

# 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.*

## Merry Christmas! From Pastor Eric

Since this is the January newsletter, you might wonder why I am wishing you a "Merry Christmas!" That is because Christmas is a season which *begins* on December 25th and leads us to Epiphany, January 6th – that's the twelve days of Christmas! At the beginning of January, it is still Christmas, so *Merry Christmas!* I hope your Christmas season has been – and continues to be – blessed and joyous.

I'd like to extend a huge **Thank You** to all who participated in the wonderful holiday festivities, from the decorating to the Chrismon service to Advent candle lighting to the Cantata and Children's Pageant to the readings on Christmas Eve to worshipping in the Great Hall or online. What a wonderful time of preparation and celebration we had together!

In January, we gear up for a new year of worship, fellowship, and service. We will have a congregational meeting on January 9th to elect officers and our annual congregational meeting is on January 30th. Both meetings will follow worship at approximately 10:30. Our gratitude goes to the officers who have served faithfully this past year and those who will serve this year. The church is a "community of faith" – many churches have that phrase in their slogans or mission statements or name. We are a "family of faith" – we are united as siblings in Christ. We are a "congregation" – a group gathered together, whether in person or online. We are called together in our lives of faith, and no one can be the church alone. Together, we pray, nurture each other, serve others, and worship God. One of the hardest aspects of the pandemic is the way that we have been physically separated from one another. We must renew our commitments to one another and to God in 2022 as the pandemic continues, creatively joining together in God's love. Please pray for all officers, committee members, volunteers, and staff that we will faithfully carry out God's will. I invite you to also pray for new ways that you can join in the ministries of this congregation. I'm looking forward to 2022 with you!

I've had the opportunity to sit down with a few of you to get to know you better. I'd love to have time with more of you, so grab a time to get together with me at [fpcwoodstock.org/meetwitheric](http://fpcwoodstock.org/meetwitheric) in person or online. Reach out to me by email: [eric@fpcwoodstock.org](mailto:eric@fpcwoodstock.org) or text/call: 815-575-9454. (I apologize for confusion about my email address. You can use either [eric.corbin@fpcwoodstock.org](mailto:eric.corbin@fpcwoodstock.org) or [eric@fpcwoodstock.org](mailto:eric@fpcwoodstock.org). Both go to the same place.)

As we enter this new year together, let us "Sing to the Lord a new song! Sing to the Lord, all the earth! Sing to the Lord! Bless God's name! Share the news of God's saving work every single day! Declare God's glory among the nations; declare God's wondrous works among all people." — Psalm 96:1-3

Grace and peace, Pastor Eric

## January 2022



### Inside this issue

From Pastor Eric	Page 1
Together to Laugh and Learn	Page 2
Caring Together	Page 3-5
Leading Together	Page 6
Giving Together	Page 7
Together in Worship	Page 8
January Calendar	Page 9

### Sunday Worship Services

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



### **Congregational Meeting**

**Sunday, January 9 after Worship**

To elect new officers for the new year.

### **Annual Meeting**

**Sunday, January 30 after Worship**

### **Newsletter Editor**

Mark Bundick

### **Reporters:**

Angie Boe, Eric Corbin, Bob Clark,

Sue Krause, Pat Morozink,

Chris Nedjl, Ray Thuma

# TOGETHER TO LAUGH AND LEARN

## Men's Group/Bible Study

John Moorhouse, 815-236-7408  
[johnmoorhouse54@gmail.com](mailto:johnmoorhouse54@gmail.com)

## Wednesday Early Bible Study

Velma Downes, 815-245-4043  
[vmdownes@gmail.com](mailto:vmdownes@gmail.com)

## Adult Spiritual Growth Groups

Chris Nejd, 815-337-1070  
[canejd@hotmail.com](mailto:canejd@hotmail.com)

## Hospitality Team

Cheryl Wormley, 815-519-7402  
[indepublisher@comcast.net](mailto:indepublisher@comcast.net)

## Music Ministry

Christy Johanson  
815-382-5234  
[mom@babyjohanson.com](mailto:mom@babyjohanson.com)

## No-Name Knitters

Kay Darby, 815-338-5002  
[kedarby@icloud.com](mailto:kedarby@icloud.com)

## T.L.C. (Tender Loving Care)

Mary Hill, 815-338-6051  
[mary.hill2759@gmail.com](mailto:mary.hill2759@gmail.com)

## Meals-On-Wheels

Marla Norgard, 815-482-4855  
[marlanorgard01@gmail.com](mailto:marlanorgard01@gmail.com)

## WACM Local Mission Team

Pat Morozink, 815-338-7769  
[pmorozink@yahoo.com](mailto:pmorozink@yahoo.com)

## Food Pantry

Joyce Maynard, 815-338-7265

## Fishing Mission

Bob Clark, 847-274-8247  
[robtmclark@aol.com](mailto:robtmclark@aol.com)

## N.O.W. Team

### (Nurture on Wednesdays)

Lee Nejd — 815-546-1731  
Katie Spaldon — 815-276-3410  
Sue Epperson — 224-293-2295  
Mark Bundick — 815-337-9068  
Cheryl Wormley — 815-519-7402

## From the Education Committee

**Children's Christmas Program**—The Education and Spiritual Growth Committee would like to thank Erin Kaye, Jackie Lawler, and all the volunteers that helped put on a terrific children's program as part of the Christmas Cantata. The young people did an excellent job of presenting the story of Christ's birth. If you missed the cantata, it is available on YouTube here: <https://youtu.be/8ohQJFxe67E>.

**Book Study**—Beginning, Sunday, January 23th from 6 to 7 p.m., we will hold a discussion of the book: *Anxious to Talk About It: Helping White Christians Talk Faithfully about Racism* by Carolyn B. Helsel. The book is available at Read Between the Lines and on Amazon. Discussions will be held weekly via zoom on Sunday evenings. Contact Sue Krause at [shkrause1@yahoo.com](mailto:shkrause1@yahoo.com) to get the Zoom link and any meeting updates.

**Confirmation**—Confirmation will resume on January 5th. We'll meet online at least this first time, so check your emails for a message from Pastor Eric. We look forward to seeing you again on the first and third Wednesdays at 6 p.m.

**Sunday School**—Sunday School resumes on January 9th. On the second and fourth Sunday of each month, the children will be dismissed to the Sunday School rooms after the children's message for a time of learning and fellowship based on that Sunday's scripture lesson.

The "Prayground" activity area is available every Sunday in the back of the Great Hall for the young or young at heart who would like to engage in quiet tactile activities and art while listening to the service.

**Alkaline Battery Collection**—We continue to collect single use alkaline batteries for recycling. The box created by the confirmation class is in the entryway. Thank you to John Moorhouse for taking the collected batteries to the county recycling drop off.

## Men's Bible Study Returns!

### BIBLE STUDY



After a few months of vacation, the Saturday Men's Bible Study is back! The Men's Bible Study starts Saturday, January 8th, at 7:00 a.m. via Zoom. Anyone wishing to join us can call John Moorhouse at 815-236-7408 or via email at [johnmoorhouse54@gmail.com](mailto:johnmoorhouse54@gmail.com). Kick off your Saturdays with lively discussion that's sure to be both educational and fun!

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

Join us for lively discussion, thoughtful readings and good fellowship on Zoom. Contact Velma Downes to be added to the mailing list or for more information at 815-245-4043 or [vmdownes@gmail.com](mailto:vmdownes@gmail.com).



## **JANUARY BIRTHDAYS**

Caryl Lemanski-1/2  
Dyla Lawler-1/4  
Brayden Sobczak-1/4  
Angela Boe-1/7  
Christy Johanson-1/7  
Scott Greenlee-1/9  
Dustin Jones-1/10  
Patrick Moorhouse-1/12  
Andrew Rosati-1/14  
Aiden Mason-1/18  
Kirill Norgard-1/20  
Marla Norgard-1/23  
Marcia Gummerson-1/25  
The Moorhouse-1/25  
Joyce Rigby-1/25  
Charles Baker-1/26



*Happy Anniversary!*

## **JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES**

Eric and Kristi Corbin-1/3  
Ken & Joyce Maynard-1/6  
Jim & Cheryl Wormley-1/25  
Ryan & Gwen Wormley-1/25

## **NEWS FROM COMPASSION, PEACE**

### **AND JUSTICE COMMITTEE**

**January, 2022**

CPJ had a very busy Advent season. We held our second annual craft fair in November, the proceeds of which will support our church youth programs. We collected Reverse Advent calendar offerings to help supply the Kindness Closets at local District 200 schools and a Giving Tree to supply Christmas gifts for two Veterans' families.

During Advent, we promoted the fourth Special Offering drive, the Christmas Joy Offering. During the year, we collected three other Special Offerings, each with a goal of \$1365. In all of the first three, we raised more than the goal, the highest total being about \$1495, from 13-18 contributors. The Christmas Joy offering raised \$1970 from 26 contributors!!!! WOW!

Our goals for next year are slightly higher - \$1400 for each offering, but our primary goal is to have all members contribute to these to the extent they are able. No amount is too small!!! As we did this year, we will provide information from PCUSA about the purpose of each special offering as these come up. Meanwhile, THANK YOU for your generosity and support of these Offerings!

During 2022, beginning in January, we will be piloting a new project in collaboration with the Woodstock Food Pantry and the McHenry County Diaper Bank. Once a month, we will distribute diapers at the church to those who need them and who have been referred by the Food Pantry. January 5 from 4:00-5:30 p.m. will be our first distribution.

This committee is a very busy group which strives to be the face of our congregation in the community. We have 7 faithful members who plan and implement all of our projects. We are always looking for new ideas and would love to have new members join our group. We meet monthly on the third Thursday at 6:00 PM via ZOOM to conduct business and plan events. Please consider joining this committee to expand our impact in the community. To indicate interest, just email Sue Krause at [shkrause1@yahoo.com](mailto:shkrause1@yahoo.com) and she will make sure you begin to receive meeting notices and committee communications. Thank you! And Happy New Year!



### **Our Thoughts and Prayers are with...**

Nick Botian, Tom Schwarz, Jim Higgins, Tim Arnold, Ron Parrish, Paul Thuma, Russ Warye, Loretta Nejd, Kristen Matter, Ken Sommerville, Sherry Engstrom, Cary Cook, Christy Johanson and Val Ayers.



## January Update from the Deacons

Advent Bags were delivered to flock members who were unable to pick them up at the church.

The Deacons served a chili dinner for the joint Session/Deacon meeting on December 14th.

At the joint meeting we said good-bye to retiring Deacons Joyce Maynard, Matt Petrik and John Rigby and thanked them for all their service. We will miss them!

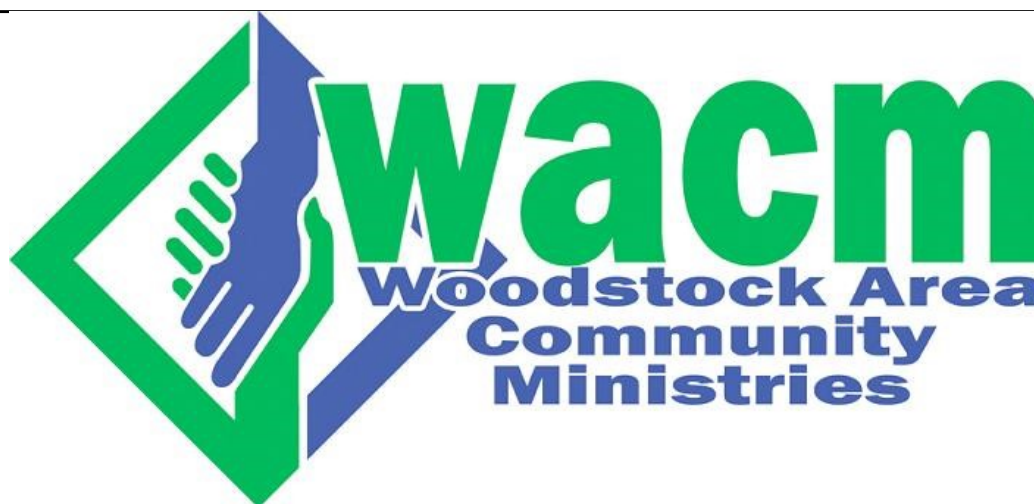
Updates on flock members were given after the joint meeting.

Please contact your Deacon as they want to help their flocks with any issues, news to share or needs. We are there for you!

Angie Boe 815-338-7782  
Sue Epperson 224-293-2295

Pam Moorhouse 815-814-5585  
John Moorhouse 815-236-7408

Barb Parrish 815-338-8112



## January WACM Notes

WACM is delighted to welcome Dave Davis as our new treasurer. Dave has been busy this month getting bookkeeping and banking duties transferred from Wendi Lesniak who had faithfully served as treasurer. We thank Dave for volunteering his skills and service to WACM and to Wendi for her years of service.

Preventing water shut-offs and providing gasoline vouchers have been the most requested kinds of help provided in December through WACM's Direct Assistance Program. People who live within the D-200 school boundaries are eligible to receive financial help through the Direct Assistance Program. Thank you to members of First Presbyterian for supporting WACM.

## Red Wagon Items Requested for January

### Corn, Sweet Peas, Green Beans, Tomatoes, Mixed Vegetables, Pork and Beans

You can leave your donations in the red wagon located at the rear of the Great Hall.

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. Also note that the Food Pantry will be open until 6:00 PM the first Monday of each month.



### Christmas Joy Offering - Thank You!

CPJ thanks our 26 contributors for breaking the thermometer!

Your contributions for all four special offerings broke  
thermometers all year long!

## The 2022 PC(USA) Special Offerings

It's amazing what happens when we join together. Presbyterians are part of a remarkable tradition. The PC(USA)'s four church-wide Special Offerings help share Christ's love with millions of people around the world.

### One Great Hour of Sharing: March 2 – April 17

Serve the "least of these" among us by providing relief to those affected by catastrophic events, giving sustainable food resources to the hungry, and changing the structures that perpetuate poverty, oppression, and injustice.

### Pentecost: April 18 – June 5

Help the church encourage, develop, and support its younger members to build a life of faith with a foundation established during childhood.

### Peace and Global Witness: September 4 – October 2

Provides tools and resources for the Church as we join together as active peacemakers at all times in all ways, like the reconciliation work in South Sudan, international advocacy at the UN, or a peace camp for kids in New Jersey.

### Christmas Joy: November 27 – December 18

Respond to God's perfect gift, Jesus Christ, by providing assistance to current and retired church workers in their time of need and developing future leaders at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color.

## N.O.W. Dinner Update

Mark your calendars for the return of N.O.W. dinners. Dinners will return starting Wednesday, February 9, with a "Souper Bowl" featuring multiple soup offerings plus some chili. Remaining dates for dinners will be February 23, March 9, 16, 23, 30 and April 6. Skip all the hassle of making dinner after a hard Wednesday, come enjoy the good food and hang around for some fellowship.





## December Session Notes

**Nominating Committee:** Pastor Eric and session discussed the need to fill one elder and one deacon position.

**COVID Task Force:** Suggestions from elders included follow up with ushers to leave the Great Hall doors open during service, and to follow up with Building and Grounds about what air filter options are available.

**Ministry Support–Finance:** A recommendation from committee to form a task force made up of both session and non-session members to address the structural budget issue identified in the most recent Mission Study Report was approved.

At the called meeting on December 19, session reviewed a tabled at the November 21, 2021 meeting regarding the Personnel Team’s recommendation to post for an Office Administrator position, expected to be full time, with duties including those of Financial Secretary, and to review and approve an operating budget for 2022. The Personnel Team’s tabled recommendation was taken from the table and approved unanimously. A motion to approve the 2022 budget with the provision that up to \$50,000 of unrestricted McCullough Distributed funds be used to help balance the budget was made and approved unanimously.

**Worship, Music and Arts:** The intergenerational Christmas Cantata was very well received. Suggestions for Worship follow-ups included instructions to ushers about taking attendance given the detailed attendance sheets being taken by Hospitality Team greeters; finalizing the protocol for returning the offering box to the entryway—members and visitors have been putting gifts into the box as they exit worship; and formalizing who will lock up the church after service. Communion dates for 2022 were approved.

**Congregational Life:** The committee requested that the freezer drain malfunction be investigated and repaired. A recommendation from committee to approve a new “valet parking” service, to be run by the Hospitality Team on Sunday mornings, pending an insurance agent discussion, was approved.

**Other Business:** Session approved calling a congregational meeting for the purpose of electing new elders and deacons on Sunday, January 9, immediately following worship. Session approved calling the annual congregational meeting for Sunday, January 30, immediately following worship.

**Next Regular Meeting:** Sunday, January 16, 2021 at 11:00 AM, at church

### Session / Committee Chairs

#### **Compassion, Peace & Justice**

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

#### **Congregational Life**

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

#### **Education & Spiritual Growth**

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

#### **Ministry Support**

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

#### **Worship, Music and Arts**

Chris Nejdil & Erin Kaye  
815-337-1070 or  
[cnejdl@hotmail.com](mailto:cnejdl@hotmail.com)  
(Worship Arts, Worship Leadership, Audio-Visual)

#### **Memorial Committee**

John Moorhouse & Angie Boe  
815-236-7407 or  
[johnmoorhouse54@gmail.com](mailto:johnmoorhouse54@gmail.com)

#### **Clerk of Session**

Mark Bundick  
815-337-9068 or  
[mbundick@comcast.net](mailto:mbundick@comcast.net)

## REPORT FROM THE MINISTRY SUPPORT COMMITTEE

### January 2022 Newsletter

- Session has approved forming a task force with representatives from both the session and the congregation to address the ongoing structural budget challenges (requiring funding from the McCullough Distribution Fund to support donations from the Congregation to balance the Operating Budget) faced from year to year.
- November Financials and Operating Budget

November 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	\$197,746	\$174,574	\$23,172	\$192,622
All Other Income	<u>\$9,627</u>	<u>\$11,345</u>	<u>(\$1,718)</u>	<u>\$27,572</u>
Total Income	\$207,373	\$185,919	\$21,454	\$220,194
<u>Expenses</u>				-
Staff	\$133,156	\$130,620	<u>\$2,536</u>	\$142,626
All Other Expenses	<u>\$76,537</u>	<u>\$92,642</u>	<u>(\$16,106)</u>	<u>\$103,087</u>
Total Expense	\$209,692	\$223,262	<u>(\$13,570)</u>	\$245,713
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	<b>(\$2,319)</b>	<b>(\$37,343)</b>	<b>\$35,024</b>	<b>(\$25,519)</b>

- Contribution Income was favorable to budget partially due to receiving 2022 pledge income in November and higher than planned non-pledge contributions throughout the year.
- Balance Sheet – no issues
- Cash Flow – Operating cash favorable to plan by about \$22,000 mostly due to favorable contributions as stated above in the Operating Budget.
- Session approved the 2022 Operating Budget with Income unfavorable to Expenses by ~\$25,000 after subsidizing Income with \$50,000 from the McCullough Distribution Fund.
- Session has approved hiring an Office Administrator.

Feel free to reach out to us with any questions or comments.: Bob Clark: [robtmlark@aol.com](mailto:robtmlark@aol.com) or 815-527-5109. or Dawn Cook: [dcook@wcusd200.org](mailto:dcook@wcusd200.org) or 815-276-3983.

### YOUR MAIL IS SAFE WITH US!



A reminder that our mailbox located near the front door of the church is locked. Anything placed there will be secure until picked up by the office.

## From the Worship Committee

Join us for Worship in the New Year!

Start your New Year right with weekly worship at First Presbyterian Church in Woodstock. We continue to offer in person worship or a virtual, live-stream option to allow all to participate in worship with the church family at First Presbyterian.

January 2 – Celebrate Communion to begin the New Year.

Here are some important events in January to focus your prayer life this month:

Epiphany — January 6, 2022 “Epiphany is the celebration of God’s manifestation or self-revelation to the world in Jesus Christ. In particular, we celebrate the revelation of God’s promise and purpose to the nations of the world, as the Magi came from the East to worship the Christ Child, and God’s covenant of grace is extended to all who believe the good news of Christ Jesus.”

For additional resources for Epiphany, visit [www.presbyterianmission.org](http://www.presbyterianmission.org).

January 9 worship service: We will celebrate the baptism of the Lord, as well as remember our own baptisms with gratitude.

Martin Luther King Jr. Day - Monday, January 17, 2022

Want to learn more about Martin Luther King Jr’s life and contributions to the Civil Rights Movement? Visit Presbyterian Historical Society, the National Archives of the PC (USA) at [www.history.PCUSA.org](http://www.history.PCUSA.org).

Unto us a child is born...Make room in your heart for Jesus.



**FPC Worship on YouTube  
and Facebook**



Remember that our services are regularly live streamed on Facebook and archived on YouTube. If you can’t get to church on Sunday morning, check out the live stream at our Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/fpcwoodstock/>. You can also watch all our worship services on FPC’s YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCxGlFuDXFmONo2cpjMjlkoyg>.

## Livestreaming our Services

The Worship Arts Team is looking for interested individuals to join to help with live streaming the worship services. They’ll show you all the things needed to successfully broadcast our worship. If you can help out, contact Ray Thuma at [rpthuma@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rpthuma@sbcglobal.net) or Christy Johanson, [mom@babyjohanson.com](mailto:mom@babyjohanson.com).

## Worship Leadership

The Hospitality Team and Deacons will be greeting again this month. Please contact Cheryl Wormley (815-519-7402; [indepublisher@comcast.net](mailto:indepublisher@comcast.net)) or John Moorhouse (815-236-7408; [johnmoorhouse54@gmail.com](mailto:johnmoorhouse54@gmail.com)) if you would like to assist with this important ministry.



# January 2022

## First Presbyterian Church

January 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						<b>1</b>
<b>2</b> Christmas Joy offering Minute for Mission 9:30 am Worship	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> 7:30 am Lectionary Study 6 pm Confirmation Class	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 7 am Men's Bible Study
<b>9</b> 9:30 am Worship 9:45 am Sunday School-PreK-5th 10:30 am Congregational Meeting 6:30 pm Education and Spiritual Growth	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> 10 am TLC Ladies 7 pm Deacons	<b>12</b> 7:30 am Lectionary Study 6:30 pm No-Name Knitters	<b>13</b> 5 pm Hospitality Team 7 pm Finance Comm	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>16</b> 9:30 am Worship 11 am Session	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 6 pm NOW Team	<b>19</b> 7:30 am Lectionary Study 6 pm Confirmation Class	<b>20</b> 6 pm Compassion, Peace and Justice	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> 7 am Men's Bible Study
<b>23</b> 9:30 am Worship 9:45 am Sunday School-PreK-5th 6 pm Book Study - "Anxious To Talk About It"	<b>24</b> Newsletter Article s Due	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 7:30 am Lectionary Study 6:30 pm No-Name Knitters	<b>27</b> 6 pm Worship Arts Mtg	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b> 9:30 am Worship 10:30 am Congregational Annual Meeting 6 pm Book Study - "Anxious To Talk About It"	<b>31</b>					

### **MINISTERS**

All members and friends of the  
congregation

### **STAFF**

Rev. Eric Corbin  
Pastor

Dave Davis  
Financial Secretary

Roger Dickman  
Accompanist

Christy Johanson  
Social Media  
Worship Arts Coordinator

### **OFFICERS**

Mark Bundick  
Clerk of Session

Cary Cook  
Treasurer

# January 2022



## **FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF WOODSTOCK**

*CELEBRATING AND SHARING GOD'S LOVE*

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