

First Presbyterian Church of Redwood Falls

Celebrating 150 Years

December 31, 2017 ~ 10:15 am

Ministers: The members of the congregation

Pastor: Rev. Scott Prouty

Lay Speaker ~ Marlene Ramey

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

Call to Worship: Isaiah 60:1, 3, 19

L: Arise, shine, for your light has come and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

P: Nations shall come to your light, and rulers to the brightness of your rising.

L: The sun shall no longer be your light by day, nor for brightness shall the moon give light to you by night.

P: But the Lord will be your everlasting light, and your God will be your glory.

Prayer of Invocation

Almighty and Gracious God, You are the light that can never be extinguished; and You have given us a light, in Jesus, that shall drive away all darkness. May the light of our risen Lord reach every corner of our dark world. Amen.

***Opening Hymn of Praise #192**

"Shine, Jesus Shine"

***Unison Prayer**

God of light, whose presence shines before us as a lamp unto our feet, and whose brilliance overpowers the darkness of this troubled world; shine in our hearts, that we may look into the future and discern in the shadows the form of Christ, whose kindly light leads us on. This we pray in the name of Jesus who is the light of the world. Amen.

***Time for Silent Prayer of Confession**

***Assurance of Pardon** (Leader)

As certain as the dawn follows the night, so is the promise of God's forgiveness and love for us all. Arise... Shine! Follow the star. Find the light of the world born in Bethlehem...and be transformed into light. May the light of Christ shine upon us. Amen.

***Gloria Patri** Hymn #581 (Words Only)

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

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

Proclaim God's Word

Hymn #377

"I Want To Walk as a Child of the Light"

Responsive Gospel Lesson

John 1:1-16

Pages 1279

(Congregation will read the even-numbered verses.)

Message

"The Light Has Come" (Text John 1:5)

Marlene Ramey

***Response Hymn #458**

"Thy Word is a Lamp unto My Feet"

***Affirmation of Faith:** The Apostle's Creed (page 35 in Hymnal)

Announcements, Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

Give Thanks To God

God's Tithes and Your Offering Received

Offertory

***Doxology** Hymn #606

***Offertory Prayer** (In Unison)

God of light and promise, we bring our gifts to further Your work in a dark world. May they bring Your light to those overwhelmed by darkness, pain, and loneliness. Accept these gifts of money and time...indeed, the gift of our very selves. Let them shine for all to see and be brought into the warmth of Your love and righteousness. Amen.

Go in God's Name

***Hymn #134**

"Joy to the World" (Vs. 1, 2 & 4)

***Benediction**

L: Jesus, the light of the world, calls us to follow.

P: Go and tell the good news of God's love.

L: Go forth and shine with God's spirit,

P: May God bless us with the radiance of His love.

L: Go in peace...serve the Lord. Amen.

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

Communion Servers for January: Deb Hess, Gerry Hess, Matt Tiffany,
Maynard Nolting, Richard Aakre, Paul Hagen, Molly Miller

Deacon of December: Julie Reinstra

Greeting You Today: Dave & Corrine Gertsema/Michelle Croatt

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.

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.

February Friendship Dinner ~ Families of the congregation with the last names starting with V-B are asked to meet in the Parlor, following worship on **Sunday, January 7**, to plan the February Friendship Dinner. If you are unable to attend this meeting, please keep in contact with your group! Thank you.

Wednesday Night Activities ~ Our Wednesday night youth actives resume on **January 10**, at the Redwood Area Community Center from 5:15-7:15 pm. Youth Club and YFA kids will meet for a meal, skating, fun in the field-house and hot chocolate! Please drop off and pick up kids at the RACC! Parents are welcome to join. Friends are also welcome, but will need to pay the \$4 admission plus \$3 if they need to rent skates. Please wear socks that come above the tops of your skates.

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.

Annual Report ~ The deadline for the Annual Report is **JANUARY 15!** If you have any questions, please contact the church office.

Annual Meeting ~ Mark your calendars for our Annual Meeting... **January 28!**

Church Calendar

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)

Sunday, December 31:

Christmas Eve

10:15 am: Morning Worship with Marlene Ramey

Monday, January 1:

New Year's Day - Office Closed

Tuesday, January 2:

7:00 pm: Memorial & Worship Committee Meetings

Wednesday, January 3:

9:00 am: Piecemakers

Sunday, January 7:

9:15 am: Choir Practice

10:15 am: Worship with Holy Communion

Following Worship: February Friendship Dinner Planning Meeting

1:00 pm: Pastor Scott/Confirmation Students take Holy Communion to

Millie Bunting & Muriel Moon

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: January 2nd - Aaron Rohlik, 4th - Ethin Mammen

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, Kathy Tiffany (Glen Tiffany's wife/Donna Potter's sister-in-law)

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.

Curious?

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.



150th Anniversary History Tidbit (Janean McKay)

Our Church Building

By 1883 the oldest part of the church structure was built to replace the first building which was destroyed by fire. This continues to be the worship center of the church. The cost of the new church was \$7000 with \$3000 in insurance helping to meet this cost. By 1886, the church was self-supporting.

It wasn't until 1917 at the time of the 50th anniversary of the church the first major update was done to the building. At that time a West addition and a basement was added.

Following that the depression and WW II prevented more updates. But by 1942 at the time of the 75th anniversary an extensive remodeling project which was said to be so extensive that not a door (including the dead man's door where the Matthew window is today) or a window of the old church remained. Memorial gifts were for the addition of the pipe organ, tower amplifier, chancel furnishings, city heat and art glass windows. At this time the Good Will Circle gave the large Christ window. It's recorded that the cost of the project was \$27,000.

Under the guidance of Rev. Goldhorn an educational addition was built and dedicated on June 7, 1959. Besides the necessary classrooms in the two story addition, the unit contains a parlor with a kitchenette, a pastor's study and a secretary's office. There were changes made in the narthex and the southeast and southwest entries. Basement changes included remodeling of the dining room and new areas for a church school supply room, choir room, and a control room for the janitor. The total cost was \$91,000.

The need for a heating/cooling system began the general refurbishing of the church structure in 1982. The church was insulated, the kitchen remodeled and a handicap ramp was added. Exterior windows covered the art glass windows. By 2001 the need to have the church accessible for everyone was the purpose of an addition that included an elevator, a new entrance, an additional narthex area next to the sanctuary and a welcoming area on the lower level. Additional stained glass windows were included in this addition and in the Southeast entrance. Metal shingles and new siding completed the project. Bunny Nolting and Sue Tiffany shared the chairmanship. Nolting handled the financial end of the project and Sue Tiffany the construction side. The project cost in excess of \$300,000.

Since then the rotted wooden floor in the dining room was replaced by cement. An anonymous gift of \$250,000 allowed the complete remodeling of the kitchen.

A summary of dedication words from the past are that these structural changes to our church are due to the goodness and blessings of God. Secondly, by the generous gifts and ardent labors displayed by the members of the congregation. After the last stone is in place it is the people who make up the church.

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