

APRIL 2024

ALERT

The Monthly Newsletter of
First Presbyterian Church, Mt Pleasant, Iowa

902 S Walnut St, Mt Pleasant, IA 52641



Contact Information

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Monday - Friday, 9 AM - 2 PM

Life Long Learning



Dear Members and Friends of The First Presbyterian Church of Mount Pleasant,

The common values we hold dear shape our actions, our relationships, and our impact on the world around us. It is through these values that we can reflect the light of God and be a beacon of hope and love to those around us.

Lifelong learning is one character quality we value. Our shared education stops once we hit the adult world. We no longer share the same teachers or learn the same life lessons. As we gather together for fellowship, worship, and study, we are reminded of the lessons learned and the learning we still need to do.

Leading with a purpose bigger than ourselves is another guiding value that we hold in high regard. We believe in living our lives as a form of service. The world is waiting for a savior to fix all of our problems. We believe Jesus calls us as individuals together to form a larger body. Our unique talents, passions and experiences are the right ones to make a difference together. Strength and knowledge increase exponentially because of each person.

Inclusivity is a value that is also close to our hearts at The First Presbyterian Church of Mount Pleasant. We welcome all who seek to worship, learn, and serve with us, regardless of background, race, or status. In our diversity, we find strength and unity, celebrating the unique gifts and perspectives that each individual brings to our community.

As we continue to live out these guiding character values, let us remember the words of Micah 6:8, "He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God." May we strive to embody these values in all that we do, reflecting the light of God's love to a world in need.

In Service to the Way of Christ,
Rev. Trey Hegar

Treasurer's Report for February 2024

Year to Date Revenue: \$54,126.00; Expenses: \$53,410.00; Cash Increase (Decrease): \$716.00

February 2024	CURRENT MONTH		YEAR TO DATE		2024
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	ACTUAL	BUDGET	BUDGET
General Pledges	\$19,168.00	\$20,173.00	\$52,475.00	\$40,347.00	\$244,886.00
From Endowment Fund	\$0.00	\$8,311.00	\$0.00	\$16,623.00	\$96,752.17
Other Revenue	\$1,154.00	\$201.00	\$1,651.00	\$399.00	\$18,600.00
Total Revenue	\$20,322.00	\$28,685.00	\$54,126.00	\$57,369.00	\$360,238.17
EXPENSES					
Pastor	\$10,691.00	\$11,206.00	\$21,285.00	\$22,261.00	\$133,567.44
personnel	\$10,471.00	\$11,120.00	\$21,018.00	\$22,239.00	\$136,507.13
Worship and Music	\$302.00	\$267.00	\$789.00	\$533.00	\$4,550.00
Adult Christian Education	\$157.00	\$108.00	\$176.00	\$217.00	\$2,300.00
YouthChristian Education	(\$904.00)	\$800.00	(\$848.00)	\$1,600.00	\$10,500.00
Stewardship	\$0.00	\$150.00	\$44.00	\$300.00	\$4,800.00
Building and Grounds	\$1,845.00	\$1,985.00	\$3,355.00	\$3,971.00	\$31,175.00
Operations	\$1,071.00	\$792.00	\$2,120.00	\$1,583.00	\$8,050.00
Technology	\$36.00	\$358.00	\$357.00	\$717.00	\$4,300.00
Mission	\$1,499.00	\$2,017.00	\$5,114.00	\$4,035.00	\$24,488.60
Special Giving	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Expenses	\$25,168.00	\$28,803.00	\$53,410.00	\$57,456.00	\$360,238.17
CASH INCREASE (DECR)	(\$4,846.00)	(\$118.00)	\$716.00	(\$87.00)	\$0.00

Respectfully submitted, Marvin Bricker, Treasurer

Special thanks to **Ginnie Swarm, Mariah Giberson, Marvin Bricker** and our **financial clerks** for all of their work.

Session Highlights

Session met on Sunday, March 17 following Worship in Peter's Room. It was motioned and approved ahead of time via email to postpone Session to this date instead of Sunday, March 10, as there was a special presentation. The following item was moved, seconded, and passed:

- for **Bob Mueller** to join the Nominating Committee
- to allow the Scouts to host their awards ceremony in Fellowship Hall Sunday afternoon, April 21
- to loan the IowaWINS the large table the church is no longer using as a conference table. It will be used in their new "Welcome Home Center."
- to accept the resignation of Heidi Ryon from Session due her moving to Iowa City. Her position will remain unfilled until the next nominations of elders in the fall.

Session continues to discuss and look into protocol for RAGBRAI. More information is needed before any decisions can be made. The church also received new members, New members, **Micaela Leunis & Luis Berrios, Laura & AJ Martin, Randy & Linda Keith** on March 10, 2024. Session will meet again on Sunday, April 14 following Worship in Peter's Room.

Tithes & Offerings

We ask that you continue to give to the church, so we can continue to help and support our community programs and offer programs and support to you. You may drop off your checks in the office, mail your checks to 902 S. Walnut St. or give online by copying this link <https://bit.ly/2x46F6I>.

Rev. Trey Hegar

Two-Cent-A-Meal Offering

On the first Sunday of the month we have added the Two-Cent-A-Meal offering to the Children's Moment. This offering goes to help with the Matthew 25 Initiative in fighting poverty in our community. There are cans and/or labels available in the back of the sanctuary for you to collect your change at home. This month the Children's Sermon will be on Easter Sunday, March 31 instead of the first Sunday of the month, April 7.



April Worship Helpers

Sunday Morning Building Assistant:
Jeff Epperson

Financial Clerk: **Charlene Hinrichs**

Greeters: **Curt & Ginnie Swarm**

Communion Preparer - 4/7:
Pat Richenberger

Liturgists:

April 7 **Bonnie Kremer**

April 14 **Deb Sinclair**

April 21 **Robyn Willham**

April 28 **Kathy Schimmelpfennig**



Presbyterian Women

Rummage & Bake Sale

Friday, April 12, 2024: 12 PM – 6 PM

Saturday, April 13, 2024: 8 AM – 1 PM

\$2 Bag Sale

Saturday, April 13, 2024: 11 AM – 1 PM

The sale will be in the Fellowship Hall

Set up will start on Thursday, April 11, 2024 at 8 AM until 4 PM. Set up will also be on Friday April 12, 2024 from 8 AM until time of sale at 12 PM

There will be a volunteer sign-up sheet for the setup, sale, and bake sale on the table in the Gathering Space.

All baked goods need to be packaged with the list of recipe ingredients and brought to the Fellowship Hall on Thursday, April 11th from 8 AM – 4 PM or Friday, April 12th no later than 10 AM.

Donations for the rummage sale will be accepted starting Sunday April 7, 2024. Place donations on the stage in the Fellowship Hall. Please no fall clothes, clothes with missing buttons or broken zippers, large furniture pieces, or TV's.

Matthew 25 Book Study

Sunday, April 7



This month we will discuss Section III: Community Lens (pgs. 181-223). These are important conversations as we discern and imagine what eradicating systemic poverty could really look like in Henry County. Please come and join the conversation even if you have not been reading the book. All discussions will take place in the Fellowship Hall following worship.



Book Group

Thursday, April 11 at 7 PM

Book Group will meet on Thursday, April 11 at 7 PM in the Gathering Space. The book for April is *Enough* by Cassidy Hutchinson. All are welcome to come and join in the discussion and fellowship.

Synod School Registration opens

April 1 at Noon!

Now is the time to start thinking about Synod School! It is the week of July 21-26 in Storm Lake, Iowa. There are first timer scholarships available. Also, our church will pay for half of your registration fee! This is an amazing deal! Please reach out to **Sarah Hegar** with any questions. She will also walk through the registration process with you if you'd like! Visit www.lakesandprairies.org for more information.

Cinco de Mayo Lunch & Matthew 25 Conversation

Sunday, May 5, following worship

We invite you to join us for a catered lunch (freewill offering accepted) as we celebrate Cinco de Mayo and Hispanic heritage. Lunch will be joined with conversation around the Matthew 25 topic of poverty, specifically in Henry County. This event will wrap up the book discussion of *Bridges Out Of Poverty*. Even if you have not read the book, you are most welcome to attend.



Camp Bear Creek (formerly Camp Wyoming) Volunteer Work Day!

Saturday, May 11th from 9am-3pm.

More details and sign-up coming soon.



The Family Connection Donation Collection



The Family Connection is a voluntary and free home visitor program with families with children age prenatal-kindergarten in both Washington and Henry Counties. For the month of April, our church will be collecting donation items for these families. You can bring any items from the select list below and place them in the designated basket in the Gathering Space.

If you would like more information, have questions, or would like to make a referral to the Family Connection, please contact Amy at 319-385-8126.

Donation Items Seeking:

Diapers (sizes NB-6)	Diaper wipes
Diaper cream	Baby wash
Dish and hand soap	Pacifiers
Bottles & nipples	Sippy cups
Books for small children	Baby blankets
Laundry detergent (allergen free)	
Educational toys (no batteries)	
Teething rings, rattles and other infant toys	
Home safety items and first aid kits	

Expanding Our Welcome: Creating Safe & Inclusive Sacred Spaces Together

Saturday, April 27, 10 AM- 4 PM, Davenport

Join us on April 27 at First Presbyterian Church in Davenport, Iowa, for a time of learning, sharing and discussing practical steps for welcoming all people as beloved children of God.

This event, jointly co-sponsored by the Presbyteries of East Iowa and Great Rivers, is designed for leaders and members of every congregation to take the next steps in offering an authentic welcome to LGBTQIA+ people in ways that show God's love and build up the church. Participants will leave knowing they are not alone on the journey, feeling better equipped for navigating difficult conversations, and taking what they know and living it out in their communities. To register, visit <https://covnetpres.org/event/covenant-conversation-east-iowa-great-rivers/>.

Child care will be provided if requested by April 19. Registration will cost \$20 (\$15 for participants from churches bringing 3 or more people). Students or those with financial hardship can register for free.



New IowaWINS Welcome Home Center Coming Soon!

IowaWINs is excited to announce that the new Welcome Home Center will be opening soon. The Welcome Home Center is available to all local residents seeking connection to community services. The center offers bilingual services for Spanish speakers.

The center will connect people with resources in our community and facilitate relationship development to benefit everyone in the community. We plan to host outreach sessions and workshops on a variety of important issues including skill building, literacy, starting a business, cultural education, mental health services, immigration, and financial literacy. We also look forward to hosting community celebrations.

The inside walls have been painted by a local Hispanic business that wanted to give back to the community. We are now seek donations of desks, chairs, filling cabinet, office supplies, a computer and printer and perhaps a small love seat or cushioned chairs. Please let us know if you have any items that you might like to donate. We hope to have an Open House in the next couple of weeks.

The center is located at 217 W. Washington, across the street from the Fire Department.

Local Art Show



Sharon Presbyterian Church, Farmington

Sunday, April 14, 2-4 PM

The Sharon Presbyterian Church will be hosting a local art show on Sunday, April 14. All are welcome to come view art, participate in a simple art class, enjoy refreshments, and visit. All ages are welcome

April Birthdays & Anniversaries

- 3 Kenna Lamm
- 4 Aiden Ashton, Luis Berrios
- 6 Mindy Creager
- 7 Callie DePriest, Kathie McWhirter
- 9 Kathryn Chabal, Hudson Hegar
Tim & Karen Conrad's Anniversary
- 10 Darin Stater, Jim Willham
Tim & Sally Olson's Anniversary
- 11 Sandy Moore
- 16 Tia Scheitlin
- 17 Joy Johnson
- 19 Bonnie Kremer
- 20 Lou Baccam, April Pforts,
Dorothy Wehage, Natalie McCormick
Dick & Jan Benedict's Anniversary
- 21 Calista Liechty, Kevin Van Dorin
Carl & Peggy Frank's Anniversary
- 22 Mary Liechty, Sally Olson, Luke Ryon
- 23 Claudia Streeter
- 24 Jean Lawler, Zach May
- 25 Reece Barton, Patty Madden
- 28 Alec Mathews, Jared Walker
Adam & Liz McLaughlin's Anniversary
- 30 Erin Stensvaag

May ALERT Deadline

Monday, April 22

If you have an article, event, announcement, thank you, prayer concern congratulations, birthday or anniversary date that you would like included in the May ALERT, please send it into the office by the end of Monday, April 22. Thank you.

PRAYER CONCERNS:

- Sandy Memler, Lois Betz,
- Dora McDonald
- Marilyn Vincent's cousin, Bonnie Huss
- Chaiden Miller
- Barb Parker, nephew Chad
- Aaron Williamson's dad,
Rick Williamson
- Matt Lawler's brothers, Joe & Ken
- Jack Becker's foster son,
Jeremy Kitchen
- Liz Wasson's sister, Caryl,
niece, Terrill
- Kelly Allen's niece, Marie Crews
- Susan Farnsworth's brother,
Jeff Stanley and brother-in-law,
Doug Pederson
- Lois Roth's brother, Mark Veldhuizen,
sister-in-law, Kim Veldhuizen
- Our shut-ins & those in care centers
- Israel & Palestine; Ukraine

thank you

Thank you to those who remembered me with cards, memorials, and the church's gift of the prayer quilt when my sister-in-law, **Mary Hunger**, passed away.

In appreciation, Arnette Hunger

First Presbyterian Church, Mt Pleasant,

Thank you so much for your generosity helping me as a seminarian at APTS. I fondly think of my time there when Trey was on sabbatical. It has been wonderful to watch how you are serving the community with Matthew 25. I aspire to be a part of a church like yours. Your help helps me get there.

Peace & Blessings, Marta Pumroy

Pastor: Rev. Trey Hegar
Music & Choir Director: Ming Vierra
Bell Choir Director: Adam Creager
Congregational Ministries Director: Rev. Sarah Hegar
AV Technician & Web Coordinator: Leo Clark
Office Assistant: Mariah Giberson
Custodians: Robert Luth

Financial Secretary: Ginnie Swarm
Treasurer: Marvin Bricker
Bookkeeper: Mariah Giberson

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Mt Pleasant, IA 52641
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April Events

Sunday Worship

Sundays at 9:45 AM, Sanctuary
Fellowship Time to follow in Gathering Space

Office Closed

Monday, April 1

Senior Scholarship Applications Due

Monday, April 1

Matthew 25 Book Discussion

Sunday, April 7 following Worship, Fellowship Hall

Deacons

Monday, April 8 - 4 PM, Gathering Space

PW Rummage & Bake Sale - Fellowship Hall

Set Up: Thursday, April 11, 8 AM - 4 PM

Friday, April 12, 8 AM - 12 PM

Sale: Friday, April 12, 12 PM - 6 PM

Saturday, April 13, 8 AM - 1 PM

Book Group

Thursday, April 12 - 7 PM, Gathering Space

Session

Sunday, April 14 - following Worship,
Peter's Room

May ALERT Deadline

Monday, April 22

Mission Committee Meeting

Tuesday, April 23 - 5 PM, Peter's Room

Worship Committee Meeting

Tuesday, April 23 - 5:45 PM, Gathering Space

Expanding Our Welcome Conference

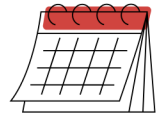
Saturday, April 27 - 10 AM - 4 PM, Davenport

Meals by Nutrimos Selling

First and Third Sunday of the Month
10:45 - 11:15 AM, Gathering Space

Pastor Trey's Bible Study

Wednesday - 10:30 AM, Peter's Room



RE:CREATION ALERT

Wednesday after School Program

April 2024

K – 5th Grade with Rev. Sarah Hegar

Re:Creation Thank You's!

Special Thank You's to all who helped with this wonderful K-5 program during the month of March! Rovers and Dinner helpers included **Erica Redgate, Scott Redgate, Becky Siberts, Martha Wiley, Linda Albright, Barb Miller, Suzi Morrison, Paula Hoenig, Patty Madden, and Terri Gordy.** During March we started learning about stories in the bible involving FOOD including the Israelites gathering manna and quail, the parable of the sower, and the feeding of the 5,000.

The last day of Re:Creation will be Wednesday, April 24 with a party at East Lake Park.

Vacation Bible School

July 8-12

VBS is set for July 8-12! The theme is Christmas in July! We will once again be out at the Kremer's Farm for a week full of learning, crafting, eating, and fun!

Registration brochures for both campers (completed K-5th) and counselors (completed 6th-12th) will be available on May 1. Registration will close on July 1.

Children's Sermon

Each first Sunday of the month, we hold a Children's Moment during Worship. We invite families to come and join on these all-ages Worship opportunities. Join us Sunday, March 3 at 9:45 AM for our next Children's Sermon. This month the Children's Sermon will be on Easter Sunday, March 31 instead of the first Sunday of the month, April 7.

PRESS ON YOUTH ALERT

Middle School & High School

April 2024

with Rev. Sarah Hegar and Adult Advisors

Press On News and Thank You's!

Always special thanks to **Erica Redgate** and **Kelly Allen** who serve weekly as Adult Advisors for the youth group! In March we also thank those who provided meals: **Tim & Karen Conrad, Sarah Hegar, Laura Martin, and Jeff and Robyn Willham.** We couldn't do it without you!

We celebrate our youth who had a role in the high school musical *The Little Mermaid!*

The final Press On will be on Wednesday, April 24 at East Lake Park. Stay tuned for summer activities!

Senior Scholarships

To our graduating Seniors, scholarship applications are available. This is a chance to receive a little financial help as you begin preparing for whatever comes next. **Scholarship forms must be filled out and returned by April 1.** Please submit your application to Sarah or Mariah in the office.

Save the Date: Synod School

Synod School is July 21-26! We hope to have a number of our youth participate. Registration opens April 1. Please talk to Sarah for more information.