First Presbyterian E-Link

April 30, 2025

10:00 am
Sunday Worship
Firstprescf.org

THIS COMING SUNDAY, MAY 4—RECOGNITION SUNDAY!!

We will thank our SHINE Kids teachers & helpers and the choir.

An all church **potluck** will follow worship. See page 2 for details.



EASTERTIDE 2025 SERIES

Emerge: A Metamorphosis Moment

Week 2 – Sunday, May 4 @10:00am

"Coming Out: Leaving Comfortable Places"

Communion

A caterpillar forms a chrysalis and stays inside for a time while the magical process of metamorphosis occurs. And a day comes when that protective shell is too constricting — the butterfly within must begin to break free! Let's encourage one another out of our comfortable places so that we may truly bloom.

As ever-emerging spiritual creatures, we cannot contain our selves — the selves God has created us to be. Coming out as people and as a church from what we have known into a new identity is filled with anxiety and unknowing. Emerging will take effort and surrendering to "the assurance of things hoped for" even though we cannot yet see what the future holds.

Prayer:
Holy One, we turn to you for guidance to sense the edges of our comfort zones and listen for your call to stretch beyond them. Help us to embrace difficult times and moments of uncertainty with peaceful hearts. Give us courage to shift in new directions and to break free from the patterns and habitual grooves that keep us from moving forward into new life. We find safety in you and hope for a brilliant, colorful future. Help us extend this courage to others.
Amen.

Church Birthdays

May 4-Marge King (99), Nick Federspiel, 5-Eric Braley, Matt Humpal, Brock Swarbrick

For Your Prayers…

Jim Seeley

Coming Soon…

2:00 pm-Saturday, May 3
Doug Herbon Memorial Service (**visitation one hour prior**.) Refreshments will follow.

Sunday, May 4

Last SHINE Kids until fall

Choir and Shine Teacher recognitions

Potluck after worship

(Sarah Circle's May meeting date has moved to Wednesday, May 14, 3:00 pm)

Worship on CFU Cable

Recordings of Sunday's worship service can be viewed on CFU cable channel 18, 6:00 pm every Thursday,

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: Jan Reimer

Videographer: Neal Leeper

Computer Operator: Rob Cline

Minute for Mission: Jenny Allen, Brad Jensen

Minute for Camp: Alexa Reed-Clancy, Jocelyn Abonce

Lawn Mowing: Phil Batchelder

Lawn Mowing 5/4: *available*

RECOGNITION SUNDAY, MAY 4!!

Join us **THIS SUNDAY** as we recognize our SHINE teachers & workers, and our choir members.



After worship the entire congregation is invited to a **potluck** down in the dining room. Please bring a side dish to share. Main dish, beverages and dessert provided.

Let's celebrate another great year of ministry!

Upcoming schedule

Wednesday, April 30

6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal, sanctuary

Thursday, May 1

1:00 pm Esther Circle, dining room

2:00 pm CVJ Committee (meeting set-up), library

Friday, May 2

1:00 pm CVJC Steering Committee, library

Saturday, May 3

1:00 pm Herbon Visitation, narthex

2:00 pm Doug Herbon Memorial Svc., sanctuary

Sunday, May 4

10:00 am Worship w Communion, sanctuary
Recognition Sunday

11:00 am **Potluck, dining room**

Tuesday, May 6

6:30 pm CYF Team Meeting, Zoom

Wednesday, May 7

6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal, sanctuary (last until Fall)

Membership Anniversaries

Lee Nicholas: 5/22/75, 50 yrs

Phil Batchelder: 5/23/10, 15 yrs

Reese Stolte: 5/23/10, 15 yrs

Lawn Mowers Needed!

Volunteers are needed to sign up to help mow the church lawn this season. Two self propelled mowers are available. Please sign up for the week(s) you can help in the narthex.



Upcoming Community Concerts

Metropolitan Chorale

The Metropolitan Chorale, in harmony with the Cedar Falls High School Concert Choir, will perform "Jubilate Deo" on Sunday, May 4, 3:00 pm at St. Patrick Catholic Church, 705 Main Street, CF.

Tickets are: $15-adults, $25-families, students free (with ID.)

See details at: Metropolitan Chorale

A reception will follow.

New Horizons Band Spring Concert

Monday, May 12, 7:30 pm

In the Catherine Cassidy Gallagher Great Hall

Gallagher Bluedorn PAC

Admission is free; a goodwill offering will be accepted at the reception following the concert.

Let's support our college students!

Help Needed for ThreeHouse

May 12-15 our campus ministry partner, ThreeHouse, will be preparing and serving breakfasts for finals week. They have requested help cooking, serving, and preparing the meals and are also asking for donations of food items. If you would like to help or donate food you can sign up at this link or on the sheets in the narthex.

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1Oe1DYZnRexGo_VqxgeGexqH2Yinzcv2_8W7UBLhsxZ4/edit?gid=0#gid=0

Food items need to be delivered to ThreeHouse by 4:00 pm on Friday, May 9.



Thank you from Edibet

Hello everyone, I hope you had a good day. I want to thank you on behalf of me and my family for the gifts you sent us. Really, may my God continue to fill you with many blessings. We are completely grateful to you. German, Edismir, Isael and I are loved very much. Thank you.

Blessings, Edibet A.V.

Happy first-time bowlers!



Newcomer Update

It is hard to believe that the one year anniversary of our Venezuelan newcomer family is upon us. It has been a year of unexpected challenges, never-ending work, as well as a year of absolute delight to witness the incredible growth of the family and of those involved with their resettlement.

The big news to report this month is that full time employment for both adult family members has been secured! Edibet, the mother, is currently employed as a housekeeper at Friendship Village in one of their new facilities. She works from 6:00am to 2:00pm. German, Edibet's partner, has received his work permit and is working as a cook at Amigos in Waterloo. Both of them are excited to be earning income to support themselves.

The two teenage boys are doing well in school. Isael is in sixth grade at Bunger Middle School. Edismir is in ninth grade at West High School and is on the JV soccer team. He scored three goals in West's JV soccer game last week!! Both boys are part of a Boy Scout group in Cedar Falls. This summer they will attend a Scout camp and join the Scout trip to Washington, DC, thanks to the generous donation from the Mennonite Church. For a good time during Spring Break, 902 Main Sponsor Group treated the family to an afternoon for their first bowling experience and dinner afterwards.

The next big hurdle for the family is finding reliable transportation. A car has been donated to the family, but it is in need of expensive repairs, which is something they can't afford at this time. For now, volunteers are providing rides to and from work or from late night soccer games.

The success of this resettlement could not have happened without the support, love, and prayers of our two congregations. Even though our family is on the road to self sufficiency, prayers and support are still appreciated as they navigate the uncertainty of political immigration policies.

If you want to hear more about our family, see Rhonda Braley.

NOTICE: CHANGES TO PCUSA SPECIAL OFFERINGS

PCUSA will launch a new cycle of Special Offerings in 2026
to include three Churchwide Special Offerings:
Christmas Joy
One Great Hour of Sharing
World Communion

The Pentecost Offering will sunset, with the last one to occur in 2025. That Special Offering will in effect be folded into the Christmas Joy Offering.

- Christmas Joy Offering will be received during Advent. It will support children-at-risk, youth and young adults, leadership development for people of color, Presbyterian-related Schools and Colleges Equipping Communities of Color, and servants of the church in need through the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions.
- One Great Hour of Sharing will be received on Palm Sunday and/or Easter Sunday. The causes it will support include disaster; hunger; poverty; climate change; and immigration, migration and refugees.
- The World Communion Offering will be received on World Communion Sunday, the first Sunday in October. This offering seeks to cultivate forms of reconciliation encountered when Christ gathers all of God's people to the Table of Grace around the corner and around the world. Causes and distribution include grants issued to other councils of the Church reflecting the values of the World Communion Offering and causes described as reconciliatory, including racial justice, gender justice, peacemaking, global witness, and ecumenical and interfaith relations.