

Parkview Church presents
THE FATHER'S GIFT
The remarkable true story of Father Damien

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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IOWA CITY – This Christmas, Parkview Church presents the true story of Father Damien de Veuster, whose heroic acts of love brought hope to thousands of Hawaiian leprosy victims – and inspired millions around the world.

Father Damien was a Catholic missionary priest. At the age of 33, he volunteered to serve in the notorious leper colony on Molokai Island. He transformed a tiny cluster of thatched hovels, overtaken with disease and filth, into a model village of over 1000 souls. Meanwhile, he instituted dramatic reforms in health, hygiene, and worship. Father Damien eventually contracted the disease and died at the age of 49 in 1889 – but not before he challenged millions to alleviate human suffering worldwide. Parkview Church is proud to present the story of his heroic life and sacrificial death in *The Father's Gift*.

Performances of *The Father's Gift* are Saturday, December 3 at 5 and 7 pm; and Sunday, December 4 at 9 am, 11 am, and 5 pm. Each performance will also feature contemporary Christmas worship with a live band and orchestra. Parkview Church is located at 15 Foster Road in Iowa City. Call 319-354-5580 for tickets (suggested donation: \$3), or visit Christmas.ParkviewChurch.org.