



## 2017 PW Purpose Award

*Presbyterian Women of the Presbytery of Des Moines*

### **Dianne Van Gorp** **First Presbyterian Church, Oskaloosa**

*Dianne is being honored for demonstrating support for the mission of the church worldwide.*

Dianne Van Gorp has been an advocate for and strong supporter of the mission of the church locally, nationally and worldwide for many years. She has served First Presbyterian Church of Oskaloosa as an elder, church treasurer, and has been on the Mission Committee of the Church and PW for at least 10 years.



Her desire to further the mission of the church in the world led her to encourage and assist the Mission Committee in hosting the visits of Greg and Chris Callison, PC(USA) missionaries in Iraq in 2012 and 2015, International Peacemaker Judge Isaak Moussa of Niger in 2016, and Les and Cindy Morgan PC(USA) missionaries in Bangladesh in 2017 to First Presbyterian Church.

Local missions that benefit from Dianne's passion to help those in need in Oskaloosa include: preparing food orders for SHARE IOWA once a month; planning, cooking and helping serve End of the Month meals (an ecumenical effort by 8 churches in Oskaloosa to provide meals the last week of each month for anyone who may have run low on funds) and assisting in packaging food items at the Ecumenical Cupboard when needed.

Dianne's dedication and ability to advocate for those in need of assistance has a profound effect on all with whom she associates. Her desire to learn more about opportunities for mission support in the local church has led the PW to become more aware of opportunities we need to explore and help support.

She has served as moderator of the PW of the Synod of Lakes and Prairies, the PW of the Presbytery of Des Moines and the PW of First Presbyterian Church of Oskaloosa.

Her concern for expanding the knowledge to others about the mission of the church led her to chair the PW Gathering of the Synod of Lakes in Prairies at St. Thomas College in Minneapolis. She encouraged her planning team to include several sessions which enabled those women who attended to hear about the missions of the PC (USA) and Presbyterian Women.

Dianne's interest and thoughtful consideration of issues led her to serve on the Oskaloosa Friends of the Library Board and the Habitat for Humanity Board.

We believe Dianne truly exemplifies the PW purpose "to support the mission of the church world wide" and highly recommend her for the Purpose Award.

Sharon L. Falck, PW Moderator  
First Presbyterian Church, Oskaloosa

April 8, 2017 – Presbyterian Women of the Presbytery of Des Moines

