



FIRST PRESS

WINTER 2023-2024

The newsletter of First Presbyterian Church

**Make a Joyful Noise
to the Lord**



Make a Joyful Noise to the Lord

FIRST PRESS

INSIDE:

Pastors Column	2
Community Life	3-4
Worship, Music, & Arts	5-6
Mission & Service	7-8
Adults	9
Youth	10-11
Children & Families	12-13
Financial Matters	14-18
Staff & Leaders	19

Mission & Vision:

The mission of First Presbyterian Church of Davenport, Iowa, is to be the light of the world and the salt of the earth.

Our vision is to be a beacon of worship, affirmation, learning and spiritual growth.



ON THE COVER:

FPC 2019 Christmas Concert



It is no secret that the world we live in is broken and hurting. We often feel that pain in our own families and our own lives. It shows up in marital conflicts, tension with our children, feelings of abandonment by our family, receiving a devastating diagnosis, or the loss of someone we love. We know intellectually that we are not alone in this life. But sometimes our feelings are much stronger than any intellectual theological exercise might ever be able to relieve.

But, there is hope. Psychological research has proven that people who regularly participate in corporate worship live longer, happier, and healthier lives. I believe this is because we were not created to do this life alone. We need each other, and we need God. The fellowship of a healthy faith community can literally save your life, and bring joy to your soul.

I believe the Psalmist knew this when they declared, “Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth. Serve the Lord with gladness; come into his presence with singing. ...Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise. Give thanks to him; bless his name.”

As we approach the season of Thanksgiving and Christmas, we are reminded that the greatest blessing we have is the gift of Christ in our lives made manifest through our faith community. In Christ, we can see a broken and hurting world with eyes of compassion. In Christ, made manifest through our faith community, we can see the brokenness in our own lives with eyes of hope.

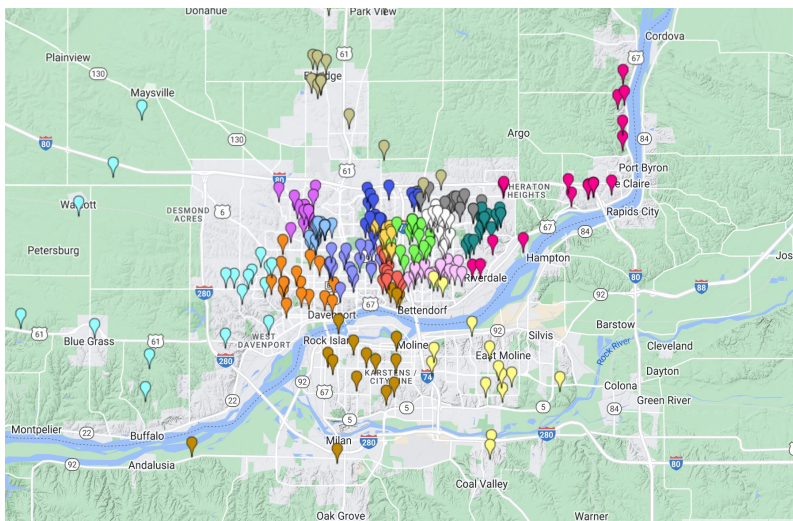
Whether you’ve been here throughout the past few difficult years, or you’ve stepped away for a little while, or you are brand new to the First Pres community, we need you. Each person brings unique gifts that bless our lives. And each person brings a voice that helps us all sing praise to God. This Thanksgiving and Christmas season, I encourage you to come be in this space together. Join us as we share the love and hope of Christ with each other. Join us as we “make a joyful noise to the Lord,” singing to give thanks to God for the gift of Christ here in the First Pres community. You might just find your own life blessed. You might just find yourself happier and healthier for being here.

Peace, Love and God Bless,
The Rev. Dr. Kristopher D. Schondelmeyer



Member Care Teams

A Path To Reconnect/Care



You may not have heard, but with the guidance of our new Pastor/Head of Staff, the Rev. Dr. Kristopher D. Schondelmeyer, we are actively refocusing our Board of Deacons. Moving forward, we will be placing a greater emphasis on member care, and with only one installed Pastor, this is not work that he can do alone. We have organized Member Care Teams as we seek to provide responsive, compassionate care for all our members.

As part of our refocusing, our Deacons will now be the leaders of our Member Care Teams, fulfilling their ordination vows to be the caregivers of the congregation. As Elders serve by leading, Deacons lead by serving.

Watch for future communications about this exciting program from your Board of Deacons.

Special Upcoming Services

Thanksgiving Eve Worship and Pie Fellowship

November 22
7:00 PM

A Service of Lessons and Carols

December 3
9:30 AM

Christmas Eve Family Service Children's Christmas Pageant

December 24
9:30 AM

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service of Lessons and Carols

December 24
7:30 PM

Carnival Sunday: Featuring Music from Ivory & Gold

January 21
9:30 AM

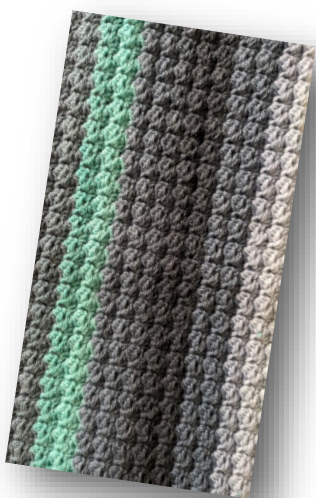
Thanksgiving Eve Service & Pie Fellowship

Wednesday, November 22 | 7:00

The Prayer Shawl Ministry of FPC

As a member or friend of First Presbyterian Church you are an important part of the Prayer Shawl Ministry. Even if you don't know a crochet hook from a knitting needle, you are vital to this ministry. You are the eyes and ears of the community inside and outside the church building. You know people who need prayers. You know those who are in hospice, having surgery, expecting a new baby, lonely and depressed, undergoing chemo, in recovery, graduating, getting married, or grieving the loss of a loved one. A prayer shawl is tangible evidence of God's love among us given in times of challenge or joy. Become a part of this ministry and give a prayer shawl to someone you know who needs to be wrapped in God's love. It is our way of showing people that we, as a church community, love them and care for them.

Each shawl, upon completion, is blessed by the members of the Prayer Shawl Group. Each shawl is 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."



If you would like to give a Prayer Shawl to someone, a variety of shawls are hanging on the coat rack across from the main church office and on the coat tree at the back of the sanctuary. They are for the taking whenever the need arises and can be given to anyone.

If you would like to attend the Prayer Shawl Group meetings, all are welcome. We meet one evening a month... watch the eNews and bulletin announcements for day, time and place. If you would like to be added to the group email list or have questions, contact Karla Jones at mkjones@mchsi.com or 563-349-4000.

"We love, because he first loved us." 1 John 4:19



Manna & More

Intergenerational Ministry

On Sunday, December 10 the entire church is invited to come together during Manna & More following worship for delicious food and intergenerational fellowship. Our first intergenerational gathering will be Christmas themed and include singing Christmas carols! Each month of the programming year going forward, we will all be invited to gather on the second Sunday of the month for this intergenerational fellowship time to enjoy Manna (food) and More (fellowship and fun)!



WORSHIP

Sermon Titles

Sunday, November 19
Don't Just Go to Church...
Be the Church
The Rev. Dr. Kris Schondelmeyer

Sunday, November 26
TBD
Rev. Pat Halverson

Sunday, December 3
Lessons and Carols
The Rev. Dr. Kris Schondelmeyer

Sunday, December 10
Reformed and Always Reforming
The Rev. Dr. Kris Schondelmeyer

Sunday, December 17
Testify to the Light
The Rev. Dr. Kris Schondelmeyer

Sunday, December 24
The Light of the World
The Rev. Dr. Kris Schondelmeyer

Sunday, December 31
The Wisdom of Elders
The Rev. Dr. Kris Schondelmeyer

Sunday, January 7
TBD
Kristy Woodrow

Sunday, January 14
A Father's Dreams
The Rev. Dr. Kris Schondelmeyer

Sunday, January 21
Dreams of a Mother's Heart
The Rev. Dr. Kris Schondelmeyer

Sunday, January 28
TBD
Rev. Pat Halverson

First Pres Laughs...



Our PAS Night of Comedy was a huge success. After a last minute shuffle due to a family emergency for our original headliner, we were able to secure comedian Scott Long. Pastor Kris delivered a hilarious and edgy set related to his role as a pastor, husband, and father. He even pushed the envelope with a hilarious, yet poignant bit about the importance of consent titled, "Defender of Donkeys."

Scott Long's set touched on his roots in the Midwest, along with his role as a father of twins and a daughter who is on the Autism spectrum. The surprise of the evening was the dry, witty humor of our host for the evening, Matt Bishop. Matt surprised the crowd with several jokes of his own, particularly roasting Pastor Kris in a spirit of fun. We are beginning conversations about scheduling another PAS Night of Comedy with Karen Bergreen who was our original headliner scheduled for this event.



WORSHIP, MUSIC, & ARTS



Tidings of Comfort and Joy: Carols in a Safe Space

Saturday, December 16, 2023 | 7:30PM
Sunday, December 17, 2023 | 4:00PM

The Christmas Concerts at First Pres have become a much anticipated event in the Quad Cities. This year's concerts, on the third weekend of December, will

feature many of the church's beloved ensembles: the Sanctuary Choir, Chamber Chorale, and Vesper Bells, accompanied by full orchestra and Principal Organist Alex Gilson.

This year's concerts investigate the idea of creating and benefitting from a Safe Space. Christmas is a time of being around loved ones, and while we celebrate this tradition we also acknowledge that it is far from reality for many people in our own community. Our concert will be one of warmth and welcome.

For this year's concerts we are pleased to partner with Clock, Inc., an LGBTQ+ community center based in Rock Island. Through its mission of providing counseling, small groups, clothing, and many other resources to LGBTQ+ Quad Citizens, Clock Inc. embodies the notion of a Safe Space and has become one to many. Prior to the concert, you will receive information about how we can help support Clock, Inc.

A festive poster for Christmas Eve at First Pres. The background is a deep blue with white snowflakes. On the left, there are several lit candles, dried orange slices, and pine branches. The text is in a white, elegant script font.

Christmas Eve ❄️
at First Pres

Sunday, Dec. 24

9:30 AM - FAMILY SERVICE WITH
CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

❄️

7:30 PM - CANDLELIGHT LESSONS
AND CAROLS SERVICE

Angel Tree

It is time once again to help our friends at Bethany for Children and Families by providing Angel Tree gifts! Starting November 19th following the service, you may select one or more tags from the tree located in the sanctuary. There will be no sign-out this year. Gifts are to be placed UNWRAPPED in a gift bag, with the tag attached to the outside of each bag. Gifts are due back at the church by Tuesday December 5th. Please let us know if you intend to deliver directly to Bethany. Thank you for making a difference in a child's life this Christmas!



Alternative Gift Giving

Looking for the perfect gift? Something unique? Something memorable? Almost everyone we know has enough stuff. Holiday shopping can become so much more meaningful when we give a gift that provides something to someone in need. Parents, friends, and teachers will accept your gift joyfully, knowing it has life changing consequences for the people it benefits.

After worship on the first three Sundays in December, come to the Alternative Gift Giving store in the Fellowship Hall. A child may benefit through education provided by Fishers of Men Ministries, families in developing nations may get access to clean drinking water, and neighbors in need right here in our community may be served through your support of our Caring Closet. The person(s) to whom you give the gift will benefit by not receiving more 'stuff' they don't really need.



MLK Day of Service: Blessing Box Drive

January 15, 2024 / 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM / KWQC - TV 6 (805 Brady St.)

Items Needed:

Personal Products: toothpaste / brushes, mouthwash, deodorant, soap / body wash, lotion / Vaseline, shampoo / conditioner, sanitizer

Cleaning Products: bathroom cleaners, household cleaners, disinfectant wipes, dish detergent

Paper Products: paper towels, toilet paper, Kleenex

Laundry Products: detergent, bleach, fabric softener



Habitat for Humanity Work Days!



First Presbyterian will once again sponsor work days to support Habitat for Humanity. Habitat for Humanity is a non-profit organization that helps families build and improve places to call home. The organization believes that everyone deserves a decent place to live and works towards making that a reality.

If you're interested in volunteering, you have an opportunity to sign up to help build a house. We have two days in December, the 6th and the 9th, the you can sign up for. No prior experience is necessary, and you'll be working alongside other volunteers and future homeowners. You'll learn new skills, make new friends, and make a difference in your community. Together, we can help build a world where everyone has a decent place to live. We can have up to 6 volunteers per day, first come first served once sign up begins. Volunteers can work in the morning, afternoon, or all day (8:30 AM-3 PM). Thank you for your support!

Contact Glen Roebuck with questions at: roebuckg2013@gmail.com



Wednesday, December 6, 2023
<https://bit.ly/3tVdFAh>

Use the links or scan
the QR code to visit



Saturday, December 9, 2023
<https://bit.ly/45RO6NE>

FPC CARING CLOSET

Now taking
donations for
winter coats and
blankets

Tue. 9am-noon
Fri. 2pm-5pm

FPC CARING CLOSET

Now taking
donations for
new/gently used
toys

Tue. 9am-noon
Fri. 2pm-5pm

ADULT Adult Christian Education: Sunday Morning

Sunday, November 19

Animate:Faith

The Rev. Dr. Kris Schondelmeyer

Sunday, November 26

No ACE Program

Sunday, December 3

TBD

Sunday, December 10

Manna & More

Intergenerational Christmas Program

Sunday, December 17

No ACE Program

Sunday, December 24

No ACE Program

Sunday, December 31

No ACE Program

Sunday, January 7

The Reformed Tradition - Part 1
Jed Steckel

Sunday, January 14

TBD

Sunday, January 21

Carnival Sunday at FPC
No ACE Program

Sunday, January 28

The Reformed Tradition - Part 2
Jed Steckel

Adult Christian Education programming is offered on Sunday mornings immediately after the worship service in Von Maur Hall.

Bible Basics

Bible Basics has just started a new video series called *Reading Biblical Literature, Genesis to Revelation*. This series is presented by Craig R. Koester, Professor of New Testament at Luther Seminary in St. Paul, MN. As the title suggests, this is a survey of both OT and NT with insights into the narratives and characters we find there. We will watch and discuss one 30-minute video each week. There is some reading available ahead of each week, but if time does not allow you to complete it, join us anyway. All are welcome.

Bible Basics will be in recess on November 22, 2023 (Thanksgiving Eve).

Please contact Mark Jones (mkjones@mchsi.com) for more information.

Here is the Zoom link: <https://zoom.us/join>

Meeting ID: **881 1687 5549**

Passcode: **630481**

Holiday Lights & Dinner Fellowship

Friday, December 15 / 5:00 - 10:00 PM

Sign up for our annual **Bus Trip to Clinton, Iowa's Symphony of Lights in Eagle Point Park**. We need 25 participants to charter our bus for the evening. First stop is Clinton's famous Candlelight Restaurant (known for Chicken George) for dinner and drinks on your own with lots of holiday fellowship. Then, it is off to Eagle Point Park perched on the Mississippi River bluffs for an amazing animated holiday light display.

We will return on the Great River Road route through Princeton and LeClaire to see more lights and decorations before arriving at the church parking lot. **\$25 per person is non-refundable, but transferable if purchaser names a substitute.**

For more information contact:

Marilyn or Denny Jorgenson: 563-349-9222

FPC Youth - Winter 2023/2024

DECEMBER

SU MO TU WE TH FR SA

					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

- 12/3 - confirmation
- 12/10 - Christmas party
- 12/17 - no meeting
- 12/24 - Christmas pageant
- 12/31 - holiday weekend

JANUARY

SU MO TU WE TH FR SA

	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

- 1/7 - confirmation
- 1/14 - youth group
- 1/15 - MLK day TBD
- 1/21 - confirmation
- 1/28 - youth group

FEBRUARY

SU MO TU WE TH FR SA

				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29		

- 2/4 - confirmation
- 2/11 - Super Bowl Party TBD
- 2/18 - confirmation
- 2/25 - youth group

- youth group - open to youth in 6th grade and up, meets the 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month
- confirmation - open to youth in 7th grade and up, meets the 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month

 **First Presbyterian Church**
Energy • Intelligence • Imagination • Love

Sunday School - 10:45 - 11:30
Youth Group - 5 pm to 7 pm
Confirmation - 5 pm to 7 pm

Feel free to cut this calendar out and keep for future reference.



Youth Group Kickoff



Youth Group Halloween Party



Sunday, December 10
5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Join us for our Youth Ministry Christmas Party! We will have food, games, and fellowship! Bring a wrapped gift worth no more than \$5 for our White Elephant gift exchange. And be sure to wear the ugliest Christmas sweater you have for your chance to be crowned the Ugly Christmas Sweater champion!



SUNDAY SCHOOL

Children's Sunday School:

Sunday, December 3
Christmas Pageant Rehearsal

Sunday, December 10
Manna & More
Intergenerational Christmas Program

Sunday, December 17
Christmas Pageant Rehearsal

Sunday, December 24
Christmas Eve Family Service

Sunday, December 31
No Sunday School

Sunday, January 7
Boy Jesus in the Temple

Sunday, January 14
Jesus' Baptism

Sunday, January 21
Carnival Sunday at FPC
No Sunday School

Sunday, January 28
Calling the Disciples



Sunday School is offered on Sunday mornings immediately after the worship service on the 3rd floor of the CE building.

Christmas Pageant

This year, Christmas Eve is on a Sunday! Therefore, we are planning to hold the Christmas Eve family service at 9:30 AM. All youth and children from babies through high school are welcome to participate in this service! Our pageant this year will be a dramatized telling of the Christmas story. Expect cute kids in costumes, Scripture readings, and Christmas hymns! We will have rehearsals on December 3rd and December 17th during the Sunday School hour after worship.



Children's Ministry



These past few months have been full of learning, fun, and fellowship! In Sunday School, our youth and children have read from Genesis, Exodus, Judges, Ruth, and Esther. They have enjoyed snack time, playing with playdough and Baby Moses, acting out different stories, making gifts for Homecoming, and using Legos to recreate what they've just read. Our 3rd-5th graders received their Bibles, as did our youth in 6th grade and older.

In the new year, our children will explore stories of Jesus' life. There will, of course, be food, games, and crafts as well! We will also discover ways we can, no matter our age or ability, make an impact in our local community.

CHILDREN & FAMILIES



KIDS
CORNER



**FPC has
packaged
135,728 meals
to date with
Kids Against
Hunger.**

What are Restricted and Custodial Funds... and how may we use them?



First Presbyterian Church Davenport owes a debt of gratitude to those who preceded us. They taught us their faith and passed on their traditions; they provided our worship and fellowship spaces. But did you know that they also blessed us financially by establishing funds for various purposes? Examples include mission areas for youth, aged members, our neighbors; Christian Education; music programs; and building maintenance. Our faith “ancestors” provided financial resources to be used to support many of our current projects and programs.

At FPC, we call these funds “Restricted” and “Custodial” funds. They are the church’s equivalent to one’s personal savings for renovating one’s kitchen or for a child’s education. Restricted funds tend to be longer-term and more permanent in nature. They were

usually created from members’ legacy gifts. Often, only the interest earned on a Restricted fund may be spent. On the other hand, Custodial funds have a shorter-term with a designated focus to support a project or activity often within a year or two of the donations. They are sometimes created for an upcoming activity, like a mission trip. Typically, they may be spent in their entirety.

These financial gifts were meant to be utilized in accordance with each fund’s designated purpose. Recently, the Finance Committee has researched church records to better understand two Restricted funds in particular: the Memorial Fund and the Sesquicentennial Fund. We want to know who created them, what their stated purpose is, any restrictions on their use and - if those restrictions can be altered - who may make changes and how. Use of these funds must comply with the original purpose, but guidelines for their use may only be changed with approval of Session. In the case of the Memorial Fund, the congregation must also approve any changes.

The Finance Committee is asking the Session to approve changes to the Memorial Fund and the Sesquicentennial Fund that will allow those funds to be used more easily to support the revitalization of our congregation.

Our faith “ancestors” blessed us in many ways and their blessings were meant for our use. The Finance Committee believes that this includes their financial gifts, and we are working to appropriately find ways to use these blessings.

Vanco Online Update Coming Soon!

Vanco Online, FPC’s online giving platform, will be introducing a fresh new look in the coming weeks. The new look will allow for easier giving and a friendlier mobile experience for those who give on the go. Look for more information to come soon! Please contact Kristine Olson in the Finance Office at: olson@fpcdavenport.org or (563) 326-1691 x219 if you have any questions.



VANCO
FAITH

2024 Per Capita - \$42.17 per member

What is Per Capita?



“Per Capita provides the means to strengthen the connections of our work and build lasting relationships to help all Presbyterians share God’s love through mission and ministry.” PC(USA)

2024 Per Capita is \$42.17 per member. A member is one who has been confirmed or has been welcomed into the congregation by confession of faith, letter of transfer from another congregation, or reaffirmation of faith. If you wish to pre-pay your 2024 Per Capita prior to 12/31/2023, please indicate as such with your payment. You can submit your annual Per Capita by mail or you can pay online.

Per Capita is a fundamental way in which all of the nearly 10,000 congregations and mid councils of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) connect, participate and share in the work of the wider church. Per capita is the primary source of funding for the Office of the General Assembly and is how Presbyterians mutually and equitably share the costs of coming together to discern the Spirit’s leading for the future.

- It is how Presbyterians are trained to become better ruling elders, teaching elders and deacons, and ministers.
- It is how Presbyterians are helped to discern God’s call in their lives.
- It is how Presbyterians participate in the wider church by serving on General Assembly committees and commissions, regardless of distance or financial resources.
- It is how Presbyterians participate in the life of the Church universal as we commit our selves to work and live in fellowship with “all persons in every nation” (Book of Order, G-4.0101)

All Presbyterians are called to take part in the ecclesiastical and administrative work shared by the whole church through per capita giving. The annual rate is a per-member apportionment that is assessed biennially by the General Assembly. (Book of Order, G-3.0106) All congregations — large and small — are encouraged to participate, either through an annual budget item or through a special direct appeal to their congregations.

Giving Tuesday – November 28, 2023

#GivingTuesday was created in 2012 as a simple idea: a day that encourages people to do good. Over the past 11 years, this idea has grown into a year-round global movement that inspires hundreds of millions of people to give, collaborate, and celebrate generosity around the holidays.



People can show their generosity in a variety of ways during #GivingTuesday—whether it’s helping a neighbor, advocating for an issue, sharing a skill, or giving an extra donation to FPC, everyone has something to give, and every act of generosity counts. Generosity gives everyone the power to make a positive change in the lives of others and is a fundamental human value anyone can act on.

Please consider joining FPC in the 2023 #GivingTuesday global movement by making an extra donation to FPC on November 28th!

GIVING TUESDAY

The Foundation of First Presbyterian Church



We worship in a beautiful, historic building with a wonderful, faithful congregation. To accomplish the mission of First Presbyterian Church of Davenport (FPC) year in and year out, many resources are required - not only time, but money.

The **Foundation of First Presbyterian Church of Davenport** is a separate entity from FPC, but it exists to lend financial support for the mission and needs of FPC. This financial support is supplemental, or in addition to the Stewardship resources that create the church's General Fund.

Just as most financial assets grow with the years, so gifts to the Foundation may provide benefits to continuing generations. The **Foundation of FPC** is dedicated to increasing support of First Pres. and expanding the work of its mission and programs.

HOW IS THE FOUNDATION OF FPC STRUCTURED?

The **Foundation of FPC** has two main funds that are managed by the Board of Trustees. Gifts to the **Endowment Fund** are added to the principal of the Endowment Fund. Returns on the investment of the Endowment Fund can be used by FPC. Gifts to the **Unrestricted Fund** are used to assist FPC with unanticipated expenses beyond what is covered by the Stewardship Funds.

There are five church members who serve as Board of Trustees and who interact with New Covenant Trust Company, our investment management company to oversee the performance and growth of **Foundation of FPC** funds. These Trustees answer to the Members of the **Foundation of FPC**. Foundation Members are those individuals who are the currently sitting Elders of FPC, and they operate independently from their Session role.

The **Foundation of FPC** is a 501c3 corporation and operates according to the Iowa Uniform Management of Institutional Funds Act, and is not controlled by the Presbytery, Synod or Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

Foundation of FPC gifts that were received years ago from congregation members of past were cultivated and grown and have been used to help with unanticipated FPC expenditures. Some examples of this include:

- Assisted with 2022 staff search and relocation expenses;
- Paid a portion (\$25,000) of the project to repair and protect the historic Lamb Stained Glass Windows in 2022;
- Provided \$40,000 to cover much of FPC's Multimedia Campaign in 2009;
- Supported the Deacon's efforts to relocate a family from Africa to the Quad Cities;
- Enabled the buildout of the Heritage Room & related supplies in the amount of \$50,000;
- Assisted with funding for the 2016 Envisioning 2020 effort, staff search efforts and relocation costs;
- Covered the \$20,321 cost for parking lot improvements in 2017;
- Provided \$100,000 to support the Church's Bridge Builder's Campaign in the mid 1990's for sanctuary renovations and repairs;
- Covered \$165,000 of the \$275,000 to repair the Church roof;

THE NEED FOR FOUNDATION GIVING TO SUPPORT FUTURE GENERATIONS

FPC is not alone in our financial challenges. From Church-Development.com:

“As buildings age and staff salary and benefit expenses creep steadily upward each year, congregations struggle to keep up, frequently finding themselves facing maintenance issues of crisis proportions or making the difficult decision to cut staffing and/or program levels in order to balance this budget. And as government funding for social programs decreases, more churches are stepping in to provide new services to their communities.”

The need to increase participation in **Foundation of FPC** giving is more crucial than ever. To truly keep up with the resources required to support the church building into the future, we need to grow **Foundation of FPC** funds today.

YOUR INVOLVEMENT

Sharing with the **Foundation of First Presbyterian Church** that you are donating to the Foundation during your lifetime or within your estate plan will automatically enroll you as a member of the Kirkwood Tower Circle. Long term FPC member Lucy Norton was a charter member of the Kirkwood Tower Circle. Lucy was a strong believer in the need for the **Foundation of FPC** to assist FPC. She and her family donated her husband Paul Norton's original watercolor of the church tower to be used to promote the Foundation. Each new member of the Kirkwood Tower Circle receives a framed print of that watercolor as a thank you gift.

One easy way to support the **Foundation of FPC** is to include the Foundation of First Presbyterian Church of Davenport, Iowa as a beneficiary in your will or trust, retirement plan, life insurance policy, or other planned giving vehicle. For additional information about the Foundation of First Presbyterian Church, contact the church Business Office at 563-326-1691, ext. 219, or olson@fpcdavenport.org.

*“The church needs to be here for the youth of tomorrow.
The church...is where your spiritual heart is.”
– Lucy Norton –*



The Foundation of First Presbyterian Church-Davenport

Just as most financial assets grow with the years, so gifts to the church may provide benefits to continuing generations. The Foundation of First Presbyterian Church, Davenport, Iowa, is dedicated to increasing support of the church and expanding the work of its mission programs. Established in 1999 as an improved means of giving, the Foundation of First Presbyterian Church continues and broadens the work of the Development Fund set up in 1960. In addition to carrying on the work of the original Development Fund that preceded it, the Foundation also provides a variety of ways to give.

Ways to Affect Church Giving

It is your gracious financial commitment to FPC that allows FPC to continue its ministries and missions to help support church members, community, and staff. With new technology and changes in tax law, the very meaningful act of placing your gift in the offering plate each Sunday is no longer the only way to financially support FPC. For anyone looking for alternative ways to give, here are a few options to affect giving to the church:

Ways To Give

- Automatic Bank Payments (ACH) and Credit Card Payments – Go to www.fpcdavenport.org and click the “Donate Online” link located on the top of the website.
- Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCD) – If you are 70 1/2 years or older, you may be able to direct your QCD directly to FPC. Please discuss with your financial/tax advisor to determine if this option is available and right for you. Please notify the Finance Office for up-to-date instructions on how to process QCD donations and to ensure you receive full contribution credit.
- Required Minimum Distributions (RMD) – If you are 73 years or older, you may be able to direct your RMD directly to FPC. Please discuss with your financial/tax advisor to determine if this option is available and right for you. Please notify the Finance Office for up-to-date instructions on how to process RMD donations and to ensure you receive full contribution credit.
- Gifting Stock – Please discuss with your financial/tax advisor to determine if this option is available and right for you. When stock is gifted to the church, please notify the Finance Office to receive up-to-date instructions on how to process the donation to FPC and to ensure you receive full contribution credit.

As always, thank you for your continued support of First Presbyterian Church. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the Finance Office at olson@fpcdavenport.org or 563.326.1691 Ext. 219.



Christmas Poinsettias 2023

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 look for the form on Sunday mornings and place the completed form in the offering plate. You can also participate by going to FPC's website and clicking the “Donate Online” link or by contacting Kristine Olson in the church office. **The deadline for making a donation is Sunday, December 10.**

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* *Part-time employee*

ELDERS AND DEACONS

Elders

Class of 2023
Jim DeReus
Patrick Downing
David Bowles Edwards
Michael Ferris
RuthAnn Tobey-Brown
Jim Woods

Class of 2024
Peter Bawden
Paula Burnett
Kirk Christie
Nancy Foster
Bev Koos
Diane Roebuck
Karla Ruiter
Jay Williams

Class of 2025
Dan Breinich
Nancy Chapman
Bonnie Johnson
Nathan Kabel
Kristine Oswald
Mark Ruebling
Vicki Stegall

Clerk of Session
Mark Jones

Deacons

Class of 2023
Ted Brown
Al Frohlich
John Gere
Matthew Hennes
Bob Lehnher
Erin Sodawasser-Hermiston
Katrina Williams
Sherry Williams

Class of 2024
Paula Hartmann
Andy McNeil
Anna Putman
Glen Roebuck (Moderator)
Tom Vaccaro

Class of 2025
Mitch Doremus
Colleen Dueñas
Julia Meyer
Kristy Owens
Terri Sheetz





First Presbyterian Church
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Davenport IA 52803-4315

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