

Faith First Community Church

1630 W. 38th Street, Davenport, Iowa 52806

563-391-5726

Email: office@faithfirst2024.org

Established January 1, 2024

April 2025

Vol. 2-4 Issued Monthly

Rev. Heidi Hulme

Office Hours: 9 am to 12 pm M-TH

Focus on Faith



Wednesday and Sunday Morning

April 2

"Jesus and Delight"
6:00 p.m.

April 6

"Connection"
Psalm 149
10:30 a.m.

April 9

"Jesus and Connection"
"Jesus and Self Giving"
6:00 p.m.

April 13

Palm/Passion Sunday
"Self Giving"
"Psalm 118"
10:30 a.m.

April 20

Easter
10:30 a.m.



April 13
Palm/Passion Sunday

Worship 10:30 a.m.

**Neighborhood
Easter Egg Hunt**

Lunch 12:30 p.m.
Hunt 1:00 p.m.

April 18
Good Friday
Soup 6:00 p.m.
Worship 7:00 p.m.



April 20
EASTER SUNDAY

Easter Breakfast

9:00-10:00 a.m.

Youth Program 10:15 a.m.

Worship with Communion
10:30 a.m.





CHRISTIAN SYMBOL

PALM BRANCH— When Jesus entered Jerusalem days before his death, crowds welcomed him by waving palm branches, common symbols of victory and rejoicing. Churches still use them to remember that occasion, knowing that Jesus' crucifixion was the ultimate triumph over sin and death. As early as Leviticus 23:40, God commanded Israel to use palms in a festival of rejoicing. In Revelation 7:9-10, Christian martyrs carry palm branches as they praise the Lamb before God's throne.



FROM THE PASTOR

"About three in the afternoon Jesus cried out in a loud voice, *"Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?"* (which means "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?")." ~ *Matthew 27:46*

Later this month, we follow Jesus' loved ones and band of followers to the base of the cross where Jesus cries out to God, then breathes his last breath.

Have you ever had the wind knocked out of you? I was in third grade when I was ice skating at our local outdoor ice rink. I did a "toe pick" (where the front teeth of my ice skates dragged across the ice when I wasn't prepared for it) and down on my stomach I went. When I went to get up, I couldn't. I couldn't get a breath. Nothing in. Nothing out. I freaked out. The young girl who was keeping the warming house warm, saw me, and skated over. She told me to close my eyes, imagine my lungs bringing the cold air, and blow out my mouth. After the second or third try, the muscles around my lungs relaxed, and the air rushed out of my mouth. I was embarrassed, and thankful, all at the same time!

I imagine that was how Jesus felt as he yelled to God—"why have you forsaken me? Why won't you take me down from this cross and save me?" Then the air rushed out of his lungs, and he died. Embarrassed, maybe more for everyone else than for himself, and thankful that the pain of suffering of all the sins of the world—past, present, AND future! - was almost past..... Just a few more moments.....

If we were to over think life right now, in this current time and space of history, it just might feel like a gut punch, and getting the wind knocked out of us. All of the pain and suffering, all of the death and decay, all of the loneliness and despair. It is simply overwhelming to feel and experience the immense unsure-ness of what each moment of each day will bring.

But at the end, after Jesus' lifeless body is taken down from the cross by his friends, and buried deep within the earth; after the setting and rising and setting of the sun,

the rising and setting of the sun, and on the third morning, the rising of the sun, we find a stone that has been rolled away, and grave clothes lying with no body because the unimaginable has happened! Our Savior beat death! While those who witnessed this first hand, may have had the feeling like the wind had been knocked out of them, 2000+ years later, we know the beauty and excitement of what that empty tomb means!

It means that, while we will all experience death, we will be given new life after death. It means that this new life will be better than anything we could ever imagine. It means that God—who created everything and everyone, to be in relationship with one another and with God—wins! LOVE WINS! It means that hope will always prevail.

This season of Lent has been a journey of looking at life through the lens of beauty, wonder, meaning, curiosity, delight, connection and self-giving. We are being invited to see that we can find new life in the ordinary things around us. By opening our eyes, ears, mind, and heart to seeing the awe that we are surrounded by, we are healthier, more filled with joy, but best of all, we are not alone.

God has so much planned for each one of us. Things may not go the way we thought they would—nothing does. But the promises of our Creator remind us that God is always working in and through us, for the greater world. our only job is to trust. Trust that God is working for good, and trust that the good is going to be more amazing than we could ever imagine!

So, when you get the wind knocked out of you—regardless of why—close your eyes, imagine the air in your lungs flowing freely in and out. Allow your body to relax. Breathe. Deep, cleansing breaths. In, and out. In, and out. Feel the cool air being drawn into your nose, and the warm air leaving your nose.

God is with you. God is as close to you as your very next breath.

Always Peace,
Pastor Heidi



BIBLE QUIZ

From the cross, Jesus prayed words from the book of Psalms. What were they?

- "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"
- "I thirst!"
- "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do."
- "It is finished!"



Answer: (See Matthew 27:46; Mark 15:34; and Psalm 22:1.)

Hope at the Brick House

We are scheduled to serve at
3:30 p.m. April 10th.

Share-A-Meal

We are scheduled to serve
April 29th.



**Women's Group
Will not meet
In April**

Newsletter articles due the 3rd Sunday of the month.

May Newsletter article deadline is April 20.

May Newsletter will be mailed by April 28.

Treasurer's Report February 2025			
PLEDGE ACCOUNT	MO.PLEDGE	FEB	GIVEN YTD
General Fund	\$ 6,950.00	\$ 10,277.00	\$ 15,442.00
Non-Pledge Gen Fund	\$ -	\$ 310.00	\$ 612.00
OCWM	\$ 151.00	\$ 150.00	\$ 318.00
DOCM	\$ 45.00	\$ -	\$ 12.00
Maintenance Reserve	\$ 360.00	\$ 224.00	\$ 501.00
Total Giving	\$ 7,506.00	\$ 10,961.00	\$ 16,885.00
GENERAL FUND			
MO BUDGET			TOTAL YTD
Pledged & NP Giving	\$ 6,950.00	\$ 10,587.00	\$ 16,054.00
Misc Gen Fund Giving	\$ -	\$ 950.42	\$ 1,375.76
Transfers In	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,092.13
Total Gen Fund Inc	\$ 6,950.00	\$ 11,537.42	\$ 19,521.89
Pastor Expense	\$ 7,549.00	\$ 6,870.52	\$ 12,146.14
Employee Expense	\$ 1,373.00	\$ 1,233.63	\$ 2,405.16
Church Ministry Exp	\$ 383.00	\$ 305.15	\$ 455.15
Office Expense	\$ 520.00	\$ 340.13	\$ 1,251.31
Property Expense	\$ 2,169.00	\$ 2,837.30	\$ 4,577.71
Total Gen Fun Exp	\$ 11,994.00	\$ 11,586.73	\$ 20,835.47
Net General Fund	\$ (5,044.00)	\$ (49.31)	\$ (1,313.58)
Submitted by Martha Watters			



Board Notes

**Board Meeting
March 16, 2025**

- Hope at the Brick House served 25 on March 13.
- Malibu Jacks has donated 100 filled eggs for the Neighborhood Easter Egg Hunt on April 13.
- Gold Key has cleaned up the dead trees on our property. They plan to do more.
- Jacob Houtekier has decided to paint Fellowship Hall and remodel the bathrooms at the church for his Eagle Scout Project. He decided to not do the parsonage deck.
- There will be no meeting in April.
- Next meeting date is May 4th at noon.



- | | |
|----|-----------------------------------|
| 3 | Cody Perreault
Harrison Manthe |
| 8 | Peyton Ozmon |
| 18 | Joy Marvin |
| 19 | Kirsten Gebhardt |
| 19 | Jill Pepper |
| 28 | Chad Daily |



FUN AND LAUGHTER

“Here cometh April again,” said poet Charles Lamb (1775-1834). “And as far as I can see, the world hath more fools than ever.”

That second observation may or may not be true, but April does indeed begin on a lighter note. April Fools’ Day, which is filled with practical jokes, can also be a reminder to thank God for laughter, joy, funny stories, children’s antics and other things that make us smile.

Then one week after Easter, on what’s known as Holy Humor Sunday, some churches celebrate that God played the supreme joke on death. Jesus’ resurrection is cause for joy, smiles and, yes, laughter. Even the Almighty joins in: “He who sits in the heavens laughs” (Psalm 2:4).

“MY EASTER DOVE”

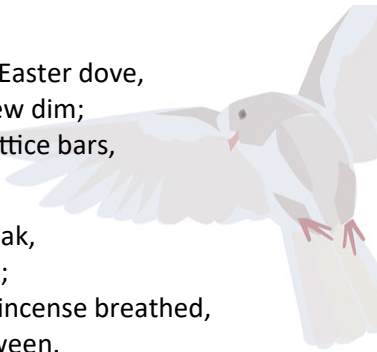
There came a dove, an Easter dove,
when morning stars grew dim;
It fluttered round my lattice bars,
to chant a matin hymn.

It brought a lily in its beak,
aglow with dewy sheen;
I caught the strain, the incense breathed,
and uttered praise between.

It brought a shrine of holy thoughts
to calm my soul that day;
I caught the meaning of the note,
why did it fly away?

Come peaceful dove, sweet Easter dove!
Above earth’s storm and strife,
sing of the joy of Easter-tide,
of light and hope and life.

—Henrietta Cordelia Ray (1849-1916)



Our Faith First Family

Pam Edmond
Deb Lobdell
Myrene Burton
Glenn Perreault
Pastor Heidi
Don Walton
Sid and Ardella Boots
Karen Risler
Rev. Barb Koenig

Our Homebound

Paul Dammeier
Nancy Giles
Dennis Jacobsen
Jan Johnson
Hazel Jones
Virginia Lemons
Harriet Meyers
Colleen Skinner
Harry Stroupe

Our Family and Friends

Cal Klopp
Lorie House
Nancy
Fran Frutiger
Fran Leamer
Allison Byers
Judy Cummings
Terry Showens
Cindy Norman
Taunia Waters
Deb
Kathy
Nilofar Basti
Heather
Bruce

Our World

The Balkans—Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia, Slovenia, Bulgaria, Hungary, Romania, Belarus, Moldova, Russia, Ukraine

IN OUR
Thoughts and Prayers



You may bring your own snacks

Drinks and Baked Goods will be available for purchase.
Mulligans, Double Down, Raffles, gift baskets, and fun!

Faith First Community Church TRIVIA NIGHT

*Proceeds will go to Youth and Family Summer Camp
and the Little Food Pantry*

Faith First Community Church
1630 W. 38th Street
Davenport, IA 52806
Saturday, April 26
Doors open at 6:00 p.m.
Trivia begins at 6:30 p.m.

**\$10 per person
maximum
at a table is 8**

*Please bring a
non-perishable
item for the
Little Food Pantry*

Call or text to reserve your table
Glenn Perreault 563-320-2592 or email glenn@faithfirst2024.org
or call the office 563-391-5726
or email office@faithfirst2024.org

April 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Merit Badge 6 to 8 p.m.	2 6 p.m. Soup 7 p.m. Program	3	4 	5
6 Faith Formation 9:00 a.m. Worship Service 10:30 a.m.	7 Troop 828 Meeting 6:30-8 p.m.	8 Merit Badge 6 to 8 p.m.	9 6 p.m. Soup 7 p.m. Program	10 Hope at the Brick House 3:30 p.m.	11	12
13 Faith Formation 9:00 a.m. Worship Service 10:30 a.m. Neighborhood Easter Egg Hunt 1:00 p.m.	14 Troop 828 Meeting 6:30-8 p.m.	15 Merit Badge 6 to 8 p.m.	16 	17	18  6 p.m. Soup 7 p.m. Worship	19
20 Breakfast Potluck 9-10am Youth Program 10:15 a.m. Easter Service 10:30 a.m. <i>Newsletter Articles Due</i>	21 Troop 828 Meeting 6:30-8 p.m.	22 Merit Badge 6 to 8 p.m.	23	24 	25	26 Trivia Night Doors Open 6:00 pm
27 Faith Formation 9:00 a.m. Worship Service 10:30 a.m.	28 Troop 828 Meeting 6:30-8 p.m. <i>Mail Newsletter</i>	29 Share-A-Meal 5:15 p.m. Merit Badge 6 to 8 p.m.	30 			