



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



October 27, 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.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

MINUTE FOR MISSION.

"Why I Pledge"

Tom Jack

PRELUDE

A Mighty Fortress is Our God

arr. Giamanco

FOR PRAYER AND REFLECTION

Lord, nourish the soil of our lives with goodness, courage, hope and love that we may grow in your word and in your way. AMEN.

OPENING PRAYER

*CALL TO WORSHIP

We come to God this day,
the One who names each of us as a beloved child.

**Here in these moments together,
we would recognize God dwelling in us.**

We come to Christ this day,
the One whose love is the bedrock of our lives.

**Here in this place of glory and grace,
we would understand the One who calls us to faith.**

We come to the Spirit this day,
the One who sustains and guides us in hope.

**Here as followers of Jesus,
may be re-energized for our calling to serve
as planters of "God-seeds" all around us.**

*SONGS OF PRAISE #87

Come, Christians Join to sing

Come and Behold our God by K. Eby (used with permission)

Shadows flee from the light of Your face,
Babbles cease at Your whispers of grace,
Chaos succumbs to the calm of Your touch,
None else could do so much.

Breathing new life through Your perfect plan,
You sent Your Son to this weary land,
In faithfulness, You still reach out Your hand
To call us to life in You.

Refrain:

Come, follow the Way,
Turn to the One who turns night to day,
Please your footsteps where Love has trod,
Come and behold our God!

Open our eyes to your wondrous deeds,
Tune our ears to a world in need,
Order our lives to Your rhythm of peace,
Call us to faith in You.

Refrain (2x)

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

...the times when our personal agendas became more important than yours; O Lord Jesus Christ, the times when we denied others the opportunity to expand their faith through our lack of interest or involvement; the times when our lives became so entangled with the values of the world that we forgot what you said and did and promised.

we know that when we become disconnected from you, Water us with your Spirit, in these places where our lives are parched and unfruitful, stunted and dry. Bless and renew our lives, we pray, so that we remain connected to you at all times and in all places, growing strongly and vigorously, bearing the fruit of your kingdom.

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.

CHOIR ANTHEM

Down to the River to Pray

Trad/arr. Sheldon Curry

TIME WITH YOUNGER DISCIPLES

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 READING

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23, 36b-43

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

SERMON

"Entrusted with the Future of the Church"

***Singing:* I surrender all, I surrender all;
All to thee, my blessed Savior, I surrender all.**

*HYMN OF RESPONSE #548 *Come, Great God of all the Ages*

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE 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 lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

THE OFFERING

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: Stewardship

Written by Allen & Sara Ewing-Merrill 2004

**We believe in God, Creator of the universe,
Giver of every good gift, Author of life itself.**

**We believe in Jesus Christ, who reminded us of the coming of God's kingdom,
who commanded us to care for those in need, who taught us to store up
treasures in heaven, not on earth, and who gave us the example of self-giving
love.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, who inspires us to faithful stewardship of God's
gifts, in whom we live and move and have our being, by whom all things are
possible.**

**We believe that God has given us gifts to be shared freely and generously,
in a spirit of love and joy. We acknowledge that we are merely stewards of all that**

is God's, caretakers of God's home. We believe that faithful stewardship is an act of worship, a means of praising God who has blessed us so abundantly. We believe that God has great things in store for us, for it is in giving that we receive.

***OFFERTORY** *Take, O Take Me As I Am* by Bell
Take O take me as I am
Summon out what I shall be
Set Your seal upon my heart
And live in me.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

***SENDING HYMN #552** *We All Are One in Mission*

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE** *Flourish on "Salzburg"* by Hintze/Wagner

- * You are welcome to stand in body or spirit.
- + Each Sunday we take the opportunity to speak our joys and concerns in a communal setting, so that we may pray for one another throughout the week. You are welcome to share during this time, or simply to listen. Please be mindful we are streaming our worship service, so sharing is public.

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**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](mailto:fpcdbq.pastor@gmail.com) or (507) 227-8537.

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The worship schedule for Nov/Dec 2024 will be as follows:

- 1st/3rd/5th Sunday - WPC (Communion on 1st Sunday)
- 2nd/4th Sunday - FPC
- If inclement weather exists, **Sunday morning** worship will be **moved to WPC OR canceled** no later than 7am Sunday morning, and will be posted on the WPC and FPC website as well as emailed to both congregations. If there are no Sunday morning activities, there will be no Sunday evening activities either. **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

Next week is Daylight Savings! Don't forget to "FALL BACK."

TODAY is Pledge Sunday Bring your pledge cards to place in the offering plate as a sign you're giving to God, the giver of all things. **Don't forget the box to include your time and talents** as well – there are many, many ways to give back to God! *Extra pledge cards are available at the back of the church, for each congregation, if you need one.*

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.

MEN'S BREAKFAST: Join the men folk for breakfast and fellowship on Saturday, Nov. 2nd at 8:00am at Papa Ozz (3338 John F Kennedy Rd). All ages are welcome to join.

WEATHER BAD? IS CHURCH CANCELED? If inclement weather exists, ***Sunday morning worship*** may be moved from FPC to WPC OR cancelled. Such a decision will be made no later than 7am Sunday morning and will be posted on the WPC and FPC websites 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.

The pouring of the water into the font at the beginning of worship engages our physical senses in worship of God. Hearing the water and seeing it poured connects us to the sacrament of Baptism, a sign & seal of our being marked as Christ's own forever. By carrying in the water during the prelude, children are offered an opportunity to participate in worship leadership.

FALL BIBLE STUDY: Join us on Wednesdays at 1:30 at Bethany Home or Thursdays at 11:00 at WPC in the board room. Leader; is Marsha Wilfong with a study of Genesis 1-11. "The Beginnings of God's Relationship with the World and with Humankind." And God saw that it was Good!

THE JULIEN CHAMBER CHOIR, under the direction of Kristen Eby, presents their 25th anniversary concert "For the Beauty" **TODAY at 3 pm** at St. Anthony Catholic Church (1870 St. Ambrose Street, Dubuque). The 20-voice ensemble will perform both new songs and old favorites by Schubert, Duruflé, Barnum, Hogan and others. Reception to follow. Freewill donations accepted. Church members in the choir are Steve Peake, WPC and John Eby, FPC.

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday, October 27, 5:30 Food, Faith and Fellowship is a Ghoulish **Potluck**. Please bring a main dish, side dish or salad to share. The Adult class is presented by the Dubuque Rescue Mission's Jeff Lenhardt. Also, Mom's on Fire and Activities for 3 thru 3rd grade and 4th thru 12th will be happening.

Monday, October 28, 6:30-8:00 Shalom Spirituality Center will host "**Beyond Welcoming the Stranger**" online panel discussion on immigration. Register by noon October 28 at shalomretreats.org/stec_event/beyond-welcoming-the-stranger/.

WPC BOOK CLUB, will meet on **Wed., Dec. 4th** at 3:30 in the board room to discuss *The Talented Mrs. Mandelbaum: The Rise and Fall of an American Organized-Crime Boss* by Margarlit Fox (Biography)

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: SUNDAY EVENINGS & WESTMINSTER TABLES

Please contact Rich Henderson if you can help at 563-580-6289 with food and Deb Seiffert at 563-543-1661 if you can help with the children on Sunday evenings.

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**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 the family of **Gladys Porter** who passed away Sun., Oct. 20<sup>th</sup>. Arrangements are pending.
- For **Lisa MacNaughton** who had a spontaneous pelvic bone fracture and needs prayers for healing and pain control.
- For **Joyce Veach**, Mary Kay's sister in-law, who has liver cancer.
- For **Patt Carmack** who is having ongoing medical procedures.
- For **HannaRose Otting** who moved to a residential care facility and getting settled into her new home and school.
- 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, October 27**

9:30am – Collaborative Worship & Children's Church at FPC

***Pledge Sunday***

Coffee, treats and fellowship following worship.

1:30pm – Bethany Home Worship

5:30pm – Food, Faith & Fellowship, WPC - **Ghoulish Potluck!**

**Monday, October 28**

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

6:45pm – Joint Christian Ed Mtg., WPC-BR

**Tuesday, October 29**

9am – Tai Chi, WPC-FH

9am-1pm – Office Hours at FPC

9am – Personnel Mtg. – WPC, BR

**Wednesday, October 30**

11:15am – Staff Meeting at WPC

1:30pm – Genesis Bible Study at Bethany Home

4:30pm – Community Harvest Team, WPC-BR

5pm – Handbells Rehearsal, WPC-SA

**Thursday, October 31**

9am-1pm – Office Hours at FPC

11am – Genesis Bible Study, WPC-BR

**Saturday, November 2**

Unity Brunch Set-up, WPC-FH, K

**Sunday, November 3 – DAYLIGHT SAVINGS – FALL BACK**

9:30am – Collaborative Worship, COMMUNION & Children's Church at WPC

Rev. Tim Slemmons, preaching; with a **Coffee Hour to follow!**

11am – Unity Celebration Potluck – WPC, Fellowship Hall

5:30pm – Navigating Grief or Loss, WPC, Fellowship Hall

**5:30 pm – NO Food, Faith or Fellowship**

**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

[fcdbq.pastor@gmail.com](mailto:fcdbq.pastor@gmail.com) or 507.227.8537

**MARY KAY IS OUT OF  
OFFICE THRU OCT. 31**

**Glinda Manternach will be filling in.**

**A NOTE FROM MARY KAY:**

We are trying to go paperless, so please faithfully read your emails from [marykay@wpcdbq.org](mailto:marykay@wpcdbq.org). Also, be sure WPC is in your contacts, so it doesn't go to your junk mail. We want you to be up to speed of everything going on at WPC. Thanks!

# CHURCH STAFF

## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

**Deacon of the Month:** Deb Stant

**Preacher:** Rev. Stephanie Ells

**Liturgist:** Rev. Beth McCaw

**Musicians:** Kristen Eby, John Eby, Steve Peake and Hannah Eby

**Coffee Hour Hosts:** DeeDee Cosgrove & Deb Stant

**Streaming Team:** Stant/Boelk

**Greeter of the Month:** Lindsey 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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ONLINE**



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**BUY SCRIP**



**WORSHIP  
CHECK-IN**

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