

IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

WHILE PASTOR STEPHANIE IS ON VACATION through November 30th, you may contact the administrative assistant, Ginger, via email at: firstpresdbq@gmail.com for day-to-day needs or to add prayers to the prayer chain. For emergency pastoral care needs, contact Rev. Stephanie Schlimm at 563-581-5512.

THANK YOU TO OUR CHRISTMAS ELVES who spent time after the service last Sunday decorating the sanctuary for Advent!

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE for a December/January issue is Monday, November 28 at 9:00am.

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

WELCOME TO THE FPC FAMILY! If you didn't get a chance to welcome our newest members last week, be sure to do that this week! Paula McNally, Danielle Postma, and Michael Postma – we are so glad you are a part of this community.

FPC CHRISTMAS PROGRAM: Please join us for FPC's annual Christmas play "The Little Star of Bethlehem" presented during worship on December 18. All cast will have a read through in the church basement this Sunday. Please see your script for the next practice dates and times.

BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE: The Community Blue Christmas service will be held at FPC on Wednesday, December 14th at 6:30pm. Advent and Christmas are known as joyous seasons, yet there are many whose hearts are aching. This service creates space at the manger to embrace our aches and to call on God for help and comfort. Childcare will be available. We will be joined by folks in our community from St. Luke's UMC, Westminster PC (USA), First Congregational & Immanuel UCC, and Holy Trinity ELCA.

WEATHER BAD? IS CHURCH CANCELED? SEE BELOW HOW TO FIND OUT...

- Call the church office (582-4494) after 7:30AM on Sunday mornings.
- Watch your email for an all-church announcement.
- Check this FPC link: firstpcdbq.webs.com
(This link is also available on the church website www.firstpresdbq.org)
- Notice hopefully provided on KCRG, KWWL, KDTH (and others)

WELCOME TO FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Grace and peace to each of you in the name of Jesus Christ. 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 every Sunday morning for Sunday School at 9:00am during the school year, and worship at 10:15am. Nursery care is located in the basement and is provided during both the Sunday School and worship hour for children through age 5.

THE WEEK IN BRIEF (events at FPC unless noted)

Pastor on vacation through Nov. 30

Sun. November 27	9:00am	1st Sunday of Advent Sunday School for all ages
	10:15am	Worship: Morgan Frazer, guest preacher
Mon. November 28	9:00am	Newsletter deadline
Sat. December 3	8:00am	Men's Breakfast @ Papa Ozz
Sun. December 4 <i>Food for the 1st</i>		2nd Sunday of Advent
	9:00am	Sunday School for all ages
	10:15am	Worship: Rev. Stephanie Ells, preaching Sacrament of Holy Communion
	11:30am	Deacons
	5:00pm	Youth Group @ Westminster PC

GIVING

To support the mission and ministry of our church, we need \$13,600 per month. Offerings received through November 6 totaled \$2,307

- Offerings Year to Date through November 6 - \$107,441
- Expenses Year to Date through November 6 - \$131,606

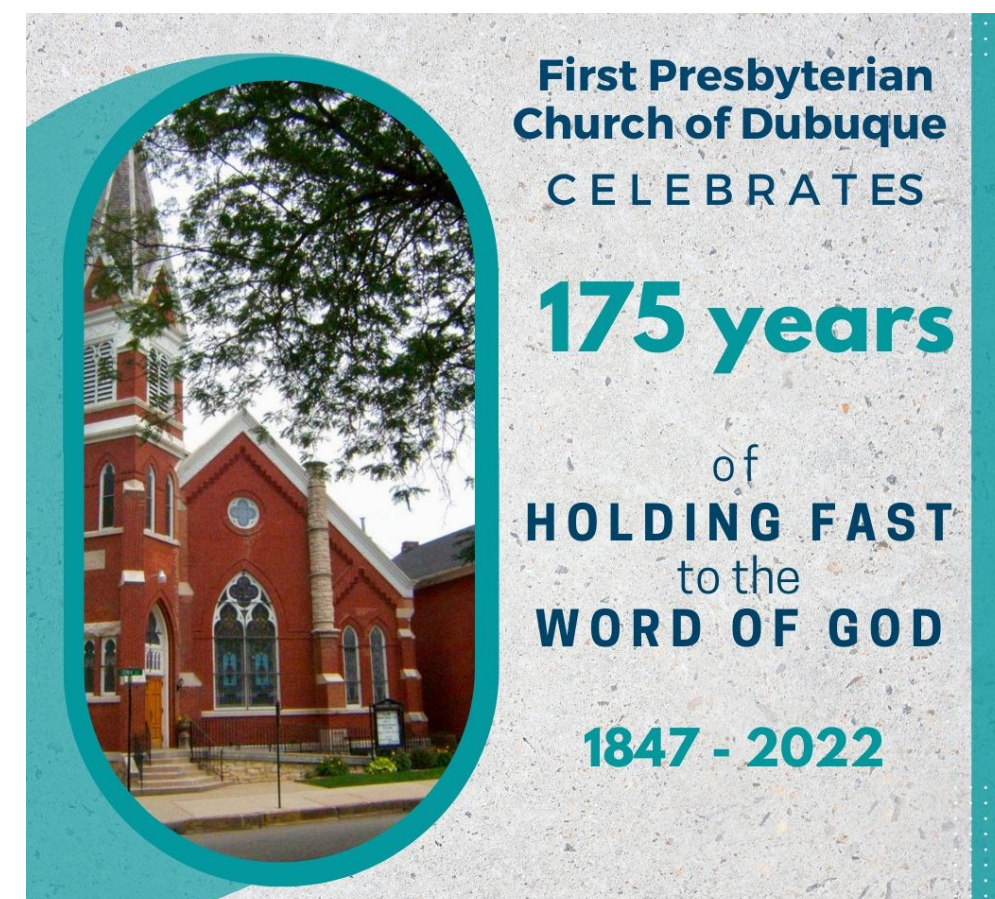
FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Deacons of the month November: Jamie Dillman & Judy Sheridan
December: Mark & 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

Admin Office Hours* for Ginger Vander Broek are 10:30am-2:30pm Monday (home), Wednesday (home), and 10:30am-12:00pm Thursday (at FPC). *Office hours may change slightly week to week.

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(563) 582-4494 firstpresdbq@gmail.com



www.firstpresdbq.org

NOVEMBER 27, 2022

1st Sunday of Advent

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE "Prepare the Way, O Zion" *arr. Blades*

FOR PRAYER AND REFLECTION
What brings you here today? It is a new season in the church year. What will be different? What will be new? Only you can answer.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE The Biechlers

*CALL TO WORSHIP
I was glad when they said to me,
Let us go to the house of the Lord!
In days to come, the mountain of the Lord’s house
shall be established as the highest of the mountains.
Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord!

CONGREGATION SINGS *(to the tune of “Away in a Manger”)*
“Come surely, Lord Jesus, as dawn follows night,
our hearts long to greet you, as roses, the light.
Salvation, draw near us, our vision engage.
One candle is lit for the hope of the age.”

OPENING PRAYER

*HYMN OF PRAISE #154
"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" *Veni Emmanuel*

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION
God, we are ready now. We want peace now. We long to receive the Prince of Peace in our world today. But don’t delay too long, Holy One, for soon we’ll be busy with parties, and decorating, and baking, and shopping. Our lives are crammed so full, we find it hard to calendar you in; we find it hard to locate the time to welcome the Light of the World. We need your help, O God. Teach us to set aside our party wardrobes, and clothe ourselves in Jesus Christ. Guide us into true readiness, even though we do not know the date and time, when true peace will reign. Wake us up; shake off the cobwebs of our complacency; and take us with you on the path up your holy mountain. Plant your peace within us, so that each day, each moment, we may be ready for the harvest of your love.

SILENT CONFESSION
(Here let each worshiper offer silent, personal prayers of confession.)

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

*GLORIA PATRI #734

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING
Isaiah 2:1-5 p. 1062

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING
Matthew 24:36-44 p. 1539

SERMON
“How Do We Prepare for the Unknown . . . Where Do We Look?”

*HYMN OF RESPONSE #152
"Prepare the Way, O Zion" *Bereden Väg För Herran*

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH “Advent Statement of Faith”
We are an Advent people,
a people of hope.

For us, Advent is a time of waiting,
and so we wait.
We wait for the coming of the One
who is the fulfillment of God’s promise,
the fulfillment of hope,
the declaration that we have been redeemed.

Even so, we are not a naïve people.
We know that the world in which we live
will continue to be filled with pain and sorrow.
We know that hatred and violence will continue to exist.
We know that death and separation will continue to be a part
of our lives.

But because we are an Advent people,
we know that none of these things will win in the end.

The Holy One is coming,
to make holy once again
all that was, is, and ever will be.

And in our waiting and our hoping,
we work and worship,
pray and play,
in all things hoping that peace, love and joy will reign
in our lives and in our world,
now and forever.

*from Rev. Rebecca F. Harrison,
Spanish Springs Presbyterian Church,
Sparks, NV*

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD’S PRAYER

THE OFFERING
OFFERTORY
"Lo How a Rose" *arr. Wellman*
*DOXOLOGY #34
*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*SENDING HYMN #153
"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" *Hyfrydol*

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE
"Wake, Awake for Night is Flying" *Nicolai/Unke*

**Those who are able, please stand.*

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:

Greeter: Tom Boelk
Please see the sign up sheet to serve as Coffee Fellowship host
Nursery Attendants: Lisa Reed & Florence Siefker
(Children through age 5 are invited to the nursery for any or all of the service)

LEADERS IN WORSHIP:

Preacher: Morgan Frazer
Liturgist: Sara Blair
Music Director & pianist: Kristen Eby
Musician: John Eby