



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

E-Link

May 4, 2022

10:30 am
Sunday Worship
Firstprescf.org



This Weekend's Worship

– 10:30 am –

Easter Series: The Unexpected

Acts of God

Sermon: An Astonishing Imitation

Scripture: Acts 9:36-43

Prayer of Preparation

Living God,

you use us in unexpected ways when we are open to your way.

Teach us to imitate your love for those cast-aside and your ceaseless faithfulness to heal the brokenness of the world.

May the same spirit rise in us, O God, so that we may follow you this day, and always; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Savior. **Amen.**

An Astonishing Imitation

This Sunday we will witness two disciples who imitate the life of Christ in astonishing ways. Tabitha is a beloved disciple whose life and ministry is defined by generosity. She imitates Christ by being community-focused and meeting the needs of those in need around her. But, when we first meet her, she is dead.

In steps Peter. Hearing that Peter was nearby, the bereaved send for him, and he responds. When Peter walks into the situation he finds himself standing before a disciple who was deeply loved by the community and whose life had drained away. So he does the only thing he knows how to do: he imitates Jesus. The whole situation is an uncanny replication of a situation he once witnessed while looking over Jesus' shoulder where a young girl had died and was raised to new life.

Peter imitates Jesus closely as he asks mourners to leave the room, commands Tabitha to arise in the same language Jesus once used and takes her by the hand. Was he just as surprised as everyone else was when it worked?

Who are the Tabithas in our congregation whose imitation of Christ has defined their life and beyond?

How can we faithfully imitate the life and ministry of Christ in our community? As we go about our week, may we be open to the ways God is teaching us through the life of Christ and those who faithfully imitate Christ.

Peace and wellbeing,

Pastor Julie

Church Birthdays

May 4-Marge King, Nick Federspiel, 5-Matt Humpal, Brock Swarbrick, 7-Parker Connolly, 8-Lindsey Humpal, Kathryn Braley, 12-Judy Burfeind, 13-Neil Clapp

For Your Prayers...

Emy Mountain, daughter of **Dave & Sue Luck**

Notice...

TONIGHT, May 4

5:30 pm All Church Meal
7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal

Friday, May 13

3:30 pm PW Women's Annual Gathering

Saturday, May 14

9:00 am Clean-Up Day

Volunteers can sign up anytime online:

Greeter Sign Up:

[Sign Up Genius: Greeters](#)

Worship Leader Sign Up:

[Sign Up Genius: Worship Leaders](#)

Or sign up in the narthex!

Thanks for serving last week:

Readers Theater: Sandy Jensen, Neal Leeper, Lynette Cline, Jan Thedens, Brad Jensen
Videographer: Kevin Thedens
Computer Operator: Rob Cline
Communion Preparers: Julie Rokes, Lynette Cline
Lawn Mowing: Jim Seeley
Storage Cleaning: Gary Clark, Gary Sabey

Cleaning Work Day

- Saturday, May 14
- 9:00 am-12:00 pm
- *Rain or Shine!!*

We will do yard work outside and clean the sanctuary and chapel inside.

Please bring yard tools and cleaning supplies.



Lawn Mowing Volunteers

Volunteer mowers NEEDED!!!! Please sign up in the narthex to mow the church lawn. Two self-propelled lawnmowers are available. You may mow anytime the week(s) you select. Thank you!

ATTENTION CHURCH CAMPERS!!

Now is the time to sign up for camp. Go to Lakeshore Center's website to sign up:
<https://www.lakeshorecenteratokoboji.org/summer-camp.html>



If campers **sign up by FRIDAY, MAY 13** our church will pay 100% of your fee! After the 13th, the church pays 90% and the camper pays the other 10%. Lakeshore Center does have some camp scholarships available.

- When you sign up, look for the option on how you plan to pay. Choose the 'Church Pays' option.
- After signing up, contact Lynette in the office with the name of the camp you registered for so we can track our costs. Happy camping!



This week's schedule

Wednesday, May 4

- 5:30 pm All Church Meal, dining room
7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal, sanctuary

Thursday, May 5

- 1:00 pm Esther Circle, dining room

Saturday, May 7

- 9:30 am Sarah Circle, classroom

Sunday, May 8

- 10:30 am Worship, sanctuary
-SHINE breakout sessions

Tuesday, May 10

- 7:00 pm Audubon Society, dining room

Wednesday, May 11

- 7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal, sanctuary



THANK YOU

Dear Friends at First Pres,

Thank you so much for the birthday cards and kind wishes for my 90th birthday. My granddaughter brought a family dinner Saturday and friends came by the next day to visit.

I appreciated a nice, quiet weekend as I just don't have the energy anymore that I used to have.

Love, Vi Polk

Dear First Presbyterian,

Thank you for allowing us to use the church. Lynette was very helpful, and it was a great location for our Girl Scout recruitment. Thank you again for allowing us to host our event at your church.

Jordan Kalerske, Girl Scouts

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your gift of \$1,500 for Presbyterian Disaster Relief to the Ukraine. Whenever I am able to meet these survivors of war face to face, I assure them of the continued prayers and fidelity of the people of the PCUSA. Because of you, your gifts and faithfulness, we are able to say that in the midst of chaos, God's people endure, there is hope and healing.

Thank you in the name of the risen Christ.

The Rev. Dr. Laurie A. Krause

Director, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance

These monies are from designated mission giving.

Dear Friends,

Thank you for investing in our community!

The last two years have been trying for everyone to say the least, but with your generous gift of \$1000 to Iowa Heartland Habitat for Humanity you give the one thing that cannot be put on hold, HOPE! Our home owners will live out their dream of their own home and creating a stable foundation for their families because of you.

On behalf of our families, we thank you for your generosity.

Ali Parrish

Executive Director

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