

Presbyterian

January 2019

The beginning of a new year! A time of new commitments or renewal of old commitments; a time to start fresh, with a blank slate. But also, a time to look back, take stock of the last year and what happened in our lives.



As of the end of 2018, I've been your pastor for a total of 2 ½ months! Some days it seems as if I've known you forever and other days, I recognize how much I still have to learn—about you, this congregation, and this community. It's something I'm looking forward to this year, getting to know all of you even better, learning the stories of your lives, and how God has worked in them.

In the letter to the Hebrews we read, “And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another...” (10:24-25, NRSV). Part of living as a follower of Christ is making a commitment to a community of faith—agreeing to a covenant that we will love one another, hold each other accountable, and support each other. Anyone who has joined the church has made a covenant for you were asked, “Will you be a faithful member of this congregation, share in its worship and mission through your prayers and gifts, your study and service, and so fulfill your calling to be a disciple of Jesus Christ?” (BCW, 431). Covenant—it's the foundation of our relationship with God and our relationship with each other.

I mention all of this, because at the end of this month, there will be worship service to formally install me as your pastor. This is not to say that our relationship hasn't already been formally agreed to and official. Instead, it is a way for the church to acknowledge, in worship, the unique covenant that you (as a congregation) and I (as a pastor) have entered.

During the service I'll be asked questions such as, “Will you pray for and seek to serve the people with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love?” and “Will you in your life seek to follow the Lord Jesus Christ, love your neighbors, and work for the reconciliation of the world?” and others. At the same time, you, as the congregation, will also be asked questions such as, “Do we, the members of the church accept Jessica as our pastor, chosen by God through the voice of this congregation to guide us in the way of Jesus Christ?” and “Do we agree to pray for her, encourage her, to respect her decisions, and to follow as she guides us, serving Jesus Christ, who alone is Head of the Church?” and others.

In answering these questions, we are each agreeing to our side of the covenant, our part in the relationship we have with each other. So, it is my hope that you will be able to be part of this worship service. It is scheduled for Sunday, January 27, 2019 at 3:00 p.m. and will be held here at First Presbyterian Church of Corning.

One final interesting note, this service will only be the third installation service held here since 1952, for it only takes place at the beginning of the relationship between pastor and congregation. What a unique opportunity for us to celebrate our ministry and make a covenant for the years to come. I am very excited about this worship service and am looking forward to making official (in worship) the commitment I've made to all of you. I hope you'll see what a blessing this event will be and join me in the celebration and commitment.

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Jessica



We need volunteers for the new year! Please speak with De Heaton if you would like to help.

You are encouraged to ask a child to help you with ushering duties, such as handing out bulletins and collecting the offering. They are happy and eager to help!



Scott Robinson	January 3
Marvin Smith	January 12
Bev McMahon	January 13
Jean Loonan	January 17
Curan Eddy	January 20
Karen Boswell	January 25
Jayne Templeton	January 26
Jim Heaton	January 27
Larry Miller	January 27



*Phyllis Brokaw
Joleen Nelson
Louis Manly
Barb Sleep
Lisa Konecne
Bernice Miller
Amanda Mullen
Rita Miltner
Rheanna Lynch
Steve McCann
Sherry Griffith
Richard Freshour
Cheryl Swartz
Denise Swartz
Steve McDermott
Linda Hill-Sharp
Jay Flowers
Shelly Quillen
Becky Butcher
Tom Butcher
Ron Brown
Tony Crow*

Help us keep the prayer list current ~ forward additions or deletions to the church office.

Our apologies if we've inadvertently missed anyone. Please let the office know and we'll include them next month.



January 5th, 2-4 p.m.
Epiphany Open House Party

Pastor Jessica's Home

January 6th, during worship
Installation and Ordination of New Elders

January 20th, after worship
Annual Congregational Meeting

January 27th, 3 p.m.
Installation Service
Here at the Church



*To the Friends and Families of:
Colt Smith*



Pastor Jessica plans on being in the office 9 a.m. to Noon, Monday through Thursday and she welcomes all. She can be reached at:
the church: 322-4917;
at home: 418-8143; or by e-mail: pastor1st-prescorning@gmail.com

The office manager is Tamara Haley. Her office hours are Tuesday through Thursday 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The church e-mail address remains 1stprescorning@gmail.com and Tamara can be reached at that address.



Choir rehearsal is Wednesdays at 7 p.m.



Friends,

Our growing church family of young people is in need of assistance. We are asking our church to assist by helping us provide childcare during our Sunday festivities.

We need two members for each Sunday to be available from 8:45 a.m. until services are complete at approximately 11:15 a.m. Our hope is to have at least 12 groups of 2 sign up so that we have alternates and you'd only have a Sunday about once a quarter.

We hope to encourage and enable our young parents to participate in Adult Sunday School. This nursery would help our volunteer Sunday School teachers as well.

Volunteers would be responsible for changing diapers, passing out snacks, etc., as needed. Snacks, cups, and other necessities will be provided. Please note that older children who do not need to be in the nursery may be asked to return to their seats.

We're very excited about how our church family is growing. We enjoy seeing the families of young people and this is one way in which you are able to support them. If you have any questions, or would like to volunteer, please talk with Megan Boswell. We thank you in advance for your help.

Pastor Jessica and Megan Boswell



DOWNING OF THE BROWNS

This coming Sunday, January 6th, everyone is invited to stay after worship to help down the browns. For what goes up must come down, and with the celebration of Epiphany the Christmas season is officially at an end. We hope you'll stay and help us down the browns as we put away the Advent and Christmas decorations for the year.

Mission Statement

The First Presbyterian Church of Corning, believing in the good news of the Gospel, will by our example reflect the love, grace, and compassion of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ -

- by joining together in praise and worship
- by supporting the mission of the larger church
- by reaching out with grace, love, compassion, and generosity to all, assisting those in need
- by offering fellowship and support to the family of God, acknowledging that God's family includes all of humankind
- by providing a safe haven for one and all
- by sharing the gospel with others
- by advocating for social righteousness
- by providing educational opportunities.



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

Sunday School, All Ages, 9:00 AM

Worship Time: 10:00 AM

Join us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/1stprescorning

Session Members

Gary Badgett
 Judy Beckett
 Megan Boswell
 Karen Carlson

De Heaton
 Denise Kester
 Chuck Lund
 Randy Olive

Ken Pangburn
 Diana Scott
 Sue Selby
 Nancy Turner

Rev. Jessica Paulsen

**Home phone:
 641-418-8143**

**Email:
[pastor1stprescorning@
 gmail.com](mailto:pastor1stprescorning@gmail.com)**

Is your newsletter address label marked with red? If so, you have been asked to participate on Sunday morning in some capacity. Please be responsible for finding your own replacement. Thank you!

Church Phone

641-322-4917

**Email:
1stprescorning@gmail.com**