E-Link

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN **November 12, 2025**

10:00 am
Sunday Worship
Firstprescf.org



Sunday, November 16 @10:00am
Service of Thanksgiving Readings and Hymns
Scripture: Psalm 36

Join us for our Friendsgiving Potluck following the service *(see page 2.)*

Local Mission at First Presbyterian

Our church has financially supported 13 local mission projects this year, as well as PCUSA Offerings, CROP Walk, and UNICEF. Four of our local mission projects are supported more robustly with not only our financial support; we also provide many donated items and significant volunteer hours.

"Our Big Four" Projects

ThreeHouse: Our church, in partnership with nine other local churches, supports ThreeHouse Campus Ministry. ThreeHouse is the only mainline Protestant ministry on the UNI campus. At ThreeHouse, students are welcomed and nurtured; it is a safe place where students can explore their faith, humanity, and current issues in a respectful environment. We support ThreeHouse by providing food, beverages, and volunteers for their annual Block Party, International Student Thanksgiving, and Finals Week Breakfasts, as well as on-going financial support.

Eye of the Needle: We partner with Eye of the Needle to distribute shoes for our long-standing "Soles for Souls" project. Our financial support helped provide school shoes for close to 200 students this year, and our donations of toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, and soap provided 111 hygiene kits. Our goal is to help give students a positive start to the school year while easing financial stress on their families.

Family Literacy: The Family Literacy Program at Hawkeye Community College helps parents improve their educational level and their ability to support their children's education. Parents in the program are studying to complete a High School equivalency diploma, are immigrants learning English, or both. This year, our church provided financial support and 225 literacy kits to the program. Parents and children receiving these kits complete activities together to reinforce important scholastic skills.

Newcomer Family: Last year, First Presbyterian and the Mennonites joined forces to welcome and support a newcomer refugee family in our community. Donations of apartment furnishings and financial support from our church helped the family get started in a new country and culture. This year, the family has begun to feel more settled; the boys are active in school and Scouts, and the adults are both working. Continued support for the family is provided through volunteer help with transportation and government paperwork.

Thank you to the congregation for your generous donations of time, talents, and treasure that make all our mission outreach possible. As we look ahead to 2026, let's continue to grow in our faith as we unite in love and reach out in service to others.

Mission Team, Community Ministries

Church Birthdays

Nov 12-Ned Ratekin,
Brooke Barber

Stewardship 2026

If you have not already done so, please turn in your pledge card for 2026 to the box in the narthex or the office. Thank you!

For Your Prayers...

Sue Weinberg

Congratulations to Pastor Julie on being elected Vice Moderator of the Presbytery of North Central Iowa.

Upcoming Events...

Sunday, November 16
Friendsgiving Potluck

Sunday, November 23
Hanging of the Greens

Thu-Fri, Nov. 27 & 28
Office closed-Thanksgiving

Sign up anytime online:

Worship Leader Sign Up:
Sign Up: Worship Leaders
Or sign up in the narthex!

Sunday Supper Sign Up:
jean_seeland@vccv.org

Thanks for serving last week:

Worship Leader: Paul Braley
Worship Participants: Brad & Sandy Jensen
Minutes for Mission: Kevin Thedens, Jan Thedens
Videographer: Neal Leeper
Computer Operator: Dave Luck



Congratulations

Cam Daniel Barber, son of Brooke and Tanner Barber, was baptized on Sunday, November 9.

Senior Recital Invitation

Friday, November 14, 6:00 pm

Ruthellen Brooks and Lilly Kallenberger

present their Senior Recital at Davis Hall, UNI in collaboration with Natia Shioshvili and Dr. Jamie Clark. Please show your support for our church's student choir musicians.

Upcoming schedule

Wednesday, November 12
6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal, sanctuary
Thursday, November 13
10:00 pm Family Literacy Event, Van G. Miller Ctr
4:00 pm Community Ministries, library
Sunday, November 16
10:00 am Worship, sanctuary
Shine Kids breakout session
11:15 am Bluegrass Boys, dining room
11:30 am Friendsgiving Potluck, dining room
Monday, November 17
6:30 pm Worship Team, Zoom
Wednesday, November 19
1:30 pm Nominating Committee
6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal, sanctuary



- Friendsgiving Potluck -

Join in FELLOWSHIP and GRATITUDE!

You are invited, along with our CF Mennonite friends, to a Friendsgiving Potluck on Sunday, **Nov 16,** 11:30 am.

Please bring a dish to share.

Table service and beverages will be provided.
♬ The music will feature the Bluegrass Boys. ♬

2026 Pledge Campaign Update

The 2026 pledge campaign response has been very good. Thank you to all who have turned in their pledges.

Number of 2026 pledges received so far is 56% of the total 2025 pledges. 2026 pledged dollar amount so far is 3.7% higher than that from the same pledging units in 2025. 2026 pledged dollar amount so far is 75% of the total amount pledged for 2025.

Every pledge is important. For those that have not yet turned in a 2026 pledge, please do so as soon as possible so that we can start finalizing our programs and budget for 2026.

Kevin Thedens
Stewardship Committee

Your are Invited to a Game Night

The Cedar Falls Mennonites are having a Game Night this Saturday, November 15, 5:00 pm, upstairs in their worship space.

Pizza and beverages will be provided.

Please come and join them-you may bring a friend!





Thanks to our SHINE children and youth for collecting the Noisy Offering on October 26. We raised $233.99 for UNICEF.

Adopt A Family

Our annual Christmas Adopt-A-Family gift giving opportunity is here once again!

You do not need to create an account or enter in any payment information! You are only signing up to bring a gift.

All you need to do is follow these directions....

In order to choose one or more gifts listed, click on the links below. You can select from any one or multiple choices. After you have shopped for your gift, please wrap it and put a tag on the gift that tells who it is for and what it is. We will change the tag to the name only before we deliver the gift. Your gifts should be taken **to the classroom across from the office,** left hand side. The **deadline to return gifts is Sunday, December 14.** Please do not leave gifts in the entryway for security reasons. A cart is available if needed.

> Click on the link/s below, click the 'sign up' button on the right by the item/s you wish to shop for, then click 'save and continue' at the bottom of the screen. You'll be directed to the next page; enter in your name, email and phone number then click 'Sign Up Now' at the bottom. Your information is confidential; only the church office will see it. You will then receive a confirmation email.

Or, please consider sending a check to First Presbyterian Church and put Adopt-A-Family in the memo. We would be happy to do your shopping for you.

If you have any questions please contact Jan Thedens, Julie Rokes, Sue Weinberg or call the church office 319-277-3930.

ADOPT-A-FAMILY

5 yr old boy: Adopt-a-Family 5 yr old boy

4 yr old boy: Adopt-a-Family 4 yr old boy

Mother: Adopt-a-Family Mother

Household: Adopt-a-Family Household

Food Bank Matching Funds

Existing state funds from the Iowa Department of Health and Human Services will be used to match monetary donations to Iowa food banks, up to $1 million, due to the federal government shutdown.

If you wish, you may make a donation payable to the church with "Food Bank" on the memo, or give directly to the Northeast Iowa Food Bank: NEIA Food Bank.

Statewide Food Drive: Feeding the Heartland

Sunday, November 16

Please bring your donations and leave in the Northeast Entryway.

Please donate non-perishable food and paper products for the Northeast Iowa Food Bank.

Cedar Heights Community Presbyterian Church will pick up and deliver the items.

Deadline is this Sunday, November 16!!

CROP Walk Update

The updated total raised by our church this year for the CROP Walk for Hunger came to $982.25 for the year. Thanks to all who walked, gave, and supported this year's CROP Walk.

Home Furnishings Needed

We have a request for someone who will be moving into an apartment soon. This person will need:

twin-sized bedding **lamp** **nightstand**

dresser **pots/pans** **skillet** **dinnerware**

desk **utensils** **small table and chair**



If you have questions or items to donate, please contact Rhonda Braley.

International Student Thanksgiving Meal- Appeal from ThreeHouse

ThreeHouse is excited to host a Thanksgiving dinner for International College Students at UNI. The meal will be **Thursday, Nov. 20**, 6:00 pm at St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 2410 Melrose Dr.

While ThreeHouse will provide the turkey, we would appreciate contributions of homemade favorites such as mashed potatoes, yams, green bean casserole, rolls, pies, and more.

Sign up here: ThreeHouse Thanksgiving Dinner

OR to sign up call 319-266-266-4071 / email ross@threehouse.org - questions welcome!

LET'S TALK ABOUT IMMIGRATION

Sunday, November 23. 2:30pm.

Cedar Heights Presbyterian Church, Cedar Falls.

This program, facilitated by members of the Cedar Valley Interfaith Council's Immigration Committee, will examine how people of faith can have constructive conversations about highly controversial and politically divisive issues like immigration. Co-sponsored by First Presbyterian and Cedar Heights Presbyterian Churches of Cedar Falls and the Cedar Valley Interfaith Council. Free and open to anyone who is interested, concerned or confused about immigration. For information contact cvic.immigration@gmail.com:

• Read "What People of Faith Should Know About the Immigration Crisis" at https://bit.ly/know-about-immigration

Finals Week Breakfast At ThreeHouse

A free meal for UNI Students

One should never test on an empty stomach!

Monday - Thursday, Dec. 15 - 18

(may we bring some holiday spirit)

Each day:

8:30 am: Grab'n-Go Breakfast available

9:00-11:30 am: Hot breakfast -different every day

To volunteer or donate: sign up here: Breakfast Sign Up (We need/love your help!)

Item drop off by 4:00 pm Friday prior or for Sunday/Monday drop off arrangements call 319-331-7541 or email ross@threehouse.org