



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

February 7, 2024

10:00 am
Sunday Worship
Firstprescf.org



February 11 – Shrove Sunday Pancake Brunch
Souperbowl of Caring Noisy Offering and Food Collection
“What Is Sin and How Do We Turn from It?”

Scripture: Exodus 20:1-17; Matthew 22:34-40

What Is Sin and How Do We Turn from It?

Even in the earliest stories of the Bible we see a pattern of people making mistakes and living and acting in ways that God did not intend. As the rules of the road are meant to create a safe environment for all drivers, the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20:1-17) function to create a safe and God-centered community. In Matthew 22:34-40, Jesus is asked to name the most important of the hundreds of Jewish laws. Jesus' response quotes Old Testament passages Deuteronomy 6:4 and Leviticus 19:18.

Individuals and groups of people make mistakes. We live and act in ways that God did not intend; we sin. Even though we return to sin repeatedly as human beings, we believe in a God who returns, again and again, to offer us forgiveness and mercy. Through the grace and mercy of God, we can turn from sin and the power of evil in the world.

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

Church Birthdays

Feb. 7-Julie Rokes, 8-Bob Hall, Dave Luck

For Your Prayers...

Gus Hill
Kathy Hickman

Coming Soon...

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

Pancake Brunch after worship.

Wednesday, February 14
10:00 am Zoom meeting on Christian Nationalism. **See page 2 for the Zoom link.**

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:

Worship Leader: Jeverna Mulligan

Annual Meeting Presenters: Hope Goering,
Neal Leeper, Jeverna Mulligan

Computer Operator: Rob Cline

Videographer: Kevin Thedens

Communion Preparer: Lynette Cline

Meeting Forum Treats: Jean Boller, Lynette
Cline, Jan Thedens

In Sympathy

Sympathy to the family of Melody Brindle who passed away Monday, February 5. Her visitation will be Saturday, Feb. 10 at 10:00 am, Mitchell Family Funeral Home, 1209 Iowa Ave W in Marshalltown. The funeral service will follow at 11:00 am.

You may read her obituary online: [Melody Brindle](#).



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.

Souperbowl 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.

Upcoming schedule

Wednesday, February 7

4:30 pm Nominating Team, Zoom
6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal, sanctuary

Saturday, February 10

8:30 am PEO, dining room

Souperbowl Sunday, February 11

10:00 am Worship, sanctuary
11:15 am Pancake Brunch, dining room

Monday, February 12

6:30 pm Worship Team, Zoom

Tuesday, February 13

6:30 pm Session, library/Zoom
7:00 pm Audubon Society, dining room

Wednesday, February 14

10:00 am Christian Nationalism, Zoom
6:30 pm Ash Wednesday Worship, sanctuary

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.

THE ZOOM LINK IS BELOW:

Time: Feb 14, 2024 **10:00 AM**

Zoom Meeting Link: [Christian Nationalism](#)

Meeting ID: 815 0126 2811

Passcode: 688776

To phone in: 312 626 6799

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](#)