

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.*

A Reason to Give Thanks



After Eddie Rickenbacker and his companions were rescued after more than three weeks adrift in life rafts in the Pacific, he was asked what lesson he had learned from the ordeal.

He answered that anyone with plenty of fresh water to drink and enough food to eat should never complain.

His words still speak clearly today. Many blessings can become so familiar that we barely notice them. This Thanksgiving, pause to give thanks for clean water, nourishing food, a safe place to rest and the people God has placed in your life. Let gratitude continue long after the holiday table is cleared.



Pastor's {Ponderings}

November brings our celebration of Thanksgiving. Almost always, in November, I write asking us what we are thankful for. I remind us how cultivating an awareness of thanksgiving is central to our faith and that how, in our thankfulness, we can see the presence of the God who is at work around us, and in us.

This year, I want us to think about November and its celebration of All Saints. All Saints Day is November 1st, and on this day we are invited to remember those family, friends, and community members who have died. All Saints Day is not a recognition of 'saints' in the ways that our Roman Catholic brothers and sisters think about saints, but a recognition of the ordinary saints who have lived among us. Those who are saints not because of what they did, but because of what Christ does for all.

Some folks, on All Saints, will attend worship or go to the cemetery and decorate a loved one's grave. Others might just take a moment to remember their family members or friends.

On this All Saints, I would invite us to take time to remember those on whose shoulders we stand as people of faith. Who are those people that have passed the Christian faith on to you? Who are those that nurtured your faith? Who are those who encouraged you in your journey of faith? Who are those who sowed the seeds of faith that are still bearing fruit, those whose work of faith still give us hope?

I guess our remembering of the Saints causes us to be thankful for them. Which brings us back to how November calls us to be thankful.

…. give thanks in all circumstances, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

—1Thes 5:18

In thanksgiving for you and the faith you carry,

Pastor Bill

PASTOR
Bill Warhover

Mobile 319-202-4977
pastor@fpcmonticello.org

OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR
Mackenzie Kahler

Office 319-465-3393
office@fpcmonticello.org

TREASURER
Dan Saunders

WORSHIP

Sundays 10:00 a.m.

Sunday School (youth-adult)
8:30 a.m.

FELLOWSHIP 9:30 a.m.

FACEBOOK:
@MonticelloFPC

Reminder: Set your clocks back as daylight savings time ends **Sunday, November 1**



Be sure to vote!
Election Day, **November 3**

Grant Gassman
Meredith Parker
Taylor Gassman
Jase Reinke
Halle Recker
Karli Green

God's blessings on our Scholarship recipients and their future plans.



The Christian Ed Committee is very happy to share that they made **$1,715** at the **Camp & Conference Baked Potato Bar Fundraiser**. There were 118 adults served and 2 children, for a total of 120 served. Thank you to everyone that contributed and participated in this event!

This Veterans' Day, we honor those who gave the ultimate sacrifice, including veterans and members of First Presbyterian Church (printed with permission):

Roger Benedict | Dennis Gray | Glen King
Larry Lamont | Curt Mayo | Dan Saunders

**If we have missed you, please accept our sincerest apologies. Please contact the church office so we can add you to our list!

Jones County Moms is a place for moms to feel the support of other moms as they navigate the experiences of motherhood in this sometimes crazy world. Meetings include faith-based devotion at the start of each meeting, programs, a speaker or craft, and child care for the children provided by older mom volunteers from area churches. Meetings are held on the second Thursday of the month from 9am to 11 am, at Wayne Zion Lutheran Church (with other locations hosting on occasion). If schools are delayed or canceled due to inclement weather, Jones County Moms is cancelled.

!! The church office will be **closed Thursday and Friday, November 26 and 27,** in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday. If you have an emergency, please contact Pastor Bill on his mobile phone at 319-202-4977.

A **meeting of the congregation** will be held following worship on **Sunday, November 8th,** for the purpose of electing church officers.



Please mark your calendars! The Sunday School Christmas program will be presented Sunday, December 13, during the 10:00 am worship service (inclement weather date, December 20th).

Christmas program practice will begin Nov. 22nd, during regular Sunday school class time. Please check your calendars to see if your child will be able to participate. Let a teacher or Lisa Keltner (319-480-4080) know if your child will not be able to perform the day of the program so we can hand out parts. All children will be participating and will take part during practice regardless of their ability to perform on the day of the performance.



FPC has been blessed over many years by estate gifts left to the church. Since 2024 estate gifts in the forms of endowments, investments, and memorials have provided approximately $300,000 of additional income to support the mission of FPC. These investments, provided by people no longer with us, help us to pay our day in day out expenses, provide scholarships for post high school education, and maintain and update our facility. We wouldn't have been able to do the buildings projects we have done without these investments. Please consider FPC in your estate plans. If you have question or would like to talk more about estate gifts to FPC please see Dan Saunders or Pastor Bill.

Food Pantry Holiday Hours

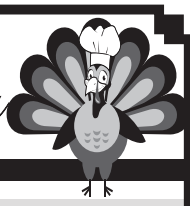
A reminder as seasonal weather and holidays approach: the Monticello Food Pantry will be closed if the Monticello Schools are closed. With that in mind, the Monticello Food Pantry will observe the following hours for the Thanksgiving holiday:

OPEN: Monday, November 23 5 pm - 7 pm	**CLOSED: Thursday, November 26**	OPEN: Monday, November 30 5 pm - 7 pm

Current food pantry needs include: Cereal (not Cheerios), soups, and deodorant.



Community Thanksgiving Dinner



Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 26

Monticello Berndes Center
766 N. Maple St. • Monticello

DELIVERY & CARRY-OUT ONLY!
– RESERVATIONS REQUIRED –

Reservations must be made by MON., NOV. 23

- **TEXT OR CALL 319-496-9063 FOR RESERVATIONS OR TO VOLUNTEER!**
- If you would like to **MAKE A MONETARY DONATION**, you may drop it off at **Citizens State Bank** in Monticello *or mail a check to:*

Community Thanksgiving Dinner
c/o Sue Ballou
18292 Amber Rd. X44
Monticello, IA 52310

100% of the proceeds in excess of needs for the meal are donated to the Monticello Food Pantry

– THERE WILL BE NO DINING IN –

*** FREE DELIVERY WITHIN 5 MILES OF MONTICELLO ***

PASSING THE "SPATULA"!

A heartfelt *THANK YOU* to Teri & Bruce Fueling for **over 20 years** of serving up community and Thanksgiving cheer!
The tradition continues with Kathy Sprau, Renee Holub & Sue Ballou!



Noisy Coin Offering in November

On Sunday, November 30, we will be receiving a **Noisy Coin Offering** as a part of our worship.

Noisy Coin Offerings are where people bring their loose change to contribute to a special cause. In November, that cause will be Church World Service's **CROP Walk**. CROP Walk is nation wide program that seeks to raise 'seed money' for global growing/raising projects. These projects seek to address hunger and provide clean drinking water. Thanks for your support of this cause!



Above & Beyond will again participate in the Holiday on 1st event on Saturday, December 5th, in Monticello with a **Luminary Display** on the sidewalk in front of and to the side of City Hall.

Congregants of area churches are invited to participate by creating bag(s) in memory of loved ones who have passed. Bags are available at area churches as well as local businesses, no charge.

Once you have completed your bag, return it to Above & Beyond (417 E 1st St, Monticello), or your local church.

If you have any questions, contact David Wise at 563-500-8169, or david.wise@trinity-health.org.

Narrative Lectionary Text for November:

November 1	1 Kings 3:4-9, [10-15], 16-28
November 8	2 Kings 5:1-15a
November 15	Micah [1:3-5]; 5:2-5a; 6:6-8
November 22	Isaiah 36:1-3, 13-20; 37:1-7; 2:1-4
November 29	Habakkuk 1:1-7; 2:1-4; 3:[3b-6],





Our congregation will once again participate in HACAP's Care & Share Christmas program. The Deacons will received information from HACAP mid-November. At that time, they will share information with the congregation and erect the Care & Share Tree for gift collections. Cash donations are welcome at any time. Please mark donations "Care and Share." Watch for updates in our weekly bulletin, monthly newsletter, and on our Facebook page concerning this year's procedures and dates to participate. Thank you in advance for your generosity in supporting children and families in our community at this special time of year!



You are invited to help decorate our church for the Christmas season after our worship service on **Sunday, Nov. 29th**. Updates will be posted on our church's Facebook page in case these plans need to be adjusted. As take-down is yet to be determined, we will make another announcement requesting your help at a later date. Thank you! -Deacons

Christmas Eve Schedule - *Please make plans to join us for Christmas Eve Candlelight Service,* ***Thursday, December 24th, at 6pm.***



BEAR CREEK

Camp Bear Creek **Summer Camp registration** is officially open. Guarantee your spot in the week and program of your choice by registering ASAP! Camp promises that 2027 is going to be a summer you don't want to miss, so make sure you sign up for camp today! *Plus, take advantage of the SUPER EARLY BIRD RATE. Save $50 on your camp fees by registering by the end of the year.*
Register at **https://bearcreek.camp.**



Confirmation class meets **each Wednesday from 3:15 pm-4:30 pm.**
Classes will meet Nov. 4, and 18,
Nov. 11- NO CLASS, Pastor Study Leave
Nov. 25- NO CLASS, Thanksgiving Break

ATTENDANCE:

Week of:	Worship	Sunday School
Oct 4	50	10
Oct 11	43	10
Oct 18	73	10
Oct 25	84	9



Thanks for Helping Out, LITURGIST!

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*

Each Sunday we invite one person to lead us in worship as the liturgist. The liturgist is responsible for inviting us in to worship through our Opening Sentences and Prayer. The liturgist next invites us to stand for the hymn and, then, invites us into our confession and offers an assurance of pardon. Finally the liturgist encourages us to pass the peace to one another.

The bulletin is normally emailed out the liturgist prior to Sunday's service so that they can look through it and become familiar with the parts they will read and lead. Your commitment to be the liturgist is only for the Sunday that you sign up for.

You can sign up to be liturgist on the clip board at the back of the sanctuary on Sunday morning or by contacting Mackenzie at office@fpcmonticello.org.

Presbyterian Pie Service

Presbyterian Pie Committee is asking for your cooperation this holiday season by placing your pie order ***early***. Supplies are an issue. We will do our best to accommodate all orders and ask for your patience at this time. Thank you!

To place your order or check freezer stock, call: **Pam (319-480-7700) or Kris (319-480-1538).**



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

November 1: Mike, Alexis, Amelia & Isabel Corbin, and Barbara Decker

November 8: Tim & Carrie Fellinger, and Quinton, Breanna & Corbin Fellinger

November 15: Tanner, Taryn, Jack, Ryder & Heidi Fellinger, and Kevin, Chanda, Taylor, Grant & Kinley Gassman

November 22: Bill & Suzy Gilkerson, and Phil, Amy, McKinley & Quinn Gilkerson

November 29: Keith & Carol Gillmore, and Pam Goettsch

Evalena Lang
Doug Mettler
Betty Yount



Lorraine Haag
Wellington/Decorah
Barb Null Anamosa CC



If you, or someone you know, would like to request a pastoral visit due to being homebound, or recovering from an ailment at home, in the hospital or a rehabilitation facility, please contact the pastor or church office to arrange a visit. Oftentimes the pastor is not aware that a visit is desired until after the opportunity has passed. Homebound communion is also being offered to our homebound members. Please contact Pastor Bill, 319-202-4977, or the church office, 319-465-3393, to request a pastoral care or homebound communion visit.





Our **prayers and sympathy** go out to the family of Ashley Alden (granddaughter of Helen Alden), who died September 13.

Our **prayers and sympathy** go out to the family of Arvil Wayne King (grandfather of Sarah Bone), who died September 23.`



Congratulations to Brooks James and Gentry John, sons of Maddy & Clayton Kraus, brothers of Jayde, who were baptized October 25th.

Capital Campaign Report



Initial PILP Loan Amount	$142,628.59
Current Loan Balance	$134,019.48
Monthly Loan Payment	$2,655.00
Gap between projected income & expenses to pay loan	$ 37,146.00
Gap between projected income & expenses ***w/o solar incentive***	$ 69,246.00



Financial Report Summary
Submitted by Danny C Saunders, Treasurer
Year-to-Date, October 7, 2026
Checking Balance $22,755.83

Income, Budgeted	$169,183.48	Expense, Budgeted	$198,083.81
Income, Actual	$120,326.35	Expense, Actual	$150,306.55
% Actual vs Budget	71.12%	% Actual vs Budget	76.26%

Notes: *Paid fourth PILP loan payment, interest $493.66 + principal $2,161.66 = $2,655.00
*PILP Loan Balance $134,019.48