

OCTOBER 2019

October Newsletter

First Presbyterian Church, 211 E 1st St, Monticello, IA 52310



A Note from Pastor Emory

This year we are growing solid new ministries at First Presbyterian Church. Our TiLT ministry has started. Our Montreat group has returned with hearts full of love and inspiration. Our Food at First is returning to provide a delicious free meal each month for the community. Sunday School has started again. Confirmation and Adult Education have rebooted. The Food Pantry is serving more families with fresh food from local gardens. In Worship, we are enjoying Irish songs, scripture drama, inspiring stories and sermons. Our Rebecca Circle is starting up again with a series on Cathedrals of the World. We are adding new community brunches - Labor Day and Memorial Day - to serve our town and neighboring friends. And pies keep being sold and going out the door.

1

THANK YOU

Linda Parker and Jeff and Meredith Parker for cleaning up the back parking lot gardens.

2

FELLOWSHIP

Join us at 9:30 a.m. each Sunday morning for coffee, snacks and fellowship, of course!

3

FOOD AT FIRST

Next Food at First is Wed, October 16, 5:30 p.m.-7 p.m. Please join us!



Pastor Emory Gillespie

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Office Administrator, Mackenzie Kahler

319-465-3393

office@fpcmonticello.org



Worship

Sundays 10:00 a.m.

Saturdays
Postponed until further notice

These ministries happen because of you who give generously to your church. Many of you are giving weekly offerings, and we are able to do good ministry in our area because of you. Thank you to each one who is faithfully giving out of your financial resources. We are grateful for your support, and God bless you for your generosity. Thanks also to each of you who gives (or tries to give) on a consistent weekly or monthly basis!

What we are offering the community here at First Presbyterian Church through Christ is unique and so important! For instance, the 25 adults who attended the first TiLT meeting for differently wired kids on Sept 17th expressed their gratitude over and over again for this program at our church.

In a world that zooms and demands and criticizes, First Presbyterian is a community that seeks to offer kind conversations, intimate & honest discussions, and thoughtful, open-minded words of inspiration in a safe space.

As we step into a new school year, we give a big shout-out of thanks to those of you who are making this church a priority in your personal or family budget. You are the reason we are able to carry out the dreams of Christ's Spirit in our important corner of the world. Thank you.

Emory

TiLT Begins

TiLT Together Parent Group held their first meeting Tuesday, September 25 here at First Presbyterian Church. The parents group is the only one of it's kind in the area and is a resource, support, mentorship and friendship group of parents of "differently wired" children, including those with autism, ADHD, learning differences, sensory processing and more. FPC's own Lindsay Ryan has built this group from the ground up and the community has been supporting her both physically and financially. The first meeting was a huge success with **25 adults and 10 children in attendance**. A guest speaker, food and constructive discussion were a part of the first meeting and will continue to be so each Tuesday from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Congratulations, Lindsay! If you'd like to support this group, contact Lindsay directly at LINDSAY.RANDOLPH.RYAN@GMAIL.COM to see how you might be able to help.



E-Newsletter Sign Up

In an effort to be mindful of the church's budge and the environment, First Presbyterian is happy to offer an electronic newsletter. Choosing to receive our newsletter will save postage, printer life, ink and paper. If you like to have the paper in hand, you can always print the e-newsletter, either after receiving issue in your inbox or by going to our website: **www.fpcmonticello.org**. Just let Mackenzie in the office know if you'd like to receive the electronic copy by providing your email address by phone at (319) 465-3393 or by email at **office@fpcmonticello.org**. Thanks for helping keep costs down!



Last Call: Directory

First Presbyterian Church is working on a updated directory. Stacey Takes has offered multiple photo opportunities to have family photos taken to put in the directory free of charge, as well as bringing her camera to worship with her every Sunday. If you have not yet had your picture taken or submitted your own updated photo for the directory, please do so now! The deadline was the end of September and we are in the process of finalizing the new directory. Thanks for helping us complete this project in a timely manner!

PRESBYTERIAN PIE SERVICE

Fall is here and the ladies, and gentlemen, of Presbyterian Pie Service have been busy in the kitchen. With a couple of funerals and a couple of weddings, they've been putting in the extra hours to ensure everyone who wants a pie gets one, and there are still extras waiting in the freezer for that dinner party you forgot or that craving you just can't squelch.

With the holidays approaching, don't forget to pre-order your pies so they are ready for your family gathering.

The Pie Committee will be working on the following Mondays: **October 14th and 28th.**

- Cost of pies is \$10.00.
- Crust in tins is \$2.00.
- Pie crust flats are \$2.00.

Gift certificates are available. Please contact the church office at (319) 465-3393 or Pam at (319) 480-7700 to place orders.



Note of Thanks

Dear First Presbyterian Church,

Thank you for the sponsorship to go to Camp Wyoming. I had lots of fun! We did paint wars, creek stomping and color wars. I met lots of new people and made new friends! It was a great experience and I can't wait to go again!

Thanks again!

Sincerely,

Nadia Peach



Food at First

Food at First restarted in September with a Fareway gift card door prize that was awarded to Joan McKim. Congratulations Joan! A wonderful meal of macaroni and cheese with ham, lil' smokies, salad, fresh green beans, rice crispy bars, cookies and Oreo fluff was served and enjoyed by many. Yum!



Twenty-eight people were in attendance. What a great turn out. Our next Food at First will be held on **Wed, Oct 16 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.** There will be a **\$25 Casey's gift card door prize!** This is open to the community. A free will donation will be accepted and appreciated. Come, join us!

SUNDAY SCHOOL RESUMES

We welcomed back the youth to Christian education Sunday School classes Sunday, September 8. Week one had 19 youth in attendance, while week two had 11 youth in attendance. It was great having the kids back to learn more about our God and we look forward to experiencing the Bible story in many different ways. Join us **each Sunday morning at 8:30 am.**

Dan and Janie Saunders will celebrate a very special wedding anniversary this month on the 4th of October. Congratulations to them on **50 years!** If you'd like to send a card to extend your congratulations to them, it can be mailed to :

Dan & Janie Saunders
132 Highview Ave
Monticello, IA 52310

Labor Day Brunch Held



Monday, September 2, First Presbyterian Church held a Labor Day Brunch for the community. With the help of the session and many volunteers, it was a success. Their goal for the day was met in the first hour, and a trip to the store for more eggs occurred. What a great day and a great event. Thanks to all for their donation of food items, time and funds to make the event a success!



FAMILIES OF COLLEGE STUDENTS:

The Deacons are excited to start sending cards of encouragement to the college students of First Presbyterian Church through out upcoming collegiate school year. If you are interested in having your son or daughter receive cards from us, please notify the church office of the student's mailing address. You can call 319-465-3393 during office hours (M-F, 8 am - 12 noon) or leave a message on the answering machine, or you can send an email to office@fpcmanticello.org.



UPCOMING GROUPS MEET

REBECCA CIRCLE

The Rebecca Circle will meet on **Wednesday, October 9 at 1:00 p.m.** Pastor Emory is starting a new series this year called *Chapels and Cathedrals of the World*. In October, we will take a close look at Notre Dame in Paris, and we welcome anyone who is interested in history, art and the Christian faith to join us. If you have visited Notre Dame, we'd love to hear about it!

CONFIRMATION

Our 2019-2020 class has started. We have five youth who will be meeting with Pastor Emory throughout this year learning about the Presbyterian Creeds, the Early Church, Bible Interpretation and Presbyterian History. It's an impressive group of students, and our hope is that this will be an exciting adventure for them as they explore their own beliefs within a much larger faith tradition. Class will meet **October 2 and October 23 from 6:00 p.m. until 7:30 p.m.** ***Remember to dress warmly for the Oct 23 class; we will be outside.* If you are in the 8th or 9th grade and would like to join us, we are happy to include you!

ADULT EDUCATION

Each Sunday morning at 8:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall, Pastor Emory is leading a new class called *Work, Rest and Fun: What Can the Bible Teach Us?* Did you know that in the last hundred years, people are sleeping 2 hours less every night than they used to? Did you know that in America in the last ten years, on average each person is taking one less week of vacation a year? People are sleeping and relaxing less and less. Is this progress? Is this good for us? Join us this year for a great discussion about living out our faith in this amazing and sometimes exhausting world.

Congratulations to our own Caden Rienke for being voted on to the Homecoming court at Cascade High School!



Thoughts and Prayers

Please remember in your thoughts and prayers:

- Wayne Peach
- Irie Welch (brother of Evalena Lang)
- Stacey Takes' uncle, following bypass surgery

Please remember our shut-ins in your thoughts and prayers:

Pat Anderson
Jane Corbin
Betty Lambert
Lorie Schmidt

Monticello Nursing and Rehabilitation, Monticello

- Ronald Behrends
- Laura Eiber
- Marie Hein
- Barb Null
- Mary Jane Steiner

Pennington Square, Monticello

Session News

August Session Meeting Summary:

Pastor Emory has been busy visiting the rehabilitation and assisted living centers in town to share worship and bible study with those unable to come to church. A youth group is on the radar and there is high hopes to get one going, soon! TiLT is coming together and will be meeting for the first time soon. She spent time at VBS this past month. Pastor Emory is the new church liaison for the Food Pantry.

A few of the attendees from Montreat visited with the session about their experience. It was an enjoyable, age appropriate experience that they thought was worthwhile of their time and the funds. They are looking forward to going again next year. More help and support will be required to pull it off, and the sooner the better so that the financial aspects can be worked out and planned for on a more comfortable timeframe. We are grateful for Karmen's amazing leadership, and we plan to have a larger planning team this year to share the hard work of putting this trip together. Thank you, Karmen!

Andy Smothers came and gave updates on what he has been doing in Bahrain area hospitals, schools and churches. There are 7 congregations in several languages. He ministers to the English-speaking congregation in the building that houses about 36 other congregations.

TiLT organizer Lindsay Ryan visited and talked to us on the parenting group that she has been working on. She has been marketing the group in the area and outlying areas. There is a private Facebook page for those parents in the group to share positive, supportive and constructive thoughts and ideas. They will meet in our church each Tuesday from 6 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. The meetings will be structured with the first 45 minutes allotted for a guest speaker, a break for snacks and refreshments and then restorative circles with a final coming together for the closing of the meeting. Fareway manager has agreed to donate new food products, church members have offered to make cookies and Jo Zirkelbach has offered to prepare lemonade. Silver Service Coordinator at the high school is looking into service hour volunteers to help with daycare. Meredith Parker and her mom are offering to help with kids. Looking for an adult volunteer to oversee the nursery. Still looking for help to organize food and nursery/child care.

Building: AC is a problem. Looking into and found out one air conditioner is broken and needs the compressor replaced. The second one has a Freon leak. Can refill but cannot say that it will not continue to leak. The quoted cost of repair/replace was just over \$6000. Discussion was held about looking into taking up a collection to help pay for them. Session had multiple questions. Going to get questions answered before making a decision.

Special offering/donations for TiLT to be put in some sort of container in front and back of church for the month of Sept and have Emory announce every Sunday.

Welcome for our new church secretary and her family will be Sep 15th at our worship service. Mackenzie and her family will be present.

Sunday School starts Sept 8th and working on the whole year planned in advance.

NURSING HOME MINISTRIES UPDATE

After a couple of very successful rehabilitation and assisted living center worship and bible study sessions in Monticello, Pastor Emory visited as she had been and was greeted by a very devout group of football fans in the meeting room that suggested that it might be best to wait until *after* football season to resume her Saturday evening worship and bible study activities... So that is what she will do. Until further notice, Saturday evening and worship will be postponed until football season ends. Thank you for your patience. Go Hawks!

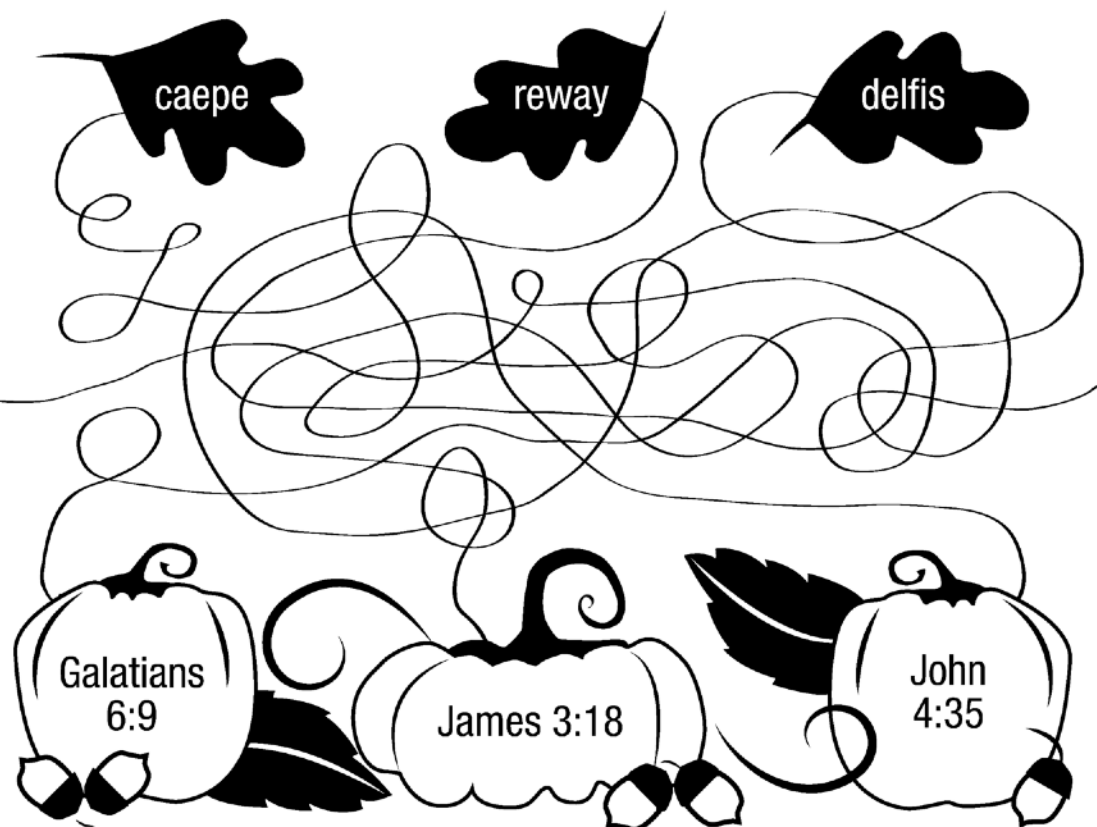




PUZZLE

Harvest hunt

Directions: After unscrambling each leaf's word, follow the vine to complete the Bible verse.



Peacemakers who sow in _ _ _ _ _ reap a harvest of righteousness. James 3:18, NIV

Let us not become _ _ _ _ _ in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Galatians 6:9, NIV

I tell you, open your eyes and look at the _ _ _ _ _!
They are ripe for harvest. John 4:35, NIV

Answer: peace, weary, fields