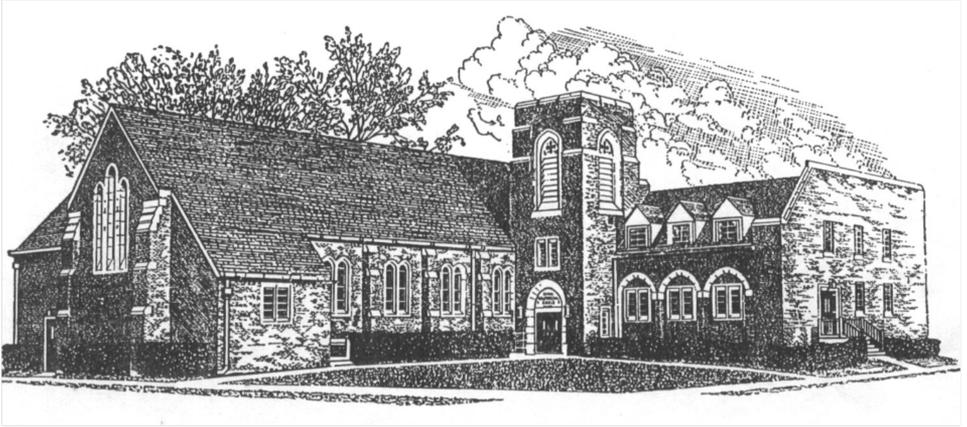


# UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Rev. Donald Freeman, Pastor



## OUR MISSION

*Growing in faith in Jesus Christ  
and guided by the Holy Spirit,  
we seek to share God's love  
and teach others Christ's way.*

## OUR VISION

*To be a growing community of believers that  
enthusiastically reflects the character of Jesus Christ;  
a place where people encounter the Living God,  
are nurtured within the Church family,  
are equipped to grow into the image of Christ, and  
seek to bring others into a relationship with God through Jesus Christ.*

December 10, 2017

# UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Rev. Donald Freeman, Pastor

Worship 10:30 a.m.      December 10, 2017

*We welcome all who worship with us and invite you to have a cup of coffee and share in the fellowship time following the worship service.*

**Large-print bulletins** are available from the ushers.

**Hearing assistance** is available; ask Ben Clayton for assistance.

**Children of all ages are always welcome in worship services**, but a **staffed nursery** is available for infants and preschool children on the second floor during the worship service for those who need it.

## PREPARATION AND MEDITATION

*Heavenly Father, this time of year reminds us of Bethlehem moments long ago. Fill my heart with the hope of Christ's coming. Touch my soul with the peace of the Savior's birth and the expectation of His return one-day. Teach me to live knowing that Christ has come and that He will come again. Amen*

## THE WORSHIP SERVICE

PRELUDE

WELCOME

JOYS AND CONCERNS

INTROIT

CALL TO WORSHIP

Unto us is born a Savior, which is Christ the Lord.

**He is the Wonderful Counselor and the Mighty God,**

The Everlasting Father and the Prince of Peace.

**Come, Lord Jesus, so we may see the Light of the world.**

Come, let us worship the Lord!

\*HYMN #27

*Gentle Mary Laid Her Child*

\*CALL TO CONFESSION

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, come quickly and bring light to our darkness. We long for the peace only you can cause to dwell in our hearts.

You know our hearts and you see our sin. Our sin threatens

to crowd out your light. We find no peace when we are not at

peace with you. We are hopeful and expectant in Jesus Christ, our Savior. We repent of our sins and turn our hearts to you. Forgive us and guide us in the paths of holiness that we might find the peace we long for. (Silent Confession)

\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

\*THE GLORIA #579

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE Gordon & Beth Brand

The Light shines in the darkness,

**But the darkness has not overcome it.**

During Advent our weary souls seek God's daily strength.

**The Lord gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak.**

We grow weary when fear overshadows faith.

**The Lord gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak.**

We grow weary when destructive actions erupt in the world around us.

**The Lord gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak.**

For all of us feeling weary this Advent season:

**Grant that we might have the peace of Christ as we wait,  
the love of Christ as we act, and  
the grace of Christ as we speak.**

WORSHIP THROUGH MUSIC

*Morningstar*

THE GATHERING OF THE OFFERING

Offertory

\*Doxology (#592)

\*Prayer of Dedication

\*HYMN #2

*Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

OLD TESTAMENT page 1072

Isaiah 9:1-7

NEW TESTAMENT page 1589

Luke 1:46-55

THE MESSAGE

Title: "Time to Rejoice"

Text: *My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior... Luke 1:46-47*

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

\*HYMN #23

*Angels We Have Heard on High*

\*BENEDICTION

\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Joy to the world,  
The Lord is come.  
Let earth receive her King!  
Let every heart prepare him room.  
Let heav'n and nature sing,  
Let heav'n and nature sing,  
Let heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

\*POSTLUDE

\*Congregation Please Stand

*CHRISTMAS PROGRAM* – The youth of the church will present the program during the church service next Sunday morning. Come and celebrate the season with them, and then enjoy a . . .

*3S LUNCHEON* in the fellowship hall. Please bring sandwiches, salads, or sweets to share. Tableware, coffee and milk will be provided. All are welcome to attend!

*LADIES* - If you signed up to provide a Christmas present for a nursing home resident, please have it at the church by next Sunday morning. If you can't make this date, please deliver your gift to Accura East (by the YMCA) or call Joy Lane at 641-521-9427 to pick up and deliver your gift. Thanks.

*CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE* will be at 5:00 p.m.

*REMEMBER* this month's "All are Precious" youth, Carter Lehrman and Kaden Marshall. You are invited to pray daily for these youth, reach out to them on Sunday mornings, send an encouraging note, and/or remind them that they are, indeed, "Precious in His Sight!". Carter's address is 1012 East 17th Street South; Kaden's address 2016 South 3rd Avenue East.

*SECRETARY VACATION* – Linda will be in the office 8:30-noon on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays for the remainder of December. Pastor Don will have regular office hours.

*CHURCH DIRECTORY* – In preparation for the publishing of an updated directory, please check your entry for accuracy. If we have correct information for your entry – name(s), address(es), phone number(s), email address(es), people in your household – please write “OK” beside your entry so it will be clear that entry has been checked, and initial it so we will know who to contact if there are questions. Please write in corrections for incorrect information, add missing information, and mark through information that is no longer relevant. A copy of the directory is on the table in the fellowship hall. Today is the last day, so if you haven’t already checked your entry, please do.

*POINSETTIAS* in memory or in honor of loved ones will adorn the sanctuary during the Advent and Christmas season. If you will be purchasing one (or more) for this purpose, please notify Linda in the office (forms for this purpose are available from an usher) before December 18th. The Christmas Eve bulletin will include the names of the honored/memorialized persons, as well as the names of the donors. Following Christmas please feel free to take your plants. Sources in Newton for poinsettia plants are the Hy-Vee Floral Department and Fresh Flowers by Fine Things.

*FOOD PANTRY NEEDS* for December are laundry and dish soaps. January needs will be spaghetti sauce and spaghetti. Donations can be left in the kitchen. Your support is appreciated.

*WINTER CHURCH CANCELLATIONS* – In inclement weather, check KCCI television or KCOB radio station, or call a session member to find out if the worship service has been cancelled.

*WINTER OFFICE HOUR POLICY:* If there is weather-related school closing, delayed start, or early dismissal, the church office will follow suit.

I’d like to thank my church family  
for all of the cards, donations to memorials for David,  
and most of all the words of comfort and caring  
during this difficult time.  
All was most appreciated.



*Margaret Jensen*

NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS is holding a clothing give-away this Saturday at First Lutheran Church. See Pastor Don or Scott Griffith if you could help by donating bags or helping with Friday evening setup or during the day on Saturday.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

December 13th .....Charlotte Damman  
14th .....David Hook  
15th .....Al Roberts

*If your special day is omitted from the birthdays and anniversaries, please contact the church office.*

**ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK**

Worship - 61  
Sunday School - 31

**REMEMBER IN PRAYER**

*In Thanks:*  
the resurrection,  
blessings of health,  
of family, of friends,  
Pastor Don & family,  
those who serve  
others in many ways;

*General:*  
Pastor Don & family,  
wisdom for leaders of  
our community, state,  
and nation;

*For Health:*  
Margaret Jensen,  
Gordon Brand,  
Mara Prihoda,  
Alice Beatty,  
J.D. Wood,  
Jeff & Barb Brittain,  
Mildred Swalwell,  
Pat Clayton,  
Janet Nichols,  
Lois Blumeyer,  
Ruth Hill,  
Martha Hill,

Betty Hanbeck,  
Marcia Harrington,  
Phil Pearson,  
Fran Caldwell;

*For Protection:*  
Those who serve us  
(law enforcement,  
EMTs, firefighters,  
military),  
1LT Matthew  
Borland.

The church office requests your help  
in keeping this prayer request list updated.

If there is a need that should be added or deleted,  
please call Linda at 792-4158, leave a note in the secretary's box,  
e-mail [unitedpres@iowatelecom.net](mailto:unitedpres@iowatelecom.net), or stop into the office  
and leave your message in person. Thanks!

**NOVEMBER 2017 FINANCIAL REPORT**

General Operating Income Year-To-Date: \$111,702  
General Operating Expenses Year-To-Date: \$117,294  
Missions Support Year-To-Date: \$10,368

*Radio, Building Major Maintenance, and other  
non-general-operating funds are not included in this report.*

*Note from Linda:*

*This income figure includes per capita apportionment receipts to date;  
the expense figure includes three of four 2017 per capita payments.*

Today, December 10th	<b>SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b>
	9:15 a.m. Sunday School
	10:30 a.m. Worship
	11:30 a.m. Fellowship
Monday, December 11th	7:00 p.m. Session Meeting
Wednesday, December 13th	5:45 p.m. Choir Rehearsal
Thursday, December 14th	3:30 p.m. Kids' Adventures
	6:30 p.m. Ruth Circle Meeting
Saturday, December 16th	11:00 a.m. Leo Harrington's Funeral
Sunday, December 17th	<b>THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b>
	9:15 a.m. Sunday School
	10:30 a.m. Worship, Christmas Program
	11:30 a.m. Fellowship
Wednesday, December 20th	5:45 p.m. Choir Party & Rehearsal

USHERS	JD & Phyllis Wood
ACOLYTES	Mikayla Creech & Anna Hanbeck
LITURGIST	Randy Caldwell
GREETERS	Jill Titus & Lori Vos
ORGANIST/PIANIST	Jean Ibbotson
FELLOWSHIP	Jill Titus & Lori Vos

## OUR CHURCH AT WORK

### SESSION (meets 2nd Monday at 7:00 p.m.)

<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>
Margaret Jensen Personnel	Deb Zieman Evangelism	Duane Daniels Nominating
Sue Wolters Christian Education	Gary Marshall Property/Finance	Chris Moore Congregational Life
Cynthia Poots Worship	Rachel Summers Clerk	Scott Griffith Stewardship/Mission

### BOARD OF DEACONS (meets as called)

<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>
Joy Osborn-Daniels	Phyllis Wood	Kristin Titus
Lori Vos	Doneta Sullivan	Joy Lane
Jill Hook	Tiffany Lehrman	Jill Titus

## ORGANIZATIONS AND MEETING TIMES

Sunday School		Sundays at 9:15 a.m.
Evangelism Committee		As needed
Worship Committee		Last Sunday following Worship
Christian Education Committee		As needed
Dolores Circle		3rd Wednesday at 9:00 a.m.
Ruth Circle		2nd Thursday at 6:30 p.m.
Radio Ministry	KCOB AM 1280, FM 95.9	<u>LIVE</u> Sun., 10:30 a.m.
Pastor & Moderator	Rev. Donald Freeman	417-9376
Secretary	Linda Rex	275-1204
Choir Director	Cynthia Freeman	792-7177
Organist	Jean Ibbotson	521-8342
Custodian	Ann Raygor	791-9321
Financial Secretary	Mary Griffith	792-4209
Ass't. Finc. Secretary	Doneta Sullivan	521-3094
S. S. Superintendent	Jill Hook	792-4274
Ass't. S. S. Supt.	Joy Osborn-Daniels	791-7232
Church Treasurer	Cynthia Poots	792-7718
Librarian	Betty Hanbeck	792-1142
Prayer Tree Leader	Kathy Ellis	792-5219

## STAFF AND MINISTRIES

Secretary's Office hours: Mon., Wed. & Thurs., 8:30 a.m. - 2:15 p.m.

Pastor's Office hours: Mon. - Thurs., 7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

phone (641) 792-4158; e-mail [unitedpres@iowatelecom.net](mailto:unitedpres@iowatelecom.net)

Website: [unitedpresbyterianchurchnewton.org](http://unitedpresbyterianchurchnewton.org)