



# The Good News

## of First Presbyterian Church for March 2020

Let us come into [God's] presence with thanksgiving;  
let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!

(Psalm 95.2 [ESV])

### 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:

- ▶ 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.
- ▶ Good Friday service at Christ Methodist (April 10) noon
- ▶ Easter worship on April 12 at 8:30 and 11 a.m.



Celebrate our Easter Garden with a donation of \$15. To contribute, put your check (note for Easter flowers) in the offering plate or mail it to the church office. Following Easter

### Join us for "Poetry and Pie"

Join Lea Jennings and Lucinda Clements on Wednesday, March 25 from 5:30 - 6:15 p.m. in the Sheldon Jackson Lounge for "Poetry and Pie."

The inaugural FPC quarterly "Poetry and Pie" gathering welcomes all interested to attend a poetry reading and pie eating session. We will supply the pie and a few poems on the theme of Springtime to get us started. You bring your sweet-tooth and a favorite poem to share if you wish. We'll eat the pie, read the poetry, enjoy good company, discover new authors, and revisit loved classics. Afterward, you may decide to stay for Wednesday night Bible study. All are welcome.

Contact Lucinda Clements ([LucindaClements@me.com](mailto:LucindaClements@me.com)) or Lea Jennings ([leabjenni@aol.com](mailto:leabjenni@aol.com)) with questions.

### A Festival of Music welcomes Augustana University Choir

Time: Sunday, March 8 at 4 p.m.

Place: First Presbyterian Church sanctuary

FESTIVAL  
OF MUSIC

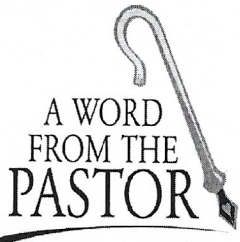


The Augustana Choir (Sioux Falls SD) has a rich history spanning nearly 100 years. The Choir was founded in 1921 and chartered by the faculty of Augustana College to "serve God, the Church, and our school" through choral music. In the words of the choir's

founding conductor, Dr. Carl Youngdahl, the choir would "perform a *cappella* and could thereby appear in the smallest of churches as well as the largest and our concert would be a sermon in song." Today the choir continues to bring sacred choral music of the highest caliber to people around the world.

Long recognized as one of the preeminent *cappella* choral ensembles, the choir is noted for the honesty of its presentation and its recognition of the importance of maintaining Lutheran choral traditions. In addition to touring the United States, they also regularly embark on overseas performance tours. Over the past ten years, they have appeared in international concert venues on six tours, sharing their music with the people of France, England, Norway, Austria, Wales, Germany, Ireland, and Italy. Plans are underway for a tour of Norway during the group's 100th anniversary year (2021). Members of the choir represent all academic majors.

Please come enjoy this talented group of young people! A dessert reception will follow the concert. There is no admission fee for the concert, but a freewill offering will be taken.



by Rev. T. J. Parlette

March 2020

Lately I've been engrossed in Adam Hamilton's new book "The Walk: Five Essential Practices of the Christian Life" in preparation for this year's Lenten study. One of these practices is listening and paying attention. Hamilton puts that

into the context of listening and paying attention to the movement of God in your life. But listening and paying attention is something that applies to our practical, everyday lives and dealings with each other, as well as with God.

Author Kate Murphy has written a book called *You're Not Listening*. In her research, she asked people a simple question – "Who listens to you?" Initially that question stumped a lot of people, but most could come up with one or two people in their lives who listened to them, usually a spouse, parent, best friend, or sibling. Many admitted that they didn't have anyone who truly listened to them. A few said they talk to pastor or rabbi only in a time of crisis. Murphy found that most people who listen are paid to do it – therapists, life coaches, hairdressers and astrologers. So listening and paying attention, not only to God, but also to each other, is an important spiritual practice, one we need a lot more of in our society.

The billionaire investor Warren Buffett once told CNBC that one of the best pieces of advice he ever got came from a CEO who told him, "Warren, you can always tell someone off tomorrow." The point was that it's important to hold one's tongue in a heated moment. What needs to be said can be said later, without an emotional outburst. What is really needed is the ability to listen, and not respond in anger, paying attention not only to what someone is saying, but why they are saying it. That spiritual practice is a good one to develop in this season of Lent.

Peace, T. J.

## We need your help for housing the Augustana University 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 9<sup>th</sup>.

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

## Stewardship Alive!

### Ancient Guidance on Prayer

When we pray, we are not to pray for ourselves alone. We do not say, "My Father, who art in heaven" or, "Give me this day my daily bread"; we do not ask for our own trespasses alone to be forgiven; and when we pray that we may be delivered from evil, we are not praying only for ourselves either.

Our prayer is for the general good, for the common good. When we pray, we do not pray for our own single selves; we pray for all God's people, because they and we are one.

~ Cyprian, bishop of Carthage (third century)

### First Presbyterian Church Financial Statement January 2020

#### General Operating Budget

Balance (1/1/2020)	
Receipts (Prepaid and January)	+ 158,527.40
Disbursements (January)	- 57,660.32
Balance (1/31/20)	\$ 100,867.08



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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	Amy Elliott, 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](http://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.**

## Celebrate St. Patrick's Day with an Irish-themed dinner on Wednesday, March 11, from 5:30-6:30 p.m.

Join us in the social hall for an Irish-themed dinner sponsored by the Christian Education Committee. Come celebrate St. Patrick's Day with your church community, dine on delicious food, and enjoy fellowship with one another. All ages are welcome! There is no charge for the dinner, but a freewill offering will be collected to support the youth group.

Sign-ups are requested; sign up after church services on March 1 and 8 or contact the church office to sign up!

~ Susanna Stone / Christian Education Committee



## March is Minnesota FoodShare month

This year's Minnesota FoodShare March Campaign is here! Every March, the community comes together to collect food and funds to keep the shelves at the Channel One Supplemental Food Shelf stocked. This is the largest food and fund drive Channel One hosts each year. First Presbyterian Church has always been a big contributor to the success of the campaign.

### Minnesota FoodShare traces beginnings to 1982

*Minnesota FoodShare, a major program of the Greater Minneapolis Council of Churches (GMCC), began its work in 1982, with a campaign advanced by congregations to restock food shelves in the 7-county Twin Cities Metropolitan Area. The effort was so successful, and the need was so evident, that it became a statewide program just one year later.*

*Today, the Minnesota FoodShare March Campaign brings together various Minnesota organizations, businesses, and places of worship to help keep 300 food shelves statewide stocked throughout the year. The March Campaign is the largest grassroots food and fund drive in the state, having raised \$7.9 million dollars and 5.2 million pounds of food in 2016, the most successful campaign in its 34-year history.*

*We envision a Minnesota where all residents have access to healthy food and no one suffers from hunger. The March Campaign addresses those issues directly, and we'd love to have you join the fight against hunger. By increasing awareness and advocating for long-term solutions to hunger in our communities, together we can meet the needs of those who need it most.*

*(from Minnesota FoodShare website)*

Please join us as we partner with other caring people in the Rochester area to help alleviate hunger. Checks can be made out to the church, designating it for Channel One, and placed in the offering plate any Sunday in March or sent to the church office. Non-perishable food items can be placed in the Channel One barrel in the foyer. This year's drive goes from March 1 - April 12. Thank you for your support!

from the baton of John Stender ...

## Chancel Choir and orchestra present Elgar's *Te Deum* and *Benedictus* March 15

I am grateful for this congregation's tradition of supporting festive musical offerings from time to time. Please join me in joyfully anticipating the next big musical offering at FPC: Cantata Sunday, March 15.

The Chancel Choir will be joined by an orchestra made up of 37 musicians from FPC and the extended Rochester community (with some visitors from the Twin Cities, and students and professors from Luther College). We are eagerly preparing a masterwork which was written in 1897 for the now world famous "Three Choirs Festival," held at Hereford Cathedral that year. Edward Elgar is the composer of *Te Deum* and *Benedictus*, Op. 34. These two expansive texts will be sung in English and represent a 1700-year history and development over those centuries of Christian spirituality, thought, and the nature of praise.

Additionally, the choir will sing a motet based on the gospel reading that day which recounts the story of Jesus and the woman at the well. The orchestra will offer the beloved "Nimrod" movement from Elgar's *Enigma Variations* as well as a related *Elegy for Strings* - both pieces are dedicated to the same close acquaintance to the composer.

Rounding out the Anglo-inspired repertoire is a final hymn accompanied by orchestra, "O God Beyond all Praising," sung to *Thaxted*: the well-known tune from Gustav Holst's "Jupiter" (The Planets).

This is an incredible undertaking for any congregation and I am grateful for the extra financial support our Endowment Committee, and especially **Don Scholz** are providing in memory of Don's late wife, **Georgia**. I hope that this will serve to celebrate the strength of our worship ministries and further the vision of our mutual musical future to the glory of God alone.

~ John Stender / Director of Music

Adult education ~ Sundays / 9:40-10:45 a.m.	
<b>Bible Study (South Fireside)</b>	The Kerygma Class begins a study of <i>The Bible and Theology, Book 1</i> . The class is led by <b>Jane Goodfriend</b> and <b>Ruth Walts</b> .
<b>Current Issues (Lounge)</b>	<i>Current Events: Fighting the Tide of History</i> is the overall theme for the 2019-2020 year, The discussion is led by <b>Al Depman</b> .
Bible Study ~ Wednesdays / 6:30-7:30 p.m.	
<b>Bible Study (Sheldon Jackson Lounge)</b>	<b>March 4, 18, 25; April 1, 8</b> A Lenten study led by Rev. T. J. Parlette <i>The Walk: Five Essential Practices of the Christian Life</i> by Adam Hamilton <b>March 11</b> A study led by Al Depman.



## Ministry of Music

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

*The aim and final end of all music should be none other than the glory of God and the refreshment of the soul.*  
(J. S. Bach)

### FOM sponsors Lenten recital series

During the 2020 Lenten season, First Presbyterian Church is again sponsoring organ recitals each Wednesday from 12:15 – 12:45 p.m. in the sanctuary. Everyone is welcome!

Recitalists this year include

- March 4 **James Hammann**, organist  
St. Matthew's by-the-Bridge and  
First United Methodist Churches / Iowa Falls, Iowa
- March 11 **Harold Vetter**, organist  
Gloria Dei Lutheran Church / Rochester, Minnesota
- March 18 **Lee Afdahl**, Director of Music Emeritus  
First Presbyterian Church / Rochester, Minnesota
- March 25 **John Stender**, Director of Music and organist  
First Presbyterian Church / Rochester, Minnesota
- April 1 **Melanie Ohnstad**  
Director of Music and Organist Emerita  
Westminster Presbyterian Church / Minneapolis, Minnesota

### First Players grow in musicianship, prepare concerts, plan workshop



Janine Yanisch  
First Players  
Director


First Players bands have been working hard this winter on developing their musicianship as well as their musical knowledge. Progress has been good since we haven't had the many snow days we had last year:-) Many students have performed solos for their peers on *Sharing Days*, which happen during rehearsal roughly every month or so.

Both Beginning and Concert Bands played for the FPC Youth Music Sunday service on February 23. After that, we are busy preparing for the Spring Concert on Monday, April 27 at 7 p.m., which will include the Notochord Jazz Band.

Also in April, and just in time to tighten things up for said Spring Concert, **Dean Sorenson**, jazz composer/arranger/trombonist/ Director of Jazz Studies at the U of M, will be here to work with First Players! Dean will be giving a workshop at FPC on Friday, April 24 from 4-6 p.m. We are *thrilled* to have this wonderful educator work with our program!

It's February, but it's not too early to start thinking about next year's First Players. Details TBD, but know we'll be having a Meet the Instrument night in May, where aspiring musicians can come try out band instruments and learn about our program.

Your support of FP is greatly appreciated!  
Peace. Janine

 Singing and ringing schedule for March			
	8:30	11:00	Both
March 1.	Chancel Choir		Jubilate Deo
March 8.	Chancel Choir	Cherub Choir Joyous Praise	
March 15.	<b>Cantata</b> Chancel Choir, Youth Choir, and orchestra		
March 22.	Chancel Choir	Calvin Choir Alleluia Rngs	
March 29.		Chancel and Youth Choirs	

### March 2020 Youth Group News



**Susanna Stone**  
Coordinator of Youth  
& Christian Education

The FPC Youth Group had another busy month in February. The youth assembled 70 Valentine's Day-themed mailbox stuffers for the families at Ronald McDonald House, made Valentine's Day cards for special members of our congregation, presented a Minute for

Mission for Blanket Sunday, attended the Ash Wednesday service together, played many games, and had fun!

The youth were also able to enjoy the snow during the annual winter outing to Ironwood Springs for snow tubing, followed by lunch at Pizza Ranch. March promises to be another exciting month for the Youth Group as they spend Lent reflecting on how to better serve and follow Christ.

### Looking ahead to Easter week

**Easter Egg Extravaganza:**  
Saturday, April 11, 9:30-11 am.

Children and their parents/guardians are invited to the annual Easter Egg Extravaganza, a fun-filled Saturday morning with games, egg dyeing, crafts, hearing the Easter story, and an Easter egg hunt.

**Easter Brunch:**  
Sunday, April 12, 8-11 am.

Enjoy a delicious brunch of egg bake, ham, pastries, and fruit in the social hall. Brunch is free with a goodwill offering collected to support youth group service projects.

As in past years we will once again be seeking donations of food: egg bakes, hams, pastries, and fruit for the brunch. Sign-up for food will begin mid-March and will be communicated via the church bulletin.



## Calling all FPC families and VBS volunteers:

Monday, June 8-Thursday, June 11  
from 5:30-7:30 p.m.

FPC will hold its annual Vacation Bible School on Monday, June 8 through Thursday, June 11 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. This year's theme, "Great Big Beautiful World!", focuses on God's love for creation and how we can care for God's world.

VBS is open to children entering Kindergarten-Grade 5, with the opportunity for middle and high school youth to assist VBS as volunteers. Dinner will be served each night, followed by time for music, crafts, Bible stories, active games, and science exploration. VBS registration will begin in April.

### VBS volunteers needed!

We need about 20 volunteers for VBS to run smoothly and last year we came dangerously close to not having enough!

Volunteering with VBS is a great way to get to know the children of our congregation and demonstrate God's love for them. You can volunteer for as many nights as you wish for as many hours as you wish. Volunteers are needed for crafts, games, activities, and dinner. Please let Susanna Stone (282-1618 or [stone.susanna@FPCRochester.org](mailto:stone.susanna@FPCRochester.org)) know if you are interested in being a VBS volunteer!

~ Susanna Stone / Coordinator of Youth and Christian Education

from the FPC Parish Nursing program

## Stepping On programs focus on fall prevention



*Stepping On* is a 7-week workshop to learn exercises and strategies to prevent falls. You'll learn about balance and strength training, the role vision plays, how medications can contribute, footwear, and falls in the community and home. In one study those who completed this program had a 31% reduction in falls.

My parish nurse group is hosting one at the **Holy Family Catholic Church in Kasson.**

**Schedule:** Wednesdays, 10 a.m.-12 noon, April 1-May 13

**Location:** Holy Family Catholic Church - Kasson, MN

**Host Organization:** Faith Community Nurse Network

**Cost:** \$10

**Call:** Cindy Bernard (507-273-9045) or

JoAnn O'Neill (507-634-7650) to register

There is also a **Rochester class** coming up:

**Schedule:** Fridays, 9:30-11:30 a.m., March 27-May 8

**Location:** The Homestead at Rochester - Rochester, MN

**Hosting Organization:** Mayo Clinic - Trauma Unit

**Cost:** \$20.00

**Call:** Mayo Clinic - Trauma (507-538-3740) to sign up

Let me know if you sign up and how it goes!

~ Ariel Boswell / FPC Parish Nurse Coordinator

## There's a rummage sale a-comin'! on Friday and Saturday, May 1-2

Presbyterian Women will once again hold a rummage sale to raise funds for mission projects. This year's date is May 1-2.

This annual sale has been a tradition of Presbyterian Women for many years and has generated funds for local, national and international mission opportunities.

This year, due to space limitations and the loss of the local Salvation Army store to take unsold clothing, our clothing focus will be primarily in children's clothing. We will have very little table space for adult clothing. Unusual or 'boutique'-type items are still welcome.

We encourage you to donate good used furniture, household goods, and general miscellaneous items. We have already received several sizeable donations and look forward to the unique treasures you have to offer.

### Items we cannot use

Items we cannot accept include microwave ovens, exercise equipment, TV's, computers/printers, carseats, out-dated electric/ electronic/ telephone items. These items, if not sold, incur disposal charges which take away for what's available for mission!

Bring your items to church beginning Tuesday, April 14; please do not bring items after Wednesday, April 29.

### Help is always welcome

Finally, and most importantly, please consider scheduling a shift, or simply drop in if you have free time the week of April 27. Sign-up sheets will be posted at church and at circle meetings. There are many jobs available (sorting books, signage/advertising, setting up the Boutique, providing food for workers, pricing, etc. etc.). Any fresh input or 'muscle' is much appreciated!

Bring your items to church beginning Tuesday, April 14; please do not bring items after Wednesday, April 29.

Please put the dates on your calendars, keep the church in mind when you are Spring Cleaning, and we hope to see you at the sale! Call **Sally Brooks** (507-281-5802) or **Judy Kruesel** (207-250-5128) with any questions or comments.

~ Judy Kruesel / rummage sale co-chair

### An option for adult clothing ...


If you had planned to bring adult clothing to our rummage sale, an option would be to donate it to our church's mission trip to Immokalee, Florida. The mission team will leave March 23 to spend a week serving the migrants of that area who need help.

Suggested clothing that can be used:

- 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.
- Baseball caps and sun visors to shield from the sun.

There is a container in the church atrium for your donations. Please bring them by March 20.

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>LENTEN SHARING CALENDAR</b>  Each day at or after a meal time, gather around this activity. Consider the reflection, place a coin or a bill (a gift or unit) in your fish coinbank or a jar, and end with the closing prayer.			<b>Ash Wednesday</b> Give 2 units for every disease a member of your family has been immunized against.	There are over 500,000 homeless people in the U.S. Give 10 units if you own your own home.	In Kenya, many women must carry water an average of 4½ hours a day. Give 4 units for every faucet in your house.	Give 2 units for every item you bought last week that was not a basic necessity.
<b>March 1-7</b>	Twenty years ago, the number of homeless people in the U.S. was estimated to be 600,000 to 3 million! Say a prayer for those without homes tonight. Give 3 units for each bed in your house.		In the mid-1990s. OGHS provided hoes for farmers in Cambodia. Give 1 unit for each non-electric garden tool you own.	In Tanzania, children walk many miles barefoot to go to school. Give 2 units for each pair of shoes you own.	Give 2 units for every room in your house.	Poor sanitation is a primary cause of waterborne diseases. Give 3 units for each time you flush a toilet today.
<b>March 8-14</b>	Give 4 units for every year you have lived in your home.	If you can read, you are more likely to be healthier. Learn a new word today and give a gift for every letter in your name.	Give 2 units for every year you have gone to school.	Give 5 units for every family car, and 2 units for every scooter, wagon, bicycle or skate board your family owns.	Homeless people often have no place to keep food. Give 1 unit for every time you open your refrigerator door today.	Give 2 units for every hour you watched TV last week.
<b>March 15-21</b>	Give 1 unit for every electrical appliance in your kitchen and bathroom, from toasters to hair dryers.	OGHS gifts bought weaving equipment to help young Turkish people earn a living. Give 2 units for every sweater you own.	Blankets are used in South Africa as coats, for wrapping children, for sleeping and for shelter. Give 2 units for every blanket in your house.	Refugees have to flee without notice. For every family member you could contact by phone within an hour give 3 units.	Over 23 million Americans live in a food desert, far from a store where they can buy groceries. Give a gift for each grocery store nearby.	Electricity is usually the first utility that is lost in a storm. Give a gift for each electrical outlet in the room you are currently in.
<b>March 22-28</b>	Give 2 units for every green vegetable you have eaten in the past week.	Say a prayer for peace and for those fleeing their home to find peace.	In Sri Lanka, some people may wait months to hear from loved ones. Give 4 units for each phone in your house.	Give 2 units for every computer, television or tablet your family owns.	Give a gift for every year you have been in school and find 3 books you can donate so another person can read and learn.	Give 4 units for every load of laundry your family washed this week.
<b>March 19-April 4</b>	When families move, building a new community of friends and neighbors can be hard! Make a card of gift for someone new in your church or neighborhood.	After a natural disaster, it may be hard to find places to cook or buy meals. Say a prayer of thanksgiving and give a gift for each meal you ate today.	Social barriers are like locked doors that hold people back and keep them from thriving. Give a gift for every door that can lock in your home.	Some people can't find jobs and care for themselves because they don't have access to a car or bus service. Give one gift for every wheel in your garage that helps you get places.	Palestinian refugees have learned to use sewing machines thanks to OGHS. Give 2 units for every item in your closet that you have not worn recently.	Most people around the world don't have access to the many varieties of fruit and vegetables we have. Give one gift for each type of fruit in your house.
<b>April 5-11 Holy Week</b>	God's love is shown in so many ways. Find three things you can do today or tomorrow to share God's love.	Say a prayer each time you turn on the faucet today!	In Uganda, Batwa women have found hope as they learn to farm so they can grow good for their families. Give a gift per plant in your house.	<b>Maundy Thursday</b> Give 10 units if your house stays warm and dry in winter.	American pets often eat better than many children in the developing worlds. Give 5 units for each pet your family owns.	OGHS often provides medicine. Give 1 unit for every bottle of medicine in your home.
<p><i>Daily closing prayer:</i></p> <p><b>God, you give us many blessings, to celebrate and share: Friends and homes and healthy food, and those who for us care. For those who are in need, provide; For those alone, peace; Lord, use our hands, our feet, our hearts, to serve the "least of these." God, guide our lives, so we may be disciples of your Son. And may your Spirit through us flow, until the day is done. Amen.</b></p> <p><i>Holy Week</i></p> <p>Bring your One Great Hour of Sharing banks to your Sunday School class on Palm Sunday or anytime following that. The offering will be taken during Maundy Thursday worship on April 9.</p>						



PRESBYTERIAN  
WOMEN

## 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, March 16 at 1 p.m. in the lounge. Hostesses: **Martha Sessler** and **Marcia Dollerschell**.

Devotions: **Ginger Kirby**. Program: **JoAnn Morris**, Executive Director of the Jeremiah Program.

**Priscilla Circle:** Wednesday, March 18 at 9:15 a.m. in the lounge. Program: **Jan Hosier** (Blue Zones). Project: Channel One.

**Ruth Circle:** Saturday March 21 at 10 a.m. in the lounge. Hostess: **Kristen Willaman**. Devotions: **Pat Talen**. Program: **Phyllis Schmid** (Lesson #7 in the Bible Study "Love Carved In Stone").

**Prayer Shawl Ministry:** Thursday, March 12 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.

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

The annual World Day of Prayer, an ecumenical gathering of Christian women, will be held 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 March 13

The next Sitter Service will be March 13 from 5:30 to 9:30 with sign up in the church atrium on Sunday, March 8 or by contacting the church office, **Sarah Edgerton** (507-536-9637 or [edgertonsarah@gmail.com](mailto:edgertonsarah@gmail.com)) or **Cindy Kunzman** (507-421-5055 or [xiandikunzman@aol.com](mailto:xiandikunzman@aol.com)) by Tuesday, March 10.

~ Sarah and Cindy / Sitter Service Coordinators

## Calling all crafters!

The Crafters Group will meet Wednesday, March 18 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 **Clayton and Jackie Moen**, who will celebrate their 52nd wedding anniversary March 16.

### Birthdays

Happy Birthday to **Shirley Gove**, who will celebrate her 99th birthday March 1.

Happy Birthday to **Robert Kyle**, who will celebrate his 92nd birthday March 17.

Happy Birthday to **Ruby Rose**, who will celebrate her 98th birthday March 17.

Happy Birthday to **Dan Moore**, who will celebrate his 94th birthday March 21.

Happy Birthday to **Charles Smyrk**, who will celebrate his 92nd birthday March 21.

### Deaths

We extend our condolences to the family and friends of **Marilyn Postier Haglund**, who died February 3 in Lexington, Kentucky. Marilyn was a member of First Presbyterian for many years before moving to Kentucky a few years ago to be closer to her family.

We extend our condolences to **Heide Buettner** on the death of her husband, **Helmut Buettner**, February 17. A memorial service for Helmut will be held March 28.



from the stewardship brochure

*...breathe life into the church using both scripture and sound... and the music of bells ringing, voices singing, and instruments playing...*

In December we look forward to our annual presentation of Lessons and Carols with an orchestra, our combined choirs, and readers of all ages leading us through song and scripture. In spring, a cantata will focus on the Lenten season, and a music-filled Easter service will celebrate the resurrection of our Lord.

Special donations are always welcome for everything from music scores to the tuning of our magnificent organ.

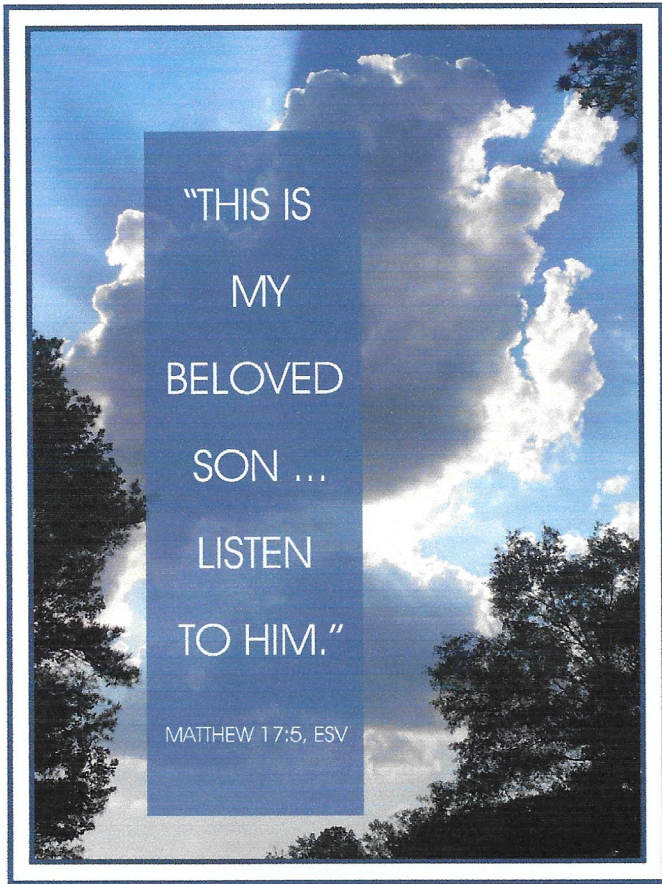
Additionally, W&M encourages gifts of time and talent. Join a choir or prepare a solo offering. If music is not your call, help lead worship by being a liturgist, usher, communion server, or greeter. Want a less visible way to contribute? Consider joining the Chancel Guild in readying the sanctuary for services, restock pew cards, or simply help arrange the chancel for a Festival of Music concert or First Players program.

Worship and Music is pleased to present everyone with the opportunity to reply, "Count me in." (Jim Sessler)

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

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First Presbyterian Church  
 P. O. Box 906  
 Rochester, Minnesota 55903-0906

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## March 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> Communion Worship (8:30 & 11 a.m.) Jubilate Deo (both) 8:30 AM Chancel Choir sings 9:30 AM Blood Pressure check	<b>2</b> FPC@Community Food Response March is Minnesota FoodShare month	<b>3</b> Most committees meet/ check w/lead elder 9:30 AM Staff meeting 11:00 AM Grief Support Grp 7:00 PM Deacons/south fireside	<b>4</b> Wednesday activities as usual 12:15 PM Lenten recital/J Hammann 1:00 PM Charter House worship and communion 6:30 PM Bible Study (led by TJParlette)	<b>5</b> 6:15 PM JubilateDeo Bells 7:30 PM Chancel Choir	<b>6</b> 9:30 AM World Day of Prayer @ Mount Olive Lutheran NO school-PD/Work ...	<b>7</b> Set clocks ahead 1 hour t...
<b>8</b> Worship (8:30 & 11 a.m.) 8:30 AM Chancel Choir sings 11:00 AM Cherub Choir sings 11:00 AM Joyous Praise rings 4:00 PM FOM/Augustana University Choir/Sioux Falls SD	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 9:30 AM Staff meeting 1:30 PM Kitchen Guild	<b>11</b> Wednesday activities as usual 12:15 PM Lenten recital/H Vetter 5:30 PM St. Pat's Day supper (CED) 6:30 PM Bible Study/lounge	<b>12</b> 1:00 PM Prayer Shawl Group 6:15 PM JubilateDeo Bells 7:30 PM Chancel Choir	<b>13</b> 5:30 PM Sitter Service (5:30-9:30 p.m.)	<b>14</b> 9:00 AM Cantata & orchestra rehearses
<b>15</b> <b>Choir Cantata</b> Worship (8:30 & 11 a.m.) Orchestra (both) Chancel/Youth Choir sings (both) Leisa Wagstaff / Ed Hour	<b>16</b> Newsletter items due 1:00 PM Esther Circle/lounge	<b>17</b> 9:30 AM Staff meeting 7:00 PM Session/Fireside Rm	<b>18</b> Wednesday activities as usual 9:15 AM Priscilla Circle/lounge 12:15 PM Lenten recital/L. Afdahl 3:00 PM Crafters Group/SHall 6:30 PM Bible Study (led by TJParlette)	<b>19</b> 6:15 PM JubilateDeo Bells 7:30 PM Chancel Choir	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 9:00 AM Presbytery/Valley Community PC/Golden Valley 10:00 AM Ruth Circle/lounge There is no greater loan than a sympathetic ear. (Frank Tyger)
<b>22</b> Worship (8:30 & 11 a.m.) 8:30 AM Chancel Choir sings 11:00 AM Alleluia Rngs 11:00 AM Calvin Choir sings	<b>23</b> Mission Trip to Florida leaves	<b>24</b> 9:30 AM Staff meeting	<b>25</b> Wednesday activities as usual 12:15 PM Lenten recital/J Stender 5:30 PM Poetry and Pie 6:30 PM Bible Study (led by TJParlette)	<b>26</b> 6:15 PM JubilateDeo Bells 7:30 PM Chancel Choir	<b>27</b> NO school-PD/Work ...	<b>28</b> 11:00 AM Memorial Service / H Buettner
<b>29</b> Worship (8:30 & 11 a.m.) 8:30 AM Youth Chr sings 11:00 AM Chancel Choir sings	<b>30</b> NO school/flex conference day	<b>31</b> Mail quarterly statements 9:30 AM Staff meeting 1:00 PM Chancel Guild	<b>Sunday morning schedule</b> 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.		<b>Wednesday youth schedule</b> 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)	