



The Good News of First Presbyterian Church

Marshalltown, Iowa
641-753-5929

Volume 87, No. 7
July 29, 2022

The Purpose Statement for the First Presbyterian Church of Marshalltown

G Growing in Christ through *worship*.
R Reaching out in *fellowship*.
A Affirming faith through *discipleship*.
C Caring for the lost through *evangelism*.
E Embracing others in mission and *ministry*.

August Memory Verse

*“Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you.
I do not give as the world gives. Do not let
your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.”*

John 14:27 (NIV)



Words of Wisdom from Pastor Bryan Kunz



Belonging and Belief

Recently in the adult Sunday school class I brought up the idea of “belonging before belief.” That is, the idea that churches would welcome people who do not yet believe in Jesus or are just starting to believe and help them belong and be involved before they believe in Jesus. This is different from the common church practice of expecting membership by public profession of faith before any real involvement. I first encountered this idea in a book called *Deep Church* by Jim Belcher. Parts of this book are definitely out of date now, but this idea continues to be important.

As we look at and attempt to emulate the example of Jesus, we see that often he had disciples who did not yet understand or believe in him. We see many examples of the disciples

questioning who Jesus is and misunderstanding his mission in the world. Yet they followed and Jesus gladly accepted them. In community they asked their hard questions and wrestled with their hang-ups. Jesus even sent them out to declare the good news of his coming – even when they didn’t have all of the answers or even the whole story about how Jesus was redeeming the world! Simply because they followed and learned they were sent out to tell about what they had felt and seen and learned from Jesus and others became disciples at their words. Of course, we have some practical questions about how much leadership we should give someone who doesn’t yet believe, but notice that Jesus keeps all sorts of disciples nearby and calls them to declare the kingdom of God and to live like him before they understand or believe.

Here is my point and my questions: as a church I think we need to be a place where people are encouraged to belong and be involved before they believe. We should be declaring the truth and leading people to believe, but we should be warmly welcoming them and inviting them to be involved first. How do you think we can do that well? What would have helped you to feel that you belonged before you came to really believe? How can we be a place where we are authentic in our own doubts and encouraging of others to share their doubts and struggles? How can we help new (and long-time) believers share the story of what God has done and is doing in their lives?

---Rev. Bryan Kunz



Lower Lounge Update

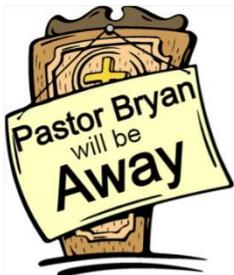
A few months ago, mold was discovered in the Lower Lounge of the church. We stopped meeting in that space out of an abundance of caution and recently hired a company to fix the moisture issues that caused the mold to grow. The Lower Lounge

has the oldest foundation in the church and, unfortunately, water seeps through that foundation easily.

So, Midwest Foundation Repair will be tearing out the lower half of the drywall to install moisture barrier, trenching through the necessary parts of the floor and channeling the water to two sump pumps. This work will cost about twenty-two thousand dollars. The drywall will then be reinstalled, and everything painted. We will also take this opportunity to do some updating in the Lower Lounge and to think about how best to organize that space for its current uses.

While this is a large project, this was a moment of gratitude as well that God has used all of you to provide the necessary funds that we can fix this problem without concern about making our regular budget and without needing to do a drive for additional funds. Thank you for your consistent financial support for the church that allows us to take care of our aging building and continue our ministry.

---Pastor Bryan & Property Committee



From August 15-21, Pastor Bryan will be in Michigan serving as chaplain at Camp Geneva. He will be available throughout the week, so if you have any pastoral concerns, please call his cell phone (641) 660-7361. Rev. Dave Feltman will fill the pulpit on Sunday, August 21.



O Bread of Life, feed me today. Nourish my soul with your grace so I may share your love with the world.



When I enter that beautiful city
And the saints all around me appear,
I hope that someone will tell me:
It was you who invited me here.

—Carrie K. Butcher



All-Church Picnic



We are having an all-church picnic at the Kauffman shelter at the city park in State Center (across from West Marshall High School on 3rd Street NW) on

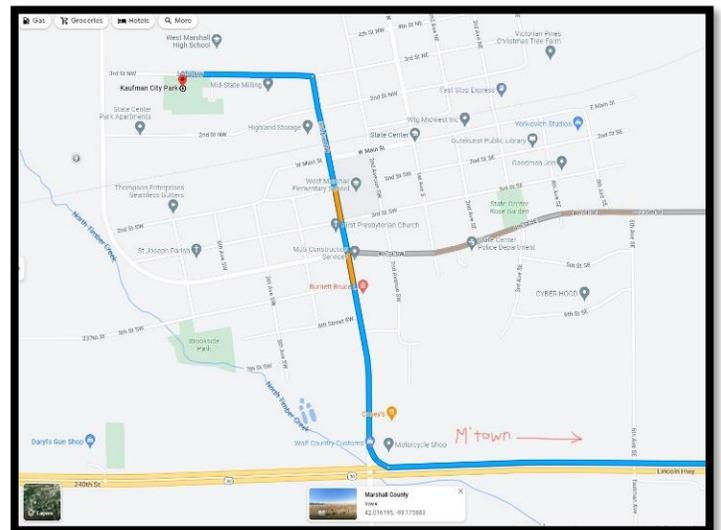
Sunday, August 7th, with lunch served at 11:30 a.m.

This is for everyone – splashpad for the kids, games for kids and adults, good visiting with friends. Bring your towels.

M&I will supply everything – EXCEPT... we ask those attending to bring either a salad or dessert.

We will be serving brats, hot dogs, hamburgers, chips, baked beans, watermelon, and drink. All paper supplies will be provided, also.

Directions to the park in State Center: Take US-30 west to State Center, turning right (north) into town by the Casey's. Follow this street (3rd Ave.) north across the tracks until it Ts at 3rd St. NW. Turn left (west) onto 3rd St. NW. Go about a block and a half. The park will be on the left (south). Parking is west of the shelter.



Membership & Involvement News

M&I needs your help!



M & I Committee

Our Sunday Servants jobs are easy – greeters, fellowship host, cup washers, helping in nursery, and providing donuts.

Thank you to those who have signed up. Please continue to take the time to sign up on the clipboard in the Fellowship Hall. We REALLY need your help to keep this fellowship time going.

If you don't see the clipboard, you can text or email Jackie or call the office. Regardless of your age, please consider this as a way to continue to give to your Church.

M&I is a very active committee which could always use new ideas. We have fun in the kitchen; but we are more than that. The committee's purpose is to encourage and support our church members with activities, and with more people come more ideas so please consider joining this committee. Talk to Dave Freel or Jackie Hughes if you'd like more information.

Upcoming activities: game night, Wednesday night activities.

---Thanks, Dave Freel & Jackie Hughes
M&I Committee Co-chairs

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United for Ukraine



United for Ukraine, a local group exploring how to host families who escaped from the war in Ukraine, will meet in the First Presbyterian Church

sanctuary on **Wednesday, August 3rd at 5:00 p.m.** You are invited to come and learn more about what this group is doing in Marshalltown.

■ ■ ■

A living mystery

In *Walking on Water*, Madeleine L'Engle quotes Emmanuel Suhard, a French cardinal in the Catholic Church during the 1940s: "To be a witness does not consist in engaging in propaganda, nor even in stirring people up, but in being a living mystery. It means to live in such a way that one's life would not make sense if God did not exist."

What would it look like in your life to be "a living mystery" — to live in a way that wouldn't make sense if not for God's existence? What risks might you take for the sake of wholeness and justice in the world? To what lengths might you go to serve a neighbor? What fears might no longer fill your heart and rule your mind? Will you see Jesus in people who are poor, be surprised to find him revealed amid suffering? What "fruits" might you allow the Holy Spirit to cultivate in you — generosity, patience, self-control? What grace will you show to others because you have experienced God's love so powerfully? All of which makes sense only because God exists!

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Altar Flowers



The altar flower sign-up is nearly complete for 2022. There are only five dates left! Most of the dates are in October. Please call or email the church office or sign up on the clipboard to request a date to sponsor flowers.



Recent Mission Blog Posts

You can catch up on these recent mission blog posts at <https://www.fpcmarshalltown.org/blog>

July 5	Update from the Turks (Madagascar)
July 12	No update, read a post you missed
July 19	Update from the Palms (Philippines)
July 26	Prayer requests from the Pauls (Central America)

Circle News

Elizabeth Circle will meet in the Fellowship Hall of the church on **Thursday, August 11th at 1:30 p.m.**



Sarah Circle will not meet this summer. We will see you all again in September.

Flapjacks meets **every Thursday at 8:30 a.m.** in the Fellowship Hall.



VBS Wrap-up

Thank you to everyone involved with Vacation Bible School this summer! We had great fellowship over delicious food each night including connecting with people who don't regularly attend our church. We had 53 children attend and they had a great time and learned about the importance of trusting Jesus. We also had some fantastic youth helpers who really made every night more fun and assisted in many ways. Thank you especially to CE committee who did lots of planning and to those who planned and carried out the different areas each night. This week was a great success because of everyone's commitment to helping the children and young people of our church and community experience and learn about the love of God!

---Pastor Bryan Kunz



Nursery Volunteers Needed



Deb Williams is our regular nursery attendant. She loves the kids and is so glad to see them each week. There are several younger kids coming to the nursery, and everyone has fun, including the helpers! If you are interested in helping in the nursery, please see Deb for more information or sign up on the clipboard if you are child protection policy trained and cleared. If you'd like to be trained please talk to Pastor Bryan.



Life is for service.

—Fred Rogers

Creativity is allowing yourself to make mistakes.

Art is knowing which ones to keep.

—Scott Adams



Can't pray? First rest!

Weariness can seriously hamper our attempts to pray, says Bonnie Gray, author of *Whispers of Rest*. "We are a generation who doesn't know how to express our souls to God, even though we drive ourselves exhausted, doing for Jesus." The solution, she says, is to stop and rest.

The stressed-out, despairing prophet in 1 Kings 19 is a prime example. "God knew Elijah needed physical rejuvenation first — in order to hear his gentle voice, whispering in a gentle breeze," Gray notes. Guarding against the depletion of spiritual, physical and emotional resources can improve our ability to hear God's voice, too. "When you find it's hard to pray, don't be afraid," says Gray. "You're standing at the very cusp of who God longs to connect with. The real you. Take the time to rest. You're worth it."



Camp Report Sunday



First Presbyterian Church was blessed to send 14 children to church camp this summer. On Sunday, August 14, 2022, they will have the opportunity to share their experiences with their church family during worship.

Blessing of the Backpacks



Students, bring your backpacks to church on **Sunday, August 21st**, for a special blessing to start the school year. Your backpack goes

with you all year, in nice weather and rain and snow, on your happy, good days and your sad, bad days. It carries what you need, and when you forget it you feel lost and worried. Who does that remind you of? That's right! God!



Financial Report for June

JUNE 2022	Actual
Total Receipts	\$30,190.00
Budget	28,589.00
Total Expenses	(\$22,371.00)
Budget	(32,777.00)
Year to Date:	
Total Receipts	\$186,150.00
Budget	189,166.00
Difference	(3,016.00)
Total Expenses	(\$160,446.00)
Budget	(198,925.00)
Difference	38,479.00



Be sure to keep your pledge up to date by mailing your donations to First Presbyterian Church, 101 S. Center St., Marshalltown, Iowa 50158.



God Sightings

At VBS the children looked for God Sightings and shared them with others. Here are some they'd like to share with you:

- The sun
- A moose
- God's beautiful creation
- Friends
- Someone helped me
- VBS
- Ice cream
- I saw a butterfly

And a few from some adults:

- Our young people dedicated to caring for others
- Seeing the youth from our mission team share and express their faith so well
- Family working together
- Our grandchildren continue to enjoy the VBS music



Thanks & a Tip of the Hat to...

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Our faithful workers at the House of Compassion during the month of July: **Doug Boyd, Greg Brown, Chuck Hughes, Jackie Hughes, and Bert Tice.** And to **Jackie Hughes** for running the bulletins and taking care of the Friday tasks when Michelle's been away.

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Friends, God's best to all of you for loving others through us. You are a great partner!

---Chad Hammar
House of Compassion

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A huge thank you to my church family for all your thoughts and prayers during my recent eye surgery. And thank you to the deacons for the gorgeous bouquet! I'm blessed to be part of this family.

---Wynona Anderson



The Emergency Food Box



The Emergency Food Box returned to Friday service! They are open from 10:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. on Fridays and from 1:30 – 4:30 p.m.

Monday – Thursday at their new location (107 N 1st St.).

EFB is currently in need of the following food items: **canned vegetables, canned or dry beans, cereal, canned tomatoes (diced or sauce), peanut butter, canned soups, juices of any kind, condiments.**

Food items or monetary (check/cash) donations may be brought to the EFB when they are open. Please make checks payable to: Emergency Food Box. Our mailing address is PO Box 391, Marshalltown, IA 50158. Donated funds are used to buy food items from the Food Bank of Iowa and locally.

We are always looking for Food Box volunteers. We have many different types of opportunities available, and we are very flexible in arranging times to fit your schedule! Please call Cindy at 752-4868 or 752-8363 if you would like to volunteer. Thank you for your support and prayers.



JUNE SESSION ACTIONS



The Stated Session meeting of First Presbyterian Church, Marshalltown met in the Fellowship Hall, June 28, 2022.

Moderator Rev. Bryan Kunz opened the Session meeting at 7:03 p.m. and he also presented the devotions and prayer.

There was a quorum in attendance.

Motion prevailed to approve the May 17, 2022, Session minutes and the minutes of the May 20, 2022 Special Session meeting.

Search team: Pastor Bryan reported the last candidate took another position.

Pastor's report: Pastor Bryan reported he will be teaching adult Sunday school this summer using Tim Mackie's "Post-Christian" series. He will be preaching on wisdom literature. He will be gone the third week of

April. He would like to restart Wednesday gatherings in the fall.

Finances: There was positive cash flow in May. The investment committee has moved some monies to work better for the church.

Mission/Evangelism: Amy Drummer referred people to the written report.

Worship & Music: There were 115 for communion in May.

Christian Ed: The committee is working on VBS and planning for fall.

A & P: The forward-thinking committee has met and is reviewing the 2017 mission study perspective report.

Membership & Involvement: There was nothing to add to the written report.

Property: The electric sign is complete. The committee has a quote for the Lower Lounge work for roughly \$20,000. Session encouraged the committee to try to move the repairs along quickly.

Other: The Statistical Report to the presbytery was discussed and the **motion to approve** the report **carried. Motion to approve** making the church available for United for Ukraine meetings **prevailed.**

Greg Brown will present the devotions for the August 2022 Session meeting.

Motion prevailed to adjourn the meeting following prayer at 8:15 p.m.

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.

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Web Site www.fpcmarshalltown.org

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Pastor at bryan@fpcmarshalltown.org

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August 2022 Birthday/Prayer Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4 Lissa Duff	5 Carlee Flack	6 Vanessa (Drummer) Henningsen Rich King Betsy & Ben Wirin
7 Payton Pietig	8 Winner Banissan Jarrett Drummer Phyllis Wubben	9 Stefan Peng	10 Pam Brandenburg	11 Brenda Mosher	12 Arlene Lange	13 Jean Haslett
14 Afeafa Eklou Ralph Ward	15	16	17 Gail Boliver Matt Broshar	18 Lars Dommer	19 Irene Ballard Bonnie Sievers	20 Roger Bristley Dee Daniels Parker Pietig Andy Randall
21 Samuel Afoutou Greg Brown Ray Zeisneiss	22 Chuck Colwell Connie Sanford	23	24	25	26	27
28 Ryan Bell Matthew McKibben	29 Lyn Rakowicz Blair VanStaalduine	30 Ken Sharpshair	31 Fran Smith	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> <p><i>Praying for each other brings us closer together. Please pray each day for those listed.</i></p> </div>		



Reminder:

- August 2 – Session meeting**
- August 7 – Church picnic**
- August 14 – Camp report
- August 21 – Backpack blessing
- August 23 – First day of school



Newsletter deadline with SEPTEMBER 2022 information is due Sunday, August 21, 2022, for anyone wanting to submit an article.

Role	SUNDAY SERVANTS				
	August 7	August 14	August 21	August 28	
Worship Leader	Brenda Severson	Matt Broshar	Keith Oleson	Jon Rottink	
Greeters		Betty Jacobs Barb Hawkins			
Fellowship Hosts	Matt & Mindy Tullis	Jim & Bonnie Grimmus	Carole Permar	Matt Broshar	
Cup Washers		Greg & Suzanne Brown	Jim & Bonnie Grimmus	Matt Broshar	
Donuts	Marlene Snyder	Rich & Arlene Lange	Doug & Margaret Cooper	Greg & Suzanne Brown	
Nursery	Mary Hemming & Deb Williams	& Deb Williams	& Deb Williams	& Deb Williams	
Flowers	Chad & Angie Pietig	Carole Permar	Robin Harrison	Roger & Karen Schoell	
Deacons	Pat & Nancy Kremer	Keith & Diane Oleson	Tim & Deanna Bell	Jackie Hughes & Bert Tice	
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 Bill Eilers Barb Vovos	Pat & Mary Hemming Karin Podhajsky Paul Podhajsky	Ryan Flack Lucas Johnson Matt McKibben Ross Turbiville Kyle Young	Chuck Colwell Karen Colwell Steve Strand
Usher Alternates (any Sunday)	Bonnie Bradbury Pat Kremer Don Smith	Roger Bristley Dennis Ostrem Yasuyo Smith	Bill Eilers Tracy Ostrem Barb Vovos	Jim Grimmus LaVern Paul Lee Wilkinson	Craig Henze Harlan Quick



God among the rubble

The nonprofit World Central Kitchen provides fresh meals for communities in need following natural disasters or during humanitarian crises. After Russia invaded Ukraine in February 2022, WCK fed millions of people in the country and refugees at border crossings.

When I feel discouraged by tragic news and ask where God is, I'm reminded that God shows up precisely in people such as the WCK teams. They are God's hands serving healthy food to people fleeing home. They are God's heart and arms welcoming those in need to be nourished.

Often in the Bible God shows up around meals: Sarah and Abraham host the Lord in the form of three visitors; God rains manna from heaven for the Israelites; an angel provides food for exhausted Elijah; Jesus eats with "tax collectors and sinners" and feeds crowds with a few loaves and fish. Supremely, Jesus gives to all the meal of Holy Communion, the bread and wine that are his very body and blood.

In our broken world, God is among the rubble, among the helpers, among us.

—Heidi Hyland Mann

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
AUGUST 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 5:30p Missions Committee 7:00p Worship & Music Committee	2 7:00p Session	3 5:00p United for Ukraine 6:00p M&I Committee	4 8:30a Flapjacks – Fellowship Hall	5	6 7:30a Men's Group 8:30a Lower Lounge Workday
7 9:00 a Worship – online & in person 10:15a – Adult Sunday school	8	9 5:30p Property Committee	10	11 8:30a Flapjacks – Fellowship Hall 1:30p Elizabeth Circle Fellowship Hall	12	13 7:30a Men's Group
14 9:00 a Worship - online & in person 10:15a – Adult Sunday school	15 Pastor Bryan away	16 6:00 Deacons	17	18 8:30a Flapjacks – Fellowship Hall 2:00p FPC serves @ House of Compassion	19	20 7:30a Men's Group
21 Backpack Sunday 9:00 a Worship - online & in person 10:15a – Fellowship time Rev. Dave Feltman preaching Newsletter Articles Due	22 Michelle on vacation	23 First day of school – East & West Marshall, GMG, & Marshalltown schools	24	25 8:30a Flapjacks – Fellowship Hall	26	27 7:30a Men's Group
28 9:00 a Worship - online & in person 10:15a – Adult Sunday school	29	30	31			

Puzzle!

Search for and circle all the bold words from Psalm 18:2, which reminds us where we find our strength.

The **LORD** is **MY ROCK**, my **FORTRESS** and my **DELIVERER**; my **GOD** is my rock, in whom I **TAKE REFUGE**. **HE** is my **SHIELD** and the **HORN** of my **SALVATION**, my **STRONGHOLD**.

S T R O N G H O L D T S
 O L O B K I E Y E J S A
 R E F U G E I Y N T V L
 R O G H A R L Q R A Y V
 S X C T T I M T K K M A
 H O R N C E Y R A E D T
 I G F V L O L K E N S I
 E N F O R T R E S S G O
 L T U R G Q A C K J Q N
 D C D E L I V E R E R E
 K Y U X O C N O O Y Q S
 X H X A R K L R C N H Y
 G O D T D K A D K U D X

GOD ROCKS!

Superior BANANA SPLIT

Fruit and yogurt combine for this healthy take on a sweet treat.



What you need:

- Bananas
- Plain Greek yogurt
- Assorted berries and fruit
- Granola
- Honey

What you do:

1. Using a butter knife, split the banana in half lengthwise. Lay the halves open in a bowl.
2. Add several dollops of yogurt atop the banana halves.
3. Arrange other fruit, such as berries and grapes.
4. Top the banana split with a sprinkle of granola and a drizzle of honey. Enjoy!

PUZZLE

Fruit or false



Spotting true fruits can be tricky. Thankfully, it's much easier to spot the fruit of the Spirit.



Directions: Determine whether each item is a fruit or vegetable and circle the correct letter. Then insert the letters in order below to complete the verses.

	Fruit	Vegetable		Fruit	Vegetable
Apple	V	P	Pepper	O	U
Carrot	E	O	Spinach	R	S
Tomato	Y	R	Watermelon	H	P
Grape	C	F	Broccoll	G	N
Eggplant	T	D	Pumpkin	T	Y
Celery	I	N	Pear	F	C
Banana	K	M	Asparagus	L	R
Cucumber	N	W			

But the fruit of the Spirit is lo_e, j_ _ , pea_e,

pa_ie_ce, _ind_ess, go_dne_s,

fait_ful_ess, gen_leness, sel_-cont_ol.

GALATIANS 5:22-23, ESV

Answer: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control