

JANUARY 2019



Dear Family of Faith,
Even though I am writing this in the middle of December I am looking forward to 2019 and our life together. 2018 has been a year of a wide range of emotions, in our own lives, in the life of our nation, and in the world. I've heard so many people say: "2019 has to be better." As I've reflected on the past and looked toward the future, I am reminded of a

quote I discovered at the beginning of my Sabbatical in 2015:

The sun hears the fields talking about effort
and the sun smiles,
and whispers to me,
"Why don't the fields just rest,
for I am willing to do everything
to help them grow?"

Rest, my dears, in prayer.

--St. Catherine of Sienna, 14th Century, Italian Philosopher and Theologian

Then I received this quote in a Christmas letter from one of you: "Those who leave everything in God's hand will eventually see God's hand in everything." As we enter 2019 let us do so, not expecting 2019 "to be better," but expecting God to be present with us in 2019. Let us rest in prayer and the promised grace of God's encircling love. Then let us live as we have been loved. "Love intentionally, extravagantly, unconditionally. The broken world waits in darkness for the light that is you. -- L.R. Knost

Blessings for the New Year, let us live in God's love, Pastor Becky

**Please keep our Elders, Deacons
and Commission Members
in your prayers as they enter into ministry in 2019!**

Session-Ruling Elders

Class of 2019

Suzanne Bailey	6of6	563-505-8424
Aneita Buss	6of6	563-332-6380
Wanda White	6of6	721-2191
Denise Maxwell	3of3	236-9821

Class of 2020

Jim Barber	5of6	755-2263
Barb Newburg	6of6	664-1994
Ella Layer	2of3	757-849-3134
Laura Brown	2of3	309-314-5605

Class of 2021

Betsy Latko	4of6	755-0927
Pat Wendt	4of6	755-2000
Paul Glockhoff	1of3	563-949-6994
Greg Bartleson	1of3	737-9290

Clerk of Session: Aneita Buss
563-332-6380

Board of Deacons

Class of 2019

LeJeane Rahn	6of6	737-2598
Brian Layer	6of6	203-1135
Margo Murdock	6of6	309-830-0027

Class of 2020

Nick Maro	2of3	797-3275
Linda Barber	4of4	755-2263
Pat Tyler	1of1	309-523-3973

Class of 2021

Randy Buss	4of6	230-7658
Linda Miller	4of6	797-5868
Ella Layer	1of3	203-1135

COMMISSION MEETING TIMES:

First Thursday of the Month:

5:30	Commission on Worship & Music
6:15	Commission on Outreach & Fellowship
7:00	Commission on Christian Education

Second Thursday of the Month:

4:30	Commission on Property & Maintenance
5:15	Commission on Finance & Stewardship
6:00	Commission on Mission

Third Thursday of the Month:

2:00	Deacons
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Fourth Thursday of the Month:

7:00	Session
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Grief shared is grief eased. I would be honored to walk with you.

Wishing all of you the happiest and healthiest New Year,

Laura Brown, RN
Parish Nurse

January Sundays: 6, 20, 27

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



PARISH NURSE NEWS

Choose to Change

January 1st: A day of good intentions, as we look to change bad habits or acquire good ones. January 10th: A day of resignation as we realize change is so much harder in real life than in our minds.

To create change in our lives, we must make choices. And what we choose has a ripple effect, touching the lives of others.

While the usual “lose weight, stop smoking, and organize the closets” are all admirable goals, why not consider resolutions that will have not only change your life, but the lives of those around you?

In 2019, Choose to...

*Give rather than take,
Love rather than hate,
Better rather than bitter,
Heal rather than wound,
Let go rather than dwell,
Bless rather than stress,
Encourage rather than criticize,
Be grateful rather than resentful,
Choose to BE HAPPY and
focus on the light within each other
rather than the shadows.
And the world will become
a more peaceful place.
~Babz*

One Word about Grief: It’s hard! While Grief Support Group will no longer be on the schedule here at First Presbyterian Church, I (your Parish Nurse) am available to speak with you individually as you journey through the valley of grief. You may call me directly at 309-314-5605, and we can speak by phone, or set up a face-to-face meeting.

COMMISSIONS – 2019

COMMISSION ON CHRISTIAN EDUCATION: Elders: Denise Maxwell & Laura Brown

<u>Class of 2019</u>	<u>Class of 2020</u>	<u>Class of 2021</u>
Linda Kreuder 496-3220	Susan Curry 752-1917	Barb Newburg 792-8418
1. NEED SOMEONE	2. NEED SOMEONE	3. NEED SOMEONE

COMMISSION ON FINANCE & STEWARDSHIP: Elders: Jim Barber & Barb Newburg

<u>Class of 2019</u>	<u>Class of 2020</u>	<u>Class of 2021</u>
Pat Tyler 523-3973	Don Buss 563-332-6380	Jennifer Noakes 933-0235

COMMISSION ON MISSION: Elders: Betsy McKnight Latko & Wanda White

<u>Class of 2019</u>	<u>Class of 2020</u>	<u>Class of 2021</u>
Bobbi Petersen 738-1584	Rose Agbemadon 792-1061	Dixie Volk 762-7127
Karen Paytash 738-1888	1. NEED SOMEONE	Candy Wendt 755-2000

COMMISSION ON OUTREACH & FELLOWSHIP: Elders: Ella Layer and Paul Glockhoff

<u>Class of 2019</u>	<u>Class of 2020</u>	<u>Class of 2021</u>
Ella Layer 203-1135	Randy Buss 230-7658	Jim Buche 429-9674
Mary McNeil 236-7317	1. NEED SOMEONE	2. NEED SOMEONE

COMMISSION ON PROPERTY & MAINTENANCE: Elders: Pat Wendt and Greg Bartleson

<u>Class of 2019</u>	<u>Class of 2020</u>	<u>Class of 2021</u>
Don Buss (1yr) 563-332-6380	Ron Rahn 373-0097	Ronnie Brown 292-0203
Mike Tyler 309-523-3973	Greg Bartleson 737-9290	Nick Maro 797-3275

COMMISSION ON WORSHIP & MUSIC: Elders: Suzanne Bailey & Aneita Buss

<u>Class of 2019</u>	<u>Class of 2020</u>	<u>Class of 2021</u>
David Blakey 755-8250	Gail Glockhoff-Long 355-5664	1. NEED SOMEONE

NOMINATING COMMISSION 2018–2 Elders: Greg Bartleson & 1 Deacon:

2019 3 at Large Members 1. Dixie Volk 2. Margo Murdock 3. Bev Clark

CLERK OF SESSION – Aneita Buss

PERSONNEL COMMISSION –2018 Elders: Suzanne Bailey, Jim Barber, Betsy McKnight Latko

PRESBYTERY ELDER COMMISSIONER – Denise Maxwell, Alternate: Aneita Buss (for 2019?)

WHERE'S PASTOR BECKY DEC. 26TH to JAN. 7TH

I will be spending my vacation in Northern Minnesota again, because I do so love the snow and cold :)! I'll be in Duluth with my friends Ron & Joy Sorenson (whose RV is sometimes in my driveway) and the Revs. Loren & Judy Anderson-Bauer & their family who also live in Duluth! If you need a pastor during that time please call Karol Ellison, Laura Brown or Aneita Buss (our new Clerk of Session) and they will get you in touch with the Pastor on call!

OFFICE HOURS DECEMBER 24TH TO JANUARY 2ND

THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED IN OBSERVANCE OF CHRISTMAS EVE AND CHRISTMAS DAY ON MONDAY, DECEMBER 24TH AND TUESDAY, DECEMBER 25TH. Karol will be on vacation Wednesday, December 26th, Thursday, December 27th and Friday, January 28th. The office will be open these three days from 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. and will be staffed by a church volunteer. **THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL THEN BE CLOSED AGAIN ON MONDAY, DECEMBER 31ST AND TUESDAY, JANUARY 1ST FOR NEW YEAR'S EVE AND NEW YEAR'S DAY.** Karol will be back in the office on January 2nd and Pastor Becky on January 8th.

Getting Fleeced for Mission for Children!

Christian Ed and Outreach & Mission are both collecting fleece for Mission Projects! Our children give fleece scarves to area schoolchildren. They need from 6 inches to 1 yard of plain and kid-friendly fleece for the scarves.

If it is easier for you to provide the money for fleece you can make a donation and we will do the shopping. Get fleeced this winter and help area children!



SAVE THE DATE!

There Is a Called Annual Meeting of the Congregation —

Sunday, February 3, 2019 Immediately Following Worship The purpose of this meeting is to receive the 2018 Annual Report of our Congregation. This is the time for members to discuss our life together as a community of faith. Please bring your dreams for the future, your concerns and questions about our ministries, and any other issues you would like the congregation to discuss. If you have questions about this, or would like to discuss your ideas in advance, please contact Pastor Becky.

SAVE THE DATE

SUNDAY FEB. 3RD, SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY

TWO WAYS TO FIGHT HUNGER THIS YEAR!



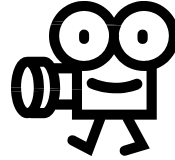
The Youth will be coming to you With their soup pots, collecting money for the Meal Site. Bring your change & dollars for this LOUD OFFERING on Feb. 3RD!

AND NEW THIS YEAR--ALSO BRING SOMETHING FOR THE FOOD

PANTRY. On February 3RD we'll fill the Food Pantry grocery cart as we come down the aisle collecting the food and change. Let's fill the soup pots with our money to provide meals at the Meal Site.



2ND FRIDAYS AT THE MOVIES
Fun, Food, Fellowship...And A Movie!
FRI. JANUARY 11TH—6:30 PM—YOUTH ROOM
Movie: Saving Mr. Banks



“When Walt Disney sets his sights on obtaining the rights to the children's classic "Mary Poppins," he reaches out to the book's author, P.L. Travers, only to find that she proves a tough nut to crack.” Cast: Tom Hanks, Emma Thompson, Colin Farrell, Paul Giamatti, Jason Schwartzman, B.J. Novak.” (Netflix)

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!
JANUARY 11TH, 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!

SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ALL AGES!
“Continuing on the journey of faith.”
 4 year olds through 12th Graders —Sunday School
REMINDER--THERE WILL BE NO SUNDAY
SCHOOL DEC. 23RD OR 30TH AND
WILL RESUME JAN. 6TH.



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

8:45 A.M. God's Kidz—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—

The Good News Class—Studying the Bible with the Presbyterian Church! There is no prep, just come to the classroom by the library and we'll read and learn together

The 2nd Floor Seeker's Class—The Journey: Walking the Road to Bethlehem. We will finish our class started in Dec. 2018 and be making decision about our next class. We are finished the class led by video with Methodist pastor Adam Hamilton as we journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem, through a DVD filmed in the Holy Land and a book that will guide us on the journey. Books are available by the doughnuts and cost \$8.00. If you need help with the cost please talk to Pastor Becky, we want everyone interested to join us. Dec. 23rd Chapter 4, Jan. 13th--Chapter 5 and Plan our next adventure!

Special Request from God's Kidz Sunday School . . .

We again need your empty Sucrets or Altoids little square tins. If you have any to spare, please give to Denise Maxwell. Thank you in advance!



Happy
New Year!

YOUTH GROUP
NEW YEAR'S PARTY

JANUARY 20TH, 5:00 TO 7:30 P.M.

WHAT: We'll create beautiful pizza creations for supper, play games you can barely even imagine and swap

White Elephant Gifts! Plus we'll talk

about a new year and what that means in your life of faith! **WHAT IS A WHITE ELE-**

PHANT GIFT? YOU ASK... This is a WRAPPED gift, usually a bizarre treasure from around your house that you no longer want, but

want to share with someone else. If you decide to buy something keep it under \$5.00...but the goofier weird thing from your house is often the best! And yes you can use old Christmas wrapping paper!

BRING: Friends and Yourself, your wrapped gift, and get ready for a great night!

SIGN UP: on Mission Central by Jan. 13th so we have enough pizza supplies & enough of whatever is needed :) ... yep that's epic foreshadowing!

Do you enjoy a donut and a cup of coffee each Sunday???



Why not consider helping out by signing up for a month in 2019 to pick up the donuts from the Silvis Hy-Vee and get them to the church? Or maybe you wouldn't mind making the coffee each Sunday for one month out of the year? If you're interested, please sign up on Mission Central.



Presbyterian Women
DOES NOT MEET IN JANUARY.
Bible Study resumes in MARCH 5, 2019.



PRESBY SENIORS

Presby Seniors will meet on JANUARY 23, 2019.

We meet on the 4th Wednesday of each month,
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!*

Watertown Food Pantry News



It's hard to believe how fast 2018 has flown by and we sincerely thank you all for your generous donations of food, money and time. We especially thank the faithful volunteers from our church including Paul Glockhoff, Jim and Linda Barber, Chuck and Mary Lou Massa, Pat and Candy Wendt, Betsy Latko and Jen Noakes. We also have several volunteers from Gaines Chapel and the community who we constantly depend on. And thanks also go to Pastor Becky, Darlos, and the Sunday School youth for the recent and ongoing donation of Birthday Bags. FPCEM is a **very** giving congregation!!!

During the month of November we helped 96 families which were composed of 209 adults and 148 children. And it's amazing that we continue to add new families monthly 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. Our open hours are Tuesdays and Fridays from 1-4 pm. 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, 4# bags of sugar, 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. All food items must be within their "fresh date" per Churches United regulations. We can also use individually packaged toothbrushes or even those little bars of soap or bottles of shampoo and lotion you get at hotels. Nothing goes to waste!

Again, thank you all for your support and prayers throughout 2018 and into 2019. Please feel free to ask any of us questions you may have. Wishing you a Happy and Blessed 2019 - Mike & Pat Tyler

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: Marynell Kirkwood, Mary Catherine Sneed; The Fountains: Dorothy Horton; Good Samaritan Village, Geneseo: Kay Etzel; Heartland Health Care Center-Memory Care, Moline: Florence McCaulley; Park Vista: Carol Brewer, Betty Hogue, Al Uzzell; Personal Residences: 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, Both Michael and Caleb Kassehin are in ROTC through the National Guard. Major Kyle Curry, Minnesota Army National Guard

Please keep our college students in your prayers, that they may know God's love and guidance:
Ines Kassehin—Pharmacy School, Washington D.C. Caleb Kassehin--University of Dubuque; Greg Layer--WestPoint; Jack McNeil—DePaul University, Katey Maxwell & Devin and 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

Elders & Musicians — Annual Reports are due in the Office **Before the End of the Year.** Please make sure Karol has yours by January 5th. Thank you!!!

HELP US HELP YOU
WITH THE 2019 CHURCH DIRECTORY



In the coming weeks, please come to the table by the doughnuts, and PLEASE CHECK YOUR NAME, ADDRESS, PHONE NUMBERS AND E-MAIL. If you would like us to include your cell or work phones, just fill them in. If you have an e-mail address, you will then receive notes and prayer requests from the church. If you would like to receive these updates but not have your e-mail address published, just write that by your name.

THE 2019 FLOWER CHART WILL BE UP ON

MISSION CENTRAL... Please feel free to sign up for a Sunday in 2019 to remember or celebrate that special person or people in your life.

SIGN UPS ARE ALSO UP ON MISSION CENTRAL FOR: Picking up the doughnuts, Worship Leaders and Children’s Sermons. What ministry will you take part in this year?

MEETING REMINDERS FOR JANUARY!

**ALL RETURNING AND NEW COMMISSION MEMBERS,
DEACONS AND ELDERS—JANUARY MEETING DATES AND TIMES**

- Jan. 10: 5:30 Music & Worship, 6:15 Outreach & Fellowship,
7:00 Christian Education
Jan. 17: 5:15 Finance & Memorials, 6:00 Mission
Jan. 24: 2:00 Deacons, 4:30 Property & Maintenance
Jan. 31: 7:00 Session

**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!

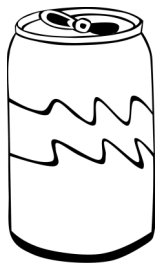
**MEAL SITE MONDAYS
THE 3RD MONDAY OF EACH MONTH**

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!)



BIRTHDAY KIT MINISTRY

The birthday kit ministry is still going strong and there is a great need for this to continue. However, we need your help. Would you please consider donating cake mixes, cans of frosting, birthday candles, plates, or napkins? The Youth Group Sunday school class participates in this ministry as well by shopping for the supplies and putting together the birthday bags. The birthday bags get distributed to families who come in to the Watertown Food Pantry. Look for the big birthday cake, graciously made by Karen Paytash, to put your donations of supplies. Thank you very much!



Another Way to Help Our Community--PLASTIC BOTTLE CAPS

Have you heard of a Buddy Bench? The purpose of a Buddy Bench is to eliminate loneliness and encourage friendship on the elementary school playground. The Breakfast Optimist Club is collecting plastic bottle caps to help defer the cost of a Buddy Bench for a local elementary school. **DIRECTIONS FOR COLLECTING** are on table by the doughnuts. The recycle numbers listed refer to the triangular recycling symbol you'll find on recyclable plastic. Please check the numbers before donating as children will be sorting the 400 pounds needed for their bench. Please not plastic marked: 1, 3, 6 or 7. **The large red tote** by the puzzle in the library is waiting for your donations! Extra copies of this list are on the table by the doughnuts. Questions? Ask Pat Wendt or Mike Tyler.

PERFORMANCE OR PRAYER: CLAP OR AMEN

The Worship and Music Committee and our Session members would like the congregation to consider the following thoughts on what has become an issue to quite a few musicians, as well as others in the congregation. It has to do with clapping during the service after the anthem, for example. We hope this article will persuade all to make this requested change.

This is not to say clapping is prohibited in church! There are certainly times when it is appropriate to clap in praise of a special event or accomplishment. Events when the children are involved might be such a time. Indeed there are times when clapping spontaneously breaks out in simple joy of the moment. These times are not at all the issue.

Clapping after a performance and acknowledging with a bow are natural responses audiences and performers use to demonstrate their appreciation. However, as musicians in church, we are not "performing" for an audience and do not expect or want clapping any more than the congregation expects or wants a bow. So as not to interrupt the integrity of the service, silence or a quiet "Amen" response would be far more appropriate and allow the musicians to add to the service in the intended spirit of praising God.

Think of those parts of the service in which choirs and/or individual musicians sing or play instruments: prelude, anthem, offertory, communion, postlude. The music is sung or played as are the hymns to bring us to a place of prayerful consideration or reflection. Choirs or individuals are not "performing" in the sense of entertainment for the service. We are wholly participating in the service through music. The music is chosen to further reflect a special day, be it All Saints Day or Christmas Eve, or simply the day we set aside in the week to come together to be reminded of and celebrate God's love for us.

Each person, whether singing or playing an instrument, gives extra time to learning music for that service. We are not saying we don't enjoy sharing our musical talents, but we do so in service to God at that time. Each is grateful that the congregation shows their appreciation and seeks musicians out after the service to personally tell them how much they enjoyed the music. We hope that response will continue to grow. We simply ask that the congregation demonstrate that appreciation with an "Amen" rather than clapping. Just as we use the word "Amen" at the end of a prayer, we can also use it to express our agreement and thankfulness at the end of an anthem.



Komla Djidotor & Beatrice Gbadegbe

1907—15th St., Apt. A
Silvis, IL 61282
240-825-6012

Betty Knollman

Friendship Manor
1209—21st Ave., A317
Rock Island, IL 61201
786-6052

Florence McCaulley

Heartland Health Care Center
Memory Care Unit
833—16th Ave., Rm. 914
Moline, IL 61265

ATTENTION SNOWBIRDS!!

Do we have your winter address & phone number? If not, and you want to receive your newsletters at your winter address, please let the office know. We are charged \$.59 for each returned newsletter.

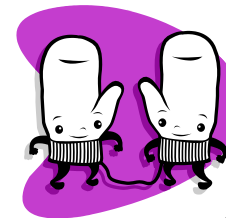


Giving Care in the Parking Lot

As the weather gets colder, and ice and snow are added to the forecast, please pay attention to where you are parking when you come to meetings, gatherings and Sunday worship. If you are able, please park at the back of the parking lot, leaving those two front rows for those who find walking more difficult. Thank you!

**THE MITTEN TREE IS REALLY THE:
The Hat, Scarves, Mittens,
AND Socks & Underwear Tree!!!**

The time for the "Mitten Tree" is here! Remember, there is also a need for socks and underwear for the children, as well as hats, scarves and mittens.



I would like to share all the places that have benefited from our "Mitten Tree" in the past 14 years with everyone: Project Now HeadStart—right here in our church building,

Project Now HeadStart—Silvis, Hillcrest Elementary School—East Moline, Ridgewood Elementary School—East Moline, Wells Elementary School—East Moline, Eagle Ridge School—Carbon Cliff, Colona School—Colona, Bethany Home—Moline, Logan School—Moline, Washington School—Moline, Hawthorne-Irving School—



Rock Island, Horace Mann School—Rock Island, Longfellow School—Rock Island, Riverdale Elementary School—Port Byron, Black Hawk Special Education—East Moline and Willard School —Moline. If there is a place or school that you would like to see some of these

items go to, please let me know.

Bless you all, Wanda White

SNOW CLOSINGS ON SUNDAYS —HOW DO YOU FIND OUT?



On the Sundays that are so snowy or icy that we need to cancel church there are a variety of ways to get this information. As soon as the decision is made, by 6:30 a.m. I will send out an email to the church email list. I will then contact Channels 6 and 8 which are the two that will list non-school closing information. In addition I will be at the church from 6:30 a.m. so you can also call the church. But if there is nothing in your email or on TV then assume that worship is happening, which is of course my preference :-).

Becky

What a lovely surprise to find all those birthday cards in my mailbox. Thank for remembering (and lampooning) me as I enter a new decade of life. I am so blessed to be a part of this church family.

Laura Brown



Thank you for the fantastic banner you sent in memory of mom (Patt Fulton). It's clear that you knew her very well. I took pictures and sent them to my brother and sister. Mom truly enjoyed her church family—all of you welcomed her so warmly.

Thank you for the sweet remembrance!

Love, Kim Nightingale

Dear Friends and Supporters,

Thank you for your support of \$1,094 to support GiGi's Playhouse!

We are beyond grateful for your support and the FREE therapeutic and educational programs it provides our participants with Down syndrome.

GiGi's Playhouse is the ONLY international network of Down Syndrome Achievement Centers created to provide FREE life-changing programs for all ages.

Together, and with our nearly 40 locations and growing across the United States and Mexico, we can support and empower families from diagnosis to adulthood, build confidence and send a global message of acceptance for all!

Thank you for believing!

Pam Lynch, Site Coordinator

Direct Deposit of your Stewardship Pledge Payment

During this Stewardship season the Finance Commission thought some members may be interested in learning about electronic payment of their pledges. There are several ways to do this, but it is important for you to talk to your own bank or credit union about the exact method.

The church's General Fund is with TBK (Triumph) bank. This checking account is where all pledge payments are deposited.

If your checking account is also with TBK bank: The bank can periodically (usually monthly) transfer your pledge directly into the church's General Fund.

If your checking account is not with TBK bank: Your bank can advise how best to do this, but in general they can periodically either make an electronic funds transfer, or automatically generate and mail a check to the church.

There are three important things to remember on these transfers:

1. The church does not take the money out of your account. You direct your bank to make the transfer for you and the church simply receives the donation. If you wish to change the amount or frequency of the transfer, then you must tell your bank of the change.
2. If the donation is made as an electronic funds transfer, we are not told who ordered the payment, we only know the bank. So it is essential that you let the Finance Commission know you are doing this.
3. If your bank mails a check to the church it will be processed the same as any other pledge check, and we don't need any special notice.

If you are interested in doing electronic transfers your bank will probably request a Deposit Slip from the church. This can be obtained from anyone on the Finance Commission. There should be no charge to either your account or the church.

A Note from the Finance Commission:

November Income	= \$ 11,668
November Expenses	= \$ 13,157
January through November Income	= \$164,626
January through November Expenses	= \$162,190

These figures do not include 2019 per capita or 2019 pledge payments.
These will be reported in January.

Sharing in the Ministries of the Presbyterian Church U.S.A...
PER CAPITA = \$34.22

The Finance Commission invites you to give your per capita gift soon!
It's that time of year again, when your Finance Commission and your Pastor come to you to talk about per capita giving. Each year, at the beginning of the year, we pay a per capita fee for each of our members, based on the previous year's membership. This per capita giving allows for maintaining the basic operating costs of our Presbytery, the Presbytery of Great Rivers, plus the Synod of Lincoln Trails, and the offices of the General Assembly (the national church's headquarters). Per capita allows each member to share equally in the ministries of the larger church. Being connected like this is one of the gifts of being Presbyterian, we are a connectional church; we care for each other! You can put it in one of the envelopes in the pew racks and mark the outside "Per Capita". If you have questions, please talk to the Finance Commission Elders: Jim Barber & John Runburg or Pastor Becky.



Dear God's Kidz and Youth Sunday School,
Your "*Were They Expecting a Baby King?*" Christmas Pageant was an amazing gift to your Church Family . We are all so thankful that we get to be in worship with you. You learned lines and music and staging and created a wonderful telling of the story of Christmas Morning in a way that let us listen to the voices of the Prophets! And a huge thank you to the adults who helped make the 16th such a great success for our children and youth: Denise Maxwell and Barb Newburg wrote and directed the pageant and Paul Glockhoff--designed and created the set! We are thankful for all of you!
Pastor Becky on behalf of your Church Family

Dear Chancel Ringers and Singers, and Directors David & Gail,
On behalf of your church family I want to thank you for the beautiful music you shared with us throughout Advent and will share into Christmas-tide. (since I'm writing this in mid-December!) Unless people are in the building on Wednesday nights they don't realize the amount of the behind the scenes dedication and gift of time that you give to your church. Thank you for singing and ringing praises to our God, we are blessed by your gift of time, music and heart!
Pastor Becky for the Congregation!

YOU DID IT--\$237.27!--CHANGE IN THE CHANGE JAR FOR DISASTER RELIEF--Thank you to everyone who emptied pockets, piggy banks and wallets to help the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance! Your \$237.27 will be used by them to do their good work here in the States and around the globe as they assist those whose lives have been drastically changed by fires, hurricanes, tornadoes and storms. You help bring change by giving your change! Thank you!

THANK YOU TO ADVENT DRAMA READERS!
Thank you to the "Isaiahs" and the "Interviewers" who helped us prepare during the Season of Advent. You helped us think in new ways about the promised coming of the Messiah. Thank you to Suzanne Bailey, Ella Layer, Jason Madden, Paul Noakes, Margo Murdock and Betsy McKnight Latko!