

FPC Calendar for the Week of December 8 - 15, 2019

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

Sunday, December 8

9:00 AM Manna & More - Fellowship Hall
9:30 AM An Advent Worship Service of Lessons and Carols- Sanctuary
10:30 AM Congregation Meeting - Sanctuary
10:45 AM Adult Christian Education (ACE) - IN RECESS
10:30 AM Manna & More - Fellowship Hall
10:35 AM Cherub Choir - 3rd Floor CE Bldg.
10:45 AM Promise Land Sunday School - 3rd Floor CE Bldg.
10:50 AM Musikgarten - Room 307
5:30 PM Dance Rehearsal for Christmas Concert - Sanctuary
5:30 PM Ugly Sweater Party - Fellowship Hall

Monday, December 9

9:00 AM Pickleball - Gym
6:00 PM Deacons' Executive Committee - Von Maur Hall
6:30 PM Boy Scouts - Room 105
6:30 PM Deacons' Outreach - Fellowship Hall
6:30 PM Pastoral Care and Spiritual Development - Parlor
6:30 PM Mission Connection - Von Maur Hall
7:00 PM Board of Deacons - Von Maur Hall
7:00 PM Contemplative Prayer Group - Donaldson Room

Tuesday, December 10

9:30 AM Heritage Committee Work Day - Heritage Room
9:30 AM "A Clear View of Jesus' Birth"- Von Maur Hall
3:00 PM Warm Hands, Warm Hearts - porte cochere entrance
5:00 PM Finance Meeting - Finance Office
6:30 PM AAU Boys 5th and 6th Basketball Practice - Gym
6:30 PM Prayer Shawl Second Tuesday (PSST) - Parlor
7:00 PM "A Clear View of Jesus' Birth" - Von Maur Hall
7:00 PM Christmas Concert Rehearsal - Sanctuary, Chapel, Choir Room Von Maur Hall, Parlor

Wednesday, December 11

9:00 AM Pickleball - Gym
10:00 AM Women of Hope Bible Study - Von Maur Hall
11:00 AM Church Staff Meeting - Parlor
12:00 PM Heritage Committee Work Day - Heritage Room
1:00 PM Compassion & Choices of Iowa - Parlor
5:30 PM ACT Dinner - Von Maur Hall
5:45 PM Kirkwood Choir - Choir Room
6:00 PM Cecelian Carolers - Sanctuary
6:15 PM Bible Basics - Parlor
6:30 PM Kirkwood Club - Von Maur Hall, Gym
6:45 PM Celebration Singers - Sanctuary
7:15 PM ACT - Von Maur Hall
7:30 PM PUNCH Kicks for Kids - Gym

Thursday, December 12

9:30 AM Heritage Committee Work Day - Heritage Room
5:30 PM TOPS - Von Maur Hall
6:00 PM Vesper Bells - Chapel
6:30 PM AAU Boys 5th & 6th grade basketball practice - Gym
6:45 PM Dance Rehearsal for Christmas Concert - Sanctuary
7:00 PM Christmas Concert Rehearsal - Sanctuary, Chapel, Choir Room, Von Maur Hall, Parlor
7:00 PM Sanctuary Choir - IN RECESS

Friday, December 13

9:00 AM Pickleball - Gym

Saturday, December 14

12:00 PM Christmas Concert Rehearsal - Sanctuary, Chapel, Choir Room, Von Maur Hall, Parlor
7:00 PM Performing Arts Series: Christmas Concert - Sanctuary

Sunday, December 15

9:30 AM Worship Service - Sanctuary
10:30 AM Fellowship Time/Celebration Station - Fellowship Hall
10:35 AM Cherub Choir - 3rd Floor CE Bldg.
10:45 AM Adult Christian Education (ACE) - Von Maur Hall
10:45 AM Promise Land Sunday School - 3rd Floor CE Bldg.
10:50 AM Musikgarten - Room 307
4:00 PM Performing Arts Series: Christmas Concert - Sanctuary
4:30 PM Sanctuary Choir - IN RECESS

NEWS FROM THE FINANCE OFFICE

Note from the Finance Manager

Have you tried our text giving option? In a matter of seconds, you can make a weekly offering, respond to a special appeal, or set up a recurring donation by simply sending a text with the amount you would like to give to our secure account at (844) 945-0497. If you would like to know more about our text giving option, please contact the Finance Office at olson@fpcdavenport.org or 563-326-1691, Ext. 219. Thank you for your spirited generosity!

CONGREGATION UPDATES

Pastor Katie Styrts on Maternity Leave Until December 29

Pastor Katie will be away on maternity leave until December 29, and looks forward to worshipping with you all then. Until then, Pastors Mark and Pat will be handling all pastoral care and church concerns. Thank you for giving the new family space to welcome Helen into the family.

FRAUD WARNING!

There have been recent emails from dummy accounts which are impersonating church staff. If you receive an email from an unknown address (even with a staff member's name), please do not respond. No church staff member will ask you to give money or gift cards to them via email. If you have any questions or suspicions, please contact the office.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION & FELLOWSHIP FOR YOUTH

Youth Groups - Fun Times on Wednesday Nights! Hope you can join us!

ACT is now on Wednesday nights! We know this might not work for some families, but, we would like to try it for a few months. We hope that by having all youth activities on Wednesday, more families will be able to participate fully. We plan on wrapping up by 8:00 PM on these nights. We also hope to offer weekend opportunities so all our 6th-12th grade youth can participate.

1st-5th Grade Youth Wednesday Night Schedule

5:45 PM Kirkwood Choir - Choir Room

6:30 PM Kirkwood Club - Von Maur Hall

6th-12th Grade Youth Wednesday Night Schedule

5:30 PM Dinner for 6th-12th grade - Von Maur Hall

6:00 PM Cecelian Carolers - Sanctuary

6:45 PM Celebration Singers - Sanctuary

7:15 PM Youth Group/6th-12th - Von Maur Hall

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1702 IOWA STREET, DAVENPORT, IOWA 52803

Ph.: 563-326-1691 ■ www.fpcdavenport.org

Ministers – all the members of the church

Rev. Mark Galbraith
Interim Pastor
galbraith@fpcdavenport.org
Ext. 220

Rev. Katie Styrts
Associate Pastor

Rev. Sue Howes, *Associate Pastor Emeritus*
Marty Bowles Edwards, *Clerk of Session*

Matt Bishop
Director of Music
Ext. 201; bishop@fpcdavenport.org

Alex Gilson
Organist/Assistant Director of Music
Ext. 223; gilson@fpcdavenport.org

Linda Bengfort*
Assistant Choral Director
bengfort@fpcdavenport.org

Kathy Middleton*
Assistant Choral Director for Children
middleton@fpcdavenport.org

Kristine Olson
Finance Manager
Ext. 219; olson@fpcdavenport.org

Traci Cracraft* & Sarah Greim*
Transitional Christian Education Coordinator
Ext. 209; cracraft@fpcdavenport.org

Darren Long
Facilities & Custodial Supervisor
Ext. 205; long@fpcdavenport.org

Maintenance Team: Georgia Roberts,
Chad Dean*, & Kevin Wilson*
Ext. 203; maintenance@fpcdavenport.org

Chad Dean*
Wedding Coordinator
weddingcoordinator@fpcdavenport.org

Michelle Mahrt*
Membership Database Coordinator
Ext. 212; mahrt@fpcdavenport.org

Bobette Maginas*
Administrative Coordinator
Ext. 200; office@fpcdavenport.org

Kandis Cooper*
Nursery Coordinator

**Denotes part-time employee*

FOR YOUR INFORMATION — Sunday, December 8, 2019

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.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS 2019

In the tradition of past Christmas seasons, the Chancel Guild will brighten the Sanctuary with poinsettias given in memory or honor of loved ones. To be part of this wonderful tradition, please complete the form and send it to the church office or place it in the offering Plate. **Today is the deadline for making memorial donations.**

In Memory or Honor of: _____

(circle one)

Given by: _____

Manna & More - Today, 9:00 -11:30 AM

Share breakfast with your family, friends today from 9:00-11:30 AM. Enjoy waffles/pancakes, sausage, cherry topping, cool whip, nuts, fruit, and assorted beverages. Adults \$3, children (12 & under) \$1. Everyone is invited!

An Advent Service of Lessons & Carol - Today

The Music Ministries are pleased to present the first of two different Lessons and Carols services today. The Lessons and Carols service is a tradition that developed in England after WWI as church leaders sought to bring more creative worship into the Anglican Church following the war. The service grew in popularity, and many major churches across denominations throughout Europe and America present them each year. Kickoff the liturgical season of Advent with a candlelight service featuring readings, hymns, and carols sung by the *Chamber Chorale*. This service is an intimate way to prepare our hearts and voice for the season of expectance and the busy weeks that follow.

Congregation Meeting - Today, 10:30 AM

Today we will have a congregation meeting to elect Elders, Deacons, and the Nominating Committee for the class of 2020 immediately following the service.

Annual Ugly Sweater Party - Today, 5:30 PM

Are you ready to get your Ugly Christmas Sweater on? Are you sad when you find out that you are too "old" or "young" to attend the party? Well this year you are in LUCK! We will be having an all generations party! Yes, come one, come all! We'll gather today from 5:30-7:30 PM in Fellowship Hall. Wear your ugliest Christmas Sweater, bring a dish to share and a \$10 gift for our gift exchange. There will be a kids party (aka childcare) available. Questions? Please email Sarah Greim (segreim@gmail.com).

Warm Hearts and Warm Hands - Tuesday, December 10, 3:00 PM



FPC likes to reach out to our neighborhood families whenever possible. On Tuesday, December 10, we will be providing a warm cup of cocoa (with marshmallows and candy canes) and gloves, mittens, and hats to warm the hands, heads, and hearts of our neighbors on Kirkwood Boulevard in front of the church door between 3:00 and 5:30 PM. We already have a donation of knitted hats with matching gloves from a non-church member. We need more mittens, gloves, and hats for toddlers, kids, and adults. You can purchase inexpensive waterproof ski gloves at Menard's for adult men or women. Inexpensive winter apparel can also be purchased at Walmart, Kohl's, and the Dollar Tree. We will also be providing information about our Christmas services to all those who stop by. Please help us spread the Christmas spirit to our neighbors by donating some hats, gloves, or mittens. We will also need a few folks to spread the Christmas spirit as well as the cocoa and winter apparel on December 10. Look for the basket with the sign at the back of the sanctuary. Join us! Please contact Deacon Cathy Pratscher-Woods (563-349-2288 [text or call]; james.woods@mchsi.com) if you have any questions.

WORSHIP SERVICES

The Christmas Services of First Presbyterian Church

Tuesday, December 24, 2019

- 4:00 PM Children's Christmas Pageant with Carols
- 9:00 PM Candlelight Christmas Communion
- 11:00 PM Service of Nine Lessons and Carols



The 4:00 PM worship service is particularly for families with young children. The *Cherub Choir* and *Kirkwood Choir* will share special music. We will sing traditional carols and experience the wonder of the candlelit service. Blessing of the Babies recognizes infants born since last Christmas and little ones new to the congregation.

At 9:00 PM, Holy Communion will be shared in the hushed quietness of the first Christmas when God "descended the back stairs of Bethlehem" to become one with humanity. Soloists will offer the music for the evening. The Feast of Light will be celebrated as the darkened Sanctuary is transformed by candlelight to symbolize pilgrims coming to see the Light of the World. Several traditional and favorite Christmas carols will be sung during the distribution of the Sacrament.

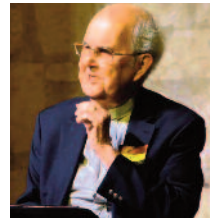
At 11:00 PM, a "Service of Nine Lessons and Carols" will herald the welcome of Christmas Day. The *Sanctuary Choir* and *Cecelian Carolers* will provide inspiring music. Of course, carol singing will abound. The traditional Service of Darkness and Candlelighting during the singing of "Silent Night" will add a special feeling to the conclusion of this memorable and moving Christmas celebration.

Comfy Christmas Service - Sunday, December 29, 9:30 AM

Our service on December 29 will be a very special Sunday! It's a Comfy Christmas service! That means come in your pajamas, grab a cup of cocoa or coffee and get comfy as we read a Christmas story shared on the screen. This service is intended to be comfortable, family-friendly and just a chance for all of us to reflect on peace on the Christmas season. Everyone is welcome!

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Adult Christian Education (ACE) - Sundays, 10:45 AM



ACE is IN RECESS today. "A Clear View of Jesus' Birth," presented by Dr. Ken Bailey, an ordained Presbyterian pastor and teacher of scripture, will resume on Sunday, December 15. Presentations of the series will be presented on December 22 and January 5, while ACE will again be IN RECESS on December 29. If you have any questions or comments, please e-mail Barb Ehrmann at ptbee02@gmail.com. We hope to see you at ACE!

Bible Basics - Wednesdays, 6:15 PM, Parlor

December 11 - *Jeremiah*

Our journey with Jeremiah comes to an end. As told to Jeremiah in the first chapter, he becomes a prophet for the nations. Jeremiah declares judgment on many nations including Babylon. Please read chapters 35-52 of Jeremiah. For more information and study outlines please contact Mark Jones (mkjones@mchsi.com; 563-332-9314).

Bible Basics will be in recess from December 18 through January 8, 2020. Our next gathering will be on Wednesday, January 15, 2020. Newcomers are welcome.

HAVE YOU RECEIVED THE BROADCASTER

Have You Received Your Broadcaster?

The December 2019/January 2020 edition of *The Broadcaster* was mailed on Tuesday, November 26, from the downtown Davenport Post Office. If you haven't yet received your copy of *The Broadcaster*, please contact the office (563-326-1691; office@fpcdavenport.org).

CARING FOR OTHERS

Christmas Joy Offering: If We All Do a Little, It Adds Up to a Lot

Fifty-five percent (55%) of our Christmas Joy offering is distributed to the Board of Pensions for assistance programs that provide critical financial support to retired and active church members and their families. The other fifty-five percent (55%) supports education at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges that offer development opportunities for people of color through the Racial Equality and Women's Intercultural Ministries of the Presbyterian Mission Agency.

Food Pantry Collections for the Center

Every Sunday is food pantry Sunday! In December we are collecting pancake mix, ideally one that only requires water, or other baking mixes. If you can, please purchase one or more items for the food pantry each week when you shop. Any non-perishable food, toiletry or monetary donations will be accepted. You can drop your contribution to the church in the back of the sanctuary. If you have questions, please contact Julie Grothusen (mjgrothusen@hotmail.com; 563-505-4964).



Angel Tree Gifts Due - Tuesday, December 10

THE ANGEL TREE PROJECT THANKS YOU! FPC's tradition of supporting Angel Tree continued this year, and once again, our congregation came through. You signed out 100 gift tags for families receiving services from Bethany for Children & Families. A reminder that your unwrapped gifts should be returned to Fellowship Hall by Tuesday, December 10. Total gifts for each recipient should be around \$45. Christmas gift bags are a great idea for keeping the gift packages together as long as all the gifts are visible inside the bag. Don't forget to attach your gift tag to the gift! If you have any questions, please contact the church office or Doug Wells (563-370-6457; wells@domezmaylaw.com).

Prayer Shawl Second Tuesday (PSST) - December 10, 6:30 PM

You are a vital part of the Prayer Shawl Ministry. You know who needs prayers, who is in hospice, having surgery, expecting a new baby, lonely and depressed, undergoing chemo, graduating, getting married, grieving the loss of a loved one. You are our eyes and ears. Each shawl is blessed by the members of the Prayer Shawl group and tagged with the Wrapping Prayer (www.shawlministry.com): "We pray that when you wrap this shawl around you, you will feel the Lord wrapping his arms around you, holding you, comforting you, loving you, healing you, guiding you, and giving you peace." When you give a prayer shawl, you give God's love. Prayer shawls are available on the coat tree in the sanctuary, the coat rack in Fellowship Hall, and the coat rack next to the Parlor. The Prayer Shawl group meets on the second Tuesday of each month, 6:30-8:00 PM, in the Parlor. Contact Karla Jones (563-332-9314; mkjones@mchsi.com) or Nancy Foster (563-391-4622; nancyotr97@gmail.com) with questions.

PUNCH Blessing Box Drive - Sunday, January 20



People United Neighbors and Churches (PUNCH) will have a Blessing Box drive on January 20, 2020, as a service project in conjunction with the Dr. Martin Luther King day celebration. Blessing Boxes are sites around our Hilltop neighborhood that have food and hygiene products available for those in need. The Deacons have been asked to set up collection boxes. They are located in the back of the sanctuary and outside the church office. Please help donate much needed items, such as: **personal products** - toothpaste and toothbrushes, mouthwash, soap and body wash, lotion, Vaseline, feminine hygiene items, deodorant and sanitizer, razors and shaving cream; **cleaning products** - laundry soap and bleach, bathroom and household cleaners, paper towels, Kleenex. **Socks, gloves, and hats are also needed.** These items will be picked up January 20, 2020. Thank you for this opportunity to help those less fortunate than ourselves. Any questions please contact Debbie Keenan (815-621-8009).

MUSIC MINISTRY

Musikgarten - Sundays, 10:50 AM

We celebrate setting aside 30 minutes on a Sunday morning - the best 30 minutes of the week - to spend singing and playing with our littlest ones as they learn and grow in a God-centered musical family. Musikgarten is for infants through three year olds and their parents and/or grandparents. Our 30 minute Musikgarten class meets between services on Sunday mornings from 10:50-11:25 AM in Room 307, following the Sunday School schedule. Come and join us! We would love to celebrate with you! If you have questions or would like more information, please contact Kathy Middleton (kathryn15@gmail.com; 563-505-0471).



Lessons & Carols - Tuesday, December 24, 11:00 PM

The Music Ministries are pleased to present the second of two different Lessons and Carols services on Tuesday, December 24, at 11:00 PM when, for the third consecutive year, our Christmas Eve celebrations will include a traditional Service of Nine Lessons and Carols, to end as the clock strikes midnight. This service features beloved Christmas carols from the *Sanctuary Choir* and *Cecelian Carolers*. The Lessons and Carols service is a tradition that developed in England after WWI as church leaders sought to bring more creative worship into the Anglican Church following the war. The service grew in popularity, and many major churches across denominations throughout Europe and America present them each year.

The FPC Christmas Concert "Let Heaven and Nature Sing" Saturday, December 14, 7:30 PM and Sunday, December 15, 4:00 PM

The Christmas Concerts at First Pres. have become a much anticipated event in the Quad Cities. This year's concerts, on the third weekend in December, feature many of the church's great ensembles: the *Sanctuary Choir*, *Chamber Chorale*, *Vesper Bells*, *Kildalton Quartet*, *Celebration Singers*, and *Cecelian Carolers*, accompanied by full orchestra and dancers. This year's concert is centered around our calling to be stewards of God's creation. Utilizing carols and readings that feature natural imagery, this concert is both a celebration of our environment and a reminder that we are charged with its protection. As a practical act of stewardship, we are asking for concert attendees to bring non-perishable pet food (in individual, unopened containers) to be donated to King's Harvest Pet Rescue. *Be sure to reserve your complimentary tickets in advance by calling or visiting the church office during regular business hours!*



The Rose Ensemble - Friday, January 17, 7:30 PM

\$15 adult/\$10 student

Founded in 1996 by Artistic Director Jordan Sramek, The Rose Ensemble is based in St. Paul, Minnesota and enjoys a full schedule of performing, recording, and outreach. Through artistry and scholarly research, the group produces imaginative and inspiring performances and educational programs that strive to connect each individual to



compelling stories of culture and spirituality from around the world. The group illuminates centuries of rarely heard repertoire, bringing to modern audiences research from the world's manuscript libraries and fresh perspectives on music, history, languages, politics, and religion. With eleven commercial recordings and a diverse selection of concert programs, The Rose Ensemble has thrilled audiences across the U.S. and Europe with repertoire spanning 1,000 years and 25 languages, including new research in European, Middle Eastern, and American traditions.