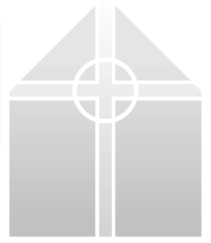


# October 2015



**Heartland  
Presbyterian  
Church**

*is a Christ-centered  
community called to  
provide opportunities  
for creative and  
inclusive worship,  
Spiritual growth  
and service.*

**Worship**

Sunday  
10:00 am

**Office Hours**

Monday-Thursday  
9am-3pm

**Contact Us:**

**P. Alex Thornburg**  
Pastor  
608-338-9905  
alex@hpcusa.org

**Kelly Toole**  
Executive  
Admin Assistant  
515-987-4246  
kelly@hpcusa.org

**Nick Olson**  
Director  
Congregational Life  
515-987-4246  
nick@hpcusa.org

**Peter Roberts**  
Director of Music  
515-987-4246  
peter@hpcusa.org

## Dancing with Jesus

“Dance then wherever you may be,  
I am the Lord of the Dance said He,  
And I’ll lead you all, wherever you may be,  
And I’ll lead you all in the Dance, said He. “

~Refrain from “Lord of the Dance”

I have been dancing with you only a month now. My first weeks have been a whirlwind of meeting new people, going to meetings, visiting community organizations, and enjoying Des Moines (Teresa and I have already been to the Downtown Farmers Market and discovered Jethro’s Barbecue). It has been exciting and enlightening and more than a little dizzying. I am learning how Heartlanders like to dance!

If you haven’t realized by now, I do love to dance -- all kinds of dances from the Two-Step to the Waltz to good old Rock and Roll gyrations. I will even admit to my disco days! Much of what a Pastor does in the first year of their ministry with a church is to try and discern the dance steps of the congregation. I listen for the music you dance to and the various ways you dance with Jesus, the Lord of the Dance. I have only begun to catch on to how Heartland dances, but I have discerned some of your dance moves.

I have found that you like to dance intelligently. The life of the mind is an important way you experience and express Jesus in our life together. I have found you like to dance joyfully. There is a deep contemplative spirituality running through Heartland expressing the gift of Jesus in our midst. And I have found you are willing to try new dance steps. That you are part of that progressive theological tradition that claims we are “Reformed, and Always Being Reformed.” I can already tell it is going to be fun to dance with all of you in the coming years.

One of the things I believe deeply is that Jesus is always inviting us to dance in the Spirit wherever we may be in life. At times this is a joyous dance; at other times it may be a slow, mournful dance; but it is a dance always rooted in Jesus, the incarnation of God’s love among us and in the world. It is a dance that heals brokenness; a dance that brings justice into the world, and a dance that embodies peace amidst divisiveness. I am excited to be dancing with you and with Jesus, the Lord of the Dance.

Grace and Peace,

*Alex*

**From the Desk of Nick Olson** Director of Congregational Life

## **EPIC** (Everything Possible In Christ)

The new name of our Wednesday night programming. We start at 5:45 pm and run until 7:00 pm. We have exciting curriculum for our Jr. Sr. high youth where they are learning about intersections, how their life passions intersect with the church. How can they use their passions to help build relations with the church and with God. 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grades are learning how to read their Bibles along with other parts of the church. Our k-2<sup>nd</sup> grade and pre-k are learning from the Spark house curriculum. We have a lot of fun and we get to enjoy a meal together every week!

Yesterday, October 21, we prepared meals for Meals from the Heartland during EPIC.

On October, 23 we will be hosting our 2<sup>nd</sup> Trunk or Treat. This is a fun event where we invite families to come dressed up and play games and you have the choice of decorating your trunk with a theme and passing out candy to the kids or you can just come and trunk or treat. We do ask that if you are decorating your vehicle that one adult stay with your child during the entire event. The parking and games will start at 6:30 and the line for trunk or treating will form at 7:00 pm. If you are unable to attend the event but still would like to participate we are accepting donations of candy to be handed out.

In His Grip,

*Nick*



**Please excuse our mess**

### **Office Renovations are in process!**

The office is being renovated in the next several weeks.

In this Phase 1 of the renovation you will see:

- The office staff moved to one central location
- New carpet and paint
- New desks and furniture
- New front door entry system
- New cabling in the office for better internet
- Internet access for the whole building

All of this paid for by the generous donation of Heartlanders!

## Small Groups—Join Us

**Prime Timers**—Gathering of older adults for fellowship & lunch. **This Month is meeting at Jethro's West Des Moines October 28, 2015 11:30am**  
Contact: [Marilyn Finney](#)

**Morning Coffee @ Heartland**— Friday mornings at 9:00 am in the Heartland Church Community Center. Very informal gathering for coffee & fellowship.  
Contact: [Joyce Hoffman](#)

**Sunday Morning—9:05**  
For children through elementary and adults.  
Contact: [Nick Olson](#)

# P-r-e-s-b-y-t-e-r-i-a-n

## How Do You Spell Presbyterian?

A Four-Week Class on Reformed Discipleship at  
Heartland Presbyterian Church

**Sunday, November 1 - Sunday, November 22 9 AM**

This class is for those interested in learning more about the meaning of Reformed discipleship at Heartland Presbyterian Church both for those new to the church and those who have been long time members. Each class will cover an aspect of discipleship from theology to worship to polity to living out our faith everyday.

Sunday, November 1	“Being Reformed: Theology of Grace and Gratitude”
Sunday, November 8	“Reformed Spirituality: Why We Worship?”
Sunday, November 15	“Reformed Polity: Democracy in Action”
Sunday, November 22	“Reformed Discipleship: The Mission of God”

### Congregational Meeting

This Sunday, October 25, 2015 Following Worship

For election of new elders and Stewardship kickoff



**Peter Roberts, Director of Music**

### Vocal Ensemble Update:

We have had a couple of energetic rehearsals with the vocal ensemble, and it is beginning to take shape. We will be singing an anthem on November 22nd entitled “Song of Thanksgiving”. This piece is both grounded in the church choral tradition but has some surprise moments and moves at a lively tempo.

We are also working on my arrangement of a Mumford and Sons’ song called “Sigh No More” from their album *Sigh No More*. Mumford and Sons is a current, popular group with lyrics from the bible as well as Shakespeare and other influential writers such as Hemingway. I am unsure when we will perform “Sigh No More”, but the lyrics would be a perfect morning prayer response, as it speaks about the need for forgiveness and the love/grace of God setting us free and making us whole again.

We will soon be starting some Christmas music as well.

For those of you still interested in joining, but maybe can’t commit to coming every week, I have created some ways of learning the music on your time and coming when you can. First of all, the sheet music is all legally on PDF and can be e-mailed to you or uploaded to Dropbox, so you can print a copy at home. Secondly, there are practice tracks that will allow you to learn your part outside of rehearsal. These will soon be able to be streamed or uploaded from Dropbox. Rehearsals are on Wednesday evenings after EPIC, (7:15 pm) You don’t have to be able to make it to every rehearsal or performance to participate. I would love for you to come sing with us.

### Instrumental players:

Please let me know who you are. I am working on creating opportunities for you to participate in worship too. If you would like to participate in the Sunday morning ensemble, there is no need to commit to every week. I can get the music to you electronically so you can practice it and not have to sight read!

Please contact me at [peter@hpcusa.org](mailto:peter@hpcusa.org)

Sincerely,

**PETER**

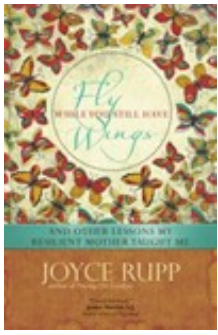


**Friday, October 23 6:30 pm**

Decorate your trunk  
and/or bring some little goblins to participate!

Can't come? Donate Candy!

See Nick for more info



Please join us for

## "An Evening with Joyce Rupp"

Thursday, November 5, 6:30 - 8:30 pm at Heartland

Joyce will discuss her latest book, Fly While You Still Have Wings

The evening will include dessert and discussion, and opportunity for a book purchase and signing.

To register email [Kelly@hpcusa.org](mailto:Kelly@hpcusa.org) or call the church office at 987-4246



**Work Day**  
at Church  
Saturday,  
October 24  
9 - Noon

Everyone Welcome  
Contact Merrill McNabb  
515-224-0929

### Be part of the Scarf Ministry!

Each year Heartland gives away hundreds of scarves to the guests at the Central Iowa Shelter when we serve on December 22.

To donate contact Jacque Crouch  
[crouch.jacque@gmail.com](mailto:crouch.jacque@gmail.com).

Scarves in darker colors for men are needed.



Also, if you are in need of yarn, Jacque has extra!

### Prime Timers

October 28, 2015

11:30 am



9350 S.E. University Ave  
West Des Moines, IA

Contact Marilyn Finney 267-1714



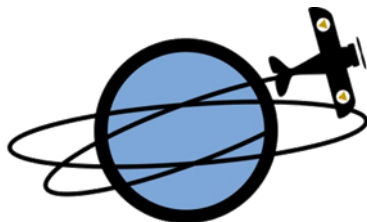
### All Saint's Sunday, November 1

Join us for a special worship service

where we remember those saints

who have entered God's Presence fully

and continue to witness to us God's Grace.



**MISSION**  
TRIP

Heartland's International Mission Committee invites you to join one of our

2016 congregational delegations to El Salvador

January 7-14 or September 6-13.

The deadline for signing up for the January delegation is December 1.

There is some financial assistance for youth wishing to go.

For more information contact Priscilla Eppinger  
([priscilla.eppinger@alum.agnesscott.edu](mailto:priscilla.eppinger@alum.agnesscott.edu) or 641/784-4948)