



# July 2024 Presbits

## Grimes First Presbyterian Church

---

<sup>21</sup> “You have heard that it was said to the people long ago, ‘You shall not murder, and anyone who murders will be subject to judgment.’ <sup>22</sup> But I tell you that anyone who is angry with a brother or sister will be subject to judgment.

*Mathew 5:21-22*

*Dear Community and Friends of First Presbyterian Church of Grimes,*

Rules matter. When I drive Isaac to school the speed limit changes on James street from 40 mph to 25 mph at the edge of town because the south sports complex is adjacent to South Prairie Elementary School. The speed zone changes to keep children safe. The sign alerts me to the possibility that kids chasing errant soccer balls might come running into the street.

Rules can't change my heart. The point of a speed limit sign is to encourage safe driving. But a sign can't make me a safe driver. I can drive recklessly at 25 mph just as easily as I can at 40 mph. I might follow the law to avoid paying a fine and to keep my license but that is different from following the law because I desire to be careful.

The Civil Rights legislation of the 1960's was necessary to ensure black Americans had equal protection under the law. The rules matter. People had to sacrifice their lives to ensure these rights were granted. But the rules don't have the power to change hearts. A diner owner could serve black citizens lunch at his lunch counter because the law forced him to do so and he could still be a racist.

Rules matter and, in many cases, they matter a lot. But rules aren't enough.

In the next section of the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5:21-48), Jesus gives six case studies on what it looks like to live lives that go beyond the “righteousness of the scribes and the Pharisees.” Each of these case studies begins with the phrase, “You have heard it was said...” and then Jesus quotes from the Old Testament law. Then, Jesus gives a deeper interpretation of that law. Simply following the rules isn't enough. Jesus goes after our hearts.

Jesus says, “You have heard that it was said to the people long ago, ‘Do not murder...’ but I tell you that anyone who is angry with a brother or sister will be subject to judgment.”

We will look closely at anger in the next article. But for now, notice what Jesus is doing. Often these six case studies are described as Jesus' intensifications. Jesus (seemingly) intensifies the law. Not only does Jesus want us to not murder; he also wants us to root anger out of our hearts.

I have often used that term - intensification - when talking about the Sermon on the Mount. However, I'm not sure it is the right way to think about what Jesus is doing here. Jesus isn't intensifying the Old Testament law, he is showing us what the law was always intended to do. God didn't somehow change his mind once Jesus arrived; as if it was okay to simmer with anger before as long as we didn't kill anyone. God always wanted our hearts to be filled with peace, patience, joy, long suffering, and love.

I am currently rereading a book by George Ladd called The Gospel of the Kingdom. It is an older book but really helpful in understanding Jesus' most frequent subject - the Kingdom of God. I came across this quote yesterday: "The life which Christ came to bring us is the life of God's kingdom."

Jesus didn't just come to make more rules for us to follow. He came to empower us to live out the values of God's kingdom here on earth. One of the results of that new power is the ability to follow the rules but it won't seem like rule following. Instead it will seem like the most natural, wise and fulfilling way to live.

Darrell Johnson says that when we first read the Sermon on the Mount it seems like what Jesus is telling us is impossible. But then Johnson says that the more Jesus' life and death and resurrection become a part of who we are, we begin to see that the teaching in Jesus' Sermon is the only possible way to live. A life driven by anger or lust or contempt or revenge or coercing or manipulation or any of the other things Jesus addresses in Matthew 5-7 is really no life at all.

When God's kingdom is fully here, we won't need any more rules. I will drive safely (if we have cars in the new heavens and the new earth) not because the sign tells me to or a \$150 fine threatens me. I will drive safely out of love for my neighbor. When God's kingdom is fully here, the 10 commandments will no longer be needed. Not because we will be allowed to murder in the new heavens and the new earth, but because it would never occur to us to do so.

The incredible idea of the good news of Jesus is that we, with God's help, can begin living that future kind-of-life now. Yes, learning the life of Jesus will mean following Jesus' "rules." But it won't feel like rule keeping. It will feel like we are finally, actually living. Jesus is inviting us into real life.

Grace and peace,

Pastor Doug



**The Session of the First Presbyterian Church of Grimes met in regular session on Tuesday, June 4, 2024, in Fellowship Hall. Pastor Doug Basler called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. The meeting was opened with prayer with Dave Bolsenga and a health issue being remembered. A quorum was declared**

**Here are some highlights. . .**

**Building & Grounds, Technology:**

Chair, Melodee Grefe

- Roof and gutter work will begin on Wednesday, June 5th. Update per an e-mail from Melodee: ten sheets of plywood were replaced and the vent from the south slope of Fellowship Hall was replaced as it was an inactive vent.
- Faucets in the furnace room were replaced by Dana Grefe.

- Dead trees need to be taken down but on hold because of the cost.
- Bathrooms need to be updated to be handicap accessible—on hold because of the cost.
- Landscaping work on the East side of the building is on hold until the gutters and roof are in place.
- Need black dirt for uneven spaces in the East yard--on hold at this time.
- Susan reported a few pencil holders in the sanctuary need to be drilled out.

**Christian Ed/Sunday School:**

Chair, Janel DeJoode

- An All-Ages Vacation Bible School will be held on July 9-11, 2024, at 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. Pastor Doug has prepared the curriculum.

### **Christian Ed/Sunday School Cont...**

- The Governors' Day Parade will be on June 8th. Janel has banners for Lyle's truck (4' X 6') that have the capability of having interchangeable information on them to be used for advertising events on the church property.
- Roxanne has created colored handouts with upcoming events. One has been posted at the Grimes Library.
- The last Bible Study will be on June 26th.

### **Finance, Stewardship, and Memorial:**

Chair: Cyndy Bolsenga

- It was reported that an error regarding Memorial Fund money and General Fund money has been made by Banker's Trust. This is currently being corrected.
- Cyndy has received a quote from Brotherhood Mutual Insurance Company. She will meet with Janel to review it. Our current insurance is in place until December.
- Money has been refunded from our previous copier.
- The Financial Reports were placed on file for later review.

### **Memorial:** (Susan Ballard)

- No report.

### **Nominating Committee:**

(Chair, Ellen Workman)

- No report.

### **Nurture Committee, Mission & Evangelism:**

(Chair, Jane Altman)

- Calendars for June were made and distributed with upcoming church events.
- Pastor Doug's Graduation Party will be held after church on June 9th.
- Tall poster/info stands for tables were created by the crafters. These will be used at the 141 Garage Sale. Please let Jane know if you need them for any other church events.
- There will be a Nurture Meeting on Sunday, June 9th.

### **Pastor's Report:** Pastor Doug Basler

- Pastor Doug reviewed with Session his schedule for the week of May 27th. This included the following: Bulletin prep, Wed. Bible Study, Worship Meeting, Men's Group at Union Park, Bible Study at memory care facility, Bible reading with member from Union Park, visit with Bill Sharp, Session Meeting at Union Park, sermon prep, counseling with member of Union Park, and preaching twice on Sunday.
- Pastor Doug reported that the Board of Pensions has announced that pastors' health insurance premiums will be increasing in 2025. This will impact small churches and pastors with young families. Pastor Doug will meet with Personnel in the future to discuss this change.
- Pastor Doug is exploring the possibility of having a Men's Breakfast with the Grimes Church.

### **Personnel Committee:** Chair Ellen Workman

- No report.

### **Worship Committee:**

Chair,

### **Worship Attendance:**

May 2024: 155

Average Attendance: 39

Communion: May 5th – 44 served

- The Worship Committee met on May 22nd.
- Gai and Robbin are working on Father's Day.
- On May 19th, Spencer was our Worship Song Leader. He was very well received. Pastor Doug has made arrangements for him to lead us in song one Sunday in June and one Sunday in July.

### **Old Business:**

- GVSS will transport Jim Fish to and from church on Sundays to worship with us.
- Pastor Doug will meet with Pastor Ben (Prairie Creek Church) to discuss the group they currently have worshiping in their gymnasium and whether their insurance covers that.



# DEACON'S CORNER

HAPPY FOURTH OF JULY ★ HAPPY FOURTH OF JULY

July: Freedom song Summer's Peak"

**Red** is for Victory

**White** is for Purity

**Blue** is for Loyalty.

Make this fourth of July memorable by counting your blessings and truly appreciating your Freedoms.

Eleven nursing home visits were made. We took desserts and helped serve lunch at the Homeless Shelter. We took a tour of the facility which was very informative. We delivered cake to celebrate birthdays of the residents at Spurgeon Manor. We had to say good-bye to a dear woman, a friend and a long-time member of our church, Carolyn "Carrie Lou" Roth.

Happy Birthday to our country—

The Deacons,  
Gai, Robbin, Bev, and Bill

*"Let your hands be so busy counting Blessings that you don't have the capacity to hold on to grudges"*  
Stephen Labossiere



## New Business:

- There was a discussion regarding a request from Carl Lee regarding the storage of garage sale boxes in the nursery and the meeting room. It was decided that the boxes can be stored in those room after the Ice Cream Social which will be on July 14th. Jane reported that she will ask students looking for community service hours to help move boxes.
- Janel reported that she and Rich will put up a stand in the church parking lot on Governors' Day from noon to 4:00 p.m. to sell snack food and drinks. She explained that there will be a Car Show that afternoon on Main Street and there should be a lot of people attending who might want to purchase drinks and snacks. They will also hand out flyers announcing church events. Janel will have Roxanne put a notice in The Gathering Place asking for volunteers and for food/drinks. A motion was made, seconded, and passed, that money received from this project would go for the roofing project.

There will not be a Session Meeting in July. The next Session Meeting will be August 6th at 6:00pm.

### Session Members

Class of 2024	Class of 2025	Class of 2026
Jane Altman Melodee Grefe Ellen Workman	Janel DeJooode	Cyndy Bolsenga Chris Stockman
<b>Clerk Of Session:</b> Susan Ballard		



The Office Manager will be out of the office on Fridays during the summer.

Pastor Doug will keep his same working schedule.

### Church Office Closed

The Church office will be closed Thursday, July 4th in observance of Independence Day.



## JULY BIRTHDAYS

July 2	Matt Velelis
July 8	Janel DeJoode
July 10	Carl Kapfer
July 16	Beth Hauersperger
July 20	Bill Sharp
July 21	Don Friar
	Ora Austin
July 26	Doug Laverrenz
July 28	Gretchen Derry



## JULY VOLUNTEERS

### Ushers & Greeters

July 7	Chris Stockman & Beth Hauersperger
July 14	Carl & Nancy Kapfer
July 21	Lyle Peitzman & Sheila Balbiani
July 28	Robbin McClelland & Candance Biddle



### Offering Counters

July 7	Bev Boyd & Janel DeJoode
July 14	Ellen Workman & Melodee Grefe
July 21	Robbin McClelland & Chris Stockman
July 28	Dana Grefe & Brent Smith



### Communion Servers

July 7	Susan Ballard & Janel DeJoode
--------	-------------------------------



### Coffee Hosts

July 7	Potluck
July 14	Gretchen Derry & Jean Harrell
July 21	TBD
July 28	Bruce & Marlene Youde



## JULY ANNIVERSARIES

July 31 Doug & Katie Basler



## Upcoming Events

**July 1 (Monday):** Carolyn Roth's Funeral, Visitation 10:30—11:30am, Service—11:30am. The burial service will immediately follow at the cemetery in Grimes and then we will have a luncheon back at the church.

### July 4 (Thursday):

Fourth of July—Office Closed; Coffee Club, 9:00am—at Roxanne's house



**July 7 (Sunday):** Building & Grounds Team Meeting; Ice Cream Making Party/Potluck/Table Games.

**July 9—11 (Tuesday-Thursday):** Vacation Bible School for Everyone, 6:00—8:00pm

**July 14 (Sunday):** Ice Cream Social, 4:00—6:30pm

**July 16 (Tuesday):** Garage Sale Set-up begins

### July 18 (Thursday):

Coffee Club, 9:00am; Serving the Homeless, 11:15am; Out to Eat with Friends - *Cayannes' Cafe & Gifts* - 121 S. Main Street, Woodward, 5:30pm

**July 21 (Sunday):** Spencer Meyer leading music during worship.

**July 23 (Tuesday):** Pictures/photos due for the 'Sharing Your Summer Fun'.

**July 27 (Saturday):** Cornfeed—All you can eat corn on the cob, 5:00-7:00pm Prairie Creek Church

**July 28 (Sunday):** Roberta Victor leading worship. 3 Heath Brothers in Concert, 6:00pm—Prairie Creek Church

**August 1 (Thursday):** Coffee Club, 9:00am

**August 2 & 3 (Friday & Saturday):** Hwy 141 Garage Sale

**August 4 (Sunday):** Ambassadors of Grace

**August 9 (Friday):** Out to Eat with Friends—*Bonfire/Potluck at the Wicks House*, 5:30pm

## Carolyn Roth's Funeral

Funeral services will be on Monday July 1, 2024 at 11:30am at Grimes First Presbyterian Church. A memorial visitation will begin at 10:30am. The burial service will immediately follow at the cemetery in Grimes and then we will have a luncheon back at the church.



We will be making **HOMEMADE ICE CREAM** inside the kitchen and having a fun potluck and fellowship outside the kitchen in Fellowship Hall. Join us for our first Summer Potluck - we will eat, chat, and play table games.

## Vacation Bible School

July 9 -11, 2024



Faith in the Wilderness:  
Learning to Trust in Troubled Times

VBS for Everyone! We believe that the church is most healthy when all generations are learning together and from one another. Therefore, instead of VBS just for kids we have VBS for everyone. For three nights (July 9-11) we will gather for dinner, a Bible story and discussion time, crafts, games and singing. And everyone is welcome - all ages from new-born to 110 are invited to join! (if you're over 110, we'll let you come too)

Please register beforehand if possible at 515-986-3720, but we will accept new registrations each night.



# Ice Cream Social

Sunday, July 14th

4:00pm - 6:30PM or until  
the Ice Cream is gone!



A FAMILY-FRIENDLY EVENT  
FREE WILL OFFERING

Beef Burgers, Hot Dogs, Chips, Baked Beans,  
Homemade Ice Cream, Cookies, Bars, Tea and Lemonade

This event will be open to the community. We would appreciate donations and help to make this happen! A list of items that will be needed will be available in the Fellowship Hall. We thank you in advance for your generosity of time and supplies!

### Raffle

We will "Raffle" two baskets of goodies during our Ice Cream Social. If you would like to donate to these two baskets—please see Jane Altman. (homemade items, gift cards, summer items, etc.)

### Out to Eat with Friends

This month join us at Cayannes' Café & Gifts on Thursday, July 18 around 5:30pm and eat with friends.

Cayannes' Café & Gifts  
121 South Main Street, Woodward



Tiger Bowl in Madrid on June 14th

## Serving at the Central Iowa Shelter and Services

We will be volunteering/serving at the Central Iowa Homeless Shelter on the following days in 2024.



- Thursday, July 18th
- Thursday, August 22nd
- Thursday, September 19th
- Thursday, October 17th
- Thursday, November 21st
- Thursday, December 19th

Donations of baked goods are needed for each date. One of the freezers in the class room has been dedicated for the shelter's baked goods. If you are able to make and donate a dessert, please have it at the church the day before. Thank you.



Serving the Homeless on June 20th  
Bev Boyd, Robbin McClelland, Zane—Candance Biddle's friend, Gai Shields, Gaylene Lee, and Sheila Balbiani



Gai Shields with the Kitchen Manager at the Homeless Shelter

Spencer Meyer will be with us again this month on the 21st.



## Sharing your Summer Fun

Please send any selfies, family or friends photos that you have taken during this summer! We will share all of them at the end of the month.

\*\*\*Sponsored by the Nurture Committee\*\*\*

Pictures/photos due for the 'Sharing Your Summer Fun' on July 23rd.



Due to the heat—we will not meet at a designated time to walk in July, but offer a challenge: can you walk 31 miles in July? Keep track of your miles and let Jane know at the end of the month!



**Don & Mary Lou Friar**  
Don birthday is July 21st, to show how much we miss them, let's do a card shower!

8109 West 99th Street,  
Overland Park, KS 66212

### Grimes First Presbyterian Church



**August 2nd & 3rd**

On July 16th between 9:00—noon we will begin setting up for the Garage Sale. Volunteer's are needed.

After set-up Garage Sale drop-off times will be as follows:

July 17th, 18th, 23rd—25th, 30th—1st  
between 9:00am and noon.

#### Tables are Needed!

We are in need of portable tables and/or wardrobe racks for the garage sale - please bring before July 16th. Please make sure your tables are marked. (tape your name on the bottom)

If you have any questions, please contact Carl Lee, Jane Altman or Roxanne Wicks.

Wednesday Night Bible Study will begin again in September. Watch for updates.



#### 2024 Coat Mission Update

We have collected over **221** coats and cardigans since January. Our donations have helped Grimes Clothing Pantry, Waukee Clothing Pantry, DCG Schools, and Greenfield, Iowa. Our Coat Mission will end in December and we are taking any coat, cardigan, or sweater in any size and for any season. Our Church is helping those that are in need - YOU are simply THE BEST!

#### Community Events





# New Roof Progress





**Deacon Visits**



Marie looking at the church postcard.



Leo flowers in Donna Stark's room



Gai Shields and Ora Austin

**Graduation Celebration for Rev. Dr. Doug Basler—June 9th**



# Grimes Governor's Day Parade—Saturday, June 8th



# Governor's Day Parade



# Congregation Conversation



First Presbyterian Church  
410 S.E. Third St.  
Grimes, IA 50111



**First Presbyterian Church**  
**410 SE Third Street**  
**Grimes, IA 50111**

Phone: 515-986-3720

Email:

[office@grimes1stpres@gmail.com](mailto:office@grimes1stpres@gmail.com)



Follow us on Facebook, Twitter,  
and Instagram to stay up-to-date  
on all of our fun events and  
activities.



[First Presbyterian Church of Grimes](#)



[firstpresbyteriangrimes](#)



[FirstPresbyterianGrimes,](#)  
[GrimesFirst1](#)

## Contact Information

### **Please join us on Sundays**

9:00am Worship

(an unstaffed nursery is available)

10:00am – Fellowship/Coffee

**Pastor** – Doug Basler

Email: [dbasler@gmail.com](mailto:dbasler@gmail.com)

**Office Manager** – Roxanne Wicks

Email:

[officegrimes1stpres@gmail.com](mailto:officegrimes1stpres@gmail.com)

**Clerk of Session** – Susan Ballard

**Financial Sec.** – Cyndy Bolsenga

**Custodian** – Kyle Rosenberg

**Organist** – Colene Townsend

[www.grimesfirstpresbyterianchurch.org](http://www.grimesfirstpresbyterianchurch.org)

**Join us for service every Sunday at 9:00 am!**

**All Are Welcome!**

In service to the congregation, we ask that compliments, complaints or concerns please be directed to the appropriate committee chairperson as a first step.

*We are sincerely,  
Your Church Session*

### **Buildings & Grounds, Technology:**

Melodee Grefe

**Christian Ed:** Janel DeJoode

**Nominating:** Ellen Workman

**Nurture, Mission & Evangelism:**

Jane Altman

**Personnel:** Ellen Workman

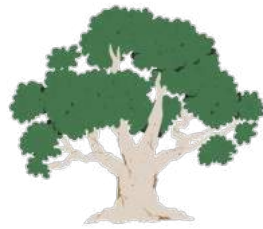
**Stewardship, Finance, Memorial:**

Cyndy Bolsenga













**Worship:**



# July 2024



**Summer Office Hours**  
 Roxanne:  
 Tuesday—Thursday 9:00am—2:00pm  
 (unless otherwise noted below)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Carolyn Roth's Funeral Visitation—10:30 Service—11:30 Walk Challenge begins 	2	3	4 Coffee Club 9:00am at Roxanne's house  Office Closed	5	6
7 <i>Communion Sunday</i> Worship - 9:00am Fellowship - 10:00am B&G Team Mtg - 10:30am Potluck & Ice Cream Making Party & Table Games 	8	9 VBS 6:00pm-8:00pm 	10 VBS 6:00pm-8:00pm 	11 VBS 6:00pm-8:00pm 	12	13
14 Worship - 9:00am Fellowship - 10:00am Ice Cream Social 4:00-6:30pm 	15	16 Start setting up for Garage Sale 9:00am—noon 	17	18 Coffee Club 9:00am Serving the Homeless, 11:15 Out to Eat with Friends 5:30pm 	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;">                         Cayannes' Café &amp; Gifts,                          121 S. Main St. Woodward                     </div>	
21 Worship - 9:00am Spencer Meyers—music Fellowship - 10:00am	22	23 Summer Fun Photos due 	24	25	26	27 <b>Cornfeed</b> All you can eat corn on the cob! 5:00pm—7:00pm Prairie Creek Church
28 Worship - 9:00am—Rev. Roberta Victor Fellowship - 10:00am 3 Heath Brothers in Concert— 6:00pm—Prairie Creek Church	29	30	31  Let Jane know how many miles you walked in July!	 Tuesdays—Thursdays Donations drop-off 9:00am - Noon		