



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

January 31, 2024

10:00 am
Sunday Worship
Firstprescf.org



February 4 – Communion & Annual Meeting

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 12:12-27

Worshipping from home? Prepare your worship space with some representation of bread and cup. God can use whatever you have on hand!

Celebrating the Body of Christ

Paul writes to the Corinthian church about unity in diversity in the body of Christ. The foot, the ear, and the eye each have a different function, but they work together for one body. Similarly, in our baptisms, each of us is made into one body, the body of Christ. We bring all of our unique gifts, skills, and talents with us to that body, complementing one another to be the beloved community to help usher in God's kingdom here on earth. This week we celebrate the work of this particular body and look toward what God is guiding us to in the future.

Prayer: Life-giving God, we thank you that each one of us essential to the whole body of Christ. Guide us in the ways of communal living so that our unity will be a testimony to others. Amen.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION—*Sunday, February 4*

- Our ANNUAL MEETING of the Congregation will be part of the worship service. A forum on the Annual Report will be that morning at **9:00 am** in the dining room.
- Copies of the Annual Report are in the narthex.

VOTE ON A CHANGE IN WORDING TO THE BY-LAWS

Proposed By Laws change to Article VII – The Board of Deacons, Section 1 – Membership, Elections and Terms of Office to conform to current practices:

The Board of Deacons shall consist of fifteen (15) change to twelve (12) active members in good standing elected by the congregation. The pastor shall serve as an advisory member. Deacons shall serve for a term of three (3) years and shall assume office in June, following election and installation. One-third of the members of the Board of Deacons shall be elected annually. Move previous sentence to conform as written with section on Elders No person shall be elected to serve on the Board of Deacons for more than two consecutive full terms. Vacancies shall be filled by election at a congregational meeting.

Church Birthdays

Jan. 31-Louann Flaherty,
Feb. 7-Julie Rokes, 8-Bob Hall, Dave Luck

For Your Prayers...

Michelle Luzaich
Lanny Zimmer recovering from shoulder surgery.

Coming Soon...

Sunday, February 4
9:00 am Forum on the Annual Report
10:00 am **Annual Meeting** of the Congregation

Sunday, Feb. 11
Souperbowl of Caring
Donations for the Food Bank & noisy offering will be received.
Pancake Brunch after worship.

Wednesday, February 14
6:30 pm **Ash Wednesday**
Worship, sanctuary

Sign up anytime online:

Worship Leader Sign Up:
[Sign Up: Worship Leaders](#)

Or sign up in the narthex!

Thanks for serving last week:

Computer Operator: Dave Luck

Videographer: Neal Leeper

Office Help: Nancy Hoppe

Candle Cleaning: Julie Rokes

Member Anniversaries

Andrew Humpal, 3/28/99-25 yrs.

Christian Nationalism:

Zoom presentation by Mike Waggoner

Mike Waggoner, retired UNI professor, has agreed to give his presentation on Christian Nationalism on Wednesday, February 14, 10:00 am over Zoom. Mike was an educational leadership and postsecondary education professor at UNI and he focused his research and published writing on religion and spirituality in public education. Anyone interested is welcome to participate.

⇒ Watch for a **Zoom link** closer to the date.

Upcoming schedule

Wednesday, January 31

1:30 pm Deacons Meeting, library

6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal, sanctuary

Thursday, February 1

1:00 pm Esther Circle, Zoom

Friday, February 2

3:30 pm Audubon Society Event, dining rm

Saturday, February 3

9:00 am Sarah Circle, classroom

Sunday, February 4

9:00 am Annual Report Forum, dining rm

10:00 am Worship/Annual Mtg, sanctuary

Tuesday, February 6

5:30 pm Communications Team, classroom

Wednesday, February 7

10:00 am White Ally Training, dining room

6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal, sanctuary

Anticipating the Lenten Season

Shrove Sunday Service and Brunch – February 11

Join us for Shrove Sunday when we will contemplate what sin is and how we turn from it. The service will include a noisy offering to benefit the Northeast Iowa Food Bank and will be followed by a pancake brunch in the dining room.

Ash Wednesday – February 14

Our Ash Wednesday service will take place on Wednesday, February 14 at 6:30pm in the sanctuary. We will join the Mennonites in contemplation, communion, and the imposition of ashes.

Lenten Reflection and Stations of the Cross

Starting February 21st and continuing every Wednesday through Holy Week, the sanctuary will be open from noon to 1:00pm for quiet reflection and walking the stations of the cross. Drop in and take a few moments to contemplate what God is showing you through this Lenten season.

Superbowl of Caring, February 11

We will be collecting non-perishable food items and a noisy offering for the Northeast Iowa Food Bank.



If you are unable to attend that day but wish to bring food items, please put them **in the church library** by Feb. 12.

ThreeHouse Listening Post Info Meeting

The Art of Listening can be an amazing gift to others. The Listening Post is a ministry of ThreeHouse on the UNI campus where staff and partners are there to hear what someone may need to say (not to offer counsel or advice). Are you interested in taking part or learning more? You are invited to an informative meeting at ThreeHouse Collaborative Campus Ministry 2422 College St, Cedar Falls, 50613

Thursday, Feb 1, at 4:30 pm—Information, Findings so far and Hopes for the future. Light refreshments provided.

Refugee Settlement Project

Here is your chance to participate in our efforts to sponsor an immigrant refugee family in the Cedar Valley. A group of 7 individuals from Cedar Falls Mennonite Church and First Presbyterian Church are preparing to sponsor an immigrant refugee family. We are working through the [Welcome Corps](#) training materials and expect to submit an application to sponsor a family by the end of December.

One aspect of sponsoring a family is to provide financial support for the first 90 days that this family lives in our community. The Welcome Corps plan calls for us to raise at least **\$2,425** per person for this support and we have set a goal of raising a total of at least **\$12,125** to support a family of 4-5.

If you would like to help in this effort, please make a donation to First Presbyterian Church with the note “Newcomer Support” in the memo line. All donations will be kept in a separate account and used only for the purpose of supporting immigrant families. If our efforts do not reach hosting a family, all funds in this account will be donated to LIRS (Lutheran Immigrant and Refugee Service).

Other in-kind donations will be gladly accepted and those needs will be communicated as they arise.

Questions may be directed to Rhonda Braley.



(Brad Braley is in the purple shirt.)

At the Border

Read Rev. Brad Braley's experience at the US southern border in the Presbytery Connect Newsletter:

[Beyond Despair and Death](#)