

JOYS & CONCERNS

WHEN THEY CANNOT JOIN US, WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS: Joan Beach. Lois Willhoite.

BIRTHDAYS: 8/16 John Fischer, Melissa Healy, Charlotte Ottemoeller Keeler Pettyjohn, Zach Shields 8/17 Komla Apely, Laura Behrens 8/18 Evan Privett

ANNIVERSARIES: 8/18/2012 Steven & Sue Stancato 8/20/2011 Cherie & Phil Thompson 8/21/1971 Ron & Sue Olson 8/22/1964 Glenn & Jane Dodd

INSIGHT ADULT EDUCATION

Today we heard Jerry Elsea, speak about *News Media Reliability*. Join us next Sunday when Bruce Nesmith, PhD, Professor of Political History, Coe College, speaks about *Justice in Today's World*.

OUR YOUTH NEED YOU!

It takes a village to help our youth group continue to grow, and Stan is looking for volunteers to make a lasting impact on our students. Can you start conversations, be a table parent during dinner, or help keep things running smoothly behind the scenes? If you're available on Wednesday evenings between 5:30–8:30 PM, we'd love to have you! Interested? Talk to Stan for more details!

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS | NEXT SUNDAY!

Let us come together in faith to pray for a joyful and successful school year! Students, educators, and school staff, please bring your backpacks, briefcases, or work bags to our services Sunday, August 23 for a special Blessing of the Backpacks. We will lift up our children, teachers, and staff in prayer as we begin a new academic season.

FPC BOOK GROUP

August 17th | 6:30 pm | 1225 13th St NW Apt 302

More Than Enough by Anna Quindlen. “High school English teacher Polly Goodman can talk about everything and anything with the women in her book club ... But when they give Polly an ancestry test kit as a joke, the results match her with a stranger. Despite it seeming clear that this match is a mistake, Polly cannot help combing through her own family history for answers. Then, when it seems that the book club circle of four will become three, Polly learns how friendships can change your life in the most profound ways” (Good Reads). We will meet at Gisela Steffe’s apartment at Oakwood, on the Meth-Wick campus (the second driveway on the right as you enter on 13th St NW). Please call 319 775 7498) or email (giselasteffe@msn.com) if you plan to attend.

FPC FOOD GROUP

We will meet on August 20 at 6:00 pm at Tuscan Grill, 475 Northland Ave. Please **RSVP by August 17th** to Carolyn Horton at 319-899-0255 or horton6902@msn.com All are welcome for food and fellowship!

THIS WEEK’S CALENDAR

Sunday August 16

9:00 am Nursery & Insight
10:00 Worship & LiveStream
11:00 am Fellowship

SEMP SCHEDULE

Monday August 17

1:30 pm Bridge to Opportunities
6:30 Evening Book Group

Tuesday August 18

5:30 pm Admin Commission

Wednesday August 19

2:00 pm Mahjong

Thursday August 20

1:30 pm Bridge to Opportunities
6:00 Food Group

Sunday August 23

9:00 am Nursery & Insight
10:00 Worship & LiveStream
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

August 16, 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

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 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

*CALL TO WORSHIP

The Creator invites us,
A place to be honest with ourselves and others
Jesus tells us,
We are the light of the world
The Spirit empowers us,
A city on a hill, welcoming all those who wander.
Come, let us worship the One who doesn’t call us to hide.
Come, let us worship the Lord.

*HYMN I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light #377

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, we confess that we’re not always aware of your call. You call us to be restorers and repairers in the world. But we question if that’s possible. In a fragmented world, we disagree on what to restore and how to repair. In the end, it all is just too much work.
Challenge our tired excuses. Ignite our imagination for the small ways that your call might take work in small moments. Guide us to be that city on a hill Jesus invites us to become.

A time for silent reflection

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Hear the Good News, the one whose light we carry can never be put out. In Jesus’ name, we 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
Matthew 5:13-16 (p 838)
This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.
Isaiah 58:6-12 (p 638)
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 This Little Light of Mine Rev Anna Sheetz

WE RESPOND IN FAITH

*HYMN Open My Eyes, That I May See #451

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

A Brief Statement of Faith, 11.4
We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD’S PRAYER

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.

THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

*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.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

When the world clambers for justice and provisions, Lord, we ask that you use these gifts to water the parched places. We give these gifts in gratitude for the promise of restoration in this world. Make us a light that shines before our whole community, so they might find hope in the hopeless places. Amen.

WE LEAVE TO SERVE THE LORD

*HYMN Come! Live in the Light! #749

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Please stop by the prayer table in Fellowship Hall after church to 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

Leading In Worship
Pastor | Rev. Anna Sheetz
Liturgist | Connie Richardson
Organist | Ted Cronbaugh
Director of Music | Fred Kiser
Special Music | Evelyn Wilcox, harp
Ushers | Don and Julie Vanous, Diana Richardson,
Nancy Lackner