

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.*

From Pastor Eric:

It's September (believe it or not!) and we are gearing up for a return to a more regular routine than that of summer. School is back in session, summer vacations have come to an end, and we are readying for Fall. Sunday, September 10th is our **Rally Day**, the beginning of our Sunday School year (including Confirmation) and a time for many to reconnect with the church. We'll also have brunch that day, and a fun "selfie station" as we kick off the new year. *Please make a special effort to be here on September 10th.*

With September comes (generally) cooler weather, and after the heat wave during August, we are ready for the cooler temperatures. Regardless of the weather, the creation is God's handiwork and a great gift to us. Jeremiah 32:17 says "Lord God, you created heaven and earth by your great power and outstretched arm; nothing is too hard for you!" Let us rejoice in the marvelous Earth that God made for us, and in the knowledge that nothing is too hard for our God!

I'm looking forward to increased times of fellowship as we return to brunches and NOW dinners. If you haven't been to a NOW dinner in a little while, come join us – beginning on Wednesday, September 13th. It's always a great time with great food!

I hope to see you in worship, 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 September. 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

September 2023



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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

Lectionary 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

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

Mark Bundick 224-242-2451

Cheryl Wormley 815-519-7402

indepublisher@comcast.net

MEN'S

Bible Study

Saturday, at 7:00 a.m.

All are welcome to join with us during this time of learning, 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.

Contact [John Moorhouse](mailto:johnmoorhouse54@gmail.com),

815-236-7408.

LECTIONARY

Bible Study

Wednesday, at 9:00 a.m.

The group gathers via 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](mailto:vmdownes@gmail.com) to be added to the mailing list or for more information.



Calling all singers!

Join us for a night of "casual choir" on Wednesday, September 6 at 7:00 p.m. as we sing some songs with Tom, Chris and Dave on their stringed instruments.

We'll lead the congregation in song on September 10, Rally Day!

Official choir rehearsals start Wednesday, September 20.

The plan is to rehearse and sing every other week.

In November, we'll start rehearsing more as we prepare for the Christmas Cantata, which will be held on December 10.

Looking forward to seeing you all there!

NO NAME KNITTERS

Our Fall season is here, and hopefully, cooler weather! We will continue making our shawls and lapghans, as usual. Now is the time to knit or crochet as many winter items as we can, for any District 200 pre-school to high school students that need them.

It's a big job, and any additional hands would be a blessing!

Call Kay Darby at 815-572-1729 for more information. We meet at 6:30 on the second and fourth Wednesdays, and at 10:00 a.m. on the third Wednesday of each month. Come visit!

TOGETHER TO LAUGH AND LEARN

CRAFT FAIR PREPARATIONS

If you aren't already working on your crafts for the next Craft Fair, now would be a good time to get started. All types of home-made crafts are welcome. Like last year, the Craft Fair will be held in the Great Hall on the morning of the Christmas Cantata, Dec. 10th. Proceeds are planned to be donated to our church's youth program. Last year's earnings were used to help the youth attend the Go and Serve trip this summer.

MEALS ON WHEELS IN NEED OF A SCHEDULER

Just about every month our church is responsible for delivering one week of Meals-On-Wheels right here in Woodstock. We are in need of a new scheduler for Meals on Wheels. Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays are covered through December. The church will need to find people for Mondays and Wednesdays.

N.O.W. TEAM NEWS

Your "Nurture On Wednesday" (N.O.W.) Team is ready for the fall season and rarin' to go!

The team gathered on August 8 to look at the upcoming fall FPCW calendar and plan out our yummy dinners and lunches. We'll be looking to stick to the schedule we developed last spring and serve dinners on most Wednesdays and brunch on Sundays when Sunday School meets.

Our September menus look like this:

Sunday, September 10 – Rally Day: Brunch with eggs, sausage, mini-bagels, fruit, coffee, and juice.

Wednesday, September 13 – N.O.W. Dinner Kickoff with our traditional "Corn and Brats"

Wednesday, September 20 – South of the Border: Taco bar with all your favorite fixings and refried beans.

Sunday, September 24 - Brunch with our standard menu.

Wednesday, September 27 – One Last Cookout: Join us for burgers, hot dogs and all the fixings for one last cookout of the season.

Wednesday, October 4 – No dinner due to D200 parent / teacher conferences.

We'll be looking to ask FPCWers for deserts to round out the Wednesday dinners. We'll also be asking for volunteers to help out the N.O.W. team with some of our simple tasks, like wiping down tables and loading the dishwasher. We'll have a sign-up sheet on Wednesdays, so if you can spare 15 minute at a dinner or two, it would be a help.

Please mark your calendars, come out and join us for some good food and fellowship!

SEPTEMBER RED WAGON ITEMS

Chicken Noodle Soup, Cream of Mushroom Soup,
Tomato Soup, Cream of Chicken Soup,
Vegetable Soup, Ramen Noodles

Contact Joyce Maynard 815-338-7265 or
woodstockfoodpantry.org.

GIRLS 4 GIRLS GHANA

Save the Date

Saturday October 28th at First Presbyterian Church

SEW A STITCH AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

REUSABLE CLOTH SANITARY PAD

SEWING EVENT

CARING TOGETHER

September Birthdays

Candee McMahon 9/02
Gianna Ferrera 9/03
Steve Kaye 9/05
Emersyn Cook 9/07
Anna Kittle 9/07
Julie Farver 9/08
Lily Oliver 9/11
Hannah Botian 9/12
Lynne Sobczak 9/13
Imri Petrik 9/15
Reagan Wormley 9/18
Erik Johanson 9/20
Sharon Stanger 9/20
Ellen Dahm 9/22
Larry Collins 9/23
Fred Strauss 9/24
Richard Peters 9/25
Meghan Reilly 9/25
Matilda Botian 9/26
Pat Morozink 9/30

September Anniversaries

Chris & Kathi Carr 9/03
Danielle & Rick Rewiako 9/09
Kyle & Tiffany Sobczak 9/09

EDUCATION AND SPIRITUAL GROWTH

Sunday School Rally Day & Schedule

Rally Day to kick off the new Sunday School year is Sunday, September 10th! We will meet immediately following Pastor Eric's "Time with Children" during the 9:30 am worship service. After Rally Day, Sunday School will continue to meet following the schedule below during the 9:30 am service. The Playground will be available on non-Sunday School days.

**This year we will be using the PC(USA) curriculum,
*Growing in Grace and Gratitude.***

9/10/23 Noah and the Ark and the Rainbow Promise

9/24/23 Abram and Sarai Went

10/15/23 Love God, Love Others

10/29/23 Welcome the Stranger

11/12/23 Lesson TBD/Cantata Rehearsal

11/26/23 Lesson TBD/Cantata Rehearsal

12/3/23 Cantata Rehearsal

12/10/23 Christmas Cantata



Youth Group Meeting & First Event

Youth Group is available again this year for our 6th-12th grade students. We welcome children from our congregation as well as friends. The more the merrier! We will hold a short meeting for all Youth Group aged children and parents on Sunday, September 10th following church. As we start our second year, we would like to hear feedback of what worked, what didn't and what you would like to see this year.

The first Youth Group event is here! Please mark your calendar for Sunday, September 17th from 5-7pm. We will meet at church for a good ole' fashioned bonfire where we will cook some hot dogs and s'mores! We will play in the gaga pit, have bags (cornhole for some!) and other outdoor games available.

Confirmation

Confirmation classes will start again in September for children going into 7th, 8th and 9th grades. Classes will be twice a month and will once again use the PC(USA) curriculum, *Big God Big Questions*. Please let Pastor Eric know if your child will be able to attend and if you prefer classes to be held after brunch on Sundays or after the NOW dinner on Wednesdays.

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

COMPASSION, PEACE, AND JUSTICE

September 3 - October 1, 2023

Peace & Global Witness

The Peace & Global Witness Offering encourages the church to cast off anxiety and fear, discord and division, and embrace our God's mission of reconciliation to those around the corner and around the world.

confronting hopelessness, thwarting division

Empowering congregations and individuals to become peacemakers themselves.

Through the Peace & Global Witness Offering, congregations are encouraged and equipped to find and address the anxiety and discord that is prevalent throughout this broken and sinful world.

your impact

Equipping Peacemakers in Congregations and Around the World.

A gift to the Peace & Global Witness Offering enables the church to promote the Peace of Christ by addressing systems of conflict and injustice across the world. Individual congregations are encouraged to utilize up to 25% of this Offering to connect with the global witness of Christ's peace. Mid councils retain an additional 25% for ministries of peace and reconciliation. The remaining 50% is used by the Presbyterian Mission Agency to advocate for peace and justice in cultures of violence, including our own, through collaborative projects of education and Christian witness.

FPC Woodstock will be collecting contributions to this Special Offering during September. Our goal is to collect \$1500 this year. The Compassion, Peace and Justice Committee will recommend to Session which local organization we want the 25% of our total collected to go to.

Watch for Minutes for Mission in upcoming church services for stories about the impact of these gifts.

To donate, write a check to First Presbyterian Church Woodstock and note the Peace and Global Mission gift in the memo. You may also donate online: <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-Z3WP/campaign/C-1249C>

We failed to meet our goal for the Pentecost Special Offering, so let's do this!!!! Thank you!

Sue Krause, Chair of Compassion, Peace and Justice Committee

Blessed are the
peacemakers,
for they will be called
the children of God.

MATTHEW 5:9



PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS
SPECIAL OFFERINGS
PEACEMAKING AND RECONCILIATION
SEPTEMBER 3-OCTOBER 1, 2023



GIVING TOGETHER

FINANCE NOTES

August Ministry Support Notes

While in previous months, we're reported mainly on financial matters, we have items this month from all three teams in the Ministry Support Committee.

First, from Personnel, we're still working on finding a permanent accompanist for worship. You can help in this search by letting friends and family know about our open position. The job description is on Indeed.com here: <https://tinyurl.com/3ef7bhtr>



Building and Grounds is working to obtain bids to sealcoat and re-stripe our parking lot. Additionally, they're investigating our kitchen freezer, which keeps icing up. It's not clear whether it can be repaired or whether it will need replacement. Finally, B&G and Congregational Life will be working to re-install our "Welcome!" sign for the start of the church year.

Finance conducted its normal review of our financial statements. Pledge income is swinging back in line, as we ease into the fall. We paid the \$10,000 Presbytery mission gift in July. This is the fourth year where we've been able to help the Presbytery's mission work.

For this month's financial report, we've added a line item to show the use of undesignated McCullough funds to balance our budget.

Thru July 2023	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Variance
Pledges	\$ 124,456	\$ 128,693	\$ (4,237)
All Other Income	\$ 20,746	\$ 21,739	\$ (993)
Total Income	\$ 145,202	\$ 150,432	\$ (5,230)
Expenses			
Staff	\$ 124,526	\$ 124,400	\$ (126)
All Other Expenses	\$ 64,522	\$ 70,904	\$ 6,382
Total Expense	\$ 189,048	\$ 195,304	\$ 6,255
Net Income	\$ (43,846)	\$ (44,872)	\$ 1,026
McCullough Funding	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	\$ -
Net Income	\$ 6,154	\$ 5,128	\$ 1,026

During the first week of October, committee chairs will receive a packet of information consisting of a month-by-month breakdown of expenses incurred during the first 9 months of 2023 and 3 months of remaining budget for 2023. A blank worksheet for 2024 budgeted expenses will be provided for committee chairs to complete and return by November 1. This will give Finance time to build a first draft of the 2024 budget for review in November with a final budget done by the December session meeting.

AUGUST SESSION NOTES:

Deacon's Report: Deacons are working to finalize and print the new church directory.

Memorial Committee: The plaque for the bell restoration project is being produced. When done, work will begin on the new bell support structure.

Compassion, Peace and Justice: The WACM Board has decided that a fundraising dinner won't be held in 2023.

Congregational Life: N.O.W. dinners begin September 13. The committee is brainstorming ideas for an "Inquirer's Class" for those interested in exploring membership. Target date is October 1.

Education and Spiritual Growth: Rally Day will be Sunday, September 10. Confirmation will be held this church year with 7th thru 9th graders. A fall book study is being planned.

Ministry Support – Building and Grounds: The N.O.W. team reports that the freezer is leaking and freezing up again. B&G will investigate to determine if it needs replacement.

Ministry Support – Finance: At the beginning of October, committee chairs will receive their budget packet with a November 1 target date for returning. This timing permits Finance to present a first draft at the November session meeting, with a final 2024 budget approved at the December meeting.

Other Business:

Building Use Request: A request from a non-member family living in Justice Hill to use the church for a funeral was approved.

Expanding Ministry Opportunities: Session discussed ways to involve more of the congregation in our ministries. Ideas included scheduling more events after worship, when people are already here, and providing clear descriptions of what's involved in the ministry.

Next Regular Meeting: Sunday, September 17, 2023 at 11:00 p.m.



Compassion, Peace & Justice

Sue Krause
shkrausel@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

SEPTEMBER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Date	Liturgist	A/V	Ushers	Greeters
9/3	Tiffany Sobczak	Rob McMahon	Julie and Ken Farver	Julie and Ken Farver
9/10	Evan Kaye	Dave Johanson	Pat and Rick Morozink	Linda Hansen
9/17	Cheryl Wormley	Rob McMahon	Kyle and Brayden Sobczak	Linda Hansen
9/24	Sue Krause	Dave Johanson	Chris and Lee NejdI	Sue Krause



Wondering who in our church would appreciate a card, visit or a phone call?

We have a "Reaching Out Tree" in the foyer with names of people in our congregation that need to know we care.

Please consider taking a name and reaching out. Names will be added and refreshed to the tree as needed.

If there are college students in the congregation that would like a newsletter please inform the office of their address and e-mail.

Angie Boe 815-338-7782
 Kristen Matter 847-609-8340
 Sherry Thuma 815-847-8339
 Barbara Parrish 815-338-8112
 Cheryl Wormley 815-571-4702



SUNDAY SCHOOL

RALLY DAY

September 10th
9:30am

Kindness Closet Drive

Kick off the new Sunday School year and Brunch season!
 Please consider participating in our Kindness Closet drive to support local Woodstock School District 200 families by donating school supplies, toiletries, clothes, shoes, coats, and more.





BRING YOUR DONATIONS TO CHURCH BEGINING SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 3RD

In our Thoughts and our Prayers...

Shari Olesen, Lee NejdI, Larry Collins, Braelen Kittle, Mary Kittle, Tom Thennes, Gayle Abrams, Jamie Robinett,
 Kristin Harris, Shirley Kinell, Phil Dahm, Pam Moorhouse, Ruth Hunt, Tim Arnold, Tom Schwarz, Lance Sobczak, Kristen Matter, Aaron Sommerville, Renee Simes,
 Friends and family of Blake Mathison.



A heartfelt "Thank You" goes out to everyone who took time to celebrate my Birthday. Whether it was a call or message, or stopping by the open house that my wonderful family hosted. It really meant a lot!

**Sincerely,
 Vicki Thuma**

SEPTEMBER 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 9:30a Worship	4	5	6 9a Lectionary Study 4p Diaper Bank distribution	7 7p Boy Scout Troop 159	8	9
10 Rally Sunday 9:30a Worship 9:45a Sunday School: PreK-5th 10:30a Brunch	11 <i>Labor Day</i>	12 10a TLC Ladies	13 9a Lectionary Study 5:15p NOW Dinner 6:30p No-Name Knitters	14 10a Hospitality Team 1p Finance Team 7p Boy Scout Troop 159	15	16
17 9:30a Worship 11a Session 5p Youth Group	18	19 5p Education and Spiritual Growth 7p Deacons	20 9a Lectionary Study 10a No-Name Knitters 5:15p NOW Dinner	21 5:30p WACM Meeting 6p Compassion, Peace and Justice 6p World Peace Day 7p Boy Scout Troop 159	22	23
24 9:30a Worship 9:45a Sunday School: PreK-5th 10:30a Brunch 11:30a NOW Team	25	26	27 9a Lectionary Study 5:15p NOW Dinner 6:30p No-Name Knitters	28 6:30p Worship Arts Mtg 7p Boy Scout Troop 159	29	30

SEPTEMBER 2023

MINISTERS

All members and friends
of the congregation

STAFF

Rev. Eric Corbin
Pastor

Jeri Loiselle
Office Administrator
Social Media
Financial Secretary

Christy Johanson
Worship Arts
Coordinator



**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