

THE LAMPLIGHTER

Pastor

Rev. Greg Graybill
greg.g@fupcmoline.org

Associate Pastor

Rev. Ben Ruyack
ben.r@fupcmoline.org

Youth Director

Matt Hampson
matt.h@fupcmoline.org

Children's Director

Tori Burdick
tori.b@fupcmoline.org

Administrator

Anna Engelbrecht
anna.e@fupcmoline.org

Choir Director

Doug Peterson
doug.p@fupcmoline.org

Worship Music

Accompanist
Lisa Mizeur
lisa.m@fupcmoline.org

Custodian

Teresa Holmquist
teresa.h@fupcmoline.org



A NOTE FROM PASTOR GREG

For what is our hope or joy or crown of boasting before our Lord Jesus at his coming? Is it not you? 1 Thessalonians 2:19

Planting a church, as Session has proposed, is a big deal. Here's my personal take on it, and why this idea brings me joy. As tough and as risky as it is, I believe that—trusting in God and seeking his glory—FUPC should step out in bold faith and seek to plant a church in the Quad Cities.

This position aligns with my own personal faith, and it fits the way God has equipped me joyfully to take on a Big Project from time to time. Church planting is a worthy cause, and though it is difficult, God is able, and the outcome is likely very good—both for growing the broader body of Christ, and for infusing a new spiritual vitality into our own congregation. As our Western culture continues to darken by rejecting God, let us step out in boldness and faith, and shine the light of Christ as a beacon for God's glory—for this season, and in this hour. Let it be written in the Lamb's book (Rev. 20:12), that in the brief moment we lived in this fallen world, we acted with courage and faith, to reach the lost, and to proclaim the glory of God.

The Salvation of Human Beings

I accepted Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior when I was a young child. I remember growing up, sitting in the pews at First Presbyterian Church in Walla Walla, Washington, thinking, "What is most important in life? What should I do with my life?" It came to me that the most important thing for us is to know

God and receive salvation through Jesus Christ. Otherwise, what good is it to gain the whole world, and then forfeit your soul (Mark 8:36)? In the light of eternity, this life is but the blink of an eye. One's eternal destiny is more important than any earthly circumstances or achievements. This conviction is part of the means by which God drew me into pastoral ministry. I want to see people saved for eternity, to the glory of God.

The Big Project

Another theme in my life has involved a passion for big, challenging projects—so long as the cause is worthy and the likely outcome is good. Such a project is energizing for me. In these cases, I rely on God, and seek wisdom in how to accomplish the task. With the plan in place, I can pursue it with dedication and consistency for as long as it takes. This is how I felt about pursuing a Ph.D. (four years), getting my doctoral thesis published with Oxford University Press (nine additional years), and facilitating FUPC's denominational transition to the Evangelical Presbyterian Church (2.5 years). Only now with church planting, instead of participating in the *division* of the body of Christ, we would be participating in its *multiplication*. In a way, to me, this feels like a fulfillment of what we began when we moved to the EPC—instead of retreating and fighting doctrinal battles against error, we are *advancing* and reaching out with the Truth to a lost and dying world for whom Christ died. No Big Project

could bring me greater joy, and I would gladly lead, facilitate, and equip our church planting teams with everything I have to offer. I am passionate about this project, and would engage with it very closely. The detailed plan we have received from the EPC makes sense to me, and I would be honored to help our people navigate every detail of it.

A Worthy Cause

Church planting (that is, starting a new independent congregation that meets in its own location) is certainly a worthy cause. It demonstrates obedience to Jesus Christ in the Great Commission (Matthew 28:16-20), and it follows the example of the Apostle Paul in seeking to plant churches in growing population centers. The Quad Cities area is a growing population center, and it is also one of the most churchless metro areas in the entire United States (#27 in the USA, according to Barna¹).

As Jesus said, “Look, I tell you, lift up your eyes, and see that the fields are white for harvest. Already the one who reaps is receiving wages and gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together” (John 4:35-36).

A Likely Good Outcome

Planting a church is hard. About half the time, they fail, and even if they do not, it is costly to send dollars and people when we always need both in our own congregation. But we do not plant a church out of our own excess capacity (that was certainly not the Apostle Paul’s model!). Rather, we plant a church even in our own need—for when we are weak, then we are strong (2 Corinthians 12:9-10). For it is not in our own weakness that we step out in faith in our strong Lord. The Gospel is not for those who have it all together, but for those who know that they don’t. Therefore, God gets the glory, and when he calls, he will equip us, he will fight the battles, and he will open the way.

And even so, from a worldly perspective we are not as weak as we might think—our congregation has no debt, we have a robust capital expenditures fund, and we have many passionate disciples of Christ in our midst who want to do great things for the Lord. Jesus said, “Everyone to whom much was given, of him much will be required, and from him to whom they entrusted much, they will demand the more” (Luke 12:48). Though we have our own challenges, in comparison to the vast majority of other EPC churches, we are wealthy. Woe to us, if we bury the Master’s talents, rather than using them to multiply (Matthew 25:14-30).

But duty is not the only reason to pursue church

planting—we can step out in faith, rejoicing, in the same way that we do in the area of generosity. For just as the generous man finds himself blessed in his own spirit, so the church that ventures into church planting often experiences a spiritual renewal themselves. Tim Keller lays out the evidence for this in his article on church planting. *Church planting often results in the revitalization of the sending congregation.* This was a key point in the discussions and discernment of our Long-Range Vision team when the Lord led us to the idea of church planting. This point made an impression on Session as well.

But even if church planting did *not* redound to the benefit of our own congregation, our primary purpose in church planting is *not* to gain something for ourselves! Rather, it looks *beyond* our own little congregation, to the building of the overall body of Christ itself. This brings us out of an FUPC-only-focus, to a *kingdom-of-God* focus. And that is, after all, our vision at FUPC—to know *Christ* and to make him known! The radical obedience of church planting will both help *us* to know Christ better as we rely on him in this process, and it will also make Christ known better beyond our own walls. To engage in church planting is actually to fulfill our vision in a powerful way that we have never yet dared to do at FUPC. To the best of my knowledge, this endeavor would be our *first* church plant in over 125 years of history at FUPC. It’s a big challenge, but it’s time we took it on.

Light in the Darkness: A Call to Boldness and Faith

Do we plant a church? Do we look at our own strength and resources, or do we also look to *God’s* strength and resources? Let us be bold and courageous, following Joshua and Caleb, rather than the ten spies who faltered (Numbers 13). Let’s not be complacent. Let’s be bold and courageous, and call upon to God to show us his glory. Let’s trust him. Let’s plant a church.

What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you believed, as the Lord assigned to each. I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth.

1 Corinthians 3:5-7

¹<https://www.barna.com/research/churchless-cities-where-does-your-city-rank/>

Pray for our at home members

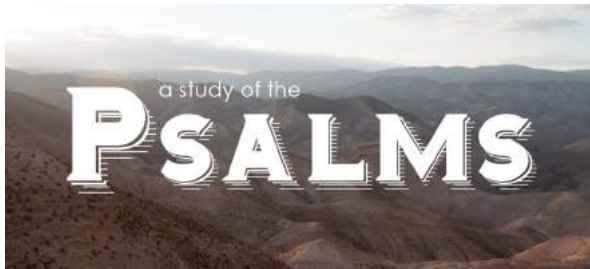
Harry & Ina Ackeberg
Margaret Farrar
Lois Freeman
Geneva Gsell
Marie Hoscheid
Carol Jacobs
Vernette Jensen
Ellie Swartout
Ivy Talbert

PRAYER REQUESTS

Expecting Parents: Jeff & Lisa Dellitt Matt & Sydney Hampson	Lou Peterson Nan Ryan Kathy Shetler Pastor Greg & family Pastor Ben & family Tori Burdick Matt & Sydney Hampson Session Board of Trustees Deacons Staff
Lavern & Sandy Balk Bonnie Cashen Rich & Alice Dailing Amy Earnest Keith Erickson Jamie Frits Maharah Jones George McDermott	

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Talyah Jones
- 2 Sheri Correll
- 4 Karsyn Kuffler
- 5 Kory Kuffler
- 7 Val Calzia
Larry Curtiss
- 10 Heidi Neels
Matthew Dollenbacher
- 11 Jeff Young
- 13 Nathan Elmore
- 14 Emma Williams
- 15 Debby Wheeler
- 16 Rich Holmquist
Rosalie Graybill
- 17 Tori Burdick
- 20 Clay Janoski
- 21 Mei Lin McDermott
- 22 Anavah Jones
- 24 Grant Williams
- 25 Jacki Wilkerson
- 26 Karen Dellitt
- 28 Jim Quandt
- 29 Joseph Stark
- 30 Heather McDermott



Sermon Scripture for September:

Sept 2	Psalm 13
Sept 9	Psalm 14
Sept 16	Psalm 15
Sept 23	Psalm 16

COFFEE MAKERS NEEDED

In order to continue to provide coffee for fellowship and Sunday School each Sunday we need volunteer coffee makers. Typically this would involve only one Sunday per month except for the 5th Sunday occurring every three months. Initial instructions will be provided. Please contact Doug Correll.

Thank you
For Congregational Care

ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

- On September 2, we will meet in the C-E wing for a time of sharing what the summer electives meant to you. What was covered and how did it impact you? After a time of sharing, we will turn to a time of prayer. We will pray for the Adult C-E classes beginning on Sept. 9. We will also pray about the long range planning team's vision for our church. Prayer is a vital element in the daily work of the church and in determining its long term vision and actions.



OUR NEXT BREAKING BREAD OPPORTUNITY-

Sunday **October 7** after church will be the next opportunity to participate in an informal Breaking Bread meal with other FUPC attendees at another member's home. Come and enjoy fellowship and a meal! Sign up sheets will be available in the fellowship wing hallway for Hosts on September 2, 9 & 16 and for participants on September 16, 23 & 30. If you have questions contact Doug Correll or Stuart Neagle.

BIBLE STUDY FELLOWSHIP - PEOPLE OF THE PROMISED LAND (part one)- We are blessed to have three BSF classes in our area. The mission is global, in-depth Bible classes producing passionate commitment to Christ, His Word and His Church. The vision is to magnify God and mature His people. Core Values: Dependence on God, Passion for Christ, Compassion for people, Excellence, Integrity, Humility. The following Bible Studies are offered:

Day Women's - First Evangelical Free Church, Moline. Thursdays 9:30-11:00am.
Starts September 13th. Children 0 - 6 years.

Evening Women's - Christ's Family Church, Davenport. Mondays 7:00 - 8:00pm.
Starts September 10th. Children 6 - 18 years.

Evening Men's - Bettendorf Presbyterian Church. Mondays 6:30 - 8:00pm.
Starts September 10th. Children 6 - 18 years.

To register go to: www.bsfindernational.org. then click on Find a Class.

JOURNEY TO THE HOLY LAND

We're going back to Israel and you're invited to come! Marsha Holmes will be leading a group to Israel February 24th - March 4th. Some new adventures this trip will be lunch in Jericho, the Mount of Temptation, the Jordan River Valley and the Jordan River. For more information pick up a booklet in the main office. If you are interested in this trip, contact Marsha Holmes at (309) 517-6546 or marsha@marshaholmesttravel.com. If you have never been to Israel, seriously consider it. It will be an amazing experience you will never forget!



Thank You

Thank you all who participated this summer in special music. From singing to instruments there was a wonderful wide variety of talent and praise to our Heavenly Father. Thanks to all for your willingness to serve.

Gene and I would like to thank each member of the congregation for their care, concern, cards, prayers and well-wishes for me. It has now been two months since my life-saving surgery, and I thank God that the cancer was discovered early at Stage 3. Healing is progressing and the prognosis is good with no further chemo or radiation in my future.

We are blessed by your support and encouragement during this time.

In Christ, Keith Erickson

Dear Friends at FUPC,

We want you to know that your kindness at this time is more deeply appreciated than any words of thanks can express. My heart is full of thanks for all of you who came beside us in our time of need and provided a place and willing hands to serve us such a wonderful meal after my husbands funeral. May God richly bless you all!

Mrs Janet Sanderlin
and all the Sanderlin family





ANNUAL VOLUNTEER-TEACHER TRAINING

On August 18, a large group of teachers and volunteers gathered in the CE wing for our annual volunteer-teacher training. Last year, the focus was on the goal of Christian Education, understanding different learning styles, and having application in our times of teaching. This year, the focus was on one-on-one discipleship. During the first main session Pastor Ben spoke about the New Testament rationale for discipleship using Jesus and Paul, as models. He also spoke about how discipleship is about life transformation, not just information transfer. He ended talking about the definition of a disciple is one that has the right heart, right beliefs/thinking, and right practice.

During the second main session, Launa Engelbrecht shared testimonies in her life of how God worked through the power of the Holy Spirit and answered prayer. Launa focused on the role of the Holy Spirit in a believer's life and talked about practical ways that the Holy Spirit works in discipleship. After the main sessions, there was a short break for snacks and then the teachers-volunteers split up into Children's, Youth, and Adult groups to discuss age-specific topics and to go over our Child/Youth Protection plan. It was a great and encouraging time of training, encouragement, and fellowship! If you happened to miss it, please talk to Tori, Matt, or Ben about getting filled in with the necessary information. We are so thankful for all of our volunteers and want to continue to equip them for the service that God has for them!

THURSDAY MORNING BREAKFAST

A big "Thank you!" to those who have brought casseroles. Your part in providing a hearty breakfast for our community guests is much appreciated! Last week thirty three guests were served. The following comments were made the past two weeks:

"We look forward to Thursday mornings! The food is good, but it's not just about the food. We enjoy the fellowship and hearing God's Word. I need God's Word. It helps me."

"My neighbor invited me to come here, and I'm glad!"

"Thank you for praying for me and answering my questions."

"I haven't been able to come for a long time. It's good I can come now."

"I get up extra early on Thursday mornings so I can come."

"See you next week!"

"Thank you everyone!"

Want to meet our church neighbors and community friends? Come to Thursday morning breakfast! If you are able to make a casserole, please sign up in the Fellowship wing hallway. If you would like to help serve our neighborhood guests, ring the church doorbell between 7:30 - 8:00, and you will be welcomed! Breakfast is served from 8:30 - 9:30.

Stephen Ministry Connection

Our third opportunity for Stephen Minister Training starts Wednesday September 5th, 2:30 - 5:00. If God is nudging you to participate, we have room for three more. Just contact one of the Stephen Ministry Leaders.

"Being a Stephen Minister has taught me to rely on God instead of always trying to fix things myself. I've learned what to say, how to listen, and what to do during a crisis. It's a great feeling to provide people with the spiritual care and support they need."

-John, Physician, Greenwood, South Carolina

Is God calling you to be a Stephen Minister?

Talk to one of the Stephen Leaders:

**Pastor Greg, Ruth Neagle,
Launa Engelbrecht, Jim Boland.**

FUPC's Stephen Ministers:

Ruth Anderson
Jane Anne Buller
Deb Egger
Jim Egger
Gene Erickson
Keith Erickson
Jeff Havenner
Lisa Mizeur
Joan Olson
Julie Quandt
Kathy Shetler
Sue Tunberg
Art Wedra

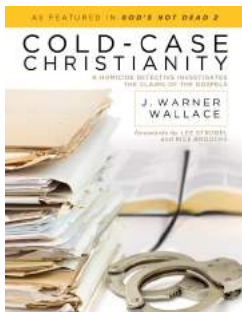
Stephen Ministry, a ministry of Congregational Care. Stuart Neagle, Elder.



Library Lines

The following books were added to the library in August:

The Gospel Comes with a House Key by Rosaria Butterfield. The book jacket states: “With the story of her conversion as a backdrop, Rosaria Butterfield invites us into her home to show us how God can use ordinary hospitality to bring the gospel to our lost friends and neighbors. Such hospitality sees our homes not as our own, but as God’s tools for the furtherance of his kingdom as we welcome those who look, think, believe, and act differently from us into our everyday, sometimes messy lives—helping them see what true Christian faith really looks like.”



Cold-Case Christianity by J. Warner Wallace. The author was an atheist for the first 35 years of his life. He was a homicide detective who saw no evidence that the gospel was true. After applying his skills as a cold-case detective to the claims of the New Testament, he became convinced that these claims were true. Rick Warren wrote: “Cold-Case Christianity is packed with insights to share with skeptics and will give you the confidence to share them.”

Reluctant Smuggler by Jill Elizabeth Nelson. Desiree Jacobs has been tasked with recovering an ancient Mayan artifact. This relatively simple assignment becomes complicated and dangerous when she encounters evidence of someone looting priceless antiques as well as a violent gang of drug smugglers and human traffickers. She and her fiancé, FBI agent Tony Lucano work together to discover the truth and free those caught in this evil.



A big thanks to all who donated books and those who bought books at the used book sale in August.

WOW - Women of the Word

The Fall Study starts September 11, 2018 at 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM. Women of all ages are welcome! Loving childcare is provided!

We will be studying the book of Titus for the month of September. In October & November we will move into a more in depth look at mentoring the Titus 2 way, using short videos from Nancy Leigh DeMoss, "Adorned, Women Mentoring Women The Titus 2 Way."

If you have questions on the study or WOW please contact Vicki Pothoven 309-786-8820 or Cheryl Lehmann 309-235-4142.



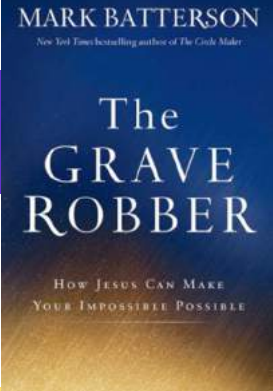


Women's Ministry



Welcome Back to Sarah Circle!

Meets at 12:15pm every 2nd Thursday of the month



Looking forward to meeting again and catching up with everyone! I believe this next study is going to be incredible for Sarah Circle! On **Thursday, September 13**, we will gather for our First Session to begin our new study: **THE GRAVE ROBBER**, How Jesus Can Make Your Impossible Possible, by Mark Batterson (see our Schedule of Sessions below).

We will continue with our two Service Projects, contributing money to purchase

1 - Dinner for girls going to Bible Study Fellowship on Monday Nights. Launa Engelbrecht and Barb Montgomery take the girls to dinner and to the Bible Study!

2 - Items for Youth Hope that food stamps do not cover, such as - laundry soap and women's personal items. Bonnie Cashen has been faithfully collecting the money, purchasing the items, and then delivering them to Youth Hope.

I pray your summer months have been filled with respite and refreshment!

In His Service,
Cheryl

PS - **Lunches:** If you are able to help with any of the food, please let Cheryl know.

Mark Batterson, bestselling author of *The Circle Maker*, invites you on a remarkable journey in the Holy Land, to the very spots that Jesus chose to reveal His power through miraculous signs. Mark shares true stories of modern day miracles and brings to light the countless every day miracles we take for granted - miracles that point us toward the One who healed the sick, calmed the storm, and yes, even raised the dead.

Miracles are not simply something Jesus did in the past; they are something He wants to do now, in the present. If you long to see God work in miraculous ways in your life, you will love Mark's faith-building, life-giving message.

SARAH CIRCLE'S SESSIONS for 2018-2019

DATE	SIGN	MIRACLE	LUNCH
September 13	First	Water Into Wine	Quiches, Nectarines Pistachio Salad, Fresh Fruit & Apple Muffins
October 11	Second	Supernatural Synchronicities	Chicken Wild Rice Soup, Tossed Cranberry Salad, Breads & Pumpkin Dessert
November 8	Third	Very Superstitious	Baked Potatoes, Bring a Topping! Cranberry Sour Cream Pie
December 13	Christmas Party	Fellowship, Devotion, Joy	Bring an Appetizer to Share! Cookies for Dessert
January	No Meeting due to Usual Inclement Weather		
February 14	Fourth	Two Fish	Chili, Bring a topping! Cornbread Muffins Cherry Dessert
March 8	Fifth	Walking on Water	Creamed Chicken over Puff Pastry Mint Dessert
April 11	Six	Never Say Never	French Onion Soup, bring a Bread to Share! Lemon Dessert
May 9	Seventh	One Little Yes	Salad Buffet with Desserts



Vacation Bible School



We had an amazing week of Vacation Bible School June 25th-29th, 2018. Each day the children learned how to prepare for life's big game as we dug deeper into God's Word and learned about is great love for us. God was at work during VBS! We had 50 children and 10 of them made confessions of faith! We also had 50 VBS Staff and we were able to raise \$301 for the Burdsall family and their missionary work. God worked mightily in the lives of the children at VBS this year and we are looking forward to next year!



We had a great kick off to the Awana year on Aug. 22nd! We had hot dogs, cotton candy, sno cones, and a bouncy house! 31 children were registered, and we are looking forward to an exciting year as we include the younger age groups in our Club this year. All children ages 3 years old to 5th grade are welcome to join anytime! The age groups are divided into three groups which are:



3yrs-5yrs. old



K-2nd grade



3rd-5th grade

If you would like to be a part of this amazing ministry where we are sharing the gospel and discipling children on a weekly basis, please let Tori Burdick know! We would love to have you be a part of the team!



SUNDAY ADVENTURES



This Fall we are starting over in our three-year Chronological study of Scripture. We will begin in Genesis where we will see God's redemptive plan from the start. September 9th we will be promoting our incoming Kindergarten students to the elementary part of the ministry. Our classes will be broken down as follows:

- Nursery 0-2 ½
- Explorers Preschool (2 ½ (potty trained) -5 yrs. old)
- Trailblazers (K-2nd grade)
- Pathfinders (3rd-5th grade)



Preschool Teachers

This fall one of our preschool teachers will be having a baby. This means we are in need of some help during our Sunday school hour. We are looking for anyone interested in working with these amazing students who are on fire for Jesus! If you have any questions or are interested, please let Tori Burdick know. We will train you and work with you as you begin!

Rock Solid Kids Ministry Security Updates

Over a year now both the children's ministry committee and the trustee board have been working together on the need for more security for the children's ministry at FUPC. As a church we all seek to be more welcoming and attractive to younger families, because we want the gospel to be proclaimed to the next generation. One of the most important aspects of a church that these families are looking for when finding a church home is whether their children will be safe while they are in the care of the church. While we all know each other and trust each other new families do not know us, and we have not earned their trust yet. Our responsibility is to not only share the gospel and make disciples, but to also do our best with ensuring that every child is as safe as possible while they are participating within the Rock Solid Kids Ministry.

As you are all aware our church building is a bit disjointed, which makes it somewhat challenging to create secured areas for all the children (birth-5th grade). However, the children's committee presented a proposal to the trustee board and session that will make it feasible for the children's ministry to become a completely secured area. In July 2018 the trustee board approved this proposal and a contractor bid that will enable us to make these changes. Our goal is to start the revamp in the late Fall 2018 and have the new security procedures in place January 2019. These dates are all dependent upon how well the revamp will proceed.

Our strategy to make the children in our ministry more safe is as follows. We will focus on moving all children down to the basement, so that it will be easier to create a secure environment as well as being easier for families to have all of their children in one place. We believe that this is in the best interest for our children. We will build half-walls (welcome desks) to create a barrier and to be check-in stations, in order for our children to be more safe and secure, while at church. We will have only two entrances into the children's area for children birth-5th grade, parents, or guardians, which can only be accessed by volunteers who have been thoroughly screened by the children's ministry director.

Within this strategy it means that we will need to move some age groups around. We will move the nursery downstairs into the old kitchen, where the 4th-5th graders have met for Sunday School. Mothers will still be able to access their children easily, because of its close proximity to the sanctuary. However, the babies will then be able to be within the newly secured area. To make the old kitchen secure we will make the current entrance an exit only door and create a new door way behind the half-wall/welcome desk. Our plan is also to eventually have a pager system in place for parents as well, so they can easily be reached by nursery volunteers.

The 4th-5th graders will move into the room right off the elevator with no windows, which is not currently be-

“ Having a safe and secure place for children is a way that we can care for our families ”

ing used on Sunday morning. The vision is to set this space up to be a preteen youth room to help students in the transition into Catalyst.

These changes have been approved by the Children's Committee and haven't been done lightly. We have talked with parents collectively and individually and have received overwhelming support. We have talked with 10-15 of our parents at our fall parent meeting and all were on-board with the changes. We have talked with all 4 of the regular families that currently have their children in the nursery and all are on-board. We have talked with 2 current nursing mothers, who are also in support of these changes. Parents using the nursery have even suggested that we use a pack and play instead of the cribs that are currently there.

There are many security aspects that make these changes of worth when considering the safety of the children in the Rock Solid Kids Ministry. We want to be proactive, instead of reactive in helping our children be safe and secure. We want to create a secure area, where only people who have gone through our screening process, are allowed access to the children. We value safety and security, so that's why we have background checks. However, currently our space allows anyone to go into areas where children are being disciplined. People, who might want to harm a child will have to get through a secure area, in order to do so. Whereas now, we do not have a secure area. People have complete access to children. In today's day and age, visitors expect their children to be in a safe and secure location. This is true of daycare, schools, and churches. By having the half-walls, it helps prevent potential unpleasant situations like a non-custodial parent picking up a child that they have no authority over. If an individual jumps over the wall, it gives us a clear right to contact the police because they are not following our procedures. Currently, we have no separation from that individual and the child.

Our church's vision is "To know Christ, and to Make Him Known" and our mission is "First United Presbyterian Church, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, will develop disciples who worship God, grow

spiritually, care for the congregation, and reach out to the world." This security proposal aligns with our mission and vision this way. As a church, we want to offer children a safe and secure place, so that they can "Know Christ". If families do not feel like their children are going to be safe and secure, then this prevents us from helping them "Know Christ", and also prevents us from "Making Him Known".

In regards to Mission, one of our 4 mission environments is Congregational Care. By having a safe and secure place for children is a way that we can care for our families. Outreach is another mission environment and since families today are expecting to have their children in a safe and secure environment, we don't want to lose out on the opportunity to minister to visitors in this way.

Whether we want to think about it or not security of children is becoming more and more of a need within churches. 63% of Evangelical Christians are saved between the ages of 4 and 14. Satan is aware of this and is making it harder and harder for us to minister to this age group. At least 8 other churches in the Quad Cities that we are aware of have made similar changes in the security of their children's ministry. By making these security updates ourselves will enable us as a church family and team to continue ministering to these children.

We realize that these are some extensive changes that are going to change the flow of the church, and we are so appreciative of your willingness to work with us through this time as we seek to keep our children as safe as possible. If you would like a visual representation of these upcoming security changes they can be found in Tori's office.

Love in Christ,
The Children's Ministry Committee
Keith Asmus, Cheryl Lehmann, Robin Dollenbacher,
Keith Erickson, Dave Dobreiner, Lisa Dellit, Nan Ryan, and Tori Burdick

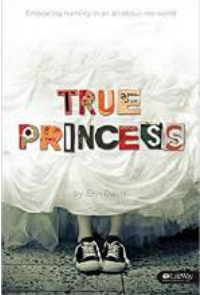
“ We want to create a secure area, where only people who have gone through our screening process, are allowed access to the children. ”





Catalyst

Middle School Girls' Bible Study



We will be starting a middle school girls' Bible study on Tuesday, September 4th. The group will meet on Tuesdays from 6:45pm – 8:00pm. Anna Engelbrecht will be teaching the study. She will be leading the girls through the book *True Princess: Embracing Humility In an All-About-Me World*. The girls will be learning how to live as a daughter of the King of Kings and not a princess of the world. They will need their Bibles and journals will be provided. Contact Matt Hampson or Anna Engelbrecht with any questions.



Girls' Retreat

This year's Girl's Retreat was held on August 17th and 18th at Bill and Rhonda McKinley's house in Viola. The retreat is a time to say goodbye to those leaving for college, saying hello to those joining Catalyst, and a time for fellowship, fun and food.

Devotional time, this year, was a reminder for the older students and an introduction for the newbies on how a princess of the forever kingdom filters media by following Philippians 4:8. The girl's colored a poster to hang in their room or locker as a reminder. During craft time the girl's painted a rock to put under their pillow. When they go to bed their head will hit the rock and remind them to thank God for their many blessings. After they pray, they set the rock on the floor next to their bed so they step on it first thing in the morning and remember to thank God for one more day. They also need to invite Him to join them though the new day. Then they make their bed and put the rock back under their pillow. Repeat on a daily basis. They also created a string art arrow to hang in their room and fun flower pens for Catalyst



note taking. Suggestions are already coming in for next year's retreat.

GUYS' BIBLE STUDY

Guys Bible study meets every Tuesday. We spend time going through scripture and applying it to our lives. Currently we are working through a book titled "The Seven Checkpoints". It is a book that goes through 7 major principles that teenagers should know as they strive to grow in their faith.

High School Girls' Bible Study

Girl's Tuesday Night Bible Study finished the book, "Messy Spirituality" by Mike Yaconelli in the beginning of August. We voted this book as one of our favorites from the last 6 years.

Amazon review, "This book will encourage Christians who believe they fall so short of God's standards of spirituality. "I Guess I'm Not a Very Good Christian . . ." Do you feel like: I don't pray enough I don't

read my Bible enough I don't share my faith enough I don't love God enough I'm not committed enough I'm not spiritual enough Then this book is for you.

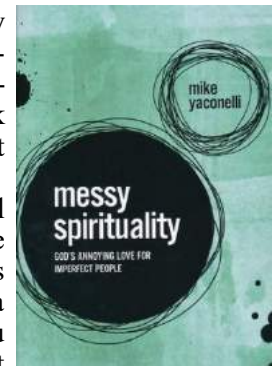
Messy Spirituality was written for the silent majority of us who have been convinced that we just don't do Christianity right. We spend most of our lives worried about what we don't do instead of what we have done, focused on our imperfections instead of God's fondness for the imperfect. Why? Because we've been bombarded with books, tapes, talks, seminars, and movies convincing us that real Christianity is all about perfection. Michael Yaconelli dares to suggest that imperfection, unfinishedness, and messiness are, in fact, the earmarks of true Christianity; that real Christianity is messy, erratic, lopsided . . . and gloriously liberating. What if genuine faith begins with admitting we will never have our act completely together? Maybe messy disciples are exactly the kind of imperfect people Jesus came to earth for and whose company he actually enjoyed and still enjoys.

If you want to find Jesus today, look for him in the midst of burned-out believers, moral misfits, religious incompetents . . . men and women whose lives are, well, messy. Messy Spirituality is a strong antidote for the spiritual perfectionism in us all. Here are truths that can cut you loose from the tyranny of ought-to's and open your eyes to the deep spirituality of being loved, shortcomings and all, by the God who meets you and transforms you in the midst of a messy and unpredictable life."

We encourage everyone to read this book and share it with friends.

Also in August, after we finished reading "Messy Spirituality," we watched the movie "Wonder" while enjoying fellowship and a snack dinner.

We will wrap up the month of August by beginning a study of "The Gospel According to Mark."



SEPTEMBER

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 2:00pm Mary Watters' Open House
2 COMMUNION 9:00am Worship 10:15am Share & Prayer	3 OFFICE CLOSED	4 6:30pm Children's Committee 6:45pm Catalyst Bible Studies	5 2:30pm Stephen Ministry Training 6:00pm Awana 6:30pm Catalyst 6:30pm Adult Choir 7:00pm Prayer Meeting	6 8:30am Community Breakfast 7:00pm Congregational Care	7	8 7:30am Men's Bible Study
9 9:00am Worship 10:15am Sunday School	10 5:00pm Mission Committee 6:30pm Board of Trustees 7:00pm Youth Committee	11 9:30am WOW 6:00pm Property Maintenance Committee 6:45pm Catalyst Bible Studies	12 2:30pm Stephen Ministry Training 6:00pm Awana 6:30pm Catalyst 6:30pm Adult Choir 7:00pm Prayer Meeting	13 8:30am Community Breakfast 12:15pm Sarah Circle 6:15pm Young Families Life Group	14	15 7:30am Men's Bible Study
16 9:00am Worship 10:15am Sunday School	17	18 9:30am WOW 12:00pm Men's Lunch 5:00pm Deacons Meeting 6:45pm Catalyst Bible Studies 7:00pm Session Meeting	19 2:30pm Stephen Ministry Training 6:00pm Awana 6:30pm Catalyst 6:30pm Adult Choir 7:00pm Prayer Meeting	20 8:30am Community Breakfast 6:15pm Young Families Life Group	21 11:30pm Photeinos Fellowship	22 7:30am Men's Bible Study 10:00am Catalyst Amazing Race
23 9:00am Worship 10:15am Sunday School	24	25 9:30am WOW 6:45pm Girls' Bible Study 6:45pm Catalyst Bible Studies	26 1:30pm Outreach Team 2:30pm Stephen Ministry Training 6:00pm Awana 6:30pm Catalyst 6:30pm Adult Choir 7:00pm Prayer Meeting	27 8:30am Community Breakfast 6:15pm Young Families Life Group	28 Presbytery Meeting	29
30 9:00am Worship 10:15am Sunday School						