



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

E-Link

June 22, 2022

10:00 am
Sunday Worship
Firstprescf.org



This Weekend's Worship – 10:00 am

Summer Series: I've Been Meaning to Ask...

Sermon: Where Are You From? *Part 1*

Scripture: Genesis 2:4b-15

Prayer of Preparation

Living God, you call us to yourself so that we may live in wholeness with ourselves and our neighbors. Our stories are messy and beautiful, painful and hopeful—being written and rewritten over time. Help us commit to disrupting our assumptions and staying curious. Amen.

About our Summer Worship Series:

I've Been Meaning to Ask...

A Note from the series creators, [A Sanctified Art](#)

"In creating this series, we started by asking ourselves questions: "How can we listen to one another? How do we find connection despite distance? How do we create space for compassionate dialogue and for seeking the holy in one another?"

While the challenges of becoming beloved community to one another are endless, these questions are simple. We quickly recognized that all courageous conversations begin with simple questions and the curiosity to truly listen. We landed on our leading question, "I've been meaning to ask..." because it conveys intentionality, warmth, curiosity, and consideration. In essence, this question also implies the following statements: "I've been thinking about you and I've been wanting to check in... You've been on my mind... I haven't known how to have this conversation, but I'm getting started with a question." The ellipses symbolize the main objective of this series: to cultivate courageous conversations—and to keep having them, even if we need to pause.

Our weekly sub-themes provide a trajectory for going deeper. As you can see, these questions aren't surface level; they invite us to share our pain and seek ways to care for one another.

May this series help us to behold each other as images of the divine. May it help us strengthen our capacity for empathy and compassion. May it remind us of the power of asking unassuming questions. May it show us that courage is rooted in the heart. Through vulnerability and authenticity, may our courageous conversations lead us to glimpse hope, joy, and beauty—and to become the community God created us to be."

I hope you will join me this summer as we seek to be more curious, courageous, and connected.

Your partner in the journey,

Pastor Julie



Church Birthdays

Jun. 23-Jenny Allen,
24-Noah Connolly,
29-Steve Moon, 30-Chuck Seeliger, Nicole Stolte,
Jul. 1-Emily Helgersen

Notice...

The hymn sing at Dave & Sue Feltman's has been changed to Sunday, **July 3**. Please see page 2.

Coming Soon...

The congregation is invited to the **Deacons Brunch/Fellowship** after worship on Sunday, July 10. It will be continental style with muffins, donuts and coffee. Looking forward to seeing you!

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:

Worship Leader: Lee Nicholas

Videographer: Brad Jensen

Computer Operator: Dave Luck

Greeters: Ray & Judy Burfeind, Carol & Greg Dotseth

Susan Runkle's Memorial Service: Jane Seeley and the Funeral Crew; Connie Herbon, Louann Flaherty and Seth Butler for providing music.

Lawn Mowing: Steve Moon

(Mowing the week of **6/19** - Brad Jensen)

Brad Branch, a former member and son of Nelson & Jean Branch, died last week. His memorial service will be Monday, June 27, 1:00 pm. Visitation is at the church one hour prior. A cake & cookie reception will follow. An obituary is posted on the Richardson Funeral Home website.



Hymn Sing

Dave and Sue Feltman will be hosting an outdoor hymn sing at their home: 9206 Hess Road, Waterloo on Sunday, July 3, 6:30 pm. **This is a date change!!** Please bring a "Glory to God" hymnal and your own lawn chair. Water will be available. Please contact us on how to RSVP.

This week's schedule

Saturday, June 25

10:00 am Sturgis Falls Parade
- our west doors will be open to make the restrooms available during the parade.

Sunday, June 26

10:00 am Worship, sanctuary

Monday, June 27

12:00 pm Branch Visitation, narthex
1:00 pm Brad Branch Memorial Service
- Cake Reception following

Update from Working for Justice: Breaking Bias

Though the Working for Justice: Breaking Bias group is taking a break from regular meetings over the summer, we will be reading the book *Organizing Church: Grassroots Practices for Embodying Change in Your Congregation, Your Community, and Our World* by Tim Conder & Dan Rhodes. We decided we want to explore faith community organizing.

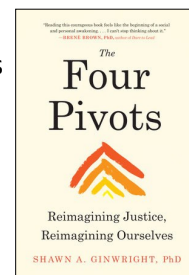
We discussed bringing in a speaker about faith community organizing in September. We agreed to invite other Cedar Falls churches to join us as we listen and learn from this speaker.

We will resume regular meetings in September and plan to meet on the first and third Wednesdays of each month from 10-11 AM, either in-person or by Zoom. Meetings are planned for September 7 and 21, October 5 and 19, November 2 and 16, and December 7 and 21.

New members are always welcome to join our meetings and we also encourage congregation members to join us in reading the book mentioned above.

[The Four Pivots: Reimagining Justice, Reimagining Ourselves](#)

Pastor Julie mentioned a book in her sermon last Sunday which is reshaping the way she approaches holy justice work. In it, Shawn Ginwright, PhD, breaks down the common myths of social movements--a set of deeply ingrained beliefs that actually hold us back from healing and achieving sustainable systemic change. Click the link above to find the book at your favorite retailer. Find an illuminating conversation with the author [here](#).



Personal Hygiene Kits Drive

Community Ministries is collecting personal hygiene products for Eye of the Needle. Products requested are:

bar soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste, and deodorant
(only those items, please.)

Donations can be left in the marked baskets inside the north entrance from now through [July 17](#).

We will pack donated items into hygiene kits following worship on July 24. These kits will be given to students and families along with school uniforms and shoes as part of Eye of the Needle's school uniform drive.

