

First Presbyterian Church of Woodstock

A fellowship of people in all stages of life who gather together, praising and worshipping God with gratitude for our many blessings, accepting and caring for all God's children, and serving the community and the world with love and joy.



Dear First Pres people,
With great joy and thanksgiving, your PNC announces God has answered the prayers of our congregation and shown us the nominee for FPC's next pastor.

First a formality: We request **NO SOCIAL MEDIA** posting at this time. Our nominee will not make an announcement to his church until after we vote as a congregation on his call June 6. So, please do not post anything on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, Snapchat, etc.

Now, the nominee:

We were moved and challenged when we heard his sermons, and his compassion warmed our hearts. We delighted in his humor and felt God's presence as he prayed with us.

He said he feels called at this time to serve as a solo pastor of a congregation that is poised to grow in faith and service. Currently, he is serving as associate pastor of a larger Presbyterian church.

He is a Presbyterian through and through and is the grandson, son, and cousin of ordained ministers. Before responding to God's call to the ministry, he worked in various areas of technology. He enjoys what he calls "working to enhance ministry through judicious use of technology."

About his two-day visit to Woodstock and our church in late April, he said, "I love the spirit of community I experienced. You seem to know each other well. I sense church for you isn't something you go to. It's who you are." (continued, next page)

June 2021



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Sunday Worship Services

In the Great Hall @ 9:30 a.m.

Next All Church Fellowship

Sunday, June 13—Brunch

10:15 am - 11:00 am



CALLED CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

JUNE 6, 2021

Following Worship

See Page 7

Newsletter Editor

Mark Bundick

Reporters:

Sue Ayers-Krause, Angie Boe,
Mark Bundick, Bob Clark, Christy Johanson,
Joyce Maynard, Pat Morozink,
Ray Thuma, Cheryl Womley,

TOGETHER TO LAUGH AND LEARN



Finally, and tremendously important, is your role in all of this:

- Come meet the nominee and his family at an informal outside gathering from 4 to 6 p.m. Saturday, June 5, at the church. We'll retreat inside if it's raining.
- Come listen and be led in worship and communion by the nominee at 9:30 a.m. Sunday morning, June 6. The service will be inside.
- Stay to participate in the congregational meeting. There will be time for discussion before voting to call the nominee as pastor and to approve the terms of call.

Praising God,

Dave Davis, Erin Kaye, Christy Johanson, Rob McMahon, Justin Thuma, and Cheryl Wormley

BIBLE STUDY



Men's Bible Study — Saturdays at 7:00 a.m.

Join us via Zoom for Bible study on Saturday mornings at 7:00 a.m. where we continue in the series "Some Biblical Bases of A 'Brief Statement of Faith'". "A Brief Statement" expresses the faith of American Presbyterians in contemporary language, and it deals with contemporary challenges. Contact Dave Davis at ddavis@ameritech.net to get connected through Zoom and to obtain a copy of the material. All are welcome to join with us during this time of learning, understanding, and fellowship, as in faith that God is

in charge and by the grace of God, we will experience His love in right relationship with Him through His son Jesus.

Fellowship Activity--June 27, 2021



[This Photo](#) by Unknown Au

This summer we will not be having a "traditional Vacation Bible School (VBS)." Instead, we are incorporating VBS activities into monthly intergenerational fellowship activities after worship. Our first activity will be held immediately following the service on Sunday June 27, 2021.

You can expect music, snacks, and a fun activity. The theme for the first activity is "Jesus Stops the Storm." Please join us for fun and fellowship as we retell this story. All ages are encouraged to stay for this time of fellowship. Trust me, you won't want to miss the snack.

Lectionary Bible Study Wednesdays at 7:30 a.m.

The group is meeting virtually using Zoom. We select a single reading from the Common Lectionary and take turns leading the discussion. Join us for lively discussion, thoughtful readings and good fellowship. Contact Velma Downes to be added to the mailing list or for more information at vmdownes@gmail.com

TOGETHER TO LAUGH AND LEARN

Men's Group/Bible Study

Dave Davis, 815-236-2815

ddavis@ameritech.net

Wednesday Early Bible Study

Velma Downes, 815-245-4043

vmdownes@gmail.com

Adult Spiritual Growth Groups

Chris Nejd, 815-337-1070

canejd@hotmail.com

Hospitality Team

Cheryl Wormley, 815-519-7402

indepublisher@comcast.net

Music Ministry

Christy Johanson/Bob Diss

815-382-5234

mom@babyjohanson.com

No-Name Knitters

Kay Darby, 815-338-5002

kedarby@icloud.com

T.L.C. (Tender Loving Care)

Mary Hill, 815-338-6051

Meals-On-Wheels

Marla Norgard, 815-482-4855

marlanorgard01@gmail.com

WACM Local Mission Team

Pat Morozink, 815-338-7769

pmorozink@yahoo.com

Food Pantry

Joyce Maynard, 815-338-7265

Fishing Mission

Bob Clark, 847-274-8247

robtmclark@aol.com

N.O.W. Team

(Nurture on Wednesdays)

Lee Nejd — 815-546-1731

Katie Spaldon — 815-276-3410

Mark Bundick—815-337-9068

Cheryl Wormley—815-519-7402

indepublisher@comcast.net

FPC Fishing Mission – Let's Go Fishing FPC!

The fishing season is underway! The water is warming up and the fish are moving shallow for their seasonal reproduction. The fishing will only improve as we move toward summer. Feel free to contact Bob Clark if you want to know more at robtmclark@aol.com or 815.527.5109. We are eagerly looking for people with boats that are suitable for fishing to participate in the outings.

Due to the pandemic, we were unable to hold a 2020 summer fishing clinic as planned for the children and youth of our church. We are hoping to be able to have a 2021 fishing clinic later this summer – so please stay tuned.

Here are some photos from 2020 fishing outings.



Congregational Life News—Bands, Brunch and History!

Many FPC members are regular attendees at the Woodstock City Band Concerts. Get your picnic basket and head down to the Woodstock Square for the 137th season of great music. The band will occupy space on and off of the bandstand to provide proper social distancing for the musicians. Concerts will begin Wednesday's at 7:00 p.m. and will be approximately 60 minutes in length with an intermission. Mark your calendar for June 9, June 16, June 23, June 30, July 7, July 14 and July 28 for great music!

Our ice cream social is on Wednesday, July 28 on the Square. In conjunction with the ice cream social, we will be having a display of the history of First Presbyterian at the Woodstock Public Library running from July 19 through August 7th.

The N.O.W. team is following up its spring dinners with brunch! Immediately after worship on June 13 and July 11, stay and enjoy brunch. June 13th's menu features quiche, a fruit cup, muffins and orange juice.



June Update from the Deacons

The Deacons helped with greeting people at Marty Sobczak's visitation and service on May 15th.

It was a good opportunity to visit with several members of the congregation when Deacons distributed May Day baskets, which Pam Moorhouse purchased and put together.

Deacons will be supplying snacks for our inter-generational VBS. This will be held after the worship service on the 4th Sundays in June, July and August.

Angie Boe 815-338-7782

Pam Moorhouse 815-814-5585

Matt Petrik 815-209-2835

Sue Epperson 224-293-2295

John Moorhouse 815-236-7408

John Rigby 815-236-1780

Joyce Maynard 815-338-7265

Barb Parrish 815-338-8112

Thank You from the Sobczak's!

Thank you so much for all those who called, sent a card, contributed to memorials, attended or helped at the visitation for Marty or said a prayer for our grieving family. Your care and concern and all your loving words meant a lot to our whole family. Your support has been wonderful. - Lynne and family

WACM Notes: WACM's Direct Assistance Program works with other nonprofits and social service agencies to provide financial assistance to people living within the Woodstock school district's boundaries. While WACM is unable to fulfill all the requests that are made, referrals to other groups or agencies that might be able to provide assistance are given. WACM also shares financial expenses with other nonprofits, especially with larger requests. Working cooperatively with other organizations and agencies helps WACM in its mission to assist community residents. Our church is a member of WACM and provides support for its programs. Thank you for your support!

PENTECOST SPECIAL OFFERING

BY GIVING TO THE PENTECOST OFFERING

you're supporting ministries
that unite young people and
inspire them to share their
faith in Christ.



There are two more weeks to get your special offering contribution turned in! We have set a goal of \$1,360 for this offering. And remember that 40% of the total collected stays in our community to help children at risk of sexual abuse at the Child Advocacy Center for McHenry County. The remaining 60% is used to support children-at-risk, youth and young adults through the ministries of the Presbyterian Mission Agency. As of 5/30, only 14 donors had sent in donations totaling \$840, so please consider giving generously.

Red Wagon Items Requested for June

Applesauce (plastic jars, please), Canned Pineapple Chunks, Canned Peaches, Canned Pears, Canned Fruit Cocktail, Mandarin Oranges

You can leave your donations outside the church in the box provided by the front door. Anyone living in School District 200 may receive food two times each month. If you know someone who needs help with food, please encourage them to visit the Food Pantry, 1033 Lake Avenue (behind the Dorr Township building), Monday, Wednesday or Friday, 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM.





Earth Care News

Thanks to Karen Thennes, Pat Christian, Nancy Bingham and Sue Krause for planting our Easter lilies in front of the church. They will be so beautiful next Spring!

The weather has not been cooperating with Battery Collection Box project, but it's still coming. Please continue to collect your used batteries though.

Your Earth Care Team,

Ray Thuma, Lydia Johanson, Lee Nejd, Nancy Bingham, Jan Kennedy, Matt Thuma, Pastor Cindy



JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Mark Bundick—June 2
 Ron Parrish—June 2
 Trevor Dunker—June 3
 Emma Mathison—June 7
 Dave Davis—June 8
 Wesley Moorhouse—June 9
 Todd Norgard—June 11
 Hank Olese Sr—June 12
 Beth Elbersen—June 13
 Cindy Steffens—June 14
 Kay Darby—June 17
 Jacob Dunker—June 18
 Emily Lawler—June 18
 Sandy Brown—June 22
 Bob Clark—June 22
 Kathleen Greenlee—June 23
 Tiffany Sobczak—June 28

JUNE ANNIVERSARIES



Lee & Chris Nejd—June 8
 Alex & Sara Baker—June 21
 Dave & Christy Johanson—
 June 21
 Jackie & Mike Lawler—June 29

Happy 175th Birthday to Us!

Our Mission and Service—Part Two

In 2014, FPC purchased a trailer and equipped it with tools needed for the “fix it” ministries. It’s ready to go again when God calls new leadership.

The middle school youth group started packing Operation Christmas Child boxes in 1999. OCC grew into a much-anticipated all-church and community effort that continued through 2019. Tens of thousands of items and gifts were purchased and packed into 13,334 OCC boxes for children in other parts of the world. In years past, an Alternative Gifts Fair was hosted in December at which items could be purchased to support Heifer International and fair trade acquired in partnership with the Just Goods fair trade store in Rockford.

Outreach and service to the people of Woodstock the last several years have been offered through hosting Touch-A-Truck events (1,000 and 2,000 visitors over the past two years), African Children’s Choir, movie nights, a magic show and a Financial University series.

In mid 2018, a friendship developed between FPC and House of Blessing (Casa de Benediccion), a local worshipping community. House of Blessing met at 2018 N. Route 47 on Sunday afternoons, and our two congregations have joined for Christmas and Easter worship, for World Community Sunday, N.O.W. dinners and some of the communitywide events mentioned above.

Join us next month for more history lessons from FPC!

Save the Date!



Rummage Sale Coming August 26—28!
Watch for donation goals beginning June 27!
 Anyone with questions can call Joyce Maynard at
 815-338-7265



Our Thoughts and Prayers are with...

Pat Davenport, Nick Botian, Tom Schwarz, Sally Wilyat, Jim Higgins, Tim Arnold, Velma Downes, George Witzak, Gayle Abrams, Ron Parrish, Paul Thuma, Becky Medins, Jonathan and Kimberly Clark, Russ Warye, our Pastor Nominee and his family, and our congregation, as we move into the future.

Please keep the Baker family in your prayers as they grieve the death of Alex’s father, Dick.



May Session Highlights

- The COVID-19 Task Force recommendations for a return to meeting inside the church and updates to worship were discussed and approved. Details are included elsewhere in this newsletter.
- Session approved arrangements for the May 15 Marty Sobczak service.
- Ministry Support's recommendation to extend Ben Thuma's contract to clean the church through August was approved.
- A contract with SASS IT to transition the church computer system to a cloud-based Microsoft Exchange platform with the cost to be added to the operating budget was approved.
- Session members discussed Rev. Dr. Kathryn Threadgill's video presentation on "Building Congregational Vitality" and what that means. Sue Krause read ratings and comments from a Compassion, Peace and Justice Committee exercise which were intended to give CPJ direction on the 7 Marks of a Vital Congregation. She will send that summary to Session members for further consideration. Session generally agreed with CPJ that we, as a congregation, are better at "inside" focused actions than we are at "outside" focused actions, and this is something we need to change to achieve better balance. An effort to "re-do" a Spiritual Gifts assessment for congregation members will begin sometime later this year.
- Education and Spiritual Growth will run Vacation Bible School as an intergenerational activity the first Sunday of June, July and August. Services will be shortened to allow an intergenerational activity to follow immediately after worship.

Next Meeting: (via ZOOM): 06/20/2021 11:00 am Regular Session meeting

CALLED CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

JUNE 6, 2021—following the Worship Service

Purpose:

- Vote on the Pastor Nominating Committee Nominee for Solo Pastor and Terms of Call
- Dismiss with gratitude the Pastor Nominating Committee

Session / Committee Chairs

Compassion, Peace & Justice

Sue Krause
815-451-538 or
shkrause1@yahoo.com
(Awareness, Service)

Congregational Life

Mark Bundick
815-337-9068 or
mbundick@comcast.net
(Hospitality, Fellowship & NOW)

Education & Spiritual Growth

Ray Thuma & Jackie Lawler
815-338-9780 or
rpthuma@sbcglobal.net
(Adult, Youth, Child, Intergenerational)

Ministry Support

Bob Clark & Dawn Cook
847-274-8247 or robtmclark@aol.com
815-276-3983 or dcook@wcusd200.org
(Finance, Staff Support, Building and Grounds & Stewardship)

Worship, Music and Arts

Chris Nejd & Lora Totton
Schwarz
815-337-1070 or
cnejdl@hotmail.com
(Worship Arts, Worship Leadership, Audio-Visual)

Clerk of Session

Mark Bundick
815-337-9068 or
mbundick@comcast.net

COVID Re-entry Plan - Reopening Our Church

On May 16th, the Session approved the COVID-19 Task Force recommendations for easing restrictions due to the Pandemic. Holding gatherings outdoors or virtually continue to be encouraged.

The church will now be open for indoor meetings with masks and social distancing observed. No eating or drinking indoors is permitted at this time. (Session has made an exception to this for the June 5 "Meet and Greet".) Groups of up to 15 persons will meet in classrooms 1-3, or 4-5; groups larger than 15 should meet in the Great Hall. (Common Grounds, Fireside and offices are not to be used for meetings as their size does not allow social distancing.)

Indoor gatherings should be scheduled by contacting the Clerk of Session, Mark Bundick at mbundick@comcast.net or 224-242-2451. Group guidelines will be shared at the time of scheduling.

Worshipping outdoors continues to be safest, especially for the younger people in our congregation who have not had the opportunity to be fully vaccinated. Whenever possible, worship will be held outdoors. We will continue to wear masks, with family groups distanced. Congregational singing will be allowed outdoors. In the case of inclement weather, worship will be held indoors in the Great Hall. Registration for worship is still requested to assist in developing a contact list. All services will be live-streamed or recorded and posted for public view.

A/V System Upgrade Project

The A/V Task Force was formed in January and quickly determined its primary goal was to improve the sound in the Great Hall. We contracted with local company, B&B Productions, to purchase, install and be trained on a new digital sound mixer. So far, everything is working great!

Knowing that we live in a digital world, the task force also set out to improve the live-stream of our worship service. This work is ongoing, and we will continue to meet and work on other aspects of improving audio/visual aspects throughout our church.

A/V Task Force: Christy Johanson (chair), Bob Clark, Dave Davis, Ray Thuma, Bob Diss, Matt Thuma



JUNE REPORT FROM THE MINISTRY SUPPORT TEAM

The Ministry Support Committee and Teams are in the process establishing or updating policies for Staff and Finance. We are also in the process of recommending members of the congregation for a Landscaping Advisory Group as well as a Decorating Advisory Group for our grounds and buildings.

The Audio/Visual Task Force, which is being coordinated by Christy Johanson, has made significant progress on our technology inside the building. We have experienced some Internet service issues and are in the process of addressing those to deliver a joyful experience for our live streaming and Facebook and YouTube broadcasts. The task force will also be addressing the audio quality for our outdoors services.

We are in the process of improving the church's technology and communications systems via upgraded software. We are working with the Congregational Life on improving communication systems, both internal and external to the congregation by utilizing the new technology.

April 2021 Operating Budget

<u>Income</u>	<u>YTD Actual</u>	<u>YTD Budget</u>	<u>Variance vs Budget</u>	<u>Annual 2021 Budget</u>
Contributions Income	\$96,904	\$98,380	(\$1,476)	\$187,605
All Other Income	\$2,893	\$1,725	\$1,168	\$32,589
Total Income	\$99,797	\$100,105	(\$308)	\$220,194
<u>Expenses</u>				
Staff	\$43,331	\$46,967	(\$3,636)	\$142,626
All Other Expenses	\$19,156	\$25,905	(\$6,749)	\$103,087
Total Expense	\$62,487	\$72,872	(\$10,385)	\$245,713
Net Ordinary Income	\$37,310	\$27,233	\$10,077	(\$25,519)

Feel free to reach out to us with any questions or comments.

Bob Clark: robtmclark@aol.com or 815-527-5109.

Dawn Cook: dcook@wcusd200.org or 815-276-3983



YOUR MAIL IS SAFE WITH US

In order to enhance the security of our offerings, the church has installed a locked mailbox for U.S.P.S. mail deliveries.



June 2021 News from the Worship Arts Committee

It's official!!! Beginning June 6th, Worship Services will be held in the Great Hall on a regular basis.

Based on recent easing of COVID-19 restrictions, Session has decided to return in indoor, in-person worship.

Yea! There will also be congregational singing with masks.



The following will be observed to enhance safety, especially for those who have not been able to be vaccinated, including the very young in our congregation:

- Masks will continue to be worn when not speaking or singing from the chancel. Worship leaders will speak and sing unmasked from a distance.
- Social distancing of family groups.
- The collection plate will not be passed. Please place your offering in the donation box at the entry.
- Communion will continue to be served using pre-packaged elements.
- We will pass the peace hands-free.
- Every effort will be made to keep worship services under 50 minutes.
- Liturgy and hymns will be projected in lieu of paper bulletins.

Worship Leadership

The Hospitality Team and Deacons will be greeting this month. Please contact Cheryl Wormley or John Moorhouse if you would like to assist with this important ministry.

As we are moving indoors, we are looking for Sunday morning ushers. Please contact the office if you are able to serve on a rotating schedule.

Please make a point of thanking our Sound Team members. They are working hard to improve our sound system and in-person worship experience every Sunday.

June 2021

SUN 30	MON 31	TUE Jun 1	WED 2	THU 3	FRI 4	SAT 5
● 9:30am Worship	● 7pm Worship Staff		● 7:30am Lesson Study			● 7am Men's Study ● 4pm Meet & Greet
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
● 9:30am Worship ● 10:30am Congregational Meeting	● 6:30pm Nominating Comm	T.L.C. ● 7pm Deacons	● 7:30am Lesson Study	● 7pm Finance Comm		● 7am Men's Study
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
● 9:30am Worship ● 10:30am Brunch ● 7pm Educ & Spirit Growth	● 4pm Hospitality Team ● 5:30pm Ministry Supp ● 7pm Worship Staff		● 7:30am Lesson Study	● 6pm Compassion, Peace and Justif		● 7am Men's Study
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
● 9:30am Worship ● 11am Session	● 4pm NOW		● 7:30am Lesson Study	Newsletter Articles Due ● 6pm Worship Arts Mtg		● 7am Men's Study
27	28	29	30	Jul 1	2	3
● 9:30am Worship ● 10am Intergenerational			● 7:30am Lesson Study			● 7am Men's Study

MINISTERS

All members and friends of the
congregation

STAFF

Rev. Cindy Carlisle
Interim Pastor

Dave Davis
Financial Secretary

Bob Diss
Organist

Christy Johanson
Social Media
Worship Arts Coordinator

June 2021

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING, SUNDAY JUNE 6



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF WOODSTOCK

CELEBRATING AND SHARING GOD'S LOVE

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
2018 IL-HWY 47
Woodstock, IL 60098**

Phone: (815) 338-2627
E-mail: fpc2018@att.net
Website:
www.fpcwoodstock.org
Visit us on Facebook