



# The Good News

## of First Presbyterian Church for November 2017

“May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face to shine upon us.”  
(Psalm 67.1)

### Congregational meeting called to elect new officers

The Session has called a meeting of the congregation for Sunday, November 12 at 9:30 a.m., following the first service, to elect church officers for the coming year including new classes of deacons and elders and congregational representatives for the Endowment and Nominating Committees.

The Nominating Committee will present the following candidates. Nominations from the floor will be accepted provided the nominee has given prior approval to having his or her name placed on the slate.

New elders and deacons will attend new officer orientation January 14 followed by ordination and installation, after which they will begin their term of service. Each elder will be assigned to a standing committee of the Session.

#### Deacon / Class of 2018

(To be named)

#### Deacon / Class of 2020

Mary Beyerle (To be named)

Allen Dollerschell (To be named)

Margie Schaaf (To be named)

Shelley Steger

#### Elder / Class of 2019

(To be named)

#### Elder / Class of 2020

Sarah Edgerton James Talen

Gregg Erickson (To be named)

James Sessler (To be named)

#### Endowment Committee / Class of 2020

(To be named)

#### Nominating Committee / Class of 2018

Tammy Buchanan Melissa Wobig

Katie Lenn (To be named)

Jason Wobig (To be named)

This year's Nominating Committee included **Jane Murl** (lead elder), **Joe Doppler** and **Karen Sessler** (elders), **Jeremy Braun**, **Rusty Brown**, **Gregg Erickson**, **Cindy Kunzman**, and **Ruth Saling** (congregation-at-large members), and **Rosie Lund** (Board of Deacons representative).

### Next *A Festival of Music* program features organist Rachel Laurin

**Time: Sunday, November 19 at 4 p.m.**

**Place: First Presbyterian Church sanctuary**

FESTIVAL  
OF MUSIC



Rachel Laurin has performed organ recitals in major cities in Canada, the United States and Europe and has won many awards, including the “Prix Conrad-Letendre,” the Holtkamp-AGO Composition Award, and first prize in the Marilyn Mason New Organ Music Competition. A feature-length program devoted to her work as a composer and organist, titled “Rachel’s Children,” was broadcast by American Public Media’s PIPEDREAMS in October 2012.

Well known as an improviser, Laurin has taught this art in schools, workshops, and academies across Canada and USA. She has composed more than a hundred works for various solo instruments, voice, instrumental ensembles, choir, and orchestra, including a piano concerto and a concerto for organ, string orchestra and timpani. Her compositions are recognized internationally and have been performed and recorded on the five continents. She composes almost exclusively on commissions and always has a work in progress.

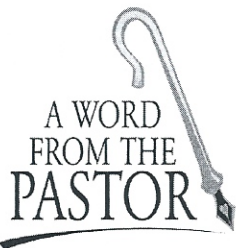
Laurin was born in St-Benoît des Deux-Montagnes, Québec, Canada. She was Associate Organist at St-Joseph’s Oratory, Montreal from 1986-2002 and Titular Organist at Notre Dame Cathedral, Ottawa from 2002-2006. She has been a member of the “Comité d’Honneur de la Fédération Francophone des Amis de l’Orgue” since 2016.

The concert will begin at 4 p.m in the sanctuary. There is no admission fee but a freewill offering will be accepted. A dessert reception will follow the concert.

Rachel Laurin  
First Presbyterian Church  
Sunday, November 19, 2017



~ Connie Larson and Britta Youmans / Festival of Music



# A WORD FROM THE PASTOR

by Rev. T. J. Parlette

November 2017

It's hard to believe, but Advent is just around the corner. So once again this year I will be leading a special Advent study on Wednesday evenings. This year's study will consider the Christmas story from Joseph's point of view. From his

beginnings as a humble carpenter to his all-important role as earthly father of Jesus Christ, Joseph's place in the Nativity story is sometimes overlooked but contains valuable lessons for us all.

We're not that different from Joseph. True, we may not be part of a story that will be remembered for all time, but like Joseph, we encounter circumstances that we'd never choose for ourselves. At times, it can be tempting just to walk away, but Joseph provides us a great example of humbly obeying God even when we don't understand, faithfully moving forward in the strength that God provides.

Join us on **Wednesday evenings at 6:30 in the lounge from November 29 – December 20** as we work our way through Adam Hamilton's study "*Faithful: Christmas Through the Eyes of Joseph.*" Please register with the church office by **November 13** so we can order the appropriate number of books. The cost of the book is \$13.50.

Peace, *T. J.*

## Celebrate Advent, donate to the Poinsettia Fund

Help celebrate the Advent season with a \$15 donation to the Poinsettia Fund. The plants will decorate the sanctuary in December and then be delivered by the Deacons to our many C.A.R.E. members. To contribute, put your check for \$15 (note for poinsettias on the memo line) in the offering plate or mail it to the church office.

Thank you!

~ Judy Felten / Chancel Guild

## Help deck the halls with boughs ...



We will be decorating the church halls for Advent on December 1 starting at 9:30 a.m. All ages and abilities are needed.

We have trees to decorate, wreaths to hang, and poinsettias to put out. We will have some light refreshments to keep us going.

If anyone would like to help with the coordination of this activity, please give **Bev Lewis** a call (288-8959). If you've ever wanted to make changes in the decor of the church, now is your chance.

~ Welcoming and Nurturing Committee

~ Welcoming and Nurturing Committee

## Stewardship Alive!

### Exercising our gratitude muscles

Expressing gratitude isn't just a good thing to do; it also appears to be good for us! Indiana University researchers found that participants who performed gratitude-focused writing exercises felt uplifted, and were more likely to express gratefulness through generosity, even weeks later.

Though the study was small, we seem to have a "gratitude muscle" that can be strengthened through exercise. If so, there may be more than we thought to the popularity of gratitude journals and Mom's insistence that we write thank-you notes. Not to mention the biblical call to "give thanks to the LORD, for he is good" (1 Chronicles 16:34, for example).

Might God have hardwired us for gratitude — not only at Thanksgiving but year round — because it's good for us as well as for those we thank? To that, we respond, "Thanks be to God!"

~ Newsletter/Newsletter 11/2017

### Financial Statement / September 2017

General Operating Budget	
Balance (8/31/17)	\$ 106,003.39
Receipts (September)	+ 40,193.01
Disbursements (September)	- 98,097.68
Balance (9/30/17)	\$ 48,097.72



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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	Lee J. Afdahl
Coordinator of Youth and Christian Education	Susanna L. Stone
Office Administrator	Susan K. Kruger
Facility Manager	Harry E. Coleman
Custodian	Brian D. Stevens
Music Assistant	Kathleen M. Kruger
Part-time custodians/security	Steven Aug, Sally Evans, Tami Rinn, Margie Schaaf
Child Care Workers	Margie Schaaf, Taylor Smith
Newsletter Editor	Carol J. Evans
Parish Associates	Anneliese Opitz, 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

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

## Candlelighters needed for Advent candles

Friends in Christ,

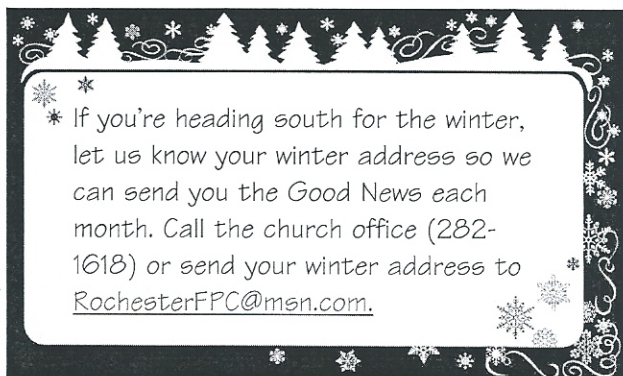
As the Christmas Season quickly approaches, it is time to consider participating in the Advent Wreath Candle Services during worship in the Advent season. We have created a SignUpGenius sign-up to provide everyone an opportunity to participate. Here is how it works...

- In your web browser, enter the address [www.signupgenius.com](http://www.signupgenius.com)
- At the top of the page, locate the yellow button that says "Find a Sign Up" and click it.
- From here you have two options. You can search by Email using my email address ([duffer45@gmail.com](mailto:duffer45@gmail.com)) or if you are already a member, you can logon to the website using the same credentials you use for other sign up activities.
- If you use the search by Email function, you will get both the 2017 Liturgist sign-up and the 2017 Advent Wreath sign-up lists. Simply open the 2017 Advent Wreath list and follow the instructions to sign up. You can also use these instructions to change your sign up if necessary.

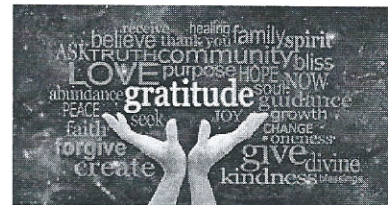
Of course, if you would rather avoid all the technical on-line stuff, you can simply call, text, or e-mail me directly (Paul Steger) (507-259-5137 or [duffer45@gmail.com](mailto:duffer45@gmail.com)) and I would be happy to help you.

So, if you and your family or friends would like to participate in the Advent season, I hope you take the time to either sign-up on-line or contact me, Paul Steger, so we can keep the Advent Candles burning as we wait for the Birth of our Savior.

~ Paul Steger / Worship and Music Committee



"Coming together is a beginning;  
keeping together is progress;  
working together is success."  
(Henry Ford)



### Stewardship 2018

There is always something in life to be grateful for. Gratitude helps us grow and expand; brings joy and laughter into our lives and into the lives of all those around us. A grateful heart reminds us that ultimately God is our Provider, that all blessings and gifts are graciously given to us by His hand. Stewardship is our faithful response to the spiritual, relational, and material abundance we enjoy.

Now it's time to turn our gratitude into action! If you have not made a pledge before, we ask that you commit to supporting the ministry of our Church in 2018. If you currently pledge, we thank you and ask that you renew your pledge and consider increasing your pledge for 2018. Your gift supports our ministry and enables our church to do all it does to demonstrate our commitment to Christ and show our love for our neighbors and each other.

Stewardship Dedication Sunday is November 12. We ask you to bring your commitment that day or mail it to the church as soon as possible so we can begin planning next year's programs based on available resources. Thank you!

If you have questions about the budget or about the church's finances, please feel free to contact any member of the Stewardship and Finance Committee.

[Jackie Moen (lead elder), Ken Boyer, Carol Evans, T. J. Parlette]

*A workshop on dealing with dementia issues*

### Remember Those Who Forget

Statistically speaking, up to 1 in 10 church members over the age of 65 are living with dementia.

- How can we remain connected to them as a church?
- How can we better understand their experience and learn skills to support and communicate with them?
- What does it mean to become a "dementia-friendly" congregation?

Come and learn on Sunday, November 5 during the education hour (9:45-10:45 a.m.) in the social hall. *Remember Those Who Forget* is a workshop exploring how congregations can better serve persons with dementia, their families and caregivers.

The workshop is led by **Rev. Cindy Ray**, Executive Director of the Presbyterian Association of Homes & Services for the Aging (PAHSA). She is a member of the Dementia Friendly America National Council and a Dementia Champion for ACTonAlzheimer's, MN. Before joining PAHSA, Cindy served for over 25 years as pastor of congregations in Florida, Missouri and Minnesota.

Cindy has written for Presbyterian Outlook, Horizons, These Days devotional magazine and several Twin Cities area news publications. She is a member of the Presbytery of the Twin Cities Area, a past moderator, and currently serves as a presbytery trustee and member of the Presbytery Leadership Team. Cindy lives in St. Paul and is active in Macalester-Plymouth United Church. ~ Jay Rowland / Associate Pastor



## 2017 Sharing Tree brings Christmas spirit to many

We are again offering you an opportunity to help children, families and homeless in our community during the Christmas season.

From November 19 through December 10 a Christmas tree in the atrium will be decorated with colored gift tags, each color representing a charitable organization in Rochester.

1. Alternative Learning Center Daycare (gifts for infants)
2. Dorothy Day House (gifts for homeless adults)
3. Family Promise (also known as Interfaith Hospitality Network; gifts for homeless families)
4. MedCity Foundation (an organization started by one of our members, **Kristina Hesby**, to provide general assistance to blood cancer patients and their families for lodging, food, and other financial needs)

Select a gift tag off the tree and purchase the item or items on the tag. As far as wrapping the gift, follow the instructions on the tag. **It is important that you attach the tag to the gift when you return it to the church office so we know to which organization the gift goes.**

Instead of purchasing a gift there is also the option of purchasing a gift card from one of our local stores. Put the card in an envelope and drop it off in the church office.

Gifts for MedCity Foundation need to be dropped off at the church by *Wednesday, December 8*. All other gifts please drop off your gift by *December 15* to allow time to deliver them before Christmas. Your participation in our annual Sharing Tree is very much looked forward to by many in our community.

Thank you for your generosity,

~ Ruth Saling/Social Concerns Committee

Please save the date: Sunday February 25, 2-4 p.m.

You're invited to join in celebrating the 25th anniversary of Carol Shaffer's ordination at a reception in the church social hall on Sunday, February 25, from 2-4 p.m. Dwight and Lea Jennings will provide music, Bill Oehler and others will provide humor, and we'll enjoy some tasty treats. Thanks for marking your calendar!

## Sitter Service sets record with 14 children in October

Sitter Service (Parents Night Out) was held October 13 with 14 children attending. We had a great night of games, snacks, a movie and crafts provided by **Sandy Holloway** with help from **Dee Tiedeman**. Thanks so much to our Sitter volunteers **Jean Abels, Sarah Edgerton, Diane Grill, Jane Hallman, Sandy Holloway, Gayle Jones, Cindy Kunzman, Otis Laurberg, Phyllis Schmid, Sylvia Swede, Britta Youmans,** and Older Sibling Helper **Edra Clements**. Sitter Service will be held again November 10 from 5:30 to 9:30 p.m. with sign up November 5-7.

~ Gayle Jones / Sitter Service coordinator

## FPC supports PDA in support of hurricane recovery

Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria have moved on, but the effects are still very real to the people affected by the winds, torrential rains, floods, and the destruction caused by the storms. The needs for a response are great. Their struggle will continue for years.

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) provides an emergency response and specializes in long-term recovery fueled by your generous gifts. To give, make a check to First Presbyterian Church and designate it for PDA or hurricane relief. You can also designate it specifically for Harvey, Irma, or Puerto Rico. Unspecified donations will be divided among the causes.

To date members of FPC have given \$7960. In addition our Mission Committee has designated \$2000 for Harvey-Irma relief and another \$1000 for Puerto Rico.

from the FPC Parish Nursing program

## Love Your Lungs



Parish Nursing News

November is both Lung Cancer

Awareness and COPD month, so it's time to pay attention to the two organs we most take for granted – lungs. Lung cancer is considered one of the most stigmatized cancers because of its association with smoking.

While smoking does cause most lung cancers, many of those who suffer with lung cancer have never smoked. COPD is another disease associated with smoking that occurs as the tissues in the lungs lose elasticity and become plugged with mucus, causing shortness of breath and wheezing.

So how can you take care of your lungs?

1. Avoid smoking and smoke! If you need resources to quit, let the parish nurse know at [fpccparishnursing@gmail.com](mailto:fpccparishnursing@gmail.com)
2. If you have smoked, talk to your physician about a possible low-dose CT scan
3. Seek medical attention for symptoms like a persistent cough, shortness of breath, or coughing up blood
4. Exercise! It's good for your lungs and the rest of the body
5. If you are on treatment for asthma or COPD, follow your treatment regimen and avoid things that trigger your symptoms.

*Happy breathing!*

~ Ariel Boswell / FPC Parish Nursing coordinator



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

## Happy November!

The youth of our church have been busy this past month! We've been discussing service: why doing acts of service is important and what Biblical role models we have for performing service. We have also been performing acts of service

around the church: assisting with the Octoberfest dinner and clearing up our new "youth group garden" on the east side of the church grounds.

We had a blast at our outing to Northwoods Orchard on October 15. We worked our way through both corn mazes, enjoyed a wagon ride, ate delicious s'mores, and marveled at the cute animals at the Orchard. We were pleased to welcome two new friends from the First Presbyterian Church in Hayfield to our outing. We are currently planning some events with these new friends as well as the youth from other area Presbyterian churches. Details to come!

This month we will be focusing on gratitude and giving thanks. 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! Note: there will be NO youth group on Wednesday, November 22.



Youth celebrate an outing to Northwoods Orchard

Thanks to the Christian Education Committee for sponsoring their 5th annual OctoberFest dinner on October 25. Brats, hotdogs, German potato salad, and sauerkraut highlighted the menu, which included Dan's root beer. Diners celebrating many homelands and some even dressed in lederhosen enjoyed the delicious seasonal meal.

## "Celebrate the Child" with Curt Cloninger on December 2

The Welcoming and Nurturing Committee is excited to announce "Celebrate the Child," a program presented by **Curt Cloninger**, on Saturday, December 2 at 7 p.m. Many of you may remember when Curt was here with his program "God Views." Curt is a Christian and an actor who will present his one-man show for all. The program will be held in the sanctuary and projected into the social hall for the overflow audience.

The show is open to all congregation members and the community as "Our Gift to the Community." No admission will be charged. No reservations will be necessary. It is yet to be determined when the doors will open. Following the program there will be a dessert reception in the atrium. Look for the announcement on the digital event board in the atrium.

~ Jane Murl / Welcoming and Nurturing Committee

### Needed: an infant to play baby Jesus

The Welcoming and Nurturing Committee is looking for an infant to play baby Jesus during Curt Cloninger's program "Celebrate the Child." The baby will be used during the monologue towards the end of the show. Curt will be holding the child, talking to it, then handing him or her back to the parents. If you have a friend or family member who has or will be expecting their child in October or November we would love to be able to contact them about this. Any questions can be forwarded to **Jane Murl** (507- 259-1726).

### Your Church Library: Featured Books of the Month

In honor of Reformation Sunday (October 29) and its 500th Anniversary, our church is offering many wonderful, easy-to-read books about this profound movement and its most prominent people. We're acquiring many of *The Armchair Theologians* series of books which offer brief, witty profiles. We recommend *Luther for Armchair Theologians*, by Steven Paulson; *Calvin for Armchair Theologians* by Christopher Elwood; *John Knox* (same series) by Suzanne McDonald and *The Reformation* by Glenn S. Sunshine. Also available are *Why the Reformation Still Matters*, by Michael Reeves and Tim Chester, and *John Calvin Reformer for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century* by William Stacy Johnson.

Lastly with the upcoming workshop at FPC on November 5 on the important subject of Alzheimer's/Dementia (see article on page 3), we recommend *Do This, Remembering Me; The Spiritual Care of Those with Alzheimer's and Dementia* by Collette Bachand-Wood.

Each month, I'll be highlighting new books now available in the church library. In December's newsletter I'll highlight some Advent and Christmas books.

~ Jay Rowland / Associate Pastor

Calling all women and men, youth and adults

## You are needed as an usher

Do you know we need over 80 ushers in our church program, at least eight scheduled for every service? This is an opportunity for women, men and youth to serve the church in an important capacity. Ushers serve at either the early or late service for one Sunday each month. This is a meaningful way to contribute that takes a minimum of time and allows you to greet and meet members, friends, and visitors to our church. We try to have enough ushers on each team so if you must be out of town (or on call) on your Sunday, there are others to cover.

These ushers who served in the past year would welcome your help.

Ken and Marylynn Alderks, Lyle Abrahamson, Clement Akogyeram, Chris Bauch, Jay Beck, Richard Bennett, Barbara and Ken Boyer, John Brandrup, Jeff Britton, Rusty Brown, Peter Carryer, Jon Closson, Charles Coddington, Amy Dollerschell, Allen Dollerschell, David Ellefson, Titus Evans, LaDonna and Warren Fay, Judy Felten, John Griffith, Jane Hallman, Dwight Jennings, David Jones, Dwight Jones, Jeannine and William Kames, David Kerr, Brad and Sara Kluck, Ron Kreinbring, Cindy Kunzman, Char and Robert Kyle, Bev and David Lewis, Susan and Robert McClocklin, Michael McDonough, Lowell Meyer, Clayton Moen, Mark Mueller, Dudley Parsons, Mark Pileggi, Vicky and Tom Pileggi, Marion Pitts, Warren Potter, Jeff Remfert, Denise Ring, Jo Rockwell, Myron Rostad, Douglas and Rosaline Rovang, Bev and Frank Salomonsen, Robert Sannes, Don Scholz, Alan and Martha Sessler, Frank and Lynda Sharbrough, Tim Smith, Naomi and Ralph Spiekerman, Clarke Stevens, Kiyomi Takekawa, James Talen, William Tremaine, Elmer VanDerHeyden, Dan Wentz, Jay Youmans, and Tim Zetzsche.



Yes, I want to join this great group of people. Add my name to the list of ushers.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone and/or e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Preference for Sundays (please circle choices)

1st Sunday    2nd Sunday    3rd Sunday

4th Sunday    5th Sunday

Which service (please circle choices)

8:30 service    11:00 service    either service  
evening services

To sign up, call **Titus Evans** (282-9938), usher coordinator; send an e-mail to [fpc\\_carol@hotmail.com](mailto:fpc_carol@hotmail.com); or complete this form and return it to the church office.

Thanks!



## Ministry of Music

Lee Afdahl, Director of Music  
Katie Kruger, Director of First Players,  
Cherub and Calvin Choirs

Music expresses that which cannot be said  
and on which it is impossible to be silent.  
(Victor Hugo)

Singing and ringing schedule for November			
	8:30	11:00	Both
November 5	Chancel Choir	Cherub Choir	Joyous Praise
November 12	Chancel Choir	Calvin Choir	Alleluia Rngs
November 19	Chancel Choir		Jubilate Deo
November 26		Chancel Choir	

## Opportunities abound for adult study, discussion

**Adult education ~ Sundays / 9:40-10:45 a.m.**

**Members have asked for in-depth studies and here are several great opportunities covering a wide variety of topics and interests!**

<b>Bible Study (South Fireside)</b>	The Kerygma Class will continue their study of the Gospel of <i>Matthew</i> . The class is led by <b>Jane Goodfriend</b> and <b>Ruth Walts</b> .
<b>Current Issues (Lounge)</b>	<i>Current Events: Beyond the Headlines</i> is the theme for the 2017-2018 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>	November 1 <i>Consumerism and the Bible</i> November 8 <i>Class Warfare in the Bible</i> November 15 <i>Gratitude</i> November 22 No class / Thanksgiving break The Bible Study is led by <b>Al Depman</b> . ----- <b>November 29 - December 19</b> <i>Faithful:</i> <i>Christmas Through the Eyes of Joseph</i> Advent Bible study led by <b>Rev. T. J. Parlette</b>
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To be grateful is to recognize the Lord of God in everything he has given us – and he has given us everything. ... Gratitude, therefore, takes nothing for granted, is never unresponsive, is constantly awakening to new wonder and to praise of the goodness of God; for the grateful person knows that God is good not by hearsay but by experience, and that is what makes all the difference.”

(Thomas Merton)



## News from Presbyterian Women

\* *Sylvia Swede, facilitator*

Circles continue to meet each month. New members are always welcome. Join us for fellowship, prayer, and Bible study. The 2017-2018 Bible study is *Cloud of Witnesses: The Community of Christ*.

**Esther Circle:** November 20 at 1 p.m. in the lounge.  
Hostesses: **Martha Sessler** and **Susie McClocklin**. Devotions: **Olivia Reddick**. Program: **Sylvia Swede**.

**Priscilla Circle:** November 15 at 9:15 a.m. in the lounge.  
Hostesses: **Becky Will** and **Char Ellefson**. Devotions: **Donna Lee**. Program: **Connie Krueger** will talk about the orphanage she sponsors in Haiti. Visitors are welcome. Project: Lotions for Hawthorne Helps.

**Ruth Circle:** November 18 at 10 a.m. in the lounge.  
Hostesses: **Britta Youmans** and **Ruth Saling**. Devotions: **Cindy Sannes**. Program: **Phyllis Schmid** will present lesson #3 in the Bible Study "Cloud of Witnesses" from Hebrews.

**Prayer Shawl Ministry** meets the second Thursday of each month at 1 p.m. the lounge. Join us Thursday, November 9 for knitting, crocheting and fellowship! Please contact **Elizabeth Remfert** or **Susie McClocklin** if you or someone you know would find comfort from a prayer shawl.

*Thanks to all those who provided paper products or other requested items for the Gift of Life Transplant House in October.*

## FPC women attend Fall Gathering

Fourteen FPC women attended the Fall Gathering of Presbyterian Women of the Twin Cities Area Presbytery on October 7 in Burnsville. FPC women put together fourteen school kits for Church World Service as a mission project. FPC women on the PW/PTCA Coordinating Team are **Zoe Abrahamson**, treasurer; **Jane Hallman**, editor of THE CONNECTION; and **Phyllis Schmid**, secretary. The Spring Gathering will be held here at First Presbyterian on April 28, 2018.

## A reminder to protect your possessions

The church may seem like a safe place, but it is important to keep your purse and other possessions with you or out of sight when you're in the building. The building is large and it's easy for strangers to wander through and pick things up.

Please - any time during the week - protect your possessions by putting them away. Lock a classroom before going to another part of the building. Tell your children to keep track of their backpacks. Similarly, don't leave house and car keys in pockets of coats hung on the coat racks.

Thank you!

## Church Family News

### Anniversaries

Congratulations to **Tom and Marilyn Theismann** who will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary November 18.

### Birthdays

Happy Birthday to **Joann Curnutt** who will celebrate her 90th birthday November 8.

Happy Birthday to **William Johnson** who will celebrate his 93rd birthday November 17.

Happy Birthday to **Lucille Bill** who will celebrate her 95th birthday November 20.

Happy Birthday to **Elaine Davis** who will celebrate her 91st birthday November 23.

Happy Birthday to **Betty Dobyns** who will celebrate her 91st birthday November 25.

Happy Birthday to **Warren Potter** who will celebrate his 90th birthday November 30.

### Deaths

We extend our condolences to **Sondra Danielson, Laura and Tim Smith**, and their family on the death of Sondra's husband and Laura's father, **Gordon K. Danielson Jr.**, October 2. A family memorial service was held October 6.

## Calling all crafters!



The Crafters will meet on Wednesday, November 15, at 3 p.m. in the social hall to make cards for our congregational C.A.R.E. members. Come join us for fellowship and friendship. All supplies are provided.

~ *Mary Huie (282-9712) / Crafters coordinator*

**Sally Brooks** was honored at Priscilla Circle's October meeting with a national PW honorary membership. Sally is a member of Priscilla Circle. A member of the Kitchen Guild, a deacon, and co-organizer with **Judy Kruesel** of our annual rummage sale. **Sylvia Swede** presented the certificate to Sally.



Thanks  
 be to God  
 for his  
 indescribable  
 gift!  
 2 Corinthians 9:15

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

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## November 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<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)			<b>1</b> All Saints' Day Wednesday activities as usual FPC@Friendship Place 1:00 PM Charter House worship and communion 6:30 PM Bible Study/lounge	<b>2</b> 6:15 PM JubilateDeo Bells 7:30 PM Chancel Choir	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> Set clocks back 1 hour to...
<b>5</b> Worship (8:30 & 11 a.m.) Communion Joyous Praise rings (both) 8:30 AM Chancel/Yth Chr sings 9:30 AM Blood Pressure/Parish Nursing 9:40 AM Workshop on dementia 11:00 AM Cherub Choir sings	<b>6</b> FPC@Community Food Response 4:00 PM Presbytery/ Church of the Way/ Shoreview	<b>7</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>8</b> Wednesday activities as usual FPC@Friendship Place 1:00 PM Kitchen Guild 6:30 PM Bible Study/ lounge	<b>9</b> 1:00 PM Prayer Shawl Group 6:15 PM JubilateDeo Bells 7:30 PM Chancel Choir	<b>10</b> 5:30 PM Sitter Service (5:30-9:30 p.m.) No school	<b>11</b> Veterans Day
<b>12</b> Stewardship Dedication Worship (8:30 & 11 a.m.) Alleluia Rngs rings (both) 8:30 AM Chancel/Yth Chr sings 9:30 AM Cong Mtg to elect officers 11:00 AM Calvin Choir sings	<b>13</b> Sign up by today for Advent Bible study	<b>14</b> Presbytery moved to 11/6/17 9:30 AM Staff meeting 7:15 PM FOM Cmte/north fireside	<b>15</b> Newsletter items due Wednesday activities as usual FPC@Friendship Place 9:15 AM Priscilla Circle/lounge 3:00 PM Crafters Group/SHall 6:30 PM Bible Study/lounge	<b>16</b> 6:15 PM JubilateDeo Bells 7:30 PM Chancel Choir No school / Profession...	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 10:00 AM Ruth Circle/ lounge
<b>19</b> Worship (8:30 & 11 a.m.) Jubilate Deo (both) Sharing Tree in atrium 8:30 AM Chancel/Yth Chr sings 4:00 PM FOM/R Laurin/organist	<b>20</b> 1:00 PM Esther Circle/ lounge	<b>21</b> 9:30 AM Staff meeting 7:00 PM Session/Fireside Rm	<b>22</b> NO Wednesday activities No school/Thanksgiving break	<b>23</b> Church closed	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b> Christ the King Sunday Worship (8:30 & 11 a.m.) 11:00 AM Chancel/Yth Chr sings	<b>27</b> Mail newsletter	<b>28</b> 9:30 AM Staff meeting 1:00 PM Chancel Guild	<b>29</b> Wednesday activities as usual 6:30 PM Advent Bible study w/TJParlette 6:30 PM Bible Study/lounge	<b>30</b> 6:15 PM JubilateDeo Bells 7:30 PM Chancel Choir	<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.	
You are free to do whatever you like. You need only face the consequences. (Sheldon B Kopp)						