



The Salt Shaker

April 2024

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH NEAR ELY
11100 Spanish Road, Ely, Iowa 52227
www.elypres.org and on Facebook
319-848-4624 office@elypres.org

2024 EASTER LILIES



*Easter morn with lilies fair
Fills the church with perfumes rare,
As their clouds of incense rise,
Sweetest offerings to the skies.
Stately lilies pure and white
Flooding darkness with their light,
Bloom and sorrow drifts away,
On this holy hallow'd day.
Easter Lilies bending low
in the golden afterglow,
Bear a message from the sod
To the heavenly towers of God.*
-Louise Lewin Matthews

The Youth Group would like to thank you for honoring and remembering loved ones through Easter lilies. The lily is a beautiful trumpet-like symbol of purity, hope, and life.

- Bryan and Elaine Bailey In Memory of Lynn Zahradnik
- Bryan and Elaine Bailey In Memory of Justina Skripsky
- Dan, Jodie, Calvin, Sophia and Sarah Chadima In Memory of Betty Dorsey
- Dan, Jodie, Calvin, Sophia and Sarah Chadima In Honor of George Chadima
- George & Joanne Chadima In Memory of Lillian & Milton Chadima
- George & Joanne Chadima In Memory of Joe & Esther Cervený
- Joan M Cross In Memory of Gervase Driscoll
- Sue Feyerabend and Shelly Huffer In Memory of Our Parents, Joseph & Doris Floyd

- Jan & Sharon Furler & Family In Memory of Lumir & Lenore Biderman
- Larry & Theresa Harder In Memory of Karren Harder
- Larry & Theresa Harder In Memory of Wally & Janice Hootman
- Marjorie NejdI In Memory of Ed NejdI & the Kopeceks
- Sharon Novak In Memory of Donald Novak
- Sharon Novak In Memory of Sierra Mitchell
- The Schuetts In Memory of Gene Anderson
- Shirley & Kevin Bailey & Family, Jim & Judy Serbousek & Family, Bill & Penny Serbousek & Family In Memory of Wesley & Lillian Serbousek
- Bill & Penny Serbousek & family In Memory of Curly & Lillian Ware
- Dick and Zelda Sherman In Honor of Tammy Alaniz
- Joe Simon in Memory of Mabel and Justus Simon
- Marjorie Thirkettle & Joan Peck In Memory of Leonard & Mildred Peck
- Marjorie Thirkettle & Joan Peck In Memory of William & Ruth Thirkettle
- Vavra Family In Memory of Ed & Olga Vavra
- Vavra Family In Memory of Emma Biderman
- Carl Zahradnik In Memory of Barb Zahradnik
- Norm & Terry Zahradnik In Memory of All of Our Loved Ones
- Norm & Terry Zahradnik In Honor of Our Lord Jesus Christ
- Norm & Terry Zahradnik In Memory of My Brother, Galen Ludvick
- Her Family In Memory of Marilyn Zvacek

WORSHIP & PROGRAM

APRIL WORSHIP SCHEDULE



April 7: Holy Humor Sunday

Liturgist: Glenn Modracek
Ushers: Bonnie Fencil & Betty Buresh
Greeters: Jim & Judy Serbousek

April 14: Mark 5:1-20

Liturgist: Dawn Zacek
Ushers: Carl Zahradnik & Bob Zvacek
Greeters: Bob & Carol Andrie

April 21: Mark 5:21-43

Liturgist: Misti Huedepohl
Ushers: Larry & Deb Krohn
Greeters: Buonadonna Family

April 28: Confirmation Sunday

Liturgist: S. Buonadonna
Ushers: Madison & Sam Ziebol
Greeters: Becky & Ted Grenis



ONE GREAT! HOUR OF SHARING

During Lent, the entire congregation was encouraged to take a fish bank, fill it with coins or currency, decorate the bank, name the fish and then return it on Palm Sunday. Traditionally, this activity is reserved for children, but this year those young of age and young of heart set to work for OGHS (One Great Hour of Sharing).

A total of 19 fish banks swam their way into the donation basket. The total weight of the catch was 30 pounds which collectively equaled \$456.30. It sounds like an exaggerated “fish story,” but it’s really true!

The heaviest fish was named “Ralph” and weighed 5 lbs. 5.2 oz. and required duct tape and strong muscles to haul it in. Congratulations to Les Feyerabend for catching this whopper. Jim Serbousek’s fish took second place at 4 lbs. 9.7 oz.

Thank you to everyone who took part whether your fish was colorful or anonymous, light or heavy — your donation will help address

education, clean water, and food so greatly needed by those who thirst and are hungry and willing to learn around the world. Thank you for making the 2024 One GREAT! Hour of Sharing a fun and meaningful Lenten experience.



A few colorful fish donated on Palm Sunday.

Misti Huedepohl, Mission Elder

CHURCH BUSINESS

SPRING CLEANING

Spring cleanup day is scheduled for Saturday, April 6 with a rain date of April 13. We’re looking forward to a fine day, and hopefully the weather cooperates.

We'll plan a starting time of 9:00 a.m. The list of things to accomplish will



be posted in the church entryway and on the bulletin boards downstairs in the church. Larry Krohn will be there to assist in any way and organize a bit, too. Bring your own gloves, tools, rakes, etc. Feel free to come out anytime if you cannot make it out that day.



Beef stew is prepared and ready to be served at the Maundy Thursday dinner.

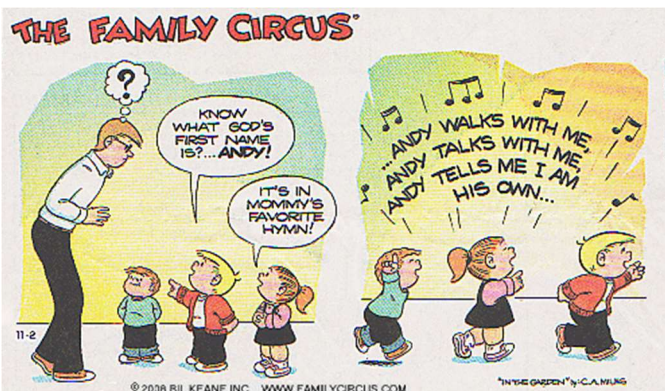


Congregation members dine together over beef stew ahead of the Maundy Thursday service.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarship forms will be available starting April 1 for active members of the congregation seeking to continue their education. We have three scholarship funds: Pokorny Scholarship Fund, Motycka Scholarship Fund, and Wilhemina Anna Skalsky Carson Scholarship Fund. Be sure to read each application carefully as each fund has separate guidelines. All applications are due June 1 whether for the fall semester 2024, the spring semester 2025 or the summer session 2025.

Questions and applications are available through Pat Kilberger at church, 319-846-2418 or pat.kilberger@gmail.com.



SESSION MEETING February 15, 2024

Clerk's Report: January attendance at worship (in person / online): January 7: 52 / 6; January 14: 0 (Blizzard) / 32; January 21: 49 / 10; January 28: 58 / 12; Average Sunday Attendance = 40 / 15. Membership as of January 31, 2024: 177. Communion: January 7: 52

Christian Education: Dementia training was the February multigenerational event. March 3 multigenerational event is Lenten pretzels; Scout Sunday will be February 25th.

Funds: Motion approved rolling over LIFE Center new building CD5 and CD6 into May 2024 and putting CD7 into the bank account for LIFE Center new building expenses this spring.

L.I.F.E Center: Discussion of layout and location, budget and fundraising.

Mission: Winter Mission Project for Families Helping Families has concluded. The delivery happened 2/14/24. We donated 308 items to grow their clothing closet. One Great Hour of Sharing Season – discussion about fish banks – how they've been done in the past and how to do it going forward. This Sunday (2/18) will distribute fish banks and return them on Palm Sunday (3/24).

Property: Estimate for hard surfacing parking area after new construction. Awning update –will cost about \$5,300. Awning will happen this year. February 4th the upper elevator door didn't work. Larry contacted AEL and they came out to fix it. Manse has yearly HVAC inspections and cleanings. Church window frames need painted.

Worship: Volunteers determined for communion service on February 18. Maundy Thursday all currently serving Elders will help with beef stew and serving communion. We will have communion on Easter.

COMMUNITY & OUTREACH

DEMENTIA FRIENDS IOWA



On February 4, 2024, we participated in a multigenerational Sunday school event, “Love One Another” in which participants learned skills for interacting and supporting persons living with dementia.

Diane Reist has been certified as a Dementia Friends Champion by the Dementia Friendly Iowa Chapter of Dementia Friendly USA and shared information on how to best understand and support those living with dementia and their caregivers. Participants earned a “Dementia Friends” certificate.

Our group was highlighted in the February Photo Highlights in the Dementia Friends Iowa February Champion Check-in.



MARJ NEJDL: MASTER FOLK ARTIST

at The National Czech and Slovak Museum

January 27 – April 21, 2024

Marj NejdI learned to decorate eggs in the traditional Czech style at an early age. Continuing the tradition was important because NejdI knew egg decorating was a skill that had been passed down for more than 2,000 years. NejdI was also a natural-born artist. She studied commercial art in Chicago before beginning her family. Beyond her work with egg decorating, she has kept busy over the years with various art forms including painting folk scenes on a variety of media including wood, ceramics, and stationery. She

also illustrated many books published by the Museum Guild of the National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library, and designs an annual Christmas ornament for the Museum Store.

The exhibit features examples of NejdI’s folk art including decorated eggs, a quirky birdhouse, aprons, book illustrations, paintings and Christmas ornaments.

FAITH DEVELOPMENT

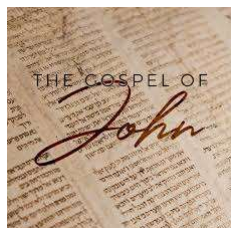
BEAR CREEK CAMP

Registration is still open for Bear Creek Camp. The early registration discount window has closed, but you can still get a family discount of \$25 for multiple children. Also, if you bring three friends who have never attended before, you can receive a 50% discount. Finally, the church offers partial scholarships for students.

Summer is right around the corner, so get camp on your calendar!

WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

Wednesday Bible Study continues at 9:30 a.m. with refreshments, coffee and discussion. Upcoming topical Bible studies will be in the Gospel of John, chapters 19+.



CONFIRMATION CLASS

Confirmation class continues in April with plans to meet with Session on Thursday, April 18 at 6:30 p.m. Confirmation Sunday is scheduled for April 28 with a reception following worship.



SUNDAY SCHOOL

Join us on April 21 for a Multigenerational Sunday School, "April Showers May Bring Bible Flowers" with a Scavenger Hunt of Springtime in the Scriptures.

On May 5, the Multigenerational Sunday School will celebrate the beginning of summer with "School's Out Ice Cream & Board Game Social"

Through May and June attendees of Children's Sunday School will work with Laurelei Harris on "God and Me" material for scouts. It is a four lesson unit.

PRETZEL MAKERS

Sunday school attendees and volunteers worked together to prepare pretzels for lent. This has been a tradition at First Pres for many years.





Hello from Youth Group!

Christ is Risen, Indeed! Happy Resurrection Day and Easter Season!

Youth would like to say a **BIG THANK YOU to all who ordered an Easter Lily** to decorate the sanctuary for Easter services. And thank you to the church elders and others who took a lily to a homebound member or someone needing the **GOOD NEWS** of Easter!

In March, youth played Burning Down the House and had some great snacks one meeting night. We also had a lunch outing and went roller skating at Super Skate.

BIG THANK YOU to Stephanie B and Fred H for making connections with businesses for redeeming cans and bottles! All together with collections in March, \$106.05 was donated to the youth group. WOW! We will continue to collect these, and donations can be brought to church, left in the Youth Room, or you can call Angie for pick up or delivery.

Thank you to Youth and Parents for your flexibility; our Mission trip planned for April will be rescheduled for June - a Celebration of Life for my cousin necessitated this change. Instead, we are inviting the Confirmation Mentors to meet us at Dan and Debbie's for Ice Cream with us at 6pm on Sunday, April 7. We will go to lunch and go Bowling at Cedar Creek Lanes (formerly Lancer Lanes) on Sunday April 14.

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: April 2024



Sunday April 7th: Holy Humor Sunday

- 9:30 a.m. Worship
- 10:45 a.m. Sunday School/Confirmation
- 6:00 p.m. YOUTH GROUP and Confirmation
- Mentors meeting at Dan & Debbie's in Ely

Sunday, April 14th:

- 9:30 a.m. Worship
- 10:45 a.m. Sunday School/Confirmation
- 12:00 p.m. Lunch and Bowling
- No Evening Youth Group

Sunday, April 21st:

- 9:30 a.m. Worship
- 10:45 a.m. Sunday School/Confirmation
- No Evening Youth Group

Sunday, April 28th:

- 9:30 a.m. Worship, Confirmation Sunday
- 10:45 a.m. Confirmation Celebration
- No Evening Youth Group

Sunday, May 5th:

- 9:30 a.m. Worship
- 10:45 a.m. Sunday School
- Youth Group TBA



Youth Group members help to prepare pretzels during Sunday School.



First Presbyterian Church near Ely Calendar, April 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 10:00 Chair Yoga	2 9:00-12:00 Office Hours	3 9:30 Bible Study 11:30 Chair Yoga 6:15 Handbell Choir 7:30 Chancel Choir	4 9:00-12:00 Office Hours	5 9:00-12:00 Office Hours	6
7 Holy Humor Sunday Food Bank Sunday 9:30 Worship with LS 10:30 Coffee Hour 11:00 Groundbreaking 11:30 Potluck 6:00 YG at Dan and Debbie's w/ Mentors	8 10:00 Chair Yoga	9 9:00-12:00 Office Hours	10 9:30 Bible Study 11:30 Chair Yoga 6:15 Handbell Choir 7:30 Chancel Choir	11 9:00-12:00 Office Hours	12 9:00-12:00 Office Hours	13
14 9:30 Worship with LS 10:30 Coffee Hour 10:45 Confirmation	15 10:00 Chair Yoga	16 9:00-12:00 Office Hours	17 9:30 Bible Study 11:30 Chair Yoga 6:15 Handbell Choir 7:30 Chancel Choir	18 9:00-12:00 Office Hours 6:30 Session Meeting	19 9:00-12:00 Office Hours	20 5:30 Card Club Potluck 6:30 Card Club
21 9:30 Worship with LS 10:30 Coffee Hour 10:45 Confirmation	22 10:00 Chair Yoga	23 9:00-12:00 Office Hours	24 9:30 Bible Study 11:30 Chair Yoga 6:15 Handbell Choir 7:30 Chancel Choir	25 9:00-12:00 Office Hours	26 9:00-12:00 Office Hours	27
28 Confirmation 9:30 Worship with LS 10:30 Reception	29 10:00 Chair Yoga	30 9:00-12:00 Office Hours 6:00 Ladies' Night Out				



11100 Spanish Road
Ely, Iowa 52227

NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. Postage Paid
Ely, Iowa 52227
Permit #1

You are invited on Sunday, April 7

- 1. After worship to a Congregational meeting in the sanctuary with finalized design plans and fundraising update for LIFE Center new building.*
- 2. Groundbreaking ceremony outside.*
- 3. Potluck on lower level.*