



# The Good News of First Presbyterian Church

Marshalltown, Iowa  
641-753-5929

Volume 86, No. 9  
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## 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*.

### October Memory Verse

*Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field."*

*Matthew 9:37-38 (NIV)*

## Words of Wisdom from Pastor Bryan Kunz



### Jesus Prays for You

Often when I write a sermon, there is more material or interesting ideas than can really fit. About halfway through preaching on Sunday I was thinking back to the advice of my preaching professors. One of the things they often emphasized was having one main point in our sermons. This hit me while preaching on Sunday as I realized my sermon had far more than one point. So, it is probably best I left some things out.

I mentioned in the sermon an article on prayer written by one of my seminary professors, Kristen Deede Johnson. In the article Johnson discusses those times when we feel far from God and prayer seems ineffective. She talks about realizing that her relationship with God is not dependent upon prayer, but upon the work of Jesus Christ. Johnson then

goes on to quote James B. Torrance's great book, *Worship, Community, and the Triune God of Grace*. Torrance writes,

*The God to whom we pray and with whom we commune knows we want to pray, try to pray, but cannot pray. So God comes to us as a man in Jesus Christ to stand in for us, pray for us, teach us to pray and lead our prayers. God in grace gives us what he seeks from us—a life of prayer—in giving us Jesus Christ and the Spirit. So Christ is very God, the God to whom we pray. And he is very man, the man who prays for us and with us.*

Dwell for a moment on the truth that Jesus prays for you. He is praying for you even when you don't know what to pray or how to pray. The God who knows you completely is also a man who prays for you. In addition, we are told in Romans 8 that the Holy Spirit intercedes for us as well! Even when we struggle to pray the Son and the Spirit are talking to God the Father on our behalf. Of course, this is not a reason to stop praying. In fact, I think it is precisely the opposite. If you knew someone was praying for you every single day, wouldn't you want to spend time with them? Wouldn't you want to get to know them and spend some time praying with them? I hope so. Take some time today to join in the conversation of the triune God and join your prayers with the prayers of the Son and Spirit.

---Rev. Bryan Kunz



## Wanted: Director of Youth Discipleship and Outreach

We are in the process of hiring a Director of Youth Discipleship and Outreach! This is a new, full-time position for the Church. The position is

focused on equipping the next generation to live as faithful, passionate disciples of Jesus in the world and active participants in the life and mission of the Church. This person will lead the Christian Education Committee and be responsible for our youth programs (Pre-K – High School). In coordination with the pastor, they will reach out to youth and families in Marshalltown through Church supported activities and programs. If you would like more information about this position, please talk to Pastor Bryan.

## Missions News



Missions and Evangelism met at 7:30 p.m. on September 7<sup>th</sup>.

We are pleased to announce that we have met our goal for the Child Voice donation! Our church family raised \$2,500.00 for Child Voice in Uganda. Thank you to everyone for your generosity and continued prayer. This gift will help them to weather the hunger crisis that has been induced by the lockdown.

And I have even more good news to share. The Paul's from Morning Star Missions in Honduras will be visiting our Church sometime around Thanksgiving. Look forward to a presentation from them at adult Sunday school. They have shared a video update for their ministry. It can be found on Facebook here: <https://www.facebook.com/shawndpaul/videos/393216312469974>

Thank you all for the many ways you shine the light of God into our world.

In Christ,  
Amy Drummer



## Jonathan's House – C.A.R

**Luke 14: <sup>12</sup> Then Jesus said to his host, "When you give a luncheon or dinner, do not invite your friends, your brothers or sisters, your relatives, or your rich neighbors; if you do, they may invite you back and so you will be repaid. <sup>13</sup> But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, <sup>14</sup> and you will be blessed. Although they cannot repay you, you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."**

Central African Republic is the 2<sup>nd</sup> worst country on earth to live in (2020 Legatum Prosperity Index,

where 59% of the population is undernourished, 47% of children under five years of age have stunted growth, and 12% of children won't live to age five (2019 Global Hunger Index).

The school lunch program at Jonathan's House Central African Republic feeds approximately 425 children daily. Because our Christian School accepts orphans without requiring school fees, many of our students are orphans. You'll never see these children as they eat their only nutritious meal of the day. You'll never hear about the incredible hardships they have faced in their young lives or



their many other needs that still aren't being met. I have been there, and I've seen the difference in the health and happiness of

these children who just happened to be born in the middle of the hungriest country on earth. For these 425 children, a nutritious lunch every day makes a world of difference.

Your friends, brothers, sisters, relatives, and rich neighbors aren't invited to eat at the school lunch program. However, the poor, the crippled, and lame, and the blind will be there. Our church is a generous supporter of the school lunch program, and if you believe that the Bible is the inspired word of God and you have read Luke 14:12 – 14, you can be thankful that these children won't be able to repay you. They don't know your names and they won't even have the opportunity to say thank you. However, I want you to know these children are deeply thankful for you. As far as meeting them, perhaps that will be arranged in the presence of our Lord and Savior in the place where there is no hunger.

Thankful,  
Carter Strand



## Appreciating your pastor

Many people have complex relationships with their pastors because faith, church and God involve a mix of emotions. We have particular ideas about church practices, congregational

priorities, the minister's use of time, money, authority and more.

But most pastors are deeply devoted to Christ and believe that God has called them to serve in a certain place. They have the best of intentions and work hard to share the good news of the gospel. So in honor of Pastor Appreciation Month in October, consider the following:

**God doesn't call the qualified; he qualifies the called.** Your pastor may need time to learn and develop certain skills. (Everyone does!) Bless pastors with your patience.

**We don't change the message; the message changes us.** You probably won't like all your pastor's sermons or newsletter columns. But instead of complaining, ponder that something may rub you the wrong way because God is trying to change you. Keep an open mind and heart.

**If a church wants a "better" pastor, it needs to be praying for the one it has.** Pray often and caringly for your pastors, church leaders and their families. The role is challenging, so support them spiritually and ask God to reveal his love and grace to these special servants.



"The more we pray, the more we come to the heartbeat of God."

—Richard J. Foster

## Daily reminders of baptism



One way Satan attacks Christians is by reminding us of our sins, both of commission (wrongdoing) and omission (neglecting to do right). And one way we can fight back is

by remembering our baptism. The reformer Martin Luther recommended pondering that sacrament daily, whenever we wash our face, because "in baptism sins are drowned."

Getting dressed can serve as another frequent reminder, Luther says, because baptism is the "daily garment ... the Christian is to wear all the time." He writes, "Christ instituted holy baptism ... to clothe you with his righteousness. It is tantamount to his saying, 'My righteousness shall be your righteousness; my innocence, your innocence. Your sins indeed are great, but by baptism I bestow on you my righteousness; I strip death from you and clothe you with my life.'"



## Membership & Involvement News

Coming in October!

Your M&I Committee will be trying something new. Starting on October 10, we will be serving breakfast in the Fellowship Hall right after the worship service.

There will be no Sunday School on October 10th.

We would like to do breakfast the second Sunday of each month.

A sign-up will be in the Narthex on Sunday, October 3, to get an idea of those interested, but you can always stay if you change your mind. Please join us!

--M&I Committee



## Circle News



**Elizabeth Circle** will meet again on **Thursday, October 14<sup>th</sup>** at **1:30 p.m.** in the Lower Lounge. Anyone wishing to join them is welcome.

**Sarah Circle** will meet **Tuesday, October 19<sup>th</sup>** at **9:15 a.m.** in the Lower Lounge. The program will be announced. Barb McBride will serve, and Mary Hemming will give the devotional. Everyone is asked to bring an item or two to fill one college box. All women are welcome.



**Flapjacks** meets **every Thursday at 8:30 a.m.** in the Lower Lounge.



## Quilters Are Back at Work

The quilters will begin their new session on **October 1** and work **every Friday** through October. You do not need to know how to sew as





we have other things to do such as ironing and tying. Meeting time is **9-2** or any part of that, whatever works into your schedule. We are going to do our own sack lunches this year. It is a great time of fellowship and productivity!  
---Barb Hawkins



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

## Sign-up to be a Sunday Servant



Each Sunday worship leaders, greeters, fellowship hosts, cup washers, and flower and donut sponsors are needed so there will be a welcoming, pleasant worship environment and fellowship time.

Challenge yourself to try something new or commit to helping once a month. To sign up, click here:  
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0f4ca9aa2faa4dc16-sunday>

You may also sign-up on the clipboard on Sunday morning or call the church office during the week.

*[Note: Some jobs are not online due to special requirements. For example, nursery helpers must currently be child protection policy approved. Call or use the clipboard if you'd like to help in the nursery.]*

## Operation Christmas Child



Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes, filled with fun toys, school supplies, and hygiene items are delivered to children in need around the world. Packing a shoebox is a tangible way for you to share the love of Jesus.

Boxes with instructions can be picked up in the Narthex or in the entryway beginning October 10<sup>th</sup> and **returned by November 14<sup>th</sup>**. Please include \$9 to cover shipping costs. Monetary donations are accepted also. *Make checks payable to Samaritan's Purse.* Contact Barb McBride with questions. Barb will also be happy to drop off or pick up any shoeboxes.

## Nursery Volunteers Needed



Deb Williams is our regular nursery attendant. She loves the kids and is so glad to have the nursery open again. 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.

## Financial Report for Aug.

AUGUST 2021	Actual
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>\$37,471.00</b>
Budget	38,144.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>(\$25,927.00)</b>
Budget	(31,261.00)
<b>Year to Date:</b>	
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>\$249,128.00</b>
Budget	273,687.00
Difference	(24,559.00)
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>(\$209,335.00)</b>
Budget	(275,257.00)
Difference	65,922.00

"I have so much to do that I shall spend the first three hours in prayer."

—Martin Luther

## Third Grade Bible Sunday

Two third graders received their Bibles on Sunday, September 19<sup>th</sup> during children's time in worship.

As the great 19<sup>th</sup> century preacher Charles Spurgeon observed, *"Nobody ever outgrows Scripture; the book widens and deepens with our years."*

We pray **Ava Erikson** and **Holly McKibben** will read their Bibles faithfully and that God will deepen and widen their understanding of his word all the days of their lives.



**Barb Hawkins** for creating and hanging the banners in the sanctuary each Sunday.

**Wynona Anderson** and **Carolyn Wilkinson** for decorating the sanctuary for fall.

**The M&I Committee** and the people who walked with the church float in the Oktoberfest parade.

Our faithful workers at the House of Compassion during the month of September: **Matt Broshar**, **Sue Bryant**, **Jackie Hughes**, **Rich King**, and **Lavonne Watkins**.

## Lessons from lilies

Recently I was challenged to think about what consumes me — and what distracts me from giving God more. In Matthew 6:25-34, Jesus tells us not to worry about what we eat, drink and wear. I've read those verses numerous times and usually respond, "Yeah, but the birds and lilies don't have mortgages and bills! How can I not worry?" I'm finally realizing that if I put Christ first, then my trust in him affects my day-to-day decisions. Plus, negative thoughts start to fade.

When do you respond, "Yeah, but ..." to God? Maybe it's when you want to sleep in on Sunday, or when the offering plate is passed, or when you're asked to teach Sunday school. Try reciting Matthew

6:33 often: "But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you" (ESV). When we prioritize Jesus, he guides us toward him and away from worries.

—Julie Lee



God is always active in our lives and in our world. Often, we see what he has been doing only in the rearview. Practice looking for him in the here and now. Where can you see him?

- Seeing an old Wednesday Club friend
- A kind note in the mail
- In-person Sunday school again
- People cleaning the church
- Children receiving their Bibles
- The change of seasons
- Donkeys chasing each other (seriously, have you seen donkeys running after one another?)
- Colorful fall leaves
- Squirrels
- Something in the Bible clicked with something happening now

## Going to extremes

When a herd of elephants ventured into a town in eastern India, people chased them away. But soon they learned that a baby elephant had fallen into a 30-foot well and been left behind. Workers had to use three backhoes to free the calf, breaking down the brick well and digging a sloping trench for the youngster to walk out on.

Righting a wrong — and even saving a life — may require extreme measures. A structure holding someone captive may need to be torn down. And in many cases, it's better to allow the trapped one as much independence and agency as possible.

Rather than hoisting the elephant out vertically, which might have been dangerous and traumatic, helpers made a path so it could take part in attaining its freedom.

God often works like this, restoring and equipping us to partner with him. How can we

assist others while granting them the dignity of being part of the solution?

—Heidi Hyland Mann



## Prayer for our schools



We are continuing to call for community prayer over our Marshalltown schools as the school year gets underway.

God reminds us that when the enemy comes in like a flood, the Spirit of God will lift up a Holy standard. Let's believe for a washing over our community that

will show God's healing and restoration power, in Jesus' name - allowing all He has for us to be made known.

Please join us in prayer at any or all of the schools on the dates to the left. Prayer will begin at

**4:00PM** on the sidewalk in front of the schools. For more information contact Valerie Troutner at [vttroutner@yahoo.com](mailto:vttroutner@yahoo.com) or 641-750-5372.

Building	
Franklin	October 5
Hoglan	October 12
Rogers	October 19
Woodbury	October 26

---Marshalltown Community Prayer Ministry

## The Emergency Food Box



The Emergency Food Box is currently in need of the following food items: **any kind of juices**-- apple, grape, orange --, **cereals**, **canned fruits**, **canned vegetables**, **canned soups**, **peanut butter**,

**cheese**. Please no glass containers. (Please check the expiration dates to make sure the food items are not outdated.)

Food items or monetary (check/cash) donations may be brought to the EFB (109 S. 3rd St.) **Monday through Thursday afternoon, 1:30-4:30**. Please make checks payable to: *Emergency Food Box*. Our mailing address is: *EFB, P.O. Box 391, Marshalltown, IA 50158*. Donated funds are used to buy food items from the Food Bank of Iowa and locally.

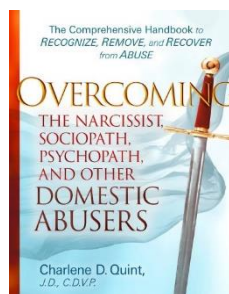
We are always looking for Food Box volunteers. We have many different types of opportunities that are available, and we are very

flexible in arranging times to fit your schedule! Contact: Cindy, (641) 752-4868.



## October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month

In an effort to shine light on the serious problem of domestic violence, Stepping Stones Bookstore is hosting two authors on the topic of domestic violence at its Marshalltown store, 14 W. Main St.



The first author, Illinois attorney and abuse survivor, Charlene Quint, writes from the perspective of the abused person. She will be discussing and signing her book, *Overcoming the Narcissist, Sociopath, and Other Domestic Abusers: The Comprehensive Handbook to Recognize, Remove, and Recover from Abuse*, **Thursday, September 30<sup>th</sup> from 2:00 – 5:30 p.m.**



The second is Des Moines author Michael Clark, former domestic violence offender and founder of the Ananias Foundation. On **Friday, October 8 from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.** He will be discussing and signing his book *From Villain to Hero*, which shows how faith was instrumental to his journey, the unique approach of the Ananias Foundation, and his vision for how the Church can bring about change on this issue.

If you are interested in learning more about how you can make a difference you are encouraged to come to these free events and discover how you can help. For more information contact Mindy Van Dyke @ [mindy@steppingstonesbookstores.com](mailto:mindy@steppingstonesbookstores.com)

## SEPTEMBER SESSION ACTIONS



The Stated Session meeting of First Presbyterian Church, Marshalltown met in Fellowship Hall, September 21, 2021.



Moderator Rev. Bryan Kunz opened the Session meeting at 7:01 p.m. Tedra Henze presented the devotions and prayer.

There was a quorum in attendance.

**Motion prevailed** to approve the August 17, 2021, Session minutes.

**Search Team report:** Pastor Bryan reported the committee has met twice and has clarified the role and job description for the Director of Youth Discipleship and Outreach. It has been posted to the internet. Committee members are: Allison Grosvenor, Mary Hemming, Bryan Kunz (co-chair), Bruce Wirin, and Amber Young (co-chair).

The pastor's report was presented.

**Finances:** Matt Broshar presented the financials and noted contributions continue to be strong with giving this August topping the two previous Augusts. There was discussion of compensation especially in the area of music which will be addressed in the upcoming budget. Some of the money in insurance proceeds fund is earmarked for the NE door project. Matt is working on the special gifts fund to be sure committees know if money has been set aside for things within their purview.

**Finance/Stewardship:** The committee has not met.

**Mission/Evangelism:** Amy Drummer reported the **committee motion to approve** forwarding grant requests from Jonathan's House and MorningStar Missions to presbytery. **Motion carried.**

**Worship & Music:** Pastor Bryan reported 93 for communion in September. There was discussion about rebuilding teams for music, ushering, etc.

**Christian Ed:** Angie Pietig reported the committee is focused on Sunday school and have three rotations with the fourth one being breakfast. Kickoff events went well. Youth will go to Lake View Camp in Pella September 26<sup>th</sup>.

**A & P:** Terry Buzbee reported the motion from committee to approve the Director of Youth Discipleship and Outreach salary range of \$37,000 \$45,000 with single health benefit. Motion passed. The joint budget committee will start meeting soon. It consists of the chairs of A&P (Terry Buzbee), Property (Pat Hemming), Stewardship (Ron Kauffman), and Deacons (Paul Podhajsky) with the bookkeeper (Matt Broshar) being an ex-officio

member. Nominating committee will begin its work soon, and the number of elders and deacons was brought up. This will be an ongoing discussion.

**Membership & Involvement:** Dave Freel reported there will be a church float in the Oktoberfest parade. They are looking for youth to hand out candy. There will be breakfasts after church on the second Sunday of the month.

**Property:** Pat Hemming reported the tuckpointing to repair derecho damage to the roof was completed this week. Gas lines have been rewrapped to meet company requirements. Pat is also working on fixing a light fixture in the kitchen that is falling. There was discussion about use of the Gathering Place. The committee is looking at guidelines for what donations the church should accept.

**Other:** none

Angie Pietig will present the devotions for the October 2021 Session meeting.

**Motion prevailed** to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was closed at 8:35 p.m. with prayer by Rev. Bryan Kunz.

**Newsletter deadline with NOVEMBER 2021 information is due Wednesday, October 20, 2021, 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](http://www.fpcmarshalltown.org)  
Email Church at [church@fpcmarshalltown.org](mailto:church@fpcmarshalltown.org)  
Pastor at [bryan@fpcmarshalltown.org](mailto:bryan@fpcmarshalltown.org)  
Office Mgr./Editor at [church@fpcmarshalltown.org](mailto:church@fpcmarshalltown.org)

**Reminder:**  
**Oct. 3 – World Communion Sunday**  
**Oct. 19 – Session**  
**Oct. 31 – Reformation Sunday**







# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

## OCTOBER 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					<b>1</b> 8:30a-3:00p - Quilters	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b> 9:00 a Worship - online & in person 10:15a Sunday school 5:30p Youth Night 5:30p HS Youth Group	<b>4</b> <b>6:30p Worship &amp; Music Committee</b>	<b>5</b> <b>7:30p Missions Committee</b>	<b>6</b> 3:30p Wednesday Club  <b>6:00p Membership &amp; Involvement Committee</b>	<b>7</b> 8:30a Flapjacks - LL	<b>8</b> 8:30a-3:00p - Quilters	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b> 9:00 a Worship - online & in person 10:15a Breakfast 5:30p Youth Night 5:30p HS Youth Group	<b>11</b> <b>5:00p A &amp; P Committee</b>  <b>6:30p – CE Committee</b>	<b>12</b> <b>7:00p Property Meeting</b>	<b>13</b> 3:30p Wednesday Club	<b>14</b> 8:30a Flapjacks - LL  1:30p Elizabeth Circle - LL	<b>15</b> 8:30a-3:00p - Quilters	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b> 9:00 a Worship – online & in person 10:15a Sunday school 5:30p Youth Night 5:30p HS Youth Group	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> 9:15a Sarah Circle - LL  <b>7:00p Session</b>	<b>20</b> 3:30p Wednesday Club  <b>Newsletter Articles Due</b>	<b>21</b> 8:30a Flapjacks - LL  2:00p First Pres serves at House of Compassion	<b>22</b> 8:30a-3:00p - Quilters	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> 9:00 a Worship – online & in person 10:15a Sunday school 5:30p Youth Night 5:30p HS Youth Group	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 3:30p Wednesday Club	<b>28</b> 8:30a Flapjacks - LL	<b>29</b> 8:30a-3:00p - Quilters	<b>30</b>
<b>31</b> 9:00 a Worship – online & in person 10:15a Sunday school 5:30p Youth Night 5:30p HS Youth Group						



## MASTER MULTIPLICATION

Jesus tells a parable about faithful servants who multiply their master's money. How does the master respond?

*Directions: Solve the math problems. Find the letters that match the answers and write them in order to complete Matthew 25:21, NIV.*

- |            |            |
|------------|------------|
| • 5 x 3 =  | • 6 x 6 =  |
| • 7 x 4 =  | • 9 x 3 =  |
| • 4 x 6 =  | • 3 x 8 =  |
| • 2 x 10 = | • 10 x 4 = |
| • 9 x 5 =  | • 11 x 8 = |

### KEY

A = 28	J = 50	S = 88
B = 35	K = 21	T = 45
C = 14	L = 63	U = 64
D = 25	M = 15	V = 32
E = 33	N = 24	W = 80
F = 72	O = 77	X = 96
G = 40	P = 54	Y = 20
H = 36	Q = 9	Z = 48
I = 27	R = 16	

"His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant!

You have been faithful with a few things;

I will put you in charge of \_\_\_\_\_.

Come and share your master's happiness!'"

MATTHEW 25:21, NIV

Answer: 15, 28, 24, 20, 45, 36, 27, 24, 40, 88; many things

# Puzzle!

Complete this Bible passage by adding the missing vowels.



F\_r by gr\_c\_ y\_ \_ h\_v\_  
 b\_ \_n s\_v\_d thr\_ \_gh  
 f\_ \_th, \_nd th\_s\_s n\_t  
 y\_ \_r \_wn d\_ \_ng; \_t\_s  
 th\_ g\_ft \_f G\_d — n\_t th\_  
 r\_s\_lt \_f w\_rks, s\_ th\_t  
 n\_ \_n\_ m\_y b\_ \_st.

\_ph\_s\_ \_ns 2:8-9, NRSV



Answer: For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God — not the result of works, so that no one may boast. Ephesians 2:8-9, NRSV