



THE ST. ANDREW MESSENGER

FEBRUARY 2012



PASTOR MATT PAUL

Dear Friends in Christ,

A mentor of mine once told me, “Matt, you’re the only bible most people will ever read.” I was fresh out of seminary when Bill said this to me, but I haven’t forgotten it. I believe what Bill was trying to tell me is that *who you are* is every bit as important as what you say and do. It also means that God’s story is being lived out in us, God’s people. These ideas would become the basis of my doctoral project, something I term incarnational ministry or incarnational outreach.

If we accept that we might be the only bible (or at least the *first* bible) people may ever read, then it is critical that we allow God’s word to live in us. This is the idea behind incarnational ministry, that as Christians we are called to model Christ to others—to go into the world as Christ was sent into the world—by sharing the story of how God is alive in us. This is the essence of the 28:16 Stories that we have been sharing in worship, for example.

One way we develop our skills for incarnational ministry is by reflecting on God’s presence in our lives and making connections with the greater story of God’s work of redemption as proclaimed in Scripture. We practiced this at the all-church retreat last month. These were powerful moments in which we shared stories of God at work in our lives, healing, forgiving, comforting, challenging, loving, and redeeming us.

I would invite you to meditate on these things, and the following, as we continue our examination of *The Great Ends of the Church* and how the mission of the church—the body of Christ—is manifest in each of us:

- *Think of a person who has embodied the love of Christ to you.*
- *Reflect on a personal story where you experienced God’s presence.*
 - *How was God present to you?*
 - *What biblical stories or themes come to mind?*

- *Ask God to reveal opportunities for you to embody the love of Christ to others.*
 - *Or show you ways you are already doing so!*

It is daunting to think we may be the only bible people ever read. *Believe me, I think of this each time I make a mistake.* Perhaps it helps to know that for centuries—before literacy rates climbed after the invention of the moveable type printing press, thank you, Gutenberg! Christians actually were the only bible people ever read. So, let us remember these words from Paul in Ephesians 5: *Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children, ²and live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.*

Godspeed,
Pastor Matt



A NOTE FROM COLLEEN

Dear St. Andrew,

My heart is heavy saying “Good-Bye” to you. These 21 years have been wonderful! I have treasured working with you on various projects, emails or seeing your smiling face in the office and on Sunday mornings. I would like to thank all of you. You have been so kind in your words, prayers and actions towards me and my family. May God’s mercy, blessing and grace shower upon you and you feel every wonderful drop.

Colleen Jacobson



Incarnational Outreach Note

To all of you who attended the Incarnational Outreach retreat in January. I'm so glad you were able to be part of the discussion, fellowship and community. I just wanted to send a personal thank you, because everyone really pitched in to make the retreat operate smoothly. Matt put in the hard work to bring us such rich content and guide our discussions, which was the heart of the weekend. But many, many people helped to get things ready and jumped in without waiting to be asked to during the retreat, for which I am very grateful.

I'm sure to miss if I try to name every single person, so to everyone who planned, prepared materials, put together and participated in worship, provided transportation, pushed a broom or mop, put away tables and chairs, pulled trash and dumped it, purchased groceries, prepped food, packed/unpacked the dishwasher and put away dishes, and potentially many other things I passed over, a profuse thanks! All of the experiences at the retreat reconfirmed for me how wonderful it is to be part of such a community as St. Andrew. God bless. Laura Morgan Dunham

Annual Souper Bowl Luncheon

Sunday, February 5 after the 11:00 am service. \$5 per person or \$15 for a family of 3 or more. Featuring: Homemade chicken noodle soup and potato soup. All profits go to Iowa City Crisis Center. This year we will also be having our first ever **Chili Cook-Off Contest!** Make your special batch of chili in a crockpot and enter our contest. Diners will vote for their favorite. Trophy to be awarded. To enter, call Lori Hudson at 319/512.7066.

Women's Retreat

Join us for a time of inspiration, fellowship and laughter. The annual women's retreat is February 10-11 at St. Andrew. If you still want to attend but have not signed up yet please call Heather at your earliest convenience at 319/338.7523.

Coralville Ecumenical Food Pantry Fund Raiser

Kevin "B.F." Burt and Chase Garrett are headlining a music concert and dinner benefit on Saturday, February 11, 5-10 pm at Old Brick, 26 E. Market St. in Iowa City. Music will begin at 5 pm with a performance by the bell choir from Coralville United Methodist Church. Also featured are performances by Laura Ludwig at

5:30 pm and Lark at 6:15 pm. Dinner will be served from 5-7 pm. Dinner tickets are \$20/person and must be purchased in advance. Tickets are available for cash purchase at Coldstone Creamery in Coralville. Music only tickets will be sold at the door from 7-10 pm for \$10/person. Proceeds support the CEFP and help feed hungry families in Coralville.

Singing Valentine

The IMS Chamber Singers are offering Singing Valentines on February 14 for your special person! The Valentine package for an individual will consist of two songs, a flower and a photo for \$35. The Chamber Singers will also sing songs for a group for \$60. The songs this year are *You Are the New Day* by King Singers, *I Will Be There* by Steven Curtis Chapman, *In the Still of the Nite* as recorded by Boys II Men. To reserve a singing valentine call the school office at 319/656.2073.

Benefit Music Concert

First Christian Church is having a benefit music concert with Richard Bruxvoort Colligan on Friday, February 17 at 7:00 pm in the sanctuary. You are invited. Admission is any contribution to the Coralville Ecumenical Food Pantry (food or \$\$) - bring your entire youth group, choir or class or just yourself. Richard is a very well known musician - graduated from a UCC seminary, published by Methodists and Lutherans, worked with Disciples, Presbyterians, etc.. Our Minister for Children and Youth, Bette Klein, is in charge of the concert- if you'd like more information or special arrangements please call her at 319/337.4181.

Annual DeGowin Blood Drive

The annual DeGowin Blood Drive at St. Andrew will be Sunday, February 26, from 12-4 pm. Once again we will be offering a "pie for a pint". Our goal this year is 34 units. If you would like to donate a pie for this event, please email Jan Taylor jantaylorj@aol.com or Susie Engelhardt smengelhardt@earthlink.net. Sign up sheets to donate blood will be in the Narthex.

Heritage Christian Welcomes Kirk Cameron

Heritage Christian School will be holding its annual Educating for Eternity fundraiser at the Coralville Marriott on Saturday, February 25. Kirk Cameron will be there to speak to the audience. Tickets for dinner and program at \$35 per person. They are available on a first-come, first served basis. You can call the school at 319/626.4777 with questions.

Habitat For Humanity

1) For seniors who own their own home. On February 25 and March 31, we will be sending Rotarians along with Interact students from City/West Highs out to change out light bulbs and replacing them with energy efficient CFL bulbs, replace smoke alarm batteries, and replace furnace filters. There is NO income limit on who we can serve. The goal is to keep seniors from climbing up to change bulbs and batteries and filters. There is no cost to the homeowners, but donations will be accepted.

2) We have federal money for either grants to mobile home owners in Iowa City or 0% interest loans for regular home owners in Iowa City to install handicap ramps for those at or below 80% of area median income. Our goal is to assist those able to stay in their homes to do so for as long as possible.

3) With a Dept. of Energy grant we can conduct a before and after energy audit along with making \$600 in improvements for elderly or handicapped home owners who are under 200% of the federal poverty rate. In addition, we can provide a new Whirlpool refrigerator to those who participate in the program if their existing refrigerator is more than 8 years old. This work can be done anywhere in Johnson County.

All three programs are described in more detail and have application forms on our web site: www.iowavalleyhabitat.org If you have more questions, please call our offices at 319/337.8949.

Perspectives Missions Class

More than 70,000 believers in North America have experienced the *Perspectives* course. In 15 lessons, you'll engage with a range of dynamic speakers. Weekly readings and study will help you dig even deeper. Join believers from across our local community this Spring at Grace Community Church. The Perspectives course will: confront your mind and heart with amazing truths, take you "five miles deep" into the bible, expose you to true stories of how God is using people like you, provide you with a greater perspective for living a life of eternal significance and purpose.

All the local class details, schedule of speakers and lessons, costs, discounts, and other information are online at www.perspectives.org or go to <http://www.grace3.org/perspectives/>.



STEPHEN MINISTRY

The Ministry of Listening

Think of a time when you really felt cared for. Chances are someone focused on what you had to say, was attentive to your needs, and listened to how you felt instead of telling you how you should feel or what you should do.

Listening is one of the most powerful ministry tools at our disposal. It demonstrates that you care about the other person. In Stephen Ministry, a great deal of time is spent teaching and practicing listening skills because of its importance as a caregiving tool. Currently nine members of St. Andrew are undergoing intensive training to become Stephen Ministers for our congregation.

You, too, can become a more caring listener by understanding and applying these six listening concepts from Stephen Ministry training:

- 1. Listening is active.** It takes energy and commitment to listen really well. Focus your attention on what the other person has to say, instead of thinking of what you'll say next. Look at him or her while you listen, and nod along from time to time so the person knows you're tuned in.
- 2. Listening takes patience.** Often you need to build trust before someone will open up to you. Constant, patient listening is a key.

3. Listening involves more than just words. Pay attention not only to what is *said*, but to what is *not said*-- or to what is said with a smile or a sigh. Pay attention to body language, too. Does it agree with or contradict a person's spoken words?

4. Good listeners aren't completely silent. They restate key thoughts or ideas to be sure they understood correctly or ask focused questions to encourage the person to reach a little deeper.

5. Listening happens over time. One conversation might build upon an earlier one. As you listen over several conversations, are there any recurring themes or patterns in what the person has said? Are there any contradictions from what was said earlier? These are signs there may be more to explore underneath.

6. Listening is confidential. A great way to build that trust and to show the person you really care for him or her is to maintain confidentiality and not to share with others what was told to you in private conversation.

Jesus was the model of a good listener. Much of his ministry was listening to people. By listening to what people had to say he demonstrated how much he really cared

about them. Remember the stories of the woman at the well, Nicodemus, or the disciples on the road to Emmaus. All were times when Jesus showed his care and concern by first listening to people and then giving them what they needed.

We all want St. Andrew to be a caring place, where members and guests truly feel people care about who they are and how they feel. Just as our Stephen Minister trainees learn to use good listening skills to communicate how much they care, so can you. Follow and practice these listening principles and make a concentrated effort toward becoming a better listener. Listening is a great gift we can give to one another, and we can all use to make St. Andrew a more caring place.

If you or someone you know desires a Stephen Minister, please contact Margie Loomer (margieloomer@yahoo.com or 319/351.2420), Bill Ford (wdford@mchsi.com or 319/354.1834), or one of our pastors.

Continuing Education Programs are open to the whole congregation. All St. Andrew members are invited to attend Stephen Ministry Continuing Education hour (7 – 8 pm) which is held on the first Thursday of each month.



COMMUNITIES + FELLOWSHIP GROUPS

Tuesday Morning Small Group

The Tuesday Morning Small Group meets on the second Tuesday of each month in members' homes. Contact Dedi Walker 319/351.1354 if you would like more information. New members are always welcome!

The Tuesday Morning Men's Bible Study group meets each Tuesday from 6:45 to 7:45 am in Fellowship Hall. Each meeting includes an excellent breakfast (only \$2), warm fellowship, and spiritual perspectives. New-

comers are always welcome. Information is available from Bill Ford at 319/354.1834.

Join a Bible Study

Are you looking for an opportunity to revitalize your prayer life or Bible study? Are you interested in growing in friendship with a diverse group of Christians? Our small group is looking to expand, and we invite you to join us. We meet on Sundays at 4:00 pm in group members' homes, with childcare provided. Anyone is welcome - just come with an

open heart and mind! For more information, contact Becky Benson at rebeccaibenson@gmail.com or 319/331.6778.

Presbyterian Men Meeting

The St. Andrew Presbyterian Men will be having their breakfast meeting to discuss their annual allocation of funds at 8:00 am, Saturday, February 4 at St. Andrew. For further information, please contact Graham Dameron at graham3076@gmail.com or phone at 319/337.9270.



SERVING OPPORTUNITIES

Free Lunch

The Iowa City Free Lunch Board is looking for a new venue, starting in January of 2012. At the same time, St. Andrew's Free Lunch team is looking for a new co-coordinator as Betty Stein has asked to be relieved after 14 years of faithful service. Please contact Shirley Maxey at 319/ 338.5122.

Help Needed

Iowa Valley Habitat For Humanity will build a Circle of 12 Home in the summer of 2012,

which will be a faith-based, youth-oriented effort. St. Andrew Presbyterian Church (through MOS) has agreed to assist both financially and with volunteer building support. We are forming a committee to support this build, through fund-raising and coordinating volunteers, and we want you! We are looking for all ages, with a heart for making affordable housing a reality. If interested in learning more, please call Becka Simpson at 319/936.6939 or email b.yucuis@gmail.com or reach Jan Taylor at jantaylorj@aol.com.

Casseroles on Call

The Casseroles on Call freezer has been emptied and needs to be restocked. We will try to rotate items so that food doesn't stay there past its prime. Please consider a donation of a casserole, soup or other goodie to this ministry. Label it with the ingredients, and the date the food was made, and place it in the freezer just inside the kitchen door. Add the item to the list on the freezer door when you hear or a need use them.



CHILDREN + YOUTH MINISTRIES

Mark your Calendars!

Summer programs at St. Andrew:

Stronghold (for junior high students):
June 10-15.

Vacation Bible School (for children who will enter kindergarten– 6th grade in fall of 2013):
June 18-22.

Youth choirs' trip to St. Louis: June 22-24.

FAITHS (for students entering 7th-12th grade):
June 25-29.

Pittsburgh Project (for high school students):
June 30-July 10.

Watch for registration forms this spring.
For now, save the dates!

Lighthouse LIT Leadership Summit

6th graders who are serving as Leaders in Training at Lighthouse will participate in a Leadership Summit from 6 to 8 pm Sunday, February 19. At our first Leadership Summit in November, the Lighthouse LITs explored Scripture passages that describe leadership qualities, planned activities for future Lighthouse meetings, and discussed how to improve this ministry program. On February 19, the 6th graders will gather for dinner, assess their skills as leaders and help plan future Lighthouse meetings. LITs who plan to attend should RSVP to Heather or Kristen.



PRAYER MINISTRY *submitted by Joan Van Hulzen*

LENTEN PRAYERS FOR THE CONGREGATION

Again this year, the Prayer Ministry Team is organizing prayer for each member of our St. Andrew church family during the six weeks of Lent, from Ash Wednesday to Easter, February 22 to April 8. You have an opportunity to volunteer as a "pray-er" and to journey through the Lenten season with a focus on prayer.

Lent is a time of reflecting on our connection with God. What a wonderful way to strengthen our relationship with God, and with each other in Christ, by praying for one another. "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God." Philippians 4:6
You are invited to be a prayer partner and to be a part this Lenten Prayer.

Each family and individual in our fellowship will be assigned to a "pray-er". Each "pray-er" will have a new list of five or so to pray for during each week of Lent. Thus, at the end of the sixth week, every member will have been touched by God's tender love, mercy, care, and grace through our prayers. Specific prayer requests from church members are welcomed.

Please join in the "prayer and petition, with thanksgiving," this Lenten season by filling out the insert in one of the bulletins. Place it in the offering plate or in a designated basket on the Narthex Welcome Table.



SESSION SUMMARY DECEMBER 15, 2011

Summary Minutes of a Regular Session Meeting, December 15, 2011

Session **approved** the MOS consent agenda:

From Locally-Determined Benevolence funds:

\$500	Youth for Christ
\$2,500	Young Life
\$2,000	Iowa City Crisis Center
\$2,000	Domestic Violence Intervention Program
\$500	Rape Victim Advocacy Program
\$2,000	Shelter House
\$1,000	Table to Table
\$250	COMPEER of Johnson county
\$500	Iowa City Free Lunch
\$1,500	United Presbyterian Home, Washington, Iowa
\$1,500	IC Salvation Army
\$1,006.34	HAFF (partial allocation to supplement Kelting Funds) to \$2,000 <i>From Kelting Trust for Foreign Mission</i>
\$993.66	Haitian American Friendship Foundation (HAFF)
\$1,500	Haitian medical relief, Presbyterian Hospital, Port-au-Prince

Funds permitting from December 2011; if funds not available in 2011, MOS would request to fund from 2012 budget.

\$2,500	PC(USA) missionary co-workers, Bernie and Farsijana Adeney-Risakotta
\$750	Scholarship Fund, ICRS-Yogya, Java, where Bernie and Farsijana minister

Session **approved** to fund to replace the main entrance handicap door openers.

Matt called a Special Session Meeting, Feb. 2, 2012 at 7 pm for a Roadmap Team presentation.

New Business:

Budget Working Team: Session **approved** the 2012 budget. Session **approved** to set aside \$11,000 out of 2011 net income into a designated fund for the replacement of office computer and network equipment. Session **approved** to set aside \$1,500 out of 2011 net income into the Stephen Ministry designated fund, to go toward leadership training.

Session **approved** to pay each of Saint Andrew's 10 staff members, plus Lee Rabe, a one-time bonus of \$500, and include an amount to cover Saint Andrew's obligation for Board of Pensions for the pastors and the Saint Andrew portion of FICA for lay employees. The total cost would not exceed \$6,200. There was some discussion about this being across the board \$500 rather than based on full or part-time employment.

Session **approved** \$400 from Session's undesignated funds for a farewell for Colleen and a welcome for the new Office Manager, Jennifer Vang. These will be separate events.

Personnel: The Office Manager position had 60 applications, of which eight were interviewed, and three were called in for a second interview. Jennifer Vang will start January 9, 2012.

Roadmap Team: The team is awaiting word from the city concerning the need for a second road to access the Camp Cardinal property. Eric, Rich and Matt had a meeting with the University and will secure in writing a University five year lease contract. In the past the church had a rolling one year lease with the University.

Stewardship: 209 pledges to date with \$772,857 pledged. 66% of those pledging last year and for the next year increased their amount. 18% are new pledgers.

Old Business: Before discussing the Behavioral Covenant a Risk Management Policy was brought up. Matt has asked Heather to look over a policy that he had in Spokane. It was put together by an insurance person and a social worker. St. Andrew needs a policy and Matt will be looking for people with expertise for this activity.

Behavioral Covenant: This covenant would be presented to those thinking of accepting a call on Session. It is consistent with the vows elders make at ordination. Session **approved to table** the motion to accept the covenant until the January Session meeting.

Session broke into groups to look at The Word Made Flesh: John 1:1-18 and Colossians 1:15-20.

After prayer Session ended at 10:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jackie Stokes
Clerk of Session

Matt Paul
Moderator



Did you know that many of the St. Andrew publications are also available on our website?

Messenger: www.saintandrew-ic.org/news/messenger

Mini-Messenger: www.saintandrew-ic.org/news/mini-messenger

Weekly Bulletin: www.saintandrew-ic.org/worship/bulletin



Saint Andrew Presbyterian Church Income and Expense Statement (UNAUDITED)

GENERAL FUND 01, December 2011

	Current Period	Year to Date	Annual Budget	Annual Budget Percentage	Annual Budget Difference
INCOME					
PLEDGES & IDENTIFIED GIFT	\$94,925.95	\$864,475.39	\$851,900.00	101.48%	\$12,575.39
FACILITIES/OFFICE INCOME	135.00	875.00	500.00	175.00%	375.00
INVESTMENT INCOME	45.61	544.60	600.00	90.77%	-55.40
MISCELLANEOUS INCOME	0.00	501.28	500.00	100.26%	1.28
TOTAL INCOME	95,106.56	866,396.27	853,500.00	101.51%	12,896.27
EXPENSES					
LAND	\$40.00	\$3,952.87	\$8,800.00	44.92%	-\$4,847.13
BUILDING	5,632.81	67,006.25	64,419.00	104.02%	2,587.25
UTILITIES	2,263.27	28,093.04	30,050.00	93.49%	-1,956.96
EQUIPMENT, F & F	427.44	608.70	200.00	304.35%	408.70
VEHICLES	2,363.30	4,965.74	4,851.00	102.37%	114.74
CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES	897.79	3,080.11	5,286.00	58.27%	-2,205.89
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION	106.28	1,061.08	900.00	117.90%	161.08
MINISTRIES - CARE/SUPPORT	27.29	332.15	800.00	41.52%	-467.85
MEMBERSHIP/EVANGELISM	1638.88	4,243.42	4,225.00	100.44%	18.42
MISSION	12,363.86	111,998.35	110,955.00	100.94%	1,043.35
MUSIC	792.38	6,759.38	6,950.00	97.26%	-190.62
OFFICE EXPENSE	13,687.49	31,764.38	22,400.00	141.81%	9,364.38
OPERATING EXPENSES	3,717.23	67,214.32	65,329.00	102.89%	1,885.32
PERSONNEL	49,424.96	505,588.19	501,685.10	100.78%	3,903.09
WORSHIP	171.05	2,140.26	1,775.00	120.58%	365.26
YOUTH MINISTRIES	755.66	5,950.80	7,388.00	80.55%	-1,437.20
TOTAL EXPENSES	94,309.69	846,259.04	836,013.10	101.05%	8,745.94
EXCESS INCOME/EXPENSES	\$796.87	\$20,137.23	\$17,486.90		

Have you paid your Per Capita?

Per Capita is a way for individual churches to share in the expenses incurred by the larger PC(USA) church. It supports the important work of the General Assembly as well as the work of our synods and presbyteries. It is the financial grease that keeps the greater church's cogs spinning, just as our weekly offering keeps St. Andrew running. Churches are assessed a fee based on confirmed members. Again this year, because of budget concerns, we are asking that each confirmed member in your household to contribute their own Per Capita fee. Please remit **\$32.00** per confirmed member for 2012 and write "Per Capita" in the memo line. Thank you for your help in covering this operating expense for the good of the greater Presbyterian church.



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SPECIAL EVENTS FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY

February 2	Session Special Meeting with Road Map Team
February 5	Honoring 1st Communion
February 5	Souper Bowl Sunday
February 10-11	Women's Retreat 2012
February 11	Bell Festival (Marion)
February 12	Annual Meeting & Potluck
February 15	Newsletter Deadline
February 17	Piano Recital Students of Tamera Penning—Sanctuary
February 19	Kevin Cullum speaking
February 19	Baptism, Holland Vos
February 21	St. Andrew Presbyterian Church's Birthday
February 21	Session Meeting
February 22	Ash Wednesday Services
February 23	Lenten Potluck
February 24	Boy Scouts Banquet
February 25	St. Andrew Blood Drive
February 26	Baptism, Maya Hynek

St. Andrew Presbyterian Church



MESSENGER February 2012

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Fax: 319/338.8599

E-mail: office@saintandrew-ic.org

Office Hours

9 am - 4 pm Monday - Friday

except holidays or when otherwise announced

❖ If you would like to start/stop receiving the

Mini-Messenger, Messenger,

and special church announcements

electronically, please email the church office at

office@saintandrew-ic.org.

Allow one week to process your request.

Address Service Requested

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