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First Press

First Presbyterian Church

September 2018



Rally Day At FPC!

**Sunday School classes
for all ages resume
@ 9:00am on
September 9th.**

Come join us as we study God's Word.

Schedule:

- 9:00 – Intergenerational Opening exercises
- 9:10 – Sunday School Classes for all ages
- 10:15 – Worship—Rev. Slemmons, preaching
Presentation of Bibles to 3rd Graders
Commissioning of Teachers
- 11:30 – Rally Day Luncheon—Everyone is invited!



*"Thy Word is a lamp unto our feet and a light unto our path."
(Ps. 119:105)*

CROPWALK 2018

The annual **Dubuque area CROP Walk** will be held on **Sunday, Oct. 7** starting at 12:30pm from Holy Trinity Lutheran Church. The money raised from the walk is used to feed hungry people in Dubuque and around the world. Last year 17 FPC walkers raised over \$1400. *Thank you to Lesley Sheridan for serving as our FPC coordinator this year. See her for a packet!*



The FPC choir is back.

We are blessed with tremendous music leadership and need your voice to contribute to joyful worship!

***Please join the choir for our
first rehearsal, this Wednesday,
Sept. 5 at 6:30 p.m.***

Our choir director, Jill Klinebriel, makes it a fun evening practicing songs to enhance our worship.

If you need a ride, please call the church office 582-4494.

MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE TO THE LORD!



Mission

Manor Care/Bethany Home by Katrina



This summer, I have had the joy of serving at Bethany Home and Manor Care once per month. Both are very unique opportunities to share God's love with people in our community. Bethany Home provides a wide range of care to individuals, from independent living apartments to skilled nursing rooms. One fun fact about Bethany Home is that First Presbyterian Church helped establish the retirement home in 1923 and continues to participate in the ministry there today. On the fourth Sunday of each month, Jill, our pianist, joins the preacher to provide a brief worship service that includes scripture reading, preach-

ing, singing, and praying and is almost always followed by ice cream with the residents. Children have joined in this ministry by passing out the hymns to the residents, straightening chairs before and after the service, and by chatting with the residents. Sharing the Gospel at Manor Care is also an important ministry of the church. The residents at Manor Care have a wide-range of medical needs. First Presbyterian Church is the only protestant church that provides worship services here. On the first Friday of each month, a minister from the church provides scripture reading, a very short devotional style sermon, music of various kinds, and prayer. These residents truly appreciate the tender and silent moments shared with this group. As transitions continue at FPC, please pray for these ministries and consider joining us for worship.



Beth's Mission to the Dominican Republic

On May 29, seven members of the UD community paired with six members of Morristown Presbyterian Church, and arrived in the Dominican Republic. This was a return visit to the village of El Batey for both groups. El Batey is an isolated village which is petitioning to rename itself Christ the King - to reflect their deep hopes for life and witness emanating from their community. Nearly two years ago, the bridge that links the community to the highway washed out. An ambitious effort to raise funds and trained volunteers is underway. In the meanwhile the community must rely on a very rough, long, roundabout road. This has resulted in diminishing critical contacts like medical care.



In the midst of this isolation and hope we rejoined brothers and sisters, and shared in their dream for a growing village center. Part of our ministry was simply to communicate that they were not forgotten. We worked mano a mano (hand in hand) to construct a wall for a park, across from a grocery under construction, and down the road from the community center in progress (with which we assisted last visit.) It is hoped that this village center, will give women a place to sell food items, attract (once again) visiting baseball teams for games and tournaments, and encourage people from neighboring villages to come by for worship, food, fellowship.

Sharing worship with our host congregation for three services allowed us to be present (and provide ordained clergy) for the rare celebration of communion, and dedication of babies. Two rounds of VBS and an accompanying fiesta brought the children and parents of the community together for growth and play. The village leaders were heartened both by our witness to their needs and for what they found to be an exemplary modeling of Christian unity: two previous unacquainted groups joined to work and worship together with such heart (i.e. Morristown and UD). Many thanks to the FPC community for the interest, prayers, and support.

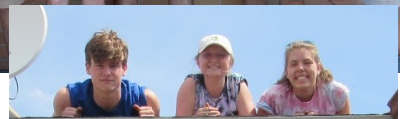
Mission

Mission Trip to Green Bay—Bryan's Final Report

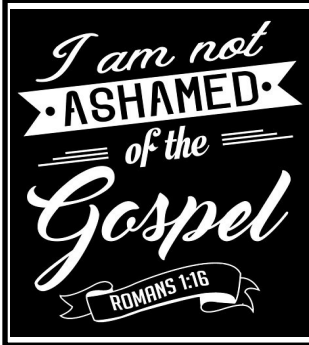
Sunday morning, June 24th, 10 servant leaders embarked from Dubuque on a journey of Christian service. The team was filled with excitement and a twinge of apprehension as we drove to Green Bay. Conversation ranged from summer jobs, music, video games to school as we contemplated what the next week might have in store for us. Although some had been on similar trips in the past, the fact that each mission trip is unique was not lost on anyone. Rolling into the parking lot of the school which would provide our accommodations for the week, we saw 340 young adults and leaders with their luggage. It was quite the sight to see all together in a worship kick-off service helping us embrace the opportunity before us.

As the week began, each of the participants met their teams and leaders. Throughout the week the teams and community bonded. Whether in devotion time with our residents during the day, intense games of Ultimate Frisbee (and an occasional set of push-ups) at night, or ice cream expeditions at 11pm, Christ's hand was at work building each of us and keeping us focused on the delivery of his will through our hands. All of the teams not only succeeded in delivering much-needed repairs at homes, but they also succeeded in touching the community with the overwhelming expression of God's love.

In total, 54 teams from 5 states and various denominations came together with a single goal, to express Gods love, and accomplished this through providing over 10,000 hours of community service throughout the Green Bay community. None of this would have happened without the love and support of our small, but faithful church family. From my heart and the collective hearts of all those who were touched by this experience, thank you.



Christian Education



Adult Sunday School for the Fall

“Not Ashamed of the Gospel”

In Romans 1:16, the apostle Paul declares that he is not ashamed of the gospel. In adult Sunday School this fall, Brad Longfield will lead us in a study of Paul’s letter to the Romans to help us gain a better understanding of the gospel which Paul calls, “the power of God for salvation.” Please join us as we consider this important letter.

BIBLE STUDY – The Gospel of Luke

Marsha Wilfong will be leading a Bible study on the Gospel of Luke, which will run through the Fall and the Spring (with a “holiday” break in the middle!). You are welcome to participate on Wednesdays, 2:00 – 3:15 pm at Bethany Home, beginning Sept. 5 – Nov. 14 or on Tuesdays*, 6:15 – 7:30 pm; at Westminster Pres., beginning Sept 11.



**The Tuesday evening group will be held only if there are at least 5-6 people committed to attend regularly. Please contact Marsha if you are interested: Mwilfong62hr@hotmail.com or 563-583-6571.*

Back-to-School Bash at the Blairs’



During recent announcements one Sunday, Rev. Dr. Lyle Vander Broek jokingly asked the question in reference to our Back-to-School Bash at the Blairs’, “What is a bash anyway?” Our answer? A lot of fun! Here was our recipe: Take some teens and mentors and stir in Frisbees and push-ups; Add a cup of conversation about video games and gently fold in a smidge of serious discussion; Flambé with a blowtorch and garnish with graham crackers, marshmallows, and chocolate. Enjoy!

Thank you to Sara and Bryan Blair for hosting this summer send-off for our youth.

Children of Abraham

Dubuque’s Children of Abraham creates an atmosphere of civic life that builds inter-religious solidarity, cooperation, and friendship. It does so through regular monthly topical conversations, service, activities, education outreach, and expressions of cross-cultural hospitality in sacred spaces.

Children of Abraham conversations are Thursday evenings from 7:00-8:30pm at various locations throughout Dubuque. Keep an eye on the bulletin for the upcoming schedule of meeting places and discussion topics.

September 2018

Deacons of the Month: Jamie Dillman & Mark Stant

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 SEPTEMBER 8:00am Men's Breakfast @ Sunshine
2 10:15am Worship: Rev. Beth McCaw, preaching Sacrament of Holy Communion	3 Labor Day Church Office is closed	4 11:30am Young at Heart @ Village Inn	5 6:30pm Choir	6	7	8 8:30am Congregational Life 9:00am Deacons 10:00am Worship
9 Rally Day! 9:00am Sunday School for All Ages 10:15am Worship: Rev. Tim Slemmons, preaching Commissioning of Teachers Bibles to Third Graders 11:30am Rally Day Luncheon	10	11	12	13	14	15
16 9:00am Sunday School for All Ages 10:15am Worship: Rev. Bradley Longfield, preaching 11:30 am PNC meeting	17	18 6:30pm Session	19 6:30pm Choir	20	21	22
23 *Newsletter Deadline* 9:00am Sunday School for All Ages 10:15am Worship: Roger Ebertz, preaching 12:00-3:00pm Church Picnic @ Murphy Park in Bennett Pavilion	24	25	26	27	28	29
30 9:00am Sunday School for All Ages 10:15am Worship: Rev. Lyle Vander Broek, preaching 1:30pm Bethany Home worship: Lyle Vander Broek & Jill Klinebriel	1 OCTOBER	2 11:30am Young at Heart @ Village Inn	3 6:30pm Choir	4	5	6 8:00am Men's Breakfast @ Sunshine

Happy birthday! Happy birthday! Happy birthday!

Birthdays & Anniversaries: September

- 2 Samson Klinebriel
- 7 Elise Henry
- 8 John Eby
- 9 David & Christine McClain
- 14 Beth McCaw
- 16 Naomi Brehm
Ivy Fountain
- 17 Ariana Herbst
- 19 Alex Jack
- 20 John & Tammy
Wehrspann
- 23 Annalee Ward
Richard Biechler
- 24 Dave & Terri Gronau
- 28 Bill Spoerl

OFFICE HOURS

Secretary Hours:

Monday 9:00-1:00pm
Wednesday 9:00-1:00pm
Thursday 9:00-1:00pm



PREACHING SCHEDULE

SEPTEMBER

September 2 Rev. Beth McCaw
September 9 Rev. Tim Slemmons
September 16 Rev. Bradley Longfield
September 23 Roger Ebertz
September 30 Rev. Lyle Vander Broek

To Keep in Your Prayers...

As they continue their studies, or begin college anew, please keep these students in your prayers. Please also remember staff members, teachers, and all of our other students during the new school year.

We ask God to be with them and their families:

Cooper Boelk	<i>University of Dubuque</i>
Naomi Brehm	<i>University of Illinois</i>
Micah Dillman	<i>School of the Art Institute of Chicago</i>
Tatum Hallstoos	<i>Columbia University</i>
Bobby McCaw	<i>Calvin College</i>
Tim McCaw	<i>Trinity International University</i>
Brandon Prine	<i>Wartburg College</i>

Your Church Family Needs You!

All areas of ministry at FPC could use your help.

Please volunteer for
one of the following committees:

Buildings & Grounds – Chris Daniels & Alex Jack
Christian Education – Linda Longfield
Congregational Life – Terri Gronau
Finance & Personnel – John Dillman & Bob Monthey
Memorial – Linda Longfield & Rachel Vander Broek
Mission & Stewardship – Annalee Ward
Worship – Rachel Vander Broek



ELECTRONIC GIVING has arrived at FPC. Information was included in your quarterly statement from the church. If you have questions or would like more information contact church treasurer, Bob Monthey.

In the Life of FPC

Adult Night @ the Point Café

A feast of friendship, fellowship, and food occurred Saturday July 21st. First Pres's Adult Night Out gathered at the Point Cafe and had a terrific group of 19 people gathering as God's family!



FPC will host its annual church picnic on September 23rd from noon-3pm at Murphy Park.

Keep an eye on your bulletin and in the Coffee Hour room for more details along with sign-ups.

Hope to see you there!



Transition News

On Sunday, August 26, the congregation elected members to the Pastor Nominating Committee: Carlie Boelk, Harold Daniels, Jamie Dillman, Linda Longfield, Scott McCaw, Lesley Sheridan, and Mark Ward. The Committee, which is charged with nominating a candidate for Pastor of FPC for consideration by the congregation, will meet with Rev. Tim Rupert, the John Knox Presbytery Committee on Ministry liaison to our congregation, on September 16 to begin the search process. Please keep them in your prayers.



EVER WONDER WHO . . . ?

. . . takes the food to the Food Pantry every month? *Deb and Mark Stant*

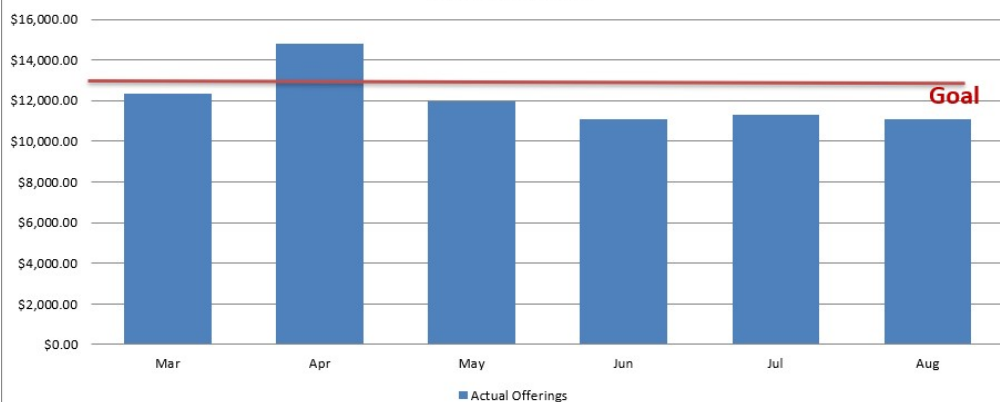
. . . changes the sign out front of the church? *Alex Jack*

. . . Delivers the Supplies for the Second? *Terri Gronau*

NOW YOU KNOW!



Offering Totals



FPC WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

August	2017	2018
1 st	96	93
2 nd	64	42
3 rd	64	55
4 th	62	68
5 th	n/a	n/a



**Don't Forget
Food for the First
(9/2)**

Please place your donations in the basket in the Narthex. Your generous donations assist those in need in our neighborhood by supplying the Dubuque Food Pantry and help to make the lives of the hungry a little brighter. Thank you!

Food for the First September



The Dubuque Food Pantry needs your help. All non-perishables are welcome especially macaroni & cheese, tuna and other canned meat, soup, peanut butter & jelly, cereal, rice, pasta, boxed potatoes, #3 baby food, diapers (size 3-5), and baby wipes.

Please place your donations to Food for the First in the basket in the Narthex. Deb and Mark stant will deliver them. Your generous donations assist those in need in our neighborhood and help to make their lives a little brighter.

Thank You!
Mission Committee

"Supplies for the Second"

While serving at the Domestic Violence Center we learned how we can help by providing supplies that are always needed: toilet paper, paper towels, boxes of tissues, toilet bowl cleaner, cleaning products like Windex, laundry detergent, diapers.

This month's major needs are toilet paper, paper towels, and tissues.



Please bring your "Supplies for the Second" to the church and place them in the basket in the narthex the second Sunday of each month. Terri Gronau delivers them to the collection site.