

November 1, 2022

First Presbyterian Church

608 Nebraska Street, Sioux City, Iowa 51101



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November Worship Service Info



Sunday, Nov 6—22nd Sunday after Pentecost
Luke 10:25-30; Looking for Loopholes

Sunday, Nov 13—23rd Sunday after Pentecost
Luke 10:29-33: NOT Who We Were Expecting

Sunday, Nov 20—Christ the King
Luke 10:33-37; The Cost of Mercy

Sunday, Nov 27—1st Sunday of Advent
II Corinthians 2:14-17; The Aroma of Christmas

(all quotes are from “For All the Saints” by W. W. How, 1846)

*For all the saints, Who from their labors rest,
Who Thee by faith Before the world confessed,
Thy name, O Jesus, Be forever blessed.
Alleluia, Alleluia!*

Friends,

The end of October has become dominated by Halloween. It’s fun to make our homes look like haunted houses, and for kids to dress up in costumes and get free candy from their neighbors. But the church’s meaning for this time seems to have gotten lost in all this spooky festivity. “Halloween”, after all, is just a contraction of “All Hallow’s Eve”, the night before All Saints’ Day. For centuries, this was a much more important day on the church calendar than it is now. November 1st is the day when the church remembers Christians who have passed away during the previous year.

*O blest communion, Fellowship divine!
We feebly struggle, They in glory shine;
All are one in Thee, For all are Thine.
Alleluia, Alleluia!*

I’m afraid that the spirit of Halloween comes closer to describing how we think about death than All Saints’ Day does. Even faithful Christians who have received the promise of resurrection in Christ still try to avoid thinking of our own death, or the loss of someone we love. And when we do, we may only imagine chilling visions of graveyards and skeletons.

But part of what our faith in Jesus should give us is an entirely different attitude toward death. Through Jesus, the end of life isn’t really the end, but a new beginning. While we mourn the loss of those we love, we have that assurance that they live on in God’s eternal, loving presence, just as we will one day.

*O may Thy soldiers, Faithful, true and bold,
Fight as the saints Who nobly fought of old,
And win with them The victor’s crown of gold.
Alleluia, Alleluia!*

W. W. How’s glorious hymn “For All the Saints” was written to help us look past death and see instead what lies beyond for Christians. It is rest after a lifetime of work and struggle. It is relief from every pain or loss we ever suffered; every tear we ever shed. It is the reward of the crown of victory for everyone who has defended their faith to the end. It is the fulfillment of God’s covenant, made to us at our baptism. It is the communion that comes from being united forever with Christ and everyone else who put their faith in Christ. It is light and music and glory and peace and so much more. Halloween only tells us that death is something frightening. But All Saints’ Day tells us that it is a gateway to eternal life, given to us by the One who loves us. Alleluia, Alleluia!

*From earth’s wide bounds, From ocean’s farthest coast,
Through gates of pearl Streams in the countless host,
And singing to Father, Son and Holy Ghost:
Alleluia, Alleluia!*

In Christ,
Pastor Mark

Our Member Care Team invites all our kids to take part in the **DOWNTOWN HOLIDAY LIGHTED PARADE!** Take a seat in our tractor-pulled train that will be chugging down 4th Street! Meanwhile, choir members will be singing Christmas carols and deacons will be serving hot cocoa outside of the church! Watch for more information about when and where to meet. We hope you’ll be a part of this fun tradition!

Members are asked to take part in a **CONGREGATIONAL MEETING** immediately following worship in our sanctuary on Sunday, December 4th.

Mary's Music Notes—



Great job to all our music groups for sharing this fall - choir, handbells and our youth!! You are greatly appreciated for sharing your time and talents with all of us, to Praise the Lord!

Looking ahead.....

Nov. 6 Choir

Nov. 13 Choir

Nov. 20 Handbells

Reminder that there are no practices on Nov. 23

Nov. 27 Choir

Status of the organ will be shared in an article soon.

Mary Benton, Director of Music

Lunch Bunch

Member Care has scheduled the November "Lunch Bunch" for Sunday, November 13th after church at Famous Dave's. Everyone is invited to come and enjoy lunch, good conversation and some awesome BBQ. Please contact Vicki Ackerman (712-490-3959-text or leave message) to know how many in your party will be coming so reservations can be made.



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Sanctuary Preparation for Advent

We invite all of you to join us immediately following worship on Sunday, November 20th, to prepare our church sanctuary for Advent. A few souls have volunteered to coordinate decorations, but more willing hands are needed.

Then, if you are able, please plan to join a true potluck meal after the decorations are in place. We recommend a crock-pot of soup, bread or crackers, and a few light side dishes. Of course, brownies or another dessert are also welcome. We will share and enjoy whatever is provided.

Income & Disbursement Summary Through September 30, 2022

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

**2022
Per Capita
amount
is \$42.48**

Income

All pledges, non-pledges & loose collection	\$ 256,040.65
Other operating income	\$ 11,744.08
Restricted donations	\$ 2,011.11
Per Capita	\$ 1,425.68
Total Income	\$ 271,221.52

Disbursements

Mission	\$ 20,046.15
Ministry*	\$ 89,291.87
Music	\$ 5,453.63
Christian Discipleship	\$ 1,167.13
Building & Grounds	\$ 79,172.30
Office and Admin	\$ 13,841.74
Assessment	\$ 11,820.06
Other**	\$ 27,453.16
Personnel Payroll	\$ 98,543.27
Total Disbursements	\$ 346,789.31

Gain or Loss	\$ (75,567.79)
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* '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

Oct 2	61 in sanctuary
Oct 9	46 in sanctuary
Oct 16	85 in sanctuary
Oct 23	71 in sanctuary



Thanks for working the Soup Kitchen FPC! 10/11/22

November birthdays

2nd - Damon Baier	17th - Easton Boettcher
5th - Rola Rubel	18th - Jeff Stanley
6th - Sarah Benton	21st- Andrea Rohlena
9th - Sya Lynn Bates	23rd - Kim Stanley
10th - Caroline Steill	24th - Sarah Steill
12th - Ellen Jacobi	29th - Peter Macfarlane
15th - Carl Rarick	30th - Joyce Strasser

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.

November anniversaries

2nd - Tim & Amy Hynds
2nd - Chris & Mandy Ellis
10th - Ben & Brandi Erickson
17th - Craig & Barb Davis



No more writing checks!

New Giving Portal now available to electronically gift money to the Church!

The members of the Finance Commission are pleased to offer a new giving portal that will allow the congregation to gift money to the Church at their convenience, versus writing a check and waiting for Sunday to place it in the Offering Plate. Provided in conjunction with our banking partners at Security National Bank, it is a safe, efficient, and easy way to offer your financial support to the Church.

To use the giving portal, do the following...

go to our website at www.1st-PresbyterianChurch.org

- At the top of the webpage, click on "Giving"

Next, click on the green box that says "Donate to the First Presbyterian Church"

You will be automatically connected to the giving portal.

- Choose your payment option, either a major credit card or checking account
- Enter your donation amount, your name, email, phone number and home address
- Enter your credit card or bank account information
- Under memo, you can designate the funds if you so wish (normal offering, a memorial, a gift to music, buildings and grounds, missions, etc.)
- Hit "Continue"

You will now be taken to a page to confirm your information. Once you agree that all information is correct, click on "Authorize Payment"

That's it! You will receive an email confirmation of the amount you gifted and that the payment has been received. Payments are normally deposited into the Church checking account within 24-48 hours upon gifting. Karen will then credit your payment against your account as if you wrote a check and placed it in the offering plate.

It is that simple, and as safe as banking at Security National Bank!

So, the next time you are at The Lakes, on vacation, or in a warmer climate during the Iowa winter months and wish to make a gift to the Church, a few minutes and clicks are all that is required!

Please let us know how you like the Portal, and reach out to any member of the Finance Commission if you have any questions.

Jeff Stanley, Moderator of Finance

Our Member Care team is asking for volunteers to prepare and serve our **WEDNESDAY EVENING DINNERS**. Individuals, families, committees or organizations can sign up for one week at a time or several. Contact Vicki Ackerman for more information, or look for the sign-up sheets at church. And come join your friends in the middle of the week for a great meal!

Friends, our church's **ONLINE GIVING PORTAL** is up and running on our website! Make your offering instantly, from wherever you are! Just go to www.1st-presbyterianchurch.org/giving and then click on the green "Donate" banner below. Thank you!



STEWARDSHIP

Good morning,

I was asked by Pastor Bedford to do today's stewardship remarks. I have given much thought into what to say. It is difficult to figure out the right thing to say; however, I hope I can relate the right tone and substance as we are faced with an exceedingly difficult challenge. Over the past few years, we have had decreasing pledges mostly relating to the decreased size of the congregation. If this continues, it will challenge our future existence. Fortunately, it is not too late to address this challenge. Fortunately, First Presbyterian Church is worth saving and we have the tools to do so.

165 years ago First Presbyterian Church was established in Sioux City. Since that time, we have spread God's message to thousands of people. We now are faced with a difficult time for our church and churches across the nation and the world. The rise of unchurched believers, those with no particular religion, and nonbeliever's is the challenge of our age. Yet humanity yearns for a purpose and the need of living life in a way that fulfills. We are here because we believe Christianity leads to happy, successful living, just as early Christians called it "**The Way**".... a way to satisfy those ageless desires and needs of humanity. It is a way of living that teaches us to focus on others and our relationship with God, not on ourselves.

First Presbyterian Church is uniquely positioned in the community. Daily, thousands of people drive by our church. We are blessed by visibility and beauty. Our future success will be based on capitalizing on factors such as these and other gifts we have: The music program, Christian education, ministry, and being a family of church goers that others want to become a part of.

In a past stewardship message, I told the story of the Abbott. In short, the story relates to an Abbott who was a leader of a declining monastery. In a meeting with his rabbi friend the rabbi mysteriously tells him that one of the people in his monastery is the Messiah. The Abbott cannot believe it but goes back and tells the story to a few in the monastery. The word spreads in the monastery and each wonder who it is. As they look around and wonder they start acting differently and soon others outside of the monastery see the change in attitude, confidence and happiness of the monks. This change enticed others to want to join and as a result the monastery was restored.

We are like that monastery. While none of us is the Messiah, we are special and we should feel that way. God has given us a special history, special location, and a strong moral code and strengths through our Presbyterian heritage. We are blessed with our minister, a blessed music program, a blessed children's program, and a blessed congregation and while all of these are not always what we hope they would be, they are God's gifts and the foundation for growth to feed a community that so desperately needs a Christian faith that is strong...strong enough to withstand the adversity life throws against it.

This is not an easy time for churches. That is the reality. However, let us be resolute to use the gifts that we have been blessed with to do what God wants us to do. Let us so succeed that future generations will look back with inspiration as to what we did and with gratitude that by what we accomplish they have the opportunity to worship at First Presbyterian Church Sioux City. All this will mean that we, as individuals and families, will need to pull a little harder...for a while..... but, who knows, we could have a lot fun doing it!

Thank you.

Stewardship message from Dr. Paul Johnson during our worship service 10/9/22.



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

The church office will be closed on November 24th and 25th in observance of the holiday. We will back to the office on Monday, November 28th.

Pipe Organ Update

On March 14, 2022, Mary Benton contacted Nordlie Pipe Organ Company out of Sioux Falls to tune and make repairs to the organ. Our previous pipe organ maintenance company, Darrow Pipe Organ LLC, informed us earlier this year that they no longer service organs, due to worker shortage and transfer of owners. Nordlie is a family-owned, three-generation company that has been in business since 1976. It has a good reputation and strong history of creating, assembling, installing, and maintaining large pipe organs throughout the four-state region.

As the Nordlie team began their routine maintenance work in July, they noticed signs of severe moisture damage in the two main organ chambers, including surface rust on the interior screws, the paper valve system that is secured by water-based fish glue in the 4 stop Pitman windchest in the Great division had separated rendering the great mixture inoperable, and puddles of rust in the metal wind trunks.

The cause of this damage was determined to be from two sources. First, a steam line burst in one of the adjoining rooms to the organ chamber would have introduced water into the main organ chambers. Second, the humidification system installed on the organ was installed with the humidistat (a gauge which measures and regulates the humidity) in the organ chamber. Ideally the humidistat should be located within the organ wind system. The humidifier itself is located in the blower room, and when the organ is running it is pulling damp air into the organ. With the humidistat in the chamber, it cannot gauge the humidity inside the organ, and will continue adding moisture regardless of the actual humidity.

The decision was made to move forward with these repairs, knowing that more damage would be found and restoration required related to the moisture issue, the age of the instrument, and the manner in which the organ was rebuilt in the 1990's due to the repairs and restoration not completed in full order due to that organ company, based in New Jersey, filing bankruptcy.

After identifying the damage in two primary reservoirs, Nordlie checked the remaining chambers in the organ and found similar moisture damage situations—leather releasing from the ribs, and surface rust on interior screws. They advised that it would be prudent to pull all of the reservoirs and complete the repairs at the same time, to which we agreed. In addition, the tilting tabs that control the coupler actions had to be repaired or replaced. Nordlie also addressed the stop and combination actions, the digital stops from Walker Technical, and final tuning, as well as deciphering how best to program the humidifier controls.

Mary reported that combination action has not been working for some time, and Nordlie shared that the Peterson stop action magnets (SAMs) were failing. The SAM is an electro-magnet that drives the stop-knob in and out when using the combination action. It also sends a signal into the organ to turn the stops on at the wind chest. After going through the SAM's of the Pedal division Nordlie found that about half of magnets were failing due to poor design, which tends to result in internal parts of the SAM dragging, and the remaining SAM's appeared to be worn out due to excessive amperage from the Peterson control system. Unfortunately, Peterson does not make this model of SAM anymore. Their recommendation was to replace the Peterson SAM's with a product from Syndyne. With this replacement, all of the existing drawknobs and woodwork of the console could be retained, which are also rated for higher amperage than the Peterson units so that the wearing out that has caused the other SAM's to fail will not occur in the future.

The final tuning and repairs were completed on September 22, and the organ was once again playable for worship service on September 25. The new Syndyne SAM unit is on back-order and final delivery could be as much as 20 weeks out due to supply chain issues. The back-order will push this part of the organ repair back to the New Year. However, the organ can be played with the current components in place until the new component arrives in early 2023.

Organ update page 2

With the repairs and restoration work completed (including the Syndyne unit installation when it is received), the total expense will be \$103,400. At this point, we will be paying for these repairs out of our capital reserves, which is becoming depleted with other large building projects that have needed to be completed over the past three years. We have submitted a claim to our insurance company to request that some of these costs be covered under our policy. The assessment will likely take several months before we receive a decision.

The good news is that the organ should be a good working order for the next few years (likely 5-10 years, but could be sooner), and that much of the component repair work completed could be applied towards a total organ rebuild in the future. However, Nordlie has shared that, with the moisture damage caused and the age of the instrument, we will likely need to totally rebuild and refurbish the organ during this time period. The cost is estimated to be \$750,000 - \$1,000,000, depending upon inflation and parts availability when the project is started.

The Session will seek input from the church congregation over the next few months regarding how best to proceed with a full rebuild, and if approved, how best to pay/fundraise for this expense. We have a few years before we are faced with this decision, but it would be prudent to begin deliberations and planning now.

Please feel free to reach out to Church Session members or Buildings and Grounds if you have any questions or would like more information.

Written by Jeff Stanley with input from Mary Benton

First Treasurers Brunch

On Sunday, October 16th, Member Care hosted a brunch for our First Treasurers. Our members 80 + years. We learned one of our members was baptized at 1st Pres in 1933. They all served on one or more committees, participated in choir, bells, & Christian Ed. Everyone expressed the beauty of the church & how they have contributed to its improvements. The best advice for our younger members is to be active and keep attending.

Our 1st Treasures are truly a treasure to our congregation.



**Bible Carriers:**

Nov 6: Sage Pierson
 Nov 13: Emmett Rohlena
 Nov 20: Harper Rohlena
 Nov 27: Sya Bates

Acolytes:

Nov 6: Aidan Hunt
 Nov 13: Hazel Rohlena
 Nov 20: Harper Rohlena
 Nov 27: Emmett Rohlena

Tellers:

Nov 7: Kathy Zebert & Jeff Stanley
 Nov 14: Carol Smith & Brenda Bradley
 Nov 21: Jeff Stanley & Kathy Zebert
 Nov 28: Kathy Zebert & Suzan Stewart

Lectors:

Nov 6: Barb Davis
 Nov 13: Paul Johnson
 Nov 20: Michael Rohlena
 Nov 27: Judy Vos

Greeter/Usher:

Nov 6: Kevin & Dacia Bates, Bob & Pat Anderson
 Nov 13: Michael & Andrea Rohlena family
 Nov 20: Butch & Mary Floyd, Neva Pierce, Juliana Mayne
 Nov 27: Vicki Ackerman, Barb Davis, Bob & Pat Anderson

A fun picture of the First Pres Kids at the Indoor Marching Concert at North High on 10/18/22. Although Nathan isn't in band he was there to support his senior brother. These 4 are busy in the fall with Marching Band (Nicholas, Dylan, Audrey) and Football (Dylan and Nathan). I also think it's neat that we have a senior, junior, sophomore and freshman! Thanks Heather Baier for the photo!!



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



2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 5:30 Meal 6:00 Handbells 6:15 Bible Study 7:00 Choir	3	4	5
6 9:30 Sunday School 9:30 Choir 9:30 Bible Study 10:00 Coffee 10:30 Worship 11:30 Member Care 12:00 SC Chamber Music	7 5:30 Bldg. & Grounds	8	9 5:30 Meal 6:00 Handbells 6:15 Bible Study 7:00 Choir	10 7:00 Christian Discipleship	11	12 10:00 Genealogy
13 9:30 Sunday School 9:30 Choir 9:30 Bible Study 10:00 Coffee 10:30 Worship 11:30 Mission	14 12:15 Admin/Fin 5:30 Personnel	15 7:00 Session	16 5:30 Meal 6:00 Handbells 6:15 Bible Study 7:00 Choir	17	18	19
20 9:30 Sunday School 9:30 Handbells Bible Study 10:00 Coffee 10:30 Worship	21	22	23 No Activities Newsletter Dead-line	24 Office Closed	25 Office Closed	26
27 9:30 Sunday School 9:30 Choir Bible Study 10:00 Coffee 10:30 Worship 11:30 Deacons	28 5:00 Staff 5:30 Music & Worship Print Newsletter	29	30 5:30 Meal 6:00 Handbells 6:15 Bible Study 7:00 Choir	Notes: *Your office staff will be at work Monday thru Thursday 9:00 am to 4:30 pm *Office closes each Friday at Noon. * Childcare offered during Sunday worship & Wednesday evenings		

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

Office Administrator 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.....
Office Admin/Finance Mgr.....Karen Heinemann
Custodians.....Rick Heinemann & Donna Uhl
Childcare.....Emma Shoulders-Gomez, Kaitlyn
Skatges & Kelsi Skatges

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.***