

Specially-Called Congregational Meeting
First Presbyterian Church
Davenport, IA
October 12, 2025, 10:30 AM

A called meeting of the congregation of First Presbyterian Church, Davenport, Iowa was held in the sanctuary, on Sunday, October 12, 2025, for the purpose of electing Elders and Deacons for 2026, electing the 2026 Congregational Nominating Committee, and electing the Associate Pastor Nominating Committee. The meeting was in-person only. Notice of the meeting was presented in worship, the church bulletin, and other church publications for the past 2 weeks.

Moderator Rev. Dr. Kristopher Schondelmeyer called the meeting to order at 10:39 AM and opened with prayer.

The Moderator declared a quorum was present.

The Moderator presented the agenda and reviewed the purpose of the called meeting.

The 2025 Congregational Nominating Committee moved the following members be elected to serve as Elders beginning in January 2026 for 3-year term, unless otherwise noted:

- | | |
|-----------------|------------------------------|
| • Nate Kabel | • RuthAnn Tobey-Brown |
| • Nancy Chapman | • Linda Meadors |
| • Judy Wagschal | • Wendy Hammen (2-year term) |

The Moderator asked for nominations from the floor. None were offered.

The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

The 2025 Congregational Nominating Committee moved the following members be elected to serve as Deacons beginning in January 2026 for 3-year terms, unless noted otherwise:

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------|
| • Cherrie Umland-Burns | • Gail Yingling |
| • Carrie Braun | • Kris Woodard |
| • Scott Johnson | • Dan Breinich |
| • Bill Yingling | |

The Moderator asked for nominations from the floor. None were offered.

The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

The 2025 Congregational Nominating Committee moved the following persons to serve on the 2026 Congregational Nominating Committee (1-year terms):

- | | |
|------------------|------------------|
| • Dianna Darland | • Colleen Duenas |
| • Ted Brown | • Nancy Foster |
| • Judy Hawthorne | |

The Moderator asked for nominations from the floor. None were offered.

The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

The 2025 Congregational Nominating Committee moved the following persons to serve on the 2026 Associate Pastor Nominating Committee:

- Diana Miller-Bur
- Elizabeth Breinich
- RuthAnn Tobey-Brown
- Bruce Bufe
- Sharon Simmonds
- Mark Jones
- Abby Pitcher

The Moderator asked for nominations from the floor. None were offered. **The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.**

Having completed the agenda, the Moderator declared the meeting adjourned at 10:45 AM. The Moderator closed the meeting with prayer.

The Rev. Dr. Kristopher Schondelmeyer
Moderator

Julia A. Meyer
Co-Clerk of the Congregation

Session Meeting
First Presbyterian Church
Davenport, Iowa
October 20, 2025

The stated meeting of the Session of First Presbyterian Church of Davenport, Iowa was held on Monday, October 20, 2025. The meeting was held in Von Maur Hall with Zoom available.

Moderator Rev. Dr. Kristopher Schondelmeyer called the meeting to order at 6:35 PM.

A quorum was present.

Pastor Kris led a devotion after reading Ephesians 3:21-22. Elders discussed how to lead the church using our core values of Energy, Intelligence, Imagination and Love.

	Class of 2025		Class of 2026		Class of 2027
P	Dan Breinich <i>Personnel</i>	A	Dianna Darland <i>Hospitality & Welcoming</i>		
P	Nancy Chapman <i>Finance</i>	A	Denny Jorgenson <i>Congregational Fellowship</i>	P	Dan Darland <i>Building Grounds & Safety</i>
E	Bonnie Johnson <i>Stewardship</i>	P	Kathy Knox <i>Christian Ed & Fellowship with Youth</i>	P	Craig Foster <i>Finance</i>
P	Nathan Kabel <i>Buildings Grounds & Safety</i>	P	Cathy Pratscher-Woods <i>Stewardship</i>	P	Paula Hartmann <i>Personnel</i>
E	Zoë McCullum <i>Buildings Grounds & Safety</i>	P	Jed Steckel <i>Adult Spiritual Growth</i>	P	Sharon Simmonds <i>Adult Spiritual Growth</i>
P	Julia Meyer <i>Co-Clerk of Session</i>			P	Jay Williams <i>Adult Spiritual Growth</i>
P	Kristine Oswald <i>Worship & Music</i>			E	Erin Yingling <i>Christian Ed & Fellowship with Youth</i>
P	Mark Ruebling <i>Congregational Marketing & Growth</i>				
P	Vicki Stegall <i>Personnel</i>	P	Mark Jones <i>Co-Clerk of Session, non-voting</i>	<i>P-present E-Excused A-Absent</i>	

Staff members:

P	Rev. Dr. Kristopher Schondelmeyer <i>Pastor / Head of Staff</i>	P	Kristine Olson <i>Director of Financial and Business Administration</i>	P	Darren Long <i>Director of Building and Grounds</i>
P	Marty Bowles Edwards <i>Co-Director of CEFY</i>	P	Jim Middleton <i>Director of Office Administration</i>	P	Matthew Bishop <i>Director of Music and Arts</i>

A Land Acknowledgement was read.

At 6:55 PM, Pastor Kris started the meeting with prayer.

Guests: FPC Staff Members, including Abby Schondelmeyer and Deacon Moderator, Terri Scheetz

The Building, Grounds & Safety Committee, the Personnel Committee and a Co-Chair of CEFY requested amendments to the Agenda, **On motion and second**, the agenda was approved as amended.

On motion and second, the Session approved seating our guests, with voice and no vote.

Abby Schondelmeyer, Co-Chair of CEFY, stated that, due to an earlier request by Marty Bowles-Edwards, Elder Craig Foster had volunteered to participate during a Confirmation Class, but many Sunday classes still need an Elder participant. Confirmation Classes are held at 10:30 AM, Sunday. A sign-up sheet was passed around and Elders on Zoom were requested to email Abby with a date that they will volunteer.

CONSENT AGENDA

The following items were presented on the Consent Agenda:

- Approve the September 15, 2025 Session Meeting minutes.
- The e-vote to approve a called meeting of the congregation for the purpose of electing Elders, Deacons, Congregational Nominating Committee members and Associate Pastor Nominating Committee members for Sunday, October 12, 2025, following morning worship service was affirmed.
- Approve the Called Congregational Meeting Minutes of October 12, 2025.

On motion and second, the Consent Agenda was approved as presented.

- A request was made to have the office or the Pastor's Administrative Assistant ensure that a list of the new Elders, Deacons, CNC and APNC members, who were approved at the October 12, 2025, Called Congregational meeting, appear in the Sunday bulletin and E-news.

CLERK'S REPORT

- Reminder: Session Committees Year-End Reports for the 2025 Annual Report can be submitted at any time but no later than January 16, 2026.
- The Report of the Clerk of Session for September 2025 is appended to these minutes.
- Communications received by the Clerk:
 - None
- Elders, Deacons and FPC Staff were offered training for the Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Policy on September 6 and 29, 2025.
- The 2023 and 2024 annual church records review was completed by PEIA Stated Clerk, Rev. Ellisa Bailey, on Thursday, October 9, 2025.
- **On motion and second**, the resignation of Elder David Bowles-Edwards approved.
- **On motion and second**, the following 8 names were removed from active membership at FPC.

Nancy Kern
Mark Meinert
Cindy Meinert
Sarah Hayman

Matthew Hayman
Lauren Hayman
Kent Marcek
Marianne Marcek

DEACONS' REPORT

Deacon Moderator Terri Sheetz reported that a game night was attended by 4 families. Trunk or Treat is coming up, as well the toys, hats and glove give away.

SESSION COMMITTEE/COMMISSION REPORTS

- Written Session committee reports were received and are appended to these minutes.
- **On motion and 2nd**, the reports from the Finance Committee were received.
- Comments from Elder Craig Foster, Finance Committee, on the Income/Expense reports.
 - We currently have a \$40K deficit for the month of September.
 - YTD, there is a \$90K deficit but we were budgeted for a \$137K deficit.
 - FPC will receive a total of \$100K of additional monies from Birdies for Charity in October. This consists of \$37K from the 9% bonus and \$67K of direct donations to Birdies.
 - There may not be a need to pull more money from savings.

	September 2025		September 2024	
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget
General Fund Income	\$ 32,419	\$ 39,055	\$ 42,538	\$ 38,664
Custodial Accounts Income	5,502	-	2,045	-
Compensation Expenses	(50,753)	(53,370)	(49,208)	(53,195)
Non Compensation General Fund Expenses	(21,305)	(23,632)	(20,128)	(25,441)
Custodial Accounts Expenses	(5,502)	-	(2,045)	-
Operating Surplus (Deficit)	(\$39,639)	(\$37,947)	(\$26,798)	(\$39,972)
Net Insurance Claim Inc/(Exp)	-	-	-	-
Net Surplus (Deficit)	(\$39,639)	(\$37,947)	(\$26,798)	(\$39,972)
	2025 Year-To-Date		2024 Year-To-Date	
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget
General Fund Income	\$ 544,803	\$ 525,835	\$ 450,882	\$ 473,518
Custodial Accounts Income	39,337	-	54,685	-
Compensation Expenses	(460,746)	(474,569)	(463,095)	(481,126)
Non Compensation General Fund Expenses	(175,307)	(209,508)	(169,371)	(206,308)
Custodial Accounts Expenses	(39,337)	-	(54,687)	-
Operating Surplus (Deficit)	(\$91,250)	(\$158,242)	(\$181,586)	(\$213,916)
Net Insurance Claim Inc/(Exp)	(2,396)	-	-	-
Net Surplus (Deficit)	(\$93,646)	(\$158,242)	(\$181,586)	(\$213,916)

All numbers are rounded.

- **Jane Magnussen's Bequest:**
 - Half of the endowment will go to the FPC Foundation. The other half to supplement the Music Department budgeted expenses. This endowment can be spent down to \$0, which is estimated to last for 25 years.
 - After some discussion the motion by the Finance Committee regarding the Magnussen Bequest was approved.
 - With deep, and heartfelt thanks, the church gratefully accepts the gift and adopts the attached guidelines relative to the intended use and management of the gifted assets and agrees that the indicated guidelines may be modified by future action of the Session while maintaining the spirit and intent of Jane's gift for the music department.
 - A motion by the Worship and Music Committee to have the current communion Sunday of December 7, 2025, changed to Sunday, November 30, 2025 (first day of Advent) was approved.
 - A motion by the Personnel Committee to add a second Elder to the 2026 Congregational Nominating Committee will be repeated at the November Session meeting due to the lack of a volunteer.
 - The Fellowship Committee made two requests (gift basket give away and a painting display) of Session but were told that they didn't need Session approval.
 - A motion by the B,G&S Committee to repair the Chapel roof for \$45,885.00, which includes a 15% overage and no IA sales tax, was approved. The work is to be started early in 2026 by White Roofing, Eldridge IA; a \$800 deposit was made to hold the bid. Funding has not yet been decided. Andy Edwards will help Darren Long manage the project.
-

STAFF REPORTS

The staff reports were received and appended to these minutes.

- Kristine Olsen, Director of Finance
 - Pastor Kris, Diana Miller-Bur and Kristine will be meeting to discuss the participation of FPC in Giving Tuesday, which is December 2, 2025.
 - Tomorrow the Staff will be off site for team building at Mad Potter, The painted ceramics will be on display Reformation Sunday. Individuals can vote for their favorite by placing money in jars for bragging rights. All proceeds will go to the general fund.
 - Kristine provided a spreadsheet from 1998 to the present to answer a previous question from Session. It was in 2018 that 705 active members or 286 pledging units gave at least \$750K to FPC. Currently there are 154 pledging units.

Report of Rev. Dr. Kristopher Schondelmeyer, Pastor/Head of Staff

- The office will be closed for about 2 hours, October 21, while the staff are at Mad Potter.

- The Book of Order requires training for Elders and Deacons. New Elder and Deacon training and Child sexual abuse training is being scheduled.
 - Boundary Training is still being developed.
 - Jim Middleton is filling in the database for NoteBird.
 - Rev. Pat Halverson has been on vacation so Pastor Kris visited Patti Sothmann at the hospital.
 - Pastor Kris requested that Session endorse him as Moderator of the next General Assembly of PC(USA). Pastor Kris provided Session with a Covenant of Shared Ministry, which outlines our working relationship should he be elected. The formal endorsement from Session will be sent to PEIA requesting their formal endorsement at the November Presbytery meeting.
-

OTHER BUSINESS

- Commissioner Jay Williams provided a few comments about the 217th Stated Meeting of PEIA on September 20, 2025, Much of the meeting was an inspiring musical service. Rev. Bobby Utterson Murphy was introduced as the new transitional Executive Presbyter. Kevin Coleman reported that Camp Bear Creek has seen an 4.7% increase in campers.
- Commissioners for the 218th Stated Meeting of the PEIA were requested. Dan Breinich and Mark Jones were approved. An e-vote will be administered to approve a third commissioner before the next Session meeting.
- **Strategic Discernment Team:** Nancy Chapman reminded Session of the 4 working groups that were created at the August 14, 2025, Strategic Discernment Team meeting, The four areas are:
 - New HVAC for the 2 buildings
 - Plaster/paint and other cosmetic updates to the buildings.
 - Kitchen update
 - Expansion of the Caring Closet and Fellowship area.
 Nancy reported from the draft minutes of the October 15, 2025 meeting that new HVAC could cost \$550K. There was discussion of repurposing current space and an addition with a new kitchen on the west side is possible, The question was how to create a Master Plan? A new subcommittee will be talking to architectural/design companies that have experience working with churches. A \$50k fee is estimated

Evaluation of the meeting: We accomplished a lot in less time.

ADJOURNMENT

The agenda was completed as revised. No new business was brought to the floor. The Moderator closed the meeting with prayer at 8:59 PM.

The next Stated Meeting of the Session of First Presbyterian Church, Davenport, Iowa will be held November 17, 2025, at 6:30 PM in Von Maur Hall. Zoom will be available.

Rev. Dr. Kristopher D. Schondelmeyer
Moderator

Julia A. Meyer
Co-Clerk of Session

Appendix 1: Clerk's Report, October 2025

REPORT OF THE CLERK OF SESSION **October 2025**

I. Membership Changes

Members Removed

At the September 2025 Meeting, following Session review, the Session acted to remove the names listed below from Active Membership status at FPC.

Ruth Harter
Veronique Hart-Saxton
Perry Hultgren
Jamie Johnson
Rece Johnson
Alene Keppy
Jeffrey Keppy
Heather Keppy
Jillian Keppy
Stacy Lofgren
Madison Lower
Patricia Mackusick
Judi Martin

Marilyn Martin
Tiffany McClure
Daniel Meracle
Michele Meracle
Josyne Moore
Cynthia Murray
Alan Helphrey
Brenda Helphrey
Allyson Grothusen
Julie Grothusen
Michael Grothusen
Nicholas Grothusen

II. Communion

Communion was celebrated on Sunday, October 5, 2025, at the 9:30 AM worship service with the Rev. Dr. Kristopher Schondelmeyer and the Rev. Bobby Outterson-Murphy officiating.

III. Training of Elders and Deacons

Elders, Deacons and FPC Staff were offered training for the Child Sexual Abuse Prevention policy on September 6 and 29, 2025.

IV. Clerk Records Review

The 2023 and 2024 annual church records review was completed by PEIA Stated Clerk, Rev. Elissa Bailey, on Thursday, October 9, 2025.

V. CEFY and Adult Attendance

Sept 2024	Nursery	Pray-ground	Sunday School All Grades	Kirkwood Choir	Musik-garten*	Cherubs	Youth Ministry	Youth Choir	ACE
1	2	11	14	-	-	-	-		-
8	5	14	-	-	-	-	-		-
15	5	14	15	-	2/2*	3/2*	6/12*		12
22	4	11	12	8	5/3*	3/2*	5/5*	17	23
29	5	12	14	10	5/3*	1/1*	9/6*	16	22
Total	21	62	5	18	12/8*	7/5*	20/23*	33	57
Weekly a	4	12	14	9	4/3*	2/2*	7/8*	17	19
					*Children or youth / adults				

September 2025	Nursery	Pray-ground	Sunday School All Grades	1st & 2nd	Tweens 3rd - 5th	Confirmation*	Musik-garten*	Kirkwood Choir	Youth Choir	Youth Ministry*
9/1 - 9/6										
9/7 - 9/13	2	8*	Recess	Recess	Recess	Recess	Recess	Recess	Recess	Recess
9/14 - 9/20	4	10	14	5	5	4/3	4/2	6	Recess	9/6
9/21 - 9/27	4	13	13	5	6	2	Recess	Recess	Recess	8/6
9/28 - 9/30	4	10^	14	5	6	3	3/2	8	10	9/4
Total	14	55	41	15	17	9	7/4	14	10	26/16
Weekly avg	4	14	14	5	6	3	4/2	7	10	9/5
^and 4 youth liturgists		*Cong Conv 15/6					*children/adults			

September 2025	Adult Sunday School	Women of Hope	Bible Basics	Sermon Talks	Contemplative Prayer
9/1 - 9/6			8		
9/7 - 9/13		4	4		
9/14 - 9/20	15		7	9	
9/21 - 9/27	21		6	6	11
9/28 - 9/30	10				
Total	46	4	25	15	11
Weekly Avg	15	4	6	7	11

VI. Worship Attendance

September 2024					September 2025				
		Cong. Count	Choir & Clergy	Totals			Cong. Count	Choir & Clergy	Totals
	9:30 AM	89	3	92		9:30 AM	95	48	143
	On-line Views			52		On-line Views			46
1	Total			144	7	Total			189
	9:30 AM	75	37	112		9:30 AM	99	35	134
	On-line Views			22		On-line Views			44
8	Total			134	14	Total			178
	9:30 AM	95	59	154		9:30 AM	69	40	109
	On-line Views			22		On-line Views			36
15	Total			176	21	Total			145
	9:30 AM	88	33	121	Outside	9:30 AM	73	37	110
	On-line Views			30		On-line Views			35
22	Total			151	28	Total			145
	9:30 AM	106	36	142		Monthly Totals			657
	On-line Views			24		Weekly Average			164
29	Total			166	Video counts are based on views 2 weeks after the last service of the month. Weekly average is figured on the in-person attendance plus watches on Vimeo and Facebook.				
	Monthly Totals			771					
	Weekly Average			154					
On-line views are based on livestream views and views on Vimeo and Facebook 2 weeks after the last service of the month. Weekly average is figured on the sanctuary attendance plus on-line views.									

Appendix 2: Session Committee Reports, October 2025

Session Committee/ Commission Notes: October 2025



Buildings, Grounds and Safety

Meeting: October 6, 2025

Attendance: Darren Long, Andy Edwards, Nathan Kabel, Kristine Olson, Karla Reuter

- I. Matt will be working on the heat in office on Thursday, October 9th.
 - a. electric base board heat will be the 2nd option, as a fallback
- II. Fall Cleanup Saturday, October 25th
 - a. Julia putting in bulletin announcement
 - b. Same day as Trunk or Treat
- III. Gutters installed
 - a. Have not had rain to function test
 - b. Letter was sent that we would not pay the balance until functionality is known
- IV. Roof
 - a. Waiting to hear from insurance on whether we get a better discount or premium by using higher grade materials
 - b. White Roofing was selected as the contractor
 - c. Finance looking to secure the money for repairs
- V. Items set aside for Restore
 - a. Need to be brought down to curbside
 - b. They will pick up items curbside
- VI. Andy going through metal chairs to get rid of broken/damaged
- VII. Crawford will be called to fix pipe across from choir room
 - a. Modern Mechanical will also be contacted for bid
- VIII. Julia Meyer arrived to discuss plans and budget for the landscape sub-committee

Next meeting: November 10th, 2025, 5:30 pm



Finance

The meeting was brought to order by co-chair Tom Spitzfaden.

Present at the meeting were Tom Spitzfaden, Nancy Chapman, Kirk Christie, Kristine Olson, Rev. Dr. Kris Schondelmeyer, Craig Foster and Rebecca Ferris. Via Zoom, Karen Moore, Ami Wells and Matt Bishop were also present. Rebecca, Ami and Matt were welcomed as guests to discuss the first item of business.

Craig reluctantly agreed to take notes.

August meeting notes were approved.

- The draft Guidelines for Magnusson Bequest were discussed. Rebecca shared that Jane Magnusson's priorities for the bequest included Music (including PAS and Youth Music) and keeping the church going. After discussion the committee suggested the following:
 - One half of the bequest would go to the Magnusson Music Fund on the church's books. This would be a restricted fund but not intended as an endowment, to be spent on any music-related needs or special music projects. A 25-year time frame was suggested by the committee.
 - One half would go to the Foundation Endowment Fund. This might be a true endowment or quasi-endowment, without restriction as to intended use, with the stipulation that the earnings would be used in the most appropriate way to help keep the church running when needed.
 - Tom agreed to modify the draft document and send it to the clerks for distribution to Session for review. The goal would be for Session to discuss in October.
 - Rebecca, Ami and Matt were excused from the meeting.
- August financials were reviewed. Kristine updated her best guess for end-of-year results, suggesting that there will be deficit but that it projects to be less than the \$(87)k budget.
- The draft 2026 budget was reviewed. No action was taken. It will be shared with Session, with any revisions likely to occur following the Stewardship campaign. Kristine requested assistance with the annual insurance application. Some questions were answered by committee members during the meeting. Kristine will reach out to appropriate members and staff, as needed, to complete the application.
- Capital projects were briefly reviewed. The only update involved the gutter project, which remains a work in progress. The church has paid \$3,114 (50%) of the cost.
- Kristine provided an update for the QuickBooks projects. She plans to migrate data from Church Windows into QuickBooks next week, then shadow through the end of October when Church Windows is retired. She will meet with Craig to review the final chart of accounts.
- Kristine reported that Breeze is up and running smoothly.
- The July check to Birdies for Charity has cleared. Kristine is coordinating with Tom on cash timing until the return payment, plus bonus, is received in October.
- There was no update on the Bawden proposal.
- Kristine reported that she was unable to talk to Wells Fargo about credit cards. She will follow up to see how to get her administrative rights with WF, but she was also authorized to research and recommend a new financial institution for handling credit cards.
- Further discussion of the Spending Policy was deferred to a subsequent meeting.

Kris closed the meeting with prayer.

Next meeting via Zoom—Tuesday, October 14 at 7:00.

Notes prepared by Craig Foster, 09/10/25



Worship & Music

Meeting Held: Sept. 22, 2025, at 7pm

In attendance: Pastor Kris, Matt Bishop, Diana Miller-Bur, Patrick Downing, Kristine Oswald.

Absent: David Edwards, Judy Wagschal

- World Communion Sunday is October 5 – plans were discussed to provide 5 different “breads” and 1 juice. Matt and Diana agreed to assist Heidi with the setup. Next year, maybe do 5 different juices with 1 bread.
- Question: Do we need to change December’s communion Sunday since Dec. 7 is a Lessons and Carols Service?

Answer: Yes, new date to recommend to Session is November 30 (First day of Advent)

- Question: Since Advent starts on November 30, Thanksgiving weekend, when do we want to decorate the Sanctuary?

Answer: November 23 after the worship service

Diana will email the volunteers late October/early November to get it on the calendar

- We need to advertise for the poinsettias donations – start November 9
- All Saints Day is November 2
 - There will be white roses to place in a vase as done previously; along with multiple bell ringers during the reading of those who have passed
- Sanctuary Flower Program Update - Progressing ok – will fully move to an online sign-up system - might put in a query each month into the e-news, about there being open dates with the aim to tell the masses there is a “hole-to-fill”
- PAS updates (provided by Matt B)
 - \$26,260 raised last year
 - this year, so far, \$25,699 with more money expected (could be closer to \$27,000)
- Next season 2026-2027 Ideas
 - Furman University – Calla Project – all women trumpet quintet
 - \$5,000 included travel and lodging
 - NOLA Jazz Band – Kristine O has connections
- Church musicals
 - Should they always be family friendly? Where is the line to not cross?
 - We should sit down w/ Rebecca sometime in the future to discuss
- Paraments - Diane Roebuck offered to fund and make new purple paraments. The W&M committee was tasked and chose a brocade fabric.
- Thermostat upgrade in choir room requested – recommended to talk with Darren directly.
- Update on Jane’s Endowment to the music ministry - seems to be open ended, dubbed a quasi-endowment; each year, determine how to use the earnings – special projects or general music use; amount is thought to be \$250-300k
- Question: What is the purpose of the QC Youth Choir in relation to our church? Should they sing during the church service? Once a quarter would be appreciated. Could we find music that holds a message for them and for us as a church? Should be possible. Church at large would appreciate enjoying their singing more than at end of season concerts.



Strategic Discernment Team

Meeting August 14, 2025

Present: Darren Long, Ted Brown, Jim Middleton, Pam Paulsen, Marty Bowles Edwards, Dan Darland, Nancy Chapman, Pastor Kris Schondelmeyer. Zoom: John Gere, Julia Meyer, Chris Connelly, Nancy Foster

Pastor Kris opened the meeting with prayer.

Minutes of July 31 meeting were approved and will be sent to the Clerk of Session.

Note taker: Nancy Chapman agreed to take notes.

- Purpose of the meeting is to review Renovation/Expansion work discussed in the July 31 meeting, learn who is on the teams (based on the signups done at the July 31 meeting) and allow for some organization time for the teams.
- John Gere started the discussion by providing an overview of the areas of work to be done. John has past experience in most of these projects:
- Plaster/Painting through both buildings: John's advice is "to follow the water". BG&S committee is working on roofs. In the past there was a moisture study that found no evidence of water from the ground.
- HVAC in both buildings: the previous work to look at AC in the CE building was many years ago and the technology has changed. John will look for the previous plans.
- Updated commercial kitchen: the last plan by BG&S committee was probably 2000 or prior. John will look for the previous plans.
- Fellowship space: previously there were discussions about adding a new Fellowship space to the west of the church building. That would require moving the "shed" and repositioning AC units for the sanctuary and CE building likely on roof of the new Fellowship space.
- John signed up for all four committees as a consultant when needed.
- There will be a field trip to First Presbyterian Church of Cedar Rapids on Wednesday August 27 to see how they have redesigned their space. Please meet in our church parking lot at 9:15 to carpool to Cedar Rapids for an 11am appointment
- Marty brought up Terry Hilbert's name as someone who redesigns space.
- John spoke of the "philosophy of colors". Very bright colors can create anxiety.
- For the kitchen updating we need to make sure we don't take out walls, etc. without checking city codes.
- For accessibility, we need to consider how to get to the chancel and the gymnasium.

Teams:

Plaster/Painting (and other cosmetic updates) throughout both buildings:

- | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| ▪ Karla Ruiters, chair; | ▪ Theresas Jacobsmeier |
| ▪ Dan Darland | ▪ Jim Middleton |
| ▪ Julia Meyer | ▪ Pam Paulsen |

Updated commercial kitchen (current kitchen)

- Ted Brown, chair
- Darren Long (as available)
- Nancy Foster
- Julia Meyer
- Marty Bowles Edwards (as available)
- Theresa Jacobsmeier
- Matt Kabel (as available)

Expanded Caring closet/more accessible fellowship/recreation (Multipurpose) Space

- Nancy Foster, chair
- Ted Brown
- Marty Bowles Edwards
- Nancy Chapman
- Chris Connolly
- John Gere
- Kris Schondelmeyer

HVAC in both buildings

- Matt Kabel, chair
- Darren Long
- Dan Darland
- John Gere

Lists of the teams and contact information were available at the meeting and will be sent to SDT members.

Submitted by Nancy Chapman August 22, 2025



ASGC Meeting

10/14/25 Summary

Present: Bruce Bufe, Rev. Dr. Kris Schondelmeyer, Jay Williams

Technical Meeting Challenges and Book Discussion

Jay and Bruce discussed technical difficulties with joining a meeting, which Jay attributed to a lack of a hot link. Jay mentioned finishing John Pavlovich's book, *Worth-Fighting For* and found it to be very good, aligning with FPC's Matthew 25 commitment. They agreed to wait for five more minutes for other participants to join before calling off the meeting.

Church Growth and Program Planning

Jay expressed frustration with the church's focus on belonging over becoming, highlighting the need for action and engagement while deemphasizing personal transformation. He discussed plans for potential speakers and programs, including a tech-themed adult education class after New Year's.

Jay also shared his experience with a previous committee, noting the ineffectiveness of a confrontational approach but emphasized his desire to balance being nice with being effective.

Enhancing Spiritual Growth Initiatives

Jay expressed concerns about the church's focus on spiritual growth, highlighting the need for a

structured approach to mission and becoming rather than just belonging. He emphasized the importance of prioritizing spiritual development programs and creating a supportive environment for members to engage in meaningful discussions about spirituality. Bruce noted the low attendance at adult education sessions and the risk involved in being open and honest in small group settings. The discussion was cut short due to technical issues, with Pastor Kris joining briefly to acknowledge the conversation.

Strengthening Faith and Community

Bruce shared his journey with anxiety and depression and expressed a desire to strengthen his faith and spirituality. Kris suggested that for many people, belonging is a path to becoming, and emphasized the importance of creating space for contemplative experiences in church activities. Jay expressed concern about the lack of interest in spiritual growth and proposed a program called *Campfires* to facilitate small group discussions on spirituality and difficult topics. Bruce mentioned he already has a spiritual director from *the prairie* whom he meets with monthly, finding the experience valuable and not focused on theology.

Lent Planning

Kris proposed organizing a book study of Rob Bell's *Love Wins* and offering weekly contemplative services.

Book Study and Speaker Series

Jay proposed bringing in John Pavlovitz and other speakers like Anne Lamott for a speaker series.

Kris recommended the book *Let Your Life Speak* by Parker Palmer, which emphasizes themes of vocation and personal purpose.

Speaker Series Strategy and Planning

Jay and Kris discussed a potential strategy for organizing a speaker series, involving aligning speakers with book studies. They acknowledged the need for funding and agreed to explore options, with Kris planning to consult others and Jay following up with John P. regarding availability and fees.

They also touched on upcoming programming, including a Lent focus on *Love Wins* or Jay's upcoming book *Love at the Helm*, which explores structural approaches to making loving decisions.

They confirmed that current programming is set through the beginning of the year and agreed to review the NUMA video series schedule after New Year.



Personnel

Monday October 6, 2025

Via Zoom Attending: Dan Breinich, Paula Hartmann, Vicki Stegall, Dick Koos, Pastor Kris

Opened with prayer at 7:00 pm

- Our Nursery childcare staff are variably unavailable. Madison Hannsen is no longer a college student, but a full-time teacher and finding additional time in our Nursery difficult. Co-Directors of Christian Education requested back-up help for coverage. The committee agreed to a “contract employee” situation (pending background check) with a person known to the Schondelmeyer household (Isabel Hardy) that could be available as needed.
- We discussed the next round of Annual Staff Reviews which will commence soon. At our November 3 Personnel Committee meeting we will select staff that each committee person will focus collection of reports and impressions to compile on Report forms to be shared in individual Reviews.



CEFY

Meeting Monday, October 6, 2025. 7:30 via Zoom

Participants: Judy Hawthorne, Kathy Knox, Deanna Herman, Matthew Hennes, Abby Schondelmeyer, Marty Bowles Edwards.

Gathering and Prayer, 7:35 Marty Bowles Edwards

Budget

No update provided for us at this time. We have been staying well below budget thus far for 2025.

Program Updates:

- Nursery (birth – K)
 - Staff is wonderful!
 - Empowering staff to make changes that work for current context. Removing visual clutter to make a child centered art display. Staff is proposing removal of storage cubbies in exchange for a hook system to manage gear for both sitters and children
 - Added covers to lights to diffuse the harsh fluorescent lighting.
 - Just received permission from Personnel Committee to add another babysitter to the PRN list.
- Sunday School (1st – 2nd and 3rd – 5th grade)
 - Schedule for September – December has been provided for the Volunteer Teachers
 - Completed the Teaching Units on Revelations and the 3rd-5th graders are creating an art work for their classroom which represents them all being a part of the church and spreading God’s light and love into the world.
 - October started with a lesson on what we can learn from Spiders, as requested by the children. This will tie into the intergenerational Manna and More program for 10/12/25.
 - Added light covers in rooms 307, 311, and 312.
 - Repainted 312 to create a fresh and welcoming space.
- Youth Ministry (6th – 12th grade)
 - Initiated the 3-yr Confirmation Class on Sunday mornings (6th – HS) which is led by Abby Schondelmeyer

- Craig Foster has volunteered to be an Adult Mentor for this class.
- Bawden Family Legacy Scholarship (in progress. No updates available at this time.
- Youth Group Will be updating and rearranging their space. Plan is to purchase a TV for their room.

Child Protection Policy Training

Thank you to all who attend the CPP Training. More opportunities in the future

Next meetings: November 3 December 1 January 5? February 2 March 2

Musikgarten (birth – K)

- Kirkwood Choir (1 st – 5 th grade)
 - Singing: October 19, November 16, and December 24 (Family Service)

Prayground

- Prayground will be available during the school year – Supervised by Staff until the children leave the worship service for Kirkwood Choir. At that point, the Child's Adult(s) supervise those children choosing to remain in the Prayground.

Family Ministry

- October 19: Pride of the Wapsi
- October 25: Trunk or Treat

Upcoming dates

- October 12: Manna and More (website introduction. Table Games and Craft table provided for children
- October 19: Pride of the Wapsi.
 - Parents will contribute \$10 for each participant and CEFY will supplement \$5 per person.
 - Scout Troup will participate in the outing.
- October 25: Saturday Trunk or Treat: 3:00-5:00pm. All are encouraged to participate.
- December 5th: Christmas Party / Movie Night
 - Planned as a drop-off opportunity for Adults to have some free time in this busy holiday season.

Closed with Prayer, at 8:20, Abby Schondelmeyer



Hospitality and Welcoming

Hospitality committee met on September 23. Bonnie Parriott, Dianna Darland Andy Edwards were in attendance.

Minutes were reviewed.

A meeting was scheduled for November 16 to thank current ushers and greeters and to welcome new ushers and greeters. Lunch will be provided. This will be a one-hour meeting.

Discussed new members and when they are being welcomed to the congregation.
Fellowship treats were discussed.
Birthday texts were discussed and will be researched.
Discussion about greeters instead of a welcome desk or both. Also discussed one of the usher's being a greeter.



Boy Scout Troop 7 (co-ed) First Presbyterian Church of Davenport, Iowa.

Third Quarter 2025 summary (July-Sep)

The combined troop currently has Nine scouts (6 boys and 3 girls, an increase of one each).
The troop has eight active leaders (increase of two). Though small, the scouts we have are all very active.

We celebrated Benny Jacobsmeier at his Eagle Court of Honor on 15 Aug at FPC.

July: We attended summer camp at our council camp, Loud Thunder Scout Reservation, in July. We had seven scouts, one provisional scout from another local troop, and three leaders in attendance. Our seven scouts earned a total of 25 merit badges. Keep for Q3

Aug: Maquoketa Caves Campout

Sep: Mine of Spain Campout and Trolley in Dubuque

The troop works hard to support itself by participating in fundraising activities to include this quarter: Monthly donut sales in fellowship hall, averaging \$45 per scout that works and putting up and taking down flags for two routes for Avenue of Flags put on by the Davenport Noon Optimists Club.

Cub Scout Pack 7: Cub Master - Sean Jacobsmeier

Third Quarter 2025 summary (July-Sep)

Currently has 8 youth and 7 adult members.

- Membership Changes (since last report):
 - One new Arrow of Light youth member
 - One Arrow of Light youth projected to go inactive; October 31, 2025
 - Prospective Cub Scout visits from 2 families on September 23, 2025 (One Kindergartner
 - One 1st Grader)
- Recruitment:
 - DCSD "Unpack Your Backpack" at Madison Elementary School; August 21, 2025
 - DCSD "Unpack Your Backpack" at Wilson Elementary School; August 21, 2025

- Took contact information for 42 youth at “Unpack Your Backpack”
- “Launch into Scouting” recruitment event at First Presbyterian Church; August 26, 2025
- Accepted 2 youth applications for Pack 7; awaiting membership payment for one
- Second recruiting event scheduled for October 21, 2025
- Illowa Council to send out e-fliers to Madison and Wilson Elementary Schools
- Illowa Council invitations to “Unpack Your Backpack” contacts
- Activity/location TBD

ACTIVITIES:

- Bi-Monthly meetings during July and August
- 6 youth scouts earned “Summertime Fun” Adventure Loops by attending at least 3 pack meetings between June - August
- STEM activities in July included building Marshmallow Catapults and Playing Card Bridges
- Illowa Council Cub Scout Day Camp; Scott County Park, July 21-25, 2025
- 2 Webelos Youth Scouts attended; completed 3 Adventure Loops each
 - “Catch the Big One” (Fishing)
 - “Champions for Nature” (Conservation)
 - “Earth Rocks” (Geology)
- Participated in Cub Scouts Shooting Sports (BBs and Archery)
- 2 Webelos and family joined Pack 7 leadership and Troop 7 members at Maquoketa Caves State Park for camping and exploring
- September’s meetings centered around “Bobcat” Adventures (learning the basics of Scouting, including Scout Law and Scout Oath, child protection policies, “Buddy system”, etc.

Respectfully Submitted,

Daniel D Darland

Charter Organization Representative



Guidelines for Magnusson Bequest

Approved by Session – October 20, 2025

Name of Fund: The Magnusson Music Fund

Purpose of Fund: To support the music ministry of First Presbyterian Church – Davenport.

Location/Ownership of funds: The funds will be held in a separate account at New Covenant. Funds will be owned by the church. It will be a Restricted Fund. Restricted in this case means its use is restricted to the support of the music department.

Time horizon: The time horizon is long term, but not infinite. Jane did not designate a time horizon, or indicate whether the principal could be spent. While flexible, it is expected that the fund should exist for about 25 years.

Permitted uses of funds: Funds should be utilized to support the Music Department.

To assist in honoring Jane's wishes the following are examples of permitted uses, however these examples are not limiting in any way: Compensation for music department personnel; Purchase of music; Purchase of robes; Purchase of musical instruments; Maintenance of the Magnusson Organ (to the extent that the Magnusson Organ Fund is depleted); Maintenance of other musical instruments owned by the church; Support of the Performing Arts Series, particularly the Christmas Concert; Support of music programs for children and youth; Commissioning of a new piece of music in Jane's memory.

Not permitted uses of funds: By way of example, and not limiting in any way, the following are not permitted uses: Improvements or maintenance of the physical space used by the music department; Compensation to any choir members or musicians excepting PAS related expense; Entertainment, Transportation and Fellowship expenses. It is expected that the music department will be supported by annual expenditures from the General Fund. The distribution from this fund is not meant to be the sole source of financial support for the music department but is meant to supplement the music departments budgeted expense from the General Fund

Process for Recommendation of Distribution and Uses: Recommended uses of the fund should originate with the Music & Worship Committee in collaboration with Director, Music & Arts/Minister of Music (or equivalent), the Head of Staff, and the Finance Committee. Distribution of funds and uses shall be approved by the Session. Distributions from the fund to the church are expected to occur infrequently, likely annually.

Investment guidelines: Asset allocation and investment decisions are the responsibility of the Finance Committee and the Investment Manager (New Covenant). The investment return goal is to exceed the rate of inflation after paying investment expenses and distributions.

Distribution/Spending policy: Typically, the fund would provide an annual distribution in the range of 3% to 6% of a rolling 5-year average of the asset balance (using calendar quarter-end balances). However, a larger distribution is permitted periodically to allow larger expenditures in support of the music department. Similarly, a smaller distribution may occur due to the circumstances of any year. A zero distribution is permitted if circumstances so suggest. The principal may be spent – although the long-term time horizon should be kept in mind if choosing

to do so. At the beginning, no distribution will occur in 2025. A 2026, and a 2027 distribution may be smaller than typical so as to allow the fund to avoid a balance below its initial amount.

Source of information used to support the adoption of these guidelines: While the donor's intent and preferences were not articulated in detail, these guidelines are the result of discussion with individuals who may understand Jane's intent. The trust document designating the gift included the following relevant language:

[Distribution] "Shall be made to the Music Department of First Presbyterian Church."

Who may adjust these guidelines: The Session may adjust these guidelines. Session initially approved and adopted these guidelines and may adjust these guidelines at any time.

Date of adoption of these guidelines: 20 October 2025

Appendix 3: FPC Staff Reports October 2025

FPC Staff Reports: October 2025

Matt Bishop, Director of Music and Arts



- All FPC choirs are in full swing. Justice Choir of the Midwest has a roster of 65 people (roughly half are from outside FPC), which is 20% more than last year; the Quad City Youth Choir has a roster of 19 singers (roughly 80% are from outside FPC), which is 50% more than last year. Sanctuary Choir, Vesper Bells, and Chamber Chorale are doing great work every week.
- Kathy Middleton is directing the Kirkwood Choir during Linda Bengfort's absence, and I am accompanying those rehearsals.
- The Performing Arts Series pre-season benefactor patron donations has exceeded our budgeted income; we have received \$28,099 from 59 giving units (5 of whom are first time donors and 1 of whom had lapsed in prior seasons), with another \$1,600 pledged. Last season's total benefactor patron income was \$26,260.
- The PAS season opens on Tuesday, October 21 with a concert from Lyyra at 7:30. A video I posted on our Facebook page has been viewed over 5,000 times. An anonymous donor has agreed to pay for tickets for any middle school, high school, or college choir student who wishes to attend, and I have relayed this to my colleagues in the Quad Cities.
- On September 19 I accepted an award in Des Moines from the Iowa chapter of the National Association of Social Work called "Public Citizen of Excellence" in recognition of my work with the Justice Choir of the Midwest and the spring concert on Mental Wellness that raised funds for NAMI.
- On October 3 I served as a "judge" for the QC Icons competition in Rock Island, a fundraiser for Clock, Inc. On October 4 I walked with other church members in the NAMI Walk in East Moline.
- I will be away on PTO leave October 27-29 and November 21-29.



Marty Bowles Edwards and Abby Schondelmeyer, Co-Directors of CEFY

We settled into the Fall programming with refreshed 3rd floor rooms (nursery, 306, 311, 312) creating inviting spaces for Children and Youth. We painted walls and chose fluorescent light filtering covers to create fresh and welcoming spaces.

We are in the process of reading a couple of devotional books to glean ideas for the Christmas Eve Family Service.

Thank you for your participation in the Child Protection Policy Training. We appreciate your partnership in creating a safe and sacred space for all our children and youth.

More training dates will be offered in the future.

Please be sure to read our meeting minutes to learn about what is going on in CEFY programming.

Children's Ministry (birth – 5th grade)

Sunday School Programming for grades 1-5 was researched and created to address specific students' requests:

The September lessons focused on the book of Revelation and our students' dreams for our church. Teaching the children that we are the church together and shine God's love and light into the world, the children created a group-stained glass window project.

Each child has their own windowpane and together they form the wall art for room 311.

October preparations included the Spider theme, a continuation of the animal units of last Spring and of VBS-Compassion Camp. A Spider Sunday was planned for grades 1-5 Sunday School classes, and a Web themed Manna and More was created in preparation for the 2nd weekend in October.

We are empowering our nursery staff to suggest (and make) changes that work better for our church now. This has included rearranging space and updating the bulletin board.

Youth Ministry (6th – 12th grade)

Our youth ministry year kicked off with a "Get to Know Your Crew Bingo". We are working on creating lasting and long-term relationships between youth and mentors.

We focused on the Book of Revelation and created dream churches / worlds using art items and Legos.

The new Confirmation class has begun. We are using the Sparkhouse Confirmation curriculum. A huge thank you to Craig Foster for agreeing to be a Confirmation mentor.

A large TV has been purchased (and is almost up), and we are in the process of refreshing and updating the youth room.



Kristine Olsen, Director of Financial and Business Administration

DATE: October 14, 2025

- September 2025 Financials were late and provided to the Finance Committee on Monday, October 13th. Financials will be provided to all committee chairs by their next meetings.
- As a reminder, please submit APPROVED expense reimbursements on completed expenditure forms to the Finance Office by the 8th and 23rd of each month to ensure payment by the 15th and Last Day of each month, respectively. Unapproved expense reports may result in a delay in processing your reimbursement requests.

Old Business/Outstanding Items/Projects:

- Breeze Giving Implementation
- A Breeze to Church Windows Accounting reconciliation process and Breeze to QBO reconciliation process will be provided to Finance no later than 10/31/2025.
- An issue re: Stewardship Pledge reporting was identified. This is expected to be resolved by 10/17/2025. Once completed, we will send Q3 Giving Statements.

- Online Giving via Breeze will replace Vanco effective 1/1/2026. I will be working with existing Vanco givers to complete the transition.

QuickBooks Online Implementation Update

- Implementation is in the final steps. Historical data is still being migrated to QBO and should be completed and verified by 10/24/25. FPC Will continue to have access to Church Windows after the license expires in October, for as long as FPC technology can support it.
- 2026 Benefits Open Enrollment is scheduled for October 20 – November 7.
- The Policies & Procedures Review for the Year 2024 was conducted in-house. I am working on my comments and will provide them to Finance no later than 10/31/2025.

New/Upcoming Items/Projects:

- 2026 Stewardship season has begun, and pledges are starting to come in. After the 10/26 service, I will be in Fellowship Hall to assist setting-up online giving.
- 2026 Budget is being updated with September actual. Please provide remaining 2025 expenditures by 10/31/2025 so we can better forecast 2025 surplus/(deficit).
- Birdies for Charity was very successful – 9% bonus on \$413k donations designated to FPC equals \$37k Bonus! Thank you to all who participated!!!
- P&L Insurance & WC Insurance renewal questionnaires have been completed, and I expect to receive 2026 renewal costs in the coming weeks.
- I've fallen behind on providing monthly review packages – I owe July (due 9/15) & August (due 10/15). I am working with Craig F. to get caught up to ensure the complete September review package is available by 11/5 and October Financials are provided timely.
- I have been working with BG&S regarding potential roof insurance claim and gutter repairs.
- I have been working with New Covenant to set-up the new FPC Davenport portfolio and new restricted fund account, Magnusson Music Fund. This should be completed by 10/31.



Darren Long, Director of Building and Grounds

1. Fixed toilet in women's restroom across from the choir room.
2. Installed new programable thermostat in choir room.
3. Installed new faucet in men's restroom on 3rd floor.
4. Took down bulletin board in the fireplace room, repaired wall and mounted a new 75" TV.
5. Hung up a new bulletin board on 3rd floor at top of stairs.
6. Yearly fire alarm inspection was done by Per Mar for the Davenport Fire Department, we passed.
7. Primary elections were held in Fellowship Hall on October 7th.

8. Did a major walk through of the church and CE building with Kale Heating & A/C and then Davenport Electrical for the SDT HVAC committee.
9. We have Leveraged Services coming out to pour a slab base for Sarah Wood's bench that will go up on the Iowa St. side of the church.
10. Still getting snow removable bids.

Still working around the outside of the church getting ready for our Fall Clean-Up on the 25th of this month.



Jim Middleton, Director of Office Administration

Integration and Data Management

- The integration between Notebird and Breeze has been successfully completed.
- Ongoing efforts are focused on cleaning and maintaining the shared data files used by both applications.
- Work continues to identify current data and transition legacy data to archive status.

Office Operations

- Daily office functions—including phone systems, building access control, document production and copying, office equipment maintenance, and software upkeep—continued without interruption.

Technology and Licensing Updates

- Due to changes in Microsoft's non-profit licensing policies, the Microsoft 365 environment used by the church was reconfigured to comply with the updated requirements.