

IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

THANK YOU TO DANI POSTMA for sharing God's Word with us today through the giving of the sermon and preparation of the worship experience. Dani has been instrumental in obtaining a sustainability grant through the City of Dubuque. It will allow our congregation to make key shifts in effectively and responsibly stewarding the land and resources entrusted to us.

NEW SERMON SERIES: We continue to ask "What is God like?" The series is based on Rachel Held Evans children's book "What Is God Like?" It guides children in wondering about this BIG question people everywhere have been asking since the beginning of time. It is not only children who ask themselves and others "What is God like?" While God is too big for any of us to see, we can know what God is like through the words and pictures found in the Bible.

SOUPER BOWL OF CARING IS TODAY! The Souper Bowl of Caring is back again! Did you know that each dollar donated generates \$18 for food charities? Help us tackle hunger by donating cash and dry & canned goods. Everything collected goes to support the Dubuque Food Pantry. Let's make them the big winners!

SUPPLIES FOR THE SECOND to help those living at the Domestic Violence Shelter is collected today. Drop items in the marked tub in the narthex.

VALENTINE POTLUCK TODAY FOLLOWING WORSHIP. There will be treat bags for kids to fill, yummy food, and fun fellowship!

ASH WEDNESDAY OBSERVANCE: Join us as we observe Ash Wednesday together with Westminster PC and the University of Dubuque Theological Seminary on Wednesday, February 22nd at 7:00pm. We will gather at Westminster to receive the imposition of ashes as a reminder that "we are dust and to dust we will return." Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the Lenten season, a period of penitential preparation for Easter.

CREATOR'S CAMP WILL BE BACK THIS SUMMER! FPC will again participate in the VBS-like opportunity for children ages 4-12 to grow in their understanding of and relationship with God and one another. This year, it will be held at St. Luke's Methodist Church on Wednesdays 1-4 PM beginning July 5, 2023 through August 9, 2023.

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. February 12	9:00am	Sunday School for all ages
<i>Souper Bowl of Caring</i>	10:15am	Worship: Dani Postma, preaching
<i>Supplies for the 2nd</i>	11:30am	All Church Valentine Potluck
Thu. February 16	7:00pm	Children of Abraham @ Emmaus
Sat. February 18	9:00am	Officer meetings
	9:30am	John Knox Presbytery (Zoom)
	10:00am	Joint Officer retreat
Sun. February 19	9:00am	Sunday School for all ages
	10:15am	Worship: Rev. Stephanie Ells, preaching

GIVING

To support the mission and ministry of our church, we need \$14,563 per month. Offerings received through February 5 totaled \$3,640

- Offerings Year to Date through February 5 - \$10,509
- Expenses Year to Date through February 5 - \$18,046

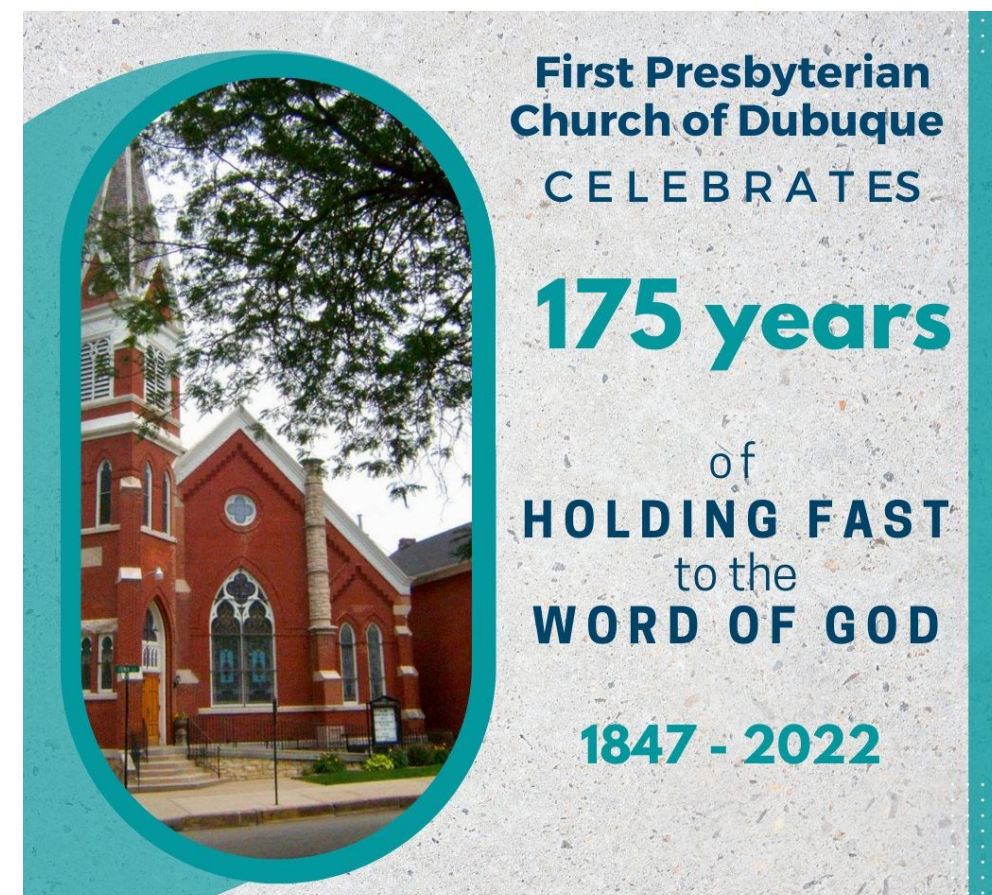
FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Deacons of the month February: 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 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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FEBRUARY 12, 2023

5th Sunday after Epiphany

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE “Morning has Broken” arr. Livingston

FOR PRAYER AND REFLECTION:
The God who is there when you feel safe, brave, or loved is here with you now. Grace and peace to you from our God, who is like a garden-er, patient and nurturing. God plants, waters, weeds and fertilizes the earth, until every good thing on it seeks the nourishing sun and grows.

OPENING PRAYER

*CALL TO WORSHIP

*HYMNS OF PRAISE
Hymn #30 “All Things Bright and Beautiful” Royal Oak
Hymn #492 “Spirit of the Living God” Iverson
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me;
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, move among us all;
Make us one in heart and mind, make us one in love:
Humble, caring, selfless, sharing.
Spirit of the living God, fill our lives with love.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

SILENT CONFESSION

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

*GLORIA PATRI (#734 in Hymnal)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING
1 Corinthians 3:1-9 p. 1774

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING
Jeremiah 32:14-27 p. 1229

SERMON “God Is like a Gardener”

*SONG OF RESPONSE
“Way Maker” Sinach
You are here moving in our midst
I worship You I worship You
You are here working in this place
I worship You I worship You (2x)

Chorus (You are) Way Maker, Miracle Worker, Promise Keeper
Light in the darkness, my God, that is who You are (2x)

You are here touching ev'ry heart
I worship You I worship You
You are here heal
I worship You I worship You

You are here turning lives around
I worship You I worship You
You are here mending ev'ry heart
I worship You yeah I worship You Lord (Chorus 3x)

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Heidelberg Catechism, Lord’s Day 10
Q & A 27
Q. What do you understand by the providence of God?
A. The almighty and ever present power of God by which God upholds, as with his hand, heaven and earth and all creatures, and so rules them that leaf and blade, rain and drought, fruitful and lean years, food and drink, health and sickness, prosperity and poverty—all things, in fact, come to us not by chance but by his fatherly hand.

Q&A 28
Q. How does the knowledge of God’s creation and providence help us?
A. We can be patient when things go against us, thankful when things go well, and for the future we can have good confidence in our faithful God and Father that nothing in creation will separate us from his love. For all creatures are so completely in God’s hand that without his will they can neither move nor be moved.

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
SPECIAL OFFERTORY Reid Postma, soloist
“The Lord’s My Shepherd” arr. Dean
*DOXOLOGY #34
*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*SENDING HYMN #723
“For the Fruit of All Creation” Ar Hyd Y Nos

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE
“The Abundant Life” Parker

**Those who are able, please stand.*

LEADERS IN WORSHIP:

Preacher: Dani Postma
Liturgist: Rev. Stephanie Ells
Music Director: Kristen Eby
Special Music: Reid Postma
Musician: John 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: Alex Jack
To serve as Coffee Host, see the sign up sheet
Nursery Attendants: Lisa Reed, Florence Siefker, Lillian Jones
(Children through age 5 are invited to the nursery for any or all of the service)