

Celebrating One Year in Spencer!

Our Spencer office opened in June, 2024 immediately following a devastating flood in the community. Without a chance to hold a Grand Opening, we made up for it with our First Anniversary Celebration! The Spencer Chamber of Commerce sponsored a ribbon cutting and we welcomed the Spencer community to a summer cookout. Games, prizes, and giveaways made for a special day.



In the Community - HomeRun for Hunger

Introducing Premier Rewards Checking - earn up to 4% APY!

Our newest checking account is Premier Rewards Checking, and you can earn 4.00% APY on balances up to \$50,000! There are three simple steps in order to get this fantastic rate:

1. Use your First Federal debit card ten times each, month (minimum \$10 transaction)
2. Have a payroll direct deposit of \$500 or more each month.
3. Enroll in online banking and sign up for E- statements.



Of course, there is no monthly service charge, no minimum balance to maintain, and your First Federal VISA debit card will let you tap & pay AND have free access to over 30,000 ATMs nationwide! See all requirements and details at firstfedcu.com/premier or stop in to one of our convenient locations and speak with a First Federal Personal Banker!



Visa Ca\$h Rewards Credit Card - Up to 4% cash back AND 10,000 Points Bonus!

Get rewarded for every swipe! With the Visa Ca\$h Rewards Credit Card, you can earn up to 4% cash back on purchases for groceries, 3% on gas, and 2% on travel! Enjoy no annual fee, no balance transfer fee, and a low fixed APR starting at just 11.99%. For a limited time, spend \$1,000 in the first 90 days and earn a 10,000 point bonus – equal to \$100!. Apply today and start turning purchases into cash!

Employee Spotlight! Drayton Lents

Drayton is often the first person you see when you visit our Cedar Rapids branch on 1st Avenue!



Hometown: Marshalltown, Iowa

Work: Concierge with First Federal Credit Union

Education: Graduated Marshalltown High School

Family: Father, sister, stepmother/brother/sister

Things I like to Do: I enjoy playing golf and ultimate frisbee, I also enjoy shopping for antiques and vinyl records!

Stay Alert: Unpaid Tolls? Probably a Scam!

Whether you've driven through a toll recently or not, you might've gotten a text saying you owe money for unpaid tolls. It's probably a scam. Scammers are pretending to be tolling agencies from coast to coast and sending texts demanding money. Learn how the scam works so you can avoid it.

You get a text out of the blue that says you have unpaid tolls and need to pay immediately. The scam text might show a dollar amount for how much you supposedly owe and include a link that takes you to a page to enter your bank or credit card info — but it's a phishing scam. Not only is the scammer trying to steal your money, but if you click the link, they could get your personal info (like your driver's license number) — and even steal your identity.

To avoid a text scam like this:

- **Don't click on any links** in, or respond to, unexpected texts. Scammers want you to react quickly, but it's best to stop and check it out.
- **Check to see if the text is legit.** Reach out to the state's tolling agency using a phone number or website you know is real — not the info from the text.
- **Report and delete unwanted text messages.** Use your phone's "report junk" option to report unwanted texts to your messaging app or forward them to 7726 (SPAM). Once you've checked it out and reported it, delete the text.

If you are unsure or need assistance in identifying suspicious text messages asking you for money, stop in or call and we'll help you determine your best course of action!

Message Pay

Message Pay allows you to use your account number/routing number, debit/credit card from a different financial institution to make a deposit or loan payment to your First Federal account.

- Take the stress out of making your loan payment with text reminders!
- You can set up the payment to use your account number and routing number, debit card, or credit card to make payments.
- All payments or deposits will be applied on the next business day.

For more information, visit FirstFedCU.com/messagepay



Scholarship Recipients



Payton Kendall



Elizabeth Renshaw

Two graduating seniors were recently awarded \$1,000 scholarships by the First Federal Credit Union Foundation. Selected for the 2025 scholarships are graduating high school seniors Payton Kendall from Cedar Rapids Prairie High School and Elizabeth Renshaw from Cedar Rapids Kennedy. "These outstanding young adults were selected for their scholastic achievements, community involvement, and leadership qualities", stated Mary Lawrence, president of the First Federal Credit Union Foundation. "They each have demonstrated they are worthy of the Foundation's support of their educational goals".

Message From The CEO



Tom Chalstrom
President & CEO
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I was recently in a conversation with a friend of mine about the 'seasons' of life. I had not given much thought to it, but it is true: there are seasons of our lives that transition much like the change of seasons, as when the spring air turns warm, or the first frost on a chilly fall morning. Interests, people and even jobs we have in one of life's seasons, for example, in our college years, may transition and completely change as we start a family or move to a new community. There are things we may need in one season (reliable daycare) that in a different life season is not even considered. The point is, our products, services, and employees of First Federal all recognize that you change seasons. We work hard at listening, anticipating, and meeting your needs so that we can provide you everything you need in this season of your life. I love when a long-time member reminds me how the Credit Union provided their first home loan and counseled them in the process— and now that their house is paid off, today we counsel them on certificate strategies. We are always seeking better ways that we can meet your needs – regardless of your season!

As always, stop in and say hi, introduce yourself or even comment on what you want First Federal to do for you!