

First Presbyterian Church of Redwood Falls

Celebrating 150 Years

December 17, 2017 ~ 10:15 am ~ Third Sunday of Advent

Ministers: The members of the congregation

Pastor: Rev. Scott Prouty

Our Vision Statement of the First Presbyterian Church of Redwood Falls is: God's timeless love transforms each of us to joyously continue the ministry of Jesus Christ in our community and in our world.

Assemble in God's Name

Prelude

Choral Introit

Advent Candle Lighting Service

Confirmation Student Paige Paplow and Her Family

Hymn #82

"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" (Stanza 1)

Call to Worship

L: Glory to God in the highest!

P: And hope to every discouraged heart.

L: Glory to God in the highest!

P: And peace to every conflicted soul.

L: Glory to God in the highest!

P: And joy to every downcast spirit.

L: Glory to God in the highest!

P: And love to everyone.

L: Let us sing praises to our God.

P: Let us offer this light against the darkness.

Prayer of Invocation

Holy God of Love, there is light in our lives because of the abundance of Your steadfast love. A love so vast, so deep, so real, that You became one of us. May we live within the power of this love. May we share its light with a world where too many dwell in darkness. Amen.

Hymn #136

"Go Tell It on the Mountain"

Moment for Children

Adrienne Danielson

Announcements, Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

Offering

***Response** Hymn #658 *"God is So Good"* (vs. 1&2)

***Offertory Prayer**

***Share the Peace of Christ with One Another**

(Members and guests, please pass the attendance pad from left to right)

Chancel Choir Presents

"Sing Joy to All the World!"

A Christmas Celebration by Lloyd Larson

Narrators: Fred & Jenny Bloedow

"Tidings of Comfort and Joy!"

"A Light Shall Shine"

"Prepare the Way!"

"David's Royal City"

"Glory in the Highest!"

"Joy of Every Longing Heart"

"Worship Christ, the Newborn King"

"Sing Joy to all the World!"

*Benediction

Choral Response

Postlude

(*) Asterisk signifies to please stand if you are able.

Ushers for December: Dan Fuhr, Randy & Lynn Juell, Brent Prouty, Aaron Rohlik, Keegan & Kyron Mammen, Marty Caraway

Deacon of December: Julie Reinstra

Greeting You Today: Shannon, Jonathan & Cassandra Sweetman, Judy Smith

Our Televised Worship Services ~ Tune in to NU-Telecom - channel 3, and Media-com - channel 8, on Mondays at 10 am, and Wednesdays at 7 pm.

Sign-Up Sheets ~ Sign-up sheets for Sunday morning breakfast and Wednesday night meals are in the Narthex! Please sign-up where you can!

The Chimes ~ Starting in January, in an attempt to cut back on the cost of postage and paper, the Chimes will be sent out via email. There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex for email addresses. There is also a sign-up sheet for those of you that wish to have a paper copy printed for you to pick up in the Narthex. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the church office.

Christmas Eve Friendship Dinner ~ We are looking for donations Christmas desserts. If you would like to donate one, please contact Pastor Scott. We are also asking that if you plan to attend the Christmas Eve Friendship Dinner, please RSVP to Pastor Scott. We would like to make sure we have enough food on hand. Thank you.

Thank You ~ Thanks to everyone that contributed to the "Mittens and More Trees" this year. Joyce Nolting, Laura Kohler and Pastor Scott delivered 388 gifts to "Share the Sprit" on December 11. A volunteer said "you really out did yourselves."

Per-Capita ~ Per capita brings Presbyterians together – literally! Presbyterians are connected in many ways, including our church government. We believe we discern best what God is calling us to do when we gather as councils, "*seek[ing] together to find and represent the will of Christ*" (Book of Order F-3.0204). Per-capita makes it possible for Presbyterians to govern ourselves the way we do. When each Presbytery church member pays per-capita, it is split three ways between the Presbytery, the Synod and the General Assembly. Per-capita supports Book of Order mandated programs. For example; per-capita supports the work of committees, administration, building maintenance, trainings plus more. When the Presbytery hosts a leadership training and retreats, per-capita dollars help them fund it. When the Presbytery has Presbytery committee members plan, strategize, visit congregations and support pastors, per-capita dollars help fund it. Per-capita dollars are not always spent in the most flashy manner, but they are spent with thought, prayer and the health of our congregations and pastors in mind. In November we pay \$9,149.64 to Presbytery for Per-Capita. That comes to \$40.13 per member.

Quilts ~ Looking for a cozy holiday gift?! Something to warm the heart and toes of a loved one?! The Piecemakers have a gift just for you... Stop in the Youth Chapel and choose from a large selection of quilts! Quilts will be on display and available for purchase for the next couple of weeks. Feel free to contact Char or Marlys if you are looking for something that isn't displayed.

YOU (YES YOU!) ARE INVITED ~ Session invites everyone who is interested to the dining room immediately following worship **this morning** to join them for a "Listening Session". You are welcome to come ask questions that you may have about church finances, recent church projects, etc. Coffee will be served. Regular fellowship in the Narthex will still take place for those who just want the "normal" after church chatter!

Chimes Deadline ~ The deadline for the January Chimes is **today**. Please have your articles and information to the church office. Thank you.

Pray For The Following:

Pray for expecting parents of our Church Family: Curt & Claire Meyers

Pray for the unchurched and lonely.

Pray for people living in our communities, the disenfranchised and people in other countries.

Pray for those who are having financial or marital difficulties.

Pray for those grieving the loss of a loved one.

Pray for those seeking employment.

Pray for our leaders at the city, county, state and national level and all military personnel.

Pray for those in need of food, medicine and shelter.

Pray for our church leaders and teachers.

Pray for our local, national, world political leaders.

Birthdays: Today - Ivis Robertson, Tamera Christeson, 20th - Rylee Zachariason, 21st - Kylan Bahr,
22nd - Brenda Johnson, Lois Davis, 23rd - Blake Stephens

Anniversaries: 22nd - John & Sue Tiffany

Members of our Church Family in Nursing Homes and Assisted Living Facilities:

Muriel Moon, Millie Bunting, Gordon Alexander, Jeanette Kotval

All Those Fighting Cancer: Wendy Nolting, Tom & Dawn Umscheid (Pam Prouty's cousins),

Clayton Wolf

Pray for all those fighting other diseases:

Shellie Mammen (Lupus), Corrine Gertsema (multiple sclerosis)

If you know of something/someone to add to the Prayer List, please contact the church office.

Thank You ~ The choir would like to thank Char Gilland for our new robes. They were given in memory of Mike Gilland. We really appreciate them! Thank you so very much! ~ With Love, Your Fellow Choir Members

150th Anniversary History Tidbit (Janean McKay)

Holiday Fair

For a few years a small table-top bake and craft sale was held in the church dining room by the four Circles of the church. It was a social time. In 1976, Pat Shepley and Bunny Nolting stepped forward and suggested we do a larger church-wide Holiday Fair the first Saturday of December. The Fair at the Presbyterian Church soon became a "have-to" for local residents as well as those from the surrounding communities because of its size and quality. All year each Wednesday morning Bunny welcomed women into her home and craft items were made. She would assemble kits for those who were interested and members laughed as she would say "make 36!".

The day of the sale, the dining room was designated for Christmas items with an array of ornaments on trees and tables filled with decorations. The choir room was for household items. The north Sunday School rooms were filled with tables loaded with baked goods. There was a lunch room with card tables in the parlor and the nursery was where coats and packages were checked.

Some perennial favorites were John Smith's packages of shelled black walnuts, Tom Arnette's jars of prepared horse radish, Sally Dording and Joyce Nolting's Christmas tea ring breads, Janean McKay's Cabbage Patch clothes, and Bob Nolting's wooden decorations. Church members came dressed in their festive Christmas clothing and wore name tags. Cashiers brought adding machines. Each room had a color-coded sales card and customers paid once.

Customers lined the stairs waiting to be let in. No sales were permitted until the bell was rung by the chair-women! So much was sold the first 15 minutes that eventually a Friday night Sneak Preview was added so customers knew where they wanted to be when sales began. Of course coffee and snacks were sold.

By the end of the day men arrived and helped return furniture to their normal places. Sunday morning the church was ready for Sunday School and the Sunday service. The few items not sold were on tables in the dining room. Everyone was tired but happy.

But after 20 years a generation of women were no longer with us. The last fair was held in 1996. The thousands of dollars of profit gained over this period was used for projects in the church.

If you have missed any history tidbits... remember bulletins are on our website... fpcrwf.org

Curious?

If you have seen this image in the bulletin and in the Chimes and don't know what it means or what to do with it here are the details...

The Presbyterian Foundation offers an Online Giving Program to PC(USA) congregations that allows you to make donations to your church online. We now have that option available for you. We know that people share their blessings in many ways with the church. Some donate grain or stock, others give cash or write a check. This online option is just another way for you to share your generosity and fulfill your calling to serve our Lord by supporting the different programs we offer through our congregation; worship, faith formation, mission work and our physical space in our community.

The Skinny on how it works. There are two options:

1. On your smart phone, go to your app store and download a QR Code Reader and Scanner. Scan the code and it will take you directly to the online donation page.
2. On your laptop or desktop computer, go to our church website at <http://fpcrwf.org/> and click on the 'Give Now' button in the upper right hand corner to make a one time or ongoing donation.

There are no setup fees or monthly fees, so getting started is free! There is a 2% administrative fee for all gifts received; this fee is for the reasonable and customary costs of operation and is to help ensure the continued viability of the program and its services.



Church Calendar

Sunday, December 17:

Chimes Deadline

8:45 am: Breakfast

9:00 am: Sunday School

9:15 am: Choir Practice

10:15 am: Choir Cantata

Following Worship: Packing Weekend Food Bags

7:00 pm: Confirmation

Monday, December 18:

Noon: Pastor - Rotary

5:30 pm: Pastor - Sunwood Board Meeting

Tuesday, December 19:

4:30-6:00 pm: Ruby's Pantry

7:00 pm: Pastor visits Barb & Scott Nelson

Wednesday, December 20:

Church Office Closed

Sunday, December 24:

Christmas Eve

10:15 am: Morning Worship

5:00 pm: Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

6-7:00 pm: Christmas Eve Friendship Dinner

Monday, December 25:

Christmas Day - Church Office Closed

December 25-January 3: Pastor Scott will be on vacation. Rev. Anna Williamson of Renville will cover in case of a Pastoral Emergency. (320-305-0346)