



1702 Iowa Street  
Davenport, IA 52803  
A Congregation of the  
Presbyterian Church  
(U.S.A.)

**Third Sunday of Advent**  
**December 11, 2022**  
**Worship at 9:30 a.m.**

## Welcome!

*We are an open and affirming congregation, and a proud member of the Covenant Network of Presbyterians (covnetpres.org).*



*People of all gender identities are welcome here, along with their families.*

## We are a Matthew 25 church



MATTHEW 25

*Matthew 25 congregations identify themselves as working toward one or more of three goals: building congregational vitality, dismantling structural racism and eradicating systemic poverty.*

## Land Acknowledgement

*First Presbyterian Church gratefully acknowledges the Indigenous Peoples on whose ancestral homelands we gather, as well as the diverse and vibrant Indigenous communities who make Iowa and Illinois their home today. The communities we serve through our ministries occupy the traditional homelands of the people of the Kiikaapoi, Myaamia, Ojéhéti Šakówinj, Peoria, Sauk, and Meskwaki nations. We honor these and numerous Indigenous tribes who first made the banks of the Mississippi River a center for arts and commerce.*



*This week's art meditation is a contemporary icon painting of Ruth and Naomi by American artist Kelly Latimore, whose updated takes on classic Orthodox Iconography is grounded in creating dialogue around social justice issues: "I do not wish to approach Iconography as an art form that simply follows an inherited tradition, knowledge, and practice. I want it to be a creative process, meditation, and practice that brings about new self-knowledge for the viewer and myself. Who are the saints that are among us here and now?" Webpage: [kellylatimoreicons.com](http://kellylatimoreicons.com)*

## Preparation for Worship

We invite you to meditate silently on art, music, and Scripture.

\*Worshippers who are comfortable doing so, please stand.

**Bold** indicates congregational response.

To help you get to know the people sitting in your pew/row, please complete the Friendship Pad and pass it to your neighbors.

## LECTIONARY SCRIPTURES FOR MEDITATION

Ruth 3:1-18; 4:13-17

Luke 1: 46-55

Isaiah 35:1-10

James 5:7-10

## The Church Gathers To...

**Prelude**

Four Seasons

Chelsea Chen

**Welcome and Announcements**

Rev. Pat Halverson

**Minute for Mission**

Deacon Tom Vaccaro

## Our Staff

Rev. Elissa Bailey  
Rev. Dr. Kathy Stoner-Lasala  
*Bridging Pastors*  
Rev. Pat Halverson\*  
*Parish Associate*  
Kristy Woodrow  
*Director of Christian Education*  
Sarah Greim & Paula Hartmann  
*\* Interim Christian Ed. Coordinators*  
Matt Bishop  
*Director of Music*  
Alex Gilson  
*Principal Organist*  
& *Assistant Director of Music*  
Linda Bengfort\*  
*Assistant Choral Director*  
Kathy Middleton\*  
*Assistant Choral Director*  
*for Children*  
Kristine Olson  
*Finance Manager*  
Becky Lopez\*  
*Accounting Assistant*  
Susan Parker  
*Church Administrative Assistant*  
Darren Long  
*Facilities & Custodial Supervisor*  
Kevin Wilson  
*Custodian*  
Chad Dean\*  
*Custodian*  
Nichole Kerker\*  
*Nursery Coordinator*  
Kelley Wohlers\*  
*Nursery Caregiver*  
\* Part-time employee

First Presbyterian Church  
1702 Iowa Street  
Davenport, Iowa 52803  
Phone: 563-326-1691

Outside office hours, this number  
will go to the pastor on call in case  
of emergency.

For more information, see the  
e-news, church website or  
Facebook [www.fpcdavenport.org](http://www.fpcdavenport.org)

## Minute for Stewardship

Elder Patrick Downing

### Introit

Advent Message  
The Sanctuary Choir

Martin How

## Praise Almighty God

### Call to Worship

Let us gather around the word, let us listen to holy songs,  
songs of justice and hope.

**Let our souls magnify the Lord.**

Let us speak into the world the good news of God  
and of the renewing of all that is broken.

**Let our spirits rejoice in God our Savior.**

Let us dare believe in the songs of the faithful women  
who have spoken hope into the world.

**For the mighty One has done great things.**

Let us join the singing,  
setting free justice in the world and light into the darkness,

**For holy is God's name.**

### \*Hymn #9

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

VENI EMMANUEL

1. O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive  
2. O come, Thou Day - spring, come and cheer Our spir - its by Thine  
3. O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind All peo - ples in one  
Is - ra - el, that mourns in low - ly ex - ile of  
ad - vent here; Dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of  
heart and mind; Bid - en - vy, strife, and dis - cord  
here un - til the Son of God ap - pear. Re - joice! Re -  
night, And death's dark shad - ows put to flight.  
cease; Fill the whole world with heav - en's peace.  
joice! Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el.

### Lighting of the Advent Wreath

On the first Sunday of Advent, we were reminded of Tamar,  
who did what she had to do to regain her position in life.

**So we came to light the Advent Candle of Hope.**

On the second Sunday of Advent, we gathered with lessons and carols,  
lifting songs of praise.

**So we came to light the Advent Candle of Peace.**

Today we gather, remembering wise and caring women,  
like Naomi, a mother-in-law to Ruth, and

**We come to light the Advent Candle.**

We remember Ruth, whose heart was racing

As, hoping for redemption,

she lay down in the straw beside her kinsman Boaz, so

### We come to light the Advent Candle.

In this moment of unknowing but with anticipatory joy to come, we light the Advent Candle of Joy.

### We come to light the Advent Candle of Joy.

Let us pray: Almighty God, we light this third candle of joy in remembrance of all who have come before us, those who will come after us, and those among us now who have searched for joy in their lives. We remember, O God, that you were with Naomi and Ruth then, and you are with us now. We are called to live in joy because of the gift we anxiously await. And so, in name of the one who brings, gives, and is joy, we pray. **Amen.**

## Confess to a Forgiving Creator

### Call to Confession

We gather our hearts, our minds, and our words to lift before God those things that separate us from one another and from God. We do so while knowing God is a God of love and a God of hope. Let us confess our sin before God.

### Prayer of Confession

**God of joy, you are a fellow traveler with us in the ups and downs of life. You are pure and incapable of doing wrong AND you are here with us, caught up in the messiness and sorrows of life. You are complete and you need nothing from us AND you reach out to us in love, inviting us to love you in return. Yet we are flawed. Forgive us when the path ahead looks too daunting and we choose our own path instead. Forgive us when we care for our own needs instead of the needs of others. In Christ's name, Amen.**

### Assurance of Forgiveness

God's gift to us at this moment is the joy of forgiveness. Here and now we are invited to be wrapped in the embrace of God's presence. God does great things with us - for this, we can rejoice and know we are a forgiven people. Amen!

**Thanks be to God!**

### \*Response to Grace Of the Father's Love Begotten (Verse 3) DIVINUM MYSTERIUM



3. Christ, to Thee with God Cre - a - tor, And, O Ho - ly Ghost to Thee,  
Hymn and chant and high thanks-giv - ing And un - wea-ried prais - es be;  
Hon - or, glo - ry, and do - min - ion, And e - ter - nal vic - to - ry,  
Ev - er - more and ev - er - more! A - men.

## Listen for God's Word

Children's Message

Director of Christian Education

Elder Kristy Woodrow

## JOYS & CONCERNS

**In Our Prayers:** families and victims of gun violence; the people of Ukraine and all who groan under oppression; for God's presence with all who are grieving the loss of Dwight Wood, Juanita White Daugherty Briggs, Gayle Allard, Betty Nelson, Eleanor Beadles White, Kathy Goldsmith (Ruth Rensberger's daughter), Betsy Kisler, Jim Lasala, Ella Johns, Georgia Sodawasser, Gloria Wadsworth, Chris Cook, Bruce Kahler, Jim Calhoun, Holly Rivera; for **God's mercy and grace to touch** John Timm and family, Brandon Bufo, Allison Kennedy, Dylan's grandmother, Roberta Shadensack, Julia Pedigo, Jim Woods, Tammy Wood, Benjamin Bartnicke, Erin Middleton Cavan, Danielle, Dorothy Bain, Lynette, Brenda Cole, David Milnes, Hudson Stoner, Dorothy Downing (Patrick's grandmother), and those experiencing abuse, addiction, violence, loss, suicide, COVID-19, and natural disaster.

**Mission Partners:** Rev. José Pilar Alvarez Cabrera and Rev. Nestor Eduardo Alvarez Cabrera in Zacapa, Guatemala; Alice Chikomo in Harare, Zimbabwe; Veda Gill in Pakistan.

**Hospital visits:** the Pastors make hospital visits when patients give permission and when pandemic precautions permit.

**InTouch Information:** For anyone who is homebound and would enjoy a contact from one of First Presbyterian's In-Touch members, please contact Deacon Colleen Duenas.

**The Prayer Chain** connects those who need prayer with those who commit to a ministry of prayer. Contact Mary Ann Francois (563-355-5292).

**Printed Prayer Requests** require permission from the person(s) in need of prayer before prayers are printed in the bulletin. The best way to assure a hospital visit or a prayer is to contact the church office directly (563-326-1691).

**Prayer Shawls** are available for you to give to those you know who are experiencing a challenge or a joy. For your choosing, a variety of shawls are hanging on the coatrack near the church office.

## **Bible Basics – Study of Isaiah**

In Advent, we will be returning to the video series by Jean-Pierre Isbouts, *The History and Archaeology of the Bible*. No need to prepare for the lessons. Come watch the 30-minute video and join in on the discussion.

- December 7, 2022 – The World of the Gospels
- December 14, 2022 – The Birth of Jesus

Please contact Mark Jones ([mkjones@mchsi.com](mailto:mkjones@mchsi.com)) for more information.

Here is the Zoom link for the Wednesday meetings:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82283095977?pwd=VnJFdmowcFJua3hSWEpQanNBVFhFdz09>

Meeting ID: 822 8309 5977

Passcode: 215593

## **Adult Christian Education**

**Sundays, 10:35 a.m.**

**Hybrid Zoom**

Zoom Link

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87142275458?pwd=ekt6VTBWd1BBMU1PdHErVENEZnVsQT09>

Meeting ID: 87142275458

Passcode:1702

## **Prayer for Illumination**

Most amazing God, show us your will and your way through the Word presented to us this day. Open our hearts and minds that we might hear your calling on our lives. We pray this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## **Lesson from the New Testament**

Luke 1:46-55

And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for God has looked with favor on the lowly state of his servant. Surely, from now on, all generations will call me blessed, for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is God's name; indeed, the mercy of the LORD is for those who fear God from generation to generation. The LORD has shown strength with his arm and has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts. God has brought down the powerful from their thrones and lifted up the lowly; the LORD has filled the hungry with good things and sent the rich away empty. God has come to the aid of Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever."

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God!**

## **Lesson from the Hebrew Scriptures**

Ruth 3:1-18; 4:13-17

Naomi her mother-in-law said to her, "My daughter, I need to seek some security for you, so that it may be well with you. Now here is our kinsman Boaz, with whose young women you have been working. See, he is winnowing barley tonight at the threshing floor. Now wash and anoint yourself and put on your best clothes and go down to the threshing floor, but do not make yourself known to the man until he has finished eating and drinking. When he lies down, observe the place where he lies; then go and uncover his feet and lie down, and he will tell you what to do." She said to her, "All that you say I will do."

So she went down to the threshing floor and did just as her mother-in-law had instructed her. When Boaz had eaten and drunk and was in a contented mood, he went to lie down at the end of the heap of grain. Then she came stealthily and uncovered his feet and lay down. At midnight the man was startled and turned over, and there, lying at his feet, was a woman! He said, "Who are you?" And she answered, "I am Ruth, your servant; spread your cloak over your servant, for you are next-of-kin." He said, "May you be blessed by the LORD, my daughter; this last instance of your loyalty is better than the first; you have not gone after young men, whether poor or rich. And now, my daughter, do not be afraid, I will do for you all that you ask, for all the assembly of my people know that you are a worthy woman. But now, though it is true that I am a near kinsman, there is another kinsman more closely related than I. Remain this night, and in the morning, if he will act as next-of-kin for you, good; let him do it. But if he is not willing to act as next-of-kin for you, then, as the LORD lives, I will act as next-of-kin for you. Lie down until the morning."

So she lay at his feet until morning but got up before one person could recognize another, for he said, "It must not be known that the woman came to the threshing floor." Then he said, "Bring the cloak you are wearing and hold it out." So she held it, and he measured out six measures of barley and put it on her back; then he went into the town. She came to her mother-in-law, who said, "How did things go with you, my daughter?" Then she told her all that the man had done for her, saying, "He gave me these six measures of barley, for he said, 'Do not go back to your mother-in-law empty-handed.'" She replied, "Wait, my daughter,

until you learn how the matter turns out, for the man will not rest but will settle the matter today.”

So Boaz took Ruth, and she became his wife. When they came together, the LORD made her conceive, and she bore a son. Then the women said to Naomi, “Blessed be the LORD, who has not left you this day without next-of-kin and may God’s name be renowned in Israel! The LORD shall be to you a restorer of life and a nourisher of your old age, for your daughter-in-law who loves you, who is more to you than seven sons, has borne him.” Then Naomi took the child and laid him in her bosom and became his nurse. The women of the neighborhood gave him a name, saying, “A son has been born to Naomi.” They named him Obed; he became the father of Jesse, the father of David.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God!**

**Anthem**

Scots Nativity  
The Sanctuary Choir

Alan Bullard

**Sermon**

Without Whom: Ruth

Rev. Elissa Bailey

## Respond to God’s Word

### Affirmation of Faith

**We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Amen.**

### Offering Our Gifts and Lives to God

Gracious God, in this great journey of life, we find ourselves taking paths that are predicted and ones we would not have chosen. Yet in the midst of all of our wonderings, we find your gifts of faithfulness. The gifts we offer back to you today, we bring as a token of our willingness and our joyful commitment to continue this journey with you, wherever it may lead us and however long it takes. Amen.

**Offertory**

Trio super *Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland*, BWV 660

J. S. Bach

*To share your treasure, you may use the offering plate that will be passed during worship this morning; or you may visit the church website at [www.fpcdavenport.org](http://www.fpcdavenport.org), and click on “Donate Now;” or you may use the link: <https://bit.ly/2V8nEqm>; or you may mail your check to the church office; or you may donate directly from your phone:*



**\*Presentation of Our Gifts and Lives to God**

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Alan Bullard, “Scots Nativity” (©2002 Oxford University Press)

Martin How, “Advent Message” (©1978 Josef Weinberger Ltd.)

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Today's liturgical elements are from the liturgy: *Spill the Beans*, Issue 45, retrieved from: [www.spillthebeans.org.uk](http://www.spillthebeans.org.uk), the Book of Confessions, and the Book of Worship of the PCUSA.

### Vaccine Booster and Flu Shot

The Pandemic Task Force strongly recommends and encourages our community to stay up to date on your immunization and receive your COVID-19 booster shot when appropriate and your influenza vaccine at your soonest convenience. Both shots are readily available from area pharmacies; consult your physician with any questions. Let's all stay healthy this fall and winter!

Your church staff members are doing their part: all church staff are up to date on COVID boosters when appropriate and flu shots. Your staff is working to keep you safe – please help to keep them safe, too!

## Weekly Program Schedule

<https://www.fpcdavenport.org/calendar/>

### Worship Service

9:30 a.m. Sanctuary

Online Worship Watch Party

See e-News, website or Facebook

### MusikGarten

8:30 a.m. Zoom

10:30 a.m. CE Building #307

### Manna and More Breakfast

8:30 a.m. Fellowship Hall

10:30 a.m. Fellowship Hall

### Nursery Open

Sundays 8:45 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

Thursdays 6 p.m. - 9 p.m.

### Kirkwood Choir

9:45 a.m. CE Building #301

### Sunday School

10:35 a.m. CE Building 3d Floor

### Adult Christian Education

10:35 a.m. Von Maur Hall

### Chamber Chorale

10:45 a.m. Sanctuary

### Caring Closet

Sundays, 9:30 - 10:00 a.m.

Tuesdays, 9:00 - 12:00 p.m.

Fridays, 2:00 - 5:00 p.m.

### Pickle Ball

Monday and Wednesday

9:00 - 11:00 a.m., Gym

### Scout Troop 7/Scout Troop 1107

Monday, 6:00 p.m.

Gym, Game Room, Fellowship Hall, Library

### Congregational Development and

### Fellowship Committee of Session

Monday, 6:00 p.m. via Zoom

### Outreach Committee of the Deacons

Monday, 6:15 p.m., Parlor

### Pastoral Care and Spiritual Development

### Committee of the Deacons

Monday, 6:30 p.m., CE Building

Fireplace Room

### Mission Connection Committee

### of the Deacons

Monday, 6:30 p.m., Von Maur Hall

### Board of Deacons

Monday, 7:00 p.m., Von Maur Hall

### Church Staff Meeting

Tuesday, 1:00 p.m., Hybrid Zoom

### Finance Committee of the Session

Tuesday, 5:00 p.m., Zoom

### Christian Education and Fellowship for

### Youth Committee of the Session

Tuesday, 6:00 p.m., Zoom

### Women of Hope Bible Study

Wednesday, 10:00 a.m., Parlor

### Bible Basics 201

Wednesday 6:15 - 7:15 p.m.

### Vesper Bells Rehearsal

Thursday 6:00 - 6:45 p.m.

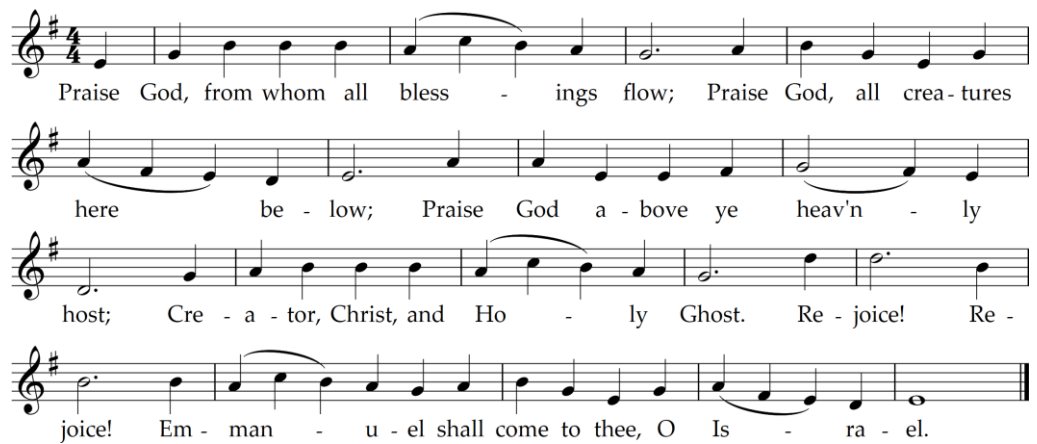
### Christmas Concert Dress Rehearsal

Thursday, 7:00 p.m., Sanctuary

### Christmas Concert

Saturday, 7:30 p.m., Sanctuary

Sunday, 4:00 p.m., Sanctuary



## Sacrament of Holy Communion

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise, O Lord our God, creator and ruler of the universe. You formed us in your image and set us in this world to love and serve you. When we were captives, you delivered us to freedom, and made covenant to be our sovereign God. When we were stubborn, you spoke to us through prophets who looked for that day when justice shall triumph and peace shall reign over all the earth. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with the celestial choirs and with all the faithful of every time and place, who forever sing to the glory of your name: You are holy, O God of majesty, and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son. You sent him into this world to bring freedom to the captives of sin, and to establish justice for the oppressed. He came among us as one of us, taking the lot of the poor, sharing human suffering, dying an unjust death. We rejoice that in his dying and rising again, you set before us the sure promise of new life, the certain hope of a heavenly home where we will set at table with Christ our host. Strengthen us, O God, in the power of your Spirit to bring good news to the poor and loose the chains that bind. Keep us faithful in your service until Christ comes in final victory, and we shall feast with all your saints in the joy of your eternal realm. Let us join our voices together as we pray the words Christ taught us to pray, saying:

## Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and let us not fall into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

## Words of Institution

## Communion of the People

## Prayer following Communion

God of joy, we give you thanks that you have given us this foretaste of the justice, righteousness, and peace of your promised new creation. Strengthen us with this heavenly food as we seek to serve your heavenly realm. Lead us to live in joyful expectation of the coming again in glory of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

## Go To Serve With God's Blessing

**\*Hymn #3**

Comfort, Comfort You My People

GENEVAN 42

1. "Com - fort, com - fort now my peo - ple; Tell of peace!" thus says our God.  
 2. For the her - ald's voice is call - ing In the des - ert far and near,  
 3. Make you straight what long was crook - ed, Make the rough - er plac - es plain;  
 "Com - fort those who sit in dark - ness Bowed be - neath op - pres - sion's load.  
 Bid - ding us to make re - pent - ance Since the king - dom now is here.  
 Let your hearts be true and hum - ble, As be - fits God's ho - ly reign.  
 Speak you to Je - ru - sa - lem Of the peace that waits for them!  
 O that warn - ing cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a way;  
 For the glo - ry of the Lord Now o'er earth is shed a - broad;  
 Tell them that their sins I cov - er, And their war - fare now is o - ver."  
 Let the val - leys rise in meet - ing And the hills bow down in greet - ing.  
 And all flesh shall see the to - ken That God's word is nev - er bro - ken.

### \*Charge and Benediction

We have followed Ruth and Naomi today. Let us remember their example and consider our own place in the story of God. May we realize the impact of our faith on ourselves and the world.

May you know God's blessing in your days, in your actions, and in your words; and may the blessing of God with you this day and every day.

In the name of the Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer; Amen.

**Sending Anthem**

View the Present Through the Promise  
The Sanctuary Choir

AR HYD Y NOS

**Postlude**

Song of the Country Farmer

Chelsea Chen

### Ways to Give to First Presbyterian Church

It is your generous financial commitment to First Pres that allows FPC to continue its ministries and missions to help support church members, community, and staff. With new technology and changes in tax law, the very meaningful act of placing your gift in the offering plate each Sunday is no longer the only way to financially support FPC. For anyone looking for alternative ways to give, below are additional options to affect giving to FPC:

- Donate online by visiting [www.fpcdavenport.org](http://www.fpcdavenport.org)
- Required Minimum Distributions (RMD)
- Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCD)
- Gifting Stock

As always, thank you for your continued support of First Presbyterian Church. For specific instructions or if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the Finance Office at [olson@fpcdavenport.org](mailto:olson@fpcdavenport.org) or 563.326.1691 Ext. 219.

### Nursery News

At long last, FPC Davenport nursery is open! To place your children in the nursery, you must complete a nursery information form. These information forms are available upon sign-in at the nursery. If you want to complete the information form ahead of time, you may email Director of Christian Education Kristy Woodrow ([woodrow@fpcdavenport.org](mailto:woodrow@fpcdavenport.org)); Kristy will send an electronic version of the blank form to you via return email.



**This morning, Manna & More** continues to serve breakfast to our congregation in Fellowship Hall from 8:30 to 9:30 am and from 10:30 to 11:00 am. Suggested donation is \$3 for adults and \$1 for children under 12. It's a great time to meet and chat with others! Today's menu - pancakes, waffles, cherry compote, sausage, fresh fruit, beverages, and additional toppings

### Youth Ministry News

Calling all 7<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> graders! We are planning a youth group Christmas party on Wednesday, December 21 from 6-7:30 pm. There will be snacks, hot cocoa, games, and a white elephant exchange! Hope to see you there!

### Boy Scout Troop 7 is back in our church building!

First Presbyterian's 110-year-old Boy Scout Troop 7 and our brand-new Girls' Troop 1107 are seeking youth to become members. The troops meet in the FPC gymnasium, Monday evenings from 6:30 PM to 8 PM. Spread the word around! All are welcome.

### Session Highlights

- On motion and second, the Session approved a Called Meeting of the Congregation for Sunday, December 18, 2022, at 10:35AM after the morning worship, for the purpose of the election of church officers for 2023 and the approval of amended Terms of Call for the Rev. Dr. Kris Schondelmeyer.
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### Christmas Concert

Saturday, December 17 | 7:30pm

Sunday, December 18 | 4:00pm

Complimentary Tickets Required (reserved seating)

The Music department at FPC is excited to continue its tradition of celebratory Christmas concerts. This year's concerts, on the third weekend in December, feature many of the church's great and beloved ensembles: the Sanctuary Choir, Chamber Chorale, Vesper Bells, and Celebrations Singers, accompanied by full orchestra and Principal Organist Alex Gilson.

This year's repertoire celebrates the broad diversity of Christmas celebrations across the world. Featuring carols from many different global regions, this multicultural concert highlights the many creative ways Christians have found to mark the birth of Christ, a yearly observation that unites us and places us in communion with people in other continents and at other times in history.

The FPC Music Department is pleased to partner with [World Relief Quad Cities](https://www.worldrelief.org/) for our Christmas Concert: "Let All the World in Every Corner Sing." We are asking our concert attendees to help us participate in World Relief's Christmas Home Drive by bringing household items that will help refugees and immigrants establish homes in the Quad Cities.

Items include can openers, utensils, oven mitts, paper towels, cutting boards, teakettles, kitchen/bathroom cleaning supplies, trash cans, mops/buckets, brooms/dustpans, end tables, scissors, pie tins, light bulbs, magnets, air fresheners, shower curtains, toiletries, new pillows/bedding, and laundry baskets/storage. We will collect items at the concert and deliver to World Relief's headquarters the following week.

Complementary tickets required, available on Eventbrite.

**Saturday Tickets** <https://bit.ly/3GkkK13>

**Sunday Tickets** <https://bit.ly/3hVCtSk>



**Pastor Kathy's Remote Office Hours: New Zoom Link**

Monday, Wednesday, Friday 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m./  
Tuesday 3:00 – 5:00 p.m./Thursday 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84011256271?pwd=Z1d0TFVSZEpl2NHZzekVRUXNIRzM1UT09>

Meeting ID: 840 1125 6271

Passcode: 800560

*If you need assistance to enter the zoom room,  
Church Administrative Assistant Susan Parker will set up a zoom call for you  
in a room at the church. Susan's phone number is (563) 326-1691 x200*

**Donate Directly from Your Phone!**

First Presbyterian Church makes it easy to donate online! Simply open the camera app on your smartphone, take a photo of the QR Code below, and follow the link to our online giving site.



**Year-End Reminder**

We ask all of our members to fulfill their 2022 pledge prior to December 31. Donors must deliver checks on or by Friday, December 30, in order to claim a charitable contribution deduction for 2022. Checks that are placed in the church offering during the first worship service in 2023 (January 1) will not qualify for a charitable deduction in 2022, even if the check is predated to or actually written in 2022.

However, under the so-called "mailbox exception," checks that are written, mailed, and postmarked in 2022 will be deductible in 2022 though they are not received by the church until 2023.

As always, thank you for your continued support of First Presbyterian Church. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the Finance Office at [olson@fpcdavenport.org](mailto:olson@fpcdavenport.org) or 563.326.1691 Ext. 219.

The Session of First Presbyterian Church of Davenport, Iowa has called a Special Called Meeting of the Congregation for Sunday, December 18, 2022, at 10:35AM after the morning worship service. The purposes of the Called Meeting of the Congregation are to hear and act upon the report of the Congregational Nominating Committee and to act upon amended Terms of Call for the Rev. Dr. Kris Schondelmeyer.

**Report of the Congregational Nominating Committee**

The Congregational Nominating Committee places into nomination the names of the following church members who have agreed to serve:

As Elder

Dan Brienich

Nancy Chapman

Bonnie Johnson

Mark Ruebling

Nathan Kabel

Phylis Pecoraro

Vicki Stegall

As Deacon

Collene Duenas

Terri Sheetz

Kristy Owens

As the Congregational Nominating Committee for 2023

Mike Ferris – Elder in Active Service

Karla Ruiter – Elder in Active Service

Anna Putman – Deacon in Active Service

Ann Schwister – Congregational member at large

Cathy Pratscher-Woods – Congregational member at large

Judy Hawthorne- Congregational member at large

## 2023 Stewardship Pledge Campaign Update

"Yet this I call to mind and therefore I have hope: Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are renewed every morning; **great is your faithfulness.**" - Lamentations 3:21-23

Giving, one of the ultimate acts of faith, demonstrates our belief in God who helps us provide for and serve others. Giving manifests our faith in First Presbyterian's role in God's future.

Your generosity and commitment to the many missions of FPC has resulted in 140 confirmed pledges totaling \$413,553. If you have returned your 2023 Stewardship Cards or set-up your online pledge already: **a sincere thank you!**

**We're making great progress! We've surpassed the number of 2022 pledgers and we've reached nearly 83% of our goal! Prayerfully, we hope to reach our finish line soon.** We realize many tune into our worship services virtually and have not been able to turn in your pledge card. **You can still show your faith in God's future by pledging online or sending a picture of your pledge card to Kristine Olson at [olson@fpcdavenport.org](mailto:olson@fpcdavenport.org).**

If you want help setting up your online pledge, please contact Kristine Olson, Finance Manager, at [olson@fpcdavenport.org](mailto:olson@fpcdavenport.org) or (563) 326-1691 x219.

## GOAL: \$500,000

