

# IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

**THANK YOU!** Cherie Daniels, along with Chris and Michelle, would like to thank their FPC community for the prayers, help setting up the meal, and all the support that has been given to their family as they have mourned the loss of Harold.

**INTERGENERATIONAL SACRAMENTS EXPERIENCE:** Join us for one last Intergenerational Sacraments Experience next Sunday, March 24 from 9:00am-10:00am instead of the usual Sunday School groups. Don't know anything about them? Great! Come and discover! Think you know everything there is to know about the sacraments? Great! Come and share your understanding!

**CAN YOU HELP?** It's almost time to plant our pocket prairies! We have been solarizing the soil through the winter to prep the site and our prairie plants come at the end of May. The next step is to get mulch laid around the church. We need your help! Come this Saturday at 10:00am to help us move and rake mulch. Please let Tom Boelk or Alex Jack know if you will be able to stop by.

**SPECIAL PC(USA) OFFERING:** Received during the season of Lent, the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering is the single, largest way the Presbyterians come together every year to work for a better world. Each of these funds helps improve the life of people who lack access to sustainable food sources, clean water, sanitation, education, and opportunity. Remember your fish banks and envelope gifts next Sunday, March 24th.

**JOIN US** for the University of Dubuque's production of Godspell on Palm Sunday, March 24th, at 2:00pm for just \$5 per person! Our very own Kristen Eby is the production's music director. Tickets for Godspell may be purchased before March 21st by speaking with Mark Ward via mward@dbq.edu. If you aren't familiar with Godspell, it is the perfect lead-in to Holy Week as Jesus's message of kindness, tolerance, and love come vibrantly to life!

**HOLY WEEK:** On Maundy Thursday, March 28th at 7:00pm, we will gather for the Lord's Supper & Tenebrae worship. Then, Friday, March 29th, from 12-3pm St. Luke's United Methodist Church will host the Good Friday Ecumenical Service. Come and go as you are able during these several hours and experience the Seven Last Words of Jesus with short reflections, prayers, and music.

**PLEASE NOTE:** There will be **NO** Lenten Soup Suppers or Faith Exploration/Youth Group this Sunday, March 17 due to spring break. Back to our regular schedule next Sunday. See you then!

# WELCOME TO FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

We welcome you to this worship service. If you are a guest, please fill out a visitor's card in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate. We would love to greet you by name. We invite you to join us Sunday mornings at 9:00am for Sunday School (September-April). Worship follows at 10:15am. Nursery care is located in the basement and is provided for both the Sunday School and worship hours for children through age 5.

## THE WEEK IN BRIEF (events at FPC unless noted)

<b>Sun. March 17</b> <i>5th Sunday in Lent</i>	9:00am 10:15am	Intergenerational Sacraments Class Worship: Rev. Stephanie Ells, preaching NO Lenten Soup Supper NO Youth Group
<b>Sat. March 23</b>	10:00am	Prepare for prairie planting!
<b>Sun. March 24</b> <i>Palm Sunday</i>	9:00am 10:15am  11:30am 1:30pm 5:30pm 5:30pm	Intergenerational Sacraments Class Worship: Rev. Stephanie Ells, preaching Palm processional & Fish banks Choir Bethany Home worship Lenten Soup Supper @ WPC Youth Group @ WPC

## GIVING

To support the mission and ministry of our church, we need \$14,930 per month. Offerings received through February 25 totaled \$8,877

- Offerings Year to Date through February 25 - \$17,001
- Expenses Year to Date through February 25 - \$26,511

## FOR YOUR INFORMATION

**Deacon of the month March:** Dedee Cosgrove

**Pastor Stephanie's office hours** are 9:00am-1:00pm on Tuesday and Thursday. Contact her anytime with prayer requests or pastoral care needs at 507-227-8537 or fpcdbq.pastor@gmail.com

**Admin Office Hours** for Ginger Vander Broek through March 29 are remote 8:30am-10:30am Monday & Thursday and Tuesdays 9:30am-3:30pm.

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**MARCH 17, 2024**  
**5th Sunday in Lent**

## MINUTE FOR MISSION “One Great Hour of Sharing”

“Be Thou My Vision” *arr. Shackley*

*Eternal God, holy and faithful, what can we give in return for our life? Teach us in this Lenten season to take up the cross of Christ with grateful hearts and humble spirits, offering all for the sake of the gospel, so that we may receive life in fullness; through Christ, who is coming in glory.*

## \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Who among you is seeking the wisdom of God?  
**We long to hear God's Word spoken to our hearts.**

Who among you is seeking God's bright and holy truth?  
**We long to learn the ways of wisdom and righteousness.**

Who among you is seeking a Spirit-filled life?  
**We long to live lives of holiness and light.**

God grants God's wisdom generously to all who ask.  
 Come near, people of God! Let us worship in wisdom and truth.

Hymn #48      “Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”      St. Denio

“Awesome Power”      Elliot

Awesome power, boundless grace,  
None can fathom all your ways.  
Truth and love are found in your heart alone;  
Righteousness surrounds your throne.

Holy, holy, holy Lord most high  
Holy, holy, holy Lord most high

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Loving God, we ask forgiveness for our limitations—how we sometimes pretend to know more than we do, or close our minds

to uncomfortable questions, or give up far too soon in the quest for ever deeper wisdom and understanding. Particularly in the realms of faith, we sell ourselves and other people short by settling for easy answers and grabbing at the sparkly gems instead of delving ever more deeply to find the real treasures buried far below. God, whose love is as deep as the mystery of your being, forgive us our failures of the past and lead us into the truth that alone can set us free.

## DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

“Jesus Loves Me” *Jesus Loves Me*

The peace of Christ be with you.  
**And also with you.**

**SCRIPTURE READING**      Job 28:1-28      p. 821

\*HYMN OF RESPONSE #502  
 “Be Thou My Vision” *Slane*

## Section B, 9.15

God's sovereign love is a mystery beyond the reach of all human minds. Human thought ascribes to God superlatives of power, wisdom, and goodness. But God reveals his love in Jesus Christ by showing power in the form of a servant, wisdom in the folly of the cross, and goodness in receiving sinful humans. The power of God's love in Christ to transform the world discloses that the Redeemer is the Lord and Creator who made all things to serve the purpose of his love.

## RESPONSIVE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Fill us O God,  
with Your words and wisdom.

## OFFERTORY

“Jesus Calls Us” *arr. Broughton*

**\*DOXOLOGY #34**

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**\*SENDING HYMN #2**

“O Worship the King” *Lyons*

## \*BENEDICTION

## \*POSTLUDE

“Agnus Dei” *Mozart/Gale*

*\*\*Please stand in spirit or in body*

*\*\*Please take a moment to extend the peace of Christ to one another by greeting those around you. Say "hello," wave, learn each other's names - whatever feels most comfortable to you.*

*\*\*\*The Confession of 1967 was adopted by the PC(USA) in a time when the social environment in the United States was rapidly changing. Much of the confession's text is dedicated to the subject of reconciliation. It is written in three parts representing the faith, the love, and the hope of the Christian tradition.*

You are warmly invited to join us for a time of fellowship in the Coffee Hour Room next to the sanctuary immediately following the service.

Preacher: Rev. Stephanie Ells  
Liturgist: Ethan Blair  
Music Director: Kristen Eby

Officer in Charge of Greeting: Deb Stant  
Coffee Fellowship hosts: Deb Stant  
Nursery Attendants: Florence Siefker & Brooklyn Neyen  
*(Children through age 5 are invited to the nursery  
for any or all of the service)*