

FIRST PRESS – MAY 2023

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First Presbyterian Church

"We love because God first loved us."

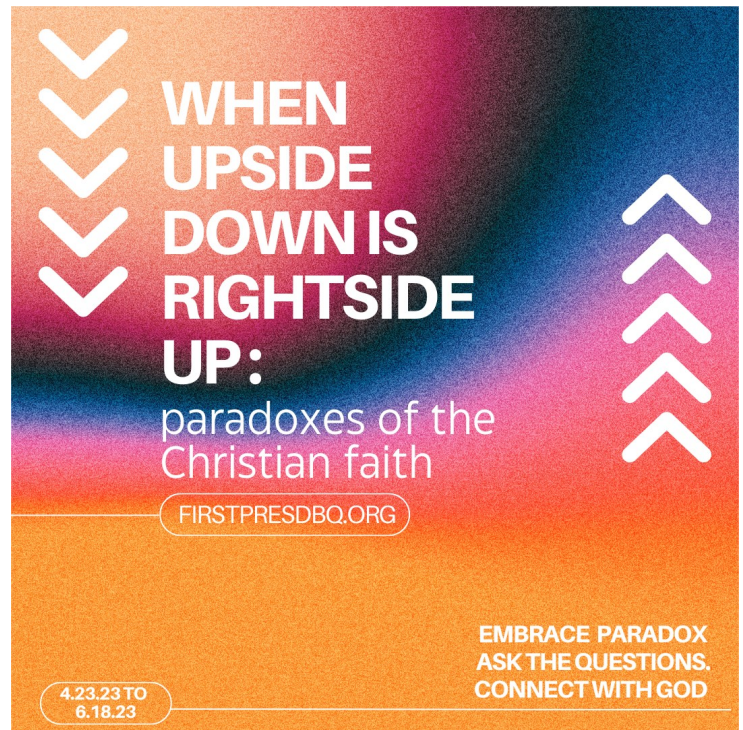
1 John 4:19

CURRENT SERMON SERIES

Ever found yourself confused by the apparent contradictions in scripture?

Over the next few weeks, we will be exploring some of these contradictions together in our sermon series, "When Upside Down is Right-Side Up: Paradoxes of the Christian Faith."

A paradox is a seeming contradiction that reveals truth. The Christian faith is paradoxy extraordinaire. At the very heart of our faith lies a paradox: Death leads to life. By leaning deeper into paradox, we come closer to the heart of our faith and God.



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR GRADUATES!



High School

Thomas Blair

Western Dubuque Senior High School



Thomas will be attending the University of Iowa in the fall where he will study engineering.

College

Dani Postma

University of Dubuque Theological Seminary
Master of Divinity

Dani is seeking employment in Dubuque.

If you would like to be added to the list of graduates being honored during worship on May 14, contact the church office.

THANK YOU!

Dear FPC family, THANK YOU for your generous contributions to One Great Hour Of Sharing this Lenten season! Our congregation raised \$722 to support our neighbors around the world.



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING
SPECIAL OFFERINGS
HUNGER • DISASTER • DEVELOPMENT

Choir practice Wednesday,
May 10th at 7:15pm.

ALL ARE WELCOME!

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

HONORING OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS

We offer our deep gratitude to each of the Christian Education facilitators and teachers who have fostered space for us to grow in our faith this past year:

Sara & Bryan Blair
Lindsey Ward
Franklin Yartey
Lupe Morales

Jean Holdener
Beth Elder
Pastor Stephanie
Sam Morales

"Teach the way of God in accordance with truth." Luke 20:21

REGISTER NOW FOR CREATORS CAMP

That's right, Creators Camp will be back this summer for children ages 4-12! FPC will again participate in the VBS-like opportunity that helps kids grow in their understanding of and relationship with God and one another. It will be held at St. Luke's UMC Wednesdays from 1-4PM, July 5 through August 9.

Sign up campers using this link:
<https://forms.gle/HBhrr2SvRGRpPgDE7>

VOLUNTEERS ARE STILL NEEDED!

We are looking for volunteers to help at Creators Camp this summer. Sign up for one Wednesday or them all! See Pastor Stephanie for more details.



Creators Camp

A Summer Program by First Baptist Church,
First Congregational UCC, First Presbyterian
Church, St. Luke's UMC, and Westminster
Presbyterian Church.

Wednesdays, 1-4 PM
July 5th - August 9th
1199 Main St. Dubuque, IA



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION MEETING

The next CE meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 8, at 4:15 p.m. over Zoom.

Contact Chairperson Sara Blair or Pastor Stephanie if you are interested in joining this important committee and they can supply you with the Zoom link.

**Church offices will be close on Monday, May 29
Due to the Memorial Day holiday**



MAY 2023

Deacons of the month: Judy Sheridan & Deb Stant

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
30 9:00am Last Sunday School 10:15am Worship: live stream Rev. Stephanie Ells preaching 11:45am Creators Camp Volunteer Lunch & Training @ St. Luke's	1 MAY	2 6:00pm Creators Camp volunteer training @ St. Luke's UMC	3	4 <i>National Day Of Prayer</i>	5	6 8:00am Men's Breakfast @ Papa Ozz
7 <i>Food for the 1st</i> 10:15am Worship: live stream Dr. Scott McCaw preaching Holy Communion	8 4:15pm CE (Zoom)	9	10 5:30pm Session 7:15pm Choir	11	12	13
14 Mother's Day <i>Supplies for the 2nd</i> 10:15am Worship: live stream Rev. Stephanie Ells preaching Honoring Graduates	15	16 9:30am-3:00pm John Knox Presbytery @ Monroe, WI 4:30pm Worship	17	18	19	20
21 10:15am Worship: live stream Rev. Stephanie Ells preaching	22	23	24	25	26	27
28 10:15am Worship: live stream Rev. Stephanie Ells preaching 1:30pm Bethany Home worship	29 Memorial Day <i>Offices closed</i>	30	31	1 JUNE	2	3 8:00am Men's Breakfast @ Papa Ozz

Happy birthday! Happy birthday! Happy birthday!

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

- 1 Michelle Daniels
- 8 Bill & Janet Spoerl
- 11 Joe Klinebriel
Bob & Tracy Wildermuth
- 16 John & Jamie Dillman
- 20 Alex Eby
Joe & Jill Klinebriel
Jim & Tarry Prine
- 22 Mike & Cheryl Heer
- 23 Scott & Beth McCaw
Camilla Daniels
- 29 Anniversary of our Thailand missionaries



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:

- Buildings & Grounds* – Tom Boelk, chair
John Dillman
- Christian Education* – Sara Blair
- Congregational Life* – Terri Gronau
- Finance & Personnel* – John Dillman, chair
Lindsey Ward
- Memorial* – TBD
- Mission & Stewardship* – Hannah Eby, chair
Scott McCaw
- Worship* – 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 Thursday from 10:30-12:00pm.* You can contact her at firstpresdbq@gmail.com.

*Office hours may change slightly week to week.

PREACHING SCHEDULE



MAY

- | | |
|--------|---------------------|
| May 7 | Dr. Scott McCaw |
| May 14 | Rev. Stephanie Ells |
| May 21 | Rev. Stephanie Ells |
| May 28 | Rev. Stephanie Ells |

FPC BUDGET UPDATE

April thru 4/30

Monthly offering: \$7,384

Monthly expenses: \$13,600



Year-to-Date for 2023

Income thru April 30: \$32,026

Expenses thru April 30: \$52,581

MISSION



COMMUNITY CORNER: Carvel & Johnny

No recollection of our church family would be complete without sharing memories of Carvel and Johnny!

These loving individuals graced our family beginning in the early 1980's. Dick Muntz reminded me of an exchange that took place soon after Carvel's arrival. Like today, the church men regularly gathered at a restaurant for coffee. Back then, we met at the Chateau, a long-gone nightclub/motel just north of the dairy. Carvel proudly displayed his wingtip shoes for all of us to admire. It

prompted Markco Miller to ask, "Where'd you get those shoes, Carvel?" Without batting an eyelash Carvel replied, "At the shoe store!" His answer left Markco uncharacteristically dumbfounded.

My favorite Johnny story came at around the same time. As a young deacon I regularly visited the aging Bill Tonnesen in his Hillcrest apartment. Johnny went with me on one such visit. As was his custom, Johnny was fascinated by Bill's family pictures. The next week, I found one of those pictures proudly displayed on Johnny's bedroom dresser! Bill got a good chuckle out of this turn of events. FPC has always been and is still committed to embracing one another with all our quirks and gifts.

The Mission Committee is offering reflections about the relationship between FPC and our Dubuque community. Thanks to Tom Jack who was the major contributor to these reflections.

Dear FPC family,

I wanted to simply say thank you. Thank you for your faithfulness to God and the love you have shown me throughout my life. On behalf of Emmaus I wanted to also thank you for the generous offering you gave to support the work we are doing in Holland to show that same love and faithfulness that First has shown me to people here. We have continued to make progress as we build this new community of God's people and are excited about what God is doing. If you want to keep a close eye on our work you can go to our website emmausreformedchurch.org and can keep an eye on everything on social media.

Thank you again for your deep and gracious generosity in support of this work and ministry. I will keep you updated on our progress and hope to continue to nurture this relationship between Emmaus and FPC.

*Yours in Christ,
Nathan*



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; laundry soap, antibacterial wipes or hand cleanser.



Thank you for supporting these ministries.

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