

November 1, 2024

First Presbyterian Church

608 Nebraska Street, Sioux City, Iowa 51101



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November Worship Service Info



Sunday, Nov 3—24th Sunday after Pentecost
Matthew 16:24-28; Q+A: What Can They Give for Their Lives?

Sunday, Nov 10—25th Sunday after Pentecost
Matthew 5:38-48; Q+A: What Reward Do You Have?

Sunday, Nov 17—26th Sunday after Pentecost
John 6:53-69; Q+A: Does This Offend You?

Sunday, Nov 24—Christ the King
Matthew 16:13-20; Q+A: Who Do You Say That I Am?

Friends,

Jesus had many run-ins with the Pharisees and other religious leaders. They argued with Jesus. They spoke to crowds about how much they disagreed with Him. They made accusations against Him.

But sometimes it was what the Pharisees DIDN'T say that meant the most. In their encounters with Jesus, these religious leaders were often struck silent. Sometimes Jesus asked them questions that they simply couldn't answer because what He said or did went against their own self-righteous legalism. And then they would find their positions indefensible. Like one time when Jesus wanted to heal a man on the sabbath, which the Pharisees insisted was against God's law...

Then Jesus said to them, 'Is it lawful to do good or to do harm on the sabbath, to save life or to kill?' But they were silent. He looked around at them with anger; He was grieved at their hardness of heart...

from Mark 3:4-5

Other times, when the Pharisees argued with Jesus in public, Jesus would give them a choice of how they could answer a question. Then they would realize that neither answer would make them look good. This made it painfully obvious that the Pharisees were often less worried about what God wanted than they were about their own image in the public eye.

Jesus answered them, 'I will also ask you a question, and you tell me: Did the baptism of John [the Baptist] come from heaven, or was it of human origin?' They discussed it with one another, saying, 'If we say, "From heaven", He will say, "Why did you not believe him?" But if we say, "Of human origin", all the people will stone us; for they are convinced that John was a prophet.' So they answered that they did not know where it came from.

Luke 20:3-7

Politicians, like Pharisees, talk a lot. They deliver speeches and do interviews. They make promises about what they plan to accomplish. They make accusations against their opponents. But sometimes it's more meaningful to listen to their silences; to what they DON'T say. When someone asks them a question they don't want to answer, do they change the subject to their favorite talking points? When they deliver a stump speech, are there issues they choose not to talk about?

This November 5th, we have the opportunity to fulfill our duty as Americans to vote (you ARE going to vote, right?). You can vote for your favorite politicians or vote against the ones you don't like. But as you prepare and pray beforehand (you DO pray before you vote, right?), don't just focus on what politicians have said. Consider the issues on which a politician has decided to remain silent. The questions they didn't answer. The subjects they glossed over. And then ask yourself. Are you voting for a politician? Or for a Pharisee?

No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

Matthew 22:46

In Christ,
Pastor Mark

Mary's Music Notes—



As we head into November, we have many things to be thankful for, in our music department:

*Handbell Choir that is active - many churches do not have their handbell choirs anymore

*Adult Choir - many churches do not have theirs anymore or only meet once a month - we have an active choir that shares at least 3 times a month and helps lead singing in our worship

*Fantastic youth - kids/youth that share their singing and playing talents

*Special music - we are fortunate that many community members will join their talents with ours to enhance our worship services - strings, oboe, flute, horn, and the list goes on

*Wonderful instruments - organ (even though it is needing some TLC), grand piano, handbells, carillon, Orff instruments and more

We have many ways that we can and do enhance our worship of the Lord - Amen!!

Looking ahead.....

Nov. 3	Choir	Nov. 10	Choir with youth
Nov. 17	Kids	Nov. 24	Handbells
Dec. 1	Choir	Dec. 8	Handbells
Dec. 15	Choir		

**Our Handbells will be playing with the Sioux City Symphony on their Holiday Concert

Dec. 22	Choir	Dec. 24	Early service - kids
Dec. 24	Evening service - Vocal Quartet	Dec. 29	Special Music TBD

Other offerings being hosted at our church:

Nov. 10 Northwest Iowa Singers: Fall Concert - Doubt, Faith, Joy
3 pm Freewill Offering

Tour of Steeples - December 7 - 10 am to 2 pm

Freewill Donations to support *The Soup Kitchen* and *The Warming Shelter*

Sioux City is welcoming it's 1st Annual Tour of Steeples. The churches listed below, have agreed to be open to the public as an open house. Come experience each church by taking a tour at your pace and enjoy the decorations and beauty of the Christmas Season. You are welcome to come and go as you please - each church will do their own thing - some will offer snacks, music, history and more.

St. Mark Lutheran - St. Luke Lutheran - Immaculate Conception - First Presbyterian Church - Mayflower UCC
St. James Global Methodist - Rustin Avenue Community Church - Faith United Presbyterian - Bethany Lutheran Church
Cathedral of the Ephiphany - St. Boniface Catholic Church - St. Joseph Catholic Church

Mary Benton, Director of Music



Income & Disbursement Summary Through September 30, 2024

***Please be
sure and
pay your
Per Capita
this year.***

2024
Per Capita
amount
is \$53.95.

Income

All pledges, non-pledges & loose collection	\$ 246,765.60
Other operating income	\$ 10,523.98
Restricted donations	\$ 2,720.00
Per Capita	\$ 1,963.75
Total Income	\$ 261,973.33

Disbursements

Mission	\$ 15,712.67
Ministry*	\$ 90,723.89
Music	\$ 6,964.79
Christian Discipleship	\$ 288.03
Building & Grounds	\$ 82,234.99
Office and Admin	\$ 16,515.05
Assessment	\$ 10,668.60
Other**	\$ 28,349.56
Personnel Payroll	\$ 98,281.69
Total Disbursements	\$ 349,739.27

Gain or Loss **\$ (87,765.94)**

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

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



Previous Months Worship Attendance Report

Sept 29	68 in sanctuary
Oct 6	72 in sanctuary
Oct 13	75 in sanctuary
Oct 20	63 in sanctuary
Oct 27	61 in sanctuary



Be sure to set your clocks back before you go to bed Saturday, November 2nd. Otherwise, you will more than likely be the first person to arrive for worship on Sunday!

November birthdays

11th - Bill Blazie	22nd - Brandon Wagner
13th - Carter Hunt	26th- Juliana Mayne
16th - Gabby Uhl	27th- Suriana Uhl
16th - Tim Stodden	27th - Sabrina Stodden
20th - John Mayne	

November anniversaries



2nd - Terry & Carol Beaumont
 12th - Jeff & Patty Rarick
 15th - Brant & Ashley Mozak
 19th - Brian & Katie Haak

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.



There will be a called Congregational Meeting on Sunday, November 24th following worship.

Please put the date on your calendar to be sure and be here to learn about your church's finances, budgets and nominations for Session and Deacons for the classes of 2027.

2025 Pledges—we have received 31 pledge cards as of 10/27/24. Here is our totals:

Pledges \$169,065.00

Prepays \$0.00

Total \$169,065.00

Please turn your pledge cards in as soon as possible.

Please join us in the joyful preparation of our Sanctuary for Advent and Christmas. Many willing hands make the work extra light. We will set up the tree and nativity sets. We will hang wreaths, garland, ribbons and the Christmas banners. And, we will vacuum up our mess when we are done. Plan on about one hour for this fun event.

A delightful soup luncheon will be provided by members of the congregation. A sign-up sheet for the lunch items will be shared on Sundays prior to the 24th. Or, call Barb Davis at 402-679-6640.

REMINDER: The First Presbyterian Women have moved their monthly meeting date. They will be meeting on the 2nd Thursday of the month.

For the month of November they will be meeting at the church at 6:30. Dessert will be provided. Come join us!



Advent & Christmas Decorating Party

Sunday, November 24th

Treasurers Brunch



We celebrated our Treasurers on October 13th. A wonderful brunch was served by our Member Care Committee.

Front row left to right: Rev. Peg Brinck, Carol Beaumont, Sandy Gunnink, Charlotte Curry, Martie Ebner, Jane Hey and Lewis Weinberg.

Back row left to right: Rev. Bedford, Bill Brinck, Terry Beaumont, Peter Macfarlane, Jerry Gardiner, Kerwin Meyer and Chuck Warner.



The man whispered, “God, speak to me,” and a meadowlark sang. But the man did not hear. So the man yelled, “God, speak to me!” And the thunder rolled across the sky. But the man did not listen. The man looked around and said, “God, let me see you.” And a star shone brightly. But the man did not notice. “God, show me a miracle,” he demanded, and a new life was born. But the man took no notice. He cried out in despair, “Touch me, God, and let me know you are here!” God reached down and touched the man, but he brushed away the butterfly and walked on. Don’t miss out on a blessing because it isn’t packaged the way you would expect.

(From The Presbyterian Outlook, March 23, 2009 issue, “in this corner” by Marj)

On this Thanksgiving, be sure to count your Blessings!



Estate Planning Tip

The Benefits of Gifting Appreciated Stock

When it comes to making charitable donations, gifting appreciated stock is one of the most tax-savvy and impactful options available. Below are several reasons that make this method of giving an optimal strategy for both the donor and the charity:

Avoid Capital Gains Tax: By donating appreciated stock, you avoid paying capital gains tax on the stock’s growth. If you were to sell the stock and then donate the proceeds, you would first have to pay capital gains tax on the appreciation, reducing the value of your gift.

Receive a Full Fair Market Value Deduction: You can claim a charitable deduction for the full fair market value of the stock if you have held it for more than one year. This could potentially provide you with a larger tax deduction compared to donating cash.

Year-End Tax Planning: Gifting appreciated stock offers flexibility in year-end tax planning. If you are seeking a deduction in a high-income year, making a stock donation can help reduce your taxable income in a way that maximizes benefits.

Larger Gift for the Charity: Since the charity does not pay capital gains tax when they sell the stock, they receive the full value of your contribution and can make the most of your gift.

Greater Long-Term Philanthropy: Donating appreciated stock allows for a sustainable way to support causes over time. This strategy can help build a long-term legacy of charitable giving.

Gifting appreciated stock to charity allows you to maximize tax benefits while making a more substantial contribution to the causes you care about. It’s a smart, impactful, and tax-efficient strategy that benefits both you and the charity, ensuring that your gift has the greatest impact.

Reminder: The church office will be closed on Thanksgiving Day and the following Friday in observance of the holiday.

First Presbyterian Church lunch bunch will meet on Sunday, Nov. 10, after church at the downtown Perkins. Please let Anne Cowley know if you will be coming. 712-204-5182



MEMBER CARE CORNER



Month of November

- Sunday Coffee Fellowship* – Hosted by Finance & Admin Committee
- Wednesday Night Meals* - Hosted by Music & Worship Committee
- November 10th Lunch Bunch hosted at Perkins, 501 Gordon Dr-Contact Ann Cowley is wishing to attend for reservation count
- November 25th Downtown Holiday Lighted Parade, 6:15pm
- Prayer Shawls: Anyone interested in crocheting or knitting a prayer shawl, please contact Anne Cowley or Mary Burns for more information. Ron Rohlena has donated yarn for this project. A pattern for the shawl is available.

Month of December

- Sunday Coffee Fellowship hosted by Music & Worship Committee
- Wednesday Night Meals-Hosts TBA
- Lunch Bunch December 8th location TBA

*Sunday Coffee Fellowships & Wednesday Night Meals are hosted by our Session Committees. Any 1st Presbyterian member is welcome to help these committees serve. Feel free to contact any session member to volunteer- It is greatly appreciated.

The 2024 IBEW Downtown Holiday Lighted Parade is almost here! Mark your calendars for **Monday, November 25 at 6:15pm** to gather your loved ones for a night of twinkling lights and holiday magic.





Acolytes:

- Nov 3: Hazel Rohlena
- Nov 10: Aidan Hunt
- Nov 17: Emmett Rohlena
- Nov 24: JJ Kimbell

Tellers:

- Nov 3: Jeff Stanley & Sarah Steill
- Nov 10: Kathy Zebert & Jeff Stanley
- Nov 17: Brenda Bradley & Curtis Burns
- Nov 24: Jeff Stanley & Lance Eybers

Lectors:

- Nov 3: Barb Davis
- Nov 10: Paul Johnson
- Nov 17: John Mayne
- Nov 24: Andrea Rohlena

Greeter/Usher:

- Nov 3: Bob & Pat Anderson, Anne Cowley & Casey Morfitt
- Nov 10: Steve & Brenda Bradley, Barb Davis & Neva Pierce
- Nov 17: Michael & Andrea Rohlena family
- Nov 24: Lowell & Judy Vos, Chris Hunt, Juliana Mayne

Your office staff would like to wish you all a Blessed Thanksgiving.

The church office will be closed on November 28th and 29th in observance of the holiday. We will back to the office on Monday, December 2nd.



In case of an emergency in the First Presbyterian Family please contact the church office. If after hours please contact Pastor Bedford 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>					1	2
<p>3</p> <p>End of Daylight Savings</p> <p>9:30 Sunday School 9:30 Bible Study 10:00 Choir 10:00 Coffee 10:30 Worship 11:30 Member Care 2:30 NWIA practice</p>	<p>4</p> <p>5:30 Bldg. & Grounds</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p> <p>5:30 Meal 6:00 Handbells 6:00 Kids Activities 6:15 Bible Study 7:00 Choir</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Piano tuned</p>	<p>9</p>
<p>10</p> <p>9:30 Sunday School 9:30 Choir 9:30 Bible Study 10:00 Coffee 10:30 Worship 3:00 NWIA Chorus</p>	<p>11</p> <p>5:30 Personnel</p>	<p>12</p> <p>7:00 Called Session meeting</p>	<p>13</p> <p>4:45 Christian Discipleship 5:30 Meal 6:00 Handbells 6:00 Kids Activities 6:15 Bible Study</p>	<p>14</p> <p>6:30 PW @ church</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16</p>
<p>17</p> <p>9:30 Sunday School 9:30 Choir 9:30 Bible Study 10:00 Coffee 10:30 Worship 11:30 Mission</p>	<p>18</p> <p>12:15 Admin/Fin</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p> <p>5:30 Meal 6:00 Handbells 6:00 Kids Activities 6:15 Bible Study</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p>
<p>24</p> <p>9:30 Sunday School 9:30 Handbells Bible Study 10:00 Coffee 10:30 Worship 11:30 Annual Congregational Mtg. 11:45 Decorate sanctuary</p>	<p>25</p> <p>5:00 Staff 5:30 Music & Worship 6:15 Holiday Light Parade <i>Print Newsletter</i></p>	<p>26</p> <p>7:00 Session</p>	<p>27</p> <p><i>No Activities</i></p>	<p>28</p> <p><i>Office Closed</i></p>	<p>29</p> <p><i>Office Closed</i></p>	<p>30</p>

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
Office email: office@1stpresby.com
Pastor: pastor@1stpresby.com
[Twitter@1stChurchSCIA](https://twitter.com/1stChurchSCIA)

Office Administrator finance@1stpresby.com

Be sure to check our new Facebook page:
[https://www.facebook.com/groups/902340006496216/.](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.....Kierson Kimbell
Office Admin/Finance Mgr.....Karen Heinemann
Custodian.....Ryan Thomas

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)

And by mail.

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

712-255-8919

or email

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.
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.

Thanks so much.



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