



The Good News

of First Presbyterian Church for February 2020

Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people;
once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.
(1 Peter 2.10 [NRSV])

Student housing needed for Augustana Choir

The Augustana University Choir (Sioux Falls) will be visiting us Sunday, March 8 at 4 p.m. to present a *Festival of Music* concert. Following their concert, we will provide them a dinner at the church and they will stay the night in Rochester before continuing on their merry choir tour way.

Homestays are needed for about 50 students for the night of March 8. General needs include a *reasonable* place to sleep for 2 or more students (students generally only come in pairs or trios), transportation from and back to the church, breakfast the morning of the 9th.

Specific details regarding timing are yet to be shared with us. Please consider hosting, and let us know so that we can quickly determine our needs and organization as soon as we receive more information from the University. Thanks for considering this mutually rewarding opportunity!

Please contact **Jan Hosier** (507-202-1859) or **John Stender** (282-1618) for more information.

~ John Stender / Director of Music

CWS Blankets Program aids victims of disasters

Sunday, February 9, our church will once again participate in the Church World Service Blankets program (commonly known as Blanket Sunday). This world-wide program coordinates disaster relief and assistance to people in need.

Items provided include emergency supplies such as blankets, tents, clean water, food packages and health kits. Through donations from thousands of congregations across the country, people around the world can be helped to recover from disasters, and communities can be rebuilt. In 2019 over 118,000 CWS blankets and kits were provided to families impacted by hurricanes, flooding and other crisis situations.

Envelopes for your donation will be in the pew racks or you can mail a donation to the church office anytime in February and mark it "Blanket Sunday."

Please remember to donate to this worthwhile mission. Your contribution will give hope for a brighter future to those who have been through a disaster.

~ Britta Youmans / Missions Committee

A Festival of Music welcomes Heartland Marimba Quartet

Time: Sunday, February 16 at 4 p.m.

Place: First Presbyterian Church sanctuary

FESTIVAL
OF MUSIC



The Heartland Marimba Quartet (HMQ) is the primary performing ensemble of Heartland Marimba. Established in 2016 by acclaimed marimba soloist Matthew Coley, the group seeks to give a platform to the marimba music of American composers and continues to expand its repertoire with works from composers worldwide.

Comprised of four distinctively creative forces, Matthew Coley, Michael J. Jones, Joe Millea, and Andrew Veit, HMQ exemplifies Heartland Marimba's mission to develop and disseminate the classical marimba art form in both academic and community contexts.

In 2018, HMQ had the honor of being the ensemble-in-residence for the Society of Composers National Conference. While there, the group premiered a new concerto for marimba quartet and wind ensemble by Paul Alan Price-Brenner with the University of Puget Sound Wind Ensemble.

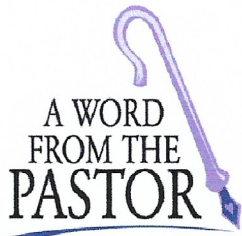
HMQ's 2018-2019 season highlighted works written for Heartland Marimba, including Alex Orfaly's *Fôr Marimbas*, Steven Simpson's *Fluidity*, Matthew Coley's *Rivers of Rage*, and the newest addition, *The Principle of Vibration* by Brett William Dietz. During the 2019-2020 season they will release an album and collaborate with the Dubuque Arts Council, Millikin University Percussion, and the Minot and Dubuque Symphony Orchestras.

Don't miss this unique ensemble! There is no admission to the concert, but a freewill offering will be accepted. A dessert reception will follow the concert.



Heartland Marimba Quartet

First Presbyterian Church
Sunday, February 16, 4 p.m.



by Rev. T. J. Parlette

February 2020

On February 26, we begin the Lenten season with our Ash Wednesday service at 6:30 p.m.

The following Wednesday (March 4), our Lenten study begins using Adam Hamilton's "The Walk." For five Wednesdays in Lent

we will discover five essential spiritual practices for our Christian walk, each rooted in Jesus' own walk with God. The class will meet on Wednesday March 4, 18, 25, and April 1 and 8. The cost of the book is \$15.00. Please sign up for the class by Monday, February 10 in the church office.

Peace, T. J.

Calling all First Presbyterian Women to the Women's Winter Retreat

Leap of Faith:

Practices for Building Christian Community

You are invited to participate in "Leap of Faith: Practices for Building Christian Community" at our church on Saturday, February 29, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Child care will be provided for children up to 12 years old, free of charge.

The day will include fellowship, communion, a service project, great food, and fun! We will meet in the south fireside room. **Marion Pitts** will lead a yoga session (back by popular demand); **Rev. Carol Shaffer** and **Elizabeth Remfert** will lead the program.

The cost of the retreat is \$20.00. Registration forms are in the church office in the mailbox marked for Presbyterian Women. Fill out the form and leave a check/cash in the folder.

Questions? Contact **Ruth Saling** (507.358.1829 or rksaling@msn.com).

Thanks for a Supplemental Pledge

Thanks to everyone who dug a little deeper and was able to make a Supplemental Pledge to support the 2020 General Budget of the church. You are appreciated beyond belief!

With your help the Session was able to adopt a budget that was (almost) balanced and at the same time allow committees most of what they had requested. The other good news is that we ended 2019 in the black with a tentative balance of about \$31,700. This will be put in the Capital Reserve Fund for extraordinary expenses and budget deficits.

Stewardship Alive!

Looking for love

Though not a fan of making New Year's resolutions, Jen Kramer decided to add meaning to 2018 by declaring it #theyearoflove. Each day she wrote a "love note" to a different person, expressing gratitude and offering encouragement. Recipients ranged from waiters and custodians to relatives and a terminally ill friend.

The experiment may have stemmed from the sudden, unexpected death of Kramer's father while she was away at college. "Why don't we say those things to people while they're here?" she tells the Chicago Tribune. "It's easy to be kind, and it's easy to tell people how you feel."

Kramer's campaign didn't cost a cent, yet it changed her life and touched hundreds of people in the process. Wherever she went, she discovered that "love showed up." It's simple, Kramer says: "You just have to look."

**First Presbyterian Church / Financial Statement
January 2019 / December 2019**

General Operating Budget

Balance (1/1/2019)	
Receipts (2019)	+ 808,085.79
Disbursements (2019)	- 776,356.08
Balance (12/31/19)	\$ 31,734.71



First Presbyterian Church
512 SW 3rd Street
Post Office Box 906
Rochester, MN 55903
Telephone: 507/282-1618

FAX: 507/288-0809; e-mail: web@FPCRochester.org

The Good News is published the first of each month for members and friends of First Presbyterian Church (FPC).

The newsletter tells the story of the church, promotes its programs, and publicizes opportunities to live out one's faith.

Deadline for submission of material is the fifteenth of the preceding month.

Church Staff

- | | |
|--|---|
| Pastor | Thomas J. (T.J.) Parlette |
| Associate Pastor | Jay P. Rowland |
| Director of Music | John E. Stender |
| Director of Music Emeritus | Lee J. Afdahl |
| Coordinator of Youth and Christian Education | Susanna L. Stone |
| Office Administrator | Susan K. Kruger |
| Facility Manager | Harry E. Coleman |
| Custodian | Tyler Sczurek |
| Part-time music assistants | Katie Kuisle (Calvin and Cherub Choirs)
Janine Yanisch (First Players) |
| Part-time custodians/security | Than Boutelle, Vera Brooks, Sally Evans, Tami Rinn |
| Child Care Workers | Maria Alma Candido, Esther Lebron, Brenda Thorson |
| Newsletter Editor | Carol J. Evans |
| Parish Associates | Roger Ring, Carol Shaffer, James Walker |

Sunday services of worship at 8:30 and 11 a.m.
Education classes: Sundays at 9:40 a.m.
Office hours: Monday-Thursday, 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m.;
Friday, 7:30 a.m.-3 p.m.; Saturday, 9:30 a.m.-noon
Visit our WEB site at www.FPCRochester.org.

The mission of First Presbyterian Church of Rochester is to reflect God's love for all people by proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Two opportunities to share a meal at church this month

Shrove Tuesday pancake supper marks beginning of Lent

You are invited to join us for our annual Shrove Tuesday pancake dinner on Tuesday, February 25 at 5:30 p.m. in the social hall as we prepare for the Lenten season.

Wear your finest Mardi Gras attire or come as you are for a delicious dinner and touch of New Orleans! No reservations are necessary and there's nothing for you to bring. The supper is sponsored by the Welcoming and Nurturing Committee.

~ Jane Murl W & N Committee

Chancel Choir hosts potluck meal on Ash Wednesday

Then the next day you are invited to gather in the social hall at 5:30 p.m. for a potluck supper before attending the communion worship service at 6:30 p.m. Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the Lenten season.

Lenten activities offer times for study, reflection, worship

The Lenten season has traditionally been a time when Christians attend to the cultivation of the things of the spirit. For many of us there are too few opportunities to slow down and reflect upon the direction of our hectic, consumer-driven existence. The season of Lent invites us to take time to attend to those aspects of our lives that we often neglect.

During the time between Ash Wednesday and Easter (April 12) we invite you to join in these activities:

- ▶ *Ash Wednesday (February 26) service of communion and imposition of ashes at 6:30 p.m.*
- ▶ *Morning worship on Sundays at 8:30 and 11 a.m.*
- ▶ *Bible study on Wednesdays from 6:30-8 p.m.*
- ▶ *Organ recital series Wednesdays from 12:15-12:45 p.m.*
- ▶ *Choir Cantata on March 15 at 8:30 and 11 a.m.*
- ▶ *Worship/Communion Maundy Thursday (April 9) at 7 p.m.*
- ▶ *Easter worship on April 12 at 8:30 and 11 a.m.*

There comes a time ...

Once upon a time I volunteered to be treasurer for FPC's United Presbyterian Women's group. That led, in 1978, to becoming treasurer for First Presbyterian Church (without a real desk and without computers). Over the years that has grown to include computers, some membership duties, the office side of the columbarium, investment activities, and more recently the weekly and monthly newsletters, Festival of Music and Sunday bulletins, and the Annual Report ... and ... and ... And now, after 42 years, I will retire the end of July.

The Personnel and Administration Committee and Rev. Parlette are aware of the decision and will be making plans to find a replacement. The journey over 42 years has been great - and I thank all of you for the opportunity to be a "Servant of this Congregation."

~ Carol Evans

First Presbyterian Church celebrates 159th anniversary, recognizes 50+ -year members

The First Presbyterian Church of Rochester was founded on February 17, 1861, by Sheldon Jackson. Since then we have traveled the roads of 159 years. Some of these roads have been rough, some smooth, some straight, some winding, but each one has helped reveal to us the love of God working through our lives.

On February 16 we will honor and say "thank you" to 97 "golden" people who have been members for at least 50 years. Their names have been in our bulletins and newsletters as Sunday School teachers, ushers, choir members, stewardship campaign workers, elders, and deacons. Many of them still appear on the church's doorstep regularly as volunteers.

Our most senior member, **Ursula Thedens**, was confirmed at First Presbyterian in 1942. Our oldest "golden," **Margaret Harris**, joined in 1951. Our youngest "golden," **David Smyrk**, was confirmed in 1968.

The list of 50+ -year members includes

70+ -year member	50+ -year members	Robert McClocklin
Lonnie Martin	Gail Baker	Susan McClocklin
Lynn Postier	George Bayrd	Peter McConahey
Ursula Thedens	Lucille Bill	Marilyn McKay
60+ -year members	Corene Bernatz	Neil McKay
Louise Bastron	Mary Beyerle	Patricia Milam
John Brandrup	Kay Boege	James Miner
Nancy Brandrup	Constance Bowen	Jean Miner
Elaine Davis	Kenneth Boyer	Douglas Nelson
Jane Destro	Carol Breen	Joyce Nelson
Lynn Ferschweiler	Sally Brooks	Norman Nelson
William Haas	Don Cain	Robert Pettitt
Margaret Harris	Sondra Danielson	Ruth Pexton
Melvin Hicks	Charlotte Davis	Mary Ress
Sandra Holloway	Betty Dobyns	Alan Sessler
Elaine Jones	Allen Dollerschell	Martha Sessler
Charlene Kyle	Marcia Dollerschell	John Service
Robert Kyle	Char Ellefson	Shirley Service
Donna Lee	Carol Evans	Lucy Schmidt
Robert MacCarty	Titus Evans	Frank Sharbrough
Lowell Meyer	Shirley Gove	Lynda Sharbrough
Dan Moore	Ann Groover	Roger Shepherd
Jennie Orvis	Robert Groover	Carol Smyrk
Janet Purnell	Mary Jo Harper	Charles Smyrk
Ruby Rose	Judy Hunter	David Smyrk
Donald Scholz	Kenneth Irvin	Sylvia Swede
Mary Sheridan	Laura Irvin	Kiyomi Takekawa
Naomi Spiekerman	Rose Johnson	Marilyn Theismann
Ralph Spiekerman	Nancy Kreinbring	Johnson Thistle
Alfred Thedens	Ron Kreinbring	Judith Thistle
Jon Thiem	M. Pauline Krieger	Jane Tietjen
Elmer VanDerHeyden	Judy Krusel	Dan Tolman
Mary VanDerHeyden	Jacqueline Kruger	Suzanne Tolman
	James Martin	Donald Wiegert

Congratulations and thank you for your part in shaping our church! You are an inspiration to all of us. When the rest of us have been members for 50 years, may yet newer members look on us as gratefully and appreciatively as we look on you.

Contact Fabian Luna to join the mission team

FPC mission to Immokalee, Florida serves migrant community

This year from March 23-29 the Mission Committee of First Presbyterian is joining the Peace River Presbytery of Florida to sponsor a mission trip to Immokalee, Florida to support the Misi'on Peniel group in their efforts to serve the migrants of the area who need our help.

Immokalee immigrants plant and harvest 90% of the tomatoes consumed in the US during the winter and spring months. Migrant farm workers are the poorest of all workers. 65% of their meager income is spent on housing. Little is left for food, medicines, and other essentials. The harsh reality for most is that they struggle to afford the very food they harvest.

Beginning in January and up to the time the committee leaves we will be collecting:

- Men's tennis shoes, long sleeve t-shirts, pants/jeans, shirts for work.
- Women's tennis shoes, long sleeve t-shirts, pants, skirts and shirts.
- Children's tennis shoes, all sizes, new born-16 years old.
- Baseball caps and sun visors to shield from the sun.

There will be a donation container in the church atrium for you to drop off donations beginning the week of January 20.

Cash donations will be accepted and used for renovating/ converting a donated trailer into a daycare/play center for the children while parents are working. These funds will also be used to purchase materials for general house repairs and the Meals on Wheels program for the elderly. Cash/check donations can be made in the church office with Florida Mission written on the memo line.

*We invite you to join the team ...
there are tasks open for all interests*

Members of the Mission Team will help organize donations that are received during the week we are there, provide daycare assistance, lead a bible study, join in gardening activities, visit with the elderly and comfort them through the work of the Bible, serve meals, tackle small jobs like painting and house maintenance, and undertake other meaningful and helpful tasks to make life a little better for the migrants.

Jesus talks in Matthew 25 about reaching out to those who are hungry, or in need of clothing, or need to find a welcoming home place. What a great opportunity for us to accomplish that in Immokalee. Plus, what a great way to warm up after a long winter season!!

If you would like more information on the Mission Trip, or to sign up, please contact **Fabian Luna** (fpcfabian@gmail.com or call 507-250-0822).

*~ Fabian Luna / Mission Committee
and FPC Florida Mission Trip coordinator*

A big thank you to everyone who helped decorate and then dismantle the halls of the church for Advent and Christmas. Your willingness to give of your time and enthusiasm is appreciated by all.

~ Bev Lewis

from the FPC Parish Nursing program

February: Saying goodbye to a pet



Losing a pet is one of the most challenging parts of pet ownership. The animals in our lives are a source of unconditional love and a gift of companionship and joy, and saying goodbye is painful. Recently we lost our golden retriever Earl at age 10

after having him in our lives for 6 years. Whether the loss is sudden or expected, here are a few reminders as we move back and forth through the stages of grief.

1. Denial - We may be in denial that our pet is ill enough to die; children may be in denial at the finality of death. Be patient as the reality of loss sets in.
2. Anger - We may feel anger at our pet for leaving us, ourselves for some perceived guilt, or the vets or caregivers who helped with our pet. Our grief can also lead to anger with those around us. Again we must have grace with ourselves and others.
3. Bargaining - We may think we can ease the pain by replacing the pet quickly or by doing something else to make up for their loss.
4. Depression and despair - When we lose a pet, most of us will cry and will feel sad. It is important to admit our feelings, find support with friends and family, and to process our feelings.
5. Acceptance - Closure is important to accepting loss. Allowing everyone including fellow pets to say goodbye to the animal (alive or deceased) can help the family accept their death. Celebrating and remembering their life helps to close this chapter of our lives and prepare for the next.

~ Ariel Boswell / FPC Parish Nurse Coordinator

Adult education ~ Sundays / 9:40-10:45 a.m.	
Bible Study (South Fireside)	The Kerygma Class begins a study of <i>The Bible and Theology, Book 1</i> . The class is led by Jane Goodfriend and Ruth Walts .
Current Issues (Lounge)	<i>Current Events: Fighting the Tide of History</i> is the overall theme for the 2019-2020 year, The discussion is led by Al Depman .
Bible Study ~ Wednesdays / 6:30-7:30 p.m.	
Bible Study (Sheldon Jackson Lounge)	February 5 The Wordless Book: Green page - Spiritual Growth February 12 The Wordless Book: Blue page - Witnessing February 19 Bible News Update February 26 Ash Wednesday service; no Bible study this week Al Depman leads the Wednesday evening Bible studies.

♥ Financial Fitne\$\$: giving is good for your heart ♥

Session adopts \$840,000 budget

At its January meeting Session adopted a budget of \$840,000 for 2020. This is a 2% (\$12,150) increase over the 2019 budget. The increase was driven primarily by 2% across the board staff raises.

The budget will be underwritten by general budget and outreach pledges (\$720,888), supplemental pledges (30,970) (thank you), one-time gifts (\$15,000), contributions over pledge (\$42,000), plate offering (\$10,000), miscellaneous income (\$7,000), and interest (\$1,000). We also included Capital Reserve (only if necessary) (\$13,142).

Budget area	2019 Actual	2020 Budget
Building/Grounds, incl CapM Fd	81,768	92,050
Christian Education	5,986	6,750
Youth Ministry	3,111	3,445
Mission (including designated projects, Unified Mission, Theological Education Fund)	48,973	46,500
Office Services	25,018	25,000
PCUSA Per Capita assessment	24,420	25,000
Personnel/Administration	520,497	580,000
Social Concerns	20,322	20,000
Stewardship/Finance	25,985	23,555
Welcoming/Nurturing	2,419	3,500
Worship/Music	<u>14,358</u>	<u>14,200</u>
Total	\$772,857	\$840,000

Special Offerings raise \$54,805

What a congregation! On behalf of the many people who will benefit from your generosity, we are happy to announce and thank you for the special donations you made in 2019. In addition to the \$54,805 listed, donors supported the anthem fund, Easter brunch, youth projects, special offerings and implementation projects.

Bdecan mission trip projects	2,815
Birthday Offering (PW)	1,165
Blanket Program (CWS)	5,202
Channel One/Minnesota FoodShare	8,075
Christmas Joy Offering (PCUSA)	6,735
Deacons Fund	5,176
Medical Missions Offering (PW)	5,365
One Great Hour of Sharing (PCUSA)	8,867
Peacemaking Offering (PCUSA)	3,610
Witness/Pentecost Offering (PCUSA)	4,390
Special mission projects	3,405

We also contributed food and household supplies to Channel One, Hope Lodge, Women's Shelter, and Dorothy Day, Gift of Life Transplant, and Ronald McDonald Houses.

Through the Sharing Tree at Christmas we helped Alternative Learning Center for new and expectant teenage mothers, Childhood Cancer Community for families with a childhood cancer diagnosis, MedCity Foundation to support blood cancer patients and their families, and Family Promise for homeless families.



We exist temporarily
through what we take,
but we live forever
through what we give.
(Douglas M. Lawson)

Stewardship 2020: 218 pledging units commit \$751,858

General Budget = \$601,392; Outreach = \$119,496; Supplementary = \$30,970

Range of Pledges	Per year	Per week	Cumul number pledges	Number pledges as cumulative % of congregation	Cumulative amount pledged	Amount pledged as cumulative % of total pledge
10000-48680	192-936	16	4.2%	289,486	38.5%	
7000-9999	134-192	23	6.1%	344,710	45.8%	
6000-6999	115-134	30	7.9%	388,824	51.7%	
5000-5999	96-115	44	11.6%	462,156	61.5%	
4000-4999	77-96	56	14.7%	514,372	68.4%	
3000-3999	58-77	80	21.1%	594,884	79.1%	
2000-2999	48-58	107	28.2%	659,279	87.7%	
1500-1999	29-48	120	31.6%	681,089	90.6%	
1000-1499	19-29	153	40.3%	721,209	95.9%	
500-999	10-19	186	48.9%	743,587	98.9%	
Under 500	50-10	218	57.4%	751,858	100.0%	
Total = 218 pledges/380 potential pledges				751,858		

*Of the 162 units from whom we did not receive pledges, we expect about 65 to make a donation in 2020.



February 2020 Youth Group News

Susanna Stone
Coordinator of Youth
& Christian Education

The FPC Youth Group has had a busy start to 2020. We've learned a new game, made some plans for the year, and begun a service project for the Ronald McDonald House.

All youth in grades 6-12 are welcome to join us on Wednesdays from 5:45-7:00 p.m. for food, fellowship, and fun! We will meet 4 times in February: February 5, 12, 19, and 26.

Snow tubing and pizza: Save the date!

All youth in grades 6-12 are welcome to join us for a special winter outing. This is a great opportunity for those youth who can't regularly come to Youth Group to spend some time getting to know the Youth Group. Friends are welcome!

Saturday, February 22, 9:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

Cost: \$15

(includes two hours of tubing and lunch;
scholarships available)

We'll start off with two hours of snow tubing at Ironwood Springs Christian Ranch followed by lunch at the Stewartville Pizza Ranch.

Registration and waiver forms are required. Contact Susanna by **FEBRUARY 14** if you are interested in attending and/or chaperoning!



**Calling all FPC families and
VBS volunteers:
Tune in for VBS news!**

*This year's VBS theme is Great Big Beautiful World
Monday, June 8-Thursday, June 11
(in the evening ... time to be determined)*

"Great Big Beautiful World" will explore planting your seeds of faith and watching them grow. During VBS, the children will explore, celebrate, and care for God's creation. Children will discover God's love for all of creation and will be challenged to care for God's world in tangible ways. VBS is offered for children ages 3 through Grade 5. Older children are invited to assist with VBS as volunteers.

Vacation Bible School—Volunteers Needed!

In order to have a successful VBS program, we need about 20 volunteers over the 4 days of VBS. Volunteering for VBS is a fun way to assist the youngest of our congregation in learning about God in a unique way. You can volunteer for one night or all four nights; for one hour or for the entire time. You can select what area you prefer to volunteer for (crafts, recreation, etc.).

Please let Susanna (stone.susanna@fpcrochester.org or 507-282-1618) know if you are interested in being a VBS volunteer!



Ministry of Music

*John Stender, Director of Music
Katie Kuisle, Cherub and Calvin Choirs
Janine Yanisch, First Players*

*Music acts like a magic key,
to which the most tightly closed heart opens.
(Maria Augusta von Trapp)*


Youth lead worship February 23 at 11 a.m. service

I can hardly believe February is upon us. I look forward to the worship services of Lent and the Easter season. Before we get there, although—it does seem that time is a'flying, we've got to round out the season of Epiphany. As Pastor Jay said this past Sunday, this season of green is a time for growth and a preparation for spring.

That's one reason why Janine, Katie, and I are looking forward to featuring the youth musicians of First Presbyterian Church on the Last Sunday of Epiphany (Transfiguration Sunday). All youth music ensembles (including First Players) are scheduled to participate.

Please take note that the 11 a.m. service on Sunday, February 23 will feature the leadership of our young people. Traditionally, because this Sunday precedes Ash Wednesday and the beginning of Lent, it serves as a slightly festive "farewell to the Alleluias" which we omit in the more penitential seasons. Come celebrate our youth by supporting them as leaders in worship, leaders of our song (in myriad instrumental and vocal ways), and talented young leaders for our church community.

~ John Stender / Director of Music

 Singing and ringing schedule for February			
	8:30	11:00	Both
February 2.	Chancel Choir	Cherub Choir Joyous Praise	
February 9.	Chancel Choir	Calvin Choir Alleluia Rngrs	
February 16.	Chancel Choir Youth Choir		Jubilate Deo
February 23.	Chancel Choir	YOUTH MUSIC Youth Choir Calvin Choir Cherub Choir Joyous Praise Alleluia Rngrs	
February 26.	Ash Wednesday / 6:30 p.m. (Chancel Choir sings)		
March 1.	Chancel Choir		Jubilate Deo

Save the Date: St. Patrick's Day Dinner
sponsored by Christian Education
Wednesday, March 18, 5:30-6:30 p.m.

Join us in the social hall for an Irish-themed dinner!



News from Presbyterian Women

* *Sylvia Swede, facilitator*

Circles continue this month. New members are always welcome. Pick a Circle based on the most convenient time for you, or try them all and then decide!

The 2019-2020 Horizons Bible Study is *Love Carved in Stone: A Fresh Look at the Ten Commandments*.

Esther Circle: Monday, February 17 at 1 p.m. in the lounge. Hostesses: **Ginger Kirby** and **Mary VanDerHayden**. Devotions and Bible Study: **Jane Hallman**.

Priscilla Circle: Wednesday, February 19 at 9:15 a.m. in the lounge. Hostesses: **Leslie Litwiller** and **Marylynn Aalderks**. Program and Devotions: **Heide Buettner** (Bible Study). Project: Bdecan project (**Marylynn Aalderks**).

Ruth Circle: Saturday, February 15 at 10 a.m. in the lounge. Hostess: **Sara Kluck**. Devotions: **Marion Pitts**. Bible study: **Mary Bayrd** (Lesson #6 in "Love Carved In Stone")

Prayer Shawl Ministry: Thursday, February 13 at 1 p.m. in the lounge. Join us for knitting, crocheting and fellowship! Please contact **Elizabeth Remfert** (269-5272) or **Susie McClocklin** (288-7772) if you or someone you know would find comfort from a prayer shawl.

*Thanks to all who provided needed items
for Hope Lodge in January.*

World Day of Prayer convenes March 6 at Mount Olive Lutheran Church

Save the date! The annual World Day of Prayer, an ecumenical gathering of Christian women, will be held this year at Mount Olive Lutheran Church (2830 18th Ave. NW) on Friday, March 6, beginning with a continental breakfast at 9:30 a.m. The worship service at 10 was written by women in Zimbabwe. The theme, "Rise! Take Your Mat and Walk," is based on John 5:2-9.

Sitter Service plans next parents' evening out February 14

The next Sitter Service will be February 14 from 5:30 to 9:30 with sign up in the church atrium on Sunday, February 9 or by contacting the church office, **Sarah Edgerton** (507-536-9637 or edgertonsarah@gmail.com) or **Cindy Kunzman** (507-421-5055 or xiandikunzman@aol.com) by Tuesday, February 11.

~ Sarah and Cindy / Sitter Service Coordinators

Calling all crafters!

The Crafters Group will meet Wednesday, February 19 at 3:00 in the social hall to make cards for the C. A. R. E. members of our congregation. All materials (including ideas) are supplied.

~ Mary Huie (282-9712) / Crafters coordinator

Church Family News

Anniversary

Congratulations to **Warren and LaDonna Fay** who will celebrate their 66th wedding anniversary February 14.

Birth

Congratulations to **Van Jacobsen and Lee Afdahl** on the birth of their grandson, **Leo Martin Jacobsen**, born January 15 to **Evan and Rachel Jacobsen**.

Birthdays

Happy Birthday to **Beverly Eppolite**, who will celebrate her 90th birthday February 3.

Happy Birthday to **Janet Purnell**, who will celebrate her 92nd birthday February 5.

Happy Birthday to **Mary Potter**, who will celebrate her 90th birthday February 7.

Happy Birthday to **Norman Nelson**, who will celebrate his 94th birthday February 9.

Happy Birthday to **Ruth Ann Ibach**, who will celebrate her 90th birthday February 14.

Deaths

We extend our condolences to **Don Cain** on the death of his wife, **Barbara Cain**, January 1. Barbara's memorial service was January 18 at FPC.

We extend our condolences to **Ivy Akogyeram** and family on the death of her husband, **Clement Akogyeram**, January 14.



from the stewardship brochure

Welcoming and Nurturing

... seeks to maintain a welcoming and nurturing church for our congregation, guests and newcomers and to promote an ongoing environment of love and spiritual growth through fellowship with one another.

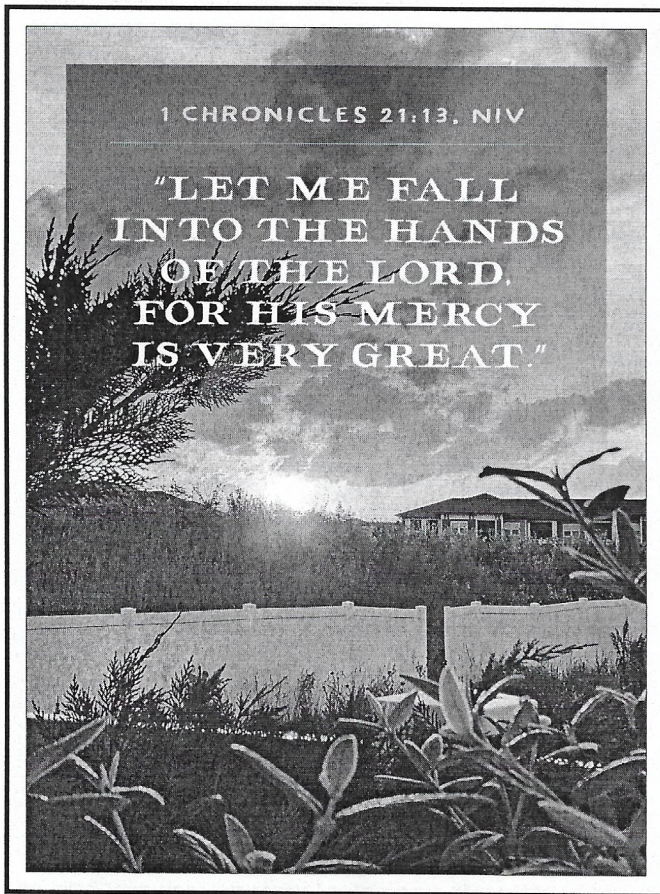
Programs that promote communication and connection, fellowship activities like shared meals, and sitter service are the core mission of the Welcoming and Nurturing Committee.

In 2020 we look to expanding the "welcoming" part of our charge by intentionally following up with guests and adding more activities that truly invite people into our church home.

Thank you for continuing to support all these activities – we have always been able to "count you in."

Our small committee often needs help with setup and cleanup for events and we are always looking for volunteers for sitter service. We always appreciate your prayers for wisdom as we plan and we would love to hear from you if you have ideas and feedback. (Allyson Maurer)

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.



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February 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Sunday morning schedule Worship at 8:30 and 11 a.m. Sunday school / all ages at 9:40 a.m. Cherub Choir at 10:20 a.m. Calvin Choir at 9:40 a.m.			Wednesday youth schedule 4:15 p.m. Alleluia Ringers (grades 2-5) 5:00 p.m. Youth Choir (grades 6-12) 5:45 p.m. Middle/High School youth 7:00 p.m. J Praise bells (intergenerational)			1
2 Communion Worship (8:30 & 11 a.m.) 8:30 AM Chancel Choir sings 9:30 AM Blood Pressure check 9:30 AM New Mbr class	3 FPC@Community Food Response	4 Most committees meet/ check w/lead elder 9:30 AM Staff meeting 11:00 AM Grief Support Grp 7:00 PM Deacons/south fireside	5 FPC@Friendship Place 1:00 PM Charter House worship and communion 6:30 PM Bible Study/ lounge	6 6:15 PM JubilateDeo Bells 7:30 PM Chancel Choir	7 Love yourself. Then forget it. Then, love the world. (Mary Oliver)	8
9 CWS Blanket Sunday Worship (8:30 & 11 a.m.) 8:30 AM Chancel Choir sings 9:30 AM New Mbr class w/Session	10	11 9:30 AM Staff meeting 1:30 PM Kitchen Guild 6:30 PM FOM Cmte/north fireside	12 FPC@Friendship Place 6:30 PM Bible Study/ lounge	13 1:00 PM Prayer Shawl Group 6:15 PM JubilateDeo Bells 7:30 PM Chancel Choir	14 Valentine's Day 5:30 PM Sitter Service (5:30-9:30 p.m.)	15 Newsletter items due Sanctuary closed (FOM rehearsal) 10:00 AM Ruth Circle/ lounge
16 Anniversary Sunday Worship (8:30 & 11 a.m.) Recognize 50+-year members 8:30 AM Chancel Choir sings 4:00 PM FOM/Marimba Quartet	17 <i>159th Anniversary of First Presbyterian Church</i> 1:00 PM Esther Circle/lounge No school/President's ... Church closed	18 9:30 AM Staff meeting 7:00 PM Session/Fireside Rm	19 FPC@Friendship Place 9:15 AM Priscilla Circle/ lounge 3:00 PM Crafters Group/ SHall 6:30 PM Bible Study/lounge	20 6:15 PM JubilateDeo Bells 7:30 PM Chancel Choir	21	22 9:00 AM Yth/snow tubing at Ironwood and pizza
23 <i>Transfiguration Sunday</i> Youth Music Sunday @11 Worship (8:30 & 11 a.m.) 8:30 AM Chancel Choir sings	24	25 9:30 AM Staff meeting 1:00 PM Chancel Guild 5:30 PM Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper (W&N)	26 FPC@Friendship Place 5:30 PM All-Church Potluck Supper 6:30 PM Worship w/communion, imposition of ashes 6:30 PM Youth attend Ash Wednesday 7:30 PM J Praise bells/gr 6 -adults rehearse	27 6:15 PM JubilateDeo Bells 7:30 PM Chancel Choir	28	29