



THE STEEPLE

JANUARY 2025

FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

WINTERSSET, 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.

THE NEW KNEW

Once every 365 days it rolls around. Although January 1st is in one sense a day no different than others, we place a special significance upon it. With a new year comes the opportunity to begin anew. In a casual game of golf it is euphemistically referred to as a do over or a mulligan. We have another name for it in Christianity: *grace*. God's forgiveness allows us to try again, to begin anew.

This last week I was reminded of a pattern of thinking which often entraps us. We sometimes make certain assumptions about what we believe to be true which then forms our perceptions and our opinions which can lead to judgments. If our original assumptions are false or incomplete, they will necessarily affect our perceptions, opinions and judgements.

A new year invites us to rethink about how we understand and perceive the world around us. What is God doing? What is my role in God's Kingdom? Do I need to open my mind up to new ways of seeing and perceiving what God is doing?

I invite you; I challenge you this coming year to expand your knowing. The British pastor John Stott put it this way: *"Knowledge is indispensable to Christian life and service. If we do not use the mind that God has given us, we condemn ourselves to spiritual superficiality and cut ourselves off from many of the riches of God's grace. . . knowledge is given to us to be used, to lead us to higher worship, greater faith, deeper holiness, better service."*

Be like the new gnu who knew that he needed to know.

Will you be able to, on December 31, 2025, say that you have grown in the knowledge and love of God? My prayer for you is the one that the apostle Paul had for the Colossians:

"That you may be filled with the knowledge of God's will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, so that you may lead lives worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, as you bear fruit in every good work and as you grow in the knowledge of God." (1:9-10)

- Pastor Dave

SESSION ~ Rev. David Endriss

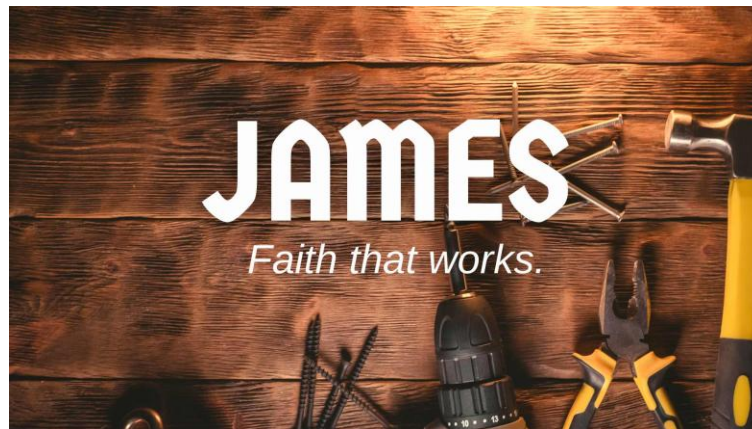
Outgoing Class of 2024	Class of 2025	Class of 2026	Elders Elect Class of 2027
Kevin de Regnier Joe Ekdahl	Pam Deichmann Lori Ryner	Ron Berdine Ann Pashek	Mike Dickerson Joe Ekdahl Don Stanley

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Dalene phone: 319-530-8373 (texts preferred)
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Facebook: www.facebook.com/1upcwinterset



EPIPHANY, JANUARY 6: The name Epiphany comes from the Greek epiphaneia, meaning “appearance” or “manifestation,” and refers to the manifestation of Jesus Christ to the world.

The 12 days of Christmas is the period in Christian theology that marks the span between the birth of Christ and the coming of the Magi, the three wise men. It begins on December 25 (Christmas) and runs through January 6.



Starting on January 8 we will begin a new Bible study on Wednesday nights. It will be a study of the New Testament book of James entitled *Faith that Works*. Come join us at 5:00pm. Bring your own dinner and enjoy a time of fellowship, food and fun!

BIRTHDAYS



Zane Ladd	Dec 3
(Happy Belated Birthday Zane!)	
Kay Stanley	Jan 2
Sharon Berdine	Jan 10
Connie Banks	Jan 13
David Endriss	Jan 16
Larry Silverthorn	Jan 18
Laura Silverthorn	Jan 30

ANNIVERSARIES

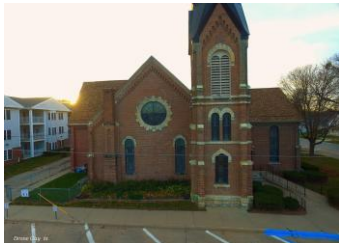
Steve & Marla Reed Jan 12

MADONNA CIRCLE



No Meeting in Jan.

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING January 19, 2025



Following worship all church members and families are invited to attend the annual congregational meeting. Please plan to attend.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

December 29 – 10:00 AM

Ecumenical Service
First United Methodist Church
First Sunday of Christmas

January 5 – 10:15 AM

Kevin de Regnier
Worship Leader
Communion
Second Sunday of Christmas

January 12 – 10:15 AM

Rev. Dave Endriss
Worship Leader
Baptism of the Lord

January 19 – 10:15 AM

Rev. Dave Endriss
Worship Leader
**Second Sunday after
Epiphany**
Annual Meeting
Installation of Officers

January 26 – 10:15 AM

Rev. Ioan Ittu
Worship Leader
Third Sunday after Epiphany

EVENING GUILD



No meeting in January

MONDAY, JANUARY 20TH



On January 15, 1929, Martin Luther King, Jr. is born in Atlanta, Georgia, the son of a Baptist minister. King received a doctorate degree in theology and in 1955 helped organize the first major protest of the African-American civil rights movement: the successful Montgomery Bus Boycott. Influenced by Mohandas Gandhi, he advocated civil disobedience and nonviolent resistance to segregation in the South. The peaceful protests he led throughout the American South were often met with violence, but King and his followers persisted, and the movement gained momentum. King became the youngest person to win the Nobel Peace Prize (in 2014 Malala Yousafzai became the youngest to receive the prize at age 17). In the late 1960s, King openly criticized U.S. involvement in Vietnam and turned his efforts to winning economic rights for poor Americans. He was assassinated in Memphis, Tennessee, on April 4, 1968.



"Let's make one resolution this year: to anchor ourselves to God's grace."

- Chuck Swindoll

We pray for...

Nolan Collins
Pat Kuhns
Tish McKee
Don Stanley
Ruth Wagley
Ilene Holmes



Those known only to God

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, With thanksgiving, present your requests to God."
Philippians 4:6



What's a spider's New Year's resolution?

To spend less time on the web.

JANUARY 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Office closed 	2 7:00 pm Property & Finance	3	4
5 2ND Sunday of Christmas 9:00 am Sunday School 10:15 am Worship Communion Kevin de Regnier 11:15 am Fellowship	6	7	8 Artful Devotions 10 am Coffee with Pastor Dave 5:00 pm Bible Study	9	10	11
12 Baptism of the Lord 9:00 am Sunday School 10:15 am Worship Rev. Dave Endriss 11:15 am Fellowship	13	14	15 Artful Devotions 10 am Coffee with Pastor Dave 5:00 pm Bible Study	16	17	18
19 2nd Sunday after Epiphany 9:00 am Sunday School 10:15 am Worship Rev. Dave Endriss ANNUAL MEETING Fellowship following meeting	20 	21	22 Artful Devotions 10 am Coffee with Pastor Dave 5:00 pm Bible Study	23	24	25
26 3rd Sunday after Epiphany 9:00 am Sunday School 10:15 am Worship Rev. Ioan Ittu 11:15 am Fellowship	27	28 6:30 pm Session Meeting	29 Artful Devotions 10 am Coffee with Pastor Dave 5:00 pm Bible Study	30	31	