



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

E-Link

May 12, 2021

## Worship

Join us weekly on  
our website:  
[Firstprescf.org](http://Firstprescf.org)

### Pastor's Ponderings – Opening with an Abundance of Care (and options)!

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY!

*"Abba, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one." –Jesus (John 17:11)*

Excitement is in the air; can you feel it?

Our leadership teams have been sending and receiving emails, writing policy, pondering potential hiccups, reworking ways of worship, and navigating persistent questioning as they have worked hard to safely reopen in-person worship at First Presbyterian. And that glorious day is finally upon us!

On Sunday, May 16, we will reopen worship for our leadership to do a "dry run" and make sure all the weeks of preparation have resulted in a viable plan. On Sunday, May 23, we will reopen worship for a limited capacity of in-person worshippers (50). This will be only one way of several ways to participate in worship. In addition to tuning in on CFU or watching recordings of the service, we are excited to add the option to worship live from a distance with Facebook Live. This can be accessed via the church Facebook page without a Facebook account.

Ready to worship in-person? Here is what you need to know:

#### Before worship starts:

Reservations with an online signup form will be required. Only those with reservations will be admitted.

Arrive about 10 minutes early (*no earlier*), via the 9<sup>th</sup> Street (northeast) entrance.

You will answer health screening questions & have your temperature taken before you check in.

Shepherds will guide you to a seat that is safely distanced from others.

#### During worship:

Proper mask wearing and distancing will be maintained; except in the case of children under 2 years old and those with breathing difficulties

Music will be played from a recording or the organ/piano. No congregational singing or unison responses will be employed at this time.

We will greet others without touching or violating distancing protocol.

Restrooms should be used only when necessary.

Children are invited to stay in the sanctuary. No childcare or nursery will be provided.

#### After worship:

Shepherds will dismiss worshippers by pew to directly exit the building. Visiting is welcome outdoors.

It is important to remember that this protocol is in place for the love and care of others. While many of us are vaccinated, some of us are not able to be vaccinated (including children). Let's keep care for them in mind. If you think you will not be able to follow this protocol or are feeling unwell, please choose to worship in one of the other ways listed above. The more we continue to care for and protect one another, the sooner we will all be able to gather as one. *For the full, Session approved protocol for in-person worship, please see the attached document.*

In joyful anticipation,

*Pastor Julie*

Sign up will begin next week for the first in-person service for the general membership on May 23. Watch the newsletter for a link to sign up and more details.

## Church Birthdays

May 12-Judy Burfeind,  
13-Neil Clapp, 20-Collin Braley, 22-Marlys Folkers

## For your prayers...

Vera Brunskill  
Bruce & 'Pete' McCart

## Zoom Meetings

### Wednesday, May 12

11:00 am Working for  
Justice: Breaking Bias  
6:15 pm Jr. High SHINE

### Sunday, May 16

11:15 am NEW TIME!  
Fellowship Hour.

### Monday, May 17

10:00 am Lectionary

### Tuesday, May 18

6:30 pm Book Group

### Wednesday, May 19

11:00 am Working for  
Justice: Breaking Bias  
6:15 pm Elementary  
aged SHINE

## In Person Meeting

### Thursday, May 13

2:00 pm Safe Ministry

### Saturday, May 15

9:30 am Sarah Circle

### Sunday, May 16

10:00 am worship for  
Elders & Deacons

### Wednesday, May 19

6:30 pm Covid Team

## **Thanks for serving last week:**

**Worship Leader:** Judy Burfeind

**Pianist:** Connie Herbon

**Vocals:** Mason Sealock

**Lawn care:** Jim Seeley, Doug & Sandy Lawry

**Parking lot striping:** Jim Seeley

**May 23 is Pentecost Sunday, in person attendees are invited/encouraged to wear something RED that day as we celebrate God's gift of the Holy Spirit to the church.**

## **Saluting our Veterans**

The Deacons would like to create a list of military veterans from our church. Please email or call Lynette in the office with the veteran's name and branch of service.

## **Summer Camp at Okoboji!!**

Don't delay, register for summer camp at Lakeshore Center at Okoboji today! Because camp is so important to us, we'd like to help you cover the cost. When you register your child online, please mark "pay by check." Next, log on to our church's sign-up page to fill out your child's name, camp session and date so we can send in payment. Spots are limited due to Covid, so register now! We hope your child(ren) can experience the fun, faith and fellowship camp provides!

Check out all the camp offerings for children and youth and register at <https://www.lakeshorecenteratokoboji.org/summer-camp.html>.

Log onto our church's form **to apply for payment:**

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4BA9A728ABF4CF8-camp>

## **Congratulations Graduates!**

Bruce and 'Pete' McCart's grandsons, Robby Motz, graduated from Columbia University in New York City; and Aden Drolet, officially a PhD candidate at the University of Colorado in Boulder, CO.

Friday, May 7, 2021 Kathleen Holden, daughter of Kevin and Jan Thedens, and Emily Swartley, from the Mennonite congregation, graduated from Allen College with a master of Science in Nursing, Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner degree. Please join with the graduates and their families in celebrating their accomplishment!!



## **This Weekend's Worship – 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter**

**Sermon:** "Easter People: A Community of Disciples"

**Scripture:** John 17:6-19

**Ways to join worship:** Facebook Live at 10:00am on Sunday, by recording (to be posted on our website the following day), via CFU Public Access channel 95.5 or 18 on Saturday nights at 7:00 p.m. and Sunday afternoons at 12:00 noon (services aired will lag by a week).

## **Prayer of Preparation**

Holy One, open us to the possibility that we are being chosen to be new disciples with new ministries for the sake of sharing your love with this community. **Amen.**

## **Thank You**

Dear Friends,

Thank you for all the birthday cards and special hugs on my 95th birthday. My family celebrated at Tim and Marlene's with about 35 attending. Quite a milestone! I hope we will all be together again in church soon too. Take care everyone and God bless. ♥

Marge King

## **Congratulations!**

David and Sue Luck will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary Saturday, May 15. You may wish them well by sending cards to: 322 Joanne, Cedar Falls.



## **Pentecost Offering**

Pentecost Sunday is May 23. Each year we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit and the birth of the church. The Holy Spirit remains with us still, connecting us with the church of the past, continuing to inspire the church of today, and pointing us to the church of tomorrow. Presbyterians mark this celebration by receiving the Pentecost Offering, which nurtures the faith of those who are the church now and to come – children, youth and young adults. **40% of the Pentecost offering from our church goes toward our Soles for Souls shoe gift project for children and youth.** The Pentecost Offering helps young people begin life with a strong start – a solid foundation of faith formed from childhood through young adulthood.

## Your Turn to Shepherd

In order to have in-person worship services, we need 6 "shepherds" per service to guide worshipers through the protocol that will keep everyone safe. If you are willing to serve, please click on the **Sign-Up Genius link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4BA9A728ABF4CF8-shepherds1>**

- You may sign up for one or more Sundays.
- On the week you wish to serve, click on the small 'sign up' box (6 slots per Sunday.)
- Then click 'submit and sign up' at the bottom
- Fill out your name, email & address, then click 'sign up now.'

### ***IMPORTANT NOTE!***

*If you are signing up as a shepherd,  
DO NOT sign up for worship. Thank you!!*

## THERE'S a NEW GROUP at CHURCH!

### WORKING for JUSTICE: BREAKING BIAS

Are you curious about this new group and what they are doing? **New members are welcome anytime!** We meet on Zoom Wednesday mornings from 11 AM to noon. The group continues to learn more about racial inequalities and systemic poverty in our country and locally.

Here is the recurring link to our Zoom meetings: <https://zoom.us/j/91795943702?pwd=bFRHNGhibGcxalJvCHZ6MHhiczl0QT09>

Meeting ID: 917 9594 3702

Passcode: 234493

To phone in: 312 626 6799

**May 19 meeting:** Al Hays will join us to speak about the Black Hawk Racial Justice Consortium and its focus on changing Black Hawk County's record of sending a disproportionate number of African Americans to prison. He will share ideas with our group about what we might do to help combat racism in the Cedar Valley. **Join us!!**

## **Weekly Lawn Mowing Volunteers NEEDED!!!!**

Please use the link below to pick a slot to mow the church lawn. You may mow anytime that week. Two self-propelled lawnmowers are available. **You will receive an email reminder 2 days prior.**

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4BA9A728ABF4CF8-lawn>

- Click on the week you wish to mow
- Then click 'submit and sign up' at the bottom
- Fill out your name & email, then click 'sign up now.'



## Sundays - Fellowship Hour, NEW TIME: 11:15 am

<https://zoom.us/j/97475746240?pwd=RXIwT1FncXhuMTk4MIZ3OGc4NEdDUT09>

Meeting ID: 974 7574 6240

Passcode: 504524

To Phone In: 1-312-626-6799

## Mondays - The Lectionary Study

Please join us on Mondays at 10:00am as we explore the sermon texts for the following Sunday.

<https://zoom.us/j/94644619364?pwd=M1J6YTU1RIB1dTkyL2dGTkJteWJ0dz09>

Meeting ID: 946 4461 9364

Passcode: 158493

To phone in: 1 312 626 6799

*- Use this link to participate. Emails will not be sent. -*