



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Volume 89, No. 4

Scuba VBS Information

Learn about VBS on page 2.

Our Confirmands

Meet our confirmands on page 3.

Reminder:

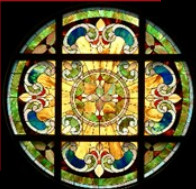
- May 9—Ascension of the Lord
- May 12—Mother’s Day
- May 19—Pentecost
- May 19—Graduation Sunday
- May 19—Hymn Sing
- May 21—Deacons
- May 21—Session
- May 27—Memorial Day

WORSHIP:

- 9:00 AM Sunday
- 10:15 AM Sunday School

WEBSITE

www.fpcmarshalltown.org



Word of Wisdom from Pastor Bryan Kunz

Search Team Update

It has been a while since I have given any update on the search team. We had been interviewing a good candidate and had even brought him out to see the church and have an in person interview but following that interview it became clear to us that he was not the right fit for our position.

I tell you this to say that we are continuing the search, and we are refining our understanding of the right person for this role. Unfortunately, at the moment we do not have any candidates in the process, but we have a committed search team. The team is taking a small step back to make sure that our job description and our description of the right person match what we really need as a church. When we complete that review, we will put the job listing back out and continue the search.

In the meantime, Carissa continues to be a great asset to me and to the church. She will be around until the end of June, then we will miss her as she pursues her master’s degree. Her work over the last few months has made it very clear that a second ministry person is important to deepening our programs and expanding our impact in Marshalltown. The book and Bible studies are a good example of the kinds of discipleship that are possible with an additional staff member.

I see God at work in this church, so I continue to trust that God will provide the right person to join us in ministry. Please continue praying for the search team to have wisdom as we make decisions and look for that person. Ask God to be bringing the right person to us and for the decision to be clear when we connect. If you know of someone who might be interested in the role, please direct them to our website where they can find more information under the “Staff” page.

—Rev. Bryan Kunz



Youth News

Youth Spotlight

May 19—Graduate Sunday

May 19—Last day of Sunday school

June 10-13—VBS

If you would like to provide a Sunday night meal for the youth, you may [sign up here](#). You may also email Carissa King.

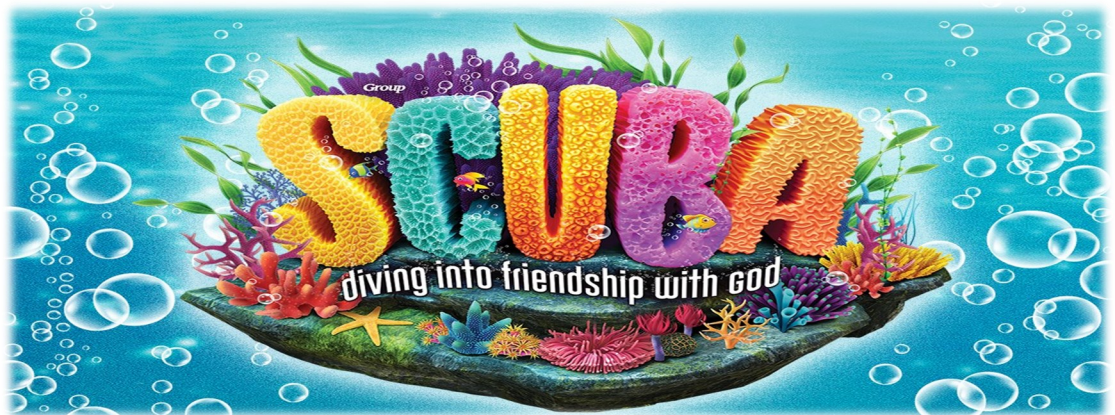
VBS is coming soon!

VBS Registration is now open on the [home page](#) of our website! Sign your kids up for SCUBA, an exciting under the sea adventure where we will dive into friendship with God. Children will learn that God is a forever friend, while exploring life in the ocean! There will be fun songs, cute crafts, cool science experiments and engaging scripture lessons, so don't miss out on the fun and invite your friends to join! VBS is a great way for kids to learn about Jesus while having loads of fun with their friends.

We will kick off VBS on Monday, June 10th and finish on Thursday, June 13th. Bring the whole family for dinner at 5:00 p.m.! VBS programming will begin at 5:45 for children who have just finished preschool through 4th grade, but parents and youth are welcome to help, stay and hang out, or leave and come back at 8:00 p.m. for pick up.

We need all hands on deck to make this fun week a success! Come talk to me, or email me at carissa@fpcmarshalltown.org if you are interested in helping. There are jobs for every skill set!

—Carissa King



What's coming at FPC

Attention 2024 Graduates

We will be celebrating our graduates' achievements during the **May 19, 2024**, worship service. If you have a graduate in your family in 2024 (including December 2023 grads—high school or higher education) we ask that you send a billfold sized (portrait style) picture for display by **Sunday, May 5th**. Be sure to include the graduate's name, school, and certificate or degree earned. You may call or email church with the information, but we ask you send or bring in a physical photo.

I-Cubs Game

M & I is planning another trip to an Iowa Cubs game on Sunday, June 9th @ 1:08 p.m. Please sign up in the Narthex or call the church office if you are interested as tickets need to be purchased soon to get our good (shaded) seats together. If you have questions, please talk to Jackie Hughes. Depending on the number of people going, tickets are usually \$9 or less. Carpooling can be arranged.

M & I seeking ideas

M & I is always looking for fun things to do to bring our church family together by playing and eating together. Talk to Tracy Ostrem, Jackie Hughes, or any other member of the committee if you have an idea for something we can do together.

Meet our confirmands

On Sunday, April 14, 2024, we welcomed three young confirmands into the membership of the church after two years of preparation with Pastor Bryan Kunz. The three young men had previously met with Session and answered the required questions.

Faith Banissan is the son of Abra and Bruno Banissan. He is a freshman at Marshalltown High School and plays football.

Preston Johnson is the son of Ashley and Lucas Johnson. He is a freshman at Marshalltown High School and runs track and cross country.

Oliver Young is the son of Amber and Kyle Young. He is an 8th grader at Miller Middle School and plays basketball and baseball.



Recent Mission Blog Posts

We post to our mission blog every other Tuesday, but this month we had a bonus post. Here are our most recent blog posts. They can be accessed here: <https://www.fpcmarshalltown.org/blog>

April 2	Update from the Palms in the Philippines
April 16	Update from the Turks in Madagascar
April 23	Lakeshore Center at Okoboji
April 30	Wednesday Club

Wednesday Club

Wednesday Club finished its spring session with a program for parents and a delicious family meal. The whole group recited and signed our theme verse, *“All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives... God uses it to prepare and equip his people to do every good work. – from 2 Timothy 3 NLT* The children sang and signed “The B-I-B-L-E,” and then the 4th graders also shared what they learned about the parts of the Bible and some of the Bible stories we read. Bibles were given to the students at the beginning of the Wednesday Club session so they could use them as we learned. Nine children, including a youth helper, received a Bible, and once again, several were taken from the stack we had available at the meal.

Thank you to everyone who gives their time and talents to this outreach ministry each week: **Wynona Anderson, Matt Broshar, Carissa King, Barb McBride, Anna Oswald, Garry Rottink, Terri Rottink, Bert Tice, and Nancy Van Wyk.** And also to those who have provided snack in April: **Jennifer Anderson, Mary Hemming, Heather Rottink, Marlene Snyder, Bert Tice, and Barb Vovos.**



God bless you!

Michelle Wilkinson



Thank you

Middle School & High School Youth,
Cannot thank all of you enough for the great work you did at our Soup Luncheon. You certainly put a smile on Jesus' face the way you help people out!

—Chad Hammar
House of Compassion

Dear friends at First Presbyterian,
We at Jonathan's House are so grateful for the generous support we receive from donors like yourself. God has continued to grow the work of the ministry in Central Africa. The word has really gotten around the local community that JH is able to care for babies whose mothers have passed away. Currently of the 50+ children who live at the JH orphanage, there are 17 non-walking babies in our care! For the 2023-24 school year enrollment has climbed once again and we now teach and feed over 500 elementary students each day. The medical clinic continues to be a blessing to many people in our local community, and the maternity ward is recognized for its kind and loving care for expectant and new mothers. We could not show God's love in all these ways without your support. Thank you for joining us in this ministry to the least of these!

—Jonathan's House, Central Africa

The Emergency Food Box again wants to thank you for the generous food and cash donations we receive from members of your church. Feel free to visit our website for a list of foods we give to families every day, emergencyfoodbox.org. If we were to list a couple foods we seem to always need, it would be cereal and Mac n cheese! Our condiments are also getting low.

—Monica Schneider,
Emergency Food Box

A Tip of the Hat to —

Don Feld for making a new little pantry door after the original was broken....**Jim Grimmus** for patching the wall in the Gathering Place after a water leak....Our faithful workers at the House of Compassion during the month of April: **Matt Broshar, Jackie Hughes, Rich King, Garry Rottink, Naysa Rottink & her friend Rachel, Terri Rottink, and Bert Tice.**

News & Upcoming Events

Coming this Month: New Members

On April 7th new members **Jacob Jorgensen** and **Mitch & Michelle Brown**, with their sons **Caleb** and **Isaac**, were introduced to the congregation. We are pleased to have them be a part of our church family!



Church Committees

Do you wonder what committees First Presbyterian Church has, what they do, and how to join one? Want to know how to connect with a committee or one of its members?

There is a list of committees and their membership on the bulletin board in the narthex. Committees of the church have their own budgets, advise Session, make decisions and run programs within their purview. With the exception of the Administration & Personnel Committee (A&P) which the bylaws limit to Session elders, all committees are open to new members. Some, like Missions & Evangelism, are hoping to add younger people to their committee. If you have questions, talk to a committee member!

Circle News

Elizabeth Circle will meet in the Lower Lounge, on **Thursday, May 9, 2024, at 1:30 p.m.** All women are welcome.

Sarah Circle will meet at Jinita Boyd's home for some fun. Details will be announced later.

Hymn Sing

There will be a Hymn Sing **Sunday, May 19, 2024, at 3:00 p.m.** in the Sanctuary. All are welcome.

Pantry Update

The strong winds have been hard on the little pantry door. Thank you to **Don Feld** for building & installing a new door with a closer. He also picked up 15 boxes of quality meals at the ISU Extension Office. At press time, at least **196** items have been donated in April. An amazing **841** items have been donated in 2024! Thank you to **Terri & Garry Rottink** for packaging rice meal packs with items to make a good meal. We appreciate everyone's generosity to this project. Items most needed at this time are *breakfast cereal and oatmeal packets, canned fruit and vegetables, pasta, pasta sauce, ramen, dry milk packets, single serving and family-size meals, canned soups, and proteins, including peanut butter and tuna, bread and tortillas*. You may bring items to the wagon under the main entrance stairs any time.

Altar Flowers

There are many Sundays available to sponsor altar flowers this summer. The bouquets are \$26.75 per bouquet, or \$53.50 for both. You may also bring flowers from your garden (please give the church office a week's notice if you plan to do this). The available dates are:

June 2, 16, & 23

July 7, 14, 21, & 28

August 4 & 11



March Session Actions

The Stated Session meeting of First Presbyterian Church, Marshalltown met in the Fellowship Hall, April 16, 2024.

Moderator Rev. Bryan Kunz opened the Session meeting at 7:03 p.m. Ashley Johnson presented devotions and the opening prayer.

There was a quorum in attendance.

Motion carried to approve the minutes of the March 19, 2024, Stated Session meeting and the April 14, 2024, Special Session meeting.

Search Team Report: The candidate who visited last month was a good candidate but not the right fit for this church. The search will continue with a better understanding of what characteristics we are seeking in a candidate.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Bryan is having trouble finding pulpit supply in order to take some much needed time off. He is working on the proposal for the third-floor music room and will be meeting with the people involved. Policy and procedure updates are near completion and will be back on the front burner after Wednesday Club is over.

Finances: Matt Broshar reported weekly giving was on target in March. Spending is also in line. Utility spending has been lower than expected.

Committee Reports:

Property: Steve Anderson reported on the leak in the north room of the Gathering Place. The north wall of the Gathering Place needs to be tuckpointed. The security evaluation has been completed, and the committee is studying the recommendations.

Mission/Evangelism: Lee Wilkinson reported on the new vision statement and goals that arose from the committee retreat. The committee wants to find out what people in the congregation are already doing in the community in order to support people in developing their talents and ministry. Younger people are also needed to serve on the committee.

Worship & Music: There were 106 for communion in April. **Motion carried** to approve up to \$2,750 to have the piano lid repaired.

Christian Education: Pastor Bryan presented the updated child protection policy and asked everyone to review it for a vote next month.

A&P: Has not met.

Membership & Involvement: Tracy Ostrem had nothing to add to the written report.

Memorials: Steve Anderson said the committee will meet next week.

Other: none

Motion prevailed to adjourn the meeting following prayer at 8:01 p.m.

Financial Report

March

MARCH 2024	Actual
Total Receipts	\$42,618.00
Budget	42,500.00
Total Expenses	(\$32,059.00)
Budget	(35,272.00)
Year to Date:	
Total Receipts	\$110,891.00
Budget	112,030.00
Difference	(1,139)
Total Expenses	(\$112,184.00)
Budget	(117,926.00)
Difference	5,742

Newsletter deadline with JUNE 2024 information is Monday, May 20, 2024, for anyone wanting to submit an article.



Members in mission making a difference.


GOOD NEWS from First Presbyterian Church is published monthly. Deadline for the following issue is published in the calendar. Comments and contributions are welcome.

Church office phone: 641-753-5929 – Web Site www.fpcmarshalltown.org

Email Church at church@fpcmarshalltown.org

Pastor at bryan@fpcmarshalltown.org – Secretary/Editor at church@fpcmarshalltown.org



May 2024 Birthday/Prayer Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<i>Praying for each other brings us closer together. Please pray each day for those listed.</i>			1 Lee Wilkinson	2 Steve Irvine Connie Jensen	3	4 Suzanne Brown Ryan Grabau
5 Nicholas Cooper Jason Strand	6	7	8 Isaac Young	9 Jean Abbas	10	11
12 Janeen Boliver	13 Mike Gerbo Larry Watkins	14 Lori Adams Ryan Flack	15	16	17	18 Jeff Drummer
19	20 Tracy Ostrem	21 Jim Avise Shirley Egli	22	23	24	25 Joyce Anderegg
26 Adam Podhajsky	27 Meg Sponseller	28	29 Caleb Brown Pat Hemming	30 Bryan Kunz	31 Kyle Young	

Role	SUNDAY SERVANTS				
	May 5	May 12	May 19	May 26	
Worship Leader	Valerie King	Thomas Wilkinson	John Simpson	Bill Eilers	
Greeters	Diane Welch	Roger & Karen Schoell	Diane & Keith Oleson	Bill Eilers	
Fellowship Hosts	Mitch & Michelle Brown Family	Garry & Terri Rottink	Jim & Bonnie Grimmus	Don & Ruth Feld	
Cup Washers	Jacob Jorgensen	Michelle Wilkinson	Jacob Jorgensen	Don & Ruth Feld	
Donuts	Marge Wolfe	Matt & Mindy Tullis	Pat & Nancy Kremer	Jacob Jorgensen	
Nursery	Michelle Wilkinson & Madi Stull	Bethany & Betsy Wirin & Madi Stull	Larissa Kunz & Madi Stull	Garry & Terri Rottink & Madi Stull	
Flowers	Doug & Jinita Boyd	Roger & Karen Schoell	Lee & Michelle Wilkinson	Mitch & Michelle Brown Family	
Deacons	Pat & Mary Hemming	Pat & Nancy Kremer	Paul & Karin Podhajsky	Barb McBride & Terri Rottink	
AV Tech	Diane Broshar	Steve Anderson	Bill Lawyer		Steve Anderson
Usher Teams	FIRST SUNDAY	SECOND SUNDAY	THIRD SUNDAY	FOURTH SUNDAY	FIFTH SUNDAY
Team Captain	Terry Buzbee & Larry Schrum	Stan & Nancy VanWyk	Roger & Karen Schoell	Josh Grosvenor & Andy Randall	Dick & Barb McBride
Ushers	Tim Bell Mick DuBois Harlan Quick Bruce Wirin	Amy Drummer Jeff Drummer Barb Vovos	Pat & Mary Hemming	Ryan Flack Lucas Johnson Matt McKibben Ross Turbiville Kyle Young	Chuck Colwell Karen Colwell Steve Strand
Usher Alternates (any Sunday)	Bonnie Bradbury Craig Henze LaVerne Paul	Diane Broshar Pat Kremer Harlan Quick Barb Vovos	Doug Cooper Arlene Lange Anna Randall Lee Wilkinson	Bonnie Grimmus Dennis Ostrem John Simpson	Jim Grimmus Tracy Ostrem Lisa Simpson

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

MAY 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 6:30p Bell Choir 7:30p Choir 8:30p Praise Team	2 8:30a Flapjacks – Lower Lounge	3	4 7:30a Men's Group
		←		Pastor Bryan	on	vacation →
5 8:40a – Prayer -Conf. Room 9:00a Worship – online & in person 10:15a Sunday school – all ages 5:30p – MS Youth	6 6:00p Worship & Music Comm. 6:30p Book Study 7:00p Missions & Evangelism Comm.	7 6:30p Property Committee	8 6:30p Bell Choir 7:30p Choir 8:30p Praise Team	9 8:30a Flapjacks – Lower Lounge 1:30p Elizabeth Circle	10	11 7:30a Men's Group
12 Mother's Day 8:40a – Prayer -Conf. Room 9:00a Worship – online & in person 10:15a Sunday school – all ages 5:30p – MS Youth Night	13 6:00p M & I Comm 6:30p Book Study	14 6:00p Bible Study 6:15p Bible Study	15 6:30p Bell Choir 7:30p Choir 8:30p Praise Team	16 8:30a Flapjacks – Lower Lounge 2:00p FPC serves @ House of Compassion	17	18 7:30a Men's Group
19 Graduate Sunday 8:40a – Prayer -Conf. Room 9:00a Worship – online & in person 10:15a Sunday school – all ages 5:30p – MS Youth Night	20 6:30p Book Study Newsletter Articles Due	21 9:15a Sarah Circle 6:00p Deacons 7:00p Session	22 6:30p Bell Choir 7:30p Choir 8:30p Praise Team	23 8:30a Flapjacks – Lower Lounge	24	25 7:30a Men's Group
26 8:40a – Prayer -Conf. Room 9:00a Worship – online & in person	27 Office Closed 	28 6:00p Bible Study 6:15p Bible Study	29 6:30p Bell Choir 7:30p Choir 8:30p Praise Team	30 8:30a Flapjacks – Lower Lounge	31	