

Pastor: Rev. Trey Hegar
Organist/Bell Choir Director: Marj Thimmesch
Choir Director: Marlene DePriest
Congregational Ministries Director: Rev. Sarah Hegar
AV Technician & Web Coordinator: Leo Clark
Office Assistant: Mariah Giberson
Custodians: Robert Luth

The mission of the First Presbyterian Church, Mt. Pleasant is to encourage and nurture diverse expressions of the love of Christ in our congregation and community, and to embrace Christ centered ministries around the world.

Financial Secretary: Ginnie Swarm
Treasurer: Marvin Bricker
Bookkeeper: Deborah Sinclair

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
902 SOUTH WALNUT
MOUNT PLEASANT IA 52641

Non-Profit Org.
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Permit #90
Mt. Pleasant, IA 52641

Highlights

9:45 AM Sundays
In-person and YouTube Live
Fellowship Time to follow
Recorded services online - see webpage

Address Service Requested

Relay for Life

Friday, August 19 6-9 PM Central Park

Pathfinders

Saturday, August 20 4-6 PM Chesnut-Winers

Welcome Back & Back to School Blessing

Sunday, August 21 9:45 AM

Spaghetti Supper

Wednesday, August 31 5-7:30 PM



ALERT



First Presbyterian Church 319-986-5851

Mount Pleasant, IA 52641 <http://www.firstpresbyonline.org>

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“Honorably Serving is Equitably Serving”

You are a faithful church for following along and supporting the General Assembly of the PCUSA. It feels good to be a part of something bigger and as you move forward with the Matthew 25 initiative, you are moving with the momentum of the Holy Spirit working through the Church. Since there is a lot of coverage on what has happened at the General Assembly, I would like to focus on *how* these decisions are made, more specifically, equity.

As a culture that has been through a lot, there is increasing anxiety and awareness that makes “getting it right” seem next to impossible. But as Christians, we are called to love even in the face of this. First, we have a choice to be equitable, we have rights, and we have recourse-action to take if we are not being honoring to one another. Most importantly, we had a “prime” to guide our decision making for discussion and decisions. I share these with you now, in encouragement for how you are serving in your community (see graphics on next page).

In John 21:15-17, we are reminded of how to show our love like Jesus, by feeding lambs, tending sheep, and feeding sheep. When we look at the ways we can nurture and care for each other and the most vulnerable (the voices that may not at our table), we are living out his word. What would be pleasing to God is for his kin-dom to be reconciled, for us all to know and understand how connected we are.

Thank you for making the connections with me this summer. It has been a pleasure serving here at First Pres Mount Pleasant. Blessings on you, your church, and your missions.

Peace,
Seminarian Marta Pumroy

We each have a choice... to be a voice for equity and inclusion.

When I see or hear someone being treated in a manner contrary to our values and rights as members of this committee, I can...

- Send a private message to the speaker
- Ask for recognition to pause and address the issue in the moment
- Speak with the moderator at the break to address later

Am I using the meeting tools to maintain my own power?

Provisional List of Rights of Members of a GA committee underlying the equity primes card:

- Right to be recognized by moderator
- Right to disagree and voice disagreement
- Right not to be interrupted and finish a thought
- Right to vote, depending on status
- Right to speak in all of our various accents and dialects
- Right to request an interpreter
- Right to feel equal to others at the table
- Right not to be a cradle Presbyterian and have zero connection to the historical church

GROUP/COMMITTEE EQUITY PRIME: QUESTIONS BEFORE DISCUSSION/DECISIONS

- Why are we trying to make the decision now?
- Do we have enough information to make an equitable/inclusive decision?
 - Have we heard directly from those who will be most impacted?
 - Have we thought through the impact to the whole church?
- What additional voices/information do we need to make an equitable/inclusive decision?
- What information would lead to more equity?
- Have we honored what's on our cards to honor each others' rights and check our own use of power?
- Is this decision being made with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love?

Session Highlights

Session did not meet during the month of July. Session will resume on Monday, August 8 at 6 PM in Peter's Room.

August Worship Helpers

Sunday Morning Building Assistant: **Matt Lawler**

Financial Clerk: **Maggie Epperson**

Greeters: **Curt & Ginnie Swarm**

Sunday, August 7 Communion Preparer: **Pat Richenberger**

Liturgists:

August 7 **Janet Cermak** August 14 **Chuck Albright**

August 21 **Adam Creager** August 28 **Tammy Shull**

Pastor Trey Returns!

On Monday, August 15, **Pastor Trey** will return to the office and his work. We hope he is eager to return however it will take some time to adjust back into the rhythms of his job.

Please give him some time to get settled
(and check emails!).

Mission Gift to Support Local Families & Mt. Pleasant Child Care Center

As a Matthew 25 congregation, we look into our larger community to note needs that we might help to address. A few years ago, recognizing a serious shortage of child care, we contributed to the creation of Mt. Pleasant Child Care Center.

We have watched for opportunities to continue support for the center and the families it serves. Learning that some families struggle to pay their tuition, we have made a gift of \$2000 to the center. This will allow several families to meet their obligations, as well as providing the center with its necessary income. In addition, area businesses will be able to keep workers who can feel secure that their children are receiving high-quality, stable care.

September ALERT Deadline

The September ALERT is Monday, August 22. Please make sure to have all articles, announcements, thank you's, and congratulations into the office by the end of that day. Thanks.

Treasurer's Report for June 2022

JUNE 2022	CURRENT MONTH	CURRENT MONTH	YEAR TO DATE	YEAR TO DATE	2022 YEAR
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	ACTUAL	BUDGET	BUDGET
General Pledges	\$22,027.00	\$21,094.00	\$159,574.00	\$126,569.00	\$235,138.00
From Endowment Fund	\$0.00	\$6,102.00	\$0.00	\$36,610.00	\$73,219.04
Other Revenue	\$67.00	\$263.00	\$3,074.00	\$1,574.00	\$20,150.00
Total Revenue	\$22,094.00	\$27,459.00	\$162,648.00	\$164,753.00	\$328,507.04
EXPENSES					
Pastor	\$9,671.00	\$10,314.00	\$58,000.00	\$62,336.00	\$124,671.82
Personnel	\$8,901.00	\$9,788.00	\$54,944.00	\$61,116.00	\$120,222.22
Worship and Music	\$182.00	\$325.00	\$1,186.00	\$1,950.00	\$3,900.00
Adult Christian Education	\$0.00	\$192.00	\$181.00	\$1,150.00	\$2,300.00
Youth Christian Education	\$1,489.00	\$2,208.00	\$2,292.00	\$5,250.00	\$10,000.00
Stewardship	\$144.00	\$108.00	\$389.00	\$650.00	\$4,200.00
Building and Grounds	\$3,187.00	\$3,454.00	\$15,848.00	\$13,725.00	\$27,450.00
Operations	\$698.00	\$642.00	\$4,225.00	\$3,850.00	\$7,700.00
Technology	\$0.00	\$379.00	\$0.00	\$2,275.00	\$4,550.00
Mission	\$750.00	\$1,543.00	\$13,989.00	\$11,756.00	\$23,513.00
Special Giving	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Expenses	\$25,022.00	\$28,953.00	\$151,054.00	\$164,058.00	\$328,507.04
CASH INCREASE (DECR)	(\$2,928.00)	(\$1,494.00)	\$11,594.00	\$695.00	\$0.00
Respectfully submitted, Marvin Bricker , Treasurer					

Special thanks to **Ginnie Swarm, Deb Sinclair, Marvin Bricker** and our **financial clerks** for all of their work.

Jeff Willham, Stewardship Chair

Tithes and Offerings

We ask that you continue to give to the church, so we can continue to help and support our community programs and offer programs and support to you. You may drop off your checks in the office, mail your checks to 902 S. Walnut St. or give online by copying this link <https://bit.ly/2x46F6l>. *Rev. Trey Hegar*

2 Cents Bucket

Summers are so busy- it's easy to forget what needs to be done! But something you can remember to do is contribute to the 2 Cents Bucket in the Gathering Space during the coffee and cookies Fellowship time. Our Deacons want you to know how much your contributions mean to our community. Money from the 2 Cents Bucket goes to Camp Wyoming, Christamore House, Tolson Community Action, Fellowship Cup, Battered Women's Shelter, and more! The benefits of these contributions are immeasurable. Thanks for remembering to contribute to these worthy causes!

Westminster Choir

Westminster Choir will start up right after Old Thresher's is over - Sunday, September 11 at 8:30 AM. We welcome all returning members as well as anyone who just wants to have fun while singing. If you are in need of childcare services, let us know - it can be arranged. Looking forward to another wonderful year of fun, laughter and song!

*Westminster Choir Director, **Marlene***

Special Music for Summer

Thank you to everyone who provided special music in July. We heard from a bell group, Sound of 6, (**Jeff Fager, Mindy Creager, Jane Creager, Sally Fager, Marilyn Vincent, and Jeff Epperson**), a bell soloist, **Marj Thimmesch**, a saxophonist, **Adam Creager**, and a pianist, **Heidi Riepe**. Looking forward to August we will have a violinist, a women's vocal trio, a special music duo for Trey's welcome home, and another bell group. Everyone's contribution to worship is greatly appreciated.

Presbyterian Women

For August, PW will be having a luncheon at the Bonaparte Retreat on Thursday, August 4. All women who wish to come will meet in the church parking lot at 10:30 AM to carpool. Reservations are needed, so please let **Susan Farnsworth** know or sign up in the Gathering Space by August 1.

Book Group

Book Group will meet Thursday, August 11 at 7 PM in the Gathering Space to discuss *Under the Whispering Door* by T.J. Klune. September's selection is *Wish You Were Here* by Jodi Picoult. Please join us for stimulating conversation and refreshments!

Amy Clark's Graduation Party

Please join us in celebrating **Amy Clark** completing her Master's Degree in Marriage and Family Therapy. We will be honoring her accomplishment on Saturday, August 6 from 1-4 PM in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome to come celebrate.

Summer Pathfinders Gathering

Saturday, August 20 4-6 PM

Let's have another summer Pathfinders gathering! Join the **Chesnutt-Winers** for an afternoon social on Saturday, August 20 from 4-6 PM at their home in Fairfield (1681 Highway 1 N). Come cool off and take a dip in the pool. Or if you want to stay really cool, stay inside in the heavenly air-conditioning! **Paul and Carol** will provide the soft drinks, iced tea, and watermelon. Bring other snacks and drinks if you like.

Mission Trip

Save the Date! October 21-23

We are planning a youth and adult mission trip to AMEN House in St. Louis October 21-23. We will stay at the AMEN House and do mission projects around the St. Louis area on Saturday. Youth is \$25 and Adults is \$50. This covers everything but a couple meals out during the weekend. Sign up in the Gathering Space or talk to Sarah for more information. An informational meeting will be held on Sunday, September 11.



IowaWINS

IowaWINS is pleased to promote the work of the new youth leadership program, **UNIFY** (Uplifting the Needs of Immigrant Families through Youth Leadership). This group of young people have many ideas for events and activities to bring the community together. Their first Opening Event was held in Central Park at the end of June and was a great success (<https://www.southeastiowaunion.com/se-iowa-union-mount-pleasant/the-unifying-of-mt-pleasant/>).

The event focused around the themes of “what we can do together as a community; we can play together; we can create together; we can work together; we can plan together.” At the event, UNIFY served cookies that they baked together and led children in a variety of fun activities, in addition to an ever-popular bouncy house and music.

These young people are learning how to lead, organize, interact, communicate and plan. For most, it is the first time they have acted in a leadership role. That being said, UNIFY is looking for mentors! With over 10 members, it is desired that each member will have a mentor to help them be successful in their leadership role in UNIFY as they learn new skills. Mentors would ask questions about the planned activities and help members organize their efforts to meet the responsibilities that they are taking on.

For example, one mentor accompanied the UNIFY member when they met with the Chamber of Commerce and the City to arrange for rental of Central Park. Other areas that members may need assistance are in designing flyers, Facebook postings, contacting newspapers and radio stations, setting agendas, taking minutes and organizing their time.

If you are willing to mentor one of these students, please submit a paragraph describing yourself to Diana Sanchez at idsanchez04015@gmail.com. Describe yourself, your strengths and interests so that we can match you with a student who would benefit from your expertise. A background check will be required before mentoring can begin.

Welcome Back Trey & Back to School Blessing!

Sunday, August 21

We will welcome Trey back from his three month Sabbatical with a brunch on the lawn and live music following worship. We will also do a Blessing for all of our folks heading back to school. Plan to be here for an uplifting and fun morning together.

Walking Together at Relay for Life

Friday, August 19 from 6-9 PM, Central Park

All summer we have been preparing to walk together at Relay for Life, and now the event is drawing near! On Friday evening, August 19, all church members and friends are warmly invited to gather at Central Park in Mt. Pleasant. From 6-9 PM, we will walk or sit, joining other community members in a celebration of love, support, and remembrance.

During the event, you will be able to purchase food at a truck serving wood-fired pizza and snacks from a table set up by another team. Upbeat music will encourage us to keep moving. As evening settles in, the walkways will be lined with luminaries honoring individuals affected by cancer.

Relay for Life is a project of the American Cancer Society, which supports both research at the University of Iowa and individual patients. You can contribute to this work with a monetary gift. Go to the church website or drop a gift into the designated box at the church. We are aiming to raise \$3000.

As a Matthew 25 church, we are called to reach out into our community to offer support in meeting needs there. Joining our friends in the larger community in this event is one way to do so. However, we are also a team from First Presbyterian Church, Presbyterian Friends Shining God's Light. A good way to signal your team membership is to wear your blue church T-shirt!

Join us on August 19! Come for the full three hours or stop by for a shorter time. We will be walking together!

Remember Meals by Nutrinos

Meals by Nutrinos offers a variety of freezer meals to purchase in order to help support the IowaWINS food pantry. You can order these meals three different ways:

1) By Phone

If you want to place an order by phone, please call the church office at **319-986-5851**. Note that office hours are 9 AM – 2 PM Monday through Friday.

2) In-Person

You can place and pick up orders Monday through Friday, 9 AM – 2 PM in the church office. Orders are also accepted on the first and third Sunday after service (10:45 – 11:15 AM and Wednesdays from 3 – 6 PM in the Fellowship Hall (with the option of a hot meal). These times do not change unless an announcement is made.

3) Online

Meals by Nutrinos has a website in which you can place orders. Just visit lowawins.net/meals-by-nutrinos and scroll down to the menu items to select your meals. Note that orders online must be paid with online payment (credit/debit card, Paypal).

Meals by Nutrinos would like to thank its customers and volunteers for their continuous support of our meal ministry! Many thanks to **Bob Welander** for repair of the Meals by Nutrinos sign! It is better than ever thanks to his hard work on it!

Make sure you keep up to date on all the things happening at Meals by Nutrinos by liking our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/mealsbynutrinos>.

“LIKE and SHARE”

Our Church Events on Facebook and Social Media

As we continue in this digital age of COVID our church is trying to maintain a positive presence on social media and encourage folks to join us for worship on YouTube. Recordings of worship will be posted to Facebook at a later time that day. Help us spread the word about the good news happening at First Presbyterian by liking and sharing our social media posts!

Sarah Hegar, Director of Congregational Ministries



*We have the best spaghetti near or far;
we will still bring it to your car!*

Annual Spaghetti Supper

Wednesday, August 31, 2022

5:00 to 7:30 PM

Drive Thru Service ONLY

With limited outdoor dining

Tickets: \$12 Adults

\$6 Child, 8 and under

With two years of drive-thru success under our belts and the uncertainty of the new COVID variant, this year's spaghetti supper will again be drive-thru service with limited outdoor seating. HOWEVER, cherry and apple pies will be returning to the menu!!

There are numerous ways you can help with our annual event as we kick off Old Threshers!

1. Sell tickets – ticket packets will be available beginning Sunday, July 31. Please pick up one or more packets of 10 tickets to sell to your family, friends, neighbors, co-workers, service club members—anyone who wants to enjoy dinner to go. You may pick up tickets before or after Sunday services or stop at the church office during the week.

Please make sure all ticket monies and UNSOLD tickets are returned to the church no later than NOON on Tuesday, August 23th.

2. Sign up to volunteer – There are numerous opportunities to help starting the week of August 14. Check out the clipboards in the Gathering Space, including donating either cherry or apple pies! We will be needing 88 donated pies. Sign up for your favorite duty or try something new. All help is greatly appreciated.

3. Donate financially – If you would like to donate to help reduce our expenses, please include your donation in the Sunday offering, place it in the designated envelope in the church office, or mail to the church and designate your gift for Spaghetti Supper.

If you have questions or suggestions, please feel free to give me a call at 319-931-8029. Thanks to everyone for your help in continuing our traditional end of the summer event.

Spaghetti Supper Coordinator, Deb Sinclair

Your words have comforted us, your support has strengthened us, and your love has sustained us. We extend our deepest thanks to you for your overwhelming kindness and generosity during our greatest sadness. We appreciate it more than words can express and it will always be remembered.

The Family of Gene McWhirter

PRAYER CONCERNS:

- **Jennifer Dorothy, who has metastasized Pancreatic Cancer**
- **Pete Rankin, who is on hospice, and his family**
- **Lois Roth's brother (Mark Veldhizen) and sister-in-law (Kim Velduizen)**
- **Our shut-ins and those in care centers**
- **Our nation/world, as they and we deal with COVID-19**
- **Ukraine & its people**

August Anniversaries & Birthdays

- 1 **Jim & Valerie Willham's Anniversary**
- 2 **Tom & Lynn Ellsworth's Anniversary**
Terry & Liz Wasson's Anniversary
- 3 **Carole Lauger**
Brandon & Tara Beauchamp's Anniversary
- 4 **Morgan Brau; Adam & Mindy Creager's Anniversary**
- 5 **Emmett Chalupa, Noah Chalupa, Oaklyn Loyd**
- 6 **Karsyn Lamm**
- 7 **Darcie Woodruff**
- 8 **Andrea Shull**
- 11 **Karen Boston-Kemple**
- 12 **Karen Bates Chabal**
- 13 **Oliver Loyd**
- 15 **Tom & Betty Lowe's Anniversary**
- 18 **Isabel Ashton, Elaina Conrad**
Wade & Dee Benges's Anniversary
- 20 **Jim DePriest**
Kevin & Paula Hoenig's Anniversary
Bob & Rose Mary Wise's Anniversary
- 22 **Dick Benedict**
Jack & Bonnie Kremer's Anniversary
- 23 **Travis Kremer**
- 25 **Mason Mills**
Dick & Mary Beth Young's Anniversary
- 26 **Jennifer Dorothy, Jeff Epperson,**
Alexis Sturkergergen, Byron Woodruff
- 28 **Ginnie Swarm**
- 29 **Deb Sinclair, Jack Becker**
- 30 **Shawn Moffett**
- 31 **John & Vicki Schroeder's Anniversary**