



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

February 28, 2024

10:00 am  
Sunday Worship  
[Firstprescf.org](http://Firstprescf.org)



**March 3 – Third Sunday of Lent  
Communion Sunday**

**“What Does It Mean to Be a Disciple of Jesus?”**

Scripture: Mark 8:31-38

**What Does It Mean to Be a Disciple of Jesus?**

The word discipleship comes from the Greek word *mathetes*, meaning “follower”. In Jesus’ day, teachers called their disciples to live with them and learn from them. Jesus taught by using parables, encounters with outsiders and powerful people, and calls to imitate him, thus leaving their old lives behind. Discipleship in Jesus’ name entails sacrifice.

In Mark eight, Jesus calls disciples to deny themselves and take up their cross, even to the point of losing their lives for his sake. He challenges us to set our minds on divine things rather than human things. It can seem like a tall order. After all, it’s easy for Jesus to say, he’s fully divine and fully human.

It is important to remember that we are called to radical discipleship as a community, not as a group of individuals each striving for independent holiness. When we sacrifice, we do so with the support of an entire community. In this way, we can follow Christ and spur change for a more just world.

[Minister Candace Simpson](#) shares this example, “The Montgomery Bus Boycotts worked primarily because people made decisions to surrender things together, and organized to live differently in the meanwhile. People with cars would carpool neighbors to their workplaces and charge the same amount as the municipal bus service. Community members would cook for people. Mass meetings were held to encourage shared sacrifice and remember the principles of the boycott.” This communal approach led to lasting change and a better world for many.

As disciples of Christ, what are we being called to do in our community?

Check out the [Session Six Video Here](#).

**Church Birthdays**

Feb. 28-Walt Stephenson,  
Mar. 3 - Vera Brunskill (99 yrs!), 9-Jo Moon

**For your prayers...**

Sue Eastman

**Notice...**

*Wednesdays thru 3/20*  
Noon-1:00 pm Quiet Reflection/Stations of the Cross, sanctuary

*Wednesday, March 6*  
5:30 pm - Wednesday Meal; Easter egg stuffing before & after

*Saturday, March 9*  
Sarah Circle has been re-scheduled from March 2 to March 9, 9:30 am.

*Monday, April 15*  
DEADLINE for Dorothy Horn and First Presbyterian Scholarships. See page 2.

**Sign up anytime online:**

**Worship Leader Sign Up:**

[Sign Up: Worship Leaders](#)

*Or sign up in the narthex!*

## Thanks for serving last week:

**Worship Leader:** Carolyn Stephenson

**Computer Operator:** Eric Braley

**Videographer:** Kevin Thedens

**Souperbowl Food Delivery:** Brad & Rhonda Braley

**Coverings for Sanctuary Tables :** Sue Luck

## Member Anniversaries

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



## Wednesday Supper

Join us for our monthly Wednesday supper at 5:30 pm, March 6 in the dining room.

Anyone is welcome to join us for food and fellowship. A freewill offering will be received. Volunteers are needed to clean up afterwards.

## Thank You

Dear friends,

We greatly appreciate your generosity and support. Your gift of \$1,000 for the Family Literacy Fund will help us continue to meet the educational needs of the college. Thank you for your continued partnership with this valuable program.

Heather Bremer-Miller

Ex. Director of Institutional Advancement

*(Presbytery of North Central Iowa Grant)*

## Upcoming schedule

### Wednesday, February 28

Noon-1:00 pm Stations of the Cross, sanctuary  
— NO choir rehearsal

### Sunday, March 3

10:00 am Worship, sanctuary

### Tuesday, March 5

5:30 pm Communications Team, Zoom

### Wednesday, March 6

Noon-1:00 pm Stations of the Cross, sanctuary  
5:30 pm Wednesday Meal, dining room  
6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal, sanctuary

### Thursday, March 7

1:00 pm Esther Circle, Zoom

## Lenten Reflection and Stations of the Cross

Every Wednesday through March 20, the sanctuary will be open from noon to 1:00 pm 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.

## Easter Egg Help!



The CYF Ministry Committee is graciously asking for egg-filling donations. These could be small treats, candies, or non-food items, as long as they fit into an Easter egg! **Please drop off donation in the library by Wednesday, March 6!**

Anyone who wishes to help FILL the eggs may help in the library before or after the **March 6** Wednesday Supper. It is simple and many hands make light work. Thank You!



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING  
SPECIAL OFFERINGS  
HUNGER • DISASTER • DEVELOPMENT

The three programs supported by One Great Hour of Sharing - Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People - all work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. From initial disaster response to ongoing community development, their work fits together to provide people with safety, sustenance, and hope. Checks may be made payable to the church with "One Great Hour" on the memo.

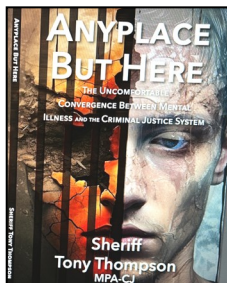
## Scholarship Opportunities

The **Dorothy Horn Scholarship** provides financial assistance to women from Presbyterian churches who attend the University of Northern Iowa. Dorothy Horn attended the University of Northern Iowa and her estate established this scholarship endowment, which is administered by First Presbyterian Church in Cedar Falls.

The **First Presbyterian Church Scholarship** provides financial assistance to students seeking post-high school educational opportunities. This fund is financially supported by the Donna & Greg Hickman Trust. Applicants must have a direct connection to First Presbyterian Church of Cedar Falls to qualify.

Those interested in more information or an application packet for these scholarships should contact First Presbyterian Church in Cedar Falls. Applications can be requested by calling 319-277-3930 or by email: [office@firstprescf.org](mailto:office@firstprescf.org). All applications must be returned by Friday, **April 15, 2024**

## Book Discussion Opportunity



Black Hawk County Sheriff, Tony Thompson has written a book on the way that the criminal justice system has become a provider of mental health patients. There will be two community discussions where Sheriff Thompson and others will talk about this important issue.

- Sunday, April 21 at Jubilee UMC Freedom Center, 2:00 p.m.
- Sunday, April 28 at Cedar Heights Community Presbyterian Church, 2:00 p.m.

Sheriff Thompson's book, "Anyplace but Here: The Uncomfortable Convergence Between Mental Health and the Criminal Justice System" can be found on Amazon at this link: <https://www.amazon.com/Anyplace-But-Here-Uncomfortable-Convergence/dp/1941892779>

## Refugee Settlement Project

We are working through [Welcome Corps](#) to sponsor an refugee family in the Cedar Valley. We have set a goal of raising **\$12,125** to support a family of 4-5.

To help, please make a donation to our church with "Newcomer Support" in the memo line. Contact Rhonda Braley with questions.

### HOLY WEEK with Cedar Valley Presbyterians, PC(USA)

- **Maundy Thursday** - March 28, 6:00 pm  
*at* our church, First Presbyterian, 902 Main Street.  
Join us for a service of contemplation. All are welcome to partake in communion.
- **Good Friday** - March 29 - 6:00 pm  
*at* First Presbyterian Church, 505 Franklin St, Waterloo  
This service will feature a joint choir that blends together voices from our churches.  
Cedar Heights Community Presbyterian and Unity Presbyterian will also participate.

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### **Easter Sunday, March 31**

9:00 am Refreshments in the dining room

Egg Hunt and Children's Activities

10:00 am Worship in the sanctuary  
childcare available