



Waukon, IA, First



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Pastor Grant VanderVelden

Each week we invite you to pray for one of our congregations. JKP is spread out over three states which means many of our members probably have not seen these places in person. By providing pictures and narrative information we can know one another better and celebrate our unity by holding one another up in prayer. Please incorporate these churches and leaders in your weekly prayers.

This week we lift up for your consideration, First Presbyterian Church of Waukon, IA and their Pastor, the Rev. Grant VanderVelden. First Presbyterian is a congregation of around 165 members who have served in their community for over 160 years. They proudly proclaim their mission statement; "We are called to love God wholeheartedly and to love our neighbors, near and far, strangers and friends, as ourselves." As the leaders and members strive to figure out how to do ministry in a new setting, (post Covid) the Session is trying some different approaches to Christian Education, Mission, and a confirmation that stresses engagement with life, ministry, and missional service. Meanwhile, the congregation is celebrating a successful campaign that raised \$100K and has allowed them to complete a major renovation to the sanctuary. The project is nearly finished, and it looks great! Pastor Grant VanderVelden is a graduate of UDS and also serves as the Regional Coordinator for John Knox Presbytery in Region 2. Grant and wife Julie are adjusting to their changing lives as the second of three children heads off to college this Fall. Please keep the good folk of FPC Waukon plus Grant and his family in your prayers.