



First Presbyterian Church

"We love because God first loved us."
• 1 John 4:19

WESTMINSTER

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1684 IOWA ST. | DUBUQUE, IA

2155 UNIVERSITY AVE | DUBUQUE, IA



November 24, 2024 | Morning Worship 9:30 am

Welcome! 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.

Nursery care is located in the basement, provided for children through age three.

Please feel free to use the pillow cushions placed above the coat racks at the back of the church if it is difficult for you to sit in our hard pews.

Prayer Requests – Each week, we encourage folks to share their joys and concerns with one another using the *Prayer Cards* in the pews. Please complete a *Prayer Card* and place it in the Offering Plate during worship. This will ensure your prayers are lifted up to God in worship and/or in private.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Crown Him with Many Crowns

arr. Sharon Elery Rogers

FOR PRAYER AND REFLECTION

Eternal God, in the reading of the scripture, may your word be heard; in the meditations of our hearts, may your word be known; and in the faithfulness of our lives, may your word be shown.

OPENING PRAYER

*CALL TO WORSHIP

O give thanks to God for all the goodness we are shown! God's steadfast love endures forever!

We come from the east and the west, the north and the south, to give God thanks and praise!

We once were a wandering people, hungry and thirsty in a desert land.

We cried to God to deliver us, and we were led to a new land rich in promise and harvest.

We give thanks for God's steadfast love! God quenches the thirsty, fills the hungry, and leads us from the desert land to a harvest home.

*SONG OF PRAISE #722

Come, Ye Thankful People Come

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Eternal God, you love us steadfastly, but we have trouble loving in return; you call us, but we have wax filled ears; you reveal yourself, but our eyelids are heavy; you lead us toward our neighbor, but we build walls around ourselves; you hate evil, injustice and alienation, but we get accustomed to it. O God, we pray, help us to see ourselves both as we are and as we might become before you, and draw us by your Spirit's tether into your forgiving and loving grace, through the mercies of Christ we pray. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

***GLORIA PATRI #734**

****PASSING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

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.

TIME WITH YOUNGER DISCIPLES "Who Needs Your Love"

Following the "Time with Younger Disciples," Our youngest disciples, ages 3-grade 3, are encouraged to join our Faith Formation leaders for Children's Church. They will encounter God at a developmentally-appropriate level with safe adults. The child(ren) can be picked up at the conclusion of worship downstairs. Then, enjoy treats and fellowship together!

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READINGS James 2:14-18 and Matthew 25:31-46

These are the Words of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

SERMON

"If Only We Had Known"

***HYMN OF RESPONSE #40**

For the Beauty of the Earth

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Eden Rae Etheredge

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH:** The Apostles Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty' from thence he

shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE OFFERING

*OFFERTORY - Choir *Come, Ye Thankful People, Come* arr. Heather Sorenson

DOXOLOGY #34

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION AND PETITION

*SENDING HYMN #14 *Now Thank We All Our God*

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE *Crown Him with Many Crowns* arr. Ham

* You are invited to rise.

We are thrilled to **CELEBRATE THE BAPTISM** of Eden Rae Etheredge, daughter of Adam and Tarra Etheredge, today in worship. Be sure to welcome her into the Presbyterian family after worship.

WE ARE GLAD YOU ARE HERE! Interested in learning more about these congregations? Wondering how to get connected on a deeper level? Thinking about what becoming a member of the church may look like? Pastor Stephanie would love to talk with you. Simply contact her at fpcdbq.pastor@gmail.com or (507) 227-8537.

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## The worship schedule for Dec 2024 is as follows:

- 1st/3rd/5th Sunday - WPC (Communion on 1st Sunday)
- 2nd/4th Sunday - FPC
- **WEATHER BAD? IS CHURCH CANCELED?** If inclement weather exists, **Sunday morning worship** may be moved from FPC to WPC OR canceled. Such a decision will be made no later than 7am Sunday morning and will be posted on the WPC and FPC website and emailed to both congregations. If Sunday morning worship is canceled, there will be **no** Sunday evening activities. **During the week**, we will follow the Dubuque Community Schools closings and/or delays. Please be diligent in planning for winter weather circumstances.

# CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

**WELCOME TO THE REV. KEN BICKEL**, our worship leader and preacher for this Sunday morning. We are so grateful to have Rev. Ken and his wife, Rev. Nancy Bickel, as part of our congregation here; and for their willingness to share their pastoral gifts in their “retirement.” Pastor Stephanie Ells will be on vacation through November 29. For day-to-day requests, please contact the WPC church office M-TH 9am-2pm at (563) 583-1729. For emergency pastoral care needs, you may contact the Rev. Marsha Wilfong at (563) 583-6571.

**DECKING THE HALLS!** Join us immediately following worship today to decorate the FPC sanctuary for advent and Christmas! Each year, we enjoy doing this together as a church, and there are jobs for all ages. Join in the fun again next week at WPC!

**TITHES AND OFFERINGS *collected in today's service*** will be contributed to the general fund of First Presbyterian Church. As a faithful pledger, you are encouraged to continue your giving patterns to either WPC or FPC. This can be done via electronic giving, mail, or simply holding your pledge until worship is hosted at the church of your pledge commitment.

**THE DUBUQUE CHORALE CHILDREN'S CHOIR**  
DIRECTED BY KARMELLA SELLERS  
**DR. CHARLES BARLAND**  
ORGANIST  
**JOHN EBY, Ph.D**  
LORAS COLLEGE

**STILL  
GRATEFUL**

**42ND ANNUAL INTERFAITH  
THANKSGIVING SERVICE**

**4:00 PM SUNDAY, NOV. 24, 2024**  
**CHURCH OF THE  
RESURRECTION**  
**4300 ASBURY RD.**

STREAMING AVAILABLE HTTP://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/RESDEQ/LIVEE-IDEO

**HOSTED BY DUBUQUE AREA CONGREGATIONS UNITED**

**OFFERINGS OF NON-PERISHABLE FOOD & PAPER  
GOODS FOR THE DUBUQUE FOOD PANTRY AND/OR MONEY  
FOR PEOPLE IN NEED (PIN) WELCOMED**

## **SERVING OUR NEIGHBORS AT THANKSGIVING**

Members of the First and Westminster family of faith will join together on Thanksgiving Day (Thursday, November 28) to provide a place at the table, a free traditional holiday meal and fellowship for anyone in our community who wants to join us. Our volunteers will serve 100 or more of our neighbors between 11:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. No reservations are needed.

Thanks to all those who have volunteered to serve that day. The response has been overwhelming and we have 36 volunteers which will be plenty.

**We Need Pies for Thanksgiving!** We would appreciate donated pies for the Thanksgiving meal. While pumpkin is the Thanksgiving traditional pie, fruit and other pies are okay too. Pies can be delivered to church by 10:30 AM on Thanksgiving Day.

## CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

**WE ARE IN THE PROCESS** of combining those that provide treats on Sunday into one group from FPC & WPC to that of a new group. The treat will be after Church Service & we will eliminate the donut hole treats. To do this we will need families from both FPC & WPC to sign up. Pastor Stephanie has provided a list of families from FPC. We need families from WPC to sign up. Please give Rich Henderson your name if you would like to do this. We hope to get enough families so we can have at least 2 families for each Sunday for a month.

**THANK YOU** to those who participated in the intergenerational wreath making workshop. Families took home some beautiful Advent wreaths along with the advent devotional highlighting the meaning of Advent and Hope, Peace, Joy and Love. Thank you, Roger Ebertz. Large wreaths along the hallway add a new festive Christmas touch.

**THE GREEN TEAM PROVIDES TROLLEY:** The Outreach and Hospitality Teams are sponsoring **Christmas caroling on Sunday, December 1st**, traveling to places around town where members live, mostly in nursing homes or assisted living sites. **Meet at the church at 2:30 p.m.** The Green Team has provided the cost of the trolley from their budget. From a "Green" perspective using the trolley makes more ecological sense than having several cars transporting our carolers around town and putting a lot more carbon emissions into the air than a single vehicle would. We are caring for God's Creation!

**Green Team Tip – Eat Those Leftovers!** During the holiday season we all have leftovers from dinners, parties and get-togethers. A great way to be a good steward of the earth is to make sure those leftovers are eaten. Serve them again, share them with others or donate them to the Dubuque Rescue Mission. Americans throw away 25% of the food they buy!

### **A Brighter Christmas is in the Bag!**

The members of First and Westminster are teaming up to help the Dubuque Food Pantry by providing donations of food and other items to fill the Christmas Baskets for our needy family neighbors.

Here's how it works and how you can help. On Sundays, December 1st or December 8<sup>th</sup>, pick up a reusable tote bag before or after worship (or from the WPC church office during the week). A list of needed items will be provided. Take the bag home and fill it up with some of the food and other items from the needs list.

Bring the filled bag back to church on Sundays, December 8<sup>th</sup> or December 15<sup>th</sup>. All the food will be blessed during worship on December 15<sup>th</sup> and delivered to the Dubuque Food Pantry the next morning. Thanks for helping with this Mission Team project.



**Deacons Fund:  
Memorial Poinsettias for Church Decorations  
Donations accepted through Dec. 15.**

Use a form or Email [marykay@wpcdbq.org](mailto:marykay@wpcdbq.org) or call the office at 583-1729 and mail your \$15 or \$25 memorial donation. Include who your Poinsettia is in memory of or in honor of.



**Wreaths for Church Decorations**

Would you like to donate a Christmas wreath in honor of or in memory of a special someone? Fill out an envelope on the counter in church or email Mary Kay at [marykay@wpcdbq.org](mailto:marykay@wpcdbq.org) and mail your check for **\$23**. Include the name of who your wreath is in memory of. **Donations accepted through Dec. 15.**



**HAVE A PRAYER CONCERN OR JOY TO SHARE?** Folks on the **FPC Prayer Chain** would be honored to pray for you. Simply email Pastor Stephanie at [fpcdbq.pastor@gmail.com](mailto:fpcdbq.pastor@gmail.com), and she will distribute your request. You may also join the FPC Prayer Chain this way!

**CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER LIST FOR WESTMINSTER**

- For **Janet Porter's** recovery & healing from hip surgery.
- For **Mark Thetford** who is on hospice care, managing his symptoms.
- For **Joyce Veach**, Mary Kay's sister in-law, who has liver cancer.
- For **HannaRose Otting's** brain health concerns.
- For **Doug & Lois Pearce** for ongoing health issues.
- For all those on the **Deacons Care List**.

**For Pastoral Care** please call the **pastoral care # 563-279-4545** with your pastoral needs or call the office at 563-583-1729.

**Sunday, November 24**

9:30am – **Worship & Children’s Church at FPC** Rev. Ken Bickel preaching

Coffee, treats and fellowship following worship.

1:30pm – FPC hosts Bethany Home Worship

**NO SUNDAY NIGHT FELLOWSHIP**

**Monday, November 25**

5:30pm – Hospitality/Outreaching Mtg., WPC, BR

**Tuesday, November 26**

9am – Tai Chi, WPC-Narthex

**FPC OFFICE CLOSED**

**Wednesday, November 27**

8am – Men’s Coffee, WPC, BR

**WPC OFFICE CLOSSES AT NOON**

NO Handbells Rehearsal, WPC

Thanksgiving Dinner Set-up, WPC, FH

**Thursday, November 28**

**Thanksgiving Day, FPC and WPC OFFICES ARE CLOSED**

**11:30am-1pm - COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING DINNER**

**Sunday, December 1 – Pick up Food Pantry Tote Bags**

9:30am – **Worship, Communion & Children’s Church at WPC**

with **Coffee Hour to follow!**

2:30pm – Intergenerational Christmas Caroling – meet at WPC

5:00 pm – Hot Chocolate, Light Meal and Decorate Christmas Cookies

**PASTOR STEPHANIE IS ON VACATION THRU NOV. 29<sup>TH</sup>**

**MARY KAY IS ON VACATION MON., TUES. AND TIL NOON WED.** – Glinda Manternach will be filling in.

**BECKY WILL BE IN THE OFFICE MON. & TUES.**

**PASTOR STEPHANIE’S SERMONS** are available in print form. If you are interested in receiving a copy of her sermon via email or mail, please contact her directly at [fpcdbq.pastor@gmail.com](mailto:fpcdbq.pastor@gmail.com) or 507.227.8537

# CHURCH STAFF

## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

**Preacher:** Rev. Dr. Ken Bickel

**Liturgist:** Bryan Blair

**Musician:** Luke Tyler

**Music Ensemble:** Steve Peake and Choir

**Deacon of the Month:** DeDee Cosgrove

**Coffee Hour Hosts:** The Ebertz

**Streaming Team:** Blair

**Greeter of the Month:** Mark Ward

[507-227-8537](tel:507-227-8537) | [firstpresdbq@gmail.com](mailto:firstpresdbq@gmail.com) | [www.firstpresdbq.org](http://www.firstpresdbq.org)

## WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

**Care Coordinator:** Sam Wu #563-279-4545

**Director of Music:** Dr. Luke Tyler

**Handbell Director:** Kristen Eby

**Choir Director:** Steve Peake

**Timbrel & Lyre Director:** Dr. Luke Tyler

**Band Director:** Sally Stulken

**Organist/Pianist:** Dr. Luke Tyler

**Church Administrator:** Mary Kay Pancratz

**Financial Secretary:** Becky Jenkins

**Custodian:** Josh Henry

**Worship Tech:** Deb Seiffert, Marsha Wilfong, Bruce Hallahan

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**WORSHIP  
CHECK-IN**

[\(563\) 583-1729](tel:563-583-1729) | [churchoffice@wpcdbq.org](mailto:churchoffice@wpcdbq.org) | [WPCdbq.org](http://WPCdbq.org)