

# 1st Pres NEWS VIEWS

May / June 2025

First Presbyterian Church • Cedar Rapids • Iowa

Each May, the earth offers a powerful reminder that growth often follows seasons of waiting. Tiny green shoots pierce the soil, trees unfurl their new leaves, and what once seemed dormant bursts into life. It's a fitting parallel for our life together as a congregation.

Over the past few years, we have navigated seasons of challenge and change. There were moments that may have felt like winter, but even in the dormancy, God was at work—preparing, nourishing, planting seeds of new beginnings.

This spring, I feel new growth stirring among us. New ministries are taking root and becoming a part of who we are and how we express ourselves as God's people. New relationships are blossoming as we welcome new members. New ideas are emerging about how we might serve our neighbors, deepen our faith, and embody the inclusive love of Christ more boldly in the world.

Our calling reminds us that faith is not static. It grows, shifts, and responds to the needs of each new day. The church is not a museum to preserve the past; it is a living body, continually reformed by the Spirit's movement. We are invited to be gardeners of hope—to nurture justice, mercy, and community in the soil we've been given.

As we move into these summer months, I encourage you to ask:

Where do you see new life emerging in your own faith journey?

How might God be calling you to plant seeds of compassion or change?

What new shoots might we nurture together as a church?

Let's celebrate the signs of spring in our midst, and let's dare to trust that even greater things are still ahead.

In gratitude and hope,

*Pastor Heather*





Upcoming Sermons

Being an Easter People

On this side of the story of the resurrection, we are given a new perspective, a new way of living in our world. This spring we will be visiting some of the stories in Luke that share the experiences of the people that would become the early church. How does the resurrection shape who we are and what we hope to become?

May 4

Luke 24:36-48

People Who Take The Next Step

On the way to Emmaus, some disciples have an unexpected encounter with the risen Christ. It opens their eyes, broadens their understanding, and changes the path they are on.

May 11

Acts 4:5-12

People Who Take A Stand

Peter stands before the Jerusalem council after being jailed and gives a defense of his faith. Sometimes our faith demands us to take a stand. To speak out about what we believe.

May 18

Acts 8:26-40

People Who Have A Change of Heart

In this encounter between Philip and the Ethiopian, we see growth and change on both sides. Our faith is not meant to be static, but to grow and the Spirit continues to work upon our hearts and minds.

May 25

TBD

June 1

Acts 9:36-43, John 15:9-17

People Who Love One Another

Jesus’s last words to his disciples are that they should “love one another,” and in this healing story from Acts we see an example of one early Christian who is living out that example.

June 8 | Pentecost

Acts 2:1-21

People Unbound

The Spirit unleashed on those gathered creates a freedom that releases the power of the Spirit into the world. No longer bound by fear, by difference, by language, Peter gives a powerful witness to the continued presence of Jesus among them.

The Life and Times of Elijah

For the first part of this summer, we will be following one of Israel’s more well-known prophets. Woven through 1 Kings is the story of Elijah, who challenges the reign of Ahab and Jezebel and calls the people of Israel back to worship of God alone. We’ll be following the ups and downs of Elijah’s life through June and July and discover what words this noteworthy prophet might have for us today.

June 15

1 Kings 7:8-16

“Who Needs Who?”

In the midst of a drought and on the run, Elijah is offered a place to stay by a widow and her son. In the sharing of her last bit of bread, more than one miracle occurs.

June 22

TBD

June 29

1 Kings 18:20-21,30-39

“Getting God’s Attention”

Elijah faces off against the prophets of Baal. Will God listen?

July 6

1 Kings 21:1-10, 15-21a

“Tough Talking”

When King Ahab takes over the vineyards of another, Elijah must confront him regardless of the consequences.

July 13

1 Kings 19:1-4, 8:15a

“God in the Silence”

On the run and afraid for his life, Elijah hides in a cave and wishes to die. God shares an important lesson about God’s pervasive presence in our lives.

July 20

2 Kings 2:1-2, 6-14

“The Next Generation”

Elijah meets Elisha and passes his role as God’s prophet on to the succeeding generation.

The First Presbyterian Book Club will meet at 6:30 pm May 19th at the home of Nan Riley, 5300 Lakeside Rd., Marion. The book for discussion is *James* by Percival Everett, the story of Huckleberry Finn told from the perspective of Jim, the runaway slave. The book reveals a different side of slave society from that depicted in Twain’s imagining, with a plot twist at the end that you never saw coming. Everett has received or been short-listed for numerous national and international awards. Call or email Nan (319-389-4495, [tnlakeside@aol.com](mailto:tnlakeside@aol.com)) if you plan to attend.

On June 16th we will meet at 6:30 to discuss *Homer Hickham’s Carrying Albert Home: the Somewhat True Story of a Man, His Wife, and Her Alligator* at the home of Susan Stancato, 2411 Halbrook St., SW. “A funny yet tragic tale of a husband and wife’s car journey across the US with Albert the alligator in tow” (Good Reads). Please call (925-551-1242) or email ([sistancato@gmail.com](mailto:sistancato@gmail.com)) Susan if you plan to attend.

E3 Event at FPC  
May 17

Plan to join the Presbytery of East Iowa for a presbytery-wide formation event, E3: Engage, Equip, Encourage at our church on May17th.

There will be a keynote speaker from Dubuque Seminary, dynamic worship, and more than a dozen workshops from writing a first sermon, ruling elder communion training, topics on church business and leadership, spirituality, and more! You can review the workshop offerings and register at [www.peia.org](http://www.peia.org).

Pentecost Celebration and Picnic  
Sunday, June 8th

Join us on Sunday, June 8th for a day of celebration. Not only will we be recognizing the gift of the Holy Spirit and the birth of the church in Acts 2, we’ll be celebrating the ways we experience the vitality of the Spirit right here and now.

As part of the morning we will be holding a “burning of the mortgage” as we will have just paid off the last of our building renovation loan. In doing this, we are symbolically freed - unbound from debt and released to further creative ministry in the greater Cedar Rapids area and the world.

After worship the celebration overflows out into Greene Square for a picnic in the park. Care Commission is reaching out to the neighbors around our church to invite them to the picnic, to worship, and to check out what our church is all about!

Neighborhood Meals  
Disbanded

After many, many years of service to the Wellington Heights Community (Pastor Heather helped there during high school!), the summer Neighborhood Meals and Enrichment Program hosted at St. Paul’s and supported by First Presbyterian has made the decision to cease operation. As other opportunities for lunches and food resources have become available in our community after the pandemic, the needs of the community were being served in other ways. A huge thank you to the many hands at First Presbyterian who have faithfully served that ministry through the years!



FOOD

Crossroads

232 16th Avenue SW

5/15 @ 6:00 pm

RSVP by 5/11

Carolyn Horton - 899-0255 / [horton6902@msn.com](mailto:horton6902@msn.com)

GROUP

Leonardo's

2228 16th Avenue SW

6/19 @ 6:00 pm

RSVP by 6/15





## Senior Recognition Sunday May 18th 10 am

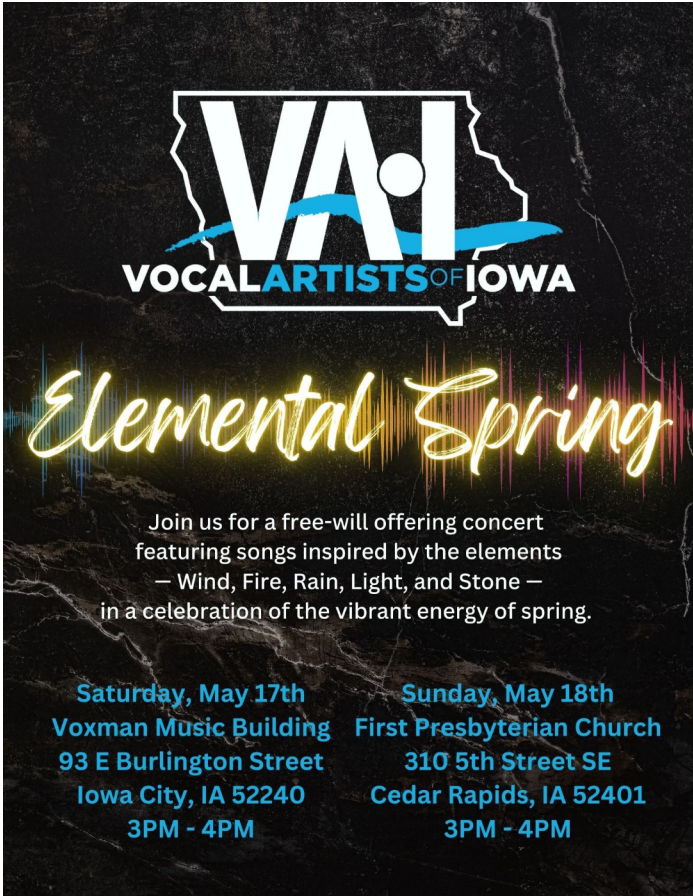
Join us as we recognize and celebrate our 2025 graduating class of seniors here at First Presbyterian Church. We will gather together on Sunday May 18th at 10 am to celebrate the following Seniors: Ethan Shields, Delaney Steenblock, Remi Wilcox, Lillian Buresh and Cole Younger (unable to attend). Each of these seniors will be presented by an individual who has made a significant impact on their faith over the past few years. Be sure to join us following worship to enjoy cake and fellowship with our seniors and to also enjoy bowls filled with each of their favorite candies.

## APNC Search Update

The search for an Associate Pastor continues this month as we elect an APNC (associate pastor nominating committee) on May 4th during a congregational meeting following worship. Once elected this group will take over and direct the search for our second pastor.

The first order of business for the committee will be to create the MDP (ministry description profile), a document that describes the position, our congregation, our vision for ministry, and our community. To create this document, the APNC will be able to use congregational input gathered through church and small group gatherings, the recent HolyCow! Survey, and demographic information. The MDP will be submitted for approval to the Session and then to the Presbytery. Upon approval it can be uploaded to the PCUSA church leadership connection database and distributed through other channels.

At that time, the work will turn to receiving and reading resumes, listening to sermons, interviewing candidates, and prayerfully discerning the best fit. At the conclusion of the search, the committee will present a candidate to the congregation and the congregation will have the choice as to whether or not to extend a call. Watch for updates in newsletters, emails and bulletins as this process continues, and continue to keep the work of the APNC in your prayers.



## ABARA

### Border Encounter: Educational Mission Trip October 27 – 31, 2025

Are you interested in learning more about life on our country's southern border? This fall several churches from our presbytery are hosting an educational mission trip in partnership with Rev. Marta Pumroy (originally from Cedar Rapids & First Pres, Marion) of the Tres Rios Presbytery Border Foundation and Abara Borderland Connections, an organization dedicated to fostering understanding and dialogue around immigration and border issues.

From October 27-31, they will travel to the U.S.-Mexico border for a "listening trip", engaging with local communities, hearing firsthand stories, and reflecting on how we, as people of faith, are called to respond. Lodging will be at the Abara Guest House apartments, which include shared bedrooms, living space, and a small kitchen. Meals are provided while on site. During the day, participants will engage in educational activities and even take a trip across the border to Juarez, Mexico.

There are a number of spots still available. Contact Pastor Heather by June 1 for more information about this opportunity to deeply engage in this issue.



Lillian Buresh is a graduate of Cedar Rapids Washington High School. Lillian has been involved in swimming and golf. In her free time, Lillian enjoys fitness, cooking, reading and hanging out with friends. Her parents are Ryan and Kaite Buresh. Lillian has a sister Molly who is a sophomore at Washington High school and a 7 year old springer spaniel dog named Oliver. After graduation, Lillian plans to attend the University of Iowa, studying something related to sports.



Ethan Shields is a graduate of North Liberty High School. Ethan is a graduate of North Liberty High School. Ethan has been involved in football, wrestling, golf, U-Belong Club, and Business Professionals of America Club. In his free time he enjoys lifting weights, snowboarding, sand volleyball, and hanging out with friends. His parents are Todd and Alisa Shields and and he has an older brother, Zach. After graduation, Ethan plans to attend the University of Iowa to study Exercise Science and minor in Business Administration and has plans to become a doctor of physical therapy.

Remi Wilcox is a graduate of John F. Kennedy High School. Remi has been involved with band and marching band and in her free time she enjoys knitting, hiking, reading, and playing the harp. Her parents are Kyle and Kristen Wilcox and she has an older brother named Aidan who spent this past year studying abroad. After graduation, Remi plans to attend Luther College as she focuses on a major in harp performance.



Cole Younger is a graduate of Prairie High School. Cole has enjoyed being part of show choir during his years at Prairie. He has also been involved in Cross Country and enjoys playing pickle ball with his friends, gaming and spending time with his friends and family. His parents are Hallie and Clete, he also has a younger sister, Henlee who is a sophomore at Prairie High School. He also has a dog named Ranger. After graduation, Cole plans to attend Iowa State University, majoring in Biology with plans on attending med school.

Delaney Steenblock is a graduate of John F. Kennedy High School. Delaney has been involved with band and Marching band and in her free time she enjoys traveling, reading, spending time with friends, and anything related to music. Her parents are Kent and Debra Steenblock. After graduation, Delaney plans to attend Drake University in Des Moines where she will purse a major in music education.





Session Notes

Elders: Laura Behrens, Martha Booth, Kayleigh Bryant, Sue Latham, Susie McDermott, Mike Miller, Dan Ottemoeller, Alisa Shields, Caroline Giddings, Heidi Kiser, and Dave Kutter.

The agenda was approved as distributed. Guest Jan Kosowski, Westminster Presbyterian Church, presented information on the capital campaign for Camp Bear Creek. Ottermoeller and Miller will present the campaign request for funding to the Discipleship Commission.

The following corporate officers were elected: Caroline Giddings, president, if she accepts Sue Latham, vice-president Ryan Buresh, treasurer Connie Richardson, secretary

Laura Behrens was elected to serve as a delegate to the April 5 Presbytery meeting.

Pastor Heather presented information about a disruptive former member who has been harassing staff members and defacing the building.

MSP to endorse the job description for an assistant pastor, with minor edits.

February financial reports were approved as submitted, and Pastor Heather reported that the Wells Fargo final payment will be paid on time by the due date in June. The Admin Commission will be working to ensure that pledges are paid, though there are sufficient funds to make the payment if all payments are not made by May 31.

The Holy Cow! CAT survey has been distributed to members, with responses from congregants due by April 14. The Holy Cow! will analyze results. Staff. PNC and Session will then use the results for planning.

Heather requested that members send questions to her about the PNC that church members might ask, An FAQ information sheet will be prepared with standard answers. To facilitate this for the congregation, a bulletin board will be created with names and photos of Session members.

There was a brief discussion about future collaborations that may result from meetings held last year between FPC and Westminster.

Openings for Communion Servers and Offering Counters were filled among the members present.

Upon a motion, the meeting adjourned with prayer by Pastor Heather at 8:57 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,  
Connie Richardson, Clerk

Important Reminder:  
Protect Yourself  
from Scam Emails and Texts

Unfortunately, in recent months, churches across the country — including ours — have been targeted by email and text message scams. These messages often appear to come from the pastor, a staff member, or another trusted church leader, asking for money, gift cards, or urgent favors.

We want to help you recognize and avoid these scams. Here are a few important reminders:

We will never ask for gift cards, wire transfers, or personal financial information via email or text. If you receive a message like this, it is a scam.

Double-check the sender’s email address or phone number. Scammers often use addresses or numbers that look similar but are slightly off. Official church emails always come from @fpccr.org

If you are unsure whether a message is legitimate, contact me directly. Call me at 319-899-0094 (even if the message says I am unavailable or busy)- or email stormy@fpccr.org before responding.

Do not click on suspicious links or attachments and do not provide any personal information in response to an unusual request.

Report suspicious messages to the church office. We can help confirm if it’s legitimate and, if necessary, alert others to be cautious.

As always, we want our community to be a place of trust, care, and connection. Staying vigilant together helps keep it that way.

Thank you for your attention and care.

Vacation Bible School  
What Every Living Thing Needs

Plans are in the works this summer for children, youth, and people of all ages to come together and explore what all living things need to live—shelter, food, water, air, and community—and how God provides those for and through all creation. Through awareness, gratitude, wonderment, reciprocity, and kinship, we will consider how to become co-sustainers and participants in the work of God’s creation. Dates and format are still TBD in the latter half of the summer. Watch the bulletin, e-news, and July-August newsletter for more information and registration.

THE INFLUENCE OF RELIGION  
ON OUR DAILY LIVES

How can our religious faith provide inspiration and hope in our daily lives? How do different religions improve our values and behavior?

5/4/2025

How Migration, Work, and Faith Unite  
and Divide the Heartland

Kristy Nabhan-Warren, Associate Vice President  
of Research at Univ. of Iowa.

5/11/2025

Karma, Sin, and Rebirth in Buddhism

Morten Schlutter, Department of Religious  
Studies, University of Iowa

BUILDING A BETTER FUTURE  
FOR CEDAR RAPIDS

How can we better understand and appreciate the essential services in our community? What are the latest concepts for cities of the future?

5/18/25

Update on Cedar Rapids Initiatives  
& Future Prospects

Tiffany O’Donnell, Mayor, Cedar Rapids

5/25/25

(Memorial Day Weekend  
No Insight

6/1/25

Cultural and Economic Importance of  
Minor League Baseball

General Manager, Cedar Rapids Kernels

6/8/25

Delivering Emergency Medical Services  
& Firefighting: Current Challenges  
& Future Prospects

Jason Andrews, Battalion Chief, Cedar Rapids Fire  
Department.

6/15/25

Providing Optimal Ambulance Services,  
Challenges and Solutions

Keith Rippy, CEO Area Ambulance.

6/22/25

Building Codes and Promoting Health and Safety  
Kevin Ciabati, Director of Building Services.

6/29/25

Mental Illness and the Criminal Justice System  
Tony Thompson, MPA-CJ. Former Sheriff,  
Blackhawk County



Camp Bear Creek

Greetings families! if you have not had a chance to sign your student up for camp this summer, there is still time to do so. There are multiple weeks available and if you need assistance with sending your student to camp, please speak with Stan or Pastor Heather. We have several kids already signed up to enjoy their camp experience this summer and would love for more to join them. Pastor Heather will be out at camp as one of the chaplains the week of July 6th. If you need more information regarding Camp Bear Creek, please contact Stan Letscher.

Youth Activities & Events

Summer is almost here and we have a few things on the summer calendar and more to come. The following are some events and activities that will be taking place during the months of May & June.

Friday May 2nd: Last overnight lock-in of the year  
7 pm Friday to Saturday 8 am

Sunday June 8th-Friday June 13th: Middle School  
Mission Trip to St. Louis

Saturday June 21st- Trip to The Falls (aquatic center)  
in Cedar Falls 12-3 pm

Admission the aquatic center is \$12 for ages 3-17  
& \$10 for 18 and older.

Friday June 27th-Overnight Camp out at Pastor  
Heather's home

Thursday June 19th-Rollin' at the Rink (Skate Night  
at Super Skate) 6-8 pm

Admission is \$11 and skate rental is \$1 for regular  
skates and \$2 for inline skates.

Wednesday June 25th-Hiking at the Prairie Park  
Fishery Loop trail 2-3 pm



# FAQ Sabbatical

## What’s a sabbatical?

A clergy sabbatical is a time for pastors to step away from their usual responsibilities for rest, renewal, and spiritual refreshment. It’s usually taken after several years of service and might include things like travel, study, or simply time to reconnect with God and recharge. The goal is to come back to ministry with fresh energy and perspective. In the long run, both the pastor and the congregation benefit from the break. Pastor Heather has been serving at FPC in some capacity since 2009 and 2025 marks her 30th year of ordained ministry serving churches throughout Iowa. She is looking forward to some time to intentionally fill her cup and renew herself for continued service to the church.

## When does Heather plan to take her sabbatical?

The anticipated dates will occur in the late spring (after Easter) and summer of 2026.

## Who will be preaching/leading the church while Heather is away?

At the current moment there are two potential answers to this question. First, if our Associate Pastor search is successful over the next six months or so, we might anticipate that the new associate would serve alongside Pastor Heather for the beginning of 2026 and then provide preaching and pastoral leadership while she is gone. This would be an ideal time for our congregation to connect with and embrace the leadership of the newest member of our pastoral staff. Second, if the Associate Pastor search has not yet born fruit by the end of the year, the Session and Pastor Heather will work to find alternatives for preaching and pastoral care from among other clergy colleagues. This would impact the scope and timing of the sabbatical and/or might push it to a later year.

## What will Heather be doing while she’s gone?

The simple answer is: hike as much of the Appalachian trail as she can. The longer answer might include such things as: engaging in a prayerful daily rhythm for weeks on end; disconnecting from the virtual world and reconnecting with God’s good creation; recommitting to healthy physical practices and exploring the abilities and limits of her body; spending time with family as they are able to join her on the trail for a few days or a week; having conversations with disparate people from Georgia to Maine, looking for places of shared connection and potential hope in these divided times; filling her preaching tank with lots of stories to share upon her return.

## How long will the sabbatical last?

Again, this is connected to the results of the Associate Pastor search. Walking the Appalachian Trail from Springer Mountain, Georgia to Mt. Katahdin, Maine could take an estimated 20-21 weeks. If an associate is not in place, a decision would need to be made as to whether a shorter 12 week sabbatical or a postponement would be the best option.

## How will we pay for this?

The Session has created a budgetary plan for the additional Associate Pastor position. In addition, First Pres has submitted an application for a Lilly Foundation Clergy Renewal Grant. This grant can be used to pay for pastoral support and congregational activities while the pastor is absent from the congregation as well as for expenses the pastor may incur. We will find out whether or not our application has been successful on August 29, 2025.

## Wait, congregational activities? What are we doing?

While a pastor is on sabbatical, it is often a time of renewal for the congregation also. A congregation might choose to host a kick-off and/or welcome back event. There may be mirroring activities - like an opportunity for hikes throughout the summer (think Mt. Trashmore or Indian Creek) or following along where Pastor Heather is on trail. As we determine if the grant is received in August, we can form a group to make appropriate plans for the congregation during this time.

## Can we get a hold of Heather in case of emergency?

As a rule, there is no contact between a pastor and the congregation while they are on sabbatical and Pastor Heather will be pretty disconnected on the trail. She will however, be wearing a satellite emergency tracking device which also allows her to send out texts and have some contact with a limited number of people. Before leaving, everything will be put into place so that the congregation will be well cared for and able to address all concerns.

Watch for more of these FAQ’s as we move closer to 2026 and more details get nailed down. If you have a question/concern you would like addressed, reach out to Pastor Heather or a member of the Session and we’ll get them answered in the next round.

28<sup>th</sup> Annual

We are  
AGO

American Guild of Organists  
River Valley Chapter

Star-  
Spangled  
Organ  
Concert

Sunday  
June 29, 2025  
3:00pm

First Presbyterian Church  
310 5th Street SE  
Cedar Rapids, IA 52401  
Information: 319-200-5626  
[www.facebook.com/rivervalleyago](http://www.facebook.com/rivervalleyago)

2025  
FREEDOM  
Festival

JUNE 28TH - JULY 4TH  
CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA

Presented By  
IvyVee

Sponsored by:

The River Valley Chapter of the American Guild of Organists (AGO)

Affiliated with:

The Cedar Rapids Freedom Festival 2025

# Paws, Claws, Scales & Tales Readers "R" Leaders Camp July 21st - 25th @ Coe College

Animals take center stage this year at Reading Camp. We’ll be reading books about our furry, feathery and scaly friends and even get to meet a few up close. With special visits from the raptor center and some furry reading buddies, it should be fun for all. Currently we’re recruiting mentors that will partner with a child from Jane Boyd as their reading buddy and participate in Reading Camp activities with them. If you or a young person you know would like to be a reading buddy, contact Pastor Heather.

Also we still are in need of donations to help cover the costs of providing lunch, a book, and a camp shirt to each of the children. Dedicated donations can be made on our website or by sending in a check to the church with Reading Camp printed in the Memo line.



**Sunday May 4**  
**Communion Sunday**  
**Fill the Cart for Food Bank**  
10:00 am Nursery  
10:00 Worship & LiveStream  
11:00 am Connection Sunday lunch  
**SEMP SCHEDULE**

**Monday May 5**  
5:30 pm Discipleship Commission

**Wednesday May 7**  
\*Wednesday Night Activities

**Sunday May 11**  
**Happy Mother’s Day!**  
9:00 am Insight & Nursery  
10:00 Worship & LiveStream  
10:15 am Sunday School  
11:00 am Fellowship  
**SEMP SCHEDULE**

**Tuesday May 13**  
5:30 pm Deacons  
6:30 pm Care Commission

**Wednesday May 14**  
\*Wednesday Night Activities

**Thursday May 15**  
6:00 pm Food Group

**Sunday May 18**  
9:00 am Insight & Nursery  
10:00 Worship & LiveStream  
10:15 am Sunday School  
11:00 am Fellowship  
**SEMP SCHEDULE**  
3:00 pm Vocal Artists of Iowa concert

**Monday May 19**  
6:30 Evening Book Group

**Tuesday May 20**  
5:30 pm Admin Commission

**Wednesday May 21**  
**Last night for Wednesday Night Activities**

**Wednesday Night Schedule:** **Until May 21**  
5:30-6:30 Agape Kids (3-5th grade)  
Middle School Youth (6-8th grade)  
6:00-7:00 Bell Choir  
6:30 Dinner  
7:00-8:00 High School Youth  
7:00-8:30 Chancel Choir

**Sunday May 25**  
9:00 am Nursery & Insight  
10:00 Worship & LiveStream  
10:15 am Sunday School  
11:00 am Fellowship  
**SEMP SCHEDULE**

**Monday May 26**  
**Memorial Day | Church Closed**

**Tuesday May 27**  
5:30 pm Proclamation  
7:00 pm Session

**Sunday June 1**  
**Communion Sunday**  
**Fill the Cart for Food Bank**  
9:00 am Nursery  
10:00 Worship & LiveStream  
11:00 am Fellowship  
**SEMP SCHEDULE**

**Monday June 2**  
5:30 pm Discipleship Commission

**Sunday June 8- Pentecost**  
9:00 am Insight  
10:00 Worship & LiveStream  
11:00 am Picnic in the Park  
**SEMP SCHEDULE**

**Tuesday June 10**  
5:30 pm Deacons  
6:30 pm Care Commission

**Sunday June 15**  
**Happy Father’s Day!**  
9:00 am Insight  
10:00 Worship & LiveStream  
11:00 am Fellowship  
**SEMP SCHEDULE**

**Tuesday June 17**  
5:30 pm Admin Commission

**Thursday June 19**  
6:00 Food Group

**Sunday June 22**  
9:00 am Nursery & Insight  
10:00 Worship & LiveStream  
11:00 am Fellowship  
**SEMP SCHEDULE**

**Tuesday June 24**  
5:30 pm Proclamation  
7:00 pm Session

**Sunday June 29**  
9:00 am Nursery & Insight  
10:00 Worship & LiveStream  
10:15 am Sunday School  
11:00 am Fellowship  
**SEMP SCHEDULE**

**\*Mahjong** meets every  
Wednesday at 2:00 pm



**Outdoor Worship at Indian Creek July 20th**  
Mark your calendar to join us out at Indian Creek Nature Center for worship on the patio, featuring Barefoot Becky and the Ivanhoe Dutchmen. Afterwards we'll head indoors for a potluck picnic and time of fellowship.

**S.E.M.P.**  
2:00 SEMP Prep  
3:30 SEMP set up,hand out, clean up  
4:15 SEMP Greeter & Guide

**Food Bank Hospitality**  
**M•W•F @ 12:30pm**

**BIRTHDAYS**

- |      |                   |      |                   |
|------|-------------------|------|-------------------|
| 5/1  | Matt Davidson     | 5/19 | Ethan Shields     |
| 5/1  | Greg Thirnbeck    | 5/20 | Nancy Edmondson   |
| 5/3  | Rochelle Naylor   | 5/21 | Helaina Thompson  |
| 5/4  | Carrie Bryner     | 5/25 | Nancy Collins     |
| 5/4  | Oliver Keuseman   | 5/26 | Leticia Apely     |
| 5/4  | Carly Ryder       | 5/26 | Ada Potratz       |
| 5/5  | Cheryl Stramel    | 5/26 | Matthew Wilding   |
| 5/7  | Bill Ryder        | 5/27 | Mary Jane Barlow  |
| 5/8  | Patrick Thies     | 5/27 | Steve Volesky     |
| 5/10 | Beth Davies       | 5/28 | Kissy Heins       |
| 5/10 | Calli Tyler       | 5/28 | Jim Richardson    |
| 5/10 | Aubrey Weldon     | 5/29 | Nan Riley         |
| 5/11 | Mike Davies       | 6/1  | Bob Mollman       |
| 5/11 | Tom Polehna       | 6/2  | Patrick Hale      |
| 5/12 | Mercy (Afi) Apely | 6/3  | Matthew Winger    |
| 5/13 | Andy Aalderks     | 6/4  | Kim Bramley       |
| 5/13 | Ryan Kiser        | 6/6  | Simeon Jauhiainen |
| 5/13 | JJ Tyler          | 6/7  | Sue Edmondson     |
| 5/14 | Keith Rippy       | 6/7  | Barb Kean         |
| 5/14 | Richard Wagner    | 6/9  | Carolyn Horton    |
| 5/15 | Wendy Frese       | 6/10 | Karen Carver      |
| 5/15 | Megan Wesbrook    | 6/10 | Beth Smith        |
| 5/18 | Selma Brigham     | 6/11 | Martha Booth      |

- |           |                               |
|-----------|-------------------------------|
| 5/1/1999  | Dave & Heather Hayes          |
| 5/3/1980  | Bob & Sue Mollman             |
| 5/5/1979  | Cynthia & John Burdakin       |
| 5/5/1956  | Clark & Nancy Parks           |
| 5/12/1978 | Roxi & John McCrane           |
| 5/15/2016 | Cory & Tiffany Elwick         |
| 5/15/1999 | Karen & Matthew Nelson        |
| 5/17/2003 | Mark & Tracy Zimmerman        |
| 5/19/1984 | DeEtta & Philip Andersen      |
| 5/23/1987 | Carolyn & Dave Crew           |
| 5/24/1975 | Carroll & Sue Edmondson       |
| 5/25/1996 | Nancy & Steve Barry           |
| 5/25/2014 | Amy & Kevin Morris            |
| 5/28/1988 | Michael Miller & Laura Runkle |
| 5/29/1966 | Bonnie & Herb Neubauer        |
| 5/30/2002 | Stephen & Beth O'Donnell      |
| 5/31/1969 | Diana & Jim Richardson        |
| 5/31/1969 | John & Stephanie Wagor        |

**FELLOWSHIP HOSTS**

- |      |                                   |
|------|-----------------------------------|
| 5/4  | Karen Carver & Linda Cosgrove     |
| 5/11 | Kimberly Bramley & Gingie Hunstad |
| 5/18 | Caroline Giddings                 |
| 5/25 | Steve & Sue Stancato              |

- |      |                                  |
|------|----------------------------------|
| 6/1  | Karen Carver & Laura Behrens     |
| 6/8  | Caroline Giddings                |
| 6/15 | Paula Meyer & <b>HOST NEEDED</b> |
| 6/22 | <b>HOST NEEDED</b>               |
| 6/29 | <b>HOST NEEDED</b>               |

- |      |                  |
|------|------------------|
| 6/11 | Chuck Peters     |
| 6/12 | Katy Stolba      |
| 6/13 | Libby Miller     |
| 6/15 | Allie Hayes      |
| 6/15 | Thomas Lackner   |
| 6/16 | Diana Richardson |
| 6/17 | Jackson Stolba   |
| 6/18 | Rosie Strang     |
| 6/19 | Ann Blazek       |
| 6/20 | Neal Marple      |
| 6/21 | Tyler Olson      |
| 6/23 | Lynda Barrow     |
| 6/24 | Margaret Jackson |
| 6/25 | Charles Aalderks |
| 6/25 | Jersey Bilyeu    |
| 6/25 | Brent Hagerman   |
| 6/25 | Deb Sedlacek     |
| 6/27 | Denny Goettel    |
| 6/27 | Cole Younger     |
| 6/29 | Joan Chadima     |
| 6/29 | Joseph Militello |
| 6/29 | Michael Smith    |
| 6/30 | John Arthaud     |
| 6/30 | Katie Hale       |
| 6/30 | Heidi Kiser      |

**ANNIVERSARIES**

- |           |                                |
|-----------|--------------------------------|
| 6/1/1965  | Sherrie & Bob Bouton           |
| 6/3/2006  | Charity & Chris Tyler          |
| 6/5/1965  | Dave & Ethel Knutson           |
| 6/9/1983  | Kathy Gregory-Fiala Paul Fiala |
| 6/10/1966 | Jerry & Nancy Shirk            |
| 6/10/1978 | Dave & Lisa Morris             |
| 6/10/1993 | Kim Lanegran & Dan Ottemoeller |
| 6/11/1961 | Darlene & Von Elbert           |
| 6/12/1965 | John & Sue Arthaud             |
| 6/12/1965 | Betsy & Dave Kutter            |
| 6/15/2013 | Lauren & Matthew Stobb         |
| 6/18/1966 | Connie & Rick Richardson       |
| 6/19/1966 | Selma & Jeremy Brigham         |
| 6/23/2007 | Katy & Matt Stolba             |
| 6/25/1977 | Casey & Susan Swain            |
| 6/26/2010 | Amy & Scott Shoemaker          |
| 6/27/2015 | Christopher & Kayleigh Bryant  |



## **First Presbyterian Church**

310 Fifth Street

Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52401

Non-Profit  
U.S. POSTAGE

**PAID**

Cedar Rapids, Iowa

Permit No. 124

*Electronic Service Requested*

## ***News and Views***

***May***

***&***

***June***

***2025***

## ***First Presbyterian Church Staff***

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### ***Head of Staff***

Pastor Heather Hayes

### ***Office Manager***

Stormy Garretson

### ***Godly Play Teacher***

Mackenzie Hayes

### ***Director of Music Ministries***

Fred Kiser

### ***Organist***

Ted Cronbaugh

### ***Godly Play Teacher***

Christina Hunt

### ***Bookkeeper***

Janna Murra

### ***Youth Director***

Stan Letscher

### ***Nursery***

Lindsay Hopp

***Phone: 319-364-6148***