

## IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

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**YOUR PRAYERS ARE APPRECIATED!** Pastor Stephanie and Elder Lindsey Ward will be attending the Stewardship Kaleidoscope Conference September 25-27th. Drawing leaders from across the Presbyterian Church (PCUSA) and other ecumenical partners, this annual conference is designed to help participants explore stewardship in its many colorful dimensions. During this time, in case of emergency pastoral care needs, please contact Rev. Stephanie Schlimm at 563-581-5512.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL BEGINS!** Join us for Sunday School this coming Sunday, October 1st at 9:00am. All ages will gather in the Coffee Hour room for a brief OPENING, then head off to our age-group classes after that.

**LET'S LUNCH!** Who doesn't love FOOD? On Sunday, October 1, following worship, we will gather for lunch in the church basement in celebration of COMMUNITY. The Christian Education Committee will provide all the fixings for sandwiches, and we invite you to bring a side dish, salad, or dessert to share. See you then!

**FOOD FOR THE 1ST IS NEXT SUNDAY.** Please drop your non-perishable food donations in the basket in the narthex. All donations directly support the ministry of the Dubuque Food Pantry. Thank you!

**COMMUNION WILL BE SERVED NEXT SUNDAY, OCT. 1**

**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE HAS CHANGED!** The newsletter deadline for October is now *Monday, October 2nd at 9:00am*.

**PRINTED SERMON AVAILABLE:** If you are interested in receiving a copy of Pastor Stephanie's sermon via email or mail, please contact her directly at [fpcdbq.pastor@gmail.com](mailto:fpcdbq.pastor@gmail.com) or 507.227.8537.

**PRAYER REQUESTS**—Send joys and concerns to Pastor Stephanie at [fpcdbq.pastor@gmail.com](mailto:fpcdbq.pastor@gmail.com).

**CHECK OUT OUR FACEBOOK AND INSTAGRAM PAGES:**

First Presbyterian Church Dubuque and [firstpresdbq](#) respectively. Share posts with friends so folks can see what God is doing here at FPC!

## WELCOME TO FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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We welcome you to this worship service. If you are a guest, please fill out a visitor's card in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate. We would love to greet you by name. We invite you to join us Sunday mornings at 9:00am for Sunday School (September-April). Worship follows at 10:15am. Nursery care is located in the basement and is provided for both the Sunday School and worship hours for children through age 5.

### THE WEEK IN BRIEF (events at FPC unless noted)

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<b>Sun. September 24</b>	10:15am	Worship: Rev. Stephanie Ells, preaching
	11:30am	Neighborhood clean up w/ UUFD
	1:30pm	Bethany Home worship
	5:30pm	Youth Group @ Westminster
<i>Sept. 25-27 Pastor &amp; Elder Lindsey Ward to Stewardship Kaleidoscope Conference in Minneapolis</i>		
<b>Sun. October 1</b>	9:00am	Sunday School for all ages
	10:15am	Worship: Rev. Stephanie Ells, preaching Sacrament of Holy Communion
	11:30am	All Church Luncheon
	5:30pm	Youth Group @ Westminster
<b>Mon. October 2</b>	9:00am	Newsletter deadline

### GIVING

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To support the mission and ministry of our church, we need \$14,563 per month. Offerings received through Sept. 17 totaled \$7,367

- Offerings Year to Date through September 17 - \$84,372
- Expenses Year to Date through September 17 - \$109,378

### FOR YOUR INFORMATION

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**Deacons of the month September:** Judy Sheridan & Deb Stant

**Pastor Stephanie's office hours** are 9:00am-1:00pm on Monday and Wednesday. Contact her anytime with prayer requests or pastoral care needs at 507-227-8537 or [fpcdbq.pastor@gmail.com](mailto:fpcdbq.pastor@gmail.com)

**Admin Summer Office Hours\*** for Ginger Vander Broek are 11:00pm-3:00pm Monday & Wednesday at home, and 10:30am-12:00pm Thursday at FPC. *\*Office hours may change slightly week to week.*

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[www.firstpresdbq.org](http://www.firstpresdbq.org)

SEPTEMBER 24, 2023  
17th Sunday after Pentecost

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE  
“Wonderful Words of Life” *arr. Giamanco*

FOR PRAYER AND REFLECTION:  
*Holy, holy, holy God, we worship and adore you—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Today, in our worship, we long for a glimpse of your glory; seen perfectly in Christ, our Lord. As we worship, may we gain new insight about the mystery and wonder of your love. And may we sense new ways to mirror that love in our world, through Christ, our Lord. Amen.*

\*CALL TO WORSHIP & OPENING PRAYER  
One:  
Let the whole earth praise the Lord!  
*Low Voices:*  
Let the mountains and hills proclaim God’s handiwork!  
One:  
Let the seas roar and the waves crash in symphonies of praise!  
*High voices:*  
Let all creation sing God’s new song of love!  
All:  
Praise be to God who has created and is creating anew!  
One:  
Praise be to God who re-creates God’s love in us each day!  
*Low Voices:*  
Open our hearts, Lord, to receive your love.  
*High Voices:*  
We come with hope to this witness to God’s power!  
All:  
Challenge and encourage our spirits to serve you, Lord.  
We come with a willingness  
to proclaim God’s presence to all.  
We thank God for this invitation to worship, witness,  
and serve. Amen.

\*HYMN OF PRAISE #78  
“God of the Ages, History’s Maker” *Bunessan*

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION  
Jesus, we confess that we act as people of the world. It is often easier to justify our selfish desires than it is to witness to your transforming love. We are neglectful and hurtful of others. We take more time pampering ourselves than we do helping other people. Stop us in our tracks, O Lord. Turn us around. Help us to face our weakness and place us again on the countercultural path of divine love.

SILENT CONFESSION

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

\*GLORIA PATRI (#734 in Hymnal)

PASSING OF THE PEACE\*\*  
The peace of Christ be with you.  
And also with you.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING  
John 15:12-28 p. 1677

SERMON “Call to Community: Countercultural”

\*HYMN OF RESPONSE #345  
“Jesus Calls Us o’er the Tumult” *Galilee*

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH “The 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.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE 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  
Medication on “Kentucky” *Ingalls/Smith*  
\*DOXOLOGY #34  
\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

\*SENDING HYMN #344  
“I Have Decided to Follow Jesus” *Assam*

\*BENEDICTION

\*POSTLUDE  
“Trompette Brillante” *arr. Williams*

*\*Please stand in spirit or in body  
\*\*Please take a moment to extend the peace of Christ to one another by greeting those around you. Say “hello,” wave, learn each other’s names - whatever feels most comfortable to you.*

LEADERS IN WORSHIP:

Preacher: Rev. Stephanie Ells  
Liturgist: Sara Blair  
Music Director: Kristen Eby

A TIME OF FELLOWSHIP

You are warmly invited to join us for a time of fellowship in the Coffee Hour Room next to the sanctuary immediately following the service.

WELCOMING YOU TO WORSHIP:

Officer in Charge of Greeting: Lindsey Ward  
Coffee Fellowship hosts: Mark & Annalee Ward  
Nursery Attendants: Florence Siefker & Baylee Vincent  
(Children through age 5 are invited to the nursery for any or all of the service)