

2026
ANNUAL
REPORT



First Presbyterian Church Davenport IA



01



PASTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT

It is hard to believe that another year of ministry together has come to a close. As I reflect on 2025 at First Presbyterian Church of Davenport, I am deeply grateful for the many ways we have continued to grow, discern, and faithfully respond to God's call among us.

This year marked an important season of renewal and strengthening in how we communicate, connect, and care for one another. We designed and launched a brand-new church website, offering a more welcoming, accessible, and vibrant digital presence for both members and the wider community. Alongside this, we launched a new church database and will begin the process of rolling it out as a digital church directory—an important step in strengthening connections and improving our shared life together.

Worship continued to be a place of creativity, depth, and encounter with God. We were blessed by meaningful performing arts woven into worship, including a powerful congregational skit exploring the “baggage” we carry and the grace God offers. We also continued to enhance our livestream worship experience, expanding our reach and ensuring that those who cannot be physically present remain fully connected to the life of the congregation.

Spiritual formation remained central to our shared life. Throughout the year, we offered multiple opportunities to cultivate awareness of God's presence and to grow in faith, including a Lenten Contemplative Service that invited stillness, prayer, and deep listening. Pastor Kris facilitated anti-racism training using *The Color of Compromise* by Jamar Tisby, continuing our Matthew 25 commitment to dismantle structural racism.

As a congregation, we also strengthened our commitment to creating safe and sacred space for all. We provided multiple child sexual abuse prevention trainings and boundary trainings for staff, officers, and volunteers, reaffirming our shared responsibility to protect the most vulnerable among us and to serve with integrity and care.

Our Matthew 25 commitment to eradicate systemic poverty was lived out through ministries of compassion beyond the walls of the church. The Caring Closet remained a vital asset to the community, providing free clothing and food to neighbors in need and bearing witness to Christ's love in tangible ways. Our Deacons continued their faithful work as leaders of our Member Care Teams, ensuring that care, connection, and presence remain at the heart of our congregational life. This year, the Deacons also spearheaded a Border Encounter experience to El Paso, Texas, and Ciudad Juárez, Mexico—an

opportunity for learning, relationship-building, and faithful engagement with issues of migration and justice.

Our music ministry once again upheld its long tradition of excellence, enriching worship week after week and offering an outstanding Performing Arts Series that brought beauty, inspiration, and community connection.

Children's, youth, and family ministry experienced welcome stability and growth this year through the faithful leadership of Marty Bowles Edwards and Abby Schondelmeyer. Their care, consistency, and creativity continue to nurture faith across generations and strengthen the foundation of our congregation's future.

Throughout the year, our Strategic Discernment Team continued its careful and prayerful work. This discernment led to the next significant step of requesting submissions from architecture and design firms as we seek to develop a thoughtful master plan for our facility needs—one that aligns our physical space with God's vision for our ministry in the years ahead.

As we continue to navigate change and possibility, we do so grounded in hope, trust, and gratitude. God is indeed always doing a new thing, and we are blessed to be part of it together. Thank you for your faithfulness, your generosity, and your willingness to keep listening for the Spirit's leading. May we continue into the coming year with courage, compassion, and joy, trusting that God is at work in and through First Presbyterian Church of Davenport.

The Rev. Dr. Kristopher D. Schondelmeyer
Pastor / Head of Staff

02

ADULT SPIRITUAL GROWTH COMMITTEE

Purpose

Build a clear, repeatable pathway for adult spiritual growth that is accessible (multiple entry points), spiritually serious (formation, not performance), and consistent (reliable scheduling and communication).

Key Outcomes This Year

1. **Fall education plan built and aligned** (Matthew study; book study sequence; weekday sermon-talk Bible study; contemplative worship concept).
2. **Lent formation planning strengthened** (contemplative prayer group integration; Ash Wednesday fellowship elements; spring book study direction).
3. **Speakers Program Proposal developed for Session action** (as a subcommittee model for planning, coordination, and approval flow).

Barriers That Limited Progress

- **Sunday morning schedule congestion** (adult education repeatedly competes with worship/fellowship patterns).
- **Inconsistent attendance/meeting continuity** affecting decision pace.
- **Lead-time and staffing constraints** for summer/fall program buildout.

Requests to Session

1. **Confirm a consistent weekly adult education time** (a protected window that does not get displaced).
2. **Adopt the Speakers Program Proposal** (create a stable structure for speaker planning, budgeting, and coordination).
3. **Direct coordination between Discernment/Strategic team and ASGC** early in 2026 to resolve Sunday scheduling conflicts and set a durable pattern.

03

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND FELLOWSHIP WITH YOUTH (CEFY)

In 2025, the Christian Education and Fellowship with Youth (CEFY) Committee continued its mission of nurturing the faith, growth, and belonging of children, youth, and families at First Presbyterian Church. Through collaborative leadership, dedicated volunteers, and a year-round rhythm of education, worship involvement, fellowship gatherings, and mission engagement, CEFY provided meaningful opportunities for young people to learn, serve, and thrive within a supportive church community. From weekly Sunday morning programming and vibrant youth group activities to special events, service projects, and enhancements to our educational spaces, the ministry worked intentionally to create safe, joyful, and spiritually grounded environments for all ages.

1. CEFY Meetings:

1. Meetings were held monthly on Zoom.
2. All CEFY Volunteers were invited to attend meetings. This provided for increased communication, feedback on programming, and parent input as needed.

2. Sunday Morning:

1. Spring Semester programming for grades K-12 followed a one-room schoolhouse model with selective division of the groups to enhance specific lessons.
2. Fall semester divided the children into 3 age groups: grades 1-2, grades 3-5, and a new 3-year Confirmation Class for grades 6-12 that have not yet been confirmed.
3. Lessons were written, or supplemented by Sparkhouse, by Abby and Marty to engage children and youth in learning about God's love, Christian traditions, and the teachings of Jesus.
4. Techniques used to supplement learning included hands-on tasks, mission projects, physical movement, and creative artwork.
5. Curriculum was expanded to include introduction to self-regulation and appreciation of community and the differences among us all. Self-regulation tools are available to children and youth as needed in the classrooms and the playground.
6. The 1st – 5th grade children are taught by a rotation of volunteer congregation members.
7. The new Confirmation class has been led by Abby Schondelmeyer with support by Pastor Kris, Craig Foster, and current elders. We are utilizing Sparkhouse Confirmation curriculum.
8. Pastor Kris held a Bible Discovery class for 3rd-5th graders on September 14. There were some 4th and 5th graders that had received their bibles previously. They did not have the opportunity to participate in a Bible Discovery class which is why this class was for all 3rd-5th graders. Personal copies of the Bible were presented on September 21 to 3rd graders, as a part of the worship service.

9. Musikgarten occurs most weeks for children birth – K with a grown-up. During the summer months older children are invited to join their families in Musikgarten. The nursery staff has been flexible to assist in Musikgarten or Sunday School.
10. Kirkwood Choir rehearsals take place most weeks during the school year. Abby provides support in the rehearsals. Kirkwood Choir sings approximately once a month.
11. The collaboration between CEFY and music ministry has been an important part of Sunday mornings.

3. Nursery:

1. We had some nursery turnover due to staff needs and personal schedules during the week.
2. Current nursery paid staff includes a pool of 2 weekly contracted employees and 2 as needed. Additional volunteers provide coverage when needed.
3. A TV was installed on the nursery wall to provide live streaming of the worship services for the children, staff, and volunteers.

4. Worship Services:

1. Children and youth have served as liturgists and acolytes.
2. The playground was available year around, as a space set aside for children to actively use their hands while listening to the service together. Simple toys, books, drawing, puzzles, and craft supplies are provided weekly and supervised by staff and grown-ups. This space affirms that children are vital members of the church and helps them grow in faith through participation, presence, and play. Parents and caregivers are encouraged to sit nearby, knowing that the sounds and movements of children are welcomed by our pastor. When Kirkwood Choir is in recess or sing in worship children spend the whole service in the sanctuary with their families or in the playground.
3. Worship bags were refreshed with updated information in a child friendly format. These bags were available at the Welcome Desk each Sunday.

5. Youth Group:

1. Meetings on a weekly basis on Sunday evenings.
2. We have a wonderful core group of committed youth and volunteer mentors. The relationships the youth are forming with other youth and the mentors have helped to create safe and sacred space for all. These relationships with each other and mentors are valuable during the middle school and high school years.
3. There are a few youth from the Youth Choir that join us weekly for Youth Group.
4. We are looking forward to continuing to provide space for fellowship and faith formation, games, and projects.
5. We want to thank those that have made meals or donated funds for weekly dinner for the youth.
6. Off-site gatherings included:
 - a. Bowling
 - b. August pool party
 - c. Escape Room
 - d. Super Bowl Party

6. Tween Fellowship:

1. Off-site social gatherings were offered for grades 3-5, to begin forming a social bond to carry them into their youth group years.
2. These included ice skating, swimming party, and a gaming afternoon.

7. Compassion Camp:

1. June 16-20, was written by our staff with the theme of All God's Creatures. Children, youth and grown-ups participated in worship and activities to learn about God teaching us through different animals.
2. Giraffe, Turtle, Whale, and Donkey each taught us different lessons about God's love and our relationships with God and each other.
3. Our fun week together culminated in leading worship on June 22, sharing our learning with the Congregation.

8. Family Picnic:

1. It took place on June 8, as a combined event with the Worship and Music department.
2. Water play, yard games, and a picnic meal combined with sunshine for an enjoyable event.

9. Intergenerational Manna and More:

1. CEFY worked with the Congregational Fellowship Committee and music staff to provide intergenerational programming for monthly Manna and More meals and activities.
2. CEFY provided themes, activities, and table decorations, to create engaging and interactive fellowship.

10. Summer:

1. These months were used for decorating the 3rd floor of the education building.
2. The goal was to create inviting spaces out of the now well-sorted and available spaces on the 3rd floor.
3. Room 312 was repainted.
4. Room 307 was cleaned out and refreshed to provide another space for programming.
5. Colorful cloth covers for the fluorescent lights were placed in rooms 312, 311, 306, 307, and the Nursery.

11. Information Bulletin Board:

1. Greet people arriving on the 3rd floor.
2. Serves as another communication tool for families.
3. Updated weekly with events and opportunities.

12. Pride of the Wapsi Pumpkin Patch:

1. Family Fellowship outing was a success with 47 participants on October 19.

13. Trunk or Treat:

1. Successfully held with support from the Board of Deacons.
2. Approximately 200 people attended the event.
3. Attendees voted on their favorite trunk:
 - a. First Place: Jacobsmeier Family
 - b. Second Place: Schondelmeyer Family
4. Third Place: Diana Darland
5. There were 13 participating car trunks this year.

14. Kids Against Hunger:

1. CEFY families were involved for both April and November events.
2. The Deacon's organizational efforts and available mission funds enable this hands-on mission project to take place.

15. Family Movie Nights:

1. Held on March 21 and August 1, pizza meal, snacks, and pillows combined for a fun social evening for CEFY families in Von Maur Hall.
2. The December 5 movie night was offered with a "drop off your child" format. This was a gift to their adults, of 3 hours to use as they please, while their children are happy, safe, and engaged.

16. Sponsored the scholarships for Youth Art Display winners:

1. This event was the work of Matt Bishop as the Music and Creative Arts Director for our church.

17. Bawden Youth Engagement Scholarship:

1. The CEFY Committee shared its feedback with staff regarding the new initiative.
2. Abby has been working with a smaller group of staff and Session members to develop guidelines and processes for the program.
3. Session will still be responsible for providing final approval of the scholarship's guidelines and processes.

18. Christmas Eve 4:00PM:

1. Service was written and led by CEFY staff, as a child-friendly celebration for all ages.
2. Feedback was received that 4PM works well for families.

19. CEFY Staff and Volunteers:

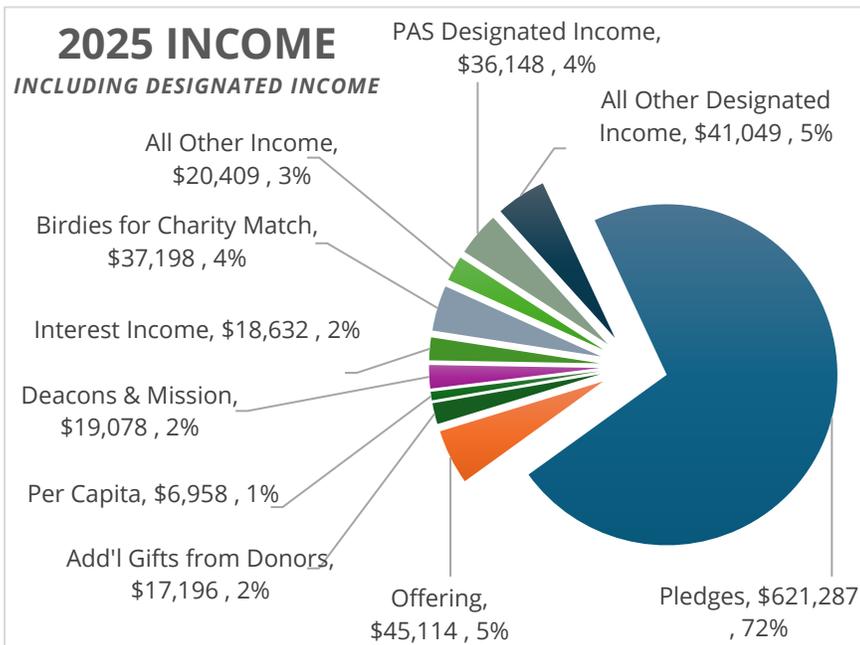
1. Completed the Child Protection Policy training on either September 6 or September 28.
2. Boundary and Child Protection Policy trainings were held on November 16.

04

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Calendar year 2025 financial results were a deficit of about (\$62,000), compared to (\$17,000) in 2024. Giving in 2025 increased from 2024 amount by about \$12,000 (THANK YOU!). Other income, including the Birdies for Charity match, also increased. Expenses decreased from 2024. These positive results allowed us to avoid using long-term savings from the restricted funds as had been done in 2024. Preserving those funds caused a larger deficit in 2025 compared to 2024.

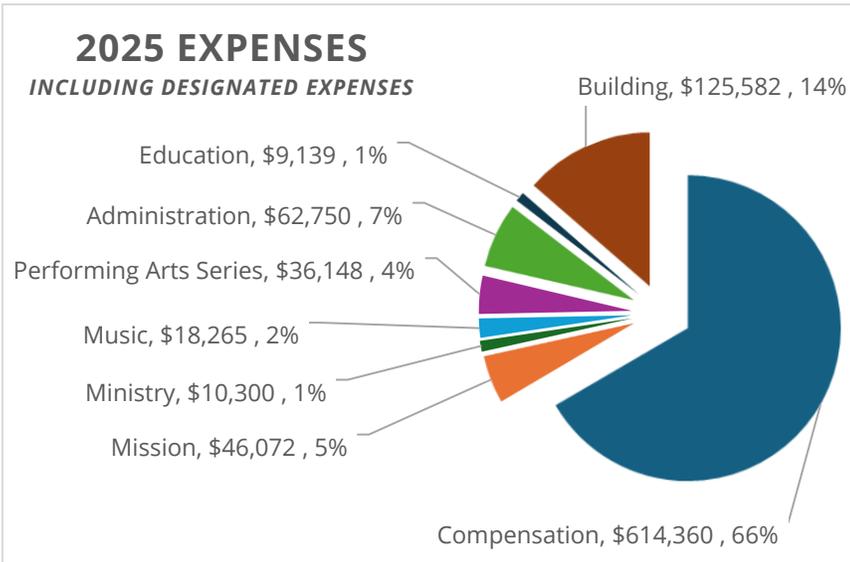
Looking forward, the 2026 budget anticipates a deficit of (\$119,000), even after the anticipated use of about \$65,000 from long-term savings. This continues a multi-year string of deficit budgets and is larger than both the 2025 budget deficit (\$87,000) and the 2025 actual deficit of (\$62,000). Actual results have been better than budget in the past few years. However, meeting the 2026 budget will be a challenge, as the income trend has leveled off and reducing expenses is becoming increasingly difficult.



Income - \$863,069 total

Compared to 2024, income is down \$62,000, but only because of the decreased use of long-term savings as noted above.

NOTE: "Long-term savings" come from Designated and Restricted funds donated in the past for a specific, limited purpose or use. For example, prior years contributions designated to support music programs were spent this year for that purpose and recognized as income and expense this year.



Expenses - \$922,600

Total expenses for 2025, including expenses funded by long-term savings, decreased by \$21,000 compared to actual 2024. Compensation expense of \$614,000 (which includes benefits) is the largest expense category. Compensation expense for prior years was:

2025 - \$614,000;	2022: \$542,000
2024 - \$618,000;	2021: \$467,000
2023 - \$678,000;	2020: \$550,000

Building expense, the second largest category, was \$126,000. In addition, capital improvements and repairs totaling \$45,000 were funded through long-term savings. Also, the Foundation paid \$16,000 in 2025 for the final payment on the digital sign.

Expenses other than compensation and building were \$182,000 in 2025. This included \$36,000 for the Performing Arts Series.

Other points

At December 31, 2025, the general fund had \$930,000 in available cash (including CDs) in four federally insured financial institutions. This cash is from accumulated prior year surpluses (\$458,000) and from cash planned for specific projects such as building repairs (\$110,000), a new staff position (\$150,000), and donations received in 2025 which the donor indicated to be used for 2026 expenses (\$84,000).

A Financial Procedures Review was conducted by 3 members of the Finance Committee in May 2025 covering Calendar Year 2024. The review committee sent a summary of their work and findings to the full Finance Committee. That report, along with responses from the Finance Director, was sent to Session.

2026 Budget – Projected Deficit – (\$119,000)

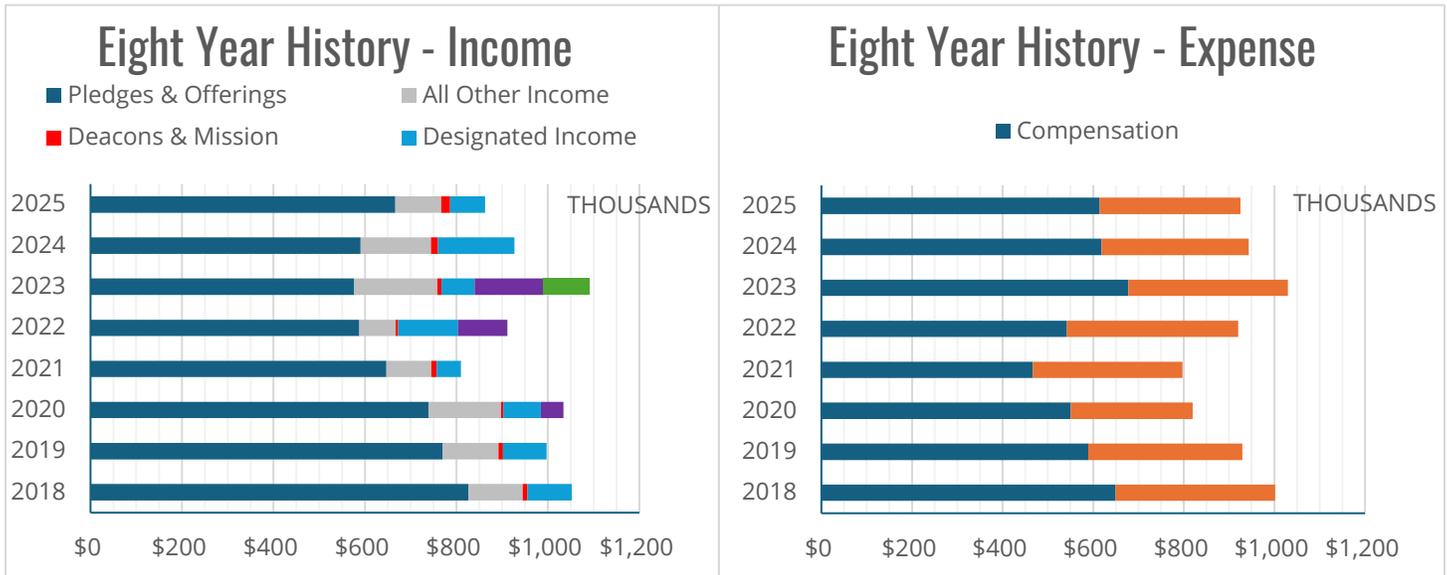
Total income is expected to be \$795,000, which includes Pledges & Offerings of \$666,500. It also includes the use of Designated Funds in the amount of \$15,000. In addition, the bottom line includes using \$50,000 of Restricted Funds.

Budgeted expenses in 2026 are \$964,000, which is significantly more than both 2025 budgeted and actual expenses.

Compensation expense, continuing as the largest expense, and is budgeted to be about \$670,000, compared to 2025 actual of about \$614,000. The budget assumes “normal” building repair costs and does not cover major unanticipated projects.

Eight Year Comparison

Bar charts showing total income and expenses and simplified categories for 8 years provide longer term perspective.



Long term Considerations

While our congregation is experiencing positive and exciting programs, those programs will soon require that the number of participants and donors increase. While annual giving has increased modestly over the last several years, we continue to rely on long term savings to support our current expenses. As the congregation and Strategic Discernment Team work toward creating a future that serves and supports God's call to make our world better, we will face difficult questions like those that follow which may aid us in making wise financial choices.

- With annual building costs exceeding \$100,000, and increasing repair and maintenance needs, what choices are we willing to consider relative to our buildings? What can we afford relative to our buildings?
- Given that compensation expense is our largest annual cost, what choices will we make about staff size, staff hours and salary & benefit levels?
- How much, if any, of our long-term savings should we use each year, and will we eventually be able to restore what we have used?

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
GENERAL FUND
2025-2024 INCOME AND EXPENSE REPORT**

	<u>2025 Actual</u>	<u>2025 Budget</u>	<u>2024 Actual</u>
INCOME			
PLEDGES	\$ 621,287.33	\$ 606,000	\$ 542,076.19
OFFERINGS	45,113.84	58,500	48,372.68
ADDITIONAL GIFTS FROM DONORS	17,196.00	30,000	85,834.71
PER CAPITA GIVING	6,957.97	6,200	6,232.58
DEACONS & MISSION CONNECTION INCOME	19,078.45	13,000	15,169.00
ESTATE INCOME	7,100.00	7,000	7,000.00
USE OF DESIGNATED FUNDS	15,176.25	15,250	34,750.00
INTEREST INCOME	18,632.41	12,000	26,368.50
BIRDIES FOR CHARITY MATCH	37,197.50	15,000	11,085.91
ALL OTHER INCOME	13,308.49	14,710	17,404.04
INCOME SUBTOTAL	\$ 801,048.24	\$ 777,660	\$ 794,293.61
CUSTODIAL/DESIGNATED FUNDS INCOME	62,020.74	-	80,234.96
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 863,068.98	\$ 777,660	\$ 874,528.57
EXPENSES			
MINISTERIAL STAFF	\$ 189,595.22	\$ 191,394	\$ 188,834.39
DEPARTMENT MANAGERS	301,471.29	308,051	304,771.28
SUPPORT STAFF	123,293.74	137,931	124,821.78
COMPENSATION SUBTOTAL	\$ 614,360.25	\$ 637,376	\$ 618,427.45
MISSIONS	\$ 36,088.52	\$ 38,765	\$ 32,970.71
MINISTRY & FELLOWSHIP EXPENSES	6,864.85	10,400	6,832.71
EDUCATION EXPENSES	9,086.77	10,935	7,716.51
HOSPITALITY & WELCOMING EXPENSES	-	300	219.95
MUSIC EXPENSES	7,450.04	7,900	6,139.18
OFFICE & COMMUNICATIONS EXPENSES	37,771.87	40,700	50,765.70
CHURCH UTILITIES	32,743.70	41,000	30,672.42
MAINTENANCE & REPAIRS EXPENSES	40,461.55	50,950	36,283.19
PROPERTY/LIABILITY INSURANCE	51,867.00	52,163	47,121.00
FINANCE/ADMINISTRATION EXPENSES	23,900.70	24,352	26,102.89
NON COMPENSATION SUBTOTAL	\$ 246,235.00	\$ 277,465	\$ 244,824.26
CUSTODIAL/DESIGNATED FUND EXPENSES			
MISSION	\$ 9,983.30	\$ -	\$ 7,022.17
MINISTRY & FELLOWSHIP	3,435.49	-	5,533.77
EDUCATION	51.70	-	1,206.73
MUSIC	10,814.64	-	8,784.65
PERFORMING ARTS	36,148.49	-	56,138.37
OFFICE & COMMUNICATIONS	-	-	833.34
MAINTENANCE	510.00	-	-
FINANCE/ADMINISTRATION	1,077.12	-	715.93
CUSTODIAL/DESIGNATED FUND EXP SUBTOTAL	\$ 62,020.74	\$ -	\$ 80,234.96
TOTAL NON COMPENSATION EXPENSES	\$ 308,255.74	\$ 277,465	\$ 325,059.22
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 922,615.99	\$ 914,841	\$ 943,486.67
SURPLUS (DEFICIT) FROM OPERATIONS	\$ (59,547.01)	\$ (137,181)	\$ (68,958.10)
RESTRICTED FUND GRANTS	\$ -	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000.00
NET INSURANCE CLAIM PROCEEDS/(EXPENSE)	(2,395.91)	-	2,395.91
TOTAL SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	\$ (61,942.92)	\$ (87,181)	\$ (16,562.19)
BEGINNING GENERAL FUND BALANCE	\$ 520,154.13		\$ 536,716.32
ENDING GENERAL FUND BALANCE	\$ 458,211.21		\$ 520,154.13

2025 Mission Dollars at Work

Angel Tree Gifts	\$98.39
Associazione Popoli Insieme ODV (Choir Mission Tour).....	\$2,410.17
Bix Band Funding	\$2,000.00
Café on Vine.....	\$1,545.00
Caring Closet	
Laundry Cards	\$12,000.00
Personal Hygiene	\$1,263.37
Lunches	\$1,552.67
Linens & Clothing	\$975.18
Miscellaneous Supplies & Storage	\$2,030.65
Christian Care	\$500.00
Churches United Meals	\$1,168.54
Food Pantry Donations-Café on Vine	\$1,257.00
Humility Homes & Services.....	\$7,200.00
Humility Homes & Services (Sanctuary Choir) ..	\$263.00
Mission Connection	
Camp Bear Creek	\$1,100.00
Churches United Member Support	\$2,000.00
Covenant Network of Presbyterians	\$500.00
Kids Against Hunger	\$1,745.00
Kids Against Hunger Member Donations ...	\$880.00
NAMI Greater Mississippi Valley (PAS)	\$470.00
Pastors' Discretionary Fund for pastoral care assistance	\$566.03
PC(USA) Christmas Joy Offering	\$251.00
P.U.N.CH	
Ministry	\$750.00
Toward Seasonal Activities	\$321.78
QC Justice Choirs	
Clock, Inc.....	\$853.00
Tapestry Farms.....	\$1,147.00
Safer Foundation Quad Cities (PAS)	\$260.00
Souper Bowl of Caring (to U. of I. Children's Hospital)	\$731.21
Sudlow Middle School	\$500.00
<i>Total Giving excluding Per Capita.....</i>	<i>\$46,338.99</i>
Per Capita.....	<u>\$6,957.97</u>
Total Giving	<u>\$53,296.96</u>

2025 Time and Talent at Work

In addition to the mission dollars our congregation provides, we support mission activities in other ways as well. A number of missions use our beloved building at no (or minimal) cost. Several mission activities also benefit from the in-kind contributions from our congregational members. The list below is a partial list of missions that are supported by these 'in-kind' contributions. Since we do not regularly document 'in-kind' support, it is likely that some mission support is not listed. We would be pleased if you would make the church staff aware of any omissions of which you are aware.

Church Building Use

- Caring Closet
- Churches United meal preparation
- Community Concerts
- D.E.L.P. Foundation
- Kids Against Hunger
- PEO Groups
- Presbytery of East Iowa Document Storage & Reviews
- PUNCH meetings
- QC Justice Choirs
- Scouts
- TOPS
- Youth Art Show

Congregation In-Kind Mission Giving

- Angel Tree Gifts
- Baked goods for mission fundraising
- Border Encounter Trip to El Paso
- Canned Food/Pantry Goods
- Caring Closet Food/Clothing
- Community Picnic sponsored by the Deacons of FPC
- Habitat for Humanity
- Homecoming Dinner
- Landscaping
- Member Care Teams
- Prayer Shawl Ministry
- P.U.N.CH Thanksgiving Dinner
- Sanctuary Clean-Team
- Trunk or Treat
- Vacation Bible Camp daily lunches

05

BUILDINGS, GROUNDS AND SAFETY COMMITTEE

Committee Members: Nathan Kabel – Chair,
Dan Darland – Session member
Matt Kabel – congregation member,
Karla Ruitter – congregation member,
Pete Madden – congregation member,
Andy Edwards – congregation member,
Darren Long – staff member

Goals and purposes for 2025:

The safety and security for those who enter the building, as well as the grounds. To maintain the building in working order, and make improvements as needed, while working within budget

Accomplishments:

1. Grounds cleanup in the spring and fall, with great help from the newly created landscaping subcommittee and Julia Meyer
2. New gutters for the CE and church buildings
3. Repairs to the chapel roof are prepared and ready for the spring
4. Work and maintenance to the boilers
5. Replaced condensing unit for AC in the sanctuary
6. Repaired leaks to steam piping
7. Had a coil fabricated for the fan coil in the sanctuary elevator lobby
8. Cleaned up area in Fellowship Hall for the Scout troop to display their accomplishments and honor past leaders
9. Maintenance shed was cleaned of excessive broken chair and scrap – a very big thank you to Andy Edwards for all his efforts and work with this

06

CONGREGATIONAL FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE

The Congregational Fellowship Committee supported the congregation throughout 2025 by organizing gatherings that fostered connection, hospitality, and joyful community life. Beginning with the vibrant *Carnivale Sunday* celebration in January, the committee continued to create meaningful opportunities for fellowship each month.

Regular *Manna and More Breakfasts* provided a consistent and welcoming space for members to share a meal and deepen relationships. Seasonal events, worship-adjacent meals, and summer community activities further enriched the rhythms of congregational life. Although the December breakfast was canceled due to weather, the committee's year remained full and impactful. In addition, *First Night Out* events offered monthly chances for members to gather informally and build friendships.

2025 Events at a Glance

- **January**
 - Carnivale Sunday
- **February**
 - Manna and More Breakfast
- **March**
 - Manna and More Breakfast
 - Ash Wednesday Soup Dinner
- **April**
 - Manna and More Breakfast
 - Maundy Thursday Soup Dinner
- **May**
 - Ice Cream Social
- **July**
 - Bix Race Day Concession
- **August**
 - Bix Jazz Service Cookies Reception
- **September**
 - Manna and More Breakfast
- **October**
 - Scottish Communion Service Reception
- **November**
 - Manna and More Breakfast
- **December**
 - Manna and More Breakfast — *canceled due to weather*
- **Ongoing**
 - First Night Out monthly fellowship events

07

HOSPITALITY AND WELCOMING COMMITTEE

The Hospitality and Welcoming Committee dedicated its work in 2025 to strengthening the church's culture of hospitality and ensuring that every person who entered First Presbyterian Church felt welcomed and valued. Committee members included Andrew Bowles Edwards, Dianna Darland, Bonnie Parriott, Kristine Oswald, and Phylis Pecoraro, who assisted with thank-you notes.

Throughout the year, the committee carried out several key initiatives that supported congregational life and deepened our ministry of welcome:

- **Welcomed new members**, responding to three new member inquiries that resulted in the addition of six new members to the congregation.
- **Launched a new fellowship-treat sign-up list** to provide structure and consistency for refreshments following Sunday worship.
- **Hosted an Usher and Greeter informational meeting and thank-you brunch in November**, offering appreciation, training, and renewed encouragement for these vital frontline ministries.
- **Sent personalized thank-you notes to visitors** attending Sunday services, providing warm follow-up and extending care beyond the sanctuary.
- **Explored strategies to improve nametag use and enhance the visitor experience**, helping the congregation become even more intentional about hospitality.

These efforts reflect the committee's ongoing commitment to cultivating a welcoming environment where members, newcomers, and guests alike experience genuine connection and care. Together, the committee's work helped strengthen the bonds of the congregation and support the church's mission of inclusive, grace-filled hospitality.

08

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

The Personnel Committee for 2025 included congregational member Dick Koos (concluding in December after 6 consecutive years) and Elders Vicki Stegall, Paula Hartmann, Dan Breinich (chair), and Pastor Kris Schondelmeyer (ex officio).

In January the committee met individually with each staff person to create a formal evaluation and set personal goals for 2025.

In February Pastor Kris met with the Personnel Committee, four additional Elders, a Deacon, a couple staff, and his PNC call committee members to get a First Presbyterian Church reaction to his seeking a future position as co-moderator of the upcoming 227th General Assembly of PC(USA). After personal and family discernment he approached the whole Session (receiving unanimous endorsement and encouragement), and on November 22 the Presbytery of East Iowa unanimously approved a motion to endorse Pastor Kris to stand alongside the Rev. Marta Pumroy-Cordero (of Tres Rios Presbytery, Texas) as candidates for possible General Assembly election.

In February the Session approved three Personnel Committee actions: (1) an anti-racism policy, (2) a job description for a non-paid position of Volunteer Coordinator, and (3) a job description for a part-time Assistant to the Pastor Head-of-Staff. In March the committee interviewed candidates. Diana Miller-Bur was hired in April.

After the Strategic Discernment Team survey and two congregational conversations, it was clear that there was a desire to strengthen the Christian Education component of programming. So, in August the Personnel Committee recommended to Session to increase the two part-time co-Directors' total time to 40 hours per week.

In September the Personnel Committee (with Session approval) granted a request for an unpaid Leave of Absence by Linda Bengfort (Assistant Choral Director). That request was revisited in December and extended through April 2026. Kathy Middleton agreed to add Linda's responsibilities to her portfolio of Assistant Choral Director for Children during Linda's absence.

In September the Session approved a job description (created by the Personnel Committee) for a called and installed Associate Pastor of Adult Ministries—a position fully funded for five years by an anonymous donor. The search for that person began in October by the newly elected Associate Pastor Nominating Committee (APNC).

Madison Hannson, childcare worker, quit to devote more energy to her first year of teaching in public schools. In November Personnel recommended the hire of church member Deanne Herman.

Because of deficit budgets for years at FPC, the Personnel Committee struggled with not providing a pay raise for over three years to our very hard-working staff. In December the Session approved a 3% raise to all employees of 2+ years employed at FPC starting in 2026 (except Pastor Kris, at his request).

09

FPC STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

The Stewardship Committee consists of Session Members Catherine Pratscher-Woods, Chair, and Bonnie Johnson. We worked closely with Pastor Kris beginning in June 2025 to create a format for the campaign.

The theme for the campaign was “This is Our Story”. We decided to create 4 videos representing different aspects of our church community. Pastor Kris developed the questions that the members would answer. The videos were presented to the congregation, during Sunday worship service, over 4 weekends.

In separate videos, both long term members and newer members were asked ‘what FPC meant to them’ and ‘why they give’. In a third video, three young women who had grown up in the church and their lasting friendships that were nurtured by the church. They give to the church, not just to keep the lights on, but to pass on the power of the church and lasting friendships to the next generation. The last video was from FPC staff and decidedly humorous. To give further visibility to our campaign Pastor Kris released each video to Facebook.

The Committee felt the Stewardship theme and the campaign was successful and the number of pledgers and the amount of funds pledged increased.

10

WORSHIP & MUSIC COMMITTEE

This committee strives to support both the Pastor and the Music Director in order to further the church community's spiritual and musical needs for Sunday worship as well as sharing the good news with our wider community through musical events. FPC has a thriving music department – Sanctuary Choir, Kirkwood Choir and Musikgarten, Chamber Chorale, Vesper Bells, Justice Choir of the Midwest, and Quad City Youth Choir, and our very talented organist Alex Gilson – along with a successful Performing Arts Series.

Our Sunday morning worship is enhanced by having a plethora of different service styles, many being led by the Sanctuary Choir, others involving Chamber Chorale and Vesper Bells.

Some of the noteworthy services this past year are:

Chamber Chorale's Choral Evensong (Mar 9)

Maundy Thursday Service (Apr 17) occurred in Fellowship Hall with communion and a soup dinner to emulate Jesus' Last Supper along with dramatic readings and hand washing

Good Friday Tenebrae Service (Apr 18) which included the Sanctuary Choir, Vesper Bells, and a chamber orchestra

Easter Sunday (Apr 20) led by the Sanctuary Choir

All Saints Day Service (Nov 2) involved a poignant announcement of all of our loved ones who passed in 2025 with the placing of white roses up front in the sanctuary

Our 2025 Advent Series included:

Community Organ Recital of 4 local organists (Nov 30) Alex Gilson from FPC, Riley Sindt from Trinity Lutheran, Chris Nelson from St Paul Lutheran, and Michael Elsbernd from Trinity Episcopal Cathedral

Chamber Chorale's Advent Lessons and Carols (Dec 7) which was rebroadcast on WVIK on Christmas Eve

Blue Christmas Service (Dec 10)

FPC's Christmas Concert "Gloria in Excelsis Deo" (Dec 21) which included the Sanctuary Choir, Chamber Chorale, Vesper Bells, Quad City Youth Choir, orchestra, and organist Alex Gilson along with a partnership with the FPC Caring Closet for which monetary donations were collected.

Candlelight Lessons and Carols Christmas Eve Service (Dec 24 9pm)

We even brought in outside musicians like Ivory & Gold for *Carnival Sunday* (Jan 19, 2025) and a group of 6 musicians for *Bix Sunday* (Aug 4) – Jeff Barnhart, Dave Bennett, Dave Kosmyna, Brandon Au, Mikiya Matsuda, Gina DeGregorio.

The Performing Arts Series is a well-loved part of community life at FPC and in Davenport at large. In 2025, there were 4 concerts hosted by FPC:

February 21 Alex Gilson's organ recital celebrating Black History Month

March 29 Traditional Irish band Ring of Kerry

May 18 Spring Concert on the theme of Mental Wellness featuring the Sanctuary Choir, Quad City Youth Choir, Vesper Bells, and Chamber Chorale, in partnership with NAMI-Greater Mississippi Valley

October 21 Professional women's vocal ensemble LYYRA

The Justice Choir of the Midwest performed two concerts at FPC:

March 23 (on the theme of Migrant Justice)

November 16 (on the theme of LGBTQ+ Justice).

In July, 50 travelers from the Sanctuary Choir embarked on a 10-day tour of northern Italy. They performed 2 concerts and participated in 2 masses. The choir raised money over the course of the year for a refugee assistance organization based in Padua. Fundraisers included a Trivia Night on May 15 and a Thanksgiving Pie Fundraiser the previous year.

The committee has even broadened its scope this past year by decorating the Sanctuary for thematic effect (i.e. rainbow fabrics on the cross and communion table during Lent) and hopes to continually grow this for years to come.

2025 has been a wonderful year for the music and worship life at FPC. It is our hope that each subsequent year will be even better than the last.

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BUILDING USE COMMISSION

The Building Use Commission was created by Session in April 2024 and charged with the review of any requests for the use of FPC facilities for non-church functions. This would include requests from outside individuals or organizations but also requests from church members or staff for non-church functions. The Commission members include the corporate officers of FPC and the Head of Staff. In 2025 this included Nancy Chapman and Tom Spritzfaden, Co-Chairs of the Finance Committee, Pam Paulsen, Church Treasurer, Mark Jones and Julia Meyer, Secretary/Co-Clerks of Session, and Kris Schondelmeyer, Head of Staff.

The Commission met March 2, 2025, to affirm the previous e-votes and vote on the outstanding requests. Administrative responsibilities were given to the Director of Office Administration and suggested changes to the application form were implemented. The Commission approved 4 building use requests in 2025.

12

STRATEGIC DISCERNMENT TEAM

In August of 2024, eighteen members of FPC gathered as the Strategic Discernment Team (SDT) “to discern our next chapter of ministry in the 21st century.” The discernment process began with an all-congregational assessment of opinions and priorities. Two in-person “congregational conversations” followed in April and June 2025, seeking additional feedback from the congregation. Drawn from the assessment and “conversations,” the **congregation’s ministry priorities** were summarized into 7 broad topics:

- Music Ministry with all ages
- Excellence in Worship
- Ministry with Children, Youth and Families
- Intergenerational Community Center (examples of offerings: meals, resources, art, wellness, education and spiritual growth opportunities)
- Caring Closet
- Digital Presence (website, Instagram, Facebook, etc.)
- Financial Management (good stewardship of our resources)

To support these ministries, the congregation’s **priorities for our physical presence** fell into 5 broad categories:

- Heating, ventilation, air conditioning (HVAC) in both buildings.
- Plaster/painting throughout both buildings
- Updating commercial kitchen
- Expanding Caring Closet space
- Creating accessible fellowship/recreation (multipurpose) space

After the SDT considered these priorities more deeply, it became clear that we needed a “master plan” to efficiently fit all the parts together. The SDT voted to partner with a professional architect/design or engineering firm to properly address costs and to better visualize our options. In November 2025, a subcommittee was formed, prepared a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) and - after getting Session authorization - sent the RFQ to six firms. SDT is now awaiting the returned documents to determine which firm can best help the Team proceed.

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DEACON'S REPORT TO THE CONGREGATION

The Board of Deacons continued to lead and support the mission work of First Presbyterian Church throughout the year. We are grateful to the congregation for your gifts of time, talent, and resources—including your generous “green envelope” support—which make our local and global mission efforts possible. All deacon-led ministries are shaped by the Matthew 25 Initiative of the Presbyterian Church (USA), which calls us to:

1. Build congregational vitality
2. Dismantle structural racism
3. Eradicate systemic poverty

Outreach Committee

The Outreach Committee focused on meeting tangible needs within our community and building relationships with our neighbors. Key efforts included:

- Operating the Caring Closet, providing free clothing, laundry cards, lunches, linens, and hygiene products.
- Hosting the annual neighborhood picnic.
- Supporting the PUNCH Easter Egg Hunt.
- Partnering with Sudlow Middle School to supply needed items such as backpacks and computer chargers.
- Preparing and serving monthly meals for approximately 50 people through Churches United.
- Serving a Thanksgiving meal with PUNCH (People Uniting Neighbors and Churches).
- Assisting CEFY with the annual Trunk or Treat event.

Mission Connection Committee

The Mission Connection Committee supported local, regional, and global mission initiatives. Highlights from the year include:

- Coordinating Kids Against Hunger, where volunteers packaged 6,000 meals for distribution locally and worldwide.
- Collaborating with Habitat for Humanity to help build affordable homes.
- Sending four members on an El Paso border encounter trip—an immersive experience focused on empathy, dialogue, and understanding surrounding migration issues.
- Partnering with Tapestry Farms to provide church-owned housing for immigrant families.

Member Care Committee

The Member Care Committee worked to strengthen the bonds within our congregation and support members through life's needs. Key activities included:

- Hosting the annual Homecoming Dinner for members aged 70 and older.
- Offering a variety of fellowship events such as the April Tea, men's breakfast, and a church baseball outing, while also launching a young adult group.
- Forming Member Care Teams, with each of the 20 deacons assigned a list of congregants to support as needs arise.

Donations of Resources and Time

In addition to hands-on work, the deacons facilitated congregational support for several mission partners and outreach efforts, including:

- Covenant Network of the Presbyterian Church
- Dresses for Africa, sewn by congregation members and sent abroad
- Camp Bear Creek, a ministry of the Presbytery
- Humility Homes and its housing initiatives for people experiencing homelessness
- Churches United—Winnie's Place and the food pantry
- PUNCH efforts in the Brady Hill community, including the blessing box and Juneteenth activities
- Participation in the Memorial to the Lost, honoring those in our community who have been lost to gun violence

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FPC FOUNDATION - TIME AND TALENT AT WORK

In addition to the mission dollars our congregation provides, we support mission activities in other ways as well. A number of missions use our beloved building at no (or minimal) cost. Several mission activities also benefit from the in-kind contributions from our congregational members. The list below is a partial list of missions that are supported by these 'in-kind' contributions. Since we do not regularly document 'in-kind' support, it is likely that some mission support is not listed. We would be pleased if you would make the church staff aware of any omissions of which you are aware.

Church Building Use

- Caring Closet
- Churches United meal preparation
- Community Concerts
- D.E.L.P. Foundation
- Kids Against Hunger
- PEO Groups
- Presbytery of East Iowa Document Storage & Reviews
- PUNCH meetings
- QC Justice Choirs
- Scouts
- TOPS
- Youth Art Show

Congregation In-Kind Mission Giving

- Angel Tree Gifts
- Baked goods for mission fundraising
- Border Encounter Trip to El Paso
- Canned Food/Pantry Goods
- Caring Closet Food/Clothing
- Community Picnic sponsored by the Deacons of FPC
- Habitat for Humanity
- Homecoming Dinner
- Landscaping
- Member Care Teams
- Prayer Shawl Ministry
- P.U.N.CH Thanksgiving Dinner
- Sanctuary Clean-Team
- Trunk or Treat
- Vacation Bible Camp daily lunches

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NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The members of the 2025 Nominating Committee (elected by the congregation in 2024) included congregational members Bruce Bufe, Scott Johnson, Linda Meadors, Irene Huffmann (deceased); Deacon Sherry Williams; and Elder co-chairs Dianna Darland and Dan Breinich.

The committee met multiple times starting in July. In October 2025 the congregation voted to accept the names of members willing to accept 3-year positions as Deacons (7) and Elders (6) to start their roles after installation in January 2026.

Voted by the congregation were members to the 2026 Nominating Committee: congregational members Ted Brown, Colleen Duenas, Nancy Foster, and Judy Hawthorne; Deacon Sarah Soenksen; and Elder co-chairs Jed Steckel and Dianna Darland.

The newly created Associate Pastor Nominating Committee (APNC) members were voted by the congregation: Elizabeth Breinich, Bruce Bufe, Mark Jones, Abby Pitcher, Sharon Simmonds, and RuthAnn Tobey-Brown. This committee began their work in late-October 2025.

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SOUTHWOOD HERITAGE CENTER

The work in the Southwood Heritage Center to preserve historic records of the church is on-going. Volunteer, Janet Greenlee, continues her work to catalog every item in the Center. As new materials come into the Center, they are cataloged and filed.

A number of historical church documents are housed at the Davenport Public Library in the Richardson-Sloane Special Collections Center. A review of those documents was begun to make sure we have an accurate inventory of the items in that collection.

The Heritage Center continues to respond to requests to research past records including memberships, baptisms, and confirmations.

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SCOUTS ANNUAL REPORT

Scout Troop 7 (co-ed): Scout Master - Theresa Jacobsmeier

1. The combined troop grew from 5 boys and 2 girls to 9 boys and 3 girls and is now a “Family Troop” which is the category for the new co-ed units after serving in a pilot program.
2. Two scouts turned 18 and “aged out of scouting”
3. There were eleven total rank advancements in 2025 including Benny Jacobsmeier (one of the two scouts who aged out) earning his Eagle Scout rank and remains registered with the troop as a young adult leader.
4. The troop is active in its Outing programs and attends a monthly campout.
5. In June they attended a new to us summer camp, Howard H. Cherry in Hawkeye Council in Central City Iowa. We had four scouts from Troop 7, four provisional scouts from Troop 92, and four leaders in attendance. Our four scouts earned a total of 10 merit badges, and three of our leaders took and completed the Aquatics Supervision Swimming and Rescue training.
6. In July they attended summer camp at our council camp, Loud Thunder Scout Reservation. 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.
7. The troop participated in church service on Scout Sunday, 2025.
8. The troop works hard to support itself by participating in fundraising activities to include monthly donut sales in fellowship hall, averaging \$45 per scout, putting up and taking down American Flags for two routes for Avenue of Flags put on by the Davenport Noon Optimists Club, and we participate in sales such as popcorn, beef sticks, and Mamma Basso Pizza. We work hard to ensure that finances are not a reason for youth to not be able to participate. Annual dues have increased this year which only compounds the financial issues.
9. The troop has a bright future with several scouts planning to cross over from Cub Scouts to our Troop in the first quarter of 2026.

Cub Scout Pack 7: Cub Master - Sean Jacobsmeier

1. This new pack has grown from the beginnings in 2025 of just a handful of cub scouts to now eleven scouts and numerous adult leaders. Adult members have participated in recruiting programs such as “unpack your backpack” at local elementary schools to help the pack to grow.
2. The Cub Scouts Pack 7 meets bi-weekly. During meeting, the Pack meets as a whole because of the low numbers of active youth across five different ranks. Activities are based on adventure requirements and adjusted accordingly so that all ages can enjoy them.
3. The pack youth has earned numerous awards towards their Den badge, which should be earned by the end of the school year.

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MISSION PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITY

Last March, at an FPC Justice Choir concert benefitting Tapestry Farms, a seed was planted: the Foundation of First Presbyterian Church became aware of Tapestry Farms' need for safe, code-compliant, livable housing for large refugee families.

Background:

- **Tapestry Farms** is a nonprofit urban farm system that invests in refugees who come to find home in the Quad Cities after fleeing war and persecution in their home countries. Tapestry Farms was established in June 2017. They provide social services and a legal clinic, and they grow food at a dozen sites throughout the Quad Cities. Social services include support with housing, medical care, education, work, meeting basic needs, transportation, community and green card/citizenship applications. At any given time, Tapestry Farms works with about 30 families, many of which are large, multi-generational families.
- The **Foundation of First Presbyterian Church** of Davenport (FPC) exists to lend financial support for the mission and needs of the congregation. As part of our mission in the community, the Foundation has owned neighborhood houses for over 20 years. Initially purchased to provide growth potential for our building and parking needs, the five houses have been rented to low- and middle-income families.

Two of the houses - 1725 and 1801 Pershing Avenue - have been vacant for more than 18 months. They are four- and five-bedroom houses, and they are adjacent to each other. After a fire in one of them, the Foundation weighed rental income against repair costs and decided that demolishing these two houses was the best option. But after that Justice Choir concert, an alternative idea began to form - the Foundation owned houses and Tapestry Farms needed houses. A collaborative mission partnership began to evolve between FPC, the Foundation and Tapestry Farms.

The cost to rehabilitate both homes is estimated to be \$180,000, including a reasonable contingency. At this time, funding to rehab the houses has been secured from insurance proceeds from the fire, two grants from local funders and gifts from two church families. In addition, members of the Deacons offered to help clean out the houses to save on costs. The work to transition the houses is expected to start soon.

The parties look forward to cooperating in the true spirit of partnership with a common goal of providing safe, code-compliant, livable housing to refugee families on Pershing Avenue, Davenport IA.

Foundation Homes Dedicated for our Mission Partnership with Tapestry Farms



1725 Pershing



1801 Pershing

FPC STAFF

First Presbyterian Church w 1702 Iowa Street w Davenport, Iowa 52803 w Phone: 563-326-1691

Our Staff

Rev. Dr. Kris Schondelmeyer, <i>Pastor/Head of Staff</i>	Ext 230	schondelmeyer@fpcdavenport.org
Rev. Pat Halverson*, <i>Parish Associate</i>		
Marty Bowles-Edwards*, <i>Co-Director of Christian Education</i>		cefy@fpcdavenport.org
Abby Schondelmeyer* <i>Co-Director of Christian Education</i>		cefy@fpcdavenport.org
Kathy Knox*, <i>Nursery Caregiver</i>		
Deanna Herman*, <i>Nursery Caregiver</i>		
Matt Bishop, <i>Director of Music & Arts</i>	Ext 201	bishop@fpcdavenport.org
Alex Gilson, <i>Principal Organist & Assistant Director of Music</i>	Ext 223	gilson@fpcdavenport.org
Linda Bengfort*, <i>Assistant Choral Director</i>		
Kathy Middleton*, <i>Assistant Choral Director for Children</i>		
Jim Middleton*, <i>Director of Office Administration</i>		office@fpcdavenport.org
Diana Miller-Bur*, <i>Administrative Assistant to the Pastor</i>	Ext 235	millerbur@fpcdavenport.org
Kristine Olson, <i>Director of Financial and Business Administration</i>	Ext 219	olson@fpcdavenport.org
Tammy Versluis*, <i>Accounting Assistant</i>		
Darren Long, <i>Director of Building and Grounds</i>	Ext 205	long@fpcdavenport.org
Chad Dean*, <i>Custodian</i>		

* Part-time employee

ELDERS AND DEACONS

Elders

<i>Class of 2026</i>	<i>Class of 2027</i>	<i>Class of 2028</i>	<i>Clerk of Session</i>
Dianna Darland	Dan Darland	Nancy Chapman	Julia Meyer
Denny Jorgenson	Craig Foster	Colleen Dueñas	
Kathy Knox	Wendy Hammen	Nathan Kabel	
Cathy Pratscher-Woods	Paula Hartmann	Linda Meadors	
Jed Steckel	Sharon Simmonds	RuthAnn Tobey-Brown	
	Jay Williams		
	Erin Yingling		

Deacons

<i>Class of 2026</i>	<i>Class of 2027</i>	<i>Class of 2028</i>
Andy Bowles Edwards (Moderator)	Elizabeth Breinich (Vice Moderator)	Carrie Braun
Lois Boyer	Andrew Darland	Dan Breinich
Connie Connolly	Steve Earp	Scott Johnson
John Gere	Heidi Pedersen	Cherrie Umland-Burns
Al Frohlich	Mason Pedersen	Kris Woodard
Bob Lehnher	Doug Wells	Bill Yingling
Amy Saskowski	Sherry Williams	Gail Yingling
Sarah Soenksen		
Katrina Williams		