

FIRST PRESS – SEPTEMBER 2023

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First Presbyterian Church

"We love because God first loved us."

✦ 1 John 4:19

FALL PROGRAMMING

Just a reminder that First Pres kicks off YOUTH GROUP (grades 6-12) this Sunday, September 10th at 5:30pm at Westminster PC(USA) Church. This will be held EVERY Sunday!

Join us for fun, hanging out, and learning what it means to follow Jesus – all while connecting with other Christian youth from Westminster PC(USA), St. Luke's UMC, and First Baptist Church! Dinner will be served each Sunday night as part of this program.

TO REGISTER YOUR YOUTH please text "youth" to 563-227-8441. We ask that you register them even if they will not be there every Sunday.

Westminster has graciously invited ALL ages to join their other programs happening at the same time and place -- so check out the attached flyer to see if there are groups your family might be interested in.

NEW SERMON SERIES

LIFE TOGETHER

BUILDING A JESUS COMMUNITY

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF DUBUQUE

SUNDAYS
10:15 AM

1684 Iowa Street
Dubuque, IA
NEAR JACKSON PARK

More Info :
www.firstpresdbq.com
FB & Instagram

ADULT STUDY

September Topic:
Caring for God's Creation

Explore how Christians are called to be good stewards of our environment.

To register text **creation** to (563) 227-8441.

MOM'S GROUP

Nursery provided

Enjoy relaxing with other "spirited moms" and discuss issues related to parenting and faith.

To register text **moms** to (563) 227-8441.

FAITH Exploration

all ages + Sundays 5:30pm + meal provided

Sundays @ 5:30pm
(beginning Sept 10)

Meal Provided

at Westminster Pres
2155 University Ave

Let us know you'll be there!

Scan code or use text keywords to register

YOUTH

6th-12 grade

Fun! Food! Friends!

All youth are welcome, regardless of belief or non-belief. This will be an opportunity to wrestle with challenging questions and explore possible answers.

To register text **youth** to (563) 227-8441.

CHILDREN

Elementary

Stories! Games! Crafts!

As children hear the stories of faith, they will learn about God's love for them and the ways we can share God's love with others.

To register text **kids** to (563) 227-8441.

Faith Exploration
is a collaborative project of several Dubuque-area congregations. Everyone is welcome to attend, regardless of church affiliation.

IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

CREATORS CAMP

A fabulous faith-expanding time was had by all at Creators Camp this summer!

For six weeks, kids ages 4-12 gathered at St. Luke's for godly play, singing, activities, games, and snacks. The parables of Jesus was our focus. The godly play story time was a highlight of each week's session. We had nearly 60 different kids throughout the summer.

A special thanks to Sara Blair, Jean Holdener, Victoria Slemmons, Elaina Biechler, Casey Postma, Adrian Huisman, Jackson Huisman, and Pastor Stephanie for investing their time into the kiddos lives in this way. To God be the glory!



MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE!

Choir resumes at FPC on Wednesday, September 13 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.



IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

SESSION MEETING AUGUST 15, 2023

- Discussed information gathered at “Roadmaps to the Future” presentation with Westminster PC(USA) and First Bellevue. Representatives from the John Knox Presbytery offered an overview of creative ministry models for congregational vitality. Session agreed the information was interesting and intriguing, especially considerations related to parish-style ministry designs; while simultaneously noting FPC has continued extensive discernment that needs to take place before any action is taken.
- Reviewed income-vs-expenses and made plans for Stewardship Drive
- Received update from “FPC Visioning Taskforce”
- Elected Lindsey Ward to serve as the John Knox Presbytery meeting Commissioner
- Building and Grounds reported a new sensor for water/fire has been installed and next tuckpointing section on the outside of the church to be completed by fall's end
- Considered how to create a more physically hospitable space for coffee hour; including seating
- The next Session meeting is scheduled for September 12th at 5:00pm

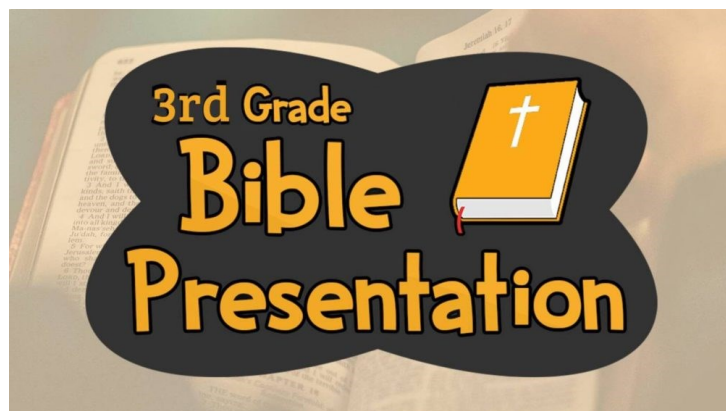


VISIONING TASK FORCE UPDATE

A church visioning task force was appointed by the Session to continue the good work started by the congregation last winter to produce a new vision for FPC.

The task force is drafting a proposal of recommendations for the Session to move deeper toward the newly established value of community. The basic premise of the proposal will be a focused reduction of committee structures and leadership positions to better align with that value, as well as, provide a more sustainable model for leadership given our current membership, missional, and operational situations.

If there are questions about this task force's work, or to participate in future recommendation meetings, please contact Lindsey Ward.



THIRD GRADE BIBLES

On Sunday, September 10th, we will present Bibles to third graders Sloane Postma and Kip Ward. As a congregation, we hope this gift will encourage them in their journey of faith; that they will find it a source of confidence that they are each a wonderful creation of God and that God has a plan for their lives. When you see them, feel free to share your favorite Bible verse with them and why that Bible verse is meaningful to you.

UPCOMING CALENDAR EVENTS:

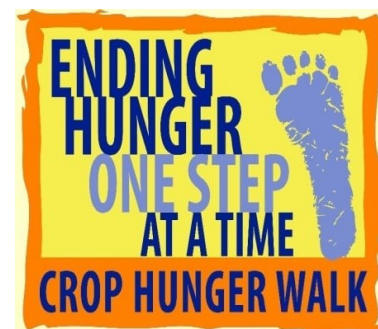
- 9/10 @ 11:30am Worship Committee meeting
- 9/12 @ 5:00pm Session Meeting
- 9/13 @ 7:00pm Choir
- 9/24 @ 11:30am Neighborhood cleanup w/ UUFD

Youth Group—Faith Exploration Sundays 5:30pm @ Westminster

MISSION

CROP WALK 2023

It's time for the annual CROP Hunger Walk again! In 2023, we continue fighting against disease, disaster, displacement, and other challenges that leave people hungry. Join with us as we raise funds to help neighbors near and far get the meals they need for today and sustainable food security for tomorrow!



This fun community event raises awareness and money to help end hunger in Dubuque and around the world. FPC has been involved for many years with many walkers and hundreds of dollars given to support them.

Interested in walking or donating? The event is on Saturday, October 7th at 9:30a.m. at Eagle Point Park. See this link for details: <https://www.facebook.com/DubuqueCROP/>

COMMUNITY CORNER: LABOR DAY CELEBRATIONS

On Sunday evening over the Labor Day holiday weekend, Project Rooted hosted a free community event in Jackson Park called "The Rooted Table." Project Rooted put on a free feast at an extra long table in the park for the neighborhood surrounding FPC. Those who attended enjoyed an evening of eating, listening to music, and fellowship with our downtown neighbors. It was a great way for families to kick off the school year and for us all to enter the fall season together after a long hot summer.

Project Rooted is a local non-profit who seeks to connect Dubuque kids with locally grown food. On their website, they advertised the event as follows: Join us for an evening of community conversations and local foods around The Rooted Table; a free, community farm-to-street dinner supporting Project Rooted's mission of "Connecting kids to real food from the ground up." To see other Project Rooted events which have taken place in Dubuque this summer, visit their website: <https://projectrooted.com>. The group provided everything needed to enjoy a gourmet meal in the heart of the city: tables, chairs, dinnerware, lavish décor, and the meal. In addition, there was music provided by a local band.

The fun continued on the Labor Day holiday. In front of the old fire station at the corners of 18th and Central, there was a free event for kids called "Marely's Blockfest." From noon to 7:00pm, the event featured all black-owned businesses and vendors. There were games, prizes, raffles, face-painting, t-shirt making, a bounce house, and free haircuts.

This Labor Day weekend provided us with great opportunities to get to know the neighbors living in the community around the church.



SEPTEMBER 2023

Deacons of the Month:
Deb Stant & Judy Sheridan

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
27 10:15am Worship: live stream Dani Postma, preaching 11:30am Neighborhood clean-up 1:30pm Bethany worship	28 9:00am Newsletter deadline	29 1:00-4:00pm Pastor Office Hours	30 9:00am-1:00pm Pastor Office Hours	31	1 SEPTEMBER	2 8:00am Men's Breakfast @ Kelly's Cafe
3 Food for the 1st 10:15am Worship: live stream Rev. Stephanie Ells, preaching Sacrament of Lord's Supper 11:30am Deacons mtg.	4 LABOR DAY Offices closed	5 4:00pm CE mtg. 6:15pm Mission Com. outdoor workday	6	7	8	9
10 Supplies for the 2nd 10:15am Worship: live stream Rev. Stephanie Ells, preaching 11:30am Worship com. mtg. 5:30pm Youth Group @ Westminster	11	12 5:00pm Session	13 7:00pm Choir	14	15	16
17 10:15am Worship: live stream Rev. Stephanie Ells, preaching 5:30pm Youth Group @ Westminster	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 10:15am Worship: live stream Rev. Stephanie Ells, preaching 11:30am Neighborhood cleanup w/UUFD 1:30pm Bethany Home worship 5:30pm Youth Group @ Westminster	25 9:00am Newsletter deadline	26	27	28	29	30

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 commitments by contacting one of the people below:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <i>Buildings & Grounds</i> | – Tom Boelk, chair & John Dillman |
| <i>Christian Education</i> | – Sara Blair, chair |
| <i>Congregational Life</i> | – TBD |
| <i>Finance & Personnel</i> | – John Dillman, chair
Lindsey Ward |
| <i>Memorial</i> | – TBD |
| <i>Mission & Stewardship</i> | – Scott McCaw |
| <i>Worship</i> | – 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:

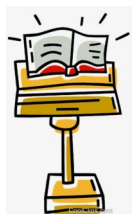
Pastor Stephanie can be reached at (cell) 507-227-8537 or fpcdbq.pastor@gmail.com. In case of emergency, call her cell. If she does not answer, leave a voice message and she'll return the call. Office hours are Monday & Wednesday from 9:00am—1:00pm.

Administrative Assistant, Ginger Vander Broek, works from home Monday & Wednesday from 11:00am-3:00pm* and at FPC Thursdays from 10:30-12:00pm. You can contact her at firstpresdbq@gmail.com. *Hours may change slightly week to week.

PREACHING SCHEDULE

SEPTEMBER

- | | |
|--------------|---------------------|
| September 3 | Rev. Stephanie Ells |
| September 10 | Rev. Stephanie Ells |
| September 17 | Rev. Stephanie Ells |
| September 24 | Rev. Stephanie Ells |



FPC BUDGET UPDATE

July thru 7/23

Monthly offering: \$11,224

Budgeted need: \$14,563

Year-to-Date for 2023

Income thru 7/23: \$64,951

Expenses thru 7/23: \$80,522



September word search

V S S E H A L L O W E E N L D C G H J Q L O L V
 S O X T Y O O D W D H Y W Y F F X G O M Y T V V
 L R A A L M N Q M S W E A T E R S B Q O Q W J Y
 L C W L W G K T H P D O K S D Q P L V E E Z F B
 A H P O T E P Z C C A J F W I Z A R D O F O Z W
 B G W C P Z M N Q N Q R G D D N D E R N F R E S
 N V K O E N V W A R M S Z D X U C J E K J J W M
 R R S H D N J N Y Z O Z X I K U B W P W X I T A
 O G E C N F Q S F K U Z K X W M E G N A R O S O
 C D D T A Y R I Q I F Z L H Z P M N U K M P C O
 P O I O V S F S A Q R B N V R B U A K I A G A S
 O R R H Y P U M P K I N E C R W A U T J C H R K
 P W Y A G D M F P T A S M S W S F C R U M A E H
 U G A W R T A M L D H X K R Z Q K V V U U T C E
 D T H T Y M V K E T Y F O O T B A L L X Q S R A
 F K L U K Y K N S C S I Z P L S E C I P S V O D
 S T L W L Z W C H T P V U D L E T T D A V K W F
 M N P B E B T R C I U Q Q L A Z U Q E N L C S L
 O N V E A C W O R O Y F R Z F O B W S U P L T W
 R C E P V V B S C J J F K P R G F E W H M F V Q
 E N G Y E Y K O O P S A E M G N K U D I K M B K
 S C S C S K N H M J C J U M K G R D C Q D G Y X
 J K J A S Y O O C V U V Y T M Q N F Y A Y F M F
 G I Y E L L O W Y A W V M A R S H M A L L O W S

Apples

Hayrides

Orange

S'mores

Sweaters

Fall

Hot chocolate

Popcorn balls

Scare crows

Warm

Football

Leaves

Pumpkin

Spices

Wizard of oz

Halloween

Marshmallows

Red

Spooky

Yellow

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.

First Presbyterian Church
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Dubuque, IA 52001