



# Connecting Hearts, Renewing Lives

St. Andrew Presbyterian Church  
140 Gathering Place Lane | Iowa City, IA 52246  
[www.saintandrew-ic.org](http://www.saintandrew-ic.org)

**August 26, 2020**

Many of you have asked how you can help with Cedar Rapids storm recovery and Iowa City-area back-to-school plans. We have two opportunities for involvement in the next couple of weeks:

## **Storm Recovery**

We have sent teams to Cedar Rapids three times, and now much of the remaining work requires large equipment and professional expertise. St. Andrew will take a break this week--we will not have a church team in Cedar Rapids this Saturday. Instead, we are seeking volunteers for a big work day on **Saturday, Sept. 5**. The Presbytery of East Iowa is organizing a day-long recovery project at Prairiewoods Spirituality Retreat Center in Hiawatha, just outside Cedar Rapids city limits. Founded by several Catholic nuns (now all over 75 years old) who still run the facility, the center offers visitors an opportunity for peace, rest, and education about eco-spirituality. There are 70 acres of prairie and forest and 50 miles of trails at Prairiewoods. (Learn more at the website: <https://prairiewoods.org/>) The retreat center experienced extensive damage to their woods and land, including the total loss of many of their most well known trees. They are in deep need of help.

The derecho storm is the most recent "hit" to the Prairiewoods family. Earlier this year, one of the founding mothers, Sister Betty, died, then COVID-19 hit and they had to close, then, their beloved chef died in March, and then their land manager/environmentalist/outdoor volunteer coordinator resigned in June.

The Presbytery of East Iowa is coordinating a one-day mission experience that would offer substantial and meaningful work. Volunteers from around the Presbytery, and maybe around the state, would gather for prayer at the beginning of the day, then work to remove trees, clear trails, and move brush and debris. Lunch will be provided. You can arrive and leave any time you want, but be aware that the day starts at 9 am, lunch is at noon, and the end time is 4 pm. If you want to be part of St. Andrew's team, add your name to this Sign-Up Genius form

**<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0B44AEAD29AA8-sept>**

or send an email to [hwoodin@saintandrew-ic.org](mailto:hwoodin@saintandrew-ic.org) For this project, we need people with chainsaws and muscles, but also people who can move brush, rake trails, and help in other ways. The center has a building where volunteers can get out of the heat, and the center has restrooms.

## **School Supply Drive**

The Pheasant Ridge Neighborhood Center will use space in our church building this fall. Every other day, students will be doing “at-home/on-line” learning. On those days, not all children have the supervision or resources to learn at home. Those students will gather at St. Andrew and will be supervised by Pheasant Ridge staff. To help all students start the year with the supplies they need, St. Andrew is hosting a school supply drive for Pheasant Ridge families. Requested items are listed below. Bring your donations to the church—you might want to call ahead to be sure someone is here to let you in. We are most thankful to Nevaeh Hoffman and Kaylee Gibson and their families for coordinating this project.

In addition, the Pheasant Ridge staff has asked for donations of children's masks for the students. You can donate any type of children's mask. One option is this fundraiser by the Weber School PTO, which offers masks, lanyards to hold the masks, and water bottles. (Pheasant Ridge students attend Weber School.)

<https://www.iowacityschools.org/Page/18166?fbclid=IwAR11e6aYbmeW7OlbuaXcy6u4runyctVfQEE4ZmA29esoi0ItP3zwfEoYTg>

Here is the list of items that are needed for students in Iowa City Schools. You may donate as much or as little as you like—every item will help us help others.

### **Kindergarten**

- *For all District elementary schools*
  - 24 sharpened pencils
  - 8 glue sticks
  - 1 package of washable markers (8-count)
  - 1 pencil box or pouch
  - 1 box of crayons (24-count)
  - 4 two-pocket folders (red, yellow, green, and blue)
  - 1 pair of round-tipped scissors
  - 1 large towel
  - 1 box of colored pencils
  - 2 boxes of tissues
  - 1 pair of earbuds
  - 2 fine-tipped, dry erase markers
  - 1 backpack

### **Grades 1–6**

*For all District elementary schools*

- 24 sharpened pencils
- 4 glue sticks
- 1 package of washable markers (8-count)
- 1 pencil box or pouch
- 1 box of crayons (24-count)
- 4 spiral-bound, wide-ruled notebooks (red, yellow, green, and blue)

- 1 pair of scissors
- 4 two-pocket folders (red, yellow, green, and blue)
- 1 box of colored pencils
- 2 boxes of tissues
- 1 composition notebook
- 1 pair of earbuds
- 2 fine-tipped, dry erase markers
- 1 backpack