



THE STEEPLE

August 2026

FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

WINTERSET, IA

The mission of the First United Presbyterian Church is to make disciples of all people for the glory of God through teaching, caring and worshiping.



From time to time we need to “shake things up a bit” to get us out of our comfort zones and to challenge our old ways of doing things. Some health drinks recommend on the label to “shake well before drinking” because some of the ingredients have settled to the bottom of the bottle. If we remain sedentary in our spiritual lives, we too will begin to settle in ways that are not good. What is left at the top of our spiritual bottles is rather bland and not very beneficial either for those around us or for ourselves. So. . . in what ways are we going to be shaking things up in our personal lives but also here at FUPC?

Sometimes that means letting go of doing things “the way that we have always done them”. At other times it invites us to look at familiar things in new ways. For example, we have a perfectly good basement in the church that is currently empty. How can that space be utilized to foster new ministries both to our church members and/or for our community? I would invite you to wander downstairs and let your imagination “shake things up a bit”! If you have any ideas, let one of the ruling elders on Session know!

The Christians in Thessalonica were accused of:

“turning the whole world upside down!” (Acts 17:6)

That really is shaking things up! By the grace of God, may we here in Winterset do the same!

- Dave

We pray for...

Connie Banks
Gordy Clark
Nolan Collins
Carol Jacobs
Jake Jacobs
Kathy Jackson Sas
Bob Kuhns
Pat Kuhns
Sally Leeper
Tish McKee
Mark Stuchel
Kate Sullivan
Ruth Wagley
Those known only to God



"Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will hear you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart."

Jeremiah 29:12-13

You're going to be okay. Your thoughts may be telling you otherwise. Your body may be screaming at you otherwise. Your circumstances may be showing you otherwise. But you are, ultimately, going to be okay. "Okay" might not mean "like you once were", because maybe you will be forever changed. You may have to walk through some really hard stuff to get there. But you are going to be okay. Because there is a strength within you that comes from the Sustainer of Life Himself. There is a thread of hope within you that comes from the One who sees all eternity. And when you are completely emptied, completely gutted, or completely out of options, He's the lifeline you can grab ahold of...Because God has always been a rescuer for all of time and He won't stop now. He won't stop with you. You're going to be okay.

Kelli Bachara, The Unraveling

SESSION

The session is the governing council for the local church in Presbyterian polity. The word "session" comes from sessio, Latin for "to sit" as in sitting to deliberate or talk about something.

Class of 2026

Ron Berdine
Ann Pashek

Class of 2027

Mike Dickerson
Joe Ekdahl
Don Stanley

Class of 2028

Craig Deichmann
Steve Holmes

Rev. Dave Endriss, Pastor

515-360-0764
revendriss@gmail.com

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday

9:00 am ~ 1:00 pm

Closed Friday

Office email: churchsecretary3261@gmail.com

Church Office Phone: 515-462-3261

Dalene Davies-Smoot, Admin. Assistant

Cell Phone: 319-530-8373 (texts preferred)

Email: dds5160@gmail.com

Steve Walker, Custodian

Preschool Notes:

Preschool this school year will be Monday-Thursday, no preschool on Friday...

Preschool Information Night: August 20,
5:30- 7 pm in Fellowship Hall.

Preschool Meet the Teacher Night: August 27
5-7 pm in the Preschool Wing

First day of Preschool: September 8

PRESCHOOL



BIRTHDAYS

Dalene Davies-Smoot	Aug 6
Amber Ladd	Aug 6
JoAnn Collins	Aug 14
Ellie Pashek	Aug 20
Joe Orton	Aug 20
Carol Jacobs	Aug 30
Maxwell Landers	Sept 1
Macy Landers	Sept 2
Jake Al-Mazroa	Sept 6
Maven Smith	Sept 11
Pat Kuhns	Sept 12
Brian Dickerson	Sept 13
Layla Neal	Sept 13
Taylor Benshoof	Sept 15
Ted Gorman	Sept 16
Jaelyn Orton	Sept 17
Steve Walker	Sept 21
Ruth Wagley	Sept 27
Ron Berdine	Sept 30

ANNIVERSARIES

Kevin & Rae de Regnier	Aug 1
Mike & Chery White	Aug 3
Paul & Cathy Bruett	Aug 6
Bryce & Gentry Landers	Aug 16
Dean & Kit Schantz	Aug 18
Mike & Pat Dickerson	Aug 29
Joe & Jen Orton	Sept 17

Please let the office know of any changes to this list. Thank you!

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

August 2

Rev. Dave Endriss
Communion

August 9

Rev. Dave Endriss

August 16

Rev. Ioan Ittu

August 23

Kevin de Regnier

August 30

Rev. Dave Endriss

MADONNA CIRCLE

See you in September!



EVENING GUILD



See you in the Fall!

August

"Let the sunshine of August
inspire you to shine your
brightest." – Unknown



Inspire Our Schools began in 2018 when a parent felt called by God to ensure every school in their district was covered in prayer. Through their obedience—and the dedication of countless volunteers who embraced this God-given vision—the event has expanded across multiple school districts and states. Our hope is that one day,

Inspire Our Schools will reach every state! Inspire Our Schools is an annual event in which members of the community are invited to lift-up Christian prayers of blessing & dedication over all of the schools in their district. The event is 100% volunteer organized, led and funded. We are not an LLC or 501(c)3 – we are simply Christians who believe in the power of prayer, and have been called to organize this event. We provide all the information and resources you need to hold a successful event in your community, but each community is responsible for “owning” their event, which includes finding and coordinating volunteers, distributing materials, and promoting the event. We believe that as Christians, we’re all on the “same team,” we’re better together, and our schools are in vital need of prayer. **The event is completely volunteer organized and volunteer led!**

For more information, check out <https://inspireourschools.org/>.



It doesn't matter if your school has 3 people in attendance or 30 people – God can work through the prayers of just a few as mightily as he can work through the prayers of many! We believe we're all on the same team, we're better together, and our schools – students, parents, teachers, faculty, staff and administration – can always be lifted up in prayer. **Make plans now to join us on August 30 at 6:30 p.m.**

“If two of you agree here on earth concerning anything you ask, my Father in heaven will do it for you. For where two or three gather together as my followers. I am there among them.” Matthew 18:19-20

AUGUST 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
10TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 2 Pastor Dave 9:00 AM WORSHIP COMMUNION 10 AM FELLOWSHIP	3	4	5 Artful Devotions 10 am Coffee	6 7:00 pm Property & Finance	7	8
11TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 9 Pastor Dave 9:00 AM WORSHIP 10:00 AM FELLOWSHIP	10	11	12 Artful Devotions NO Coffee	13	14	15
12TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 16 Rev. Ioan Ittu 9:00 AM WORSHIP 10:00 AM FELLOWSHIP	17	18	19 Artful Devotions NO Coffee	20 Preschool Info Night Fellowship Hall 5:30 – 7 pm	21	22
13TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 23 Kevin de Regnier 9:00 AM WORSHIP 10:00 AM FELLOWSHIP 6:30 PM	24 	25 6:30 pm Session	26 Artful Devotions 10 am Coffee	27 Preschool Meet the Teacher Night 5-7pm (Preschool wing)	28	29 Iowa Presbyterian Gathering at Ames
14TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 30 Pastor Dave 9:00 AM WORSHIP 10:00 AM FELLOWSHIP INSPIRE OUR SCHOOLS	31					

Baseball, Birthdays and Beaver Lake....

Well the season is over and I'm having baseball withdrawal. It has been a great year of baseball. Connor's 8U team won runner-up in the state championship tournament, he has matured as a leftie hitter, a rightie pitcher, and sometimes second baseman or outfielder. Still learning the game, these littles are a joy to watch. At any given time you may see one of them tossing their glove in the air and hearing the coach yell, "Carver! Pay attention to the game!" (Carver being the coach's son 😊)



James' 11U team had a rough start to the season but ended with a flourish. James in particular had a great season....he was often relief pitcher and did the team proud each and every time. In one of his completed games (they play six innings), of his 54 pitches thrown, 36 were strikes. Not bad for an 11 year old if I do say so myself. When not pitching he could be seen playing shortstop or outfield but pitching is his love and it shows. These boys have developed skills that will lead them into the Middle School years – comradery, sportsmanship, individual effort, and team building. Connor's 8U team will not play Fall Ball - they are just too young; but James' 11U will play beginning in August through September – Saturday games, no practices, just for fun. So occasionally I will be able to get my baseball fix by going to a game or two in Cedar Rapids. Hooray!

As most of you already know, I am having a birthday that ends in zero on August 6. I'd love to say it starts with a 6 but since my son turns 50 next May, that probably won't fly. All I know is that I grew up thinking if you lived long enough to be 70 years old you had one foot in the grave. I am about to be 70 years old and I'm proud to attest that I don't have one foot in the grave. Do I feel like I'm getting older? Absolutely. Every day. Growing older is a privilege denied to so many. Not everyone gets to face each new sunrise, or collect the years. I embrace the years behind and ahead of me. I think the two events that will remind me that the years are fleeting will be my oldest grandson getting married on September 19 and my son turning 50 next May. Not only do these occurrences make me feel old, they make me realize that I have truly reached the "over the hill" status.



My kids and their families took me to brunch for an early birthday celebration on July 26. After a great brunch (Flip'n Jacks in Altoona – highly recommend!) the grandkids presented me with a new carry on suitcase with two wrapped gifts inside. As if the suitcase wasn't enough, the first wrapped gift was a much-welcomed gas gift card from Casey's and the second was a certificate for a two-night stay at my favorite place, Beaver Lake near Eureka Springs, Arkansas. What a treasure of gifts! I'm studying the calendar to see when the time will be right for me to go! Bob and I used to vacation there every year for our anniversary and I love going back whenever I get the chance. The kids made sure I had the chance this year to celebrate the big 7-0.

So baseball, birthdays and Beaver Lake. I loved the first, am acclimating myself to the second, and am feeling overwhelmed by the kids' generosity in making it so I can go to the third. This getting old thing...it's not bad after all!

- Daleene

*"Even to your old age and gray hairs I am he, I am he who will sustain you.
I have made you and I will carry you." Isaiah 46:4*



Dear Community Members,

Here at CRISP, we are gearing up for the upcoming school year. Starting the year with a backpack and the right supplies ensures children are prepared and ready to learn.

With your support, the School Supplies 4 Kids (SS4K) Program will assist local families by providing these essential items.

Last year, we distributed 187 backpacks to children in Madison County, and we anticipate a similar need this year. On average, it costs \$50 to \$60 to fully equip one child.

How You Can Help:

Monetary Donations:

- By Check: Please make checks payable to CRISP with "SS4K" in the memo line. Mail to: 113 John Wayne Drive South, Winterset, IA 50273.
- Online: Donations are accepted via PayPal and Venmo at www.wintersetcrisp.org. Please indicate that your donation is for the SS4K program.
- Volunteer Opportunities: Students can earn Silver Cord hours by packing backpacks and managing inventory. To volunteer, please contact us at 515-462-9400 or crisp@familyresourcelink.org

In-Kind Donations: We are currently accepting any school supplies listed on the Winterset, Earlham or I35 school supply lists. The following items are high need:

- Crayola colored pencils (12 or 24 count)
- Expo dry erase markers
- Wired earbuds or headphones
- College Ruled Notebooks
- 1.5 inch and 3 inch binders

Thank you for your continued support in helping Madison County students succeed. Please contact our office if you have any questions.

Best regards,

Kathleen Rush
Program Director

CRISP
Community Resources in Service to People
Phone: 515.462.9400
E-Mail: crisp@familyresourcelink.org



Bridges last when generations work together.



BRIDGING GENERATIONS

2026
MADISON COUNTY
COVERED BRIDGE
FESTIVAL

WINTERSET, IOWA

Saturday
OCTOBER 10
9 AM - 7 PM

Sunday
OCTOBER 11
9 AM - 3 PM
Parade at 3 PM



MADISON COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
ExploreMadisonCounty.com

