

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.*

April 2023



Rise Again

When I was in high school marching band, there was an arrangement of a song called "Rise Again" which was popular with marching bands. As a trumpet player, I remember the trumpet part was pretty fun to play, and sounded really good! I'm not sure how it was that public schools came to often play this religious song, but it was there in my memories, and the words of the song came to me while thinking about this letter to you.

The verses of the song are about Jesus' crucifixion and burial. The chorus then says this:

'Cause I'll rise again

Ain't no power on earth can tie me down

Yes, I'll rise again

Death can't keep me in the ground!

That is the promise of Easter – death cannot keep its hold on Jesus, and therefore, on us, either. One of the great Easter hymns of the church is "Christ the Lord is Risen Today" and it includes these two great lines: "Where, O death, is now your sting?" and "Where your victory, O grave?" We celebrate the resurrection of Jesus this Easter Sunday and proclaim that death does not have the final word.

Before we get to Easter, though, we must go through the pain of Good Friday. As I write this, Palm Sunday is a few days away, where we will wave our palm branches and welcome Jesus as we commemorate the Triumphal Entry. We'll then gather on Maundy Thursday for a service of communion, followed by self-guided prayer and meditation stations. On Good Friday, we come together for a service of shadows, or Tenebrae. (*Tenebrae is a Latin word meaning "darkness."*) The services in between Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday are important, meaningful ones, and I hope to see you here. Without those services, we skip from the joy of Palm Sunday to the joy of Easter Sunday and miss the depth of sacrifice of Jesus in the days that come between.

In addition to worship, I hope to see you in various meetings and times of fellowship and service. Read this newsletter to learn more about the activities of the church in the month of April. While worship is a central gathering purpose for the church, we are also called together in many ways throughout our days. *Come and see!*

Let's Connect

Grab a time to chat at fpcwoodstock.org/meetwitheric. Connect with me on Facebook at fb.com/ericcorbin or fb.com/pastorericcorbin and the church at fb.com/fpcwoodstock.

Grace and peace,

Pastor Eric

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Sunday Worship Services

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

Newsletter Editor

Jeri Loiselle

Reporters:

Eric Corbin, Sherry Thuma,
Mark Bundick, Jackie Boe,
Julie Farver, Ray Thuma, Kay Darby,
Joyce Maynard, Pat Morozink,
Nancy Bingham, Cheryl Wormley.

TOGETHER TO LAUGH AND LEARN

Men's Group/Bible Study

John Moorhouse

815-236-7408

johnmoorhouse54@gmail.com

Wednesday Early Bible Study

Velma Downes

815-245-4043

vmdownes@gmail.com

Adult Spiritual Growth Groups

Jackie Lawler

jackieboe@comcast.net

Hospitality Team

Erin Kaye

312-371-7573

erinlkaye@gmail.com

Music Ministry

Christy Johanson

815-382-5234

christy@fpcwoodstock.org

No-Name Knitters

Kay Darby

815-572-1729

kedarby@icloud.com

T.L.C.

(Tender Loving Care)

Mary Hill, 815-338-6051

mary.hill2759@gmail.com

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

Lee Nejd 815-546-1731

Katie Spaldon 815-276-3410

Erin Kaye 312-371-7573

Linda Hansen 815-451-8735

Ceryl Wormley 815-519-7402

indepublisher@comcast.net

MEN'S GROUP BIBLE STUDY, SATURDAY AT 7:00 a.m.

Join us via Google Meet for Bible study on Saturday mornings at 7:00 a.m.

Contact **John Moorhouse**, 815-236-7408 or johnmoorhouse54@gmail.com, to get connected through Google Meet 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 God's love in right relationship through God's son Jesus.

LECTIONARY BIBLE STUDY, WEDNESDAY AT 9:00 a.m.

The group is meeting virtually using Google Meet. We select a single reading from the Revised 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.

N.O.W. Dinner and Brunch News

The N.O.W. Dinner season has come to an end.

Since September 2022, we hosted 19 dinners and 13 brunches.

We thank Matt Thuma, the Youth Group, Choir and Men's Bible Study for hosting; they gave us some yummy meals and gave the N.O.W. team a break.

If you'd like to know more about hosting, please contact any member of the N.O.W. team.

Thanks also to those who brought out deserts. Of particular note is "Dessert Queen" Vicki Thuma. She often provided two desserts and sometimes even three this spring! Kudos to FPC's "Dessert Princess" Faith Corbin who is already an expert baker.

We also salute our Youth Group who hosted one dinner and one brunch, while raising funds for their upcoming "Go and Serve" trip this summer. Those attending gave generously to support our youth.

The N.O.W. team met on March 28 to plan out possible summer events and look ahead to the fall of 2023. Please feel free to let any team member know if you have suggestions for menu item or want to get involved in a really fun ministry!



FOOD PANTRY

April Items-canned fruits of all sorts.

The Pantry is looking for volunteers to pick up left over bread from Panera, on Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays at 9 p.m. The Bread will then be dropped at the Pantry that night or by 8:30 a.m.

Contact Joyce Maynard

815-338-7265 or

woodstockfoodpantry.org



SAVE THE
DATE!
April 20-22

**RUMMAGE SALE DROP-OFF BEGINS
FRIDAY, APRIL 14-DURING OFFICE
HOURS**

**SATURDAY, APRIL 15- (If you need a
key to get in call Joyce Maynard
(815) 338-7265)**

**SUNDAY, APRIL 16- BEFORE AND
AFTER CHURCH**

**MONDAY, APRIL 17-WEDNESDAY
APRIL 19**

FROM 9 A.M. -4:00 P.M.

Please put items in Rooms 1-3.

There can't be a sale without you! Please join us by:

Donating or signing up to set-up anytime Monday-

Wednesday, 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

And/or working at the sale

Thursday, 8:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.

Saturday, 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Saturday, 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

**See sign up sheet in entry for times
and type of help needed.**

**PLEASE make sure all items are
CLEAN and in working order and no
pieces are missing!**

Go through everyone's closets...Ask yourself:

Does it fit? Do I really like it? Will I really ever wear it
again? Will I use it again? Has it been worn in the last 12
months? Why was I saving it? Is it my style anymore?

**Fill at least one bag per person in
your house.**



WACM NEWS

WACM's winter fundraising shows wrapped up on April 1 when participants experienced a world of bubbles and all their magic.

Funding for WACM is provided from member churches which include First Presbyterian and through fundraising efforts. Those funds go out into our community to provide assistance to residents in need through the Direct Assistance Program. During 2022, 30 households were assisted with water bill payments to avoid disconnection. Another 26 households received help paying their electric or natural gas bills. Please support the church's upcoming rummage sale. Proceeds from the rummage sale are shared with WACM.

Your support is needed and appreciated. Thank you.

NO NAME KNITTERS

Don't forget the knitters and crocheters have added a new morning time to our schedule! We are hopeful this will allow people to meet with us during the day, if they can't make an evening meeting.

Come join us in our mission to care for others, while having fun and fellowship! The morning time is the third Wednesday of each month at 10:00 a.m. The evening meetings remain the same, the second and fourth Wednesdays, at 6:30 p.m. If you can't come to the meetings at church, but would like to contribute, consider making items at home, and we will pick them up.

Call Kay Darby, 815-572-1729, for more information.

Happy Birthday

Pam Moorhouse-April 10
Erin Kaye-April 13
Joyce Chwalisz-April 15
Patricia Sowa-April 16
Tony Spaldon-April 16
Alexandria Rewiako-April 17
James Reilly-April 18
Jerin Ferrera- April 20
Jessica Gienko-April 24
Sue Sauer-April 24
Brooke Mathison-April 30

Happy Anniversary

Bryan and Cindy Dahm
April 10
Kyle and Jen Oliver
April 30

Thoughts and Prayers

Alice Nulle,
Arlene Bernardoni,
Barb Parrish, Braelen Kittle,
Breck Thennes, Cary Cook,
Gayle Abrams,
Jamie Robinett,
Kristin Harris, Shirley Kinell,
Mary Kittle,
Pam Moorhouse, Phil Dahm,
Ron Parrish, Ruth Hunt,
Tim Arnold, Tom Schwarz,
Kyler Smith, Fred Strauss,
Karen Thennes,
Tom Thennes.

John 3:16: "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."



NEWS FROM EDUCATION AND SPIRITUAL GROWTH

Go & Serve Trip

Thank you to all that helped and supported the Youth Group brunch last month! We made a whopping \$759! Through all of the many events this year the youth have now raised a total of \$2,017! With our fundraisers concluding for the year we would still like to ask for the help of the congregation to get to our ultimate goal of \$3,000. If you feel so moved and would like to donate to their great event, you may make a donation via check or online and please indicate the funds are for the Go & Serve trip.

Youth Group

Come join us for an informal gathering of the Woodstock First Presbyterian's youth group.

We'll enjoy music, food, fun and fellowship!

April 30th at 4:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Kindly hosted by Katherine Greenlee

Highway Cleanup

Mark your calendars for Earth Day Saturday, April 22nd at 9a.m.! The church will be doing a highway cleanup and we are asking the adults and youth ages 11 and older to please join us in these efforts to clean up our Earth on a very special day!

Sunday School News

Join us on Palm Sunday, April 2nd! We will have palm branches for the children to wave in a processional around the Great Hall during the beginning of the worship service. Following our fun "palm parade," we will commence our normal Sunday School routine with a lesson and craft surrounding the story behind "Palm Sunday."

On Sunday, April 23rd, the Sunday School children will work on an Earth Day skit during class and perform at the end of the service. You won't want to miss it!

Sunday, May 14th will be our last class and the children will be making a little something special for Mother's Day!

Questions? Please reach out to [Erin Kaye](#) or [Jackie Lawler](#).



APRIL BELLS SCHEDULE

SUNDAY, APRIL 2, 2023,
ADVANCED BELLS PERFORM

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5, 2023,
6:15 – 7:15 PM
BEGINNING BELLS REHEARSAL

SUNDAY, APRIL 9, 2023,
BEGINNING BELLS PERFORM

WEDNESDAY APRIL 19, 2023,
6:15 – 7:15 PM
BEGINNING BELLS REHEARSAL

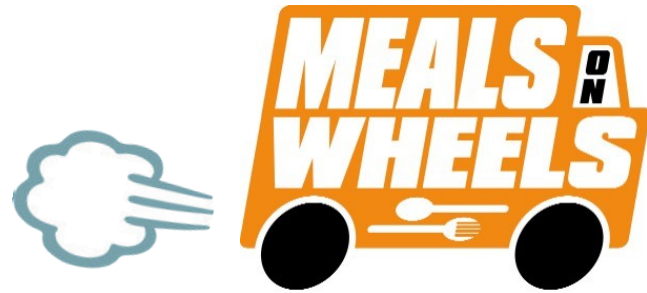


MEALS ON WHEELS

We are still in need of Drivers on Mondays. Please consider volunteering. There will be no meal delivery on days when District 200 schools are closed due to inclement weather.

Pick up time is 11:00. Pick up location is Northwestern Hospital, 3701 Doty Road. The hospital phone number for Meals on Wheels is 815.334.5057. Thank you for your time!

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me via phone or email. Marla Norgard @ 815.482.4855
marlanorgard01@gmail.com.



UPDATE ON PROPOSED BYLAW CHANGES

By Mark B. Bundick, Clerk of Session

We did not have a quorum of members present at the March 12, called congregational meeting. Session has called another congregational meeting after worship on Easter Sunday, April 9, to try to vote on the proposed bylaws amendments.

After feedback from members, session has also made a minor change in one of the proposed amendments. The change to Article V, Meetings of the Congregation and Corporation – Quorum from “The quorum of a meeting of the congregation shall be the moderator, the secretary, and no fewer than 25 per cent of the active members of the congregation.” to “The quorum of a meeting of the congregation shall be the moderator, the secretary, and no fewer than 20 per cent of the active members of the congregation.” Shifting to the lower percentage would require 31 members instead of 39 to make a quorum.

The other changes remain as proposed. They would change Article VII, Session, from “The Session shall be comprised of eight ruling elders elected by the congregation.” to “The Session shall be comprised of six ruling elders elected by the congregation.” And to change Article VIII, Deacons, from “The Board of Deacons shall be comprised of eight deacons elected by the congregation.” to “The Board of Deacons shall be comprised of six deacons elected by the congregation.”

Please make every effort to attend and vote on the proposed changes on April 9.

DEACON UPDATE FOR APRIL

You could be a deacon

Yes, you could be our congregation's sixth deacon.

Do you sense God calling you to use your gifts of mercy, help, hospitality, and prayer to show God's love to members of our church family?

Think of it. You will join five other deacons – Angie Boe, Kristen Matter, Barbara Parrish, Sherry Thuma and Cheryl Wormley – and have their support and help. More importantly, you'll have God's help.

Our church family is divided into six flocks – one for each deacon. Deacons stay in touch with the people in their flocks to celebrate joys and to offer prayers and kindnesses when there are needs.

The deacons meet with Pastor Eric once a month on Google Meet. We also host Sunday morning coffee fellowships.

Feel called to be a deacon? Tell [Pastor Eric](#) or [Angie](#), [Kristen](#), [Barbara](#), [Sherry](#) or [Cheryl](#).

Angie Boe (815) 338-7782

Kristen Matter (847) 609-8340

Sherry Thuma (815) 847-8339

Barbara Parrish (815) 338-8112

Cheryl Wormley (815) 519-4702



March Finance Notes

by Mark Bundick, Finance Team Lead

The Finance Team is off to its usual yearly start, finalizing the budget load into QuickBooks, and preparing for an intensive review of income and expense at the end of the first quarter. We'll also be looking at the performance of the McCullough Endowment after the volatile markets swings we've had. Check out our report in the May newsletter for full details.

Administratively, we've got several 2023 projects on our radar:

- Documentation of our IT infrastructure

- Partnering with another church in an independent review of our financial reporting.

Finally, below is a snapshot of income and expense vs. budget at the end of February. It's really too early for us to sort out any trends, but history tells us that these figures are typical for our budget at this time of year.

Thanks to everyone for their generous support of our mission here at FPCW!

Thru February 2023	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Variance
Pledges	\$ 5,020	\$ 2,547	\$ 2,473
All Other Income	\$ 68,844	\$ 60,302	\$ 8,542
Total Income	\$ 73,864	\$ 62,849	\$ 11,015
Expenses			
Staff	\$ 33,377	\$ 34,460	\$ 1,083
All Other Expenses	\$ 13,779	\$ 12,109	\$ (1,670)
Total Expense	\$ 47,156	\$ 46,569	\$ (587)
Net Income	\$ 26,709	\$ 16,280	\$ 10,429

MARCH SESSION NOTES

Clerk's Report: After discussion, session voted to change a proposed by-laws amendment regarding a quorum for congregational meeting from the original proposed 15% to 20%. Session also voted to call a congregational meeting on Sunday, April 9, to consider the bylaws changes.

Committee Reports

Compassion, Peace and Justice: We have been recertified as an Earth Care Congregation.

Congregational Life: The committee will be working with Building and Grounds to put up our Welcome banner. Advertising will be shifting from the Northwest Herald to the Woodstock Independent.

Education and Spiritual Growth: The committee is working to add the Boy Scout troop info to our webpage. The committee is working to decide if more fundraisers will be needed to fully pay for the "Go and Serve" trip; the trip will start on July 30.

Ministry Support – Finance: Financial reports were accepted with thanks.

Ministry Support – Buildings and Grounds: An outdoor work day will be scheduled in the spring.

Worship, Music and Arts: A committee recommendation that \$1,000 of the worship coordinator's salary be reallocated to contract musicians' amount (making the resulting total \$2,000 per year contract musicians' budget) was approved.

Next Regular Meeting: Sunday, April 30, 2023 at 11:00 a.m.

Compassion, Peace & Justice

Sue Krause

shkrause1@yahoo.com

(Awareness, Service)

Congregational Life

Erin Kaye

312-371-7573

erinlkaye@gmail.com

(Hospitality & NOW)

Education & Spiritual Growth

Jackie Lawler

jackieboe@comcast.net

(Adult, Youth, Child, Intergenerational)

Ministry Support

Dawn Cook & Mark Bundick

815-861-7002

cookdawn82@gmail.com

(Finance, Staff Support, Building & Grounds, and Stewardship)

Worship, Music and Arts

Tiffany Sobczak

815-790-9360

tsobczak82@gmail.com

(Worship Arts, Worship Leadership, Audio-Visual)

Clerk of Session

Mark Bundick

815-337-9068

mbundick@comcast.net

COMPASSION, PEACE AND JUSTICE NEWS



**SEW A STITCH AND
MAKE A DIFFERENCE!**

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED. Please join us!

First Presbyterian supports Girls 4 Ghana with the help of our CPJ committee. We hope to have a sewing night soon to show our support and enthusiasm for what they do. In the meantime, Northwestern Medicine is sponsoring a sewing event April 22nd at Northwestern McHenry Hospital. All are welcome, sewing skills are not required. Click on the link below for more information.

SEW A STITCH AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

We hope that you will consider attending!

https://www.flipcause.com/secure/cause_pdetails/MTc5NjM5

WORSHIP ARTS NEWS

The Easter lilies that decorate our Sanctuary are available to purchase for \$14.00 each.

Buy one or two to commemorate a loved one. Your loved ones' names will be listed in the Sunday announcements and in the Midweek News. You can submit your order by [Ordering Online](#) or Order forms and envelopes are available in the foyer. Write your check to FPCW, memo: lilies.

APRIL WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Date	Lectionary	Liturgist	A/V	Ushers	Acolyte	Greeter
4/2/23	Liturgy of the Palms	Dawn Cook	Dave Johanson	Julie and Ken Farver	Gracyn Petrik	Cheryl Wormley
4/6/23	Maundy Thursday					Cheryl Wormley
4/7/23	Good Friday					Linda Hansen
4/9/23	Resurrection of the Lord	Addie Sobczak	Rob McMahon	Kyle and Brayden	Kayden Petrik	Cheryl & Linda
4/16/23	Second Sunday of Easter	Renee Simes	Dave Johanson	Lee and Chris Nejd	Colin Kaye	Linda Hansen
4/23/23	Third Sunday of Easter	Julie Farver	Rob McMahon	Rick and Pat Morozink	Christopher Corbin	Sue Krause
4/30/23	Fourth Sunday of Easter	Velma Downes	Dave Johanson	Julie and Ken Farver	Noa Moorhouse	Cheryl Wormley



Holy Week



April 2, 9:30 a.m.

Palm Sunday service with bell choir and palm fronds

April 6, 7:00 p.m.

Maundy Thursday service with communion & self-guided prayer stations

April 7, 7:00 p.m.

Good Friday service with choir

April 9, 9:30 a.m.

Easter Sunday service with bell choir & chancel choir

services will be live-streamed at fpcwoodstock.org/worship

 **FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH OF WOODSTOCK**
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April 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 7a Men's Bible Study
2 Advanced Bells perform 9:30a Worship 9:45a Sunday School: PreK-5th 10:30a Brunch 10:45a Choir Rehearsal <i>Palm Sunday</i>	3	4	5 9a Lectionary Study 4p Diaper Bank distribution 6:15p Beginning Bells Rehearsal 7:30p Choir Rehearsal	6 7p Boy Scout Troop 159 7p Maundy Thursday service	7 Choir sings 7p Good Friday service <i>Good Friday</i>	8 7a Men's Bible Study <i>April Fools' Day</i>
9 Beginning Bells and Choir Perform 9:30a Worship <i>Easter</i>	10	11 10a TLC Ladies	12 9a Lectionary Study 6:30p No-Name Knitters	13 1p Finance Team 7p Boy Scout Troop 159	14	15 7a Men's Bible Study
16 9:30a Worship	17	18	19 9a Lectionary Study 4p No-Name Knitters 6:15p Beginning Bells Rehearsal	20 Rummage Sale 10a Hospitality Team 6p Compassion, Peace and Justice 7p Boy Scout Troop 159 7p Deacons	21	22 7a Men's Bible Study 9a Highway Clean-up <i>Earth Day</i>
23 Earth Sunday 9:30a Worship 9:45a Sunday School: PreK-5th 10:30a Brunch 11a Education and Spiritual Growth	24	25	26 9a Lectionary Study 6:30p No-Name Knitters 7:30p Choir Rehearsal	27 6:30p Worship Arts Mtg 7p Boy Scout Troop 159	28	29 7a Men's Bible Study
30 Choir sings 9:30a Worship 11a Session 4:30p Youth Group gathering						

MINISTERS

All members and friends
of the congregation

STAFF

Rev. Eric Corbin
Pastor

Jeri Loiselle
Office Administrator
Social Media
Financial Secretary

Roger Dickman
Organist

Christy Johanson
Worship Arts
Coordinator

April 2023



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:
office@fpcwoodstock.org
Website:
www.fpcwoodstock.org
Visit us on Facebook