

PRESBYTERY CONNECTION

A Bi-Weekly Newsletter of the Presbyteries of North Central Iowa and Prospect Hill
October 15, 2020

The Presbytery Connection is a bi-weekly joint newsletter for the Presbyteries of North Central Iowa and Prospect Hill. If you would like to contribute to the Presbytery Connection, please contact Jeannie Stolee in the Presbytery office at 319-233-1747 or northiowapresby@gmail.com

If you know of someone who would enjoy receiving this communication, please email or call Jeannie.

Please consider making copies of this newsletter for your Session and running several copies to make available to your congregation.

www.presbynciowa.org

www.prospecthillpresby.org

To see North Central Iowa's calendar of events, please click [here](#).

To see Prospect Hill's calendar of events, please click [here](#).

Prospect Hill Stated Presbytery Meeting October 24, 2020

Prospect Hill's October 24, 2020, Stated Presbytery Meeting will be held via Zoom. The meeting will begin at 9:00 a.m. and will conclude with Boundary Training.

The Call to the meeting was emailed on October 13, 2020. If you did not receive it, please let Jeannie Stolee know.

Minister members and ruling elder commissioners will need to make reservations with Jeannie Stolee (northiowapresby@gmail.com) by noon on Friday, October 23 to receive the Zoom link for the meeting.

2021 Per Capita

Prospect Hill's 2021 per capita has been set at:

General Assembly	\$ 8.98
Synod	5.50
Presbytery	<u>28.00</u>
	\$42.48

North Central Iowa's 2021 per capita has been set at:

General Assembly	\$ 8.98
Synod	5.50
Presbytery	<u>24.52</u>
	\$39.00

Prayers of the Presbytery of North Central Iowa

Week of October 18	Barclay Presbyterian Church, Waterloo – CRE Larry Fuson
Week of October 25	Central Presbyterian Church, Nevada – Rev. John Molacek
Week of November 1	McCallsburg Presbyterian Church, McCallsburg – Rev. Tom Poppe

Prayers of the Presbytery of Prospect Hill

Week of October 18	Trinity Presbyterian Church, Wall Lake – CRE Lue Baker
Week of October 25	Pray for Our Ministry in the Nation
Week of November 1	United Presbyterian Church, Westside – Rev. Robert Cook

Additional Prayer Concerns

Please pray for Bruce McCart, husband of Rev. Marion “Pete” McCart, HR, as he struggles with health problems. He is determined to rally so he can cast his vote! Cards may be sent to Bruce at 1100 Grove Street, Apt. 18, Cedar Falls, IA 50613.

Rev. Bob Cook, pastor at United Presbyterian Church in Vail and United Church of Westside, is recuperating well after aortic valve replacement surgery on October 8. He looks forward to being back in the pulpit on October 25. He thanks everyone for their prayers and well wishes. Cards may be sent to Bob at P.O. Box 61, Vail, IA 51465.

Please pray for Roberta Henry, mother of Rev. Dr. Brett Becker, pastor at Collegiate Presbyterian Church in Ames. Mrs. Henry is home with nursing care and prospects for long-term recovery are not good. Please pray for Mrs. Henry, Brett and Anita Becker, and family.

Please pray for Rev. Dr. Glenn Wilson, HR, as he recovers from a corneal transplant. Cards may be sent to Glenn at 31 Bush Street, Woden, IA 50484.

Please continue to pray for Rev. Dr. Rich King as he continues to deal with the after effects of strokes. Cards may be sent to Rich at 1831 Prairie Ave., Marshalltown, IA 50158.

Please pray for Rev. Clarence Beard, HR, who is on hospice. Our prayers surround him and his family at this time of transition. Cards may be sent to Clarence at JA Wedum Residential Hospice, Room 8, 9350 Noble Parkway, Brooklyn Park, MN 55443.

Please pray for clearing of vision for Rev. Dr. Dave Ullom, pastor at First Presbyterian Church in Estherville, as the vitreous in his left eye detached from the retina. Thankfully there was no tear, but his vision is somewhat occluded. Cards may be sent to Dave at 2180 410th Ave., Estherville, IA 51334.

Please continue to pray for Josh Ullom, son of Rev. Dr. Dave and Judy Ullom of First Presbyterian Church in Estherville. Josh continues with bi-weekly chemo. Please also pray for Josh’s family and for Dave and Judy as they all deal with this and support Josh.

Please continue to remember Doug O’Bannon, son of CRE Shari O’Bannon, in your prayers as he continues to battle a liver disease and all the symptoms that come with it.

Churches in Transition

Please pray for the following churches that are in transition:

Presbytery of North Central Iowa

First Presbyterian Church, Ackley
First Presbyterian Church, Boone
First Presbyterian Church, Greene
First Presbyterian Church, Jesup
Eden Presbyterian Church, Rudd
Westminster Presbyterian Church, Waterloo

Presbytery of Prospect Hill

Elliott Creek Presbyterian Church, Bronson
Memorial Presbyterian Church, Cherokee
Westminster Presbyterian Church, Ida Grove
First Presbyterian Church, Lake Park
Community Presbyterian Church, Lawton
First Presbyterian Church, Odebolt
First Presbyterian Church, Paullina
First Presbyterian Church, Sioux City
Lakeside Presbyterian Church, Storm Lake
First Presbyterian Church, South Sioux City

Poor Richard's Almanac

by Richard Francis, Stated Clerk, Presbytery of Prospect Hill



For several years now, Kathy and I have gone to Estes Park, Colorado at least once a year. We go to see Rocky Mountain National Park, to drive over Trail Ridge Road, and to hike on the trails, of which Rocky has many. Over the years, the distance we hike has grown shorter, and the more difficult trails are now a memory, but it hasn't dimmed our enjoyment of the experience.

It hasn't dimmed other people's enjoyment, either, if a recent encounter is any indication. We were on our way toward the Bear Lake Trail when we met some folks coming from the trail. The woman was absolutely beaming, and she greeted us with an enthusiastic "Good morning!" Not a big deal in its way but it made me realize that in years of hiking I've never met any grouchy people on the trail. Even the people who were struggling to get up a particularly steep place or who had just run out of steam and had to rest or turn back were cheerful about it. After, all, we were in the Rocky Mountains, one of the most beautiful places on earth: how could you not be grateful just to be there?

I thought of that again during worship at the virtual meeting of the Synod of Lakes and Prairies. The Rev. Gregory Bentley, Co-Moderator of the General Assembly (along with our Synod Executive, Ruling Elder Elona Street-Stewart), gave the sermon, based on Acts 4:32-37. Here's a portion of that passage:

Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need. (Acts 4:32-35)

These actions, Gregory Bentley said, were acts of resurrection testimony. "The whole group of those who believed" knew themselves to be a community of grace, and "grace," he said, "engenders gratitude." "When we are grateful, we are generous." We are generous with our time, our talents, our money, ourselves.

Together with the folks we met on the trail we were also a kind of community of grace, beneficiaries of an abundance of natural beauty we didn't create and had done nothing to deserve. How could we not be grateful?

Kathy and I show our gratitude for Rocky Mountain National Park by contributing to the Rocky Mountain National Park Conservancy. We express our gratitude to God by being generous with our time, our talents, our money, ourselves—generous with our local church and with other organizations and causes that are in their own ways acts of resurrection testimony.

Our God is a God of abundance, of enough and more than enough, "a good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over," in the words of Jesus, who then adds, "for the measure you give will be the measure you get back." (Luke 6:38). Kathy and I have experienced that over and over in our lives, and I hope you have, too.

In a season of uncertainty it's easy to hold back, cut back, conserve our time, our talents, our money, ourselves, because we might need those things. But God has not stopped being generous; "God's love," writes the Apostle Paul, "has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us." (Romans 5:5)

But let's let Jesus have the last word:

Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Blessings,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Richard". To the left of the name is a small, stylized drawing of a heart with a crown on top, and a small heart below it.

Fall Synod Meeting

The Synod of Lakes and Prairies held its Fall Stated Meeting on Sunday, October 4 and Monday, October 5, 2020 via Zoom. Please click [here](#) to read a full summary of the meeting.

New Staffing Elected

The Presbyteries of Prospect Hill, North Central Iowa, and Des Moines have voted to join together in calling three staff members to lead the presbyteries beginning January 1, 2021.

The vote, which took place at a specially called joint meeting on October 10, approved the call and election of the following people:

1. The Rev. Annika Lister Stroope to be Administrative Executive and Stated Clerk;
2. Ruling Elder Amgad Beblawi to be Mission Executive;
3. The Rev. Ian McMullen to be Pastor to the Presbyteries.

The new staffing model is the culmination of a years-long process in which representatives of all three presbyteries met, at first informally, then with the formation of a task force to work out the details of the model, and finally with a search committee led by Rev. Ken Rummer of Des Moines Presbytery and including members from all three presbyteries. The process was guided throughout by Rev. Dr. Deb DeMeester, Director of Leadership Development for the Synod of Lakes and Prairies. Synod Executive Elona Street-Stewart advised the search committee on process.

At the October 10 meeting, which was held via Zoom, the three candidates had the opportunity to introduce themselves and answer questions from all participants. Brief biographies of the candidates were also available at the meeting, and you can find them in this newsletter as well.

An installation service will be held after the first of the year.

This is a bold, exciting step, not only for our three presbyteries, but for the denomination, and the rest of the church is already taking note of this new model for leadership. We ask your prayers for Annika, Amgad, and Ian as they prepare to take up their new responsibilities. Gratitude is also due to the many people from the presbyteries who volunteered their energy, intelligence, imagination, and love to the process.

Thanks be to God.

Boundaries Training

Prospect Hill is offering Boundaries Training, facilitated by Rev. Dr. Deb DeMeester, Director of Leadership Development at the Synod of Lakes and Prairies, at the end of its October 24, 2020 Stated Presbytery meeting. It is expected this training will start at 11:00 a.m. that day. Please remember to make your reservation with Jeannie Stolee by noon on Friday, October 23, to receive the Zoom link.

The Presbytery of Des Moines also invites North Central Iowa and Prospect Hill pastors to its Boundaries Training, facilitated by Rev. Dr. Deb DeMeester, on Thursday, October 22, 2020 at 1:00 p.m. Please use the following information to be connected to that meeting:

Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89663877001?pwd=WGI0a1U0YVB2d1RwWXhsamlrc3hPUT09>

Meeting ID: 896 6387 7001

Passcode: koinonia

Candidate Introductions

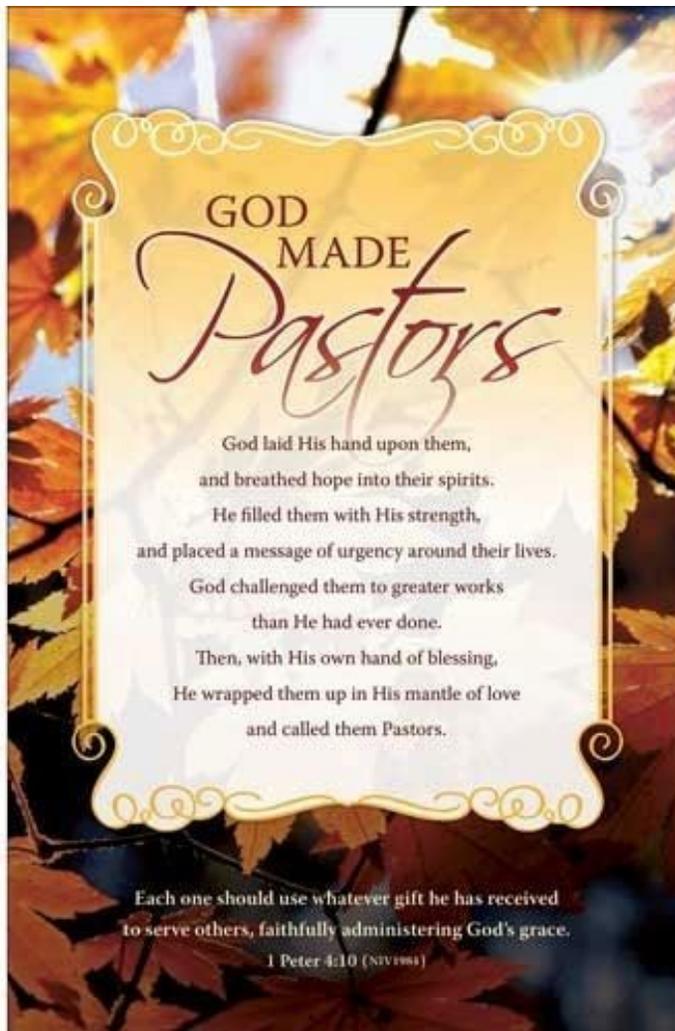
<p>Administrative Executive/Stated Clerk <i>Annika Lister Stroope</i></p> 	<p>Ordained in 2001, Annika’s first call was as a chaplain, followed by 18 years as a pastor in congregations in Minnesota and Nebraska. A native of Iowa, Annika was baptized as a child at First Presbyterian Church on Des Moines’ east side. She moved back to Des Moines last year and currently serves as Interim Mission Co-Worker for Our Sister Parish, the Iowa-El Salvador partnership, as well as Parish Associate for Adult Education and Mission at Central Presbyterian Church and Moderator of First Presbyterian Church’s Session. “I seek to use my gifts in collaborative ways for the construction of God’s reign and justice in the here and now. I am a people person as well as a strong administrator.” Annika has worked in team ministry in all of her calls and looks forward to the strong collaboration and team model that are inherent in the Tri-Presbyteries design.</p> <p>Annika lives with her family in Des Moines. During her free time she loves to do the “trinity” of sports a.k.a. triathlons and to travel around the U.S. and abroad.</p>
<p>Mission Executive <i>Amgad Beblawi</i></p> 	<p>Amgad describes himself as a “product of Presbyterian mission,” having been born and raised in Egypt where his Orthodox Christian grandparents joined the Presbyterian church. He graduated from Fuller Seminary and embraced his call to serve God as a ruling elder. He served at the PCUSA national offices from 2005-2016, including six years in Presbyterian World Mission when he traveled to 19 countries as a mission coordinator and representative of the PCUSA. He currently serves as the Interim Executive for the Presbytery of Des Moines. Amgad looks forward to working with congregations to become more faithful disciples in their Christian journey and witness. He notes, “Mission is about who we are in Christ and as Christ’s ambassadors in the world.” He is excited about the connectional and team aspect of this ministry as he believes, “The wisdom of a group is much more than the wisdom of any wise individual.” Amgad and his wife, Susan, enjoy sharing meals with friends, doing puzzles, and watching good movies. Their son, Justin, is a college student in California.</p>
<p>Pastor to the Presbyteries <i>Ian McMullen</i></p> 	<p>Ian has spent most of his life in Iowa. He embraced his call as a Minister of Word and Sacrament after a career as a mechanical engineer and account manager, serving First Presbyterian Church in Maxwell, IA, until he was called to be the Transitional Executive for the presbyteries of North Central Iowa and Prospect Hill. He describes himself as a pastoral visionary, team builder and ministry enabler. “I love people. I love meeting new people, walking with people, engaging in their lives. My ministry is about loving neighbor and loving God. I always make time to visit with people as I travel. We are built for relationships and I love that I get to engage people on a daily basis.” He recognizes the power of leadership cohorts and continuing education opportunities to keep connections in the presbytery strong and vibrant. Ian was a part of the Iowa task force that ultimately brought the vision for a shared staff to the presbyteries. Ian has three grown daughters and loves tinkering with cars to relax.</p>

October is Pastor Appreciation Month

October is a great time to show your pastor how much he or she is appreciated! Following are a few ideas, but be creative and come up with an idea that's personal to your pastor and your church.

- ❖ A handwritten letter or note. This also provides an opportunity for kids to participate.
- ❖ A gift card to their favorite restaurant, to a movie theater or for a massage; cook their favorite meal or order takeout on their behalf.
- ❖ Laminate bookmarks created by the children in your church, featuring their art and signatures. Allow kids to present the bookmarks to the pastor personally.
- ❖ Place an ad in your local newspaper, featuring a photo of your pastor and a declaration of your church's love and appreciation.
- ❖ Think of small things your pastor enjoys, such as M&Ms, fishing lures, coffee, etc. Ask each member to bring that item on a Sunday, i.e., one bag, any size, of M&Ms.
- ❖ Distribute stamped envelopes addressed to the pastor. An instruction note invites each church member to write and mail a personal note of encouragement and appreciation to the pastor.
- ❖ Prepare a beautifully framed photo of the church building or take a group photo of church members in front of the building. Use extra wide matting and ask every church member to sign the mat before adding glass.

Don't forget to include a sincere note with specific reasons you appreciate your pastor's spiritual leadership, dedication, time and commitment. Won't God be honored by your acts of love for his servant?





Please join us for a
RETIREMENT RECEPTION
 for **Nancy Lister-Settle and Betty Dyer**
 and a time of recognition for
Kristin Pike and Amgad Beblawi

Dear friends,
 We invite you to join us in honoring our staff for their faithful service to the Presbytery of Des Moines. As of January 1, 2021, our presbytery will transition to a new tri-presbytery structure with shared staffing. Before winter weather is upon us, we want to celebrate and thank Nancy and Betty, who will be retiring, and Kristin and Amgad, whose roles will be changing. An "open house" outdoor reception will be held Sunday, October 25, from 3:00-5:00 p.m. in the parking lot of Heartland Presbyterian Church in Clive. Social distancing will be practiced and masks are required. Cards are welcome, and light refreshments will be served.

Sincerely,
 Sandy Wagener, Moderator
 Presbytery of Des Moines

OUTDOOR RECEPTION

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25
3:00-5:00 P.M.

HEARTLAND
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH PARKING LOT
CLIVE, IOWA

SOCIAL DISTANCING
& MASKS REQUIRED

CARDS WELCOME



NANCY LISTER-SETTLE
Hunger Action Enabler

Nancy is retiring on January 1, after 26 years of faithful service to our presbytery.



BETTY DYER
Office Manager

Betty is retiring on January 1, after 15 years of faithful service to our presbytery.

AMGAD BEBLAWI
Interim Executive Presbyter

Amgad will conclude his time as Interim Executive Presbyter and assume the position of Mission Executive for our new tri-presbytery shared-staff partnership.



REV. KRISTIN PIKE
Stated Clerk

Kristin is stepping down as Stated Clerk, but will remain a member of our presbytery as pastor of Community United Presbyterian Church in Hartford.

Both Presbyteries Waive the Requirement to Rotate Officers

The Commission on Ministry of the Presbytery of North Central Iowa and the Commission on Ministry of the Presbytery of Prospect Hill have approved a one-year exemption of the requirement for congregational rotation of officers in 2020. Please see your respective presbytery's letter for additional information, including steps that need to be taken by those sessions wishing to participate in the waiver.

Please click [here](#) to see North Central Iowa's letter waiving the requirement to rotate officers.

Please click [here](#) to see Prospect Hill's letter waiving the requirement to rotate officers.

Dorothy Horn Scholarship

The Dorothy Horn Scholarship is awarded to female students from the Presbytery of North Central Iowa and adjacent presbyteries who attend the University of Northern Iowa. It is an endowed scholarship administered by First Presbyterian Church of Cedar Falls. The Scholarship Committee is pleased to introduce three recipients of the Dorothy Horn Scholarship.

Alisanne Struck is from Cherokee and a member of Memorial Presbyterian Church. She has been a volunteer camp counselor at Lakeshore Center at Okoboji, is a certified lifeguard and was involved in mission trips. At UNI she is involved in the Panther Marching Band and dance marathon and is studying public relations.

Hope Jacobs is from Waterloo and a member of Westminster Presbyterian Church. She has been on three mission trips, taught Vacation Bible School, volunteered at the food bank, walked in the Crop Walk and worked part-time at Landmark Commons. Hope is planning to study journalism/communications.

Shelly Smith is a nontraditional student from Waterloo pursuing a master's degree in philanthropy and nonprofit development. She is employed by the Black Hawk County ISU Extension and Outreach. At Westminster, Shelly has taught Sunday School, led youth fellowship, and served on the Christian Education, Nominating and Pastor Nominating Committees. She also found time to serve on the Evansdale City Council and several nonprofit boards.

Save the Date

Rev. Anna Small will be installed to service at First Presbyterian Church in Glidden at 2:00 p.m. on November 15, 2020. The installation will be live-streamed on First Presbyterian Church's Facebook page. Please click this link to be directed to that Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/gliddenpresbyterian>

Please join Rev. Anna and First Presbyterian Church, Glidden, for this very special event!

Advent Devotionals



Available today, these two new dated devotionals will make it easy to incorporate a simple Christian observance into the joyful seasons of Advent, Christmas through Epiphany. Quantity discounts available from the Augsburg Fortress website enable these to be purchased for your entire congregation, for families, or for small groups to encourage continued growth and reflection throughout what will likely be a different Advent and Christmas season than those we have observed in the past.

Our Hope and Expectation: Devotions for Advent & Christmas 2020-2021

Following in the same format of Devotions for Lent, Augsburg Fortress is excited to release a new devotion for Advent and Christmas this year. *Our Hope and Expectation* explores the Advent season and celebrates the joy of the twelve days of Christmas and the day of Epiphany. In addition to devotions, the book offers household blessings and prayers to enrich your preparations and celebrations. A free promotional pack will be available to help you best use *Our Hope and Expectation: Devotions for Advent & Christmas 2020-2021* in your congregation or small groups. [Please click here for more information and to order.](#)

Families Celebrate Advent & Christmas 2020-2021

The latest *Families Celebrate Advent & Christmas* annual devotion is a colorful deck of cards full of rituals, prayers and reflections. Endlessly flexible for busy schedules, you can create a new after-meal ritual, use them as decorations, or carry them on the go. A free promotional pack will be available to help you best use *Families Celebrate Advent & Christmas* in your congregation or small groups. [Click here for more information and to order.](#)

Opportunities for Mission



- ❖ **Lakeshore Center Needs Your Time!** Have you been too cooped up since this spring? Are you and a small group of friends itching to get out and do some volunteer work? Would you like a free night's stay at beautiful Lakeshore Center at Okoboji for just a few hours of volunteer time? If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, please see the [Fall Clean-Up at Lakeshore Center flyer](#).
- ❖ The Presbytery of Prospect Hill has created a task force to raise funds for scholarship assistance for refugees in South Sudan. This work began as a ministry of Stephen Chambang, a Deacon at Lakeside Presbyterian Church in Storm Lake. The goal is to provide \$450 per year in tuition to as many students as possible who will be studying health care at a college in the area. These students will then be able to work in the refugee camps in South Sudan, one of the poorest and most disrupted nations in the world. Donations in any amount may be sent by a check made payable to the Presbytery of Prospect Hill and mailed to the Presbytery Office, 1864 Hwy. 86, Milford, IA 51351. Please designate "So. Sudan Nurses Scholarship" in the memo portion of the check.
- ❖ Stephen Chambang (you can read about his work with the South Sudan Nurses Scholarship above) has a cousin in South Sudan who needs a hip replacement. The hospital in Storm Lake has graciously agreed to cover 80% of the cost of the surgery. An additional \$10,000 needs to be raised to cover travel expenses for Stephen's cousin and for the remainder of the cost of the surgery. **Any monetary gifts given through the Presbytery will be matched by the Presbytery of Prospect**

Hill. Donations in any amount may be sent by a check made payable to the Presbytery of Prospect Hill and mailed to the Presbytery Office, 1864 Hwy. 86, Milford, IA 51351. Please designate “Chambang Medical” in the memo portion of the check.

- ❖ Pastors Bob and Tamara EnTin, along with Dr. Jon Ahrendson and Mrs. Becky Ahrendson, were the host parents of Lydia Odihambo from Kenya, who attended high school through the EF Exchange Program during the 2018-2019 school year. Lydia made many friends among the students as well as adults in the community. She attended both the Lutheran Church and the Presbyterian Church in Clarion. She volunteered often at the movie theater and helped with other projects in the community.

Lydia is home in Kenya now, and has been working to transform a neighborhood trash heap into a community garden.

As a result of the pandemic, Lydia’s father has been unemployed since March. Unfortunately, the family can no longer afford the rent to live in their home in the city. The family wants to move to the country on land they inherited, but the recent rainy season flattened the mud hut they planned to live in.

Sukup Manufacturing in Sheffield, Iowa makes SafeTHomes that can be shipped to Kenya. You can click on this link to see what the homes look like: <http://www.safethome.com/>

The EnTins want to raise funds to get one of these Iowa made homes shipped to Kenya for Lydia and her family to live in. They are hoping to raise \$8,000, the cost of the building and shipping. To that end, they have started a GoFundMe page, which you may find at this link: https://www.gofundme.com/f/lydias-home?utm_source=customer&utm_campaign=p_cp+share-sheet&utm_medium=copy_link_all

Doctor of Ministry at UDTs – 2021 Cohort

The University of Dubuque Theological Seminary (UDTS) is offering an upcoming (2021) Doctor of Ministry cohort that will focus on Crisis and the Church: Ecclesiastical and Pastoral Responses. Led by Dr. Beth McCaw, Associate Professor of Ministry (UDTS) and Presbytery Leader, Glacier Presbytery (PCUSA), and Dr. Bradley Longfield, Professor of Church History (UDTS), this cohort will explore ways the church has addressed crises in the past to develop the theological perspectives and pastoral skills necessary to equip congregations and their members in the present to witness to the hope of the gospel in times of crisis.

The cohort begins online on Tuesday, January 21, 2021, while the first of three annual residencies will be held May 12-19, 2021. The deadline for applications is December 31, 2020. Please click [here](#) to apply for the DMin Program.

For more information, please see this [flyer](#).

If you have questions, please contact The Rev. Timothy Mathew Slemmons, Ph.D. (tslemmons@dbq.edu or 563-589-3578) or Kayla Schween (kschween@dbq.edu or 563-589-3115).

Events at Riverview Conference Center

The Riverview Conference Center in Cedar Falls has two events remaining this fall:

- [Soul'd Out](#). Saturday, October 17, 2020. This is a men's group of dynamic Christian singers. They encourage people of all ages with their smooth harmonies.
- [Susie Larson](#). Friday, November 6; Saturday, November 7. Susie is an author and Christian radio speaker. This is a women's event hosted by Riverview Conference Center at Bethany Bible Chapel in Cedar Falls, with the assistance of TJ's Christian Book Store in Cedar Falls. Women will be encouraged and inspired in the lessons Susie will be bringing from God's Word.

Presbyterian Foundation – Church Financial Leadership Grant Program



Grants are available to assist pastors to attend continuing education opportunities which will help them in leading their congregations toward financial and missional vitality. For more information please

click [here](#) or contact Rev. David Loleng, Director, Church Financial Literacy and Leadership, 800-858-6127 ext. 5901.

Transition-to-College Assistance



The Board of Pensions offers a grant program intended to help eligible families of freshmen entering college with transitional expenses, such as a computer purchase or dorm furnishings.

Applications for the 2020-2021 academic year will be accepted

from August 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021. Please click [here](#) for more information.

Helpful Links

Academy



Deepening faith and
encountering Christ in a
new way

Please click [here](#) for information on The Academy.



Rev. Shawn Harmon was ordained to service as a mission worker with The Antioch Partners, a mission sending agency that works in partnership with Presbyterian churches in the US. You can read more about them here: <https://www.theantiochpartners.org/>. You may contact Shawn directly at: harmonhusky@gmail.com. To support Shawn financially: www.theantiochpartners.org/giving. For online giving select "partner support for partners not listed for security reasons" and type "Harmon, Shawn."



The Iowa Heart Foundation recommends that Automatic External Defibrillators (AEDs) be placed wherever people gather. AEDs have become so advanced that almost anyone can use them safely. Click [here](#) for more information.



If you feel as if you're at the end of your rope or the recent floods or low crop prices have left you feeling hopeless, please click [here](#) to find a group or network who may be able to help.



Your Iowa Life – if you or a loved one are facing a problem with alcohol, drugs, gambling, mental health or suicide thoughts, you're not alone. That is why the Iowa Department of Public Health has created YourLifeIowa.org so Iowans can chat live, text or call and get reliable treatment options and find nearby help. <https://yourlifeiowa.org/>



Farm Crisis Ministry Network - supporting farmers and those who love and care for them, sharing resources for farm families, congregations, and rural communities. <https://www.facebook.com/farmcrisisministry/>



Spectrum Spirituality Project – support resources for families with one or more children who have a sensory, emotional, and/or behavioral disorder; also equip congregations to welcome and serve these families. https://www.facebook.com/pg/spectrumspirit/about/?ref=page_internal



Iowa Faith Leadership Network – to provide a space for faith leaders to develop interfaith and ecumenical relationships, collegiality, and cooperation; to share resources, ask questions, and learn together; to improve our collective ability to minister to the faith communities we serve as well as to better the lives of people in the communities around us. <https://www.facebook.com/iowafaithleaders/>