



PRESBYTIDINGS



THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF AUDUBON, IOWA
Where every member is called to minister / February 2016/ Volume 66, Number 2
Rev. Roger C. Claxton, Pastor
Sylvia Christensen, Editor

What's New at First Presbyterian Church?

- **PW General Meeting - Hygiene Kits - 2:00 PM, Feb. 4**
- **Holy Communion - Feb. 7 - "Souper" Bowl Sunday**
- **Friendship Home Communions - 10:45 AM, Feb. 8**
- **Home Communions - 1:00 PM, Feb. 8**
- **Ash Wednesday Service with Holy Communion – 6:00 PM, Feb. 10**
- **Session Meets – 7:30 PM, Feb. 17**

ROGER'S REFLECTIONS

We enter into Lent this year on Ash Wednesday, February 10th. The 40 days (minus Sundays) in Lent are to help us slow down and attend to what matters in life. They are a time to live into what God wants for us and from us – instead of what other sources of defining "life" thinks is important. First Presbyterian will gather at 6:00 PM on Ash Wednesday and Ebenezer will gather for a meal at 6:30 and worship at 7:30 that evening. Council meeting to follow worship that evening.

The Tuesday morning Ecumenical Breakfasts begin February 16 at Our Saviour's Lutheran, February 23 at First United Methodist, March 1 at First Presbyterian, March 8th at St. Patrick's Parish Center, March 15 at St. John's Lutheran. All breakfasts begin at 6:30 AM.

Midweek Lenten Services at Ebenezer will continue every Wednesday night beginning with a meal at 6:00 PM and continuing with worship at 7:00 using the "Holden Evening Prayer" service. All are welcome to attend these Midweek Lenten Services.

All of us are invited to "step out" from the "usual rush" of life and participate, as you are able, in these opportunities during Lent, gathering with other Christians within our community. Palm Sunday will be on March 20th, and Easter will be March 27th this year.

Pastor Roger

"Souper" Bowl Sunday

This year "Souper" Bowl Sunday will be February 7. As in the past, please bring a can or two or more of soup with you to worship service.

The cans will be evenly distributed between Caring and Sharing and Family Development Center.

As always, THANKS for your support!

Note: If you need a print out of your financial giving for income tax purposes, please leave a message in the office.

Annual Meeting

The Annual Congregational Meeting was held on Sunday, January 24, 2016.



The new Elders are Dennis Smith, Jolene DuVall, Ron Lebeck and the new Deacon is Beverly Gaskill. Installation will be Sunday, January 31, during morning worship service.

If you were unable to attend the meeting January 24, please remember to pick up a copy of the 2015 Annual Report.

Home Communion

We will serve Holy Communion in the homes of anyone who wishes. In February communion will be served at the Friendship Home at 10:45 AM Feb. 8 with individual home communions starting at 1:00 PM on Feb. 8.



If you desire to partake in the Lord's Supper or know of someone who needs to receive communion in their home, please call the church and leave a message.

One Great Hour of Sharing

Serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received. 1 Peter 4:10

Included with your PresbyTidings is an envelope for One Great Hour of Sharing. OGHS was first established after WWII in 1949 with an ecumenical radio appeal and over 75,000 churches participating.



Through your gifts to One Great Hour of Sharing, you can serve people in your community and around the world by alleviating hunger, rebuilding after crises or catastrophe, and working with communities to overcome oppression.

How and where have you helped?

* 220,000 people received food, water, shelter, and medical care in the aftermath of the Nepal earthquakes.

* Over 308,000 people in over 30 countries now have increased food security and livelihoods through international development work.

* More than 10,000 children and their families in five bateyes in the Dominican Republic have access to clean water, helping to prevent water-related diseases.

OGHS is a proven opportunity that helps people help themselves. It's our opportunity to share our resources to help literally millions of people in so many ways. Please take the time to make a donation to One Great Hour of Sharing – no gift is too small or too large!

Death: Floyd D. Ditto, 88, passed away on January 10, 2016, at Kennybrook Village in Grimes, Iowa. Funeral services were held Saturday, January 16, in the sanctuary with Rev. Roger Claxton officiating. Interment followed at Maple Grove Cemetery in Audubon.

Now is a Great Time to THANK...

Our retiring Elders and Deacons. These leaders put in countless hours to make certain our church is operating in a worshipful, cleanly, meaningful, lasting, efficient manner for all who enter our doors. Next time you see them, give them a pat on the back!

Class of 2015 Elders: Mary Ellen Fischer
Dennis Smith
Paul Walther

Class of 2015 Deacon: Sue Barnes

Session Notes

The Session met for their regular meeting on January 20, 2016. Highlights included:

- Mary Ellen Fischer was appointed commissioner for February 13 Presbytery Meeting
- Worship Committee reported the same format as 2015 will be followed in 2016 for the Lenten Season.
- Building and Grounds presented need for manse furnace replacement. Approved.
- Calling Tree will be used to remind members of Annual Meeting date and time.

The next meeting will be held on February 17, 2016, 7:30 PM, Fellowship Room.



By the Numbers

Treasurer's Report

December

Receipts: \$ 10,364.41
Expenses: \$ 8,076.21

Per Capita for 2016 has been set at \$40.00 per member.
2016 breakdown is as follows:
Presbytery \$27.63; Synod \$5.25; General Assembly \$7.12

In Our Prayers

Let us remember daily those who need our prayers most. Among our people, prayers are extended to:

Norma Petersen
Donna Kessler
Lila Jean Jessen



If you would like to add someone to the prayer list, please let the church know.

PW Women

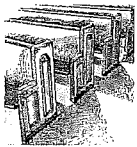
On February 4, the PW will have their general meeting at 2:00 PM here at the church. We will be assembling hygiene kits.

Kitchen Planning Committee for Events

Carolyn Blohm

Adult Bible Study

The Adult Bible Study which regularly meets at 4:00 PM each Tuesday will not meet the month of February. Please plan to join us when we resume studies in March.



View from the Pews

CHURCH ATTENDANCE

January 3	20
10	82
17	16
24	26
31	

February Birthdays

2 Donna Kessler
5 Norma Petersen
6 Betty Owen
18 Wilma Bowman
21 Bob Jacobsen
25 Lorraine Ditto
27 Rodney Benton



Birthdays



February Anniversaries

8 Paul and Lila Jean Walther (23)
19 John and Sharlette Weighton (21)
23 Michael and Mary Jo Krauel (26)

Who's serving our church in February?

7	Liturgist	TBA
	Greeters/ Ushers	Connie Claxton, Earl Blohm, Jordan Jensen
	Videographer	David Jensen
	Coffee Hosts	TBA
14	Liturgist	Carolyn Blohm
	Greeters/Ushers	Charles Griffith, Ed Andersen, Larry Klever
	Videographer	Vickie Andersen
	Coffee Hosts	TBA
21	Liturgist	Nancy Owen
	Greeters/Ushers	Ivan Andersen, David Jensen, Larry Klever
	Videographer	Ed Andersen
	Coffee Hosts	TBA
28	Liturgist	TBA
	Greeters/Ushers	Ivan and Marjorie Andersen, Larry and Mary Klever
	Videographer	David Jensen
	Coffee Hosts	TBA

Please make note of when you serve. If you cannot serve, please find someone to serve in your place. Thanks!

Deacon of the Month

Nancy Owen



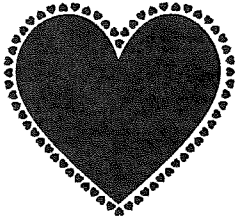

Session Members

Class of 2016: Mary Klever, Ed Andersen, Charles Griffith
Class of 2017: Bernice Barnes, Ron Lebeck, Loretta Petersen
Class of 2018: Dennis Smith, Jolene DuVall

Board of Deacons

Class of 2016: Nancy Owen, Becky Marten
Class of 2017: Mavis Lebeck, Camilla Lawshe
Class of 2018: Beverly Gaskill

Carolyn Blohm, Congregation Member-at-Large

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3 6:30 PM Choir Practice 7:30 PM Building & Grounds Committee	4 2:00 PW - Hygiene Kits Priscilla Circle-hostesses	5	6
7 9:00 AM Worship Service with Holy Communion 10:00 Fellowship Coffee 10:30 Church School 	8 10:45 AM Communion at Friendship Home 1:00 PM Communion Served in Individual Homes 7 PM Boy Scouts	9 2:00 PM Deacons Meet	10 Ash Wednesday 6:00 PM Worship with Holy Communion 7:00 PM Choir Practice	11 WIC Clinic 2:00 PM Priscilla Circle at Connie Claxton's	12	13 Presbytery Meeting
14 9:00 AM Worship Service 10:00 Fellowship Coffee 10:30 Church School	15	16 6:30 AM Ecumenical Bkfst at Our Saviour's	17 6:30 PM Choir Practice 7:30 Session	18 7:00 PM Dartball at St. Patrick's Parish Hall	19	20
21 9:00 AM Worship Service 10:00 Fellowship Coffee 10:30 Church School	22 7 PM Boy Scouts	23 6:30 AM Ecumenical Bkfst at First United Methodist	24 6:30 PM Choir Practice	25	26	27
28 9:00 AM Worship Service 10:00 Fellowship Coffee 10:30 Church School	29	February 2016 First Presbyterian Church Audubon, Iowa				