

FIRST PRESS – SEPTEMBER 2022

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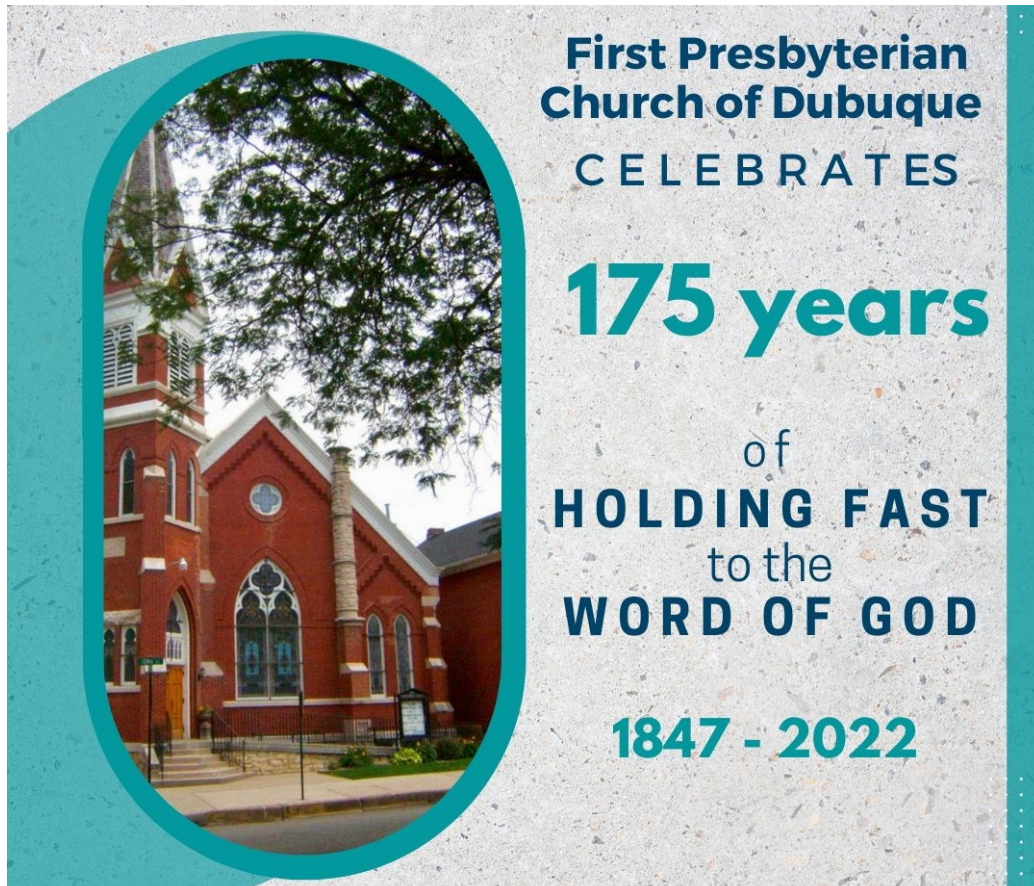


First Presbyterian Church

"We love because God first loved us."

✦ 1 John 4:19

FPC CELEBRATES 175 YEARS OF MINISTRY



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS (MORE TO COME!)

September 11, 2022

10:15am 175th Rally Day & Luncheon

October 1, 2022

TBD 175 Years of Sharing Jesus in Mission
Potluck at Mark & Annalee Ward's

October 2, 2022

9:00am 175 Years of Sharing Jesus in Mission
Presentation by our Friends from Thailand

October 23, 2022

10:15am 175 Years of Stewardship
Guest Preacher: Rev. Katherine Achtemeier

December 18, 2022

10:15am Christmas Program &
Christmas Coffee Hour

December 24, 2022

7:00pm Christmas Eve Worship

May 28, 2023

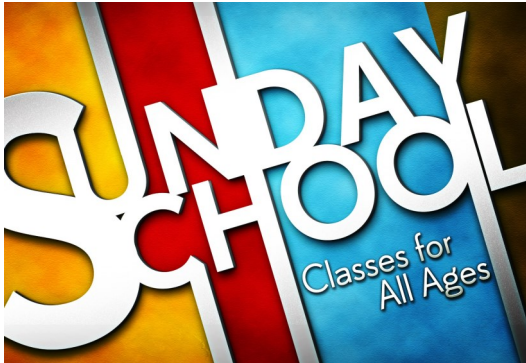
10:15am Looking Forward Celebration &
Meal after worship

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

RALLY DAY IS HERE!

Rally Day is scheduled for Sunday, September 11, 2022. It will also include an FPC 175th Anniversary kick-off celebration. The Sunday School teachers will be commissioned during worship at 10:15am and then an all-church luncheon will follow in the basement Fellowship Hall.

The church will provide sandwiches with fixings, water, milk, and lemonade. Please bring a side dish of your choice to share and celebrate with us on September 11th!



FEASTING ON THE WORD

FPC's Sunday School program resumes on Sunday, September 11 at 9:00am. There will be 2 youth Sunday school classes: 4 years thru 1st grade and 2nd-5th grades. The classes will be in the basement. The adult Sunday School class will have shared adult leadership and will meet in the Coffee Hour Room. *Feasting on the Word* whole church curriculum will be used in both youth and adult Sunday School classes, as well as, youth group and worship. Sunday School runs through the school year.

JOINT YOUTH GROUP KICKS OFF THIS MONTH!

Youth Group is BACK at FPC! On Sunday, September 18th, from 5-6:30pm youth in grades 6-12 are invited to join us and our friends from Westminster PC(USA) for the kick-off of our joint Youth Group. Pastor Stephanie and Sam Morales will be the leaders from FPC, and will be joined by adults from WPC. We will meet every other week, playing games, learning about God, connecting with friends, and...of course...eating snacks!

- September 18, FPC
- October 2, WPC
- October 16, FPC
- October 30, WPC - PJ'S, PIZZA, & PG PARTY
- November 13, FPC
- December 4, WPC
- December 18 - CHRISTMAS PARTY



REFUGIA BOOK CLUB WRAP-UP

After a month of great conversations and community, the Refugia Faith book club closed our time together with a prayer service in Jackson Park. We prayed, planted flowers, learned about the history of Jackson Park, and shared a picnic in the park together. Creation literally sang to those gathered through a group of red-tailed hawks that joined our prayer service. That blessing and so many others are gifts from this summer's book club that we will carry into the season ahead.

IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH



Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
Presbyterian Mission

WELCOMING OUR FRIENDS FROM THAILAND

On Saturday, October 1, 2022 the Mission Committee will welcome our friends from Thailand with a potluck at 5:30pm at the Wards'. Thank you to the Wards for hosting this potluck. Please mark this date on your calendar. More details to come! You are also invited to hear their presentation in Sunday School on October 2.

In celebration of our 175th anniversary, we will feature updates from our former SPMs. It's amazing how God has used FPC to equip the church and her leaders all around the country and the world.

HELLO! From KRISTY PARKER—SPM 2002-2003

Dear Friends,

What a joy to be in touch with you as you celebrate 175 years of ministry at First Presbyterian Church of Dubuque! I will forever be grateful for my SPM experience with you. You were welcoming, kind, and gracious to me as I stepped into the pulpit for the first time and started to find my way as a pastor.

After graduating from UDTs in 2004, I accepted a call to First Presbyterian Church of Jesup, IA, where I served for eight wonderful years!

In 2012, Tom and I relocated to Davenport, IA where he finished out his career with John Deere. We were blessed with seven grandchildren over the next seven years, and I enjoyed being a grandma, while doing pulpit supply and volunteer ministry at our church.

In the fall of 2021, I accepted a position as a part time chaplain at Meth-Wick Senior Living Community in Cedar Rapids, IA, where I continue to serve. Tom and I will be living on a small acreage in Lisbon, IA that is near our children and grandchildren.

We send our prayers and love to you at this time of celebration! May God's grace surround you as you continue to carry the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ into the Dubuque community. In his love, Kristy Parker



COMMUNITY CORNER: *In Memory of Sophia Jackson Flury*

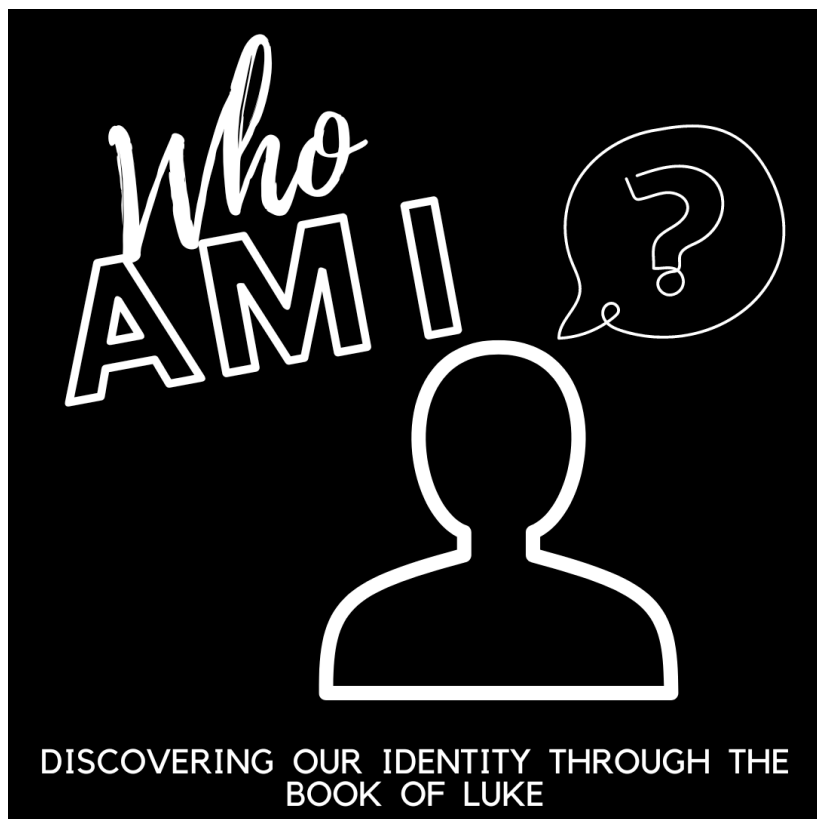
On July 14th, 13 from FPC planted a garden at Jackson Park in memory of Sophia Jackson Flury. She was buried on November 25, 1848 by her husband Pastor Peter Flury, shortly after they had given birth to the German Evangelical Reformed Church. As we planted flowers we were remembering our spiritual mother. A hush fell over us as a hawk flew overhead. We took it as a sign of Sophia's welcoming spirit. Sophia rests in this place of refuge alongside the Mesquakie natives and the early white settlers who had taken their land: both are buried together in this former city and possibly native burial ground.

According to the Jewish calendar, we are entering the month of Elul, a time of preparation for the New Year and Yom Kippur. It is a time of repentance. As we anticipate the new year, which includes the church's 175th anniversary, consider *events of change* that have marked past church anniversaries: (25th) the seminary and church had split; (50th) the present sanctuary had recently been built; (75th) sermons were first preached in English; (100th) our German identity was fading as Synod of the West would soon dissolve; (125th) ecumenism was blossoming; leading to (150th) church unity blooms as former "German mother churches" in Dubuque worship together.

Preparation for change this September can include joining the Franciscans for a "Seasons of Creation" series, featuring two Zoom dialog sessions between Jonathan Buffalo, Historical Preservation Director of the Mesquakie Nation and Franciscan Lori Apel – find information at www.shalomretreats.org.

As part of our 175th Anniversary this year, the Mission Committee is sharing reflections about the relationship between FPC and our Dubuque community.

IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH



FALL SERMON SERIES

Throughout the fall, our sermon series will draw us into the book of Luke.

Together, we will explore the question of identity. *Who Am I?* in relation to ourselves, one another, and God. We will discover that what we presume about ourselves in these relationships is mirrored in how we live. *How are we reflecting the image of God?*

If you want to explore these questions more deeply, we invite you to join us in Sunday School at 9:00am. We will discuss the sermon text with our church community through open conversation where no one person is the expert, but everyone is learning together.

CREATOR'S CAMP UPDATE!

We had a blast this summer at CREATOR'S CAMP! FPC teamed up with St. Luke's UMC, First Congregational UCC, and Westminster PC(USA) to provide kids ages 4-12 an awesome opportunity to learn about God's creativity and how we can live into it! Every Wednesday, volunteers and kids from all four churches and the community filled St. Luke's with a joyful noise. We had nearly 60 different kids throughout the summer. A special thank you to Elaina Biechler, Jean Holdener, Sara Blair, John Emery, Joe Klinebriel, and Betty Thompson for helping out.



CELEBRATION IN THE PARK

On Sunday, August 21st, FPC took worship on the road!

We joined St. Luke's UMC for a joint outdoor service at the Arboretum. Our congregations shared in ministry all summer at Creator's Camp. It was a gorgeous morning on the lawn, as children received a blessing of their school bags and we sang together of how the earth and heavens declare the glory of God. After worshipping, we stayed for an informal picnic lunch and built connections with other members in the wider faith community in Dubuque! It was a wonderful reminder that we are not alone in our desire to follow Jesus.

SEPTEMBER 2022

Deacons of the Month:
Jamie Dillman & Judy Sheridan

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
28 10:15am Worship: Rev. Sam Felderman preaching Via live stream & in-person 1:30pm Bethany Home worship	29 9:00am Newsletter deadline	30	31	1 SEPTEMBER	2	3 8:00am Men's Breakfast @ Papa Ozz
4 <i>Food for the 1st</i> 10:15am Worship: Rev. Stephanie Ells preaching Via live stream & in-person Sacrament of Holy Communion	5 LABOR DAY <i>Offices closed</i>	6	7 11:00am Young at Heart @ Village Inn 7:00pm Choir	8	9	10
11 RALLY DAY <i>Supplies for the 2nd</i> 9:00am Sunday School 10:15am Worship: Rev. Stephanie Ells preaching Via live stream & in-person Teacher Commissioning 12:00pm Rally Day luncheon	12	13	14	15	16	17
18 9:00am Sunday School 10:15am Worship: Rev. Stephanie Ells preaching Via live stream & in-person 11:30am Mission Committee 5:00 Youth Group @ FPC	19	20 4:00pm CE (Zoom)	21	22	23	24 9:00am Officer mtg.
25 9:00am Sunday School 10:15am Worship: Rev. Stephanie Ells preaching Via live stream & in-person 1:30pm Bethany Home worship	26 9:00am Newsletter deadline	27	28	29	30	1 OCTOBER 8:00am Men's Breakfast @ Papa Ozz

Happy birthday! Happy birthday! Happy birthday!

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

- 2 Samson Klinebriel
- 7 Elise Henry
- 8 John Eby
- 9 David & Chrissi McClain
- 14 Beth McCaw
- 16 Naomi Brehm
- 17 Ariana Herbst
- 19 Alex Jack
- 20 John & Tammy Wehrspann
- 23 Annalee Ward
Richard Biechler
- 24 Dave & Terri Gronau
- 28 Bill Spoerl



YOUR CHURCH FAMILY NEEDS YOU!

All areas of ministry at FPC could use your help. Please volunteer for one of the following committees by contacting one of the people below:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <i>Buildings & Grounds</i> | – Tom Boelk & John Dillman |
| <i>Christian Education</i> | – Sara Blair |
| <i>Congregational Life</i> | – TBD |
| <i>Finance & Personnel</i> | – John Dillman |
| <i>Memorial</i> | – Sandy Spencer |
| <i>Mission & Stewardship</i> | – Hannah Eby |
| <i>Worship</i> | – Bryan Blair & Kristen Eby |



Electronic giving is available at FPC. For more information and/or to set up an account, please contact church treasurer Stephenie Morales at fpcdbq.treasurer@gmail.com



OFFICE HOURS:

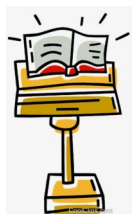
Pastor Stephanie can be reached at (cell) 507-227-8537 or fpcdbq.pastor@gmail.com. In case of emergency, call her cell. If she does not answer, leave a voice message and she'll return the call. Office hours are Monday & Wednesday from 9:00am—1:00pm.

Administrative Assistant, Ginger Vander Broek, works from home Monday & Wednesday from 10:30-2:30pm and at FPC Thursdays from 10:00-12:00pm. You can contact her at firstpresdbq@gmail.com.

PREACHING SCHEDULE

SEPTEMBER

- | | |
|--------------|---------------------|
| September 4 | Rev. Stephanie Ells |
| September 11 | Rev. Stephanie Ells |
| September 18 | Rev. Stephanie Ells |
| September 25 | Rev. Stephanie Ells |



FPC BUDGET UPDATE

August thru 8/31
Monthly offering: \$8,857
Budgeted need: \$13,600

Year-to-Date for 2022
Income thru 8/31: \$88,168
Expenses thru 8/31: \$100,120



IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

Refugia Book Club (below)



MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE!

Choir resumes at FPC on Wednesday, September 7 at 7:00pm. Choir will be directed by Kristen Eby. As always, all are welcome to be part of this important part of ministry, as well, as join in on the fun and fellowship! For questions, contact Kristen.



Worship with St. Luke's (below)



Creator's Camp (below)



Love Your Neighbor as Yourself

We invite you to donate to the Dubuque Food Pantry on the first Sunday of the month and the Domestic Violence Victim Services Shelter on the second Sunday of the month. You can bring items to church on Sunday or drop them off during the pastor's office hours. You may also choose to give monetary gifts by sending a check to FPC marked for the Dubuque Food Pantry or Victim Services Shelter.

Items particularly needed include:

DBQ Food Pantry:

Any non-perishable food is in need, but also pasta, pasta sauce, canned fruit, tuna, toilet tissue, bar soap, laundry soap, & garden produce.



Victim Services Shelter:

Along with the always needed paper products and cleaning supplies; antibacterial wipes & sprays.



Thank you for supporting these ministries.

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