

THE GOOD NEWS OF

# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Marshalltown, Iowa  
641-753-5929

Volume 79, No. 9  
September 30, 2014

## The Purpose Statement for the First Presbyterian Church of Marshalltown

- G** Growing in Christ through *worship*.
- R** Reaching out in *fellowship*.
- A** Affirming faith through *discipleship*.
- C** Caring for the lost through *evangelism*.
- E** Embracing others in mission and *ministry*.

## October Memory Verse

**“But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.”**

Isaiah 40:31

## News from the Paul's

Life as a missionary has it's times of extreme busyness, but then there are those moments that we get to get everything caught up to only run again. Well, we have come to that moment of getting all caught up (newsletter out, accounting done, personal letters, thank you videos and much more). All this, just to do it all over again, but this time it will be much sooner. God has certainly bought the increase for here in Honduras.

In November, we will be having our very good friends come and celebrate Thanksgiving, but at the same time, we will be ministering to the families in La Laguna. Our goal is that the marriages will be built with greater spiritual strength, and the children are touched in a special way.

Then before you look around, we are looking to host two more ministry teams in February 2015. Our planned projects will be a larger pastor's conference and start the building of the new

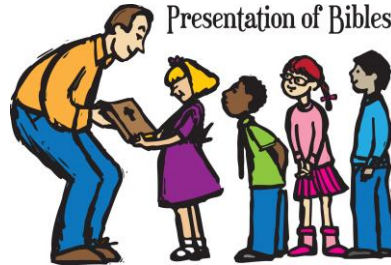
sanctuary in La Laguna. Yes, that's right, building ANOTHER one. We out-grew the first one right away; never did we expect this to happen, but the Lord gave the increase. What is even a greater blessing, we are going to be giving the old building to the children. This team will only be putting the foundation in and then we will be waiting for another team to finalize the rest of the project.

There are tentatively other groups coming in 2015. We are confident that we will be making a bigger impact into the mountainous communities surrounding Copan Ruinas. It is certainly not too late for other groups to jump aboard. Don't hesitate to give us a shout-out. We would love to see what the Lord has at hand by working with new church and ministry teams.

---Shawn Paul  
Missionary to Honduras

## Bibles

Third graders **Shelby Bovenmyer** and **Moyra Severa** proudly received their Bibles during worship on September 21. Due to an oversight, our fifth and sixth graders were not presented with Bibles when they were in third grade, so **Owen Bovenmyer, Abby Hala, Haley Reed, Kevin Strand** and **Drew King** were given their Bibles this day as well. The eighth graders were presented with study Bibles in their confirmation class earlier this month.





## PWC News

**Elizabeth Circle** will meet Thursday, October 9, at 1:30 p.m. in the Lower Lounge. Shirley Egli will give the devotions, and Bonnie Bradbury will lead lesson 9 on I Peter 5. Hostesses are Carolann Ballenger and Verdel Vajgrt.

**Sarah Circle** will meet on Tuesday, October 21, at 9:15 a.m. in the Lower Lounge.

**PWC General Meeting** will meet Thursday, October 2, at 1 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Kay Logeland will present the devotions. The serving committee will be Mavis Gray, Beth Harrison and Lola Rinnan. Randy Edgar of the Van Orman House will present the program. Aiddy Phomvisay, MHS Principal, will be the speaker at the November PWC dessert luncheon. He will talk about education. Everyone is invited to attend.

**PWC-CT** will meet Tuesday, October 28, at 1 p.m. in the Lower Lounge.

**The PWC has a lot of money they need to spend on a worthy project. If you have an idea or a passion for a specific program where the money could be spent, please contact Marylou Beckmann, PWC Moderator, at 752-5706. She will take all the ideas to the PWC-CT meeting to be voted on. The PWC members will then vote on this at their November 6, dessert luncheon meeting.**

## Financial Report for August

AUGUST '14	Actual
Regular Offerings	27,408.33
Other Receipts	678.35
Total Receipts	28,086.68
<b>Year to Date:</b>	
Regular Offerings	232,319.92
Other Receipts	<u>6,272.32</u>
Total Receipts	238,592.24
Total Expenditures	<u>(262,856.90)</u>
Net Receipts—Expenditures	(24,264.66)
Beginning Cash Balance	<u>59,797.05</u>
Ending Cash Balance	<u>35,532.39</u>

**Church Women United** will meet Friday, October 3, at 9:15 a.m. at First United Methodist Church.

The program will feature Cindy Mack's Holy Land trip.

## Sunday School News

Sunday school got underway on September 7, with an all-church Gathering. The church mission statement\* was taught using sign language and posters. The children helped, and they were excited by all the people in Gathering. It was a special day! Next the kids toured the Sunday school classrooms and went to the Gathering Place for some special games. The 2014-15 year is off to a terrific start!

Preschoolers have settled into their classroom and were excited by a trip to the New Life Cinema for a short movie and popcorn.

Rotation Model Sunday schoolers (grades K-5) studied Moses and the Exodus in September. In October they will be learning about Isaiah and how God's way is not always the easy way, but God gives us strength and courage to follow Him. Ask them about what they are learning. You might be surprised by how much they know!



*\*We believe that First Presbyterian Church is a church family gathered in the love and truth of Jesus Christ. As a family we share the love of Jesus by showing respect, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, honesty, joyfulness, and self-control.*

## Mission Banks



Don't forget to bring your mission banks to church on the last Sunday of the month (October 26) to support our 2015 Youth Mission Trip. Someone described

the coins being dumped into the bucket as making a "spectacular" noise. They are right! The noise is spectacular, and even more spectacular is the way a few coins a month, combined with other people's few coins, can grow and be used to do so much to advance God's kingdom! If you don't have a mission bank, please take one of the extras in the Narthex.

See our mission bucket? It makes a spectacular noise and does a lot of good, but it could use a make-over. **If you would like to decorate this plain paint can into a sharp mission bucket, please talk to Michelle Wilkinson.**



## Awesome Presbys



Awesome Presbys, the 5th-8th grade group, is a small but mighty bunch! The kids have gotten to know each other, played some silly games, written their own group covenant, played some more silly games, watched "Toy Story" and had a good discussion about knowing who we are and who we belong to. Woody knew he

was a toy and he delighted in his role. Buzz thought he was something he wasn't, and he suffered until Woody was able to help him understand his role. Both belong to Andy, just as we belong to God. Woody and Buzz's friendship is a main theme of the "Toy Story" movies, but



Woody's central relationship is always with Andy. We, likewise, are made to be in relationships with others, but our main relationship must be with God.

Thank you to Pat Kremer, Craig Henze and Lee Wilkinson for helping with this group.

## Wednesday Club



Wednesday Club starts on October 1. It's hard to believe that it's October already, but how exciting that this ministry is getting

underway again! This year we will be running Wednesday Club in two separate blocks--eight weeks in the fall and twelve weeks in the spring. A limited time commitment will help more people be able to volunteer. (Of course, volunteers are welcome whenever they are able, whether one week or twelve!) Also, having Wednesday Club for only eight weeks will make it more special to the kids. We all stand up a little straighter, listen a little more closely, and treat others a little more kindly when there is a special occasion. In short, we hope to make our ministry more effective and leave them wanting more.

Another reason for the change is that we will hold a special event for children during their Christmas school break, and time will be needed in December to plan it.

Thank you to the volunteers who have already signed up to help with Wednesday Club. We still need more adult helpers as we need a minimum of three each week. If

you have a special talent or a collection you'd like to share, please let Michelle know. The kids love special guests! **Also, we have a few children from our church who would like to come to Wednesday Club but do not attend Franklin and therefore, can't ride the bus. If you are able to**



**give someone a ride from school to the Gathering Place, please contact the church office.**

If you are unable to help on Wednesdays, please consider providing snacks and praying for this ministry, the children who attend, their families, and the volunteers who make it all possible.

## Fall Family Day



Be sure to mark your calendars and join us for a morning of fun with our friends from First Presbyterian Church and a **Pumpkin Painting morning**

**Saturday, October 18, at 11 a.m. at Strand's Paint Store, 11 E. Meadow Lane.** There will be free pumpkins to paint and cookies. Kids should wear our costumes, if you like. Please welcome your friends from the community to join us for a morning of fun.

## Library News



We have a new book in the library entitled, "How to Really Love Your Grandchildren" by Dr. Ross Campbell. Dr. Campbell is a Christian psychiatrist who specializes in parent/child relationships. If you want some ideas on how to really connect with your grandchildren and leave them a lasting legacy, be sure to read this book. It is located on the book shelf in the Narthex.

## Operation Christmas Child



We will once again be participating in the Operation Christmas Child project, a worldwide outreach of Samaritan's Purse that touches the lives of millions of hurting children each year through the power of a simple gift. Shoeboxes filled with presents by caring people can bring love, joy and hope to little ones living in some of the most desperate circumstances imaginable.

Starting October 12, please fill a shoebox and return it to the Fellowship Hall by Monday, November 17. A brochure with all instructions will be available. Decide if you will fill the box for a boy or a girl and what age level you prefer. Be sure to enclose a \$7 check made payable to Samaritan's Purse with each shoebox to cover shipping expenses.

Suggested gift items include toys, school supplies, hygiene items and other items such as hard candy, gum, sunglasses, flashlights (with extra batteries), socks, caps, hair clips, watches or small picture books. **DO NOT** include any used items, war-related items (toy guns or knives), chocolate or perishable food items, liquids, medicines or breakable items such as mirrors, china dolls or snow-globes.

**All boxes will be delivered to the E-Free Church on Wednesday, November 19.**

**---The Missions Committee**

## Community Tailgate Announcement

First Presbyterian Church and Center Street Baptist are partnering in sponsoring a community

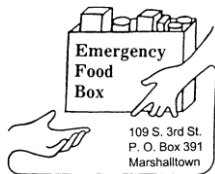
tailgate to be held on Friday, October 17, before the Senior Night football game. It is our desire to encourage the community to support and honor the hard work of our students as they participate in fall sports, cheerleading and music activities.

The event will be held in the parking lot of Center Street Baptist Church, with walking distance to the football game. We will serve food, as long as it lasts, from 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. Entertainment will be provided by the *641 Band*. This event is open to the entire community, and there is no charge for the food, but a freewill offering will be taken to cover expenses.

The menu will include grilled pork loin sandwiches, baked beans, salads and desserts along with hot beverages. Please come and join

us before the football game and Senior Night activities.

We would like to invite you to help with this event. We need people to help slice the loins and make beans on Friday morning; people to set up at 3:00 p.m. and people to grill from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. Check the signup sheet in the Narthex to see where you might help. Plan to attend the fun. Thank you.



Currently, the **Emergency Food Box** is in need of the following food items: **meaty soups, boxes of pasta, pork and beans, corn, green beans, mixed vegetables, tomato**

**sauce, cereal, mac and cheese.** (Please check the expiration dates to make sure the food items are not outdated.)

Food items or monetary (check/cash) donations may be brought to the EFB any weekday afternoon, 1:30-4:30. Please make checks payable to: **Emergency Food Box.** We are located at **109 S. 3rd St.** Our mailing address is: **EFB, P.O. Box 391, Marshalltown, IA 50158.** Donated funds are used to buy food items from the Food Bank of Iowa and locally.

Thank you for your past contributions. Many families in Marshall County receive food from EFB and are very grateful for your generosity. EFB is run by an all-volunteer staff, and all food items are donated or purchased from the money contributed. We could not provide food to so many people without your help!

## Luke's Ministry Message Irritable Bowel Syndrome (IBS)

### What is Irritable Bowel Syndrome?

Irritable Bowel Syndrome (IBS) is a disorder characterized most commonly by abdominal cramping, abdominal pain, bloating, constipation and diarrhea. IBS causes a great deal of discomfort and distress, but it does not permanently harm the intestines and does not lead to a serious disease, such as cancer. Most people can control their symptoms with: diet, stress management and prescribed medications. For some people, however, IBS can be so disabling they may not be able to work, attend social events or travel only short distances.

As many as 20 percent of the adult population, or one in five Americans, has symptoms of IBS, making it one of the most common disorders diagnosed by doctors. It occurs more often in women than men, and it begins before the age of 35 in about 50 percent.

### What causes Irritable Bowel Syndrome?

Researchers have yet to discover any specific cause for IBS. One theory is that people who suffer from IBS have a colon (large bowel) that is particularly sensitive and reactive to certain foods and stress. The immune system, which fights infection, may also be involved.

Normal bowel motility and movement may not be present in a person who has IBS. The bowel can be spasmodic or can even stop working temporarily. Spasms are sudden strong muscle contractions that come and go. The lining of the colon called the epithelium, which is affected by the immune and nervous system, regulates the flow of fluids in and out of the colon. In IBS, the epithelium seems to work properly, however, when the colon moves its contents too rapidly, the colon loses its ability to absorb fluids. The result is too much fluid in the stool. In other people, the movement inside the colon is too slow which causes extra fluid to be absorbed. As a result, people develop constipation rather than diarrhea.

In addition, people with IBS frequently suffer from depression and anxiety which can worsen the symptoms.

There is no specific test for IBS so doctors do tests to rule out other problems, a complete diagnostic exam and look carefully at the symptoms presented. No cure has been found for IBS, but there are many treatment options. See your doctor for follow-up on symptoms and appropriate treatment.



Congratulations to **Ruth Hayes** on the birth of a great grandson, Nolan Jonathan Isgrig, born Sunday, September 21, 2014 to Jon and Stephanie Isgrig of Cleveland, Ohio. Nolan weighed in at 7 pounds and 10 ounces. Grandparents are Jeff & Ann (Hayes) Isgrig of Newton, Iowa.



Words cannot express my appreciation to all who supported me during the loss of my son, Curt. Thank you to all for the

gifts of food, visits, cards and the generous monetary gifts. A special thanks to Mike Hancock and sons Saxon and Arion, Ron & Linda Kauffman, Sam Wilkinson, and Jim and Rob Grimmus for helping to remove Curt's belongings. Thank you to Rev. Dave Beckmann and Rev. Dr. Tom Bower for the services for Curt. I am blessed having such a loving church family.

---Jan Faber

Thank you to Pastors Rich and Ian for their prayers and blessings before my surgery. Thank you to Pastor Ian for bringing me Communion while I was at Villa Del Sol, to Michelle Ritter and Sue Bryant for bringing flowers and to all those who visited me at the Villa. Thank you for all the prayers, cards, phone calls and visits during my recuperation. They were greatly appreciated. I am now home, but under some restrictions as to where I go, and I am doing well. I am so grateful for being a member of this loving, caring church

---Mavis Gray

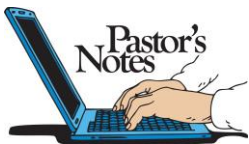


### Thanks & a Tip of the Hat to...

---our faithful workers at the House of Compassion during the month of Sept.: **Roger & Marsha Bristley, Shirley Egli, Joe Holubar, Ed Jackson, Estelle Perkins, Lavonne Watkins and Carolyn Wilkinson.**

--- **Joe Holubar** for the many years of filling the altar candles and filling attendance pads.

---**Cindy Butler** for making the seasonal changes in the outside planters, coordinating people to water those planters each day and for changing the church sign each week.



### Pastor's Notes

I Thessalonians 5:17 "Pray continually," Isaiah 55:11 "so is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it."

When a ship of the Navy is underway at sea the chaplain will close the day with an evening prayer. This prayer goes out over the loud speaker and everyone on board hears it. Tasia gave me a book of evening prayers used by a chaplain in the Navy, and it was inspiring to close the day with prayer as a community. I wondered how we could do this here at First Presbyterian. For the last month I have been doing a test on Facebook closing each day with a prayer posted at about 8:00 p.m. Sometimes

it reflects the day's events and other times it is a general topic important to all. I encourage you to join us in the evening prayers; the response has been favorable thus far.

To join us, go to Facebook and create an account or log on to your existing account. Search for the First Presbyterian Church of Marshalltown (make sure it has the rose stained glass window as the picture) and request to be our friend. We will confirm that friendship and then you should receive the morning devotions that come out Monday through Saturday and the evening prayers that come out daily. Facebook has a number of filters which screen what you see on your news feed so hitting the like button and sharing the church's posts with your friends will help keep them coming. If they do not come to your news feed you can always click on The First Presbyterian Church in your list of friends and all of our recent posts will be there for you to read.

On a weekly basis, these devotions and prayers are viewed between 700 and 800 times. With your participation and sharing with your friends we can spread God's Word even farther through this use of social media. If you have questions about how to join us please ask me for help.

*Pastor Rich*

## SEPTEMBER SESSION ACTIONS

The Stated Session meeting of First Presbyterian Church, Marshalltown, met Tuesday, September 16, 2014, at 7:20 p.m. in the Lower Lounge.

Moderator Rev. Dr. Richard A. King opened the meeting, and Karin Podhajsky presented the devotions and opening prayer.

**Motion prevailed** to approve the minutes of the August 19, 2014 Stated Meeting as printed.

Tony & Jenny Buschbom were interviewed by Session to become members. **Motion prevailed** to accept Tony and Jenny Buschbom as members of the church, and will be introduced during church at a later date.

**Financials** - Matt Broshar presented the Financial and Investments reports. August giving was the third lowest giving month in eight or nine years, and it was a five-week giving month. Giving is slightly behind the budget and behind last year's giving. Spending is in line with the budget. Money continues to come in for the

Building Fund. Some interest money was earned from the CD's.

**Missions** - A Gideon representative will give a presentation at church Sunday, September 21. A free-will offering will be taken for the Gideon's.

**Stewardship** – No report.

**W & M** - A printed report was distributed noting the committee reviewed the worship services for the past several weeks. They reviewed and amended the Worship & Music budget for 2015. A volunteer is still needed to fill candles and check the attendance pads weekly. A new usher team captain is needed for the second Sunday of each month, and volunteers are needed to help with the camera and video each Sunday. Cleaning the choir robes and the keyboard were discussed. New attendance roster covers may be ordered.

Communion —163 on August 3, and 174 on September 7. Home Communion was taken to **Heidy Boucher, Jean Brennecke, Dorothy Dunham, Betty Emmons, Bette Etter, Jean Evans, Doris Flanagan, Mavis Gray, LaVone Lee, Lavine Meyer, Richard & Carole Ploeger, Irene Sheeler and many residents at Glenwood Place.**

**Evangelism** – Pastor Rich reported that First Presbyterian Church and Center Street Baptist Church will jointly host a tailgate evening for the community at Center Street Baptist parking lot on Friday, October 17. The *641 Band* will play. Volunteers will be needed to help grill and prepare baked beans.

**Christian Education** - A written report was distributed. The fall kick-off went very well. Gathering and Sunday school are underway. The *Awesome Presbys* met with a small group, and will continue to meet on Sunday afternoons. *Wednesday Club* will start an eight-week course on October 1, and many volunteers are needed to help with this ministry. Bibles will be given to the third, fifth and sixth grade students Sunday, September 21. "Child Protection Policy" training was held for parents. The 2015 budget was discussed. The Children's Christmas program will be December 14.

**A & P Committee** – Mike Miller encouraged each committee to continue working on their 2015 budgets. Bruce Wirin distributed an outline to combine some of the church committees and to eliminate other committees. He discussed ways to have former Elders serve on Session for a one-year term. He would like to have a recommendation to vote on these changes at the October Session meeting.

**M & I Committee** – A new member's class needs to be scheduled in the near future.

**Property** - Kurt Lynch reported progress on the cross-over covering to the Gathering Place. Four new air conditioning units have been installed. Volunteers are needed to move the decorative rocks around the units. A new handrail was installed on the N. door steps. The elevator is being repaired. The committee will discuss how much more often the "Triumph" mental health support group will be able to use the Gathering Place. The group has submitted a grant to find their own meeting place.

**Other Business** – \*A letter from Bill and Linda Moore was read. \*A registration sheet was distributed for Elders to sign up for the October leadership training class. \***Motion prevailed unanimously** by paper ballot to appoint an ad hoc committee of three Elders, three members-at-large from the congregation and the Pastors, in order to better understand the issues, benefits and ongoing implications of being part of the Presbyterian Church (USA); this committee will investigate all the aspects of our relationship with the denomination and educate the entire congregation about their findings, lead the congregation through a discernment process and then recommend to Session a course of action. \*A letter from the Fellowship of Presbyterians was distributed that noted they are evangelical Presbyterians remaining in the PC(USA), but are committed to a different type of relationship with the denomination and a different way of being together in the Body of Christ.

The meeting was closed with large group prayer.

**Newsletter deadline with  
NOVEMBER information is  
MONDAY,  
OCTOBER 20, 2014.**

**Reminder:**

**Oct. 5—World Communion Sunday**  
**Oct. 13—Columbus Day Observance**  
**Oct. 21—SESSION**  
**Oct. 23—Dr. Tewell Leadership Training - Ames**  
**Oct. 26—Reformation Sunday**  
**Oct. 31—Reformation Day**  
**Oct. 31—Halloween**

## Little Pumpkins



***Members in mission making a difference.***

GOOD NEWS from First Presbyterian Church is published monthly. Deadline for the following issue is published in the calendar. Comments and contributions are welcome.

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