

NEWS AT FIRST

Our Mission: *To make known the love of God through Jesus Christ.*

Our Vision: *We are empowered to live out our faith in daily life.*

In Every Season, Turn to God

Are you enjoying a happy time? *Praise God.*

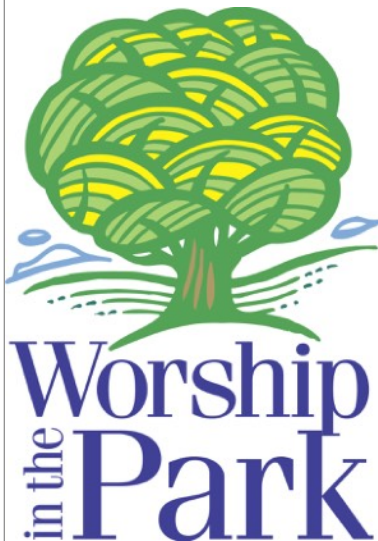
Is life becoming difficult? *Seek God.*

Are you experiencing a quiet moment? *Worship God.*

Are you suffering great pain? *Trust God.*

Are you unsure what to do? *Ask God.*

Are you overwhelmed with joy? *Thank God.*



Sunday, August 9th, at 10:00 am, First Presbyterian will **join United Church for worship**, in the park next to United Church. Pastors Kathryn and Bill will co-officiate the service, which includes the celebration of Holy Communion. (chairs will be available, but you may choose to bring your own.)

Following the service, there will be a potluck at FPC's Fellowship Hall. *FPC folks are asked to bring main dishes and deserts to share.* United Church folks will be asked to bring salads. Plates, utensils, and drinks will be provided. There will be lawn games set up outside. Please invite others to join us.

211 W First St
Monticello, IA 52310
(319) 465-3393

Pastor:

Pastor Bill Warhover
cell: 319-202-4977
pastor@fpcmonticello.org

Office:

Administrator: Mackenzie Kahler
office: 319-465-3393
office@fpcmonticello.org

Treasurer:

Dan Saunders

Worship:

Sundays at 10:00 a.m.
Join us on FaceBook
livestream for worship each
Sunday.

Social Media:

Facebook: @MonticelloFPC

PASTOR'S PONDERINGS

What does church mean?

If someone asked you, 'What is church?', what would you say?

This was the question campers and staff thought about at Camp Bear Creek this summer.

First, we learned that 'church' was not a building, but it was people. It was people everywhere that trusted in Jesus. This meant that the 'church' was massive, some 2.3 billion people. Some of these people belonged to 'churches' and some did not. While 'church' is massive, we also learned that the 'church' was small. It is each individual who trusts in Jesus, and we were all a part of the 'church'.

We learned that this 'church' (individuals and communities of believers) doesn't exist for its own well being, but it exists to nurture the faith of others and to bear the burdens of one another. We learned that the 'church' gathers and responds in worship to the God who created all things and the God who calls the 'church' into being. We learned that the 'church' is to be a voice for others who are vulnerable.

At Camp Bear Creek, we could see the church at work as individuals demonstrated kindness or patience or love, but also we could see how together we could offer prayers, sing, dance, read scripture, listen to the messages offered. It was beautiful.

Thank you all for your support of Camp Bear Creek. It is making a difference in the life of the church and in the lives of lots of young people who are the church.

Pastor Bill

Capital Campaign Update

Our total loan amount we have borrowed from PILP is \$142,628.59. To date we have paid \$5,310.00. Our monthly payments are \$2,655.00. Our current loan Balance is \$140,497.05. Our plan is to have this loan paid off in three years.

Our projects are all completed and paid for. Solar was \$107,000, Windows \$164,536.04, Mini-splits \$23,859.43, Kitchen Floor \$9,615.83 and Loan interest plus CPA we hired for solar rebate plus settlement loan costs \$8,825.47 for a total of \$313,836.77 for the Capital Campaign.

To date we have received \$150,903.37 of the \$186,953.37 from the congregation which leaves \$36,050.00 remaining to pay the loan.

To date we have used \$34,896.75 of the \$70,000.00 session committed from our Church Funds to pay the loan which leaves \$35,103.25 remaining to pay the loan. This leaves \$71,153.25 to pay the loan which leaves a shortfall or gap of \$39,400.

Danny C Saunders, Church Treasurer

Capital Campaign Cost/Repayment

7/15/2026						
Capital Campaign Loan	\$142,628.59					
Monthly Payments	\$2,655.00					
Loan Payments to date	\$5,310.00					
Loan Balance to date	\$140,497.05					
All Projects are Completed						
Projects Completed	<i>Solar</i>	<i>Windows</i>	<i>Mini-Splits</i>	<i>Kitchen Floor</i>	<i>Loan Interest paid+CPA+Settlement Costs</i>	<i>Total Paid</i>
Total Paid	\$107,000.00	\$164,536.04	\$23,859.43	\$9,615.83	\$8,825.47	\$313,836.77
			<i>Money committed but not used yet</i>			
Money received from Congregation to date	\$150,903.37		\$36,050.00			
Money committed from Church Funds	\$34,896.75		\$35,103.25			
Gap-Total committed from Congregation + committed from church funds	\$256,953.37					
Shortfall or Gap	\$39,400.00					
Money to be received from Solar rebate (hopefully)	\$32,100.00		\$32,100.00			
Total Money Available to pay remaining loan amount			\$103,253.25			



Thanks for helping out! Sunday School Teachers/Helpers

It takes all of us pitching in to make the church not only work, but work in the way it was intended.

"Each person is given something to do that shows who God is: Everyone gets in on it, everyone benefits. All kinds of things are handed out by the Spirit, and to all kinds of people!"
—1Cor 12:7 The Message

We, First Presbyterian Church, have envisioned being a place where all of us are empowered to live out our faith in our daily lives. One of the ways we work to empower each other is through our Sunday Schools.

Sunday Schools are offered for all ages from September through May. While the formats are a little different from age group to age group, the need is basically the same. We need people who will lead the lesson each week and helpers to assist the leader.

For all the classes, materials are provided so that the lesson is fairly easy to prepare for and has step by step suggestions in presenting the material. Each week might take 30-60 minutes to prepare. On Sunday morning, teachers and helpers need to arrive about 10 minutes before 8:30 am (unless you have things for the lesson that need to be set up prior to the children arriving). The class time normally runs for an hour (8:30-9:30 am).

Teachers and helpers need to be background check, if you not already been. The process is simple. We just have you fill out the information on the release form and the office to send to the company who performs these checks for us.

Let Pastor Bill, Lisa Keltner, Anita Benedict, Karen Anderson, Vickie Bone, or Pam Mayo know if you have questions or would like to be a part of this important ministry.

Thanks for doing your part!

September is a month of new beginnings. The kids are back to school, college fall term begins, and so do a number of ecumenical education programs, youth ministries, and various bible studies. Join First Presbyterian Church with a fresh start as we resume our schedule starting **Sunday, September 13**. Join us for:

8:30 a.m. Sunday school, (3 years old through adult!)

9:30 a.m. Fellowship

10:00 a.m. Worship



Enjoy the **FREE Community Picnic** (3rd Annual) on Back to School Night, Thursday, August 20, from 5-7 pm. Located by the United Church of Monticello, 123 N Chestnut St, the picnic is planned for our community to come together for food and conversation and to celebrate the star of a new school year.

We welcome volunteers from the community; they can sign up on the computer at: <https://bit.ly/2026freepicnic> or by calling or emailing Janet Martin, 319-480-0699, or Janet.martin29@gmail.com. Help is needed: baking chocolate chip cookies and delivering them to the picnic, serving food and drinks, moving supplies and food, clearing tables and talking with the guests, replenishing drinks, and cleaning up after the picnic.



Community VBS—The Monticello Community VBS is taking place this week. We pray for the kids, leaders and volunteers that this week is fun, safe, and successful. Thank you to all that donated resources, their time or financially. It truly does take a village!

March is here and so is Noisy Coin!

On Sunday, August 30th, we will collect our noisy coin offering for Holt International. Holt International is a Christian Organization committed to expressing God's compassion for children. FPC Monticello's children and youth have been sponsoring children around the world their partnership with Holt International for over 35 years. Currently our children and youth are sponsoring Tunchanok. Our March Noisy Coin Offering will to to support the continued work of Holt International.



Solar Savings \$\$

This year's July bill was \$78.11, a savings of \$759 from 2025, thanks to the new solar panels installed as a part of the building projects/capital campaign. To date, we have saved \$9,609.89. Thanks for your support of this campaign!

Dear Streif Family,

Thank you so much for this scholarship. I truly appreciate your generosity and support as I continue my education. This scholarship will help me work towards my goals, and I am very grateful for this honor. Sincerely, Jase Reinke

Thank you!

For the longest time it seemed summer was never going to get here. Now we have more than we bargained for! I have decided I am not built for hot weather anymore. Mom is doing pretty good now again. The July calendar at Wellington has many singing and music opportunities listed. She tends to enjoy those the most. Kathy and the great-grandkids get to visit now school is out. She also enjoys that!! Enjoy the summer-stay hydrated. Find peaceful moments when you can!

Linda Pashek, daughter of Lorraine Haag

Food Pantry

The Food Pantry continues to serve the community on Mondays, 5 pm - 7 pm, and Thursdays, 2 pm - 4 pm. Donations can be taken at this time as well.

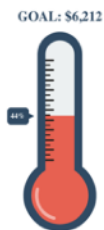
If you have any extra produce from your gardens this summer, we would love to share your donation with a family in need. Fresh produce should be dropped off a half hour prior to pantry hours to ensure fresh quality to our clients. Thank you!



Other needs include: **canned vegetables, canned fruit, and cereal (NOT Cheerios, as these come from HACAP).** Gift cards to local grocers are always welcome!



♦ **Congratulations to Rev Marta Pumroy-Cordero and Dr Kris Schondelmeyer** who were elected co-moderators of the PCUSA at the 227th General Assembly. Marta is border ministry coordinator for the Tres Rios Border Foundation in Tres Rios Presbytery and is a former member of 1st Presbyterian, Marion. Kris is the pastor at 1st Presbyterian, Davenport.



The church treasurer has sent in our full per capita payment of \$6,212, although we have received only **40.86%** to date.

If you are an active member and have not submitted **\$46.63**, please do so as soon as possible.

Thanks to everyone committed to a healthy and vital Presbyterian Church!

Evalena Lang
Doug Mettler
Betty Yount



Lorraine Haag Wellington, Decorah
Barb Null Anamosa CC

Each week during worship, we'd like to include a couple of church families on our Family Prayer list. For the month of August, please remember to include in your prayers each week our August families:

August 2: Kevin & Gayle Stinlgey, and Jodi Suthers

August 9: John & Stacey Takes, and Riley Takes

August 16: Robyn Takes, and David & JoAnn Warner

August 23: Jared, Bobby, Carter & Reagan Willms, and Tom Yeoman

August 30: Betty Yount, and Lisa & Mick Adams

Presbyterian Pie Service – The Presbyterian Pie Service continues to fill the pie desires of the community. Consider a pie for your next potluck or get-together. If you would like to place an order or check our stock, call **Pam (319-480-7700) or Kris (319-480-1538).**





Narrative Lectionary

Text for August :

August 2 2 Timothy 2:8-15
 August 9 2 Timothy 3:14-4:8, 16-18
 August 16 Exodus 19:1-6; 20:1-2
 August 23 Exodus 20:3-11
 August 30 Exodus 20:12-16

July Session Updates:

- * Motion to move August Session mtg scheduled for August 12 to August 19. **MSC**
- *Motion for Loose Coin Offering in August to go to Holt International. **MSC**



	Worship
June 28	43
July 5	35
July 12	50
July 19	50
July 26	37

Year-to-date: July 5, 2026.

Checking Balance \$22,779.59

Income—	Expenses—
Actual. \$81,476.46	Actual. \$89,827.97
Budget. \$169,183.48	Budget. \$198,083.81
Percent. 48.16%	Percent. 45.35%

Notes:

1. Made fourth-1/6th of per Capita to Presbytery of East Iowa. \$1,065
2. Made FINAL payment for windows to Glass Heritage on June 22. \$46,332.45
3. Made first payment on PILP loan, interest + principal. \$2,655
4. Received from New Covenant Funds for capital campaign. \$8,000

Capital Campaign/Building Projects—July 2026

Congregation Giving Funds.	\$186,953.37
Loan Funds.	\$142,628.59
Endowm/Memorial Funds.	\$70,000.00
Expenditures.	\$313,836.77
Cash on Hand.	\$9,281.94
\$\$ Yet to Raise.	\$39,400.00