

10:00 am Sunday Worship Firstprescf.org



BIG GOD BIG QUESTIONS

March 17 – Fifth Sunday of Lent Big God Big Questions Mid-Confirmation Review

A Service of Lessons and Songs

Confirmation calls us to make a public response to the love of God, shown in the baptismal covenant. Confirmands are asked to commit themselves to Jesus Christ and to affirm our commitment to live out our faith as part of a faith community. Our curriculum is based on the questions that are asked of us when we make this commitment: Who is your Lord and Savior? Trusting in the gracious mercy of God do you turn from the ways of sin and renounce evil and its power in the world? Will you be Christ's faithful disciple, obeying his word and showing his love?

We've addressed these questions as broken up into smaller, sub-questions. Here are the sub-questions we've asked so far:

What Is Confirmation? How Do We Know and Trust God? What Is Sin and How Do We Turn from It? Who Is Your Lord? Who Is Your Savior? What Does It Mean to Be a Disciple of Jesus? What Does It Mean to Show Christ's Love?

This Sunday we will review these questions as we prepare for a two week break from our series to concentrate on Holy Week and Easter. Remember to bring your thoughts and dreams about what we might be called to do in our community. We will resume our series on April 7, when we will ask, "Will You Devote Yourself to the Church's Teaching?"

Church Birthdays

Mar. 17-Gary Sabey, Andrew Humpal, Maya Humpal, 18-Patti Humpal, Lance Zimmer, 20-Roger Dean, Scott Connolly, 24-Elijah Braley

Notice...

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

Sunday, March 24 Flower donation deadline

Holy Week and Easter Maundy Thursday, 3/28 6:00 pm First Presbyterian -Cedar Falls Good Friday, 3/29 6:00 pm First Presbyterian -505 Franklin, Waterloo Easter Sunday, 3/31 9:00-Refreshments then Egg Hunt 10:00 Worship Service

Monday, April 15 Dorothy Horn & First Presbyterian Scholarship deadline

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: Rob Cline
Videographer: Kevin Thedens
Deacons Fellowship: Jeverna Mulligan, Dot Clausen, Cyd Grafft, Margaret Clark
Wednesday Meal: Patti Humpal, Sue Luck,
Shirley Hill, Lynette Cline, Jan Thedens, Tom & Jeverna Mulligan

Easter Flower Sponsors

The Worship Team will be providing a floral arrangement for Easter. You may donate toward the arrangement in memory or honor of a loved one. Forms are in the narthex. **Deadline:**

Sunday, March 24.

Any amount is welcome. Proceeds after expense will go into our sanctuary decorations fund.

Names will appear in the March 27 newsletter and posted in the narthex on Easter Sunday.

Dear Friends,

It's a beautiful spring day here. Mark is doing about the same. The new staff at his group home work well with him. I will be seeing the cardiologist to have the battery replaced in my pacemaker. Enjoying glimpses of you on the worship video. Keep up the mission of First Presbyterian! Love, Mary McCalley

Upcoming schedule Wednesday, March 13

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Noon-1:00 pm Stations of the Cross, sanctuary —- No Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, March 17

10:00 am Worship, sanctuary - SHINE breakout sessions Monday, March 18

6:30 pm Worship Team, Zoom

Tuesday, March 19

4:00 pm Community Ministries, library

Wednesday, March 20

Noon-1:00 pm Stations of the Cross, sanctuary 10:00 am Working For Justice, dining rm 6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal, sanctuary

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.

A Good Life...Remembered

North Star Community Services along with the Waterloo Community Foundation wishes to announce the establishment of a fund in memory of Alex (A.J.) Seeley to benefit persons with disabilities served by



North Star. Please join them in celebrating the establishment of this fund.

- 5:00 pm on Tuesday, March 19
- Short presentation at 5:30 pm
- At North Star Community Services
 3420 University Ave, Waterloo (Use Door #1, east side)
- Light refreshments served

Donations may be sent to **North Star**, with **Alex Seeley Fund** on the memo. Contact jmuller@northstarcs.org or 319-226-8304 with questions.

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: <u>office@firstprescf.org</u>. All applications must be returned by Friday, <u>April 15,</u> 2024

Book Discussion Opportunities

Black Hawk County Sheriff, Tony Thompson has written a book on the way that the criminal justice system



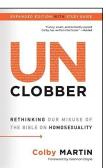
has become a provider of mental health patients. There will be two community discussions where Sheriff Thompson and others will talk about this important issue.

- 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 at the Waterloo Barnes & Noble or on Amazon at this link: https://www.amazon.com/Anyplace-But-Here-Uncomfortable-Convergence/dp/1941892779

Colby Martin, author of: UNCLOBBER (showing how the Bible is not anti-LGBTQ) and THE SHIFT (a survival guide for becoming a progressive Christian) is coming to the Cedar Valley April 7 and 8.

Sunday morning, April 7, he will be preaching at the 8:00 and 10:00 am services at St. John Lutheran Church, Cedar Falls. At 6:30 pm, he will be speaking at Lang Hall on the UNI Campus. Colby will share some of his story, his journey toward being fully affirming and his in-depth study of the six Bible verses that get used most to "clobber" folks from the LGBTQ+ community in churches.



Dr. Courtney Stufflebeam (Licensed Clinical Psychologist) will be hosting an informal discussion of Colby's book, "Unclobbered" Sunday, March 17 and Sunday March 24, 3:00-4:15 at First Congregational Church, 608 W. Fourth St. Waterloo.

If you are interested, purchase the book or check out a copy from the Waterloo library. Otherwise, just bring yourself and your experiences! No need to RSVP or attend both sessions.

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.

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



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING 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.