

The Carillon

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH –WATERLOO, IOWA

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Amy Wiles,
Pastor/Head of Staff

Rev. Pat Gadelmann,
Associate Pastor of
Care and Visitation

Stephanie Swenson,
Director of Children,
Youth and Families

Kelley Galyen,
Office Manager

Dakota Andersen,
Sanctuary Choir
Director

Melody Steed,
Handbell Choir
Director

Brenda Sevcik,
Organist/Accompanist

The Growing Edge

One of my favorite images of God is found in the first chapter of Genesis at the beginning of the creation story. *“The earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters.”* (Genesis 1:2) God hovered over the watery chaos searching for new beauty and forms of life.

As we begin a new year, I am reminded that God is still searching for new forms of life. The Holy Spirit is still creating beauty in the world, ordering peace from chaos. This reminder is especially important as we look back on the last year. I’m thankful for beautiful memories in my personal life and in the life of the church during 2019. I’ve loved welcoming my son into our family and watching my daughter grow. I’ve loved the opportunity to go to school. I’ve loved being a part of new member classes and baptizing 4 babies in worship. And there is so much more, too much to name in one newsletter article. I’m sure we can all give thanks for moments of beauty and life in 2019.

But, I also find myself hoping to be a part of God’s creative wind blowing in the new year. What new, beautiful, life-giving project is God growing among and within us? Whatever it is, I want to be a part of it.

Howard Thurman writes, “Look well to the growing edge. All around us worlds are dying and new worlds are being born. The fruit ripens on the tree, the roots are silently at work in the darkness of the earth against a time when there shall be new leaves, fresh blossoms, green fruit. Such is the growing edge! It is the extra breath from the exhausted lung, the one more thing to try when all else has failed, the upward reach of life when weariness closes in upon the endeavor. This is the basis of hope in moments of despair, the incentive to carry on when times are out of joint and people have lost their reason, the source of confidence when worlds crash and dreams whiten into ash... Look well to the growing edge!”

What is your growing edge in 2020? Look well to it, because I trust that God can be found there.

Peace,

Pastor Amy

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Education and Fellowship

Tuesday Morning Bible Study

Our church's Tuesday morning Bible Study continues to meet each week at **8:30 a.m. at Cabin Coffee in Waterloo**. Come and join Pastor Amy as we discuss the upcoming sermon text.



New Beginnings Book Group

The New Beginnings Book Group will meet **Thursday, January 9, at Cabin Coffee in Waterloo at 9:30 am**. The group will read "*The Tattooist of Auschwitz*" by Heather Morris.

If anyone wants to join this wonderful group and needs a copy of the book, please contact Mary Kabel.



*Nurture Faith
Support Mission,
Work for Justice and Peace*

As we begin 2020 the PW will be meeting the third Wednesday of the month through May. Jan Schwab will continue to lead the Bible Study "Love Carved in Stone." The Bible Study begins at 10:00 in Calvin Hall. Anyone is welcome to join for the Bible Study.

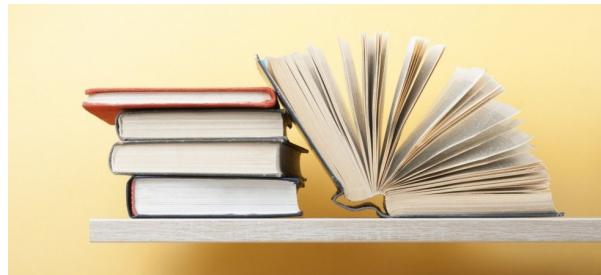
Thank you to all who made cookies for the Christmas Tea and to those who delivered them to the home bound.

Upcoming Dates

January 15, 2020—Rebekah Circle at 10:00 p.m.

Adult Forum

You want to follow in Jesus' footsteps—but what exactly should that look like in everyday life? Join us beginning January 12, as we begin a new study by Adam Hamilton. He highlights five essential practices modeled in Christ's own walk with God and reinforced throughout the New Testament. Discover the transformational power of worship, study, serving, giving, and bearing witness to your faith. It will be a great way to start the new year!



January Piecemakers

The Piecemaker Quilters will meet on **Saturday, January 18, 2020** from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. We will learn to make chenille potholders. A sample potholder and fabric will be on display in Calvin Hall in January.

For lunch, we will have a Potato Bar. Contact Jackie at jjdbass@gmail.com to sign up to bring a topping. Baked potatoes will be provided. You may also bring a salad or dessert to share if the topping ingredients have all been provided. Don't forget your "show and tell" for after lunch and a fat quarter or other quilting items to share for the year-end drawing.

We've extended the deadline to submit recipes for our quilter's cookbook to include 2020 recipes. We've received a lot of dessert recipes, but not many main dishes or sides. If you have a favorite recipe that you would like to include in our small cookbook, please bring it to the meetings or e-mail it to Jackie.

New Changes to the Carillon

Starting with the March Newsletter, we will be delivering the Carillon primarily through email. Going the electronic route will help our church be more efficient, cut postage costs, reduce paper use, and care more for our environment. **We are encouraging all recipients of the church newsletter to give us your email address so that we can deliver the Carillon to your inbox. We understand that some people might still want a hard copy delivered to them in the mail. Don't worry! You still have that option.** We ask that you return the enclosed card to the church office indicating your delivery preference and updated email or permanent address. There will also be a sign up sheet in the church office and Calvin Hall. If we do not hear from you by **February 12**, then we will automatically send the Carillon to your email address. If we do not have your email and do not hear from you, we will no longer include you on our mailing list. Hard copies of the Carillon will still be available every month in the church office and on our church website.

Children, Youth, & Families

The Well

The Well has resumed meeting every Sunday 3:30-5:00 p.m. All Junior High/Senior High Youth are welcome to join us! We are starting to work our way through different books of the bible and walking with Jesus as he is always walking with us. Don't miss out on this great time of fellowship together!

Thanks for attending the Children's Christmas Program!



Shine

SHINE resumes Wednesday nights at 5:30-7:00 p.m. at Cedar Falls First Presbyterian Church on January 8. Come all elementary students and younger for a time of Supper, Music, and Bible Study!



Little Tyke's Nursery Update

Thank you to all who have given to our update of the Little Tyke's room! The young children haven enjoyed playing with the new toys and the youth enjoyed cleaning and rearranging the space!

Worship and Music

January Communion

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be celebrated during the worship service on **Sunday, January 12.**



Upcoming Sermon Text

As we start the new year, Pastor Amy will be following the Narrative Lectionary as it walks through the stories in the Gospel of Mark. Sermons will be drawn from the following passages:

January 12: Mark 1: 1-20

January 19: Mark 1: 21-45

January 26: Mark 4: 1-34

Sanctuary and Bell Choir

Celebration Ringers will resume rehearsals on **January 8.**

Sanctuary Choir Rehearsals will resume **January 15.**

Church Officer Installation Sunday, January 26

All incoming Elders, Deacons, and Foundation officers starting in 2020 will be installed and ordained in worship on the 26th. We will also be saying thank you to outgoing officers during coffee hour. Please be sure to say thanks and give your encouragement to our leaders!

Session Highlights for November

The Session of First Presbyterian Church met Monday, November 25, 2019 Rev. Amy Wiles called the meeting to order and a quorum was declared. She opened the meeting with a prayer. Minutes of the October Session meeting were approved. The Treasurer's report for October was approved and filed for audit. We received the Pauline Barrett grant of \$60,000. She continues to bless our congregation.

The third Holy Conversation was successful.

Dan Klann reported that the Presbytery Mission Committee has approved our mission grant for the House of Hope.

Stewardship Report

	Current Period (December)	YTD 2019	Annual Budget	YTD 2018
Total Income	\$ 30,048.75	\$ 356,053.53	\$365,466.00	\$466,859.06
Total Expenses	<u>\$ 31,485.95</u>	<u>\$ 359,355.15</u>	<u>\$365,466.00</u>	<u>\$422,594.13</u>
Excess Income/Expenses	-1,437.20	-3,301.62	0.00	44,264.93

Mission

Personal Care and Household Cleaning Supplies Drive

About twice a year, First Church holds a drive to collect personal care and household cleaning supplies for a local agency. In January, you are invited to donate supplies for the **Catholic Worker House**. The House provides emergency shelter for 15 homeless men at a time. The men can stay up to 10 days, and the House coordinates services with the Salvation Army. Three community meals are also provided each week at the House, open to men and women. A food pantry is maintained to help meet emergency needs of community members. The “House” is actually 3 houses on E. Eighth Street (just 1/2 mile south of the church). The House is a lay movement, and not under the direction of the Catholic Church.

We will be collecting both personal care items for the house guests and cleaning supplies for the House. **All donations must be new and unopened.** There will be a table in Calvin Hall for your donations. The **final day for donations is Sunday, January 26.**

Personal Care items needed: Hand soap (bar or bottled), shampoo, tooth brushes (individually packaged), toothpaste, deodorant, shaving cream, razors, skin care products, facial tissue, cough drops, toilet tissue.

Cleaning supplies needed: Garbage bags, paper towels, disinfectant, multi-purpose cleaners, laundry detergent, mops, brooms.

Items not needed at this time: Q-Tips, band aids, dish soap, cold care supplies (except cough drops), over-the-counter drugs, baby care items, feminine care items, fabric softener.

Christmas in Walnut

The tenth annual Christmas in Walnut Shop was successful at helping over 350 families purchase new gifts for their children. Each family could purchase up to 5 gifts, and these purchases cost under \$20 total! Each family also received a free Bible story book for the family to share. The families were particularly from the Cunningham and Irving school neighborhoods. Over 200 volunteers participated, and First Church provided 8 of those volunteers. The church also donated a very full carload of gifts, \$220 cash for gifts from the congregation, and \$1000 from the Mission & Outreach budget. Thank you to all who participated.



Cunningham School Winter Concert

Our Partner in Education school, Cunningham School for excellence, had a wonderful winter concert on Thursday, December 5. The gym was full of proud family and friends, including nine members from First Church! We heard all grades from preschool to fifth grade sing several seasonal songs, led by our own Melody Steed.

Holiday Offerings

Thank you for your contributions to our two holiday season offerings. The PCUSA Christmas Joy offering raised \$765. Our Christmas Eve loose offering raised \$504. The Christmas Eve offering will be given to Lutheran Services in Iowa.

Life of the Church

Thank you!

Thank you to First Presbyterian Church and all members and friends for making the journey to Christmas such a joy. Deacon Beth Klann arrived with a beautiful poinsettia. The carolers arrived with special Christmas music and Ruthe was the special “jingle bell” ringer. Also thanks for the cards of well wishing—All was greatly appreciated.

Blessings,
Mary K. Williams

Thank you from the Swenson Family

Thank you for welcoming Sawyer with open arms into the family of faith! He already loves his quilt and hearing stories from his bible. We are extremely blessed to be able to join in this church family and look forward to raising Sawyer with you all in faith.

Many thanks,
Brady and Stephanie



Thank you Quilters!

Thank you so much for the lovely quilt. It is so bright and cheerful.

Susan Wexter

First Church Family Birthdays for January

- Jan 2 Rita Campbell
- Jan 4 Jackie Bass
- Jan 5 Donna Beaver, Rick Mananga, Dianna Powell
- Jan 6 Breanna Platt
- Jan 7 Marie Fernau
- Jan 11 Billie Hesse, Terry Sage
- Jan 12 Mary Kabel, Pam Terrell
- Jan 13 Taemin Han
- Jan 14 Erwin Jaeger, Beth Klann
- Jan 15 Tom Christensen
- Jan 16 Zachary Pruis
- Jan 18 Sue Bickley
- Jan 21 Brad DeSerano, Stephanie Swenson
- Jan 22 Steve Miller, Nancy Newhoff
- Jan 27 Jennifer Bass, Libby Whyte
- Jan 31 Russell Frerichs, Stacy Robinson, Mike Shea



New US Citizens

Our highest congratulations to Rick and Blandine Mananga, who have both recently become US citizens! Rick took his naturalization oath in September. Blandine took her naturalization oath in December, with some of her First Church family in attendance.

In Loving Memory

Pauline Hillman
Joined Church Triumphant on December 16, 2019



January

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7 8:30 a.m. Bible Study Resumes 10:30 a.m. Worship and Music 4:00 p.m. Mission & Outreach 5:30 p.m. Christian Nurture & Fellowship 5:30 p.m. Building & Grounds	8 5:30 p.m. SHINE Resumes 6:00 p.m. Celebration Ringers Resumes	9 9:30 a.m. New Beginnings	10	11
12 Communion	13	14 9:00 a.m. Foster Care 4:00 p.m. Personnel 5:00 p.m. Stewardship and Finance 6:00 p.m. Deacons Training	15 10:00 a.m. Rebekah Circle 7:30 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Resumes	16	17	18 9:00 a.m. Piecemaker Quilters
19	20	21 5:00 p.m. Love INC	22	23	24	25
26 Church Officer Installation	27	28 9:00 a.m. Foster Care 5:00 p.m. Love INC 6:00 p.m. Session	29	30	31	

Each Sunday:

8:45 a.m. Coffee and Conversation
 10:00 a.m. Worship Service
 3:30 p.m. The Well (Junior/Senior High Fellowship)
 5:00 p.m. Sunday Supper

Each Tuesday:

8:30 a.m. Tuesday Morning Bible Study
 1:00 p.m. Staff Meeting

Each Wednesday:

5:30 p.m. SHINE (Elementary and Parents) at 1st Pres. Cedar Falls
 6:00 p.m. Celebration Ringers Rehearsal
 7:30 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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We are on the web!
www.1stpresby.org

Church Office Hours

9:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.
Monday through Thursday
(closed 12:00-1:00 for lunch hour)

Closed on Fridays

**Praise
Grow
Serve**

Contact Us

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You may also e-mail the staff at
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brenda@1stpresby.org

First Church Leadership Team

Elders: Donna Beaver, Jim Christensen, Tom Christensen, Mary Kabel, Dan Klann, Nancy Newhoff, Terry Sage, Jean Seeland and Nancy Valentine

Deacons: Jan Bellinger, Lynda Cose, Beth Klann, Gary Lee, Kathy McClain, Marsha Muir, Mary Mumm, Marsha Platt, Richard Platt, and Marge Polacek

PWC Moderator: Marie Fernau

Treasurer: Craig Sage

Clerk of Session: Jean Seeland

Foundation President: David Kabel