

APRIL 2018

COME WALK THE VALLEY OF THE CROSS TO THE RESURRECTION OF EASTER MORNING

MARCH 24TH (RAIN DATE MARCH 31ST)--

EASTER EGG HUNT 5 p.m. March 23 (30th) Set up for Egg Hunt,

7:30 a.m. March 24th (31st) Come put out the eggs!



Palm Sunday **MARCH 25TH--10 A.M. WORSHIP -- PALM SUNDAY,**

9:50--Children meet in the Library to get your Palms so you can march through the Sanctuary during the opening hymn.

Dedication of the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering,
CHILDREN bring your fish banks up to the Communion Table before you line up in the Library.

HOLY WEEK

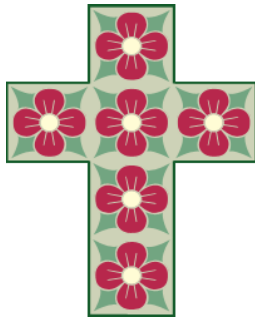
THURS. MARCH 29TH--7:00 P.M.--Maundy Thursday--



COMMUNION AND TENEBRAE WORSHIP --A Service of Light and Shadows

SATURDAY MARCH 31ST AT 10:00 AM --PREPARING THE FLOWERS FOR THE CROSS if you can help us cut the flowers for the Easter Cross please sign up on

Mission Central. Please bring good shears or clippers, and some like to bring garden gloves because of the roses. 8 Helpers will get it done!



**SUNDAY APRIL 1ST--10:00 WORSHIP--
EASTER SUNDAY MORNING**

Christ is Risen! He is Risen Indeed!

Celebrating the Resurrection with the Floral Cross

This Easter we will again be decorating a 6-foot wooden cross with flowers that will be provided during worship. Beginning at 9:45 a.m. come enjoy the Easter Prelude and then come forward and put several flowers onto the cross. Together we will celebrate the joy and beauty of this Easter morning as we rejoice together in Jesus' resurrection. This tradition was started Easter 2009 and has become a beautiful addition to our Easter Celebration!

**SEARCHING FOR THE "SING THE FAITH"
PAPERBACK HYMNALS**

In removing the "Sing the Faith" Hymnals from the pews I realized (too late) that we lost over 35 hymns that our part of our worshiping life. These are hymns and sung responses that are not in the new hymnal. So they are going back into the pews. But as you know, you were invited to take what we thought were extra copies home with you. So I am asking that you please share them back with us :)! When you return them, just bring them to the church office. Thank you! Pastor Becky

WHERE IS PASTOR BECKY APRIL 9TH TO 23RD?

I will be on a mix of vacation for and then taking a class at Ghost Ranch in Abiquiu, NM for study leave. The class is called: "Writing for Self-Discovery: Creative Tools and Transformation." While I am away there will be a pastor on call. If you need pastoral care please call Laura Brown, Cathy Runburg or Karol Ellison and they will get you in contact with the pastor on call.

tal noise can be physical, mental and possibly even disrupt children's learning. Incidence of stroke and heart attack increases in areas of high noise. Normal sleep patterns are affected, response to stressful situations become more negative, and anxiety levels increase.

As Christians, we are charged with the care of the earth. From Genesis 2:7 and 15 "...Then the LORD God formed a human from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the human became a living being.... The LORD God took the human and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it."

The task of un-polluting the world seems overwhelming, but if we all make small changes, we will see a measurable difference in the health of our world and in ourselves.

Wishing you all Shalom (wholeness of body, mind, spirit, and environment!)

Laura Brown, RN
Parish Nurse

Don't forget that Laura is available "on-call" during the week. You can call her at 309-314-5605.



PARISH NURSE NEWS

It's Your Day, Mother Earth!

Spring is a wonderful time to celebrate...new beginnings, fresh starts, and rejuvenation of what is old or used.

On April 22, Earth Day is celebrated with worldwide events, demonstrating support for environmental protection. Earth Day is the largest secular observance in the world, celebrated by more than a billion people every year, as a day of action that changes human behavior and provokes policy changes regarding the environment.

Now you may be wondering why the parish nurse is going all ecological on you. Earth Day is a reminder to all of us to care for our earth, for if our earth is ill, we too become ill.

Air pollution affects our lungs. Long term exposure to air pollution can cause cancer and damage the immune, neurological, reproductive and respiratory systems of the body. In extreme cases, it can even cause death.

Soil and water pollution poison our food sources, thus poisoning our bodies. Soil pollution occurs when soil contains chemicals that are toxic or otherwise dangerous for humans and other living things. Soil pollution may cause irreversible developmental damage in children, which in turn may lead to neurological problems. Humans of any age may also suffer kidney or liver damage, and cancer of the liver and leukemia.

One of the greatest dangers to human health is water pollution. After all, people can't survive without drinking water, and if their freshwater resources are polluted, they can become ill from drinking them. Different types of pollutants affect human health in different ways. Some of the most common illnesses caused by water pollution include Typhoid, Cholera, Dysentery, Polio, Hepatitis, Malaria, diarrhea, and even death.

Some water pollutants don't directly cause illness, but they do damage human health (and the health of other organisms) over the long term. These pollutants, called *chemical pollutants*, include manmade organic compounds that humans use to make pesticides, prescription drugs, plastics, and other products.

Noise and technology pollution stresses our minds. It's almost impossible to find complete peace and quiet. Even if you live deep in the countryside away from aircraft routes, traffic and building work, your home is probably filled with the buzz of computers and other modern appliances. The effect of environmen-

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING—

“You Shall Be Called Repairers of the Breach--Isaiah 58

OFFERING DEDICATION PALM SUNDAY

MARCH 25TH



Since 1949, Presbyterians have joined with millions of other Christians through One Great Hour of Sharing to share God's love with people experiencing need. Through your gift you can serve people in your community and around the world by providing food and fresh water, assistance in rebuilding after crisis or catastrophe, and resources to communities working to overcome oppression.

Recognizing that the hope we have in Christ is lived out in our hope for one another, we respond with gifts that help our sisters and brothers around the world find the hope for a brighter future.

Kids! Bring your fish up to the Communion Table on **Palm Sunday, March 25th** before worship then come to the Library at 9:50 to line up for the procession of the Palms!

A WONDERFUL LEARNING OPPORTUNITY

April 16th – Joyce Rupp \$25 for the evening retreat at Christ the King

Church, Moline, IL We have prayed many of Joyce Rupp's prayers as our Silent Prayers of Preparation on Sunday mornings and in Adult Education Classes. She is an amazing teacher in the life of faith. Unfortunately I will be out of town when she is here, but I highly recommend that you sign up for this evening retreat. She is one of the wise teachers of our day. Pastor Becky

Boundless Compassion: Creating a Way of Life

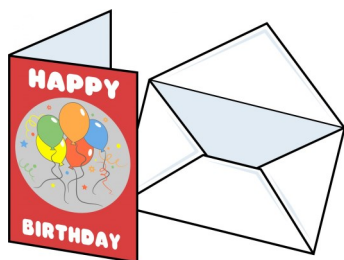
In an era of violence, hostility and a "them or us" attitude, how can the wide divisions and enmities be lessened? What will it take to draw forth the loving-kindness inherent within one's self and others? What can be done to enable activation of the teachings of Jesus in order to live more compassionately? Joyce Rupp will present a vision of life based on the Gospels with a compassionate approach to societal issues today. This mini-retreat flows from her recently published book, *Boundless Compassion*. The retreat offers practical approaches to changing hearts and re-invigorating hope amid the current

cultural quagmire of discouragement.

TO REGISTER: Contact:

Bobbie Bussan, OSB, rbussan@smmsisters.org, www.smmsisters.org/retreats
309-283-2109

**SAVE THE DATE!
PLACING FLAGS AT THE ARSENAL
FOR MEMORIAL DAY
THURSDAY, MAY 24TH AT 4:00 P.M.**



**SAVE THE DATE...
11th Annual
CARDS FOR THE TROOPS
Tuesday, September 18th
6:30-9:00 p.m.**



Rock Island Arsenal — Heritage Hall (Bldg. 60)

Please visit our Facebook page,

"Cards for the Troops, Rock Island Arsenal"

RESERVATIONS OPEN ON MAY 1ST at

"CardsfortheTroops@gmail.com"

Ella says that if you are even thinking about going, to RSVP to Ella.

The reservations fill quickly!

Presbyterian Women

APRIL 3RD

"Cloud of Witnesses--

The Community of Christ in Hebrews

We meet the 1st Tuesday of each month at 1:00 p.m.

Please join us on April 3rd, we will be discussing Lesson 4: In
Community With Gods Messengers."

If you would like a Study book, talk to Sandy Kirchhoff.



PRESBY SENIORS

Presby Seniors will meet on APRIL 25TH at Noon.

We meet on the 4th Wednesday of each month, except November
at high NOON and *WELCOME*

all who consider themselves "Seniors!"

at The Deerfield Inn Restaurant.

2215 John Deere Road, East Moline

Pastor Becky drives the church Minibus to the luncheon each month.

If you would like a ride to the Lunch

please contact the church office by Tuesday morning

before the Wednesday lunch. See YOU There!

**WHAT IS THAT BIG BIRTHDAY CAKE BOX AND
WHAT'S IT DOING IN MY CHURCH?!**



First off, we just want to say thank you to those who have donated items so far. Due to the overwhelming success of the Youth Group's Birthday Party Kit Mission, you now have an opportunity to become a part of this worthy mission. As you all know, for the past year the Youth Group has been shopping and putting together birthday party kits for children and adults through the Watertown Food Pantry. There is a great need for this mission and we want to continue it, however, we now need your help. There is a big birthday cake box (thank you Karen Paytash!) near the grocery cart with the list of birthday party supplies that fill up the birthday bags. All you have to do is go to the Dollar Tree or look for these items on sale, purchase them and then bring them on in and place them in the birthday cake box. Birthday Kits include: cake mix, frosting, disposable 9x 3 cake pan, 8 matching birthday plates and cups, candles, and balloons. (The Youth will purchase the birthday bags as there is a specific type they use.) Please help bring a smile and some fun to a child or adult who would otherwise be able to celebrate their birthday. Thank you!

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF

The Rev. Becky Sherwood	Pastor
Karol Ellison	Church Secretary
Laura Brown, R.N.	Parish Nurse
David Blakey	Choir Director
Gail Glockhoff-Long	Bell Choir Director
Linda Miller	Organist
Sarah Lack	Nursery Attendant
Cathy Dillon	Indoor Custodian
Marty Ellison	Outdoor Custodian

**Please Keep Our Nursing Home and Homebound Members
in Your Prayers**

Friendship Manor: Mary Glockhoff, Marynell Kirkwood, Mary Catherine Sneed;
The Fountains: Dorothy Horton; Good Samaritan Village, Geneseo: Kay Etzel;
New Perspective: Florence McCaulley; Park Vista: Carol Brewer, Betty Hogue
Personal Residences: Shirley Belanger, Ted and June Frels, Lloyd Strohm, Bev Warren

Please remember in your prayers those who serve in the armed forces. May God bring comfort to them and their loved ones, until all are reunited in peace. Lance Corporal William (Billy) Betsworth, Bethel's grandson, is scheduled to be deployed in April 2017. Both Michael and Caleb Kassehin are in ROTC through the National Guard. Captain Kyle Curry, Minnesota Army National Guard.

Please keep our college students in your prayers, that they may know God's love and guidance:
Edwige Barrigah—Quincy Univ., Ines Kassehin—Pharmacy School, Caleb Kassehin--Univ. of Iowa, Jack McNeil—DePaul University, Katey Maxwell & Lathan Reynolds—Black Hawk College. If you have a college/technical school student to add to this list please call the church office.

**Password for the current newsletter on our webpage
firstpresbyem.com:**
Username: fpc Password: messenger

**YOUTH GROUP ON A MISSION!
SUNDAY APRIL 8,
RIGHT AFTER CHURCH!
PIZZA LUNCH & MORE BIRTHDAY KITS!
SIGN UP ON MISSION CENTRAL BY EASTER SUNDAY!
SIGN UP FOR YOUR PIZZA CHOICE!**

We'll munch on some pizza while we wait for the bus...and then head to shopping so we can create more Birthday Kits! Bring a friend or two and let's help our neighbors celebrate their birthdays!

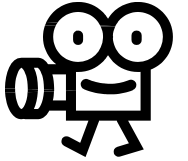
CHURCH MEMBERS--Donations to the Birthday Kits are always welcome!



Kay Etzel
Good Samaritan Village
704 S. Illinois St, Room #110
Geneseo, IL, 61254
309-944-3388



2ND FRIDAYS AT THE MOVIES
Fun, Food, Fellowship...And A Movie!
FRI. APRIL 13TH—6:30 PM—YOUTH ROOM
MOVIE: SPOTLIGHT



“SPOTLIGHT tells the riveting true story of the Pulitzer Prize-winning Boston Globe investigation that would rock the city and cause a crisis in one of the world's oldest and most trusted institutions. When the newspaper's tenacious "Spotlight" team of reporters delves into allegations of abuse in the Catholic Church, their year-long investigation uncovers a decades-long cover-up at the highest levels of Boston's religious, legal, and government establishment, touching off a wave of revelations around the world. “ (Rotten Tomatoes)

PLEASE BRING a movie munchie to share and join the fun! *We decide on the next month's movie at the end of the night, so bring your suggestions!*
NEED A RIDE? Call Pastor Becky

JOIN US 2ND SATURDAYS
TO CREATE PRAYER SHAWLS!

APRIL 14TH, 9:00 TO 11:00 A.M.

FIRST-TIMERS & BEGINNERS ALWAYS WELCOME!



WHAT DO I DO WHEN I TAKE A SHAWL ? #1

Please put your name and the number of shawls you've taken in the Prayer Shawl Book on the counter above the Shawls AND #2 Take one of the tags on the counter and attach it to the Prayer Shawl! **We would love to welcome some new people to this group,** the yarn is provided...we just need your knitting or crocheting fingers!



Dear Friends of **American Red Cross**,

Thank you for your gift of \$450 to the American Red Cross. By supporting the urgent needs of our lifesaving mission, your commitment makes a compassionate difference where it is needed most.

Once again, thank you for standing with us. We are grateful for your generosity to save lives and ease people's suffering in the face of life's emergencies. Sincerely, Amber Wood, Executive Director

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

We give thanks to you for your support of Special Offerings, our collective witness to the love of Jesus Christ. By participating in Special Offerings, your congregation joins other churches to change lives around the world—through ministries of compassion, advocacy, development, peacemaking, Christian formation, education and witness.

Thank you for the following support to Special Offerings: On February 5, 2018, we received \$1,006.00 for the **Christmas Joy Offering**. Your congregation's gift, when combined with that of others, will share the love of Christ with those in need. With gratitude to God for our shared mission, Bruce Wiebe
Director, Special Offerings PCUSA

Dear First Presbyterian Church,

You made a tremendous difference in the life of a child with your gift of \$400 on March 13, 2018.

You make it possible for us to say "yes" to one more child or family who needs us. On their behalf, I thank you so much for your dedication and generosity.

Families need support and children deserve healthy, happy childhoods. Because of you, **Child Abuse Council** will ensure they get just this. Thanks again for standing with us. My warmest regards, Mark Matthews, Executive Director

SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ALL AGES!

"Continuing on the journey of faith."

4 year olds through 12th Graders —Sunday School

8:30 A.M. Youth Choir for 4 years through 12 Graders in the Music Room

8:45 A.M. 4 year olds through 5th Graders

(3 year olds are welcome if a parent is with them for the class—nursery care for younger children)

6th to 12th Graders—Youth Room—with Darlos Stroud!



ADULTS--TAKING THE TWO HOUR CHALLENGE

Give a 2nd hour to God on Sunday Mornings

Adults—Good News Bible Class by the Elevator —OR— The 2nd Floor Seekers Class with Pastor Becky in the Library

The Good News Class—Studying the Bible with the Presbyterian Church!

The 2nd Floor Seeker's Class—We are Studying Christian Practices using the creative "Animate Journal" workbook. Each week we will watch a video presentation by a leading Christian author. Then we will explore their presentation with a journal workbook that is made for doodling and creating... colored pencils provided! Then each day there will be a journal entry to help you practice the "practice" of Christian faith. Come join us as we discuss and practice: Prayer, Food--Eating with Jesus, Worship, Sacraments, Money, Service and Community. Books cost \$10. If you need help with the cost of the Book, just talk to Becky. We have received monies to help cover this cost so that all can participate.

Come "Practice" with us!

Save the Date

2018 VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

SUNDAY JULY 15-FRIDAY JULY 20



2ND GRADERS TO 12TH GRADERS

SUMMER CHURCH CAMP AT STRONGHOLD IN OREGON IL

Come to Stronghold Summer Camp and take home memories for a life-time! Experience singing around the campfire, learning new skills like archery and canoeing, touring the Castle, learning to work together on the teambuilding course, and making new friends as well as a wide variety of activities like Bible study, hiking, arts and crafts, group games, nature study, swimming, cookouts, and experiencing God's creation first hand. For more information, **find a brochure on the table by the doughnuts**, look online at strongholdcenter.org,



Our church will provide scholarships covering half the cost of camp for all children of the church. This will be covered by Memorial Monies. If you bring a friend with you who does not attend church they will need to pay the full cost. Last year the campers were able to raise their half of the cost with a bake sale here at church, so once you are all signed up we'll coordinate some fund raisers! Want first-hand stories from camp? Talk to Anna Barrigah, Madelyn & Daphne Curry, Kylee Littlejohn and Brianna McGill.

Talk to me if you have questions, pick up a brochure, or check out the website: strongholdcenter.org. Then **turn in your registration to Pastor Becky by April 8th** so the church can send the deposit and your registration.

AND EVERYONE KEEP DROPPING OFF YOUR BEVERAGE CANS ON THE 3RD SUNDAY!
LAST YEAR THEY PROVIDED OVER \$200 FOR CAMP!



A great big thank you to all those who prayed for me before and after my hip surgery. Also, thank you for the cards and flowers. They brightened my day. Please pray I'm done with surgery! Sandy Kirchhoff

Thank you for helping children and families in the Quad Cities. You are a superhero!
First Presbyterian Church:

Thank you again for selecting **Bethany for Children & Families** as a beneficiary of your Bunco Bonanza Blast. Your support means so much to us and to the children and families we serve. Sincerely, Jenna and Dylan

Dear Church:

We would like to thank you for your very generous donation to the mission. Your kindness is appreciated. May God continue to bless you.

Christian Care Residents and Staff

Dear Pastor Becky and Friends:

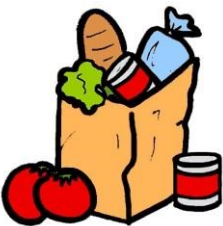
On behalf of Family Resources thank you for your continued support and donation of \$450 to support our **Braking Traffik** program. You may begin to see information about our Survivor Services Department. This Survivor Services umbrella consists of: domestic and sexual abuse comprehensive services, labor and sex trafficking services, survivors of homicide and other violent crimes, sheltering and housing services, and our engaging males service to provide mentors to male youth.

Last year, our Survivor Services Department provided direct services, training and education to more than 40,000 individuals throughout our communities in Eastern Iowa and Western Illinois. Direct services include: medical and legal advocacy, safety planning, counseling and therapy services to survivors of violent crimes.

Thank you again for your investment in our work as we grow to meet the needs of our community's most vulnerable.

Warmest Regards, Nisha Ladlee
Director of Development

Watertown Food Pantry News



We really appreciate the many cash donations and the food we find in the cart. The Mission Commission has also been very generous in helping fund and support the food pantry and we thank the older kids for their ongoing ‘Birthday Bag’ project, now supported by direct donations from you kind folks. A simple thing like a birthday cake makes the day for someone who may not be able to afford much extra.

During the month of February we helped 80 families which were composed of 161 adults and 132 children. We still have several homeless people we help and many others are reporting significant cuts to their food stamps. We continue to add new families daily and currently have almost 380 names in our database as the need continues to grow. Everyone we serve is thankful for the help and usually say so. We have heard “God bless you” many, many times and want you to know that you are a part of this ministry whether you donate time, food, money, or prayers. It’s always interesting at the food pantry. **Please consider** a donation or **volunteering** for an afternoon shift. Our open hours are Tuesdays and Fridays from 1-4 pm. We particularly need help on Friday afternoons and both shifts include stocking shelves, inventorying donations, etc., as well as helping our ‘clients’ pick out the food they need.

Our ongoing needs aside from monetary donations are: **toilet paper**, macaroni and cheese, corn bread/muffin mix, any canned **fruit** or vegetables, canned tuna/ham/chicken, boxed dinner mixes, instant mashed potatoes, **cereal** – almost anything to make a meal. (We are currently loaded with green beans but can use any other vegetable). All food items must be within their “fresh date” per Churches United regulations. We use some of the cash donations to buy fresh milk and eggs.

Again, thank you all for your support and prayers and please feel free to ask any of us questions you may have.
Until next month-
Mike & Pat Tyler
p.s. **Hi Mom!!! Love you!!!**

NEWS FLASH!
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN IS ON FACEBOOK
FPCEastMoline

A Facebook page has been set up for our church. The Outreach and Fellowship Committee will be responsible for the administration. If you are on Facebook, please search for our Page, First Presbyterian Church of East Moline, and “LIKE” the Page.

For privacy and security reasons, please DO NOT place any prayer requests or news of a personal nature. Those messages will continue to come through our e-mail prayer chain. There are restrictions placed through the Application on profanity, political affiliations, advertisements, etc.

A Note from the Finance Commission:

February Income	= \$ 8,897
February Expenses	= \$15,012
January-February Income	= \$50,741
January-February Expenses	= \$35,469

THE APRIL-MAY-JUNE MISSION COLLECTION
FOR THE ARROWHEAD RANCH, Coal Valley

During the Spring your Mission Commission invites you to help the Arrowhead Youth and Family Services with supplies to help the youth who live there. Please bring to the cart in the hallway:

Boys socks, size 8-11

Frisbee Golf Discs

Fishing Poles

Board Games for 13-17 year olds: Suggested games they need:

Risk, Sequence, Backgammon, Connect Four, Battleship, Monopoly.

If you are going to give one of these gifts please cross it off the list by the cart before you purchase it so we get a variety of games.

BOOKS FOR THE LIBRARY. Arrowhead will be providing us a list of books they would like for their library by the beginning of April. If you are going to purchase a book please cross it off the list before you purchase so we don't have duplicates. Thank you!

HANDS-ON MISSION
A NEW TRADITION AT FPCEM!
APRIL 18TH, 9-11 A.M.



SORTING FOOD AT THE
RIVERBEND FOOD BANK

Sign up on Mission Central for a

2 hour hands-on mission project!

Join the Mission Commission as we help the hungry in the Quad Cities! We'll carpool together and will be sorting food that has been donated so its ready to be given to Food Pantries. Please sign up by Sunday April 15th on Mission Central!

AN IMPORTANT REMINDER FROM YOUR
MISSION COMMISSION: THREE WAYS TO HELP!
ON OUR 3RD SUNDAY OF THE MONTH MISSION—



The Mission Commission invites you to **#1—** bring food for the **Food Pantry**, and to **#2 —** bring aluminum pop/beverage cans to support the **Children & Youth Going to Church Camp**. Please make sure pop cans are rinsed out, and **#3 —** don't forget to take off the pop tabs (and other kinds of pull tabs too!) and bring them to support the **Ronald McDonald House in Iowa City**. Please join us in our mission!

MEAL SITE MONDAYS
THE 3RD MONDAY OF EACH MONTH

Our church serves the meal at Mt. Zion Baptist Church at 6:00 p.m. as part of the Churches United Meal Site Program.

3RD SUNDAY BEVERAGE CAN
COLLECTION CONTINUES!!!

HELP OUR CHILDREN & YOUTH GO TO
SUMMER CHURCH CAMP!

A Mission Project of the FPCEM Youth Group!

The collection of beverage cans for recycling will continue! The funds that were once raised for the First Day Fund will now help our Children & Youth go to summer Church Camp at Stronghold! So on the 3rd Sunday of Each Month just drop your bag of cans by the front walk and the youth will do the rest! (And don't forget to save those Pop Tabs for the Ronald McDonald House ; just drop them in the House on the bookshelf in the library!)

