



THE GOOD NEWS OF FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Marshalltown, Iowa
641-753-5929

Volume 76, No. 10
October 31, 2011

The Purpose Statement for the First Presbyterian Church of Marshalltown

- G** Growing in Christ through *worship*.
- R** Reaching out in *fellowship*.
- A** Affirming faith through *discipleship*.
- C** Caring for the lost through *evangelism*.
- E** Embracing others in mission and *ministry*.



Sunday, November 6, Daylight Saving Time ENDS. Remember to turn your clocks BACK one hour on Saturday night, November 5.

Also, check the batteries in your smoke detectors.

Messiah Rehearsals

“Join the Choir Experience the Gift.”



The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.
Isaiah 7:14

Rehearsals begin on Sunday, November 6, 2011 for the 59th presentation of Handel’s “Messiah” by the Central Iowa Choral Society. Rehearsals will be from 2 to

4 p.m. on Nov. 6, Nov. 13, and Nov. 20. There will also be a rehearsal from 7 to 9 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 27. A rehearsal will be held from 2 to 4 p.m. on Saturday, December 3, with a reception following that rehearsal. **There will be NO rehearsal on Sunday, Dec. 4, prior to the performance.**

On Sunday, December 4, a special group will begin the evening at 6:30 followed by a congregational carol sing at 6:45 p.m. The Messiah performance will be at 7:00 p.m.

All rehearsals and the performance will be at First United Methodist Church, 202 W. Main St., Marshalltown. Harlan Nuss will be the director, and Chad Mussig will be the organist accompanied with an orchestra.

All Central Iowa singers are invited to participate in this ecumenical event. There is no audition for the choir; however, **members are asked to commit to attending most if not all of the rehearsals.** Bring your own “Messiah” score or one can be purchased at the rehearsals.

Monitors Needed at HOC

The House of Compassion is currently looking for monitors to stay every month on certain days. If you are interested (or know someone that may be) in taking any one of these days let me know.

- 3rd Sunday- Male**
- 1st Monday- Male**
- 2nd Monday- Male & Female**
- 1st Friday- Male**
- 2nd Friday- Male**
- 3rd Friday- Male & Female**
- 4th Friday- Male & Female**
- 5th Friday- Male**
- 1st Saturday- Male & Female**

God Bless you on your faith journey.

Jean Bergen, Director
752-5999

Cookbook Sales Approaching

The time is coming soon, when you will have the opportunity to purchase one of our new church cookbooks. This has been a long and fun process sorting, organizing and proofing recipes, with the final product at the printers right now. Our committee has chosen to dedicate this cookbook to Annie Evers, as we remember the many hours she served in our church kitchen. This is one book you won't want to miss getting for you or for someone else in your family. What a wonderful Christmas gift it will be!

The cookbook will be on sale starting November 20, for \$20.00 each. We will also be taking pre-sales on October 23, for any of our winter snowbirds who may leave before November 20. There will be a \$5.00 charge for shipping that book to you wherever you winter.

So, make a place ready in your kitchen, to add this wonderful recipe collection, made by the experienced cooks of our church. I can't wait for the next potluck!

---Mary Hemming, Cindy Butler, Jan Faber
and the rest of the Cookbook Committee

Poinsettia Order



Once again we will dress the chancel for Advent and Christmas. You may sponsor one or more of the 40 poinsettias (mix of red and white) with gold foil that will be on display. The cost will be **\$8.85 per plant**. You may **pick up** your plant after Christmas, or you may **leave** the plant for our Deacons to deliver to someone in our church whose holiday will be brightened by it. Please indicate your preference below.

Please **return this form to the church office with your check** as soon as possible.

Check one: In loving memory of,
 In honor of, In celebration of

Given by: _____

After Christmas:

_____ Please take the plant to someone who will enjoy it.
_____ I will pick up the plant.

Financial Report for September

SEPTEMBER '11	Actual
Regular Offerings	29,520.41
Other Receipts	49.94
Total Receipts	29,570.35
Year to Date:	
Regular Offerings	266,182.67
Other Receipts	<u>7,025.92</u>
Total Receipts	273,208.59
Total Expenditures	(267,696.36)
Net Receipts-Expenditures	5,512.23
Beginning Cash Balance	<u>1,092.72</u>
Ending Cash Balance	<u>6,604.95</u>

Wednesday Club News

Wednesday Club is underway! We have a small but enthusiastic group of kids and some awesome volunteers. Come join us as we learn about winners and how they live under God's authority giving their best in all they do. The kids have enjoyed acting out the story of Esther, how she showed great courage to save her people and also how God saved His faithful servant, Daniel, in the lion's den.

In November, we will continue our study of winners by learning about Samuel and Elisha. We are also planning a special Thanksgiving event on November 16. For this day we are looking for a special volunteer to share a story of Thanksgiving with the children. If you have a story to share, please consider joining us. If you have questions, please contact Michelle Wilkinson @ 483-2030 or wilkinson@partnercom.net.

Also, when you see Jon and any of our volunteers be sure to thank them and ask them about Wednesday Club. **Our October volunteers were: Abby Bacon, Cindy Butler, Rhonda Buzbee, Barb Hawkins, Mary Hemming and Jan Stubbs.** Thank you all!

---Michelle Wilkinson

Meals on Wheels Drivers

Volunteer drivers are needed to deliver Meals on Wheels 1 1/2 hours each month. Volunteers will deliver the noon meals to elderly and disabled citizens.

For more information or to volunteer, contact Estelle Perkins at 753-7987 or Jan Stubbs at 752-4953.

PWC News



Elizabeth Circle will meet Thursday, November 10, at 1:30 p.m. in the Lower Lounge.

Sarah Circle will meet Tuesday, November 15, at 9:15 a.m. in the

Lower Lounge.

PWC will meet Thursday, November 3, at 1:00 p.m. for a dessert meeting and "thank offering." Sally Peterson will present the program on "Sri Lanka Mission." Kathryn Schaudt will present the devotions. The serving committee consists of Carolann Ballenger, Shala Ludley and Linda Moore. All women of the church are welcome to attend.

The December 1, PWC will be the annual salad luncheon **at 12:30 p.m.** (Note time change) Each member is asked to bring a small salad. Table service and beverage will be provided. The program is the Tuesday Musical Club. Plan to be there!

The **PWC-CT** meeting will be held at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, November 29, in the Lower Lounge.

Annual German Supper

Elim Lutheran Church, 302 W. Church Street, Marshalltown is sponsoring its 17th annual German Supper on Sunday, November 6, 2011 from 4 - 7 p.m.

The menu will consist of sauerkraut, sausage and/or hotdogs, mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, applesauce, assorted pies and cakes, dinner rolls, coffee and milk.

The meal is served buffet style with a second serving one time each. Take out meals are available. A bake sale will be offered with ethnic food, and sausage will be for sale.

Tickets are \$9 for adults or \$10 at the door; children 6-12 tickets are \$5. Advanced tickets are available from Elim Church members, Lowe's Flowers or at Elim Church office.

Church Women United

Church Women United will meet Friday, November 4, at Hope United Methodist Church, 2203 S. Third Ave. at 12:00 p.m. to celebrate "World Community Day." It will be a salad luncheon co-hosted by First Baptist Church.

Holiday Bazaar

First Congregational Church Women's Fellowship, 312 W. Main Street, Marshalltown will host a Holiday Bazaar on Saturday, November 5, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Here are what a few of the vendors will have to offer: A Café and Bake Sale. Breakfast starts at 8 a.m. consisting of rolls, juice and coffee. Lunch starts at 11 a.m. consisting of chili or taco soup and dessert. The Women's Fellowship will have a bake sale from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Gifts: paper arts, bath products, afghans, yard decorations, jewelry, coffee beans, crocheted dishcloths, crocheted hot pads and necklaces, photography plans, scarves, candles and decorator items.

Hourly Door Prizes: "Earn" free tickets to enter the hourly drawing for door prizes by simply making a purchase at our vendor's tables! You must be present to win the door prizes.

A Letter From the Turk's

Dear Friends,

Elizabeth and I are in the United States on an interpretation assignment, living at Mission Haven in Decatur, Georgia, next to Columbia Seminary. We will be in the U.S. for another year, our return to Madagascar having been delayed until July 2012 to give the situation there time to become more normalized. Our children, Robert and Frances, will be going into 10th grade and 7th grade in Decatur public schools.

Madagascar has been in crisis since the coup d'état of March 2009. The de facto government, assisted by an appointed parliament, is not recognized by the international community. Efforts to set up a consensual transitional government tasked with preparing free and fair elections have thus far failed. Madagascar is under economic sanctions from the U.S. and the European Union and has been expelled from the African Union. The people are suffering greatly. Over 1.5 million people have gone below the poverty line since the coup. Crime and unemployment are way up, and many parents are no longer able to keep their children in school. A variety of human rights violations are used to help maintain the de facto government in power, including restrictions on the right to assemble, repression of the press, and imprisonment of opposition leaders. The radio station of PC(USA)'s partner denomination, the Church of Jesus Christ in Madagascar (FJKM), has been shut down since May 2010. Ten

employees, who were imprisoned for 100 days, are still awaiting trial. In February 2011, the director of the FJKM TOPAZA orphanage, Ms. Tantely Rakotoarivony, was jailed for allegedly harboring a clandestine radio transmitter on the grounds of the orphanage. She remains in jail. At the present time, there is no clear path back to democracy and the rule of law.

The FJKM continues to be a witness in these difficult times through its evangelism program and the development department's efforts to reduce poverty. We both feel blessed that the programs that we work with are continuing under able leadership while we are away from Madagascar. The Environment Program, Community Health Program, and the FJKM HIV/AIDS Committee are led by Rolland Razafiarison, Dr. Fara Rosoalivola, and Pastor Perline Cooper, respectively. Email and Skype are helping us tremendously to stay involved in the ongoing ministries.

Over the past five years, the Environment Program has focused on fruit trees. Growing fruit trees offers tremendous opportunity to help subsistence farmers improve food security and get out of poverty. The program successfully introduced about 175 varieties of fruit trees from Florida, with help from ECHO in North Fort Myers, Florida. Efforts are now continuing to propagate these trees in 12 church tree nurseries, to evaluate the varieties in 14 demonstration orchards, and to help subsistence farmers grow good varieties of fruit trees in 7 extension projects. This month, a new tree nursery and extension project will be launched in Toliara in the Southwest, an area severely hit by drought and the effects of the crisis.

The Environment Program also continues to plant native trees for environmental education schools, churches and public places, and to grow fast-growing trees (mostly Eucalyptus) for fuel wood and construction wood.

The FJKM community health program continues working in villages, training volunteers to do public health education as well as assisting communities to get safe drinking water and adequate sanitation. Last fall, the FJKM completed 10 wells for the community health villages of Ambovombe Centre. One of the wells was at the dispensary. Since April 2009, the FJKM has been unable to purchase mosquito nets for its community health work. Now, mosquito nets are once again available and the FJKM hopes to purchase nets for distributing to the graduating FJKM pastors and for use in remote areas without access to nets.

One of FJKM's best AIDS prevention programs is its youth peer education program. The PC(USA) is now the only funder of the peer education

program as FJKM's UNDP (United Nations Development Programme) budget has been cut. In 2010, three trainings were conducted with 50 youth trained as peer educators and 11 adults as supervisors. Because of budget constraints, only one training is planned for 2011. The FJKM AIDS Committee completed training to graduating pastors in AIDS awareness, counseling and prevention. Now, the committee is preparing materials on HIV/AIDS to be included in the continuing education training for all active FJKM pastors this August.

Please pray for the FJKM as it continues to serve Christ and the Malagasy people in these difficult times, for the new nursery/extension project at Toliara, for the distribution of mosquito nets, for the pastoral AIDS training in August, for a peaceful and just way out of the crisis and for Tantely Rakotoarivony to get out of jail.

In Christ,

Dan and Elizabeth Turk

Emergency Food Box

The Emergency Food Box is supported solely by the contributions of generous people like yourselves.



Since there is an increase in the number of families needing help throughout Marshall County this summer, your offerings of

food (please note the dates on the canned items) and/or **cash donations** are needed just as much as ever.

Currently, the items that we are in need of the most are **macaroni and cheese, peas, green beans, pork and beans, stewed tomatoes, corn, carrots, jelly, peanut butter and noodles**. These food items are not currently available from the Food Bank in Des Moines in the quantities that we need. Also, remember to keep us in mind if you have excess in your gardens this summer as those fresh vegetables are always appreciated. The families seem so grateful when we do have fresh produce.

If you would prefer to give a monetary donation, you may send a check or cash at any time. Make checks payable to: **Emergency Food Box**. Money may also be placed in your offering plate or mail to: **EFB, P.O. Box 391, Marshalltown, Iowa 50158**. These funds are used to buy needed items locally and to pay handling charges for items we are able to get from the Food Bank of Iowa.

We are also in need of some committed volunteers to help in the day-to-day operations of the Emergency Food Box. It takes approximately 50 volunteers in the routine operations of our facility. If you are at all interested and/or know of someone who is interested, please call the Emergency Food Box number at 641-753-0486, and if there is no answer please leave a message. Someone will get back to you.

Again, thank you for your past contributions and please consider the increasing need for food and/or contributions during these tough economic times.

Serving through the Emergency Food Box helps us all!

Luke's Ministry Message Listeria

Listeria is a serious infection, usually caused by eating contaminated food. The disease primarily affects the older population, pregnant women and adults with weakened immune systems and with other serious medical problems such as diabetes, cancer, etc.

Symptoms can consist of:

1. Fever
2. Muscle aches
3. Diarrhea or other gastrointestinal symptoms
4. Headaches
5. Stiff neck
6. Confusion
7. Loss of balance
8. Seizures
9. Development of cysts in the central nervous system

Persons with Listeria almost always have an "invasive infection" in which the bacteria spreads beyond the gastrointestinal tract. The symptoms vary with each person.

The period between initial infection and symptom onset varies from several months to many years. In the U.S., infections are detected predominantly in immigrants from Mexico, Guatemala and other Latin American countries. The Listeria bacterium is commonly found in soil and water. Animals can carry it without appearing ill, and can contaminate foods of original origin, such as meats and dairy products.

Prevention:

1. Wash all vegetables and fruits before eating

2. Avoid uncooked foods such as eggs, raw meat, unpasteurized milk & cheese, smoked seafood, etc.
3. Cook meat at recommended temperatures
4. Handling and storage of food properly is imperative
5. Some processed foods such as hot dogs and deli meats are contaminated after processing and packaging.



Dear Church Members

Thank you so much for the flowers my Deacon, Barb Schrum delivered to me. I enjoyed the visit from Barb McBride and Barb Schrum who keep me up on church affairs.

Thanks for thinking of me.

---Carol Ploeger

To Our Church Family

Thank you to our church family for your prayers, thoughts and cards during this time when Pat's dad passed away. These gestures of kindness have sustained us.

We feel comforted that Dad is now with our Lord. May God bless you all.

---Pat & Nancy Kremer

Dear Rev. King

This is just a note of gratitude. As a member of St. Mary's Church, I just wanted to tell you and the Presbyterian congregation how much we appreciate the use of your educational facilities for the St. Mary's School students. You certainly came to their rescue when the school had the floor problems. I didn't know what they were going to do.

It's nice to have such caring neighbors. Hopefully, we can reciprocate in some way in the future. What a Christian act of brotherly love.

May God bless you and all of your congregation.

---Betty Collison



Evans, Ed Jackson, Estelle Perkins, Edith Rankin, Jack & Pat Stickfort, Pat Smith, Agnes Ward, Don & Donia Wilson and Carolyn Wilkinson.

---Jan Faber, Dick McBride and Bert Tice who were the faithful HOC shelter monitors in October.

---our faithful workers at the House of Compassion during the month of October: **David Butler, Carolyn Bell, Marge Crandall, Jean**

are being a member of the body, not just a spectator of the ministry. It also shows once again how God has designed the Church to be: a body with many parts that contribute to the whole.

As we miss our pastor, I would also encourage you to look to the unique blessings of this time. How do you see God working in our church? And more importantly, how do you see God calling you to be a blessing to His Church?

Jon

OCTOBER SESSION ACTIONS

The Stated Session Meeting of First Presbyterian Church, Marshalltown, met in the Lower Lounge at 7:05 p.m. on Tuesday, October 18, 2011.

A quorum was present. Moderator Rev. Dave Beckmann opened the meeting. Dean Baker led the devotions and gave the prayer.

Motion prevailed to approve the September 20, 2011 Stated Meeting minutes as printed.

The church received a \$75 donation from the Cedar Rapids Chrysalis group for use of the showers for their Labor Day weekend retreat.

Matt Broshar presented the Financial and Investment Committee reports. September giving was very good. Giving is ahead of where we were last year at this time. Utilities are up from last month but still below the budgeted cost. No spending was out of line. Funds continue to come in for the Building Fund. The sixth payment on the new roofs has been made, and the bill should be paid off in November. We received rebates from Alliant Energy for the new roofs, energy efficient lights and the new furnaces. The church received a bequest for \$5,000. Matt discussed the investments, and we've received some interest money from them. **Motion prevailed** to pay the September and October designated mission obligations to PCUSA.

Dave Beckmann reported that Carter Strand gave a report in Sunday school on his mission trip for Jonathan's Orphanage. If designated mission giving money to Turkana is no longer needed, the money will be moved to Carter's mission project. Through Skype, David Graeff told the class of his ordeal with hostile Muslims in Indonesia and how they escaped the situation.

Steve Strand reported for Stewardship and presented a chart on "Will You Grow One Step in 2012?" This report showed there are 182 giving units, and the steps show where their amount of giving is broken down. People are moving up the giving steps from last year, and are encouraged to continue to move up again this year.

Darrell Meyer reported that the W & M Committee discussed the 2012 budget and left it the same as this past year. It is working well to have the lay people taking Communion to the shut-ins and friends of the Deacons.

Communion—182 on September 4, and 158 on October 2.. Home Communion was taken to **Herdis Berquist, Shirley Jury, Ada Spencer and Carol Squiers.**

Jon Rottink reported for the CE Committee that the rotation model in Sunday school is going very well and the teachers are all new this year. Children's Church has begun and is going very well.

Carole Permar reported for A & P and distributed the proposed 2012 budget and it was discussed. Most of the budget will remain the same as last year. The A & P budget was increased to give all the full-time employees a 2.5% increase in raise. The \$5,000 budgeted for Pastor Rich's sabbatical this year will be removed from the 2012 budget. The budget is about \$23,000 lower than the 2011 budget. The Session needs to look over the proposed budget and be ready to vote on it at the November Session meeting.

Bonnie Grimmus reported for M & I that the committee now has ads for the Nursery Coordinator ready to go to different places. Wednesday, December 14, will be "Soup and Sing." Another "Child Protection Policy" training needs to be held.

Pat Hemming reported the committee discussed their 2012 budget. They looked at their priority projects and discussed where the money would come from to pay for things that need to be done right away. The sidewalk repairs should be done this year. They are looking at putting a big screen on the balcony with the PowerPoint on so people on the stage area can look at it rather than the screen behind them. Getting pledges for the Building Fund in the latter part of November was discussed.

St. Mary's Catholic School kids will be in the Gathering Place until mid to late November. Those children and the Presbyterian youth are exchanging notes of encouragement.

The meeting was adjourned with small group prayer.

Newsletter deadline with **DECEMBER**
information is **SUNDAY,**
NOVEMBER 20, 2011

Reminder:

Nov. 1—All Saints' Day
Nov. 4—World Community Day
Nov. 6—Daylight Saving Time Ends
Nov. 11—Veterans' Day
Nov. 15—Deacons
Nov. 15—SESSION
Nov. 20—Christ the King Sunday
Nov. 20—Olde Tyme Hymn Sing
Nov. 24-25—Thanksgiving Holiday - Office Closed
Nov. 27—1st Sunday of Advent

Pastor	Rev. Dr. Richard King
Associate Pastor	Rev. David Beckmann
Youth Director	Jon Rottink
Organist	Wynona Anderson
Chancel Choir Director	Valerie King
Office Manager/Newsletter Editor	Nancy Diggins
Custodian	Yawo Sassouvi
Assistant Custodian	Jan Faber
Nursery Director	(Need a Director)

Members in mission making a difference.

GOOD NEWS from First Presbyterian Church is published monthly. Deadline for the following issue is published in the calendar. Comments and contributions are welcome.

Church office phone: 641-753-5929

Web Site www.nivlac.org

Email Church at presmtwn@mchsi.com

Pastor at rich.king@mchsi.com

Associate Pastor at dave.beckmann@mchsi.com

Youth Director at jon.rottink@mchsi.com