



From Denise's desk....

Sailboat churches live to partner with the Holy Spirit in what God wants to do for the world. This is our mission. In so doing we follow Jesus, who lived to do the work of 'the one who sent me' (John 4:34). Involvement in mission is also the way the church finds continuing life and vitality. Every church, no matter how large or small, has a part to play in God's work for the sake of the world (31).

In Chapter 5 of *The Sailboat Church*, Joan Gary focuses our attention on what sailboat churches have been called to do on behalf of their communities and the wider world. She explains that each church has a unique mission, which it is called to undertake under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. And yet, she maintains that there are certain things that the church is to do in every place it is located.

### **+Proclaim the Good News**

In many respects, the church fashions itself after other organizations. We hold meetings. We have people serve on committees and boards. We do philanthropic work in the community. However, we exist primarily for one purpose: to share the good news that God is at work in the world and to point to that reality through our worship and service. As Gray points out, "Other organizations do good things that resemble other forms of the church mission, but proclaiming God's saving love and power to the world is uniquely the mission of the church" (32)

### **+Demonstrate God's Reign**

Mission happens outside of the church building, yes. However, one of the main purposes of the church is to demonstrate that God is at work both inside and outside the walls that contain us on Sunday morning. Clarence Jordan, who founded the Koinonia community, likens the church to a "demonstration plot." We are to demonstrate through our relationships with one another the quality of life that shows God's love and concern for the world. Gray indicates that this love and concern is manifest

to us and others when the presence of hospitality and the fruit of the Spirit are evident.

### **+Invite People into Relationship with God**

One of the primary functions of the church, the community of faith, is to share the good news of Jesus Christ with others and to invite them to know, love, and serve in his name. The early Christian community made it a point to share this good news with the marginalized members of their community, i.e. the widows, orphans, and disenfranchised. They took seriously the invitation Philip gave to Nathanael (John 1:45–46), “Come and see.” So should we.

### **+Engage in Loving Service**

The original Twelve were human beings. So are we. Like those disciples, our humanity sometimes gets in the way of doing things in the manner and Spirit of Jesus. We want to be first. We argue over things that do not ultimately mean anything in the kingdom of God. We elevate ourselves over and above others. This is not the way of Jesus. A sailboat church knows this because it moves intentionally with the Spirit’s guidance. Faithful discipleship requires us to take a backseat to the needs of others, particularly those who are marginalized in our society. In Gray’s words, “It is challenging to listen deeply to people in need and engage in honest relationships that encourage accountability, dignity, and healing.” (36).

### **Offer Prophetic Witness**

In addition to the community of faith, and the particular community in which our various churches are located, faithful disciples bear responsibility for bringing “judgment and the gospel of God to...the structures and culture of our time” (36). This is a responsibility that many of us want to avoid, since we have been conditioned to believe that “politics and religion shouldn’t mix,” and therefore the church has no right to speak on social matters, particularly when the government is involved. However, Gray contends “we cannot claim to be faithful in God’s mission if we are not faithful in the public arena. The lordship of Christ extends not only to individuals but also to societies” (37)

Question: How well do you think the Boone church does in carrying out and fulfilling these areas of mission?

Peace be with you, Pastor Denise

# Congregation Connections

## Habitat for Humanity

Our scheduled workday for the Habitat for Humanity Helping Hands project is June 22. We'll tentatively be working on cleaning up a yard and building a shed at 1003 Mamie Eisenhower.

We will also be working with the Central Christian and First Baptist Churches to provide lunch for the workers at the same site on June 8. Please think about where your talents lie and consider giving us a "helping hand" in any way possible.

You can contact Jennifer Rivera or Pastor Group to volunteer.



## Sarah Ruth Circle

### GOD'S PROMISE: I AM WITH YOU

Wednesday, June 19, 1:30 pm

Eastern Star (East Lounge)

Lesson: Denise Group (Chapters 2 & 3)

Hostess: Devon O' Tool

*faith and*  
**finances**

## AUTOMATIC WITHDRAWAL CONTRIBUTIONS

The Session encourages the members of the congregation to contribute to the church by using automatic withdrawal of funds from your personal savings or checking account. Using this option has several advantages for you and the church:

+Saves time. You have fewer checks to write.

+Meets your giving commitment in a convenient and timely manner. You don't have to write checks in advance when you are going on vacation or out-of-town for business or family obligations.

+Helps the church to meet its expenses and manage its budget more effectively. This is especially important in the winter and summer months when attendance traditionally declines.

Automatic Withdrawal forms can be picked up at the church office. Please remember that special offerings are not covered by automatic withdrawal, and we encourage you to continue your support of our special offerings and mission projects.

The Presbytery of North Central Iowa invites you to the celebration of **Rev. David A. Feltman**

Saturday, June 22, 2019  
11am worship, 12:30p dinner & reception  
First Presbyterian Church  
1111 5th Avenue North  
Fort Dodge, Iowa 50501

We celebrate David's retirement and his 40th anniversary of ordination.



The image is a promotional poster for 'Habitour'. The left side features the 'Habitour' logo, which consists of the word 'Habitour' in a green, cursive font, surrounded by a circular arrangement of brown bicycle chain links. Below the logo are two logos for Habitat for Humanity: 'Heart of Iowa Habitat for Humanity' and 'Dallas County Habitat for Humanity'. The right side of the poster has a dark blue background with a white speech bubble containing the text 'SAVE THE DATE'. Below the speech bubble, the event details are listed: 'Saturday August 24th, 2019' and 'Raccoon River Valley Trail - Perry, Iowa'. Further down, it says '25 / 50 / 100 Mile Options'. At the bottom, it reads 'We ride to break the chain of poverty.' followed by the website 'heartofiowahabitat.org/habitour' and 'Find us on' with a Facebook icon.

**SAVE THE DATE**

Saturday  
August 24th, 2019  
Raccoon River Valley Trail - Perry, Iowa

25 / 50 / 100  
Mile Options

We ride to break the chain of poverty.  
[heartofiowahabitat.org/habitour](http://heartofiowahabitat.org/habitour)

Find us on 



Ian Michael Confirmation

Baptism:  
Cameron Ross Pepples





Jackson Hora Graduation

## News from North Central Iowa Presbytery

A called meeting of the Presbytery of North Central Iowa was held Wednesday, May 8, at First Presbyterian Church in Ackley. The following were acted upon:

RECEIVED and APPROVED the resignation of the Rev. Glenn Wilson as Stated Clerk with much thanks for his years of service as Assistant Stated Clerk and Stated Clerk. A love offering was presented to Glenn, and a reception was held in his honor at the conclusion of the presbytery's business.

ELECTED the Rev. Kristin Pike as Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of North Central Iowa for a one year term. Kristin is currently the Stated Clerk of Des Moines Presbytery, and this is a shared agreement between the two presbyteries.

AFFIRMED the Terms of Call for the Rev. Ian McMullen to serve as General Presbyter of North Central Iowa Presbytery and Prospect Hills Presbytery in a Temporary Supply capacity. This would allow the two presbyteries, as well as the Presbytery of Des Moines, to issue a formal call to Ian at a later date if the way be clear. North Central Iowa Presbytery will pay 60% of the salary and benefits; Prospect Hills Presbytery will pay 40%. This is

based on the membership totals of each presbytery. Ian will begin his duties as General Presbyter in mid-May so he can work with David Feltman until David retires at the end of June.

APPROVED the formation of a joint Personnel Committee, which would include members of North Central Iowa Presbytery and the Prospect Hills Presbytery.

REMINDED the members of the presbytery that a farewell reception for the Rev. David Feltman will be held on June 22 at First Presbyterian Church in Fort Dodge. All members of the church are invited to attend.

## **Summer Meal Meet-Ups**

At Summer Meal Meet-Ups, anyone 18 and under can get a free, nutritious meal or snack at more than 50 locations in central Iowa. Everyone's welcome and no sign-up is required. Meals, days and times vary by location, so check your local site for availability. A nutritious summer starts here! **Free for anyone 18 and under**

### **Franklin Elementary**

Open site for Students June 10–July 18  
Breakfast 7:45–8a & Lunch 11a–Noon

### **Boone High School**

Breakfast 7:45–8a & Lunch 11:30–Noon  
June 10 & 24 & July 8 & 22 Library Stories 11a

## **Sympathy extended**

Sympathy extended to Sandy and Matt White on the death of Sandy's mom, Sally Stanley, on March 24th.

## **Church Leaders**

### **Session 2019**

David Anderson	Curt Nystrom
Dick Criner	Marck Nystrom
Linda Hora	Kristen Pepples
Rick Lynch	Deb Prouty
	John Stribling

### **Deacons 2019**

Jill Anderson	Sue Nystrom
Debi Jenson	Devon O'Tool
Kelsey Moline	Breanna Streeter

## Church Address & Phone

703 Greene Street  
Boone, IA 50036

Pastor Denise (515) 298-3464  
Office (515) 432-2174



### **SAVE THE DATE!** **COMMUNITY VACATION BIBLE** **SCHOOL**

**First United Methodist Church**  
**June 17-20, 5:30 pm-8:00 pm**

#### **Needs:**

We are responsible for the meal and Bible study on June 17. Pastor Denise is already helping with crafts, so someone else will need to take care of the story (Queen Esther Takes a Stand). There are three different storytelling possibilities (skit, readers' theater involving the class participants, or stand-alone storyteller). Members of the Congregational Life or Global/Community Outreach are obvious choices for people to help, but anyone in the congregation can step up to take on the responsibilities for the meal and storytelling. I have an idea for the meal if anyone is willing to take that on. Let me know ASAP if you would be willing to help.

# Dates to remember

## Happy June Birthday

9–Linda Hora, Joe Rivera  
13– Norm Gunnink  
14–Emma Jo Hyatt  
17–Betty Cox  
19–Sandy White  
21– Kelsey Moline  
25–John Nelson  
28–Karen Musser



## Pray for Each other:

### **Presbytery of North Central Iowa**

United Presbyterian Church–Garner (CP Justin Asche)  
United Presbyterian Church–Goldfield (Rev. Sara Sutter)  
First Presbyterian Church–Grand Junction (CP Wendy Pitman)  
First Presbyterian Church–Paton (CP Wendy Pitman)  
First Presbyterian Church–Greene (Rev. Cathy Belles)  
Eden Presbyterian Church–Rudd (Rev. Cathy Belles)

### **Congregation**

Pauline Hora/Duane Kopp  
Nicole Hornberg  
Emma Hyatt (student teaching in the fall))  
Debi Jenson (non–resident member)  
Frances Juchems (currently homebound)

### **Eastern Star**

Theo Anderson  
Peg Gus  
Barb Lilly  
Char Nystrom  
Louise Payton



## Prayer Team:

Members of the Prayer Team regularly meet on the 2nd Sunday of the month (8:30am) to pray for the members and friends of the congregation as well as situations that affect our nation or world. The current members of the Prayer Team include Daryl Boelman, Dick Criner, Evelyn Criner, Betty Stribling, John Stribling and Pastor Denise Group. If you have a prayer request, please call the church office (515) 432-2174 or any member of the prayer team. If you would like to join the Prayer Team, please join us at our next meeting.

### **June Coffee Hour**

- June 2** Kristen Pepples
- June 9** John & Marlys Wassenaar
- June 16** Dick & Evelyn Criner
- June 23** **Open**
- June 30** **Open**

### **June 2 Communion**

Kristen Pepples\*  
Devon O'Tool  
Nyarok Kouk  
Betty Stribling  
John Stribling

“By the Grace of God grow in faith, mission, and vitality”

**Stated Meeting of Session  
First Presbyterian Church, Boone, IA  
May 21, 2019**

Rev. Denise Group, Moderator

Attending Elders: 2019	2020	2021
David Anderson	Dick Criner	Linda Hora
Rick Lynch	Marck Nystrom	Curt Nystrom (by Zoom)
Kristen Pepples		

Absent and Excused: Deb Prouty and John Stribling

The Moderator called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Fireside Room. A quorum (7 of 9 Elders) was present.

**Joys and Concerns:** Prayers were offered for members, relatives and friends.

**Devotion:** Rev. Group gave the devotion and then opened the meeting with prayer.

**Matters for Session Discussion and/or Action**

The agenda was reviewed.

**Clerk’s Report:** Minutes of the April 16, 2019 Session meeting were reviewed and approved.  
Add Vaiden Guandong Kouk to Baptized Member roll (Baptism April 21, 2019)  
Add Cameron Ross Pepples to Baptized Member roll (Baptism May 12, 2019)  
Move Ian Michael from Baptized Member to Active Member (Confirmed May 5, 2019)

**Pastor’s Report:** Session reviewed the Pastor’s Report which included a summary of Rev. Group’s various activities: home/hospital visits and other communications; Habitat Blitz Build in Marshalltown, Called Presbytery and Presbytery council meetings; community activities such as Boone Ministerial Association, and Bible Study and Chapel at Eastern Star, Good Friday service at First Baptist, and Community Worship Service meeting at Grace Community; and VBS planning meeting at First United Methodist.

The Session reviewed and discussed the document, “What’s Next? Some Options for Churches” in preparation for the planned visit of Rev. Jim Dubois (our representative from the Council on Ministry) at the next Session meeting on June 18.

A motion was made and the Pastor’s Report was approved.

Rev. Group reported that the F. William Beckwith window project is complete and that the window will be dedicated on June 9. She also stated that Vacation Bible School will be held jointly with the Methodist Church on June 17-21.

**Regular and Special Committee Reports**

**Congregational Life (Christian Education, Fellowship, and Worship):** No report

**Stewardship (Finance, Personnel and Properties):** Session reviewed and discussed the financial report.

**Properties:** David Anderson reported on the total cost of the elevator repair (\$7,300) and Session decided to begin to collect a special offering (Dick Criner will report on this at an upcoming worship service, and Linda Hora agreed to make a poster to track fundraising progress). Marck Nystrom suggested that the Session plan a Swedish meatball dinner to raise funds.

**Personnel:** No report

**Global/Community Outreach (incl. Scholarships):** No report

**Nominating Committee:** No report

A motion was made and passed to accept the regular committee reports.

### **New Business**

There was no new business.

The meeting was adjourned with prayer at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:  
Brenda Behling  
Clerk of Session



