

# Presbyterian

June 2022



God continues to be at work here in Corning and in and through this congregation! From the capital campaign to expanding our mission garden to worship each week - the Spirit is on the move! It helps to see those things and to see God at work. It helps to give thanks for those things, for each of you, and for all our ministries. It helps when the news breaks of another school shooting or of more atrocities in Ukraine or Sudan or of continued oppression of women and minorities around the world. If we only looked at the news, it'd be easy to believe there is no hope. It'd be easy to believe there is only pain and chaos and suffering.

Yet as I preached in a funeral sermon just this week, we who follow Jesus are not a people who are to live without hope. Instead, we are a people of great hope! We believe that God has conquered death and sin and pain. We believe a time will come when God will reign and there will be a new heaven and a new earth and all these things that we struggle with - pain, death, oppression - will be no more. God has been and is and will make all things new!

That still doesn't make it easy. That doesn't stop the news from being full of stories of war and shootings and pain and suffering. But there is hope! And part of our work and calling is to live into that hope. To show the world a different way is possible. A way of love - love of God and love of neighbors. This is my dream for communities of faith, and for our own congregation and community - that we might live into hope and show the world God's way. At the beginning of March, your session had a retreat to build relationships, look at goals, and discuss what it means to be the church. One of the questions I asked them to answer was this, "What is your dream for the church?" Some of the responses included:

"We happily accept all who want to come, without judgment."

"We offer a church where everyone can be involved and feel needed."

"To continue to be involved in mission, both locally and worldwide."

"To live the Gospels and share the Good News."

Friends - these dreams are possible! First, though, we must believe and we must hope. For just like any other dream, these dreams will take work. Still, it is work that God has called us to and God has assured us that God will be with us through it all.

Mary Anne Radmacher has a quote about courage that says, "Courage doesn't always roar. Sometimes courage is the little voice at the end of the day that says I'll try again tomorrow." The same could be said about hope. Hope doesn't always roar or make a big splash. Sometimes, hope is the little voice or the small flame at the end of the day that says, try again tomorrow with the knowledge that God has already taken care of everything. As Jesus said, "In the world you face persecution. But take courage; I have conquered the world!" May we all live in hope!

Grace and Peace,

*Pastor Jessica*

**May 29**

Usher: Randy and Shirley Olive

Liturgist: Doug Leonard

**June 5**

Ushers: Pete and Kim Brantner

Liturgist: Megan Boswell

**June 12**

Usher: Ann Myers

Liturgist: Betsy Akin

**June 19**

Usher: Doug Leonard

Liturgist: Ken Pangburn

**June 26**

Ushers: Ken and Kathy Pangburn

Liturgist: Randy Olive

**July 3**

Usher: Cindy Peterson

Liturgist: Quaid Eddy

**July 10**

Usher: Kurt and Diane Scott

Liturgist: Donna Peckham

**July 17**

Usher: Nancy and Alec Turner

Liturgist: Sue Selby

**July 24**

Usher: Sue Selby

Liturgist: Doug Leonard

**July 31**

Usher: Betsy Akin

Liturgist: Megan Boswell

Samantha Kester  
 Dolores Parcher  
 Starla Pottoroff  
 Larry Kester  
 Phyllis Brokaw  
 Judy Loonan  
 Christy Drake  
 Maggie Jones  
 Molly Oglesbee  
 Betsy Akin

June 2   *Family and Friends of Debra Bitter*  
 June 7   *Family of Donald Johnson*  
 June 9   *Family of Liz Brokaw*  
 June 10   *Shirley Olive*  
 June 14   *Wayne Rychnovsky*  
 June 14   *Selena*  
 June 15   *Bill Renton*  
 June 25   *Joyce Pangburn*  
 June 29   *James Haag*  
 June 30   *Kay Olson*  
             *Ukraine*  
*Buzz and Gwen Herbert*  
*Paul Maynes*  
*Kimberly Wilson*  
*All dealing with chronic pain*  
*All dealing with COVID-19*  
*All affected by severe weather*  
*All the caregivers*  
*Marvin Smith*  
*Dick Blazek*  
*Arlene Drennan*  
*Cheryl Swartz*

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 July newsletter, please submit all news and announcements by **Wednesday, June 15**. Thank you so much for your help in making sure we get information communicated to everyone.



**Mission and Outreach to hold  
Demonstration at Farmer's Market  
Monday, July 11 from 5-6.**

Mission and Outreach will be sharing a demonstration on the uses of zucchini at the Farmer's Market this summer with the hopes of using some of our own crop. We will be providing samples and recipes in our ongoing

efforts to reduce food insecurity in our community. If you would like to help with this project, contact Betsy Akin for more information.



**Service Saturday and Fostering Hope**

Our next Service Saturday will be Saturday, June 25th, starting at 9:00 a.m. We'll be working with Fostering Hope to help organize and restock the Foster Closet.

**It's that time of year again!**

**Vacation Bible School**

**June 27 to 30**

**5:30 to 7:30 p.m.**

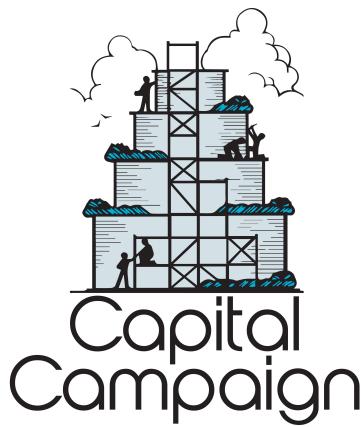
The theme is Monumental: Celebrating God's Greatness! Online registration is now open! If you are able to help out for the week or even just a day, we can use you. The contact for our church is Angie Mullen or you can let the office know. Our next organization meeting will be Monday, June 6th at 7:00 p.m. if you'd like to join us. This is a great opportunity for you to help spread God's word. Nothing can compare to the joy of seeing a child celebrating God. Also, please start saving your paper towel and toilet paper rolls for us too, we have some awesome crafts planned. There'll be a box in the foyer where you can drop them off.



# Capital Campaign Begins June 1

After presentations on May 1 and May 22 to the congregation detailing the projects that will be funded with the capital campaign, letters will be mailed to all members and friends of the church starting June 1. Everyone will be given an opportunity to participate in updating and maintaining the building that we call home at 907 Grove Avenue.

As was explained in the meetings, we currently find ourselves with several large projects that need attention that are more than the annual budget can withstand – a HVAC system to service the sanctuary, new signage for the exterior of the church, upgraded technology, and upkeep and maintenance on the stained-glass windows. The Session, along with the Stewardship and Finance Committee, have determined that a capital campaign would be the most appropriate vehicle to fund these projects that have a total estimated cost of \$100,000. The campaign drive to raise the funds can be paid over a 5-year period to lessen the burden or can be paid as you see fit. As with our last capital campaign, we expect that the community of faith of the First Presbyterian Church will respond to the call with all hands in. Watch for your letter to arrive soon with all the campaign materials including a pledge card. Members of the capital campaign committee along with other members of the congregation will be reaching out to answer any questions and to secure your pledge. On behalf of the Session and the Stewardship and Finance Committee we thank you for your consideration and support.



# First Presbyterian Church Capital Campaign

## Signage

A storm damaged our church sign beyond repair. A new sign will be created with aluminum lettering that will be attached to the building.



## Technology

We plan to make our service more accessible by ensuring better sound and visuals for all while streamlining aging and complicated equipment.

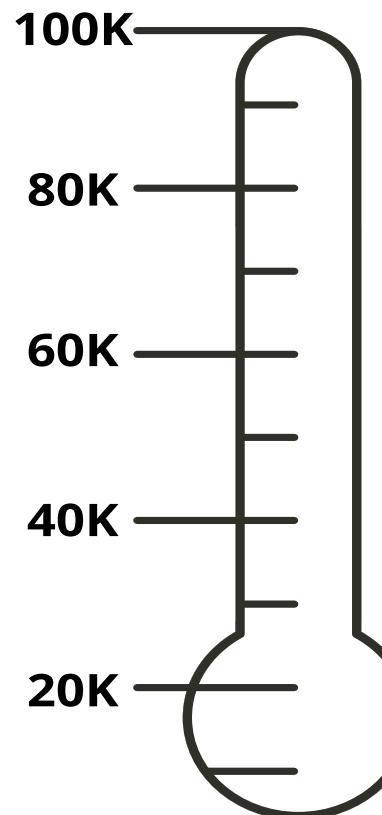


## HVAC

The heating and cooling equipment that services the sanctuary is needing to be replaced. This will replace that portion of the HVAC system.



30K



## Windows

Our stained glass windows are in need of preventative maintenance through ventilated exterior covers. Project scope also includes repair to some windows that are beginning to bow.



20K

April 2022 General Fund Checking Account	
Beginning Balance 04/01/22	\$7,962.78
Income	\$11,026.92
Expenses	\$8,926.87
Ending Balance 04/30/22	\$10,062.83



## TRIP TO THE HOLY LAND

most meals, guides, tips, and on the ground transportation. Airline travel is not included. Limited single occupant is available for an additional charge of \$850.

Scholarships are available.

For more information go [www.presbyciowa.org/israel-palestine/](http://www.presbyciowa.org/israel-palestine/) or contact Amgad Beblawi at [amgad@presbyteries.org](mailto:amgad@presbyteries.org) or call 502-592-3223

## You are Invited to the Fifth Anniversary Celebration of First Arabic Presbyterian Church

Sunday, June 5, 4:00 P.M.  
featuring guest preacher

Rev. Dr. J. Herbert Nelson II, PC(USA) Stated Clerk

Cottage Grove Church  
1050 24th Street  
Des Moines, Iowa

Stay for the festivities that will include sharing, singing,  
food and fellowship!



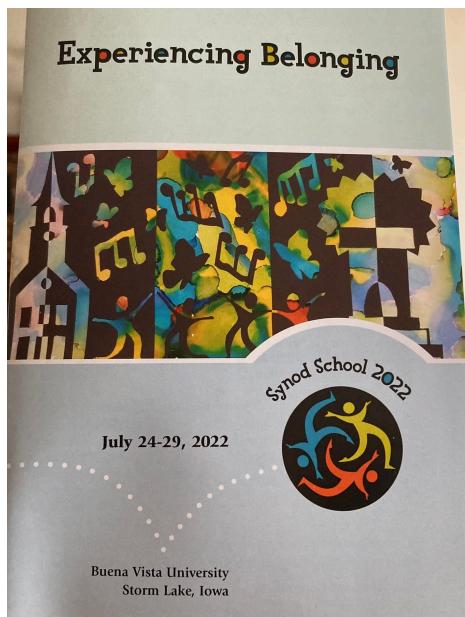


## Prayer Chain

We are updating the prayer chain contact list. If you are currently on the contact list and would like to be removed or are not on the list and would like to join, please contact Michelle Leonard at 712-621-2007 by June 15th. Thank you.

## Summer Fun & Friends Camp

Summer Fun & Friends Camp is back for 2022 and will be better than ever! Join us July 10-16, 2022 for a week-long celebration of the world God made for us. The lake may be drained but our hearts are full and the excitement level is high! Camp is held in Indianola, IA at Camp Wesley Woods for students in their upper elementary through high school years. Stay tuned for more information!



## Synod School 2022

**July 24 - 29, 2022**

**Experiencing Belonging**

Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Hinson Hasty is the Adult Convocation Speaker, Rev. Dr. Alonzo Johnson will be leading the Youth Convocation, and worship will be led by Rev. Tim Hughes Williams and Rev. Sara Sutter. It's a great lineup of leaders and you're encouraged to register and attend. There are classes to fit everyone's interests! More information is available in the booklets in the church foyer or on the Synod website at: <https://lakesandprairies.org/engaging-leaders/synod-school/>

# PASTOR'S SCHEDULE

## Out of the Office

Pastor Jessica will be out of the office Tuesday, May 31st through Thursday, June 2nd. She will be leading worship on Sunday, June 5th and be in the office on Monday, June 6th. Then she will be away again from Tuesday, June 7th through Sunday, June 19th. Rev. Pete Brantner will be filling the pulpit on June 12th and Arlene Drennan will be leading worship on June 19th. If you need anything during the time while Pastor Jessica is away, you can reach out to Joni in the office or to the elder of the month, Betsy Akin (712.590.0221).



## Make Note!

Please note the following adjustments to office hours. The office will be closed on Monday, May 30th for the Memorial Day Holiday. Then the following week, office hours will be Monday, June 6th - Wednesday, June 8th from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The office will not be open on Thursday, June 9th.



## ***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, July 9th from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Northminster Presbyterian Church in Ames. The Rev. Dr. Karoline Lewis, world-renowned biblical scholar and Professor of Biblical Preaching at Luther Seminary in St. Paul, will be presenting on the gift and meaning of biblical authority for the life of the church.

Registration: You can register online at <https://dmpresbytery.org/2021/11/17/reformation-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.

## Southwest Iowa Regional Partnership (SWIRP)

SWIRP is the partnership among our regional Presbyterian churches (Corning, Creston, Platte Center, Bedford, Lenox, Sharpsburg, Mt. Ayr, and Diagonal) and meets quarterly. The partnership comes together for fellowship and a variety of mission ministries. SWIRP has adopted a community in El Salvador, plans annual mission trips, and continues to support each other. The next meeting is scheduled for Sunday, June 26th at 4:00 p.m. here in Corning. Come and join in to learn more!



This past spring we raised \$1,325 for our sister community in El Salvador, Alejandría. Thank you to everyone who gave and check out the pictures below from the most recent fertilizer delivery - something y'all helped fund and support. Here is the note that came with the pictures: "On Thursday, April 7, a visit was made to the community of Alejandría to deliver fertilizer to the different families that make up the committee in the community. Here some families do not cultivate the land so I give them a package of food with the value of the fertilizer package. The families thank God and each one of the members of the godmother church for working and contributing their work for the needs of the most needy, this help comes to solve different deficiencies that the families have and those who received fertilizer are happy to have the fertilizer already for future harvests."





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](https://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  
641-322-4917  
Email:  
[office@1stprescorning.org](mailto:office@1stprescorning.org)