Focus

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
APRIL 2018

Maundy Thursday March 29

6:00 PM Spaghetti Dinner

7:00 PM Intergenerational & Interactive Service with Communion

Good Friday March 30

7:00 PM Good Friday Cantata @ St. Paul's United Methodist Church (803 Clearview Drive)

Easter Sunday April 1

8:30 a.m.–9:30 a.m. Breakfast

10:00 a.m. Worship

Church Events

- **March 29 Maundy Thursday**

6:00 p.m. Dinner

7:00 p.m. Worship with Communion

- **March 30 Good Friday**

7:00 p.m. Cantata @ SPUMC

- **Apr 1st -Easter Sunday**

8:30 a.m.-9:30 a.m. Breakfast

10:00 Worship with Communion

- **Apr 4th**

10:00 a.m. Presbyterian Women .

3:30 p.m. Elementary Connections

5:30 p.m. Elementary Connections Dinner .

6:30 p.m. Youth Connections & Dinner

FPC'S FEBRUARY FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

Income Balance as of February 28, 2017 - $21,186.01
Expense Balance as of February 28, 2017 - $25,310.73
Checking Balance as of February 28, 2017 $(-1,880.93)

2018 Income Balance - $33,166.02

2018 Expense Balance - $42,120.21

2018 Income/Expense Variance – $(-8,954.04)

2018 Income/Expense Variance from budget – $(-27,391.74)

Remember to bring your One Great Hour Fish Bank with you to worship on Easter!

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING
SPECIAL OFFERINGS

The One Great Hour of Sharing offering will be collected on Sunday April 1st.

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 *Resurrection of the Lord/Easter* *Change for Change* 8:30 a.m. Breakfast 10:00 a.m. Worship	2 Church Office Closed	3 11:30 a.m. Lunch Bunch Study	4 10:00 a.m. Presbyterian Women 3:30 p.m. Elementary Connections 5:30 p.m. Elementary Connections Dinner 6:30 p.m. Youth Connection & Dinner	5 10:00 a.m. Prayer Group	6	7
8 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Worship 11:15 a.m. Coffee Fellowship 5:00 p.m. Boy Scouts	9	10 11:30 a.m. Lunch Bunch Study 6:30 p.m. Session	11 *Early Out* NO Elementary Connections 6:30 p.m. Youth Connection Supper & Study @ the Jessop home	12 10:00 a.m. Prayer Group	13	**14**
15 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Worship 11:00 a.m. Coffee Fellowship 11:15 a.m. Christian Ed Comm. Mtg. 5:00 p.m. Boy Scouts	16	17 11:30 a.m. Lunch Bunch Study 6:30 p.m. Deacons	18 3:30 p.m. Elementary Connections 5:30 p.m. Elementary Connections Dinner 6:30 p.m. Youth Connection & Dinner	19 10:00 a.m. Prayer Group	20	21
22 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Worship with Wednesday Elementary Connections Bell Choir 11:00 a.m. Coffee Fellowship 11:15 a.m. Worship & Music Comm. 5:00 p.m. Boy Scouts	23	24 11:30 a.m. Lunch Bunch Study	25 3:30 p.m. Elementary Connections 5:30 p.m. Elementary Connections End of Year Party 6:30 p.m. Youth Connection & Dinner	26 10:00 a.m. Prayer Group	27	28
29 *Confirmation* 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Worship 11:00 a.m. Coffee Fellowship 5:00 p.m. Boy Scouts	30					

Pastor's Pen

In 1933 Alfred H. Ackley turned on his radio Easter morning, to hear a preacher say: "Good morning it's Easter! You know, folks, it really doesn't make any difference to me if Christ be risen or not. As far as I am concerned, His body could be as dust in some Palestinian tomb. The main thing is, His truth goes marching on!" Ackley was all a rage screaming at the radio: "it's a lie, it's a lie." That morning, Ackley preached his own sermon on the resurrection with more fire and fever than ever before. Later that day he was still stewing over what the radio preacher had said when his wife looked at him and said: "Alfred Ackley, it's time you did what you do best, write a song about it." Out of Ackley's frustration and annoyance came the familiar Easter hymn *He Lives.*

He Lives is one of the hymns we sing every Easter and they are powerful pieces of prayer, theology, and inspiration. They remind us every Easter that we serve, worship, and follow a risen Lord. Ackley wrote: "I serve a risen Savior. He's in the world today, I know that He is living; whatever man may say. I see His hand of mercy. I hear His voice of cheer, and just the time I need Him. He's always near."

We live in globalized society, where the bad news and trials of strangers in foreign lands has become our news. In this time and place, we need the message that Christ indeed lives more than ever—with planes falling from the sky, with wars and sickening violence, with diseases long "conquered" spreading again. We need the message of Easter because we need to be reminded that our God is not some distant far off God separate and uninvolved but present and active in our lives. As Ackley says: "He's in the world today."

Out of Ackley's outrage, over what he believed was bad theology, came the powerful words that we hold on to for hope this Easter Sunday. Those words remind us that we are not left alone, not left in this world with the suffering or the heartache, but that God came and felt what we feel, lived as we live, died as we die, *and* was raised so that we may rise.

Ackley recognized that hope in 1933 and we should too with his words: "In all the world around me I see His loving care; And tho' my heart grows weary I never will despair. I know that He is leading thro' all the stormy blast." This is a hymn we should sing every day so that in light of all global suffering, we can be reminded that Christ lives. The message that Christ lives matters, for it strengthens, it gives us hope, not only that death itself has been conquered but that we can live the lives God calls us to live here and now, being guided by Christ's merciful hand.

Grace and Peace,

Rev. Dan Jessop

April, 2018 Volunteers

Greeters Upstairs

04/01	Rob Gavin
04/08	Rob Gavin
04/15	Rob Gavin
04/22	Rob Gavin
04/29	Rob Gavin

Greeters Downstairs (West)

04/01	Brenda & Roger De May
04/08	Abby Sanchez
04/15	Bev Watts
04/22	Russ & Joan Jones
04/29	Bob Peters

April Head Elder

Rob Gavin

Shepherds

04/01	Ruth Lindhart
04/08	Bev Watts
04/15	Gerry Boland
04/22	Doris Evans
04/29	TBD

Nursery

04/01	Sarah Stoutner
04/08	Jillian Tuttle
04/15	Anne Gavin
04/22	Mckenzie Gross
04/29	Martha Koch

Liturgists

04/01	Dianne Heyn
04/08	Cindy Slaymaker
04/15	Sandy Lynch
04/22	Melissa Gross
04/29	Kim Tanke

Candle Lighters

04/01	Communion
04/08	Taylor Sanchez
04/15	Cooper Daugherty
04/22	Marie Landeros
04/29	Mallory Jones

Time with the Youth

04/01	Pastor Bethany
04/08	Cindy Slaymaker
04/15	Pastor Dan
04/22	Melissa Gross
04/29	Kim Tanke

Technical

04/01	Keith Aljets
04/08	Tom Landeros
04/15	Jim Lynch
04/22	Mallory Koch
04/29	Keith Aljets

Sunday School Elementary Teachers

04/01	No Sunday School
04/08	Patti Tiernan
04/15	Pastor Bethany
04/22	Tom Landeros
04/29	Marty Koch

Coffee Fellowship

04/01
04/08
04/15
04/22
04/29

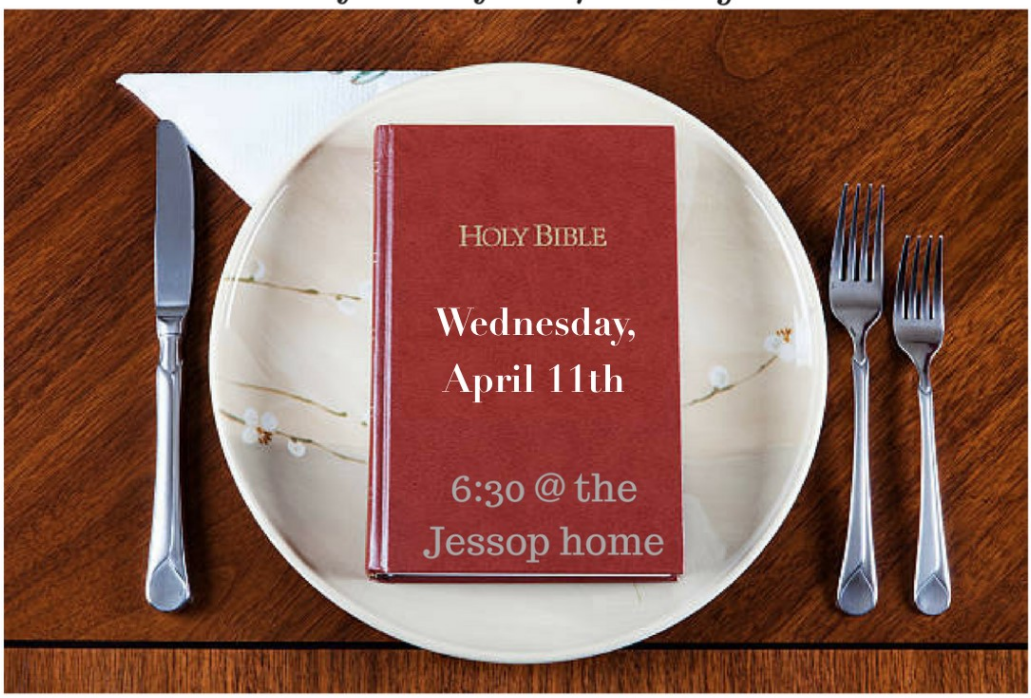
Preschool/Early Elementary Sunday School Teachers

04/01	No Sunday School
04/08	Pastor Bethany
04/15	Diane Daugherty
04/22	Sandy Lynch
04/29	Wendy Jones

Presbyterian Women will meet on Wednesday April 4th at 10:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. Pastor Bethany will lead the discussion. Please read Judges 11.

supper & study

on Early Out days for 7th-12th graders



bring your Bible & come for dinner!

**On April 29th during worship,
we'll celebrate our five Confirmands
as they join the church:**

**Carlee Cremeens, Kaleb Koch,
James Landeros,
Ashley Sherman & Colton Steckly**

Prayer Requests

Health concerns: Ken McMillan, Tom Claypool, Sandy Hynds, Rhonda Phillips's nephew Ryver Lane , Michelle Blythe, Becky Rowe, John Engel, Brad Ramsey's friend Paul Sparrow, Rick Sherman's mom Zelda, Kim & Ron Tanke's grandson Christian.

Grieving: Rob Gavin & family: loss of his sister Amy.

Greg & Donna McWilliams & family: loss of Donna's father.

Active military service: Angela Chipman, Grayson Groepper, Brian Jones, David Kabisch, Christopher Schreiber, Matthew Schreiber, and Chaise Turner.
(Please let us know if you have a family member in the service for whom we can be praying.)

Prayer requests and praises can be submitted any time to

Prayerministry@iowatelecom.net or fill out a form in the Vestibule or in the pew and place it in the Prayer Ministry box. Requests will be kept confidential unless you ask they be shared with the congregation.

All prayer concerns will be lifted up for four weeks. If continued prayer is needed at that time, please resubmit your request.

God bless you and those for whom you are concerned.

Pastor Dan Jessop - pastorfpcburg@gmail.com

Director of Christian Education - The Rev. Bethany Jessop – cyfdirectorfpc@gmail.com

Administrative Assistant - Suzanne Kabisch —fpchurchwilliamsburg@gmail.com

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Change Service Requested

Change for Change

Everyone is encouraged to bring their loose change to worship the first Sunday each month for April that would be this Sunday 04/01/18. The money collected in 2018 will go towards "Pennies for Posho" who is the sponsor organization for the group Ugandan Thunder that we hosted in September. This group touched many of hour hearts and we continue to want to help. During the Time with Youth this Sunday, we will pass the tin buckets and collect loose change to go towards a mission that we as a church family have a personal connection to. In March we collected **$143.13**!!. Each month we have exceeded our goal. Let's keep that momentum going!!!