

# Presbyterian

August 2022



In Psalm 8, the psalmist writes, “O Lord, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens... When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars that you have established; what are human beings that you are mindful of them, mortals that you care for them?... O Lord, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth!” (vv. 1, 3-4, 9, NRSV). While it might not have been these exact words that came to my mind when I landed in Kalispell, Montana with my clergy cohort, it was something close to these words as we stepped off the plane to mountains all around us.

Since January 2020, I’ve been meeting monthly with this clergy cohort which has been sponsored and supported by The Ministry Collaborative. As they define them, “Cohorts are highly committed, supportive, and collaborative learning communities of 10-15 ministry leaders who make a three-year commitment to one another and to the process of learning and growing together.” Part of the three-year commitment is an immersion experience, a time away from the realities of everyday life in ministry in which we explore in more depth our relationships with each other and with God.

Normally this immersion trip takes place during the second year of the cohort’s three years. However, due to COVID, our immersion trip was delayed until this summer, even though we are in our final year of meeting. As a group, we chose to travel to Glacier National Park, immersing ourselves in nature and focusing on the idea of Sabbath. To be clear, this is not a vacation; it is a focused time of retreat. So, on June 8, I stepped off the plane in Kalispell for this time of retreat and thought, “Look at what God has done!”



My awe in the work of God never really went away that week. It was an intense week. While we were talking about sabbath, we were also doing a lot—hiking, traveling around the park, biking the Going-to-the-Sun Road, seeing wildlife, and so much more. The picture above is on our first day as we traveled from Kalispell over to the east side of the park. The bridge I’m standing on is the original entrance to the park and so crossing over that bridge brought us into Glacier National Park for the first time. Then on the second day, I attempted a high elevation hike and, while I didn’t make it all the way to the top of the trail, I made it far enough to take the second picture you see, again marveling in the beauty of God’s creation. One thing that hike began to teach me, is that it’s okay to go at my own pace. We don’t always have to go at the group’s pace or do it how everyone else is doing things. That day I needed to do what was right for me, and there are times that is true for all of us, as individuals and as a congregation, we need to do what is right for us.

Continued on Page 3...



**August 7**

Usher: Ron Brown  
Liturgist: Betsy Akin

**August 14**

Usher: Jackie Butcher  
Liturgist: Ken Pangburn

**August 21**

Ushers: Zach/Michelle Morgan  
Liturgist: Randy Olive

**August 28**

Usher: Angie Mullen  
Liturgist: Quaid Eddy

**September 4**

Usher: Megan Boswell  
Liturgist: Donna Peckham

**September 11**

Ushers: Randy & Shirley Olive  
Liturgist: Sue Selby

**September 18**

Ushers: Pete & Kim Brantner  
Liturgist: Doug Leonard

**September 25**

Usher: Ann Myers  
Liturgist: Megan Boswell

Gary Badgett  
Skylynn Boswell  
Todd Konecne  
Sue Selby  
Ella Akin  
Kim Brantner  
Ken Pangburn  
Saige Jones  
Ann Myers  
Ron Brown  
Burton Heaton

August 5  
August 6  
August 7  
August 8  
August 10  
August 11  
August 13  
August 15  
August 20  
August 26  
August 31

*Family of Percy and Jo Ann Stielow  
Family of Larry Bickford  
Family of Raymond Reynolds  
Family of Belinda Anstey  
Family of Rev. Dr. Lynn Williams  
All who are grieving  
Kevin and Nicci Tucker  
Steve Sawyer  
Nancy Turner  
Lisa Konecne  
Ukraine  
Kimberly Wilson  
Dick Blazek  
All dealing with chronic pain  
All dealing with COVID-19  
All affected by severe weather  
All the caregivers  
All affected by Supreme Court rulings*

We ask for your help in keeping the birthday and prayer lists current.

If you have any changes or additions, please let us know.



**Newsletter Deadline:**

For the **September** newsletter, please submit all news and announcements by **Wednesday, August 24**. Thank you so much for your help in making sure we get information communicated to everyone.

...Continued from Page 1



These two pictures show some of the awe I found in the wildlife and the smaller things in nature.



This final picture also has a lesson with it. This picture was taken while we were on the trail to St. Mary's Falls on the east side of the park. This area of the park burned during the Reynolds Creek Fire in 2015. And here's the thing about this picture—it is only possible to see that view **because** of the fire. If there had been no fire, the trees you see in the picture would have been green and full and seeing the lake from that point on the trail would have been impossible. Fire made that view possible. Fire, which we often consider destructive and bad, also

makes other things possible. There are trees in Glacier National Park that only grow after a fire because their **seeds require fire** in order to sprout. The things that we often only consider to be bad or destructive, are sometimes exactly what is needed to create the beauty we see and stand in awe of.

There are many other things I saw and learned while on this immersion trip but for now I'll leave you where I started, with Psalm 8. O Lord, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth! May you also stand in awe of all that God has done.

Grace and Peace,

*Pastor Jessica*



**We did it thanks to all of you who participated in the Capital Campaign. Almost \$140,000 was raised to complete our projects with enough leftover to sustain us for any unforeseen large capital needs in the future.**

**We are so thankful for the support of our community of faith and also for those gifts from former members and friends. Your support was amazing!**

**The Capital Campaign Committee**

**Mark your calendars for Sunday, August 21st!**

Everyone attending school is invited to bring their backpacks/bags to worship on Sunday, August 21st as we will have a blessing of the backpacks, as well as a blessing of the kids, teachers, and staff during worship that day. Then after worship, all are invited to stay for a picnic of hot dogs, potato chips, and cookies as we celebrate (or bemoan) the end of summer and heading back to school!



June 2022 General Fund Checking Account	
Beginning Balance 06/01/22	\$8,752.80
Income	\$8,156.92
Expenses	\$10,624.45
Ending Balance 06/30/22	\$6,285.27

## Presbyterian Gathering

On Saturday, August 27th, Iowa Presbyterians will gather at First Presbyterian to celebrate Christian CommUNITY: in Iowa, within our denomination, and in solidarity with all Christians around the world! You are invited to join in this celebration that will include inspiring worship, joyful music, fellowship, food, and an array of thought-provoking workshops. Learn more and register at: <https://dmpresbytery.org/iowa-presbyterian-gathering/>



## *Re-Formation of the Congregation*

You are invited to join Presbyterians from across Iowa to a four-part seminar on revitalizing and reforming our congregations. The purpose of the seminar is to equip church leaders and pastors for ministry in this rapidly changing time, and help them strengthen the local church's worship, witness, and engagement in God's mission. Ministers and members are invited, although the program is directed at the ministry of the laity.



The next session is scheduled for Saturday, September 24th from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Northminster Presbyterian Church in Ames. The Rev. Erica MacCreagh and the Rev. Dr. Louise Westfall will be presenting on "**The Dangerous Act of Worship and Its Implications.**" What impact should encouraging God in authentic worship have on our lives as individuals and faith communities? And what can we learn from the faithful generations of Christians who have gone before us as we respond to difficult and contentious issues in our society?

Registration: You can register online at <https://dmpresbytery.org/2021/11/17/re-formation-of-the-congregation/> or contact the presbyteries' office at (319) 233-1747. There is no registration fee. However, participants will be asked to contribute toward lunch cost.



First Presbyterian Church  
907 Grove Avenue  
Corning, Iowa 50841  
(Return Service Requested)

***Sunday Worship Time: 10:00 AM***

Follow us on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/1stprescorning](http://www.facebook.com/1stprescorning)  
See all the news on our Website: [www.1stprescorning.org](http://www.1stprescorning.org)

Session Members

Betsy Akin  
Jackie Butcher  
Doug Leonard

Avery Morgan  
Angie Mullen  
Ken Pangburn

Cindy Peterson  
Kurt Scott  
Nancy Turner

Rev. Jessica Paulsen

Home phone: 641-418-8143

Email:

[pastor@1stprescorning.org](mailto:pastor@1stprescorning.org)

Mission Statement

The First Presbyterian Church of Corning believes in the good news of the Gospel and will grow through and share the love, grace, and compassion of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Church Phone

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