



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

E-Link

August 4, 2022

10:00 am
Sunday Worship
Firstprescf.org



This Weekend's Worship – 10:00 am

Sermon: Where Do We Go from Here? *Part 1*

Scripture: Ruth 1:1-22 – The story of Ruth and Naomi offers an inside look at grief, loss, and God's ability to redefine the meaning of family and community.

Communion: If you are worshipping from a distance next Sunday, remember to prepare your worship space with a representation of bread and wine so we can celebrate communion together!

I've been meaning to ask...

where do we go from here?

I've Been Meaning to Ask... What do you need? Ruth 1:1-22

An Artist's Reflection by Hannah Garrity

In his sermon on June 14, 2020, at Montreat Conference Center, North Carolina, Rev. Matt Gaventa explored the situation at the US-Mexico border in relation to the travels of Ruth and Naomi. At that time, I drew an image for the worship service inspired by news images from the border. A woman stands with a plastic grocery bag in her hand. Another woman embraces her. They are exhausted, yet determined. One faces the viewer, the other looks away. A low fence delineates the border along the side of the road. In the figures pictured here in the wall, I reimagined that idea. The border fencing that is located along miles of the US southern border takes center stage. Through it the viewer sees mountains in the distance and the figures supporting one another. Their feet step through, breaking into the border of the image.

Ruth and Naomi are hungry; they are traveling to connect with their family, their security. They are risking their lives and safety to strive for their best chance to thrive. They are currently in motion, striving to settle down. As I contemplated this image, the other motifs that wove their way in were barley and blade wire. Barley is the sustenance that meets Ruth at the end of her journey. Blade wire represents the lacerating spirals that are installed along the top of the fencing of the US-Mexico border. The barley woven into the blade wires in the border of the artwork represent the tension between scarcity and abundance in this narrative.

As I daily expand my mind to see reality as abundance, my quest continues to lead me back to providing all I can for those whose presence in my life demands it. There is perpetually enough to share, every day. Where do we go from here? To whom can we extend abundance? Whose presence is demanding us to share?

— Hannah Garrity, [A Sanctified Art](#)

Prayer of Preparation

God of radical relationship, we too often allow our lives to be bounded by where the world says we belong. Inspire us to see new ways forward in the face of a culture which says there is not enough for everyone. Help us see where we go from here. Amen.

Flow of Humanity

by Hannah Garrity
Inspired by Ruth 1:1-22
Paper Lace



Church Birthdays

Aug. 4-Debbie Dean, 6-Mary Clapp, 11-Greg Dotseth, 14-Rhonda Braley

In Sympathy

Please keep the family of Bob Jordan in your prayers. Bob was the husband of Kathy Moon, Steve Moon's sister. Bob passed away on Friday, July 29. A service will be held at Richardson funeral home on Friday, August 5.

Nursery Notice:

Staffed childcare is suspended until September. The chapel is available as a quiet area for small children. Changing tables are in the narthex restrooms.

Coming Soon...

Sunday, August 21
11:00 am - Worship will be at 1st Presbyterian-Waterloo

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!

"Summer Worship June 14, 2020." Montreat Conference Center Summer Worship Series. montreat.org/podcast/rev-matt-gaventa-june-14-2020.

Thanks for serving last week:

Videographer: Gary Clark

Computer Operator: Kirk Eastman

Office Substitute: Nancy Hoppe

Technical Substitutes: Hope Goering, Neal Leeper

Lawn Mowing: Gary Clark

(Mowing the week of **7/31** - Eric Braley)

Thank You

On behalf of the Community Ministries Team thank you to our congregation and the Mennonite congregation for your generous support of the hygiene product drive. Your contributions of products, money and time enabled us to assemble and donate 80 complete hygiene kits for Eye of the Needle. They will distribute the kits along with uniforms, shoes and other school supplies to Cedar Valley students as part of their annual school uniform program.

Thank you to those who made backpack tags to include in the kits; and thanks to members of Community Ministries for providing cookies for those who helped assemble kits following worship on July 24.

Update from Working for Justice: Breaking Bias

The Working for Justice: Breaking Bias group 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](#) over the summer. We decided we want to explore faith community organizing.

We will resume meetings in September and plan to meet on the first and third Wednesdays of each month from 10-11 AM. New members welcome.

This week's schedule

Sunday, August 7

10:00 am Worship, sanctuary

Tuesday, August 9

6:30 pm Session Meeting, dining room

Wednesday, August 10

4:00 pm Community Ministries, library

Save the Date

Sunday, August 21

Pastor Julie will be providing pulpit supply for 1st Presbyterian Church in Waterloo, and we will be joining her! In lieu of a service at 9th & Main, we are invited to join their 11:00 am service.

Rides will be organized at a later date.

SHINE Volunteers Needed!

We are seeking volunteers to help teach Sunday SHINE this year! We will have easy to follow lesson plans available each Sunday. The amount of teaching time is brief, but would bring much joy to your week! You would be working with another volunteer or member of the CYF Ministry Committee to teach a small group of kids. You can volunteer only once, or on a regularly scheduled basis. If you are interested in this fun opportunity, please contact us.



Annual Rummage Sale

First United Methodist Church, 718 Clay St in Cedar Falls is having it's annual rummage sale.

- Thursday, Aug. 4, 5:00-8:00 pm
- Friday, Aug. 5, 8:00 am -1:00 pm
- Saturday, Aug. , 8:00 am - 1:00 pm

\$3 bag sale or 1/2 Price Sale on Saturday

Antiques, clothing, books, toys, jewelry, quilts made by the church quilters, usual household and bake sale.

Lunch available all days.

Proceeds go to mission activities.