

February 1, 2024

## First Presbyterian Church

608 Nebraska Street, Sioux City, Iowa 51101



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## February Worship Service Info



**Sunday, Feb 4—5th Sunday after Epiphany**  
**1 Timothy 1:12-17; Second Chance People—Paul**

**Sunday, Feb 11—Transfiguration of the Lord**  
**Mark 9:2-9; Second Chance People—Peter**

**Sunday, Feb 18—1st Sunday in Lent**  
**Genesis 3:1-7; The 7-Step Process—Temptation**

**Sunday, Feb 25—2nd Sunday of Lent**  
**Psalm 14; The 7-Step Process—Sin**

*(All italicized quotes are from the poem “i am a little church” by e. e. cummings)*

First Presbyterian Church of Sioux City is not a little church. I've been to some churches whose whole buildings could fit within our sanctuary. Members of some other churches can count their active membership with their fingers and toes. And many of my fellow pastors would envy our annual budget.

And yet, like every other church I've heard of, many people want this church to grow. To increase in membership, attendance, and stewardship. With the right spirit, these can be noble goals. And yet I'd still like to encourage people to reflect on the poem “i am a little church” by e. e. cummings.

*i am a little church (no great cathedral) far from the splendor and squalor of hurrying cities*

cummings was probably describing a small, rural church in New England. And yet cummings' words remind us that, even in a little church, big things happen. God's word is taught. Songs are sung and prayers are lifted up to the Lord. Neighbors in need are helped. Friends gather around tables in fellowship. Babies are baptized. Children become church members. Couples become spouses. The lives of those we've lost are remembered and celebrated.

*around me surges a miracle of unceasing birth and glory and death and resurrection:*

This church, even when it's not as big as we'd like it to be, is a place where great things happen. Holy things. For everyone who enters, this can be where they experience God's glorious presence, in every act of love and mercy and grace and redemption.

You may have noticed something odd about the poetry of e. e. cummings. cummings' celebration of little churches everywhere is accented by his curious habit of almost never using capital letters, even in his own name. Except for when he refers to God. cummings knew that any church, large or small, has to give priority to the Lord; the One who rules all peoples and places and times.

*winter by spring, i lift my diminutive spire to merciful Him Whose only now is forever:  
standing erect in the deathless truth of His presence  
(welcoming humbly His light and proudly His darkness)*

By many of the world's standards, our church may not be as great as we'd like it to be. But our influence on the lives of our members and our community can be immeasurable. We continue to stand by people through every birth and confirmation and graduation and marriage and death with them. And our steadfast presence still points to the glory and power of the One we worship, whose presence in our lives and whose truth in our hearts endures forever. We can keep trying to increase in numbers. But it's more important for us to increase in all the ways we represent our God to everyone around us. As long as God's love for all people remains in this church, we will be as great as God needs us to be.

In Christ,  
Pastor Mark

## *Mary's Music Notes—*

Wonderful job to our Bell-issimo Handbell Choir at the 12th Night Ring Handbell Festival. There are noticeably not as many handbell choirs any more - so that makes it so much more special that we still have our handbell choir and they are so active and share two selections a month in our worship. Many thanks to all for sharing your time and talents for the Glory of God!!

Looking ahead.....

Feb. 4 Choir/Communion

Feb. 11 Choir

Feb. 14 Ash Wednesday

Feb. 18 Handbells

Feb. 25 Choir



***Mary Benton, Director of Music***



### **Previous Months Worship Attendance Report**

Jan 7	59 in sanctuary
Jan 14	No service
Jan 21	62 in sanctuary

If you purchased tickets for the Orpheum Theater's performance of **JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR**, you can pick them up from Karen in the church office during regular hours. You **MUST** pick them up **BEFORE** Tuesday, February 13<sup>th</sup>, the day of the performance!



## Income & Disbursement Summary Through December 31, 2023

### Income

All pledges, non-pledges & loose collection	\$ 345,301.51
Other operating income	\$ 16,718.68
Restricted donations	\$ 3,320.89
Per Capita	\$ 2,190.51
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 367,531.59</b>

### Disbursements

Mission	\$ 26,065.00
Ministry*	\$ 120,789.44
Music	\$ 36,026.79
Christian Discipleship	\$ 354.48
Building & Grounds	\$ 103,618.19
Office and Admin	\$ 18,436.02
Assessment	\$ 17,599.32
Other**	\$ 35,378.61
Personnel Payroll	\$ 124,527.74
<b>Total Disbursements</b>	<b>\$ 482,795.59</b>

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**Gain or Loss** **\$ (115,264.00)**

\* 'Ministry' includes: Pastors salary, worship, outreach, deacon and member care expenses.

\*\* 'Other' includes: Payroll taxes, health insurance, pension and workers compensation insurance.



2024  
Per Capita  
amount  
is \$53.95



Ash Wednesday is February 14th. We will have a noon service in the chapel. The evening service will be at First Presbyterian Church in South Sioux City, NE at 7:00 pm.



**February 19th**

## February birthdays

6th - Rett Smith  
 11th - Hannah Eybers  
 14th - Katie Haak  
 17th - Simon Denney

18th - Gary Wenell  
 21st - Kade Preston  
 24th - Mary Burns  
 27th - Colin Jensen



*Pssst!  
 If we do not have your birthday  
 or anniversary information...  
 please call or send it to Karen in the  
 church office at 712-255-8919 or  
 finance@1stpresby.com.*

### ASH WEDNESDAY AND LENT

We will host a brief Ash Wednesday service, including the imposition of the ashes, in Calvin Chapel at noon on February 14<sup>th</sup>.

The Presbyterian Churches of Siouxland will hold a joint Ash Wednesday service at First Presbyterian Church of South Sioux City at 7:00 p.m. that evening.

The Presbyterian Churches of Siouxland will hold their series of **LENTEN LUNCHEAS AND MEDITATIONS** in Sheldon Jackson Hall at noon on Fridays from February 16<sup>th</sup> through March 22<sup>nd</sup>. Meditations will be based on Pause: Spending Lent with the Psalms by Elizabeth F. Caldwell.

Pastor Mark's schedule will change during Lent. From Monday, February 12<sup>th</sup> through Friday, March 29<sup>th</sup>, his days off will be Mondays, NOT Fridays. Thanks.

Our Confirmation Class is collecting items to benefit The Warming Shelter. They have asked for the following new items.

Hand warmers

Winter hats

Winter gloves and mittens

Men's boxer underwear (sizes S - XL)

Women's underwear (sizes 5 - 9)

Please put your donations in the bin you'll find on the table by the office entrance on Nebraska Street. We'll be collecting donations through Easter Sunday (March 31<sup>st</sup>). Thanks!



### **FAT TUESDAY - February 13th**

Member Care Committee is hosting a pancake supper from 5:30pm – 6:30 pm on Tuesday February 13<sup>th</sup> in the dining hall. Come enjoy sausages & pancakes (also gluten free) -as many as you can eat along with a King Cake. Will you be the lucky one to get the surprise in the cake???

Fat Tuesday or “Mardi Gras” is the Tuesday before Ash Wednesday and the start of [40 days](#) of fasting & penance – the start of Lent.

### **Jesus Christ Superstar**

When: February 13, 2024

Where: Orpheum Theater

Time: 7:30pm

Tickets: If you have not had a chance to pick up your ticket order, they are at the First Presbyterian Church Office. Contact Karen in the church office to pick up your tickets prior to Tuesday evening. Call the office at 712-255-8919 or office hours are 9:00am- 4:30pm Monday through Thursday and Friday

### **Fellowship Dinners Begin in April**

Fellowship Dinners are a wonderful way to get to know our church friends outside of church. Those who sign up -- couples and singles -- are assigned to a group of 6. One person is assigned to host a meal at their home or a local restaurant. The host also invites two more people to join the meal. You may invite the Pastor and his wife, other church goers, or friends or family outside our church. If hosted in your home, the others in the group are invited to bring a dish to complement the items you will be preparing. Hosting a meal is not a requirement of participating.

If you would like to be part of a Fellowship Dinner group for April/May or just have questions, please contact Barb Davis at 402-679-6640 or [bjsorendavis@gmail.com](mailto:bjsorendavis@gmail.com) by March 15th. Be sure to let her know if you are unable to host a meal.



### Month of February

Sunday Coffee Fellowship: Memorial Committee

Wednesday Night Dinners\*\*\*: Memorial Committee

February 13<sup>th</sup> – Fat Tuesday Pancake Supper

February 13<sup>th</sup> – Jesus Christ Superstar @ the Orpheum

Lenton Lunches begin February 16<sup>th</sup> thru March 22<sup>nd</sup>

Lunch Bunch: Not scheduled this month-come join the fun at our Fat Tuesday Pancake supper

Prayer Shawls: Volunteers are needed to crochet or knit more shawls. Please contact a committee member if you would like to know more details. Ron Rohlena has donated yarn for this project & a pattern is available.

### Month of March:

Sunday Fellowship Coffee: Christian Discipleship Committee

Wednesday Night Dinners\*\*\*: Finance & Administration Committee

\*\*\*The session committees that are hosting the Sunday coffee and Wednesday dinners and will gladly take assistance from anyone in the congregation that would like to volunteer to help with a meal. If you are interested, please contact a committee member that will be serving for the month. \*\*\*



Thanks to Curt Burns, Barb Davis, Tim, Amy & Nick Hynds, Robbie Rohlena, and Jeff Stanley for undecorating and cleaning up the church. May God make this Ordinary Time extraordinary for us all!



Fellowship between Christmas Eve services. Great food and conversation.





**Acolytes:**

- Feb 4: Emmett Rohlena
- Feb 11: Sage Pierson
- Feb 18: Harper Rohlena
- Feb 25: Hazel Rohlena

**Greeter/Usher:**

- Feb 4: Vicki Ackerman, Juliana Mayne, Barb Davis & Chris Hunt
- Feb 11: Bob & Pat Anderson, Anne Cowley, and Juliana Mayne
- Feb 18: Steve & Brenda Bradley & Butch & Mary Floyd
- Feb 25: Anne Cowley, Kathleen Morfitt, Lowell & Judy Vos

**Lectors:**

- Feb 4: Paul Johnson
- Feb 11: Randy Benton
- Feb 18: Andrea Rohlena
- Feb 25: John Mayne

**Tellers:**

- Feb 4: Kathy Zebert & Sarah Steill
- Feb 11: Brenda Bradley & Lance Eybers
- Feb 18: Kathy Zebert & Curtis Burns
- Feb 25: Sarah Steill & Lance Eybers



**We will be having a brief CONGREGATIONAL MEETING after worship on Sunday, February 11<sup>th</sup>. Our only order of business will be electing the final at-large member of our Nomination Committee. Please plan on taking part.**

In case of an emergency in the First Presbyterian Family please contact Pastor Mark at (309)644-0794.

**Volunteers** — If you are unavailable on your scheduled date, please arrange for a substitute and advise the office. Thank you for your assistance and consideration.

# First Presbyterian Church

Sioux City, Iowa



# 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><u>Notes:</u></p> <p>*Your office staff will be at work Monday thru Thursday 9:00 am to 4:30 pm</p> <p>*Office closes each Friday at Noon.</p> <p>* Childcare offered during Sunday worship &amp; Wednesday evenings</p>				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
9:30 Bible Study 9:30 Choir 9:30 Sunday School 10:00 Coffee 10:30 Worship 11:30 Member Care	5:30 Bldg. & Grounds		5:30 Meal 6:15 Bible Study 6:15 Children's activities 6:00 Handbells 7:00 Choir	7:00 Chamber Music		
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
9:30 Bible Study 9:30 Choir 9:30 Sunday School 10:00 Coffee 10:30 Worship	5:00 Personnel	5:00 Pancake Dinner 7:30 Jesus Christ Superstar	12:00 Worship in chapel  7:00 Joint service at SSC		Noon—Lenten Lunch	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
9:30 Bible Study 9:30 Handbells 9:30 Sunday School 10:00 Coffee 10:30 Worship 3:00—Chamber Music	12:15 Admin/Fin  <i>Newsletter DeadOline</i>		5:30 Meal 6:15 Bible Study 6:15 Children's activities 6:00 Handbells 7:00 Choir	4:30 Memorial	Noon—Lenten Lunch	
25	26	27	28	29		
9:30 Bible Study 9:30 Sunday School 9:30 Choir 10:00 Coffee 10:30 Worship 11:30 Deacons	5:00 All Staff mtg. 5:30 Music & Worship <i>Print Newsletter</i>	7:00 Session	5:30 Meal 6:15 Bible Study 6:15 Children's activities 6:00 Handbells 7:00 Choir			

# First Presbyterian Church



*This is our mission:  
to shine the light  
of Christ's love —  
through our life together,  
with our gifts,  
and in our daily lives —  
from the heart of Sioux City,  
for the sake of God's kingdom  
in the world.*

608 Nebraska Street, Sioux City, Iowa 51101

Office Hours: Mon-Thurs 8:30 am– 4:30 pm, Fri 9 am-Noon  
Tel. 712-255-8919

Web page: [www.1stpresby.com](http://www.1stpresby.com)  
Office email: [office@1stpresby.com](mailto:office@1stpresby.com)  
Pastor: [pastor@1stpresby.com](mailto:pastor@1stpresby.com)  
Twitter@1stChurchSCIA

Office Administrator [finance@1stpresby.com](mailto:finance@1stpresby.com)

Be sure to check our new Facebook page:  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/902340006496216/>.

### Church Staff:

Pastor.....Mark Bedford  
Music Director & Organist..... Mary Kay Benton  
Adult Choir Director.....Rachael Wragge  
Hand Bell Director.....Anne Cowley  
Children's Music Director.....Rachael Wragge  
Sound Sexton.....Dylan Baier  
Sunday School Director.....Sarah Brown  
Office Admin/Finance Mgr.....Karen Heinemann  
Custodians.....Rick Heinemann

### Deadline Dates for Publications

**Weekly Worship Bulletin - each Tuesday at Noon.**

**Newsletter - one week prior to publication**  
(goal is to publish one day prior to the last work day of the month, so the deadline is one week prior to that.)

... included on the monthly calendar, but please call the office if you are uncertain.

**Information received after deadline** will be held for the next publication if still applicable.

**Thank you all** for your consideration; we appreciate your efforts to respect these deadlines, making it easier for us to complete our work timely and efficiently.

**The Light, our church newsletter,  
is your monthly publication of  
need-to-know information and events.**

It is available on-line at  
([www.1stpresby.com](http://www.1stpresby.com))

And by mail.

**To add your name to the mailing list,**  
please call the church office

712-255-8919

or email

[finance@1stpresby.com](mailto:finance@1stpresby.com)

Or you can subscribe on the new website!

**Got news?** ...births, weddings, graduations,  
awards, job promotions,  
or other news you'd like to share?



Send it to:  
[finance@1stpresby.com](mailto:finance@1stpresby.com).  
We'll be glad to share it for you.

### Have you moved?

New... Street address?

....Email address?

....Phone number?

God knows where you are,  
but we don't know unless you tell us.

If you have new contact information,  
please let us know

so we can update our records —

Please contact the Church Office  
at 712-255-8919 or e-mail us at  
[finance@1stpresby.com](mailto:finance@1stpresby.com).

Thanks so much.

The word "February" is written in a bold, white, sans-serif font. It is centered horizontally and partially obscured by a vibrant, multi-colored brushstroke graphic. The brushstrokes are in shades of purple, blue, and red, creating a dynamic, artistic background for the text.

**February**

*Welcome to First Presbyterian Church.  
We hope you'll join us for worship  
every Sunday morning at 10:30 a.m.*