



# The Good News of First Presbyterian Church

**Marshalltown, Iowa**  
**641-753-5929**

**Volume 88, No. 4**  
**April 28, 2023**

**Reminder:**

- May 14 – Mother’s Day**
- May 16 – Deacons**
- May 16 – Session**
- May 18 – Ascension Day**
- May 21 – Graduate Sunday**
- May 28 – Pentecost**
- May 29 – Memorial Day**

## **Words of Wisdom from Pastor Bryan Kunz**

### **Building Character for Eternity**



Recently in Confirmation Class we were talking about New Creation. I was talking with them about the idea of glorification, which is the concept that when we enter New Creation we will be

given resurrected bodies and we will be made holy and sinless. We had previously talked about how New Creation is not the image of heaven often portrayed in popular images of people floating on clouds playing harps. Instead, the image of New Creation in scripture is this earth, but made new, without sin and death and evil. A student then asked an insightful question, “if I am made perfect, then what do I do for eternity? Won’t it be boring to not have a goal or any growth to work toward?” (Ok I clarified the question a bit, but this was the idea).

This is a really good question and one that the church father, Irenaeus considered centuries ago. He came to a key conclusion – glorification is not perfection, it is instead being made sinless, but with plenty of opportunities for growth. So, when we enter New Creation, we will not sin, but we will continue to learn and grow and become more like Christ.

If this is true, then our growth as Christians now is a foretaste of eternity. This means that as we study the Sermon on the Mount and talk about developing character like the character of Jesus Christ, we are preparing ourselves for eternity. As we give and pray and fast, we are developing Christian character that we will take with us into New Creation where we will continue to grow and develop as Christians. This is a bit hard for me to imagine since most of my growth now seems to come as a result of dealing with sin and evil in the world, but somehow even in a sinless world I will continue to grow. Assuming Irenaeus is right, we can remember that even in our moments of growth that hurt or challenge us, we are preparing for eternity and the goal of Christlikeness is one that will be before us for the rest of our existence.

**—Rev. Bryan Kunz**



## **Update from Lori Adams**

To my home church and family,

What a joy it is to receive your financial support in my mailbox and know that with it you have been consistently praying for me as well. Thank you for being with me in ministry to and through student athletes at Iowa State University and educators throughout Iowa!



April 2nd was the day we revived having a half-day Fellowship of Christian Athletes retreat at Gilbert High School. We hadn't had this event since March 2020. Twenty-six college students led small groups from 12:30-5:30 p.m. Small groups were made up of 6-10 middle or high schoolers -

130 total, plus 10 adults facilitating 10 different workshops, and about 20 volunteers and FCA leaders attending. We saw mentoring, praying, laughing, listening, and true fellowship watching the fifteen huddle groups meet, play, and relate as body of Christ in the Ames area. What an answer to prayer!

## Christian Educators

I am on the Christian Educators National Leadership Summit Team and have seen the Lord draw three more lowans to go this summer, the second week of July. There were 15 educators who joined a total of 60 from around the nation last year. Each educator has had vision for the Lord to be seen in them and to gather consistently with others to stay encouraged and abide with God in His mission to the schools.

I meet with coaches and coaches' wives for Bible study. FCA has a free on-line course for Christian coaches called

360Coach. I'm in the process of finding others who would like to shepherd coaches through this study. Contact me at [loriadams@fca.org](mailto:loriadams@fca.org) and I will help you get started. It is also my great joy to meet one on one with athletes and other college students to listen, read scripture, and pray. My next step is to find character coaches for the teams so all players on the team will have access to a caring adult who is often available at practice.



We're looking for Cyclone fans who love Jesus who would like to invest in our FCA ministry programming fund at Iowa State. This pays for Bibles, resources, conferences, meals with athletes, coaches, volunteers, etc. Send me an email or call/text and I'll send you a link. 515-441-1856.

Please pray that we can get a Bible study established on every team starting this summer. Also, pray for educators to say yes to our Christian Educators Teacher Camp to be held June 7th in Des Moines at Greenwood Park in Des Moines.

Thank you, First Presbyterian, for supporting me for such a long time and in such a generous way!

--Lori Adams



## Membership & Involvement News

M & I Committee has been busy with the Maundy Thursday potluck, Easter breakfast, and serving a spaghetti dinner to our Wednesday Club kids and their families.



Not to always be in the kitchen, we will be putting up a sign-up in the Narthex to determine interest in going to an Iowa Cubs baseball game this summer.

Please sign up if you know you would like to go. The possible dates are Sunday, June 18<sup>th</sup> or Sunday, June 25<sup>th</sup>.



## Attention 2023 High School & College Graduates



First Presbyterian Church would like to celebrate our graduates' achievements during the worship service on **Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup>**.

If you have a graduate in your family in 2023 (including December 2022 grads), please turn in a picture (high school or higher education). Please phone the church at 753-5929 or fill out the information below and bring it along with a **billfold sized** (portrait style) picture to the church office **by Sunday, May 7<sup>th</sup>**. Include the name of the student on the back of the photo so it can be returned to you.

If you have any questions, please contact Michelle Wilkinson at [michelle@fpcmarshalltown.org](mailto:michelle@fpcmarshalltown.org) or at 753-5929.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_

Certificate/Degree (post high school): \_\_\_\_\_



## Recent Mission Blog posts



Each Tuesday we post an update from mission partners or local organizations, or something of mission-minded interest. Here are our most recent blog posts. They can be accessed here: <https://www.fpcmarshalltown.org/blog>

- |          |                            |
|----------|----------------------------|
| April 4  | One Great Hour of Sharing  |
| April 11 | Mission Trip fundraiser    |
| April 18 | Catch up on previous posts |
| April 25 | Fairhaven School - Egypt   |

## Mission trip fundraiser



The Guatemala mission team had a successful pasta dinner fundraiser on Sunday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>. They were excited to let people know where they will be going, what they will be

doing and share their hopes and prayer requests for their trip. Thank you to everyone who came out, enjoyed some wonderful pasta, and supported the team!

---The Mission Team



*Mission team members prepare dessert trays for their fundraiser.*



## Hymn Sing

Hymn Sing will be **Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup>, at 3:00 p.m.** Come sing and praise the Lord with us!



## Wednesday Club

Wednesday Club finished its spring session with a program for parents and a family meal. The children sang a special song about the Armor of God, shared what the six pieces of armor stand for, and finished with a beautiful rendition of "Jesus, Name Above All Names." Thirteen kids, including

one youth helper received Bibles, and several people took one from the stack we had available for them! The spaghetti dinner was yummy!

Thank you to the wonderful volunteers who helped make Wednesday Club happen in April: **Wynona Anderson, Matt Broshar, Jackie Hughes, Bryan Kunz, Terri Rottink, Bert Tice, and Nancy Van Wyk**, to our snack providers **Irene Hopp Memorial, Nancy & Pat Kremer, and Heather Rottink**. And our youth helpers **Leazah Pacheco, Naysa Rottink and Thomas Wilkinson**. And to those who cooked, served, and cleaned to make the dinner for parents and families possible: **Matt Broshar, Chuck Hughes, Jackie Hughes, Dave Freil, Mary Hemming, Tedra Henze, Bryan Kunz, Marlene Snyder, and Lee Wilkinson**.



I wish I had treasured the doing a little more and the getting it a little less.

— Anna Quindlen



## Circle News



**Elizabeth Circle** will meet in the Lower Lounge, on **Thursday, May 11, 2023, at 1:30 p.m.** They will be studying Lesson 2, "Joy" in "Fruit of the Spirit." All women

are welcome to come for study and fellowship on the second Thursday of each month.



**Sarah Circle** will meet **Tuesday, May 16, 2023, at 9:15 a.m.** in the Lower Lounge. Everyone please bring your own breakfast. Coffee will be provided. There will be no program, just time to be together.



## Communion Class



Sunday May 7<sup>th</sup>, Pastor Bryan will be teaching a class on communion for children's Sunday school. This is not a prerequisite for children to take part in communion. It is simply a way to assist parents in teaching about the significance and meaning of the Lord's Supper. In the PC(USA) baptized children are allowed to partake of communion, but we encourage parents to wait until they understand that this is more than a mid-church snack. Any parents who want to attend this class are welcome to attend.



It means a lot to our children and youth to have members of their church family recognize their accomplishments. If your child is involved in an event or activity, and you would like members of our church family to know about it, please let the church office know.

Mon. May 1

**Winner Banissan** - MHS band concert

Tues. May 16

**Isaac Young** – MHS orchestra concert



## Financial Report for March

MARCH 2023	Actual
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>\$29,422.00</b>
Budget	31,847.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>(\$26,593.00)</b>
Budget	(33,636.00)
<b>Year to Date:</b>	
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>\$98,216.00</b>
Budget	105,146.00
Difference	(7,705)
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>(\$173,878.00)</b>
Budget	(118,842.00)
Difference	(55,036)



## You're Invited



You are all invited to help Thomas Wilkinson celebrate his graduation from West Marshall High School! Come join us Saturday, May 20<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. at the Kauffman Shelter at the State Center City Park (3<sup>rd</sup> St. NW across from the middle school where the church picnic was last summer).



Altar Flowers

**Did you know you can bring flowers from your garden for the altar flowers?** You can sign up on the poster in the Narthex or on the clipboard. Just let the office know by Tuesday of the week you are bringing the flowers so we can cancel that Sunday's order with the florist.

If you aren't bringing flowers from your garden, they are \$53.50 for both bouquets. Single bouquets are \$26.75.



**Thanks & a Tip of the Hat to...**

**Steve Anderson** for all his tech support help ..... Our faithful workers at the House of Compassion during the month of April: **Matt Broshar, Jackie Hughes, Rich King, Bryan Kunz, Bert Tice, and Youth Night – Ben, Betsy, and Layla.** ---**Ashley Johnson, Amber Young and all their helpers** for the Easter Eggstravaganza event. ---**Wynona Anderson, Bonnie Bradbury, and Pastor Bryan** for decorating the church for Maundy Thursday and Easter Sunday. ---**Jan Faber** for decorating the Fellowship Hall tables. ---**Steve & Wynona Anderson** for cleaning up after the church was broken into.



Thank you to the person who crafted the unique golden-white prayer shawl. It was made to be a tangible reminder of being prayed for by this congregation. I have been with this church for 80 years and surprises are still showing up. Thank you also for my dear friends Pat & Nancy Kremer, for delivering the prayer shawl.

---**Charlotte Ann Hokel "Hoke" Farr**

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Thank you for your recent donation to the Emergency Food Box. Your kindness makes it possible for us to help meet the emergency food needs of people in Marshall County who are referred to us.

The Emergency Food Box program is supported entirely by donations from individuals, organizations, and churches. We are grateful that you have chosen to be part of this program.

On behalf of those who will benefit from your generosity, we again say "thank you for your help!" Your support is greatly appreciated.

– LeRoy Jero, Emergency Food Box

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Thank you for your desire to make a difference for children in the middle of Africa. With your help, Jonathan's House Central African Republic is changing lives and bringing hope in a part of the world that is often forgotten and ignored. Your donation, prayers, and encouragement make a world of difference.

---Carter Strand

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A big thank you to the gals who spent their Mondays in March completing 25 quilts for Jonathan's House. Thank you, Barb Hawkins, Diane Oleson, Terri Rottink, Brenda Miller, Karen Colwell, and Ruth Feld.

---Bonnie Bradbury



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## Emergency Food Box

The Emergency Food Box, 107 N 1<sup>st</sup> St., is entirely supported by donations from individuals, organizations, and churches. The EFB welcomes any type of food or monetary donation.

Donations can always be dropped off at the Emergency Food Box Monday – Thursdays, 1:30 – 4:30 p.m. or Fridays, 10:30 – 1:30 p.m. Feel free to credit your church when bringing donations if you're not interested in your own receipts.

Items needed include:

**Canned goods** – tomatoes, pasta sauce, vegetables, beans, soups (all sorts, including condensed cream soups), tuna, chicken, stew, fruits, applesauce, etc.

**Jars** – peanut butter, applesauce

**Packaged items** – macaroni, spaghetti, noodles, beans, rice, instant potatoes, helper dinners,

**Dry cereals** in all sizes

**Fruit juices**

If you would like to support the Emergency Food Box monetarily, 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. EFB also has many different types of opportunities available and is flexible in arranging times to fit your schedule. Please call 753-2801.

If you are in need of help from the Emergency Food Box, you may call 753-2801. Or stop in during the hours above.

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## APRIL SESSION ACTIONS



Session REPORT

The Stated Session meeting of First Presbyterian Church, Marshalltown met in the Fellowship Hall, April 18, 2023.

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

There was a quorum in attendance.

**Motion carried** to approve the minutes of the March 21, 2023; Stated Session meeting as amended for an inaccurate number.

**Search Team:** Pastor Bryan reported they are back to square one with no current candidates and will be refreshing their job listings. He is also considering the possibility of hiring an intern with the hopes of that person becoming the associate at a later time, though this would not lighten his workload.

**Pastor's Report:** Pastor Bryan reported Holy Week went well. There will be a few more "podcast" sermons. He also wants to keep Thinking Forward Committee recommendations front and center in committee and Session work.

**Finances:** Matt Broshar reported that monthly giving in March did not reach the target but was ahead of the three-year average. The church is still in a healthy position. Investments are doing well and positioned to be able to pay remodel related bills in the months ahead.

**Property:** Pastor Bryan reported on the Good Friday break-in. Insurance will cover the damage and better exterior lighting is being investigated. Session discussed the lower-level remodeling project in relation to feedback from the congregation and staff. Music space is still being worked through. **Motion carried** to reconsider the proposed conference room as the copier location or consider other possibilities that consider staff concerns.

**Mission/Evangelism:** Case Hegeman submitted a written report.

**Worship & Music:** There were 120 for communion April 2<sup>nd</sup> and 45 on Maundy Thursday.

**Christian Education:** Ashley Johnson said things are going well and they are working on VBS.

**A & P:** Pastor Bryan presented a job description for praise music leader. **Motion carried to approve** the job description of Praise Music Leader. Jon Rottink will fill this role and he encourages others to sing with him. It will be a few weeks before the current musician schedule runs out and Jon begins.

**Membership & Involvement:** Tracy Ostrem submitted a written report.

**Memorials:** Steve Anderson said the committee is doing a good job working through their process and thanked members: Matt Broshar, Suzanne Brown, Don Feld, Barb Hawkins, and Pat Kremer.

**Other:** Pastor Bryan reported the Caring Center is moving out at the end of the month to more space at St. Paul's Episcopal Church (he did not kick them out). Together We Can, a non-profit group which offers peer-to-peer mental health support, would like to expand their use of space in the Gathering Place. Pastor Bryan will talk with them for more information. Pastor Bryan noted the church's insurance is up for review. Roger Schoell and Matt Broshar will look into getting quotes.

**Motion prevailed to adjourn** the meeting following prayer at 9:52 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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Secretary/Editor at [church@fpcmarshalltown.org](mailto:church@fpcmarshalltown.org)

**Newsletter deadline with JUNE 2023 information is Sunday, May 21, 2023, for anyone wanting to submit an article.**




## May 2023 Birthday/Prayer Calendar

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

Role	<b>SUNDAY SERVANTS</b>				
	May 7	May 14	May 21	May 28	
<b>Worship Leader</b>	Bill Eilers	Terry Buzbee	Craig Henze	Winner Banissan	
<b>Greeters</b>	Pat & Nancy Kremer	Karen & Roger Schoell		Barb Hawkins	
<b>Fellowship Hosts</b>	Greg & Suzanne Brown & g-kids				
<b>Cup Washers</b>	Greg & Suzanne Brown & g-kids				
<b>Donuts</b>	Don & Ruth Feld	Roger & Karen Schoell	Rich & Arlene Lange	Greg & Suzanne Brown	
<b>Nursery</b>	Pat Kremer & Deb Williams	Barb McBride & Deb Williams	& _____	& Deb Williams	
<b>Flowers</b>	Bill & Susan Lawyer	Pat & Nancy Kremer	Mitch & Michelle Brown	Hank & Bonnie Bradbury	
<b>Deacons</b>	Jim Grimmus & Ruth Feld	Paul & Karin Podhajsky	Barb McBride & Terri Rottink	Larry & Judy Erion	
<b>Usher Teams</b>	<b>FIRST SUNDAY</b>	<b>SECOND SUNDAY</b>	<b>THIRD SUNDAY</b>	<b>FOURTH SUNDAY</b>	<b>FIFTH SUNDAY</b>
<b>Team Captain</b>	<b>Terry Buzbee &amp; Larry Schrum</b>	<b>Stan &amp; Nancy VanWyk</b>	<b>Roger &amp; Karen Schoell</b>	<b>Josh Grosvenor &amp; Andy Randall</b>	<b>Dick &amp; Barb McBride</b>
<b>Ushers</b>	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
<b>Usher Alternates</b> (any Sunday)	Bonnie Bradbury Jim Grimmus Tracy Ostrem Lisa Simpson	Diane Broshar Craig Henze LaVern Paul Barb Vovos	Doug Cooper Pat Kremer Harlan Quick Lee Wilkinson	Arlene Lange Anna Randall	Bonnie Grimmus Dennis Ostrem John Simpson

# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

## MAY 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 5:45p Worship & Music Committee 7:00p Missions & Evangelism Comm.	2 6:00p CE Committee	3 6:30p Bells 7:30p Choir 8:30p Praise Team	4 8:30a Flapjacks – Lower Lounge	5	6 7:30a Men's Group
7 9:00a Worship – online & in person 10:15a – Sunday school 6:00p – Youth Night & HS Youth	8	9 7:00p Property Committee	10 6:30p Bells 7:30p Choir 8:30p Praise Team	11 8:30a Flapjacks – Lower Lounge  1:30p Elizabeth Circle Lower Lounge	12	13 7:30a Men's Group
14 <b>Mother's Day</b>  9:00a Worship – online & in person 10:15a – Sunday school 6:00p – Youth Night & HS Youth	15	16 9:15a Sarah Circle – Lower Lounge  6:00p Deacons 7:00p Session	17 6:30p Bells 7:30p Choir 8:30p Praise Team	18 8:30a Flapjacks – Lower Lounge  2:00p FPC serves @ House of Compassion	19	20 7:30a Men's Group
21 <b>Graduate Sunday</b> 9:00a Worship - online & in person 10:15a – Sunday school 6:00p – Youth Night & HS Youth Group <b>Newsletter Articles Due</b>	22	23	24 6:30p Bells 7:30p Choir 8:30p Praise Team	25 8:30a Flapjacks – Lower Lounge  2:00p Memorials/SG Committee	26	27 7:30a Men's Group
28 9:00a Worship - online & in person	29 <b>Memorial Day</b> Office closed  	30	31 6:30p Bells 7:30p Choir 8:30p Praise Team		