



The Salt Shaker

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH NEAR ELY

11100 Spanish Road, Ely, Iowa 52227

www.elypres.org and on Facebook

319-848-4624 office@elypres.org

FROM THE PASTOR

The Wednesday morning Bible study group is in the heart of the Gospel of John. This time, though, we are examining it through a different lens by first reading only the recorded words of Jesus and the second time, by reading the passage to place those very words in the larger narrated story.

Surprisingly, it has made quite a difference.

Simply listening to Jesus.

Then studying where and when and why he said what he said.

And finally, bouncing and balancing how that affects us as disciples and seekers of Jesus' Way.

The words in red are grace given. Profound. Challenging and reassuring at the same time.

They are the gems in the gold settings of the Bible stories.

May the Holy Spirit illuminate and inspire us as we find new understanding of God through Jesus's words as we continue exploring together and on our own.

In Christ,
Pastor Julie



Members of the Czech Heritage Singers perform during worship, Oct. 8.

WORSHIP & PROGRAM

NOVEMBER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

November 5: (DST Ends) Fake it 'til you make it, Matthew 23:1-12

Liturgist: Misti Huedepohl

Ushers: Larry & Deb Krohn

Greeters: Brad & Cheri Buresh

November 12: Stewardship Sunday: Dead Batteries, Matthew 25:1-13

Liturgist: Barb Horak

Ushers: Matt Zacek Family

Greeters: Harder Family

November 19: Taking Chances, Matthew 25:14-30

Liturgist: Jodie Chadima

Ushers: Theresa & Jim Grieder

Greeters: Glenn Modracek

November 26: God's Harvest, Matthew 25:31-46

Liturgist: Rachel Manders

Ushers: Bressler Family

Greeters: Darla & Alivia Meyer

7:00 p.m. Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service, hosted here at First Presbyterian with refreshments after

December 3: First Sunday of Advent, Holy Communion, Soup and Bread Potluck, Advent Festival for Students



CZECH HERITAGE SINGERS

The members of the Czech Heritage Singers would like to thank the First Presbyterian Church near Ely for inviting us to perform our special music. We hope you enjoyed the music as much as we enjoyed singing the songs.

Also, thank you for inviting us for refreshments after the church service. It was all enjoyable, especially the kolaches.

Our Czech heritage is part of our lives. Hopefully we will be able to continue singing our songs.

Dobrý den! Have a good day!
Czech Heritage Singers

COMBINED CHOIRS FOR THANKSGIVING AND ADVENT

We are happy to announce that singers from St. John Lutheran church will be joining the Chancel Choir for Thanksgiving as well as an Advent cantata.

The Thanksgiving anthem will be performed at the 7:00 p.m. Ecumenical service on November 19 at First Pres.

The Christmas Cantata titled, "Holding On to Christmas" will be performed at both First Pres and St. John, dates to be determined.

Regular choir practice is held Wednesdays at 7:15 p.m., followed by the combined rehearsal at 8:00 p.m. Come out and join us! Bells meet at 6:00 p.m., so come on out for that, too.

MARION COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING SERVICE

The city of Marion is holding a Community Thanksgiving Service on Sunday, November 12, at 4:00 p.m. at the Community of Christ Church in Marion. Singers from First Pres will be performing as well as groups from 11 other religious and community groups. If you would like to participate, please let Stephanie Buonadonna know. We will be rehearsing two anthems for this even Wednesdays at 8:00 p.m.

CHURCH BUSINESS

SESSION NOTES, SEPTEMBER 21, 2023

1. Worship attendance in July-September 2023 (in person/live streaming)
 - a. July 2: 59/3; July 9: 42/3; July 16: 55/3; July 23: 74/5; July 30: 45/3
 - b. August 6: 49/2; August 13: 47/3; August 20: 61/5; August 27: 61/6
 - c. September 3: 52/3; September 10: 54/4; September 17: 56/5; September 24: 43/4
 - d. Communion on August 6 served 54.
2. Membership as of September 30, 2023=177
3. Treasurer's Report General Fund balance: - \$7,084.80
4. Motion approved to transfer 2022 Soup and Kolach Event \$6,500.00 and 2022 Endowment fund earnings of \$2,450 into General Fund.
5. October 29 is Trunk and Treat and Hayrack Ride.
6. The Advent Festival is December 5 with a Soup and Bread Potluck.
7. Building groundbreaking is scheduled for April 7, 2024, 11:00 a.m. with potluck following. \$92,000 needs to be raised to construction goal of \$900,000. (10.2% remaining to complete construction goal.)
8. Motion approved to contribute 50% to Camp Wyoming costs for First Presbyterian church students attending summer camp.
9. An article written and submitted by Misti Huedepohl about Camino Mission to the Presbytery News Service and published.
10. The CROP Walk is planned for October 1.
11. Motion approved to hold a Congregational meeting on October 29, 2023 for the purpose of electing new officers.
12. Church outdoor workday is scheduled for Saturday, September 30.

FAITH DEVELOPMENT

ADULT EDUCATION

Sundays: 11:00 a.m. Discussion Group on Sundays in the church living room centering on the TV series "The Chosen."



Wednesdays in November at 9:30 a.m. in the church basement a study of the "Words in Red" looking at Jesus' recorded words in the Gospel of John. It opens the discussion with the beauty of Jesus' expressions and teachings. John 11 and following. You do not need a Bible that shows Jesus' words in red, we start with a printout of the verses for the day, afterward we open our own Bible versions for a deeper contextual conversation.



Misti and Daniel are ready to distribute orders!



Bakers chat while preparing kolaches.

COMMUNITY AND OUTREACH



CHICKEN NOODLE SOUP AND KOLACH SUPPER

Dear Church Family, there are many, many thank yous for all the people who helped with our 4th successful Pre-Order-Drive-Through “Supper.” The only way this can happen is with full support of everyone, and it was a rewarding time for all. From the early advertising, to the orders pouring in, to the callers checking orders, to the soup makers and freezers filled, to the dough makers and kolach bakers, to contributors to the Country Store, to all those who could come to bake and distribute our soup and kolaches – it was an amazing cooperative effort!

A few need to be named and specially thanked: Becky Grenis is our Souper Lady whose energy for making soup is boundless and to all who helped all those days in September. All those all those of you who let us store soup in your freezers. To the gals making rohlicky and zelnicky that sold out at the Country Store. To Rachel Manders for doing such a fine job advertising the Country Store. To Jim and Theresa Greider for baking 40 dozen cherry kolaches on the Thursday before. And to the Buresh Bunch who baked at Diane’s house on Friday. To the many, many who provided dough and came to help that Friday and Saturday – it brought tears to my eyes to see how many showed up and had such fun working together. To those who set up, provided coolers, and then worked during pick-up. Chris Faltis and Pat Kilberger called each order to confirm. Stephanie Buonadonna and Pastor Julie took online orders and phone calls.

Special, special thanks go to those who said they could not help this year, but gave a donation. Also, special thanks to Viola Zahradnik who rolled dough for 3 days straight because she was inspired to do so. To Dorothy Ditch who cut 40-some batches of dough for rolling, and to Carl Zahradnik who baked all the kolaches at church.

There are many individual ones who were so faithful in helping, almost every single time there was work to do – I could list 50 people.

So – all of you just turn around in church and say thank you to your fellow volunteers for this effort. It was worth it. AND WE HAD FUN. Bless you all for all you accomplished this year!!

Joanne Chadima



Kolaches sit prepared and ready for packing.



Volunteers fill kolaches.



Hello from Youth Group!

Youth and Adult Sunday School continued in October, studying the first season of "The Chosen." Feel free to join in to a Sunday School Class anytime - All are welcome!

Youth and adults also participated in the **CROP Walk** and picnic on 10/1. Thanks to all who contributed to the Youth-sponsored envelopes; we are blessed to walk freely for fun, and mindfully remember others who must walk for clean water and daily survival.

Youth helped in many ways with the **Soup and Kolache** fundraiser: baking, running, providing things for the country store, etc.

As of the writing of this report, the **Trunk-or-Treat** is coming soon! We look forward to the Hayride, decorated trunks and some special treats! More about that next month!

In October, youth organized the **Operation Christmas Child** donated items in the basement. In Early November, youth will host an Operation Christmas Child packing event. ALL CONGREGATION MEMBERS are invited to participate in gathering items for OCC, and the packing event on 11/5/23. **Some items needed include: Soccer balls and pumps, toys, crafts, wash cloths, toothbrushes and hair brushes, small calculators, pencil sharpeners, small coloring books, block erasers, socks and accessories for ages 2-16.** If you want to pack your own box to include in the delivery from our church, please have them packed and at church by 11/5.

On Friday 11/10, Youth will spend the evening baking pies and rohlicky in preparation for the Senior Meal on Saturday! On Saturday, 11/11, Youth will host the senior members of our church for a Thanksgiving Harvest meal. Please see the form to complete your RSVP.

The weekends before and after Thanksgiving, Angie will be out of town, and unavailable. The first weekend in December begins Advent, and youth look forward to the Soup and Bread Potluck!

We will continue accepting redeemable cans and bottles from our church friends willing to donate; these funds help with activity costs. **In October, we collected \$31.20 in cans and bottles** - Thanks to everyone who helped in that effort! Your donated cans and bottles can be set inside the youth room door anytime, or call Angie for a pick up / drop off at my home.

Please let me know if there are any questions about youth programming, and thank you for your continued support!

Blessings~
Angie Zahradnik Ehle

Youth Schedule: November 2023



Sunday, November 5th:

9:30 a.m. Worship
10:30 a.m. Sunday School
6:00 p.m. Youth Group - OCC Box Packing Day

Friday, November 10th:

5:00 p.m. Prepare Pies and Rohlicky for Senior Meal

Saturday, November 11th:

8:00 a.m. Prepare food for the Senior meal
4:00 p.m. Senior Meal

Sunday, November 12th:

9:30 a.m. Worship
10:30 a.m. Sunday School
NO Evening Youth Group

Sunday, November 19th:

9:30 a.m. Worship
10:30 a.m. Sunday School
No Evening Youth Group

Sunday, November 26th:

9:30 a.m. Worship
10:30 a.m. Sunday School
No Evening Youth Group

Please mark your calendars for:

12/3/23 Advent Festival and Soup Potluck

First Presbyterian Church near Ely Calendar November 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 All Saints' Day 9:30 Bible Study 11:30 Chair Yoga 6:00 Handbell Practice 7:15 Choir Practice	2 9:00-12:00 Office Hours	3 9:00-12:00 Office Hours	4
5 DST Ends, Food Bank 9:30 Worship with LS 10:30 Coffee Hour 11:00 Adult SS 6:00 Youth Group – Pack OCC boxes	6 10:00 Chair Yoga	7 Election Day 9:00-12:00 Office Hours	8 Harvest Meal Reservations Due 9:30 Bible Study 11:30 Chair Yoga 6:00 Handbell Practice 7:15 Choir Practice	9 9:00-12:00 Office Hours	10 9:00-12:00 Office Hours 5:00 YG Baking	11 Veterans' Day 8:00 Harvest Meal Prep 4:00 Senior Harvest Meal
12 9:30 Worship with LS 10:30 Coffee Hour 11:00 Adult SS 4:00 Marion Community Service	13 10:00 Chair Yoga	14 9:00-12:00 Office Hours	15 9:30 Bible Study 11:30 Chair Yoga 6:00 Handbell Practice 7:15 Choir Practice	16 9:00-12:00 Office Hours 6:30 Session Meeting	17 9:00-12:00 Office Hours	18
19 9:30 Worship with LS 10:30 Coffee Hour 11:00 Adult SS 7:00 Thanksgiving Service	20 NO Chair Yoga	21 9:00-12:00 Office Hours	22 11:30 Chair Yoga TBD	23 Thanksgiving	24	25
26 9:30 Worship with LS 10:30 Coffee Hour 11:00 Adult SS	27 NO Chair Yoga	28 9:00-12:00 Office Hours 6:00 Ladies' Night Out	29 9:30 Bible Study 11:30 Chair Yoga 6:00 Handbell Practice 7:15 Choir Practice	30 9:00-12:00 Office Hours		

2024 General Budget at First Presbyterian Church near Ely: YOU DID IT TO ME

As the Session begins planning for 2024, we invite you to continue your participation in the life and ministry of the church. Thank you for your continued support through worship, study, mission, and fellowship. Also, please prayerfully consider your financial part. We will celebrate Stewardship Sunday on November 12.

Thank you!

Jesus said,
“Just as you did it to one
of the *least* of these brothers and sisters of mine,
you did it to me.”

Matthew 25:40, NRSV



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2024 Stewardship Pledge, First Presbyterian Church near Ely

11100 Spanish Road, Ely, Iowa 52227

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

- Yes, I/We would like to make a 2024 pledge: \$ _____
Please circle: Weekly -or- Monthly -or- Yearly
- I/We plan to contribute 2024 per capita (\$42.17 per member)
- I/We prefer not to pledge for 2024 and will give as able.



*Thank you for your devotion, time, and commitment.
Please return this card on or before November 12, 2023.*



11100 Spanish Road
Ely, Iowa 52227

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Permit #1



Kolaches cool after being taken out of the oven.