

January 1, 2023

First Presbyterian Church

608 Nebraska Street, Sioux City, Iowa 51101



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January Worship Service Info



Sunday, Jan 1—1st Sunday of Christmas

Joe Twidwell—pulpit supply

Sunday, Jan 8—Baptism of the Lord

1 Kings 17:7-16; Nourish the Hungry

Sunday, Jan 15—2nd Sunday after Epiphany

John 4:4-15; Refresh the Thirsty

Saturday, Jan 22—3rd Sunday after Epiphany

Genesis 18:1-8; Welcome the Stranger

Saturday, Jan 29—4th Sunday after Epiphany

2 Samuel 6:12-16, 20-22; Clothe the Naked

Friends,

During the Cold War, a horrific joke arose. “Nuke them all! Let God sort them out!” This dark humor expressed the lack of value for life that had developed. In such times, it became more difficult to find compassion for those in need.

As Jesus went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd...

from Mark 6:34

I bring this up because, as Christians, we are constantly faced with opportunities to help. Whether the plea comes via e-mail or from a cardboard sign on an exit ramp, we continually have to make decisions about how to show our Christian compassion. And unfortunately, that's where our excuses come in.

...his disciples came to him and said, 'This is a deserted place, and the hour is now very late; send them away so that they may go...and buy something for themselves to eat.'

from Mark 6:35-36

But such excuses don't leave room for grace. Our faith in Jesus isn't based on what we've done to deserve the salvation that Jesus offers us all. It's based on the fact that Jesus offers us that salvation when NONE of us deserve it. Salvation in Christ is a gift, freely given to anyone humble enough to admit that they need it and can't get it for themselves.

Our works of charity shouldn't be any different. If we make people prove themselves worthy before we treat them with kindness, then we are not showing them the grace that Christ has already shown us. Instead, Christ calls us to give freely, without suspicion or judgment. Jesus lived out this example in the feeding of the 5000.

Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to his disciples to set before the people; and he divided the two fish among them all. And all ate and were filled.

from Mark 6:41-42

No judgment on whether they'd worked hard enough to deserve a meal. No suspicion about whether the food would go to good use. Just Jesus' grace-filled, compassionate willingness to give what he had to people who needed it.

During our worship services in January and February, we'll get the chance to meet representatives from charitable organizations all over Siouxland. We'll learn more about what they do for people in need, and how we, as individuals and as a congregation, can help them in their missions. And I hope that we'll all learn that our job as Christians isn't to judge who is worthy of compassion or charity. Our job is simply to reflect the grace that Jesus has shown to us. We do this by taking what God has blessed us with and using it to bless others in turn. If someone is hungry and we have food, we feed them. If someone is cold and we have a jacket, we give it to them.

Love them all. Let God sort them out.

In Christ,
Pastor Mark

Mary's Music Notes—



Happy New Year! I hope you have had a blessed season and enjoyed time with family and friends.

Looking ahead.....

January 1 Special Music

January 8 Choir

Also, 12th Night Ring Handbell Festival is at Eppley Auditorium on the Morningside College Campus at 4 pm. Our handbell choir will be combining with others, as well as sharing a solo selection. Be sure to mark your calendar and come support our handbell choir.

January 15 Handbell Choir

January 22 Choir

January 29 Choir

Reminder that all are welcome to join us on Wednesday night activities.....

5:30 Supper

6 - 7 Handbells (and can use subs as well, if you don't want to commit to every Wednesday night and the third Sunday of each month)

7 - 8 Adult Choir (and usually share each Sunday of the month, except for the 3rd one, when the handbells share)

Questions, please ask.

Anne Cowley - Director of Handbells; Rachael Wragge - Director of Adult Choir and Kids Choir

Mary Kay Benton - Organist, Choir Accompanist and Director of Music; Dylan Baier - Sound Technician

Mary Benton, Director of Music



Previous Months Worship Attendance Report

Dec 4	69 in sanctuary
Dec 11	66 in sanctuary
Dec 18	84 in sanctuary
Dec 24	105 in sanctuary
Dec 24	35 in sanctuary (
Dec 25	30 in sanctuary

Pastor Mark will be on vacation from Monday, December 26th through Monday, January 2nd. In case of pastoral emergency, please contact Rev. David Koehler at 712-730-4478.

The **CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED** both Monday, December 26th and Monday, January 1st as our staff enjoys the holidays with their families.

There will be **NO WEDNESDAY EVENING ACTIVITIES** on December 28th. No dinner, Bible study, handbell choir practice or choir practice.

There will be NO Sunday School on New Year's Day, January 1st. We hope you and your families will enjoy our 10:30 worship service with us that day.

On Sunday, January 1st, we will welcome Joe Twidwell to our pulpit. He will tell us more about The Warming Shelter and how our church can participate with them in their ministry.

Income & Disbursement Summary Through November 30, 2022

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

**2023
Per Capita
amount
is \$48.35**

Income

All pledges, non-pledges & loose collection	\$ 331,407.57
Other operating income	\$ 14,497.20
Restricted donations	\$ 105,411.11
Per Capita	\$ 1,593.88
Total Income	\$ 453,383.76

Disbursements

Mission	\$ 27,296.16
Ministry*	\$ 108,463.79
Music	\$ 5,869.73
Christian Discipleship	\$ 1,167.13
Building & Grounds	\$ 92,370.96
Office and Admin	\$ 17,215.41
Assessment	\$ 15,760.08
Other**	\$ 32,628.39
Personnel Payroll	\$ 119,896.23
Total Disbursements	\$ 420,667.88

Gain or Loss	\$ 32,715.88
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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.

STEWARDSHIP

Budgeted	\$473,513.00
2023 Pledges	\$260,995.00
% to budget	55%
Pledges received	43
 Still Needed	 \$212,518.00

12th Night Ring Handbell Festival is at Eppley Auditorium on the Morningside College Campus on January 8th at 4 pm. Our handbell choir will be combining with others, as well as sharing a solo selection. Be sure to mark your calendar and come support our handbell choir.



January birthdays

2nd - Donna Rosburg	18th - Jane Clausen
5th - Jared Messersmith	20th - Marvin Ahlquist
6th - Cameron Bradley	21st - Dacia Bolton Bates
10th - Raelee Bradley	28th - Carla Macfarlane
10th - Mary Kay Benton	30th - Martie Ebner
10th - Curtis Burns	30th - Aidan Hunt
13th - Ashley Mozak	31st - Mandy Ellis
13th - Rose Warner	31st - Adam Preston



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.



The Sioux City Residential Facilities (RTF) are designed to provide monitored, live-in supervision for high risk clients in need of structure and stability (housing, budgeting, employment), assistance in re-entry from prison, or as an alternative for incarceration in prison or jail.

Residents progress through the phase system by obtaining and maintaining full-time employment, attending treatment as ordered or deemed appropriate through assessments, meeting financial responsibilities, refraining from drug and alcohol

abuse, and displaying pro-social behavior in the facility and community.

The goal of both Sioux City residential facilities is to support residents as they work their way toward becoming productive, law-abiding members of the community.

Here at First Presbyterian Church we have collected clothing for the both the men and women's facilities. We have reached out to both facilities and the men's side replied that they are in need of jeans (sizes 34-38 with length of 32/34 seem to be the most commonly needed), underwear and socks.

South RTF where the female residents live, the greatest need is winter coats, hats, gloves, boots. Thank you for thinking of the residents here, it is appreciated!

There are boxes outside of the office for you to donate any of the above. We will have one for men and one for women.

Thank you for being generous and assisting in giving them help.



NEWS FROM SNB**Endowment Fund****Market Update**

As we inch closer to the Holiday season, it is safe to say that 2022 has been everything but a gift. It has been a challenging year for investors as stubborn inflation continues to weigh on the global financial markets. To combat these measures, the Federal Reserve (Fed) has significantly raised interest rates to ease rising prices seen throughout the economy. In turn, both the bond and equity markets have been adversely effected. Through the end of the 3rd quarter, year to date performance for the First Presbyterian Church Agency declined 19.9%. However, the portfolio has rebounded nicely throughout the 4th quarter; down 12.1% through the end of November.

As we are closing in on the year, there is light at the end of the tunnel. We are starting to see inflation gradually decline after reaching its peak in June. While the Fed remains committed to fighting inflation, they have signaled that smaller interest rate hikes could start soon. The labor market has continued to thrive throughout the year with jobless claims remaining near historic lows.

Looking into the new year, we are comfortable with how the portfolio is positioned. The value tilt towards stocks and shorter term maturities in bonds has helped mitigate losses during these challenging times. Since inception of management in February of 2012, the portfolio assets have produced a rate of return of 5.15% annually after management fees.

Estate Planning Tip**The Sandwich Generation**

The Sandwich Generation is defined as adults providing care and financial support to both their elderly parents and their own young adult children and are therefore “sandwiched” in the middle. Future demographics show that by 2030, all of the estimated 73 million baby boomers will be at least 65 years old. Statistics also show Millennials make up 1/3 of sandwich providers and those numbers will only continue to grow given that they are the largest generation.

Other data from the Pew Research Center show:

60% of sandwich generation caregivers are women

32% of adults in their 40s and 50s provide financial help to a parent

73% of adults in their 40s and 50s provide some financial support to at least one grown child, with 27% proving to be the primary support

In addition to the financial support, the sandwiched generation is finding they are rushed and pressed for time, sleeping a half-hour less and having less time for work

If you are the person being “sandwiched,” you can find help. You could consider an Agency Account, where the elderly parent or you, as the sandwiched child, retain control as Trustee, POA or contact person for the parent or child and the Bank helps pay bills to free up time. Financial planning tools can also be useful in determining if acquired wealth will cover care and retirement expenses.

We recommend visiting with your qualified financial professional, attorney or CPA to discuss options available to the “sandwiched” generation.

**Acolyte:**

Jan 1: Harper Rohlena
 Jan 8: Aidan Hunt
 Jan 15: Hazel Rohlena
 Jan 22: Sage Pierson
 Jan 29: Aidan Hunt

Lectors:

Jan 1: Suzan Stewart
 Jan 8: Jane Vereen
 Jan 15: Michael Rohlena
 Jan 22: Gerald Messersmith
 Jan 29: Suriana Uhl

Tellers:

Jan 1: Jeff Stanley & Brenda Bradley
 Jan 8: Patrice Johnson & Kathy Zebert
 Jan 15: Vicki Jacobs & Curtis Burns
 Jan 22: Jeff Stanley & Sarah Steill
 Jan 29: Brenda Bradley & Lance Eybers

Greeter/Usher:

Jan 1: Bob & Pat Anderson, Butch & Mary Floyd
 Jan 8: Kevin & Dacia Bates. Juliana Mayne
 Jan 15: Bob & Pat Anderson, Lowell & Judy Vos
 Jan 22: Vicki Ackerman, Anne Cowley, Barb Davis & Neva Pierce
 Jan 29: Michael & Andrea Rohlena family

Happy New Year to you and your family
 from your Church Staff! Rick, Karen &
 Donna. Thank you for thinking of us
 during the holiday season.

In case of an emergency in
 the First Presbyterian Family
 please contact Pastor Mark
 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



2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 10:00 Coffee 10:30 Worship <i>Pastor Mark out</i>	2 <i>Pastor Mark out</i> Office closed	3	4 5:30 Meal 6:15 Bible Study 6:00 Handbells 7:00 Choir	5	6	7 10:30 Reuschling funeral 1:00—3:00 pm Handbells
8 9:30 Bible Study 9:30 Choir 9:30 Sunday School 10:00 Coffee 10:30 Worship 11:30 Member Care 4:30 @ Eppley— 12th Night Handbells	9 5:30 Bldg. & Grounds 5:30 Personnel	10	11 5:30 Meal 6:15 Bible Study 6:00 Handbells 7:00 Choir	12 7:00 Christian Discipleship	13	14 10:00 Genealogy
15 9:30 Bible Study 9:30 Handbells 9:30 Sunday School 10:00 Coffee 10:30 Worship 11:30 Mission	16 12:15 Admin/Fin	17 7:00 Session	18 5:30 Meal 6:15 Bible Study 6:00 Handbells 7:00 Choir	19 4:30 Memorial	20	21
22 9:30 Bible Study 9:30 Choir 9:30 Sunday School 10:00 Coffee 10:30 Worship 11:30 Deacons	23 5:00 All Staff mtg. 5:30 Music & Worship <i>Newsletter Deadline</i>	24	25 5:30 Meal 6:15 Bible Study 6:00 Handbells 7:00 Choir	26	27 <i>Print Newsletter</i>	28
29 9:30 Bible Study 9:30 Sunday School 9:30 Choir 10:00 Coffee 10:30 Worship	30	31	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.***