March, 2016

Pastor Deb Kinney

### Worship

7 worship services  
2 children's messages  
2 funerals, 2 interments

### Education

8 Bible study groups

### Connections

38 Drop-ins/appointments/calls  
2 home/hospital visits  
11 cards/letters sent

### Church Meetings

Trustees  
Worship  
Christian Education

### Church Activities/Events Attended

Presbyterian Women  
Holy Week Movie Nights  
Knitwits  
YumYums

### Other

Hope Haven Birthday party  
*Connections* work  
Presbytery book study  
Separate meetings with staff (7)

### Vacation

4 days

## Minister of Faith & Worship

March, 2016

Randy Webster

Sunday Worship services (4) including Palm Sunday and Easter

Maundy Thursday service

Good Friday service

Funerals (2)

Worship Committee meeting

Worship Committee work day

Yum-Yums

Staff meetings

Worship planning and consultation with the Pastor  
Preparation of chapel and sanctuary for Lent, Holy Week and Easter

Meeting with the organ tuner/builder

Pastoral care

Soloist and choir rehearsals

Private practice

Connections submissions

## Thank you...from Kevin Eibes

Being so far from family and friends is not easy especially in time of crisis. I recently rolled my semi over into a ditch. The weight of the full load I was carrying was too much for the sharp curve even though I was only going 17 miles per hour. Fortunately, I was aided by a couple who came to my immediate rescue. The husband reached into the crushed cab, found my hand and promised to stay with me until help arrived. His wife called 911 and alerted Libby of my predicament. It took the emergency crew over an hour to cut me out. It's a miracle I was able to escape with only minor injuries. I want to thank my Presbyterian family for their cards and prayers. I love you and miss you all.

God bless,

**Kevin Eibes**



# Church Happenings

## PW News



### No May Meeting

Next meeting on June 1, 2016  
at 9:45 a.m.

**Co:Hostesses:** Penny Rucker at home  
Marilyn Nuss

**Study Leader:** Eva Ann Elmer

## Yum Yums



The Yum Yum dinner group has enjoyed visiting and eating at several places in the last few months. On some evenings, we have had as many as 24 people enjoy the outing. We will be going to the **Pink in Lomax, IL on May 19** at 6 p.m. We will meet at the church for carpooling at 5:30 p.m. Because of the busy summers, we will not meet in the summer months but start up again in September. We have had great fellowship and good food this past year and look forward to the fall.

**Bonnie White & Sue Carter**

**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.

Dear FPC Scholarship Committee,

Thank you all so much for supporting me through another year of school, it means so much to me that my church family always will be there! This next school year will be my final year and I cannot be more excited about what my future will bring.

Again, thank you so much!  
Blessings, **Jessica Coulter**

Another box of gifts was mailed to the University of Iowa Children's Hospital on April 7th. Thank you for all the wonderful gifts you placed in the treasure chest .

The children look forward to seeing all the new gifts that are sent each month and being able to choose one for themselves as they go through their treatments.

Thank you for sending your love and support to each child. **Janet Calvin**

To FPC Sunday schoolers,

Thankyou for the Easter cards that you made for sick pediatric patients. You have brightened their day knowing someone cares about them!

Sincerely,  
**Dana**, University of Iowa Pediatric Dept.

From **Char Blodgett**, Homeless Shelter Director:

Thank you for the bags and blankets. The residents enjoy them. It is so kind of you to think of them.  
God Bless!



May 3	.....Arnie Anderson
May 4	.....Vicki Elmer
May 5	.....Sue Carter
May 6	.....Elly Eibes
May 7	.....Deb Kinney
	.....Barry deKlerk
May 9	.....Shawn Trosen
May 11	.....Eric Nalley
May 12	.....Sue Sattler
May 14	.....Sue Gilchrist
May 16	.....Marilyn Malcom
	.....Justin Randall
May 17	..... Bret Stensland
May 18	..... Henry Nalley
	..... Lily Nalley
	.....Karen Nord-Waldorf
	.....Mrs. Shirley Webster
May 19	.....Joan Hertzler
	..... Pat Whitmore
May 22	..... David Stiefel
May 23	.....Alexis Coulter
May 26	.....Jill Nalley
May 27	.....John Lyday

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