

JOYS & CONCERNS

WHEN THEY CANNOT JOIN US, WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS: Joan Beach. Mary Wolverton.

BIRTHDAYS: 3/1 Rod Caszatt 3/3 Denise Ellis 3/4 Carolyn Davis, Kelli Eggert 3/6 Bob Bouton, Nyaijhok John Koang, Don Vanous 3/7 Dick McGaughy

ANNIVERSARIES: 3/2/1970 Ada & Art Potratz

News & Views- Input Needed!

It's been a while since we've updated our mailing list for News & Views, and we'd love your help. As we look for ways to reduce printing costs and care more thoughtfully for our resources, we're reviewing how our newsletter is delivered.

If you currently receive a printed copy and would like to continue doing so, please let Stormy know. If you're happy receiving it electronically, please let her know that as well so we can remove you from the physical mailing list.

Thank you for helping us steward our resources wisely and stay connected in the way that works best for you!

Youth Mission Trip Fundraising Update

This summer, our middle schoolers will travel to Columbia, MO and the high schoolers are traveling to Fort Collins, CO for our mission experiences. These trips are made possible through the shared support of parents and congregation. Right now we have raised \$2498 of our \$4000 congregational goal. Thank you to all of those who have given generously already! If you have not had an opportunity to contribute, blue envelopes marked YOUTH MISSION are in the pews or you can contribute online through our website. Thanks for making these trips accessible for all our youth!

The Food Group will meet on **March 19th at 6:00 pm** at Casa Don Julio, 107 Marion Blvd. Please **RSVP by March 16th** to Carolyn Horton at 319-899-0255 or horton6902@msn.com All are welcome for food and fellowship!

FPC Evening Book Group

On March 16 we will meet at the home of John and Cindy Monroe, 449 Dows Rd. SE, to discuss *When the Cranes Fly South* by Lisa Ridzen. This is a novel about Bo, an elderly man who reflects on his life, his strained relationship with his son, and his deep bond with his dog, Sixten, as he faces the end of his life. The plot is triggered when his son threatens to take Sixten away, prompting Bo to confront past regrets and unspoken feelings, all while his wife is in a care home with dementia. If you would like to join us, please email (cmonroe1947@gmail.com) or call (319-981-8356)

Ties That Bind - FPC Quilters

Join us on March 3 & 10 at 1:00pm to learn how to and then make quilted prayer squares to be shared with people who need comfort and healing. Even if you haven't yet participated in the group, you are welcome to join in on this stand-alone project. Also, if you would like to contribute but can't meet on Tuesday afternoons, contact Carolyn Horton to join in from home.

Meet the Administration Commission

Our Administration Commission helps ensure that the structural foundations of our church are strong and well-tended. This team oversees key areas of church life including Personnel, Finance, and Property, working behind the scenes to support our staff, steward our resources wisely, and care for our buildings and grounds. Their faithful, detail-oriented leadership allows the rest of our ministry to flourish. Current members of this commission include: Dave Booth, Ryan Buresh, Dave Crew, Caroline Giddings, Tom Lackner, Connie Richardson, and Keith Rippey. If you'd like to share your gifts and skills with this team, reach out to Heather or Anna to get connected.

Sign up for a Travel Devotional!

Pastor Heather is putting together a daily devotional for her use on the trail. If you would like a copy, for your own use over the summer, sign up in the Gathering Space or let Pastor Heather know.

Leading In Worship

Pastors | Rev. Heather Hayes & Rev. Anna Sheetz

Organist | Ted Cronbaugh

Director of Music | Fred Kiser

Liturgist | Connie Richardson

Communion | Caroline Giddings, Amy Shoemaker

Sunday March 1 | Communion Sunday

9:00 am Nursery

10:00 Worship & LiveStream

11:00 am Fellowship

SEMP SCHEDULE

Monday March 2

5:30 pm Discipleship Commission

Tuesday March 3

1-3 Ties that Bind

Wednesday March 4

*Wednesday Nights

Friday March 6

Youth Lock In

Sunday March 8 | Daylight Savings

9:00 am Nursery

10:00 Worship & LiveStream

10:15 am Sunday School

11:00 am Fellowship

SEMP SCHEDULE

You're not just visiting, you are welcome! Scan this QR code to check in, explore ways to connect and share any prayer requests or pastoral needs.



First Presbyterian Church

Cedar Rapids • Iowa

March 1, 2026 | 10:00 am



Welcome to worship! If this is your first time here or your fortieth, we want you to feel at home.

Here are a few items that may help you as you worship with us. **Bold print** indicates where the congregation speaks together.

An asterisk* invites you to rise in body or spirit.

Need a quiet spot for you and your child during the service? We have a nursery open on the second floor to welcome you.

Please sign the friendship pad so we may take note of your presence and you may greet your neighbors by name.

310 5th St SE | fpccr.org

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE *Psalms 121* Martin Ellis

Worship begins as you enter the sanctuary. The prelude provides time for quiet, personal preparation for the worship of God.

As we prepare for worship, if there are prayer requests you would like lifted up today in worship and/or brought to the attention of Pastor Heather or Pastor Anna, please fill out a prayer request card and place it in the available baskets before worship or during the passing of the peace.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL INTROIT *Jesus, We Are Here*

*CALL TO WORSHIP

We gather in a world that believes death has the last word
But we have heard of a deeper magic.

We come with our losses, our fears, our enemies

But we come to the One who crossed the distance while we were still far off.

The powers of this world traffic in threat, in ultimatum, in the logic of force.

But Love entered their domain and they did not know what to do with it.

The Stone Table cracked. The tomb was empty.

Come, let us worship the God whose love overreaches every power that would claim us.

*HYMN *Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us (vs. 1, 2, 4)* #187

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Gracious God, we confess that we have made our peace with the logic that says strength wins, that death is the final authority, that we must protect ourselves at all costs.

We confess that we have sometimes worshipped a God of transaction rather than a God of reckless, boundary-crossing love. We have kept our distance, believing we were too far gone to be called back. We have let fear define us more than your voice.

Forgive us. Draw us again into the deeper magic, the love that does not wait for us to be worthy, the grace that moves toward enemies and names them beloved.

time of silent confession

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Hear the good news:

While we were still weak — while we were still far off — Christ died for the ungodly.

God did not wait for your readiness. God did not wait for your worthiness. Love crossed every distance, bore every cost, and the power that claimed you has been broken. You are not a transaction that has been settled.

We are the ones who have been called home.

In Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

Thanks be to God.

*GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

During the passing of the peace, we share signs of peace and welcome others in our pews. Please turn to those around you as we celebrate God's peace among us.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD TO US

TIME WITH THE YOUNGER CHURCH

We invite children to come to the front at this time for their own special message. At the conclusion of children's time they may return to the pews. Nursery is available for children kindergarten age and younger.

SCRIPTURE

In the beginning was the Word,
And the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

Romans 5:6–11 (p 980)

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

John 10:1–18 (p 933)

For the Word of God in scripture, for the Word of God among us, for the Word of God within us,

Thanks be to God!

SERMON *A Deeper Magic* Rev. Heather Hayes
The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe

WE RESPOND IN FAITH

*HYMN *Show Us, O Lord, Your Steadfast Love* #449

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH | APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

MINUTE FOR COMMISSIONS

THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY *Sanctus from Requiem* Gabriel Fauré

*DOXOLOGY

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.**

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S TABLE

At First Presbyterian we celebrate an open communion. All are welcome to receive. Please approach the table through the center aisle, receive the bread and cup from the servers, partaking individually, and return to your pews by the outside aisle. Gluten Free wafers are available..

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & LORD'S PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right and good, always and everywhere, to give you thanks, holy God...

...and with the company of heaven, we join the unending hymn:

Sung Congregational response #569

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power, and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.**

Holy are you...

Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us....

...as we pray together, saying,

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD & COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Good Shepherd, you have fed us at your table, a place where enemies are made guests and wanderers brought home. We are nourished by a love the powers of this world cannot manufacture or destroy.

Send us out with full hands and open hearts, ready to live as people who trust that surrender is not defeat, and who know that the voice calling us by name will not stop until all are safely home. Amen.

WE LEAVE TO SERVE THE LORD

*HYMN *The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want (vs. 1, 2, 5)* #801

*BENEDICTION

*CHORAL BENEDICTION *God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me*

POSTLUDE *"Lenten Prayer"* T. Williams

Don't forget to stop by the prayer table in Fellowship Hall after church and sign your name on the cards that will be sent out this week to those we have mentioned in prayer today or who may need a word of encouragement. The office sends these out each Monday to let others know of the care and prayerful support of our congregation.