

## 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):

The word "epiphany" (from the Greek epiphaneia or theophaneia) means "appearance" or "manifestation" of God, and has roots in the word for sunrise or dawn. In ancient times, an epiphany meant either a visible manifestation of a god or the solemn visit of a ruler venerated as a god. For Christians, 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 light, shining in darkness, through a little child, born in Bethlehem, you open to us the treasure of your grace. Help us to search diligently for him, so that we may offer our lives to you with thanksgiving, joy, and praise; through Jesus Christ, the rising star. Amen.

### Worship in the Style of Taizé - Friday, January 6 at 6:30 PM

Taizé is a form of contemplative worship that incorporates devotional practices and Christian beliefs. Short chants, repeated again and again, give it a meditative character. Using just a few words, the chants express a basic reality of faith, quickly grasped by the mind. As the words are sung over many times, this reality gradually enters the whole being. Join together in worship on January 6 at 6:30 PM in the Chapel.

### New Member Inquirer's Gathering - Sunday, January 15, 12:15 PM

A New Member Inquiry will meet Sunday, January 15, at 12:15 PM in the church Parlor. This is an informational meeting that provides a time for prospective members to ask questions about First Presbyterian Church and enables us to learn how we can assist you in your spiritual journey. A light lunch will be served. On Monday, January 16, at 7:00 PM, those who have chosen to become members are invited to Fellowship Hall to meet and be greeted by church Elders and Pastors. Attendance at this event is required if you wish to become a church member. Sunday, January 22, is New Member Sunday. At that time new members will be welcomed by the Congregation at the 11:00 AM worship service. If you are a member of First Pres and know of someone who may be interested in membership, or if you have any questions about becoming a member of First Presbyterian Church, please contact Tammy Mayhew (563-326-1691 or mayhew@fpcdavenport.org).

### Thank You for Giving!

Thank you to everyone who so generously contributed to the Advent Giving Tree projects sponsored by the Deacons.

- \$350 in cash donations to offset tags not taken - 165 children, representing 58 families through the Prison Ministry (Angel Tree gifts)
- \$1,545 - for the Children's Club in Harare, Zimbabwe
- \$10 - Boys and Girls Club members of our community
- \$625 - for our mission partners in Guatemala
- \$710 - given to offset the cost of tools for working with the Lakota people of Pine Ridge Reservation
- \$750 - to assist members of our congregation through the Love Gift





## How Can We Hold On to Christmas?

by Rev. Pamela J. Hoogheem



Even as I sit at my desk mid-December anticipating the luminous joy of Christmas I feel a sense of loss sneaking in on me. So quickly the elation of Christmas seems to dissipate. Welcoming Christ into our lives and world in worship holds so much power in the moment, and perhaps for a few days afterward... but then the old reality sets back in to the everyday routines of life, work, eating and sleeping, conversations to be had, tasks to accomplish, chores, and relationships to be tended. I wonder: how do we linger in the season of light and hold on to the actuality of Christmas?

I mean, Christmas matters, doesn't it? Beyond the presents, the get-togethers, the frenzied shopping, there is meaning, right? If Jesus is God come to us in the flesh and blood, if the kingdom of God has come in the person of Jesus of Nazareth, then how does this change us, our lives, our world?

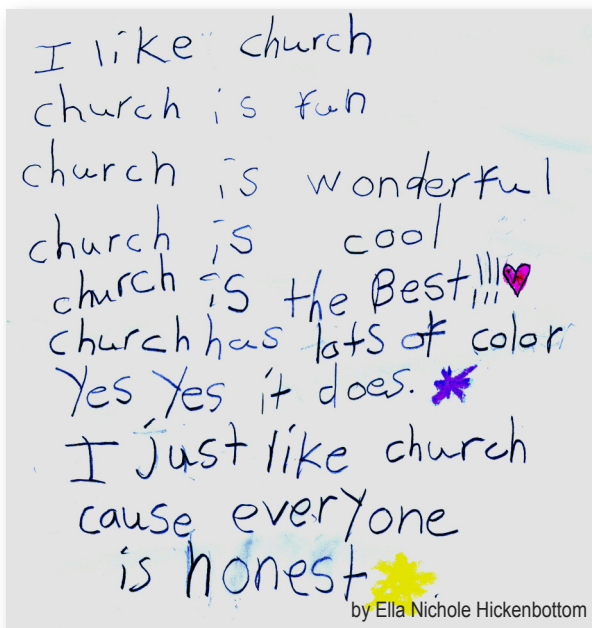
What do you think?

Perhaps if we keep sacred within our minds, hearts, and beings a place to cradle the good news and follow

- ▶▶ Mary in her example to ponder,
- ▶▶ Joseph's example to be open to options,
- ▶▶ the shepherds' and magi's example to seek out for our own knowledge,
- ▶▶ the prophets Anna and Simeon's dogged patience.

Then it is possible that we will come to hold the revelation of Jesus in the ordinary, in the mundane, in the very things that seem to keep the presence of God veiled from our perceptions.

Perhaps part of the beginning of an answer is to remain in the place of recognition that "I need a Saviour; the world needs redemption." There is a truth-telling quality to this state of being, and there is also a yearning for the faith, hope, love, and joy offered in the Christ child. Perhaps when you and I stay inwardly attune to all it is that groans, weeps, takes a shaky breath, and scans the horizon for transformation then that is perhaps when we simultaneously experience God-with-us and Jesus' own human/divine response of self-giving. Perhaps if we do not allow ourselves to become dull and worn out by the ordinary and mundane—if, instead, we practice self-awareness of our deep need for Jesus every day—then we can get a grasp on how to still hold the mystery of Christmas. It may be with just our fingertips that we touch that mystery, but it's something.



by Ella Nichole Hickenbottom



## Church Officers were Elected on Sunday, December 4, 2011, at the Congregational Meeting

Church officers for the class of 2014 on the Session and the Board of Deacons were elected at the congregational meeting on Sunday, December 4.

**Elders:** Louise Hales, Jim Tucker, Chad Carr, Jeff Ehrmann, Ralph Congdon, Glenn Simmonds, Hugh Stafford, and Bill Yingling (two year term).

**Deacons:** Jim Woods, Lois Boyer-Fitzpatrick, Jim Roseman, Janet Stensrud, Christopher Tinsman, Erika Schmidt, Deb Beshears, Susie Kardel, Bruce Rickert, Karla Ruitter, Kathy Middleton, Roen Paulsen, (two year term), Safi Nyasa (two year term), Logan Yingling (one year term).

## New Church Officer Training - Saturday, January 7, 8:30 AM

Newly elected officers, please note the officer training make-up date for those who did not attend the December session, is set for **Saturday, January 7, from 8:30 AM – 12:00 PM**. Elders and Deacons serving their second or third year may also attend the training sessions as a refresher course. Please R.S.V.P. to the church office (563-326-1691).

## Church Officer Installation and Ordination -

**Sunday, January 8, 9:00 AM service**

Please note the Installation and Ordination of church officers is scheduled for Sunday, January 8, 2012, during the 9:00 AM worship service.

## Church Government & Personnel Committee Open Forum -

**Sunday, January 22, 10:05 AM in the Church Parlor**

In an attempt to foster open communication, the Church Government & Personnel Committee will be available for church members to bring them any concerns they may have between services on Sunday, January 22, in the Parlor.

## Adult Learning Opportunities

### Sunday Von Maur Hall Series - 10:00 AM

#### January 8: *Soul Types, Part 1, Understanding our Gifts, presented by Derek Ball*

As Romans 12 tells us, "we have different gifts, according to the grace given us". Looking through the lens of personality, Derek Ball will guide us in understanding the gifts (and blind spots) we each have in our personality and how they can best be used in service of our church, community and, significant relationships.

#### January 15: *Soul Types, Part 2: Personality Dimensions, presented by Derek Ball*

Derek will teach us about the major dimensions of personality, using the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator. On January 15, the focus will be on how personality affects spiritual gifts, using the book "Soul Types". Come to one or both classes to understand how we are all parts of one body in Christ.



#### January 22: *Camp Wyoming: Cocoa for Camp!*

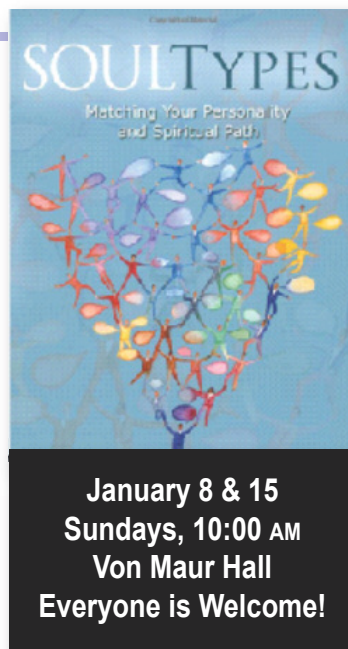
The Youth and Young Adult committee is sponsoring an intergenerational ACE to promote and support Camp Wyoming – a camp supported by our Presbytery. First Pres and Camp Wyoming board member Amy Saskowski, along with campers of various ages, will be there to tell about the mission and vision of Camp Wyoming, what a week of camp is like, and to introduce the Deer Center Campaign. There will be a short video featuring camp programs, and cocoa and s'mores will be served.



#### January 29: *Living on the Edge - Perspectives on Life in the Middle East*

How do Israelis and Palestinians co-exist in one of the most hotly contested places in the world? Checkpoints, border crossings, what is it like to live or work in an occupied territory? What is daily life like in Old Jerusalem? What are some of the obstacles to a lasting peace in the Middle East? Who is working toward peaceful resolutions? What signs of hope are there?

Lifelong church member Molly Kuhn will be speaking to these and other issues as she shares experiences gained from her recent internship in Jerusalem. Molly graduated from the University of Iowa with a major in International Relations (Middle East focus) and a minor in Arabic and has lived for more than a year in the Middle East (Jordan and Israel).



January 8 & 15  
Sundays, 10:00 AM  
Von Maur Hall  
Everyone is Welcome!

## Youth Christian Education & Fellowship Opportunities

### Children's Worship & Wonder: January 15 and 22

During this season of Ordinary Time we will hear stories from Jesus' life and ministry. Children's Worship and Wonder is a time for children to worship God in singing, prayer, hearing a story from scripture, and responding through their work. We meet in the Chapel, and parents pick up their child(ren) at 10:00 AM so they can go to Sunday School or Cherub Choir. Worship and Wonder is for children age 4- 4th grade.



### The Promise Land Sunday School: January 8 - February 12

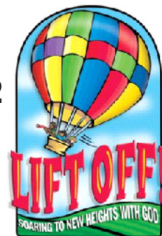
In the six Sundays that kids will experience the story of the Woman at the Well they will hear, see, learn, and express how Jesus is the Living Water for them. In this story we meet an unexpected Jesus—a Messiah who confounds social boundaries and invites people to question and seek answers from their own lives. The woman is surprised by how Jesus interacts with her, but she continues to engage him and yearns for the truth of who he is. During the season of Epiphany we celebrate this story of how Jesus invites all people in the plan of God's salvation!

### High School Fellowship: Hot Topics and FAQs

Beginning January 8, we'll focus our lesson time around some of the hotly debated topics in our church and society. Questions like "Where is God?" "Why Do I Have To Go To Church?" and "Why Do Bad Things Happen to Good People?" HSF is the place where we are free to be ourselves and wrestle with the Big Questions in life... focus your week around fellowship with your friends and figuring out your faith. Come to HSF on Sunday nights from 6:00 - 7:30 PM.

### Save the Date for Vacation Bible Camp: June 11-15, 2012

Lift Off! VBC takes your kids on the ride of a lifetime, teaching them the foundations of a powerful prayer life. In an engaging and fun week, they experience the love of God in Jesus and the loving community of our church. It will be a week to remember!



### Synod School at Buena Vista University - July 22-27, 2012

Synod School is a special learning and personal enrichment experience for all ages. The week is designed for laity and clergy, individuals and families. Classes and activities are available for adults, youth and children – some separately, some intergenerational – to stretch the mind, nurture the soul, and offer hope.

Come...and grow in faith through action, relationships, and a centering of the spirit.

Come...for continuing education, for a special family experience, or for individual growth.

Come...to participate in a unique experience of Christian community, as we worship, study, play, and live together.

For more information contact Diana Barber at the synod office, 1-800-328-1880, ext. 207, or visit the synod web site at [www.lakesandprairies.org](http://www.lakesandprairies.org).

## Re-Member Mission Trips to Pine Ridge Reservation, South Dakota

**Dates:** **June 1 - 8, 2012:** participants must be at least 13 years old.

**June 29 - July 6, 2012:** Family Week for families with children ages 6-12; youth over 13 years old also welcome.

**July 13 - 20, 2012:** participants must be at least 13 years old.

**Cost:** \$390 per person – Family Week is \$156 per child ages 6-12. Additional travel costs estimated at \$250 per person. Financial assistance is available through the Deacons' Mission Connection Committee; contact Lyle Miller (see information below).

**Work:** You will engage in building projects at your level of expertise; the level of work that you engage in is up to you! The projects include sanding; cutting wood with a power saw; using a power drill to put together outhouses, bunk beds, and skirting; and gardening. Children participating in Family week will have a day camp experience. Re-Member has two facilities with dorm rooms and shared bathroom facilities.

**Reserve Your Spot:** Please contact Lyle Miller (563-359-6187, lylebarb@mchsi.com) or Pastor Pamela (563-326-1691, hoogheem@fpcdavenport.org) to sign up.

Information Packets for participants are available at the back of the Sanctuary and in the church office

## Calling all Trivia Buffs AND Non-Trivia Buffs!

**Saturday, January 21, 6:00 PM**

**Knights of Columbus, 1111 West 35th Street, Davenport**

Join us for the first ever TRIVIA NIGHT in support of Camp Wyoming on Saturday, January 21, 2012, at the **Knights of Columbus, 1111 West 35th Street, Davenport**. The doors open at 6:00 PM, and the games begin at 7:00 PM. Teams of 8 people per table are needed to play. However, if you do not have enough people for a table, we can place you on a team with others. The cost is \$10 per person or \$80 per table. Bring your favorite snacks to share with your teammates. All beverages (including water) must be purchased at the facility. Bring cash or your checkbook to play extra games and purchase items from the silent auction. To reserve a table, or to donate auction items or your services, contact Amy Saskowski (563-388-0998, or amymikesas@msn.com) by January 14, 2012.



Camp Wyoming, a Christ-based camp and retreat center, is a mission of the East Iowa Presbytery and part of the Presbyterian Church (USA), offering transformative experiences to equip people of all ages for a journey of faith through sacred space, intentional hospitality, and programs that build relationships with God, each other, and our environment. The camp is located in Jones County, Iowa, within 60 miles of the Quad Cities. It has served many children from our community and from First Presbyterian Church.

## Love Gift Fund and Vacation Opportunity!

**Bidding will end January 28, 2012**

The church has received a donation of a one-week stay in an Orlando resort two-bedroom condo to be used anytime in 2012. The condo sleeps 8 and is fully equipped. The resort offers many amenities and is located minutes from Disney World. Visit Sheraton Vistana Villages on the web at [www.starwoodhotels.com/sheraton/property/overview/index.html?propertyID=5607](http://www.starwoodhotels.com/sheraton/property/overview/index.html?propertyID=5607).

Bidding is open to anyone. To bid or for additional information, contact Penné Duncan (penndu@aol.com or 563-343-7332). The minimum bid is \$600. **Bidding will end January 28, 2012.** Proceeds go to fund the Love Gift project of the Deacons.

2012  
RE-  
MEMBER



## DEACONS' CORNER

**SAVE THE DATE!**  
**February 26, 2012**

February 26 is the Deacons' Fundraiser. Mark your calendars now! Put that date in your PDA ASAP! Plans are in the works for a silent auction, yummy refreshments, and entertainment by Guys in Ties from Comedy Sportz. It is going to be a fun afternoon. Watch bulletin announcements and the Deacons' Corner for further details.

Are you cleaning closets after the holidays to make room for all your new stuff? Did you find an antique amongst your Christmas decorations? Do your creative juices come alive in the dead of



winter? If so, maybe you would like to donate an item to the Deacons' Silent Auction to be held on Sunday, February 19 and Sunday, February 26. Contact Penné Duncan (563-381-2439 or penndu@aol.com) or Carol Tucker (563-359-8077 or cjtucker@mchsi.com) to provide an auction item. All proceeds from the silent auction help the Board of Deacons fund outreach, mission, and pastoral care ministries.

## Help Conserve Church Resources

You can help conserve church resources by making sure the church office has all of your up-to-date contact information. We need to know mailing address changes and/or any new email contact information. If you are a tech savvy person (or not), you may choose to receive the church newsletter via email instead of having it mailed to your home. You may also sign-up to receive weekly email blasts that contain all of the latest happenings in and around the church. To do so, simply email the church office at [office@fpcdavenport.org](mailto:office@fpcdavenport.org), or call us at 563-326-1691.



## Per Capita - \$31.63 per member

Each January First Church is assessed a per capita contribution by the Presbytery. This year it is \$31.63 per member. A member is anyone who has been confirmed or has been welcomed into the congregation by confession of faith, letter of transfer from another congregation, or upon reaffirmation of faith. Please use a special Per Capita envelope from the pew racks on a Sunday morning and drop your clearly labeled contribution into the offering plate, or bring it to the church office. You will receive credit on your giving statement.

*Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they will have the right to the tree of life, and may enter the city by the gates.* - Rev. 22:14



**Find First Presbyterian Church on FACEBOOK, then "like us!"**

That's right! Find out all the latest FPC news on the church's new Facebook page. Follow the link on the church web page at [www.fpcdavenport.org](http://www.fpcdavenport.org), or go directly to <http://www.facebook.com/pages/First-Presbyterian-Church-Davenport-Iowa/>

## Sunday Morning Sanctuary Flowers

The Chancel Guild wishes to thank the Church members who have given a gift of flowers for Sunday morning services. We appreciate this contribution which beautifies our sanctuary.

If anyone would like to donate flowers in memory of loved ones or in celebration of an event, please call Judi Driscoll, Memorial Chair, at 563-370-9548. There are several Sundays available in 2012.

**Member News:** The congregation of First Presbyterian Church marks the following occasions in the lives of those who make up the First Presbyterian Church community.

**Deaths:** Glenelyn Rissman - December 15, 2011  
Lois Kahler - December 21, 2011.

**Birth:** Benjamin Richard Zellmann (*son of Emily and Dave Zellmann*) - December 10, 2011.

## December Session Summary

- ▶ Held an interview by SKYPE with seminary Inquirer Emma Dobson at Eden Seminary in St. Louis. The purpose of the interview was to assess her Christian Faith and how she understands her call. This is the next step for her to become a Candidate for Ministry and she will now interview with Presbytery.
- ▶ Authorized payment for boiler repairs to be made from the income (not principal) of the Capital Maintenance Endowment Fund.
- ▶ Approved the Criteria for Evaluation of Funding Requests as presented by the Board of Deacons.
- ▶ Approved the request and bid presented by Buildings and Grounds to replace the current phone system.

## Make a Note of it:

- ▶ Committee reports for the 2011 Annual Report were due December 31, 2011. For more information, contact Diane Pumphrey in the church office ([pumphrey@fpcdavenport.org](mailto:pumphrey@fpcdavenport.org)).
- ▶ Articles for the February newsletter need to be sent to Diane Pumphrey ([pumphrey@fpcdavenport.org](mailto:pumphrey@fpcdavenport.org)) by January 15.
- ▶ The church office will be closed January 16, in observance of the Martin Luther King, Jr., holiday.
- ▶ The Annual Congregational Meeting will be on Sunday, February 26, 2012, at 10:05 AM in the sanctuary.



### The Broadcaster

This newsletter is a monthly publication of First Presbyterian Church of Davenport, IA

### First Presbyterian Church Staff

- The Rev. Richard Miller  
Pastor  
Cell: 563-343-5810
- The Rev. Sue Howes  
Associate Pastor Emerita
- The Rev. Pamela J. Hoogheem  
Associate Pastor  
Cell: 563-340-8714
- Steven R. Jobman  
Minister of Music
- Ahreum Han  
Principal Organist and Assistant Director of Music
- Shannon M. Gruhlke, CM  
Finance Manager
- Marissa Timmerman  
Accounting Assistant\*
- Diane Pumphrey  
Office & Communications Manager
- Tammy Mayhew  
Membership & Pastoral Care Coordinator
- Barbara Young  
Administrative Coordinator
- Kerri Peterson  
Wedding Coordinator\*
- Jessie Munn  
Nursery Coordinator\*
- Georgia Roberts  
Maintenance Manager
- Dave Spaulding  
Custodian
- Kevin Wilson\*  
Custodian
- Chad Dean\*  
Custodian
- \* Part-time employee

### First Presbyterian Church

1702 Iowa Street  
Davenport, Iowa 52803

Phone: 563-326-1691  
Fax: 563-326-5416

[www.fpcdavenport.org](http://www.fpcdavenport.org)

**Office Hours:** M-F, 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM

**Sunday Worship:**  
9:00 & 11:00 AM.

**Handicapped Services:**  
First Church is handicapped accessible via the elevator entrances on the west side of the building.

**Childcare:** Nurseries for infants through four-year-olds are provided in the Folwell Education Center (3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the Christian Education Building) during Sunday services from 8:15 AM - 12:15 PM.

**Fellowship:** Enjoy refreshments each Sunday between the services.



## FINANCIAL FOCUS

### Financial Summary for the Month of November, 2011 General Church Operation Fund

	Month	YTD
Actual		
Revenue	66,659	848,747
Expense	71,627	854,300
Surplus / (Deficit)	\$(4,968)	\$(5,553)
Budget		
Revenue	65,307	810,415
Expense	72,841	887,729
Surplus / (Deficit)	\$(7,534)	\$(77,314)

### 2011 Church Budget Approved by Session February 21, 2011:

\$929,388.00	Projected Revenue
\$979,034.90	Projected Expenses
(\$ 49,646.90)	Surplus (Deficit)
(\$ 14,000.00)	Estimated Projected Deficit as of 12-7-11

“God often asks us to believe the impossible – that with God’s help, ordinary people are able to do extraordinary things. Even my words here will reach hundreds of people. God is the One who makes it happen. Each of us can be God’s instrument. What is God calling you to do?”

- Nancy J. Baker

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
1702 Iowa Street  
Davenport, IA 52803-4315

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

PLACE LABEL HERE

The Performing Arts Series  
of First Presbyterian Church  
presents

*The Sound of Music* 



The beloved, fully-staged classic  
Reserved seating  
**Saturday, March 24 - 7:30 PM**  
**Sunday, March 25 - 4:00 PM**  
Adults \$12 Students \$8



### Help Tackle Hunger on February 5, 2012

Our youth will hold soup pots at the church doors on Souper Bowl of Caring Sunday. They will join young people in churches across the country to collect money for those who are hungry and hurting. All of the money collected is donated to a charity selected by the church — none of the money is sent to the Souper Bowl of Caring headquarters. Organizers only ask that each church report their collection so national totals can be determined and announced. Please support the youth of our church in this effort to “love our neighbors” by dropping your dollar in the soup pot on February 5.



### Need to Know What’s Happening and When?



Check out the calendar page on the church website, where you will find all of the latest information on what’s happening at the church. Simply follow the links or go directly to: <http://www.fpcdavenport.org/Calendar.htm>.

**First Church Snow Policy:** When the roads and weather conditions have been declared hazardous, First Church may cancel programs and events. Current and updated information during such an emergency can be obtained by calling the automated church office phone answering system at 563-326-1691, or visiting the church website at [www.fpcdavenport.org](http://www.fpcdavenport.org).