



More Good News

Oct. 2016

Volume 17, #10

October **at a Glance**

Oct. 2

9:30 Bell Choir Practice
10:30 AM Worship
w/ Communion

Oct. 4

Session 6:30 PM

Oct. 5, 12, 19 and 26

Youth Group 6PM

Oct. 5, 12, 19 and 26

Fellowship/Bible Study
6:00 PM

Oct. 9 and 23

10:30 AM Worship

Oct. 11, 17 and 24

Bell Choir Practice
6 PM

Oct. 12

Prayer Shawl Ministry
7 PM

Oct. 15

Newsletter Deadline

Oct. 16

9:30 Bell Choir Practice
10:30 AM Worship

Oct. 25

Pastor April on KDWA
11:00 am - 12:00 PM

Oct. 30

10:30 AM Informal Worship

From the Pastor's Desk

This is the most amazing time of year. There is a crispness in the air and not just from the start of football season or the returning of students back to school. The crispness comes from a renewal of sorts. Perhaps like a new moon or annual fall cleaning, there is ritual to our returning to fall. Expecting things to be new but hoping perhaps they will remain somewhat the same. I am reminded that it is impossible for things not to change. Just by our breathing in and breathing out, we are changing our environment, carbon dioxide coming in and out, altering the air around us. Our very existence is an agent of change.

In the *Book of Esther*, Mordecai tells his cousin/adopted daughter Esther "Perhaps you have come to royal dignity for just such a time as this." He is referring to her position of power and ability to save the Jews from Haman's ruthless plan. He is helping her to realize that she has the literal and figurative power for change.

Most of us do not have crowns on our heads, royal robes on our backs or golden scepters in our hands but we have been adopted by God as royalty. The First Letter of Peter reminds us, "But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light," (1 Peter 2.9).

Through God's generosity and graciousness we are part of the royal family like Esther, we are instructed to use our boundless energy and passion for change in ways that glorify and honor God.

I invite you to embrace this lovely fall as a season for personal change. How will you intentionally use change to further God's realm on earth? Need a few suggestions? Start a new spiritual discipline, find a new ministry at church (Bell Choir or Bible Study) or in the community (Meals on Wheels or Hastings Family Services come to mind), join a new book club, share your time, talents and resources in a new way. I look forward to embracing this new season of change with you.

Grace to you, and peace,

April





Peace and Global Witness Offering October 2nd

The Peacemaking Offering supports the peacemaking efforts of the church at every governing body level and provides an opportunity to witness to God's gift of peace in the world. During this Season of Peace, the Syrian refugee crisis has provided a striking example of the need for Christ's peace in the world. Part of this year's offering will be used to support Syrians displaced by violence.

Gifts given to the Peacemaking Offering through a congregation are divided in the following manner - twenty-five percent retained by congregations for support of their own peacemaking ministry; 25 percent used to support presbytery and synod peacemaking efforts; and 50 percent forwarded to the Presbyterian Peacemaking Program of the Presbyterian Mission Agency so that it can continue to provide assistance and resources for congregations and other bodies of the PC(USA). Online gifts to the Peacemaking Offering are used on the General Assembly level

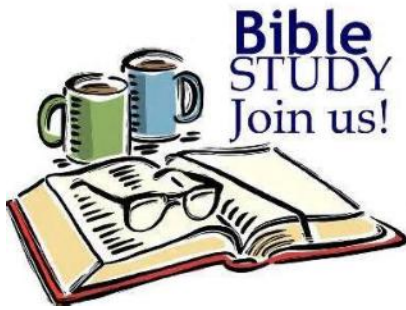
"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." Luke 4:18-19

Jesus calls us to be peacemakers.



Scripts Fund-raising Order

It is time for another Scrips order. April will be submitting a paper order on **October 2nd**. New participating companies have been added. There are lists and order forms downstairs. Remember each gift card you purchase earns First Presbyterian money.



Our Bible Study of Favorite Bible stories continues on Wednesdays in October. We will have a light supper starting at 6 PM and then read a story in the Bible. We are currently reading stories from the New Testament. Each session is an independent study so you do not have to have come previously. Please come join us for a time of fellowship and fun as we explore some of the many stories in the Bible.



BELL CHOIR NOTES



The Bell Choir Schedule has been revised.
Our new schedule is below.

Sunday, October 2nd	9:30 AM	Practice
Tuesday, October 11th	6:00 PM	Practice
Sunday, October 16th	9:30 AM	Practice and Play at Church
Monday, October 17th	6:00 PM	Practice
Monday, October 24th	6:00 PM	Practice
Sunday, October 30th	9:30 AM	Practice
Monday, November 7th	6:00 PM	Practice
Sunday, November 13th	9:30 AM	Practice and Play at Church
Monday, November 14th	6:00 PM	Practice
Monday, November 21st	6:00 PM	Practice
Monday, November 28th	6:00 PM	Practice
Sunday, December 4th	9:30 AM	Practice
Sunday, December 11th	9:30 AM	Practice and Play at Church
Sunday, December 19th	6:00 PM	Practice
Saturday, December 24th	7:00 PM	Practice and Play

LOOKING AHEAD



SERVICE OF UNITY WITH COMMUNION

As this election season draws to a close, join us for a service of unity. Although we may be diverse in many ways, including our ideologies, we are all brothers and sisters in Christ. On **NOVEMBER 6TH AT 5 PM**, we will gather together to celebrate our unity in Christ.



*How good and pleasant it is
when God's people
live together in unity!*
Psalm 133:1



YOUTH NEWS

Please join us at St. Luke's for dinner at 6:00 and youth group at 6:30! Youth group ends at 8:00 p.m. We will meet every Wednesday following the school calendar for days off.

October 5th - Youth group at Park Ridge for game night

October 12th - Youth group will continue 7 Habits

October 19th - No youth group due to MEA

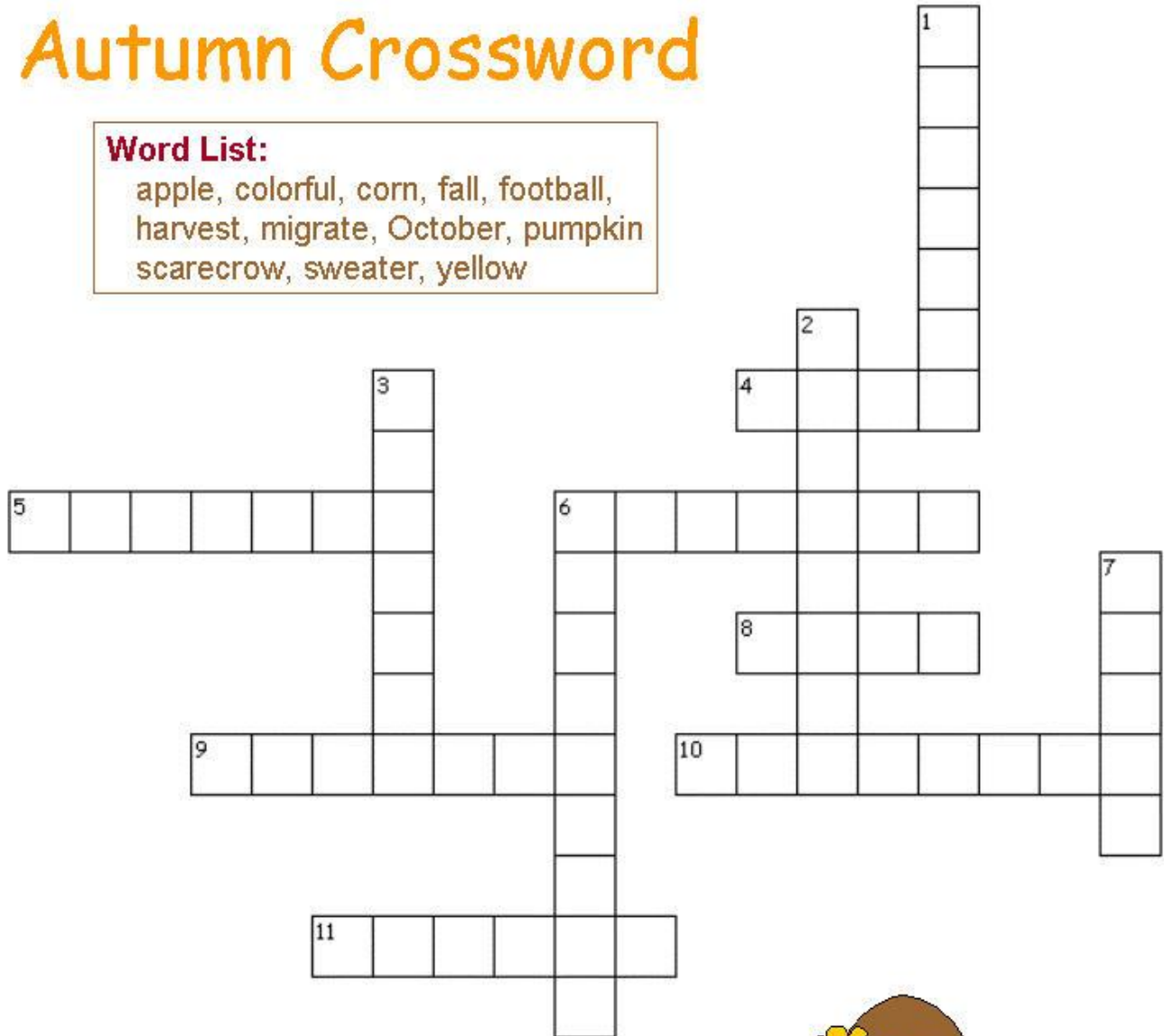
October 26th - Youth group will continue 7 Habits



Autumn Crossword

Word List:

apple, colorful, corn, fall, football,
harvest, migrate, October, pumpkin
scarecrow, sweater, yellow



Across

4. A tasty yellow vegetable with kernels.
5. Another word for gathering crops before winter.
6. Something people wear during autumn.
8. Another word for autumn.
9. Many animals do this in the autumn.
10. The way trees look during autumn.
11. One of the colors leaves turn in autumn.

Down

1. A large orange squash that people carve faces into.
2. A sport that starts in autumn.
3. The middle month of autumn.
6. Used to scare birds away from the corn.
7. A crisp, red fruit.



A Faith to Live By

Helen Lowrie Marshall

Give me the faith of adventure, Lord,
The courage to try the new,
The will to press on in spite of the dark,
Knowing I walk with You.

Give me the faith of desire and hope,
The inward urge to achieve,
All things are possible with You.
O Lord, let me believe!

Give me the faith of awareness
Of beauty everywhere,
Eyes to see, and ears to hear --
An open heart to care.

Give me a faith to live by,
Joyous and unafraid.
A glorious faith to match the dawn
Of this day You have made!

“WITH
GOD
ALL THINGS
ARE
POSSIBLE!”

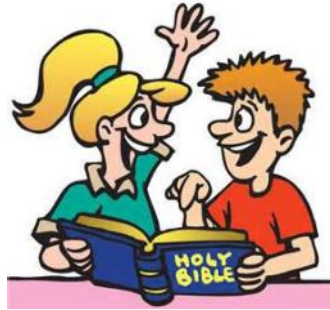
Faith leads us beyond
ourselves. It leads us
directly to God.

Faith
is not hoping
God can
it is knowing
He will

Bible Readings This Month

October 2

Lam. 1: 1-6
 Ps. 137
 2 Tim. 1: 1-14
 Luke 17: 5-10



October 9

Jer. 29: 1, 4-7
 Ps. 66: 1-12
 2 Tim. 2: 8-15
 Luke 17: 11-19

October 16

Jer. 31: 27-34
 Ps. 119: 97-104
 2 Tim. 3: 14-4: 5
 Luke 18: 1-6

October 23

Joel 2: 23-32
 Ps. 65
 2 Tim. 4: 6-8, 16-18
 Luke 18: 9-14

October 30

Hab. 1: 1-4
 Ps. 119: 137-144
 2 Thes. 1: 1-4, 11-12
 Luke 19: 1-10

October 2016 Servers

	Greeters	Ushers	Lay Leaders
Oct. 2	Reiter	Browns	Marcia Caneff
Oct. 9	Mullins	Christians	Grant Tiefenbruck
Oct. 16	Altpeter	Tiefenbrucks	Kristin Blevins
Oct. 23	Tayson/Wittkopf	Blumeyers	Marcia Rash
Oct. 30	Informal Worship	Becker	Dave Hume

Session Minutes for August 2, 2016

A stated meeting of the Session of the First Presbyterian Church of Hastings, MN was held at 6:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall of the church on August 2, 2016.

The meeting began at 6:30 PM when Dr. April Davis Campbell called us to order with the lighting of the Christ candle to remind us that we are called to this holy place, to serve the community of Hastings, and this church. The Pastor then led the meditation which was on the story of Gideon from Judges. “Fear cannot take the lead. Sift out the fear, set it aside and move on your way. I am ready for a miracle.” The meeting was then opened with prayer.

Elders Present:

Class of 2016: Carlotta Mullins, Marcia Rash, Brenda Reiter

Class of 2017: Grant Tiefenbruck,

Class of 2018: Mary Crawmer, Dennis Brown

Absent: Dave Hume

Clerk’s Report: The June Minutes were approved as submitted. Nothing else to report at this time.

Treasurer’s Report: Per Capita that has been collected has been sent in. Expenses are under control.

Foundation Report: No report.

Pastor’s Report: A downloadable Advent Study for \$18 for groups will be pursued. Confirmation has had a couple of two hour sessions this summer. Scheduling has been a nightmare. April will be going to Canada later this month with the family. A colleague of hers is going to be installed as something like an Executive Presbyterian on August 28. Robert Hamilton would be willing to lead the outdoor worship service. A booklet of music would be provided. Brenda and Pat will discuss.

Presbytery Meeting: Most of the meeting was about the separation of the Albert Lea church. The Park Avenue Methodist Church is having a Presbyterian minister. This was considered an approved calling. Dennis will be our elected commissioner for the next meeting in September.

Deacons: They will be meeting on Sunday. They will be making more visitor bags and refurbishing the children’s bags.

M/S/C to receive all of the reports above on the consent agenda.

Committee Reports

Building and Grounds – Dennis – Church sign information from Dennis was shared. Roughly \$10,000 + cabinet from the La Crosse Sign Company. Requirements from the city: No more than 50 square feet of area. Less than 9 feet in height. We’re all going to check out the “House of Wine” sign.

Fellowship – Brenda – The parade was a good fellowship event. There is a new production at the Plymouth Playhouse to check out as another fellowship event.

Christian Education – A team approach for Sunday school is being developed. Everyone is encouraged to take part. Following the previous practice this summer, the Wednesday evening Bible Study will take a break in September and shall plan to resume again in October.

Mission – Mary – Collecting school supplies is coming up fast. The supplies will need to be at the church by August 15th so that they can be distributed by Hastings Family Service.

The feedback from the Rivertown Days Parade was that it went too fast to actually give things out. Lining up was inconvenient this time, too. We also were “bullied” by the group behind us, too.

Stewardship/Finance – Marcia Rash – Giving statements were distributed for the first half of the year. The Wells Fargo Bank Branch near us will close in two weeks. After that the offering will need to be taken to the other branch off of MN Highway 55.

Worship – Dennis and/or Margaret will be on for communion this Sunday. December 11th will be the date for the Lessons and Carols service. The Longest Night or Blue Christmas service will be held on December 18 at 5:30 PM. A service will be held on November 6 at 5 PM focusing on unity before and after the election.

Personnel/Nominating Committee – No activity

M/S/C to receive the committee reports.

Old Business – None

New Business

M/S/C for Emily Forthun to have her wedding here on September 30, 2017. The Rehearsal Dinner may be held here as well. We agreed to not charge for that, other than a custodian charge.

The September meeting of Session will be on September 6th at 6:30 PM.

The October meeting of Session will be on October 4th at 6:30 PM.

The November meeting of Session will be on Tuesday, November 1st at 6:30 PM.












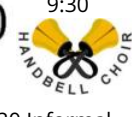



There will be a Joint Meeting of Deacons & Elders on Tuesday, December 6 followed by a meeting of the Session.

April closed the meeting with prayer at 7: 55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Grant Tiefenbruck
Clerk of Session



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2  9:30 10:30 Worship w/Communion	3	4 Session 6:30 PM  Marcia Caneff  Shelly Becker Latimore	5 Youth Group 6 pm Bible Study/Fellowship 6:00 pm	6	7	8
9 10:30 Worship  Kaitlin Christian	10 	11 6 pm 	12 Youth Group 6 pm Bible Study/Fellowship 6:00 pm Prayer Shawl 7 pm	13	14	15
16  9:30 10:30 Worship  Marcia Rash	17 6 pm 	18	19 Youth Group 6 pm Bible Study/Fellowship 6:00 pm	20	21	22
23 10:30 Worship	24 6 pm   Doris Cragoe	25 Pastor April on KDWA 11am-12pm	26 Youth Group 6 pm Bible Study/Fellowship 6:00 pm	27  Conner Stenzel	28	29
30  9:30 10:30 Informal Worship  Kristin Blevins	31   Aimee Fagnant					