

LEADERS IN WORSHIP:

Preacher: Rev. Stephanie Ells
Liturgist: Beth Elder
Music Director: Kristen Eby

IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

FUTURE FOCUS: We continue to seek God's direction for the future of FPC's ministry. The Session is working with a small group to bring the feedback we heard during our congregational gatherings this spring to fruition. Please pray for what is ahead.

MINISTRY MODELS: Join folks from FPC, Westminster, and FPC Bellevue as we gather *TONIGHT from 5:00-7:00pm at Westminster*, with reps from John Knox Presbytery. We will learn more about different ministry models and how we might step into the future to which God may be calling us. This is not a decision-making meeting. This is simply a time to gather with our sister churches, enjoy food & fellowship, hear helpful information, ask questions, and better understand the possibilities.

CREATORS CAMP SUNDAY CELEBRATION: On Sunday, August 20th at 10:00am, we will be having worship at the Dubuque Arboretum pavilion in celebration of Creators Camp. Bring a lawn chair or blanket to sit on, bug spray, and a water bottle. Come and hear the Bible lessons that our kiddos have been interacting with all summer long! *There will be NO worship service held in FPC's building on August 20.*

YOUTH GROUP COMING THIS FALL! We are excited to announce that the joint youth group for grades 6-12 will be continuing AND EXPANDING this fall! FPC, St. Luke's UMC, First Congregational, UCC, and Westminster PC(USA) are joining forces to offer an incredible night of "Faith Exploration" and fun for our youth. Combining will provide the youth a unique opportunity to grow in their understanding of what it means to follow Jesus while connecting with other Christian youth in Dubuque. Participants will be offered a chance to be confirmed at their individual churches through this program. Youth Group begins Sunday, September 10th from 5:30-7:00pm. The group will meet at Westminster each Sunday night.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPROVEMENTS UNDERWAY! Thanks to Dani Postma's initiative, we received a grant from the City of Dubuque to fund projects in and around FPC. Watch for more opportunities to contribute time and a helping hand soon!

PRAYER REQUESTS—Send joys and concerns to Pastor Stephanie at fpcdbq.pastor@gmail.com.

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 or 507.227.8537.

WELCOME TO FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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)

Sun. August 13	10:15am	Worship: Rev. Stephanie Ells, preaching
Tue. August 15	5:30pm	Session
Sat. August 19	9:00am-3:00pm	John Knox Presbytery @ Portage, WI
Sun. August 20	10:00am	Worship: Creators Camp Celebration @ Dubuque Arboretum, Packard Pavilion
	11:00am	Mission mtg. @ Dubuque Arboretum

GIVING

To support the mission and ministry of our church, we need \$14,563 per month. Offerings received through July 23 totaled \$11,224

- Offerings Year to Date through June - \$53,727
- Expenses Year to Date through June - \$77,042

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Deacons of the month August: Alex Jack & Tom Jack

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

Admin Summer Office Hours* for Ginger Vander Broek are 1:00pm-4:00pm 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

AUGUST 13, 2023

11th Sunday after Pentecost

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE “The Way of Peace” *Giamanco*

FOR PRAYER AND REFLECTION:
God of grace, you have given us minds to know you, hearts to love you, and voices to sing your praise. Fill us with your Spirit, that we may celebrate your glory and worship you in spirit and in truth through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

OPENING PRAYER

*CALL TO WORSHIP from Psalm 89:1-4
I will sing of your steadfast love, O LORD, forever;
 with my mouth I will proclaim your faithfulness to all generations.
I declare that your steadfast love is established forever;
 your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens.
You said, “I have made a covenant with my chosen one,
I have sworn to my servant David:
‘I will establish your descendants forever,
and build your throne for all generations.’”
 Praise the Lord!

*SONGS OF PRAISE
#16 “The God of Abraham Praise” vv. 1,3 *Leoni*
"Same God" *Elevation Worship*
I'm calling on the God of Jacob
Whose love endures through generations
I know that You will keep Your covenant
I'm calling on the God of Moses
The one who opened up the ocean
I need you now to do the same thing for me

Chorus: Oh God my God I need You
Oh God my God I need You now
How I need You now
Oh Rock oh Rock of ages
I'm standing on Your faithfulness

I'm calling on the God of Mary
Whose favor rests upon the lowly
I know with You all things are possible
I'm calling on the God of David
Who made a shepherd boy courageous
I may not face Goliath
But I've got my own giants

You heard Your children then, You hear Your children now
You are the same God (2x)
You answered prayers back then And You will answer now
You are the same God (2x)
You were providing then, You are providing now
You are the same God (2x)

You moved in power then, God move in power now
You are the same God (2x)
You were a healer then, You are a healer now
You are the same God (2x)
You were a Savior then, You are a Savior now
You are the same God

You freed the captives then, You're freeing hearts right now
You are the same God (2x)
You touched the lepers then, I feel Your touch right now
You are the same God (2x)

I'm calling on the Holy Spirit
Almighty river come and fill me again
Come and fill me again
Come and fill me again

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION
Lord Jesus, we call upon you. Save us!
We are intimidated by our circumstances, distracted from your purposes, drowning in doubts and fears.
SING: Lord, have mercy
We are presumptuous about your will, belittling others and magnifying ourselves.
SING: Christ, have mercy.
We envy the blessings of others, secretly despising their dreams.
SING: Lord, have mercy
We have hardened our hearts to the suffering of our brothers and sisters, feeding ourselves in face of the injustice that holds them captive.
SING: Christ, have mercy.

A moment of silent reflection is observed.

Lord Jesus, who searches our hearts,
lift us up and help us to walk with you in faith, humility, and love.

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

*SONG OF RESPONSE *(see insert)*
“Whosoever Shall Call” *Whosoever Shall Call*

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

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

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28 p. 60

SERMON “Family Dynamics: *Playing Favorites*”

*HYMN OF REPSONSE #596 ,
 “Help Us Accept Each Other” vv. 1-3 *Angel’s Story*

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH
 from the Confession of 1967, Part II, Sect. A1
To be reconciled to God is to be sent into the world as God’s reconciling community. This community, the church universal, is entrusted with God’s message . . . The life, death, resurrection, and promised coming of Jesus Christ has set the pattern for the church’s mission . . . Jesus’ service to people commits the church to work for every form of human well-being. His suffering makes the church sensitive to all the sufferings of human-kind so that it sees the face of Christ in the faces of all people . . . Jesus’ crucifixion discloses . . . the awful consequences of complicity to injustice. In the power of the risen Christ and the hope of his coming, the church sees the promise of God’s renewal of all life.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD’S PRAYER *(Back cover of hymnal)*

THE OFFERING
OFFERTORY "Aria" *Ritter*
*DOXOLOGY #34
*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*SENDING HYMN #595
 “They’ll Know We Are Christians” *Scholtes*

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE “To the Glory of God” *Peterson*

**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.*
****The Confession of 1967 was adopted by the PC(USA) in a time when the social environment in the United States was rapidly changing. Much of the confession’s text is dedicated to the subject of reconciliation. It is written in three parts representing the faith, the love, and the hope of the Christian tradition.*

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: Judy Sheridan
Coffee Fellowship hosts: The Ebys
Nursery Attendants: Florence Siefker, Lillian Jones
(Children through age 5 are invited to the nursery for any or all of the service)