

As we prepare to leave we ask you to breathe new life into our church. May a renewed passion be kindled within us, a fervent desire to spread the message of hope and salvation to our community. Ignite the fires of revival within our Church. Help us to deepen our love for you and love for our neighbors. Empower us with the Holy Spirit, filling us with the strength, wisdom, and courage to proclaim your gospel with clarity and conviction. May we long for our community's salvation as you do and help us to shine as beacons of hope to our community. Amen.

***Sending**

Pastor Luke Schmalz

***Postlude**

Jack Brooks

Family and Friends,

Fall is nearly here! Kids are back in school. Pumpkin spice has infected every product you can imagine. And the nights are getting pleasantly cool. That means that we are rapidly approaching our annual meeting for First Congregational Church. This is an important event. We will vote on a budget and elect the officers and new members of the board and ministries. At FCC, we believe the church is run by the members. It is the people who carry out the mission of the church. That means we depend on each and every member and friend to accomplish our mission in Fremont. The nomination committee is asking everyone to pray about how they may serve. You can serve at First Congregational Church in a wide variety of ways as a deacon, trustee, technology ministry, Sunday School, Altar Committee, music ministry, as a greeter or usher, hosting coffee call, leading or hosting a small group, serving with men's or women's fellowship. Of course, throughout the year there will be a wide variety of events, programs, and projects to be part of. The nomination committee will be meeting soon and will begin finding nominees to fill the open positions. There are many positions needing to be filled, and there are many ways to serve. How can you serve this year?

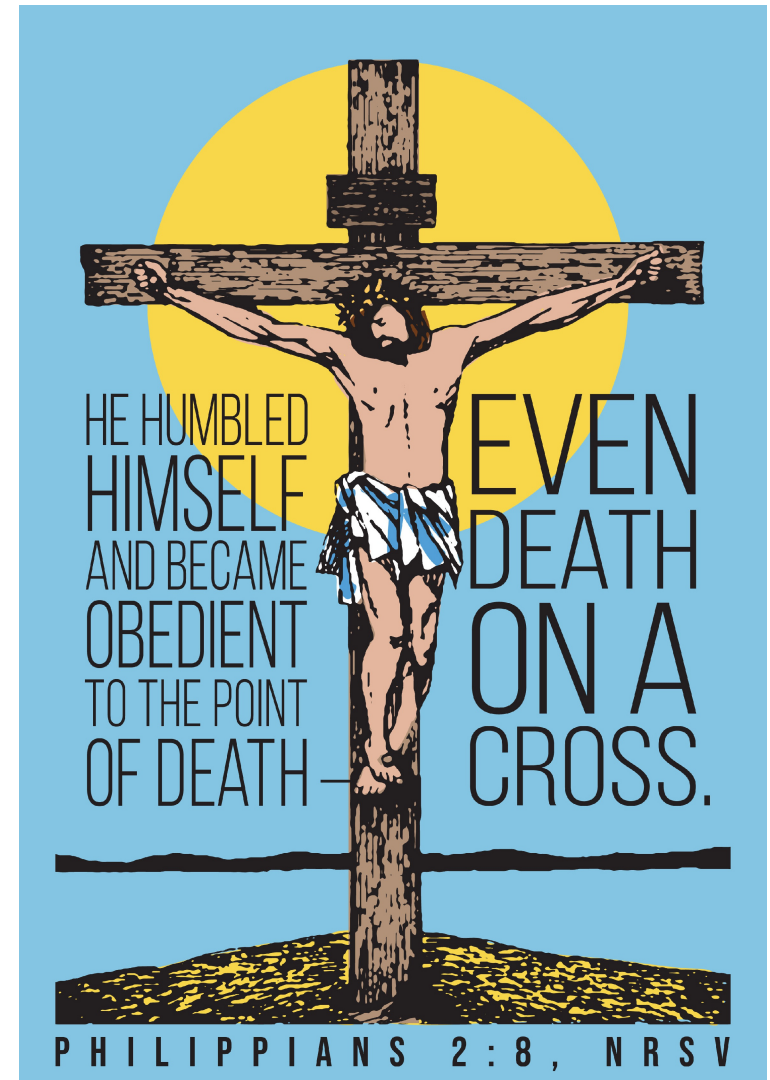
Pastor Luke Schmalz

Deeply Rooted ~ Future Focused
151 years ~ 1875-2026

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## The First Congregational Church

Your Independent Worship Center



September 27, 2026

**The Order of Worship**  
\*please stand, if you are able

**Prelude**

**Jack Brooks**

**Announcements**

**Welcome**

**Call to Worship (Psalm 78)**

Pastor: Give ear, O my people, to my teaching; incline your ears to the words of my mouth. I will open my mouth in a parable; I will utter dark sayings from of old, things that we have heard and known, that our ancestors have told us.

**All: We will not hide them from their children; we will tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the LORD and his might and the wonders that he has done.**

Pastor: In the sight of their ancestors he worked marvels in the land of Egypt, in the fields of Zoan. He divided the sea and let them pass through it and made the waters stand like a heap. In the daytime he led them with a cloud and all night long with a fiery light. He split rocks open in the wilderness and gave them drink abundantly as from the deep. He made streams come out of the rock and caused waters to flow down like rivers.

**All: Praise the Lord!**

**Opening Prayer**

**\*Opening Hymn- “Wonderful Words of Life”- Blue Hymnal #406**

**Prayer of Confession**

**All: Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

**Prayer**

Pastor: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who in his great mercy has promised forgiveness of sins to all those who sincerely repent and with true faith turn to him, have mercy

upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Assurance of Pardon**

Pastor: Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God’s love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

**All: In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Glory to God. Amen.**

**\*Response - Gloria Patri**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost, As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.

**JeLy Bell!** All kids are invited to go to the JeLy Room for JeLy Church! (JeLy ~ Jesus Loves You)

**Scripture:** Exodus 17:1-7, Philippians 2:1-13, Matthew 21:23-32

Reader: The Word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**Message:** “The Humility of Christ”

**Pastor Luke Schmalz**

**\*Hymn - “Majesty” - Blue Hymnal #10**

**\*The Apostle’s Creed** (words projected)

**Prayers of the Congregation**

**The Lord’s Prayer** (words projected)

**\*Doxology** (As the offering is brought forward)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly hosts. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

**Sending Hymn - “My Life Is in You, Lord ” - Blue Hymnal #542**

*(Please remain seated as the “Noisy Offering” will be received at this time)*

**Prayer of Dedication for the “Noisy Offering”**

**\*Dismissal Prayer for Revival** (words projected - unison)

**Almighty God, we have gathered here today to worship you.**

*co ntinued on back page*

**Altar Rep:** Mary Butterick

**Greeting us today:** Luke & Karla Pfeiffer   **Next Sunday:** Kelly Parks

**Song Leader:** Stacey Church

**Scripture Reader:**                      **Next Sunday:**

**Tech Booth** - Robin, Kendra, April, Carrie, Jeff

**Happy Birthday to ~**

Judy Nadeau, Jane Stroschin (27), Norah Schmalz (30)

**The flowers on the altar this morning are given** by Jim Rynberg in honor of the Fremont Harvest Festival and the wonderful citizens of Fremont.

### **This Weeks Calendar**

#### **Sunday, September 27**

10:00 a.m.            Worship - Sanctuary  
                              Noisy Offering for CROP Walk  
11:15 a.m.            Fellowship Hour - Fellowship Hall

#### **Monday, September 28**

9:30 a.m.            Men's Coffee Time - Fellowship Hall  
10:00 a.m.            Woodshop Open - when two or three are gathered

#### **Tuesday, September 29** - *Church Office Closed*

9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.    Harmony Hybrid - Upstairs

#### **Wednesday, September 30**

9:30 a.m.            Men's Coffee Time - Fellowship Hall  
10:00 a.m.            Woodshop Open - when two or three are gathered  
4:00 p.m.            Bible Study with Beth - Library

#### **Thursday, October 1** - *Church Office Closed*

9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.    Harmony Hybrid - Upstairs  
10:00 a.m.            Christmas Crafters - Fellowship Hall

#### **Friday, October 2**

9:30 a.m.            Men's Coffee Time - Fellowship Hall  
10:00 a.m.            Woodshop Open - when two or three are gathered

#### **Saturday, October 3**

Fellowship Hall Reserved

#### **Sunday, October 4**

10:00 a.m.            Worship with communion - Sanctuary  
11:15 a.m.            CROP Walk Soup Luncheon - Fellowship Hall

#### **Looking Ahead to Sunday's in October:**

Oct 4   - Soup CROP Walk lunch  
Oct 11 - Special Music - Leslie Anderson  
Oct 18 - Walk Up Choir   Oct 18 - Annual Meeting  
Oct 25 - Char Spaulding YFC presentation  
         - Sally DeShetler's 104<sup>th</sup> birthday

### **Our Church News**

**This is the Lord's house.** The Lord is here to welcome all who have come. Let us join in the spirit of love and peace for all who worship the Creator of us all.

**ANNUAL REPORTS** - are due TODAY. Our **Annual Meeting** will be held on Sunday, October 18 following worship.

**Trustees will still accept** your Pledge for 2027 if you have not turned one in yet.

**Is your board or ministry meeting?** Are you having a meeting at church? Are you using a room at church? We want to be sure events are on the church calendar. Be sure to communicate with the church office so your event can be scheduled.

**Women's Bible Study** will be meeting Wednesday, Sept 30 (and every Wednesday to follow unless noted) and we will be changing the time back to 4:00 p.m. so you can get home in the light. All women are invited.

**Walk Up Choir** on Sunday, October 18. Bill Black has picked out a song and he will be asking for a "walk up" choir to help sing. No experience necessary!! Join in singing on October 18.

**If you would like to know where you are with your 2026 Pledge giving** contribution statements are in the basket by the church office for you to pick up.

**CROP Walk Sunday is October 4.** We will be having our **Noisy Offering** TODAY and that offering will be donated to the CROP walk. Next Sunday, October 4, Woman's Fellowship will be serving an **All You Can Eat Soup Luncheon** (Make a Meal Soup) for a donation to CROP Walk. If you would like to make a donation to CROP Walk - envelopes are available on the table in the narthex. Please make your check payable to CWS/CROP. Thank you for your Support!

**Members and Friends - Men's Fellowship** will hold their monthly lunch on Wednesday, October 7 at 12:00 in Fellowship Hall. Everyone is welcome. A light lunch will be served. Our speaker will be Dean Morehouse Dean's message has relevance to everyone, not just athletic coaches. "We All Coach"!

**The Board of Christian Ed** is considering a Trunk or Treat event for Halloween Hours (Oct 31). In order to accomplish this we would need 7-10 volunteers willing to decorate and open their "trunks" to pass out candy. Would you be willing? Contact Crystal and let her know so she can begin planning. Candy donations will also be needed.