

In loving memory of **Ken and Joan McKay**, given by their family.

In loving memory of **Howard Meadors, Sr., Howard Meadors, Jr., Eileen Meadors, and Robert Meadors**, given by Linda Meadors.

In loving memory of **Raymond and Edith Melby, Chester and Arlene Rauch**, and **Gregg Rauch**, given by Barbara Melby and Julie and Jeff Hogenson.

In loving memory of **Mom**, and **all of our loved ones who have gone before us**, given by Sarah and Greg Soenksen.

In loving memory of **Leo and Juanita Oswald**, and **Aloysius Sodawasser**, given by Erin and Ian Sodawasser and Kristine Oswald.

In loving memory of **our families**, given by John and Phyllis Affre.

In honor of **our family** given by Sue and Tom Ervin.

In loving memory of **our loved ones who have gone on to meet our God**, given by the Boxler, Burkle, Courbat, and Schalk families.

In loving memory of **our parents**, given by Charles and Barbara Pekios.

In loving memory of **Terry and June Ousley**, given by Terry, Teresa, Tanner and Jaxson Ousley.

In loving memory of her **parents**, given by Sara Turner.

In loving memory of their **parents**, and the blessing of **their children and grandchildren**, given by Dick and Bev Koos.

In loving memory of our grandmother and mother **Lola Paulsen** and daughter and sister **Rachel D'Auben**, given by, Pam Paulsen, and Mike and Aislinn Chambers.

In loving memory of **John Phoenix**, and **Ruth and Harold Pedigo**, given by Carol Phoenix.

In loving memory of **Robert Rensberger**, and **Elaine and Charles Rensberger**, given by Ruth Rensberger.

In loving memory of **Kyle Roseman**, given by Brian and Heather Roseman.

In loving memory of **Lois Ruebling**, given by Ralph Ruebling.

In loving memory of **Gregg Sothmann**, and **Charles and Elaine Rensberger**, given by Patti Southmann and Mike and Joanne Rensberger.

In loving memory of our niece, **Mary Sperry**, and **our grandparents**, given by Jerry and Bonnie VanLoon.

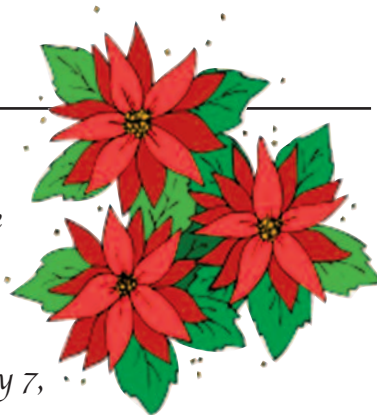
In loving memory of **Benjamin P., Marion, and Joel Steckel**, and **Darrell Orman**, given by Jed Steckel and Melanie Steckel families.

In loving memory of **Bob Sutherland**, and **Emily Jacobsmeier**, given by the Jacobsmeier family.

In loving memory of **Mildred and Q Wallace, John Bates**, and **Ruth and Harvey Bates**, given by Jo and Greg Bates.

In loving memory of **Jean Youngberg**, and **Mary Gruehl**, given by the Stafford family.

The Chancel Guild wishes to thank all those who through their donations made it possible to beautify the sanctuary of First Church this Christmas season. After worship services on Sunday, December 31, or Sunday, January 7, donating families may pick up a plant.



FPC Calendar for the week of December 31, 2017 – January 7, 2018

(Also visit <http://www.fpcdavenport.org/Calendar.html>)

Sunday, December 31; *First Sunday after Christmas*

10:00 AM Worship Service - Sanctuary

Monday, January 1; *New Year's Day - Church Closed for the New Year's Holiday*

Tuesday, January 2

3:00 PM Boys & Girls Club Homework Helpers - Room 304

Wednesday, January 3

9:00 AM Pickleball - Gym

9:00 AM Church Staff Meeting - Parlor

4:30 PM Boys & Girls Club Dinner - Fellowship Hall

5:45 PM Kirkwood Choir - IN RECESS

6:00 PM Matin Bells - Rehearsal - IN RECESS

6:30 PM Kirkwood Club - IN RECESS

7:15 PM PUNCH Kicks for Kids - IN RECESS

Thursday, January 4

3:00 PM Boys and Girls Club Homework Helpers - Room 304

4:30 PM Buildings & Grounds Committee Meeting - Finance Office

5:30 PM TOPS - Von Maur Hall

6:00 PM Vesper Bells - IN RECESS

7:00 PM Sanctuary Choir - Choir Room

Friday, January 5

9:00 AM Pickleball - Gym

Saturday, January 6

8:30 AM Church Officer Training - Parlor

Sunday, January 7; *Baptism of the Lord, Installation and Ordination of Church Officers*

9:00 AM Worship Service - Sanctuary

10:00 AM Cherub Choir - IN RECESS

10:00 AM ACE Von Maur Hall Series - IN RECESS

10:00 AM Fellowship Time - Fellowship Hall

10:10 AM Promise Land Sunday School - IN RECESS

10:20 AM Musikgarten - Infants through Three Year Olds - IN RECESS

11:00 AM Worship Service - Sanctuary

12:00 PM Tabitha's Circle - Fellowship Hall

1:00 PM Chancel Guild Annual Meeting & Christmas Decor Removal - Parlor, Sanctuary

4:00 PM Cecelian Carolers - IN RECESS

4:45 PM Celebration Singers - IN RECESS

5:30 PM ACT and EPIC Fellowship - IN RECESS

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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miller@fpcdavenport.org
Ext. 204 Cell: 563/343-5810

Rev. Sue Howes
Associate Pastor Emerita

Elder Marty Bowles Edwards
Clerk of Session

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Kevin Wilson*

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*Denotes part-time employee

FOR YOUR INFORMATION — Sunday, December 31, 2017

The announcements that follow inform you of various First Presbyterian Church ministries, programs, and events to which you are invited. Please save this publication; take it home and keep it for easy reference.

Principal Organist Ahreum Han Congdon Accepts Position as Director of Music and Organist at First Presbyterian Church, Fort Worth, Texas



Today is Ahreum's final Sunday at First Pres. She will be back to perform her PAS Artist-in-Residence recital on Saturday, February 17, 2018, at 7:30 PM. During that weekend, we will have the opportunity to celebrate Ahreum's 7 1/2 years of dedicated service to our church with an event on February 16, 2018. Please stay tuned in the coming weeks for details.

On November 16, 2017, Ahreum wrote a letter to the congregation sharing, "My seven and a half years here at First Presbyterian Church

of Davenport have been immeasurably blessed by full of love, happiness, joy, and support. Especially, at this church, I have met my husband Todd, got married, and have two wonderful boys which were baptized here. I will miss serving you." The congregation of First Presbyterian Church congratulates Ahreum as she has dedicated herself as an artist and performer, while continuing her education and demonstrating leadership at FPC. Please take the opportunity to say "thank you" to her and the family and wish them well on their journey and many blessings.

The Season of Epiphany, the Season of Light

Epiphany is the celebration of God's manifestation or self-revelation to the world in Jesus Christ. In particular, we celebrate the revelation of God's promise and purpose to the nations of the world, as the magi came from the East to worship to the Christ child, and God's covenant of grace is extended to all who believe the good news of Christ Jesus. The symbolism of light is important: not only because of the star that guided the magi, but as it relates to the bright dawning of God's self-revelation in Christ.

An excerpt from the Companion to the Book of Common Worship (Geneva Press, 2003, 94-95):

Christmas marks the coming of God to us; Epiphany celebrates the appearance of the Lord in the midst of humanity. The Christmas stories of the birth of Immanuel declare the divine entry; Epiphany extols the revelation of God to the world in the person of Jesus of Nazareth. In our celebrations of Christmas and Epiphany we rejoice in the dawning and the arising of Light in darkness. Epiphany not only discloses the Savior to the world but also calls the world to show forth Christ, to be witnesses to God's true Light. The timeless mystery of the incarnation, God in flesh, leads us forth to show and tell of Christ as God's gift of grace and salvation for all persons. Some call this ongoing epiphany the work of Christmas.

Prayer for Epiphany: God of endless light, you sent a star — rising from darkness, guiding seekers and sages, overwhelming us with joy. Let the splendor of your dawning light grow in us and in all the world until the whole creation shines with your glory; through Jesus Christ our light.

- Matthew 2:1-12



BIBLE BASICS

Bible Basics - Wednesday, January 10, 6:30 PM

Have you let your Bible knowledge lapse a bit? This group hopes to help that. On Wednesdays, beginning January 10 we will start out by looking at familiar stories & characters we may have learned about as a child in Sunday school but maybe haven't read since, for example, Ruth, Daniel, Jonah and John the Baptist. No prior Bible study experience is necessary. After the first few meetings, the group will decide together what it wants to study next. For more information, please contact Mark Jones (mkjones@mchsi.com, 563-332-9314) or Julie Grothusen (mjgrothusen@hotmail.com, 563-359-6607).



MISSION CONNECTION

Feliz Navidad

Sisters and brothers of the Grace Lutheran Church and First Presbyterian Church: We greet you with the texts of St. Luke 1, 30-31: "The Angel said to her: Mary, do not be afraid, for you enjoy the favor of God, now you will be pregnant: you will have a son, and you will call him Jesus." And the text of Isaiah 9, 6: "Because a child is born to us and will bring peace." From Guatemala, this Christmas of Jesus, we pray that God will fill you with his liberating Grace and his Peace that gives Full Life. In the midst of our own contexts we will be preparing ourselves for the celebration of God who becomes human in a poor child in a busy Bethlehem, just as he is now, God chooses to come to us in that context of oppression, poverty and struggle. It was and is a situation similar to that each and every one of you and we live daily together with the peoples suffered in this world, even knowing that this child of Bethlehem dies young and alone, like so many martyrs of our world. Today, we also know that death does not have the last word, God of Life overcomes death. So brothers and sisters in this feeling we live and work in the hope of strengthening unity among peoples always seeking peace, justice and human rights. In the love that Christmas brings, MERRY CHRISTMAS. - Lutheran Church LUGUA Guatemala

Go to Guatemala!

The 2018 trip to visit ILUGUA (Lutheran Church of Guatemala) is scheduled for May 19-26. This is an opportunity to get a firsthand view of ILUGUA's outreach to rural communities and perhaps even an opportunity to deepen your own faith in the process. Pastors Pilar and Eduardo will welcome us as we stay in the guest house located behind the church and travel to mission sites and community meetings. This is not a work trip—given the resources, Guatemalans are more than capable of doing physical labor—but rather a trip of accompaniment, support and solidarity with our fellow Christians. The total cost is estimated between \$1,500 and \$2,000 (dependent on flight availability) but a grant fund is available through the Mission Connection committee of Deacons for those who need funding assistance. For more information, contact Craig Foster (391-4622, cfoster871@mchsi.com).



STEWARDSHIP

Listen for God When You Pledge

As you consider your pledge for 2018, please remember that our pledges are not just numbers on a page; they are testimony to our willingness to listen for God and to do God's work in the world. We have encouraged you to Listen for God when you worship, when you sing, when you pray, and even when you pledge. With your pledge, we can continue to enhance and expand our ministries to the congregation, the neighborhood, and the world beyond, as we discern God's will for us, and as we discern Christ's hopes for us. You may place your pledge in the offering plate on Sunday morning or online pledging and giving can be set-up by visiting the church website at: www.fpcdavenport.org.

CARING FOR OTHERS

Tabitha's Circle - Sunday, January 7, 12:00 PM



All those who sew or who would like to sew some simple dresses and shorts can join us. The clothes we make are sent to children in Africa, Guatemala, Cambodia and Haiti as well as to Appalachia and South Dakota, in the U.S. Please bring your own sewing machines and invite others who would like to participate. We will have refreshments. Contact Roen Paulsen (563-355-3165) for questions regarding this outreach project.

Prayer Shawl Second Tuesday (PSST) - Tuesday, January 9, 6:30 PM

Attention crocheters and knitters...prayer shawls are symbolic of God's presence during our times of need, and the congregation's love and support. The group meets monthly in the church parlor to socialize while we create and anyone with an interest in knitting or crocheting a shawl is invited.

FELLOWSHIP

Manna and More Breakfast

Sunday, January 14, 8:15 - 10:30 AM

Share breakfast with your family and friends before and after the 9:00 AM service. This month there will be biscuits and gravy, pancakes, seasonal fruit, and assorted beverages. Adults - \$3, children (12 & under) - \$1.



Between The Covers (BTC) Book Club - Monday, January 15, 12:30 PM

Join us for dessert and a discussion of *The Beautiful Mystery* by Louise Perry led by Carlen Brinser. We will meet Monday, January 15 at 12:30 PM at Ridgecrest Village. Please call hostess Marilyn LeBuhn (563-388-3545) to RSVP.

CONGREGATION NEWS

Church Officer Training - Saturday, January 6, 8:30 AM

Newly elected officers that were unable to attend the earlier training session, plan to attend church officer training on Saturday, January 6, 8:30 AM - 12:00 PM in the Parlor. Currently serving leaders may also attend. Installation and Ordination of church officers will be on Sunday, January 7, during the 9:00 AM and 11:00 AM services.

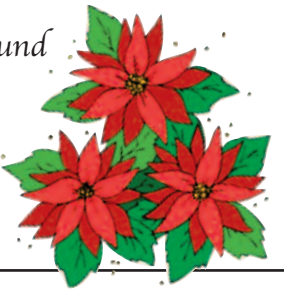
Session Highlights of December 18, 2017:

- APNC announced they have selected an Associate Pastor to present to the Congregation. This person will preach on Sunday January 28, 2018, in a single worship service at 9:00 AM. There will be a Congregational Meeting at 9:50 AM, following the worship service, to allow for members to vote on this Call to Ministry with us. Watch for further details regarding a reception and informal gathering to be scheduled that weekend.
- Mission Connection is planning a Guatemala Trip for May 19-26, 2018. Congregation members are invited to participate.
- Tiffany Horvath received Session approval to become a Commissioned Ruling Elder Applicant.
- The stewardship campaign continues. Please submit your pledges to support our 2018 ministries together. The proposed budget is not yet fully funded.
- The annual trivia night to support youth mission is scheduled for February 10, 2018.

Per Capita - \$34 per member

Each year First Church is assessed a per capita contribution by the Presbytery. This year it is \$34 per member. A member is one who has been confirmed or has been welcomed into the congregation by confession of faith, letter of transfer, or reaffirmation of faith. Please use a Per Capita envelope from the pew racks and place it in the offering plate, bring it to the church office, or pay online.

The poinsettias that grace the chancel and surround the Nativity figures in the narthex are given in memory or in honor of the following loved ones who are held in grateful affection.



In loving memory of **Binc and Jean Bawden**, given by Ron and Susie Kardel.

In loving memory of **J. "Tim" Bawden**, given by his family.

In loving memory of **Marjorie and Gaylord Brunton**, and **Pat and John Emerick**, given by the Emerick Family.

In loving memory of **Judy Carr, Frances McIntosh, Rose Midage, and Stacey Larsen**, given by the Carr family.

In loving memory of **Betty Dalby**, given by Tiffany, Tony and Aly Horvath.

In loving memory of **Bud and Lorrie Darland**, given by Theresa, Benny, David and Alice Jacobsmeier and Dianna Darland.

In loving memory of **Robert and Helen Elmergreen**, and **Mary Jo Elmergreen Peters**, given by their daughter and sister.

In loving memory of **Roger W. Emeis**, given by Janie.

In loving memory of **K. C. Ervin Griesenbeck**, given by Sanctuary Choir friends.

In loving memory of **Mr. and Mrs. Francis Florang**, given by their son, Jim Florang.

In loving memory of **Eleanor and Curtis Ford**, and **Neva and Ralph Martens**, given by Pamela Ford and Marvin Martens.

In loving memory of **Forest and Beulah Fowler, Bruce Darland, and Dorthea and Vernell Browne**, given by Dianna Darland and the Jacobsmeier family.

In loving memory of **Robert Francois, Sr.**, given by wife, Mary Ann and family.

In loving memory of **K. C. Griesenbeck**, given by Sue and Tom Ervin.

In loving honor of our grandchildren: **Maren, Benjamin and Kirsten Edwards; Emma and Chloe Tasse; Jackson, Addie and Elaina Havercamp**, given by Lynnell and Alan Havercamp.

In loving memory of **Lee and Alma Hoehn, Sam and Rose Grammatico, and Thomas and Johnny Farnsworth**, given by Joann Farnsworth and Don Hoehn.

In honor of **Sean Jacobsmeier**, given by Theresa, Benny, David and Ali.

In loving memory of **Christine Johnson, and Kathy Price**, given by Brian, Kathlynn, Aidan and Keian Price.

In loving memory of **Thomas and Mary Kalshoven**, given by Karen and Wayne Hean and family.

In loving memory of **Leslie Keith, Martha Lou Fisher, and Ellwyn Louis Henry Schwanz**, given Randy and Kelley Schwanz and family.

In loving memory of **Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Kinney, and Mr. and Mrs. Henry Lamb**, given Rob and Kathy Lamb.

In loving memory of **Corky Kress**, given by the Kress and Cartellone families.

In loving memory of **Merle H. Lang**, given by Bonnie Lang.

In loving memory of **Alice and Alfred Magnusson, and Don Magnusson**, given by Jane Magnusson.

In loving memory of **Robert J. Martin**, given by his wife and brother.