

First Presbyterian Church of Woodstock

November 2023



Wholeness

In October, I was blessed to spend a week at Presbyterian Mo-Ranch Assembly in Hunt, Texas. I attended CREDO, a clergy conference designed to cultivate wholeness in different arenas of life: spiritual, vocational, health, and financial well-being. It was a wonderful time of worship, learning, and fellowship, and I am beyond grateful for the opportunity. It was life-giving to spend the week surrounded by fellow Presbyterian ministers from around the country, as well as the great leadership of the program, who tirelessly worked to ensure a transformative experience for us all. The setting was gorgeous and we even were right in the middle of the band of annularity for the eclipse, getting to see the “ring of fire.” What avenues do you have for maintaining and improving your wholeness? I’d love to hear about them. *(Enjoy this photo of the Chapel on the Hill at Mo-Ranch.)*



Thanks to the congregation for your gifts to me on Pastor Appreciation Sunday! I’m honored to walk alongside each of you in this ministry we share.

I hope to see you soon 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 November. 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.

PRAISE GOD
FROM WHOM
BLESSINGS *all*
flow

Newsletter Editor

Jeri Loiselle

Reporters:

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

TOGETHER TO LAUGH AND LEARN

<p>Men's Group/Bible Study John Moorhouse 815-236-7408 johnmoorhouse54@gmail.com</p> <p>Lectionary Bible Study Velma Downes 815-245-4043 vmdownes@gmail.com</p> <p>Adult Spiritual Growth Groups Jackie Lawler jackieboe@comcast.net</p> <p>Hospitality Team Erin Kaye 312-371-7573 erinlkaye@gmail.com</p> <p>Music Ministry Christy Johanson 815-382-5234 christy@fpcwoodstock.org</p> <p>No-Name Knitters Kay Darby 815-572-1729 kedarby@icloud.com</p> <p>T.L.C. (Tender Loving Care) Mary Hill, 815-338-6051 mary.hill2759@gmail.com</p> <p>Meals-On-Wheels 815-338-2627</p> <p>WACM Local Mission Team Pat Morozink, 815-338-7769 pmorozink@yahoo.com</p> <p>Food Pantry Joyce Maynard, 815-338-7265</p> <p>Fishing Mission Bob Clark, 847-274-8247 robtmclark@aol.com</p> <p>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</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">MEN'S BIBLE STUDY</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Saturday, at 7:00 a.m.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Contact John Moorhouse, 815-236-7408.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">LECTIONARY STUDY</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Wednesday, at 9:00 a.m.</p> <p>The group gathers via Google Meet. We select a single reading from the Revised Common Lectionary and take turns leading the discussion.</p> <p>Join us for lively discussion, thoughtful readings and good fellowship.</p> <p>Contact Velma Downes to be added to the mailing list or for more information.</p>
WOODSTOCK FOOD PANTRY		
<p style="text-align: center;">Did you know that the Woodstock Food Pantry serves approximately 700 people per month?</p> <p>As the "Pantry" is deeply appreciative of our support through filling the Red Wagon and monetary contributions, the "Pantry" is looking for more help servicing the 275 families/700 people in our community.</p> <p>These are the shifts that need coverage. As a volunteer you can pick one shift or more, it's up to you! Please consider volunteering as the holiday season is a busy one as the Woodstock Food Pantry.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monday, Wednesday and Friday-3.5 hour shift from 8:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m. and 12:00 p.m.-to 3:30 p.m. • Saturday and Sunday- Aldi produce pickups anytime. (pickup truck or van suggested). • Second Thursday each month to unload at the Northern Illinois Food Bank delivery from 7:30 a.m. -10:00 a.m.. • Pickup at the Crystal Lake Pantry at 9:00 a.m. (pickup truck or van suggested). • Every Tuesday and Thursday -Aldi pickups at 8:45 a.m.-10:00. <p>Please consider volunteering for one or more of the above shifts. Ask a friend or neighbor to be a team. Each opportunity has a contact person.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">November Red wagon Items Canned meats, SPAM, Corned Beef, Chicken, Fish, Small Hams, Hash, Contact Joyce Maynard 815-338-7265 or woodstockfoodpantry.org.</p>		

WACM NEWS



As we give thanks for our many blessings this month, please consider contributing to the \$25 “Help-WACM-Help-a-Neighbor” fundraising campaign. Monetary donations go to WACM’s Direct Assistance Program (DAP) which provides emergency financial assistance to residents in Woodstock’s D-200 boundaries. Assistance with past due rent and utility payments and car repairs plus vouchers for gasoline,

clothing, and footwear are provided to households in need. In the last fiscal year WACM issued nearly \$45,000 of assistance through DAP. Donations can be made online at wacmgroups.org or by check made payable to WACM and mailed to WACM treasurer Dave Davis, 8220 IL Route 120, Woodstock, IL 60098. Please consider the blessings in your life and help others in Woodstock by donating to WACM. Thank you!

WACM’s Share the Warmth coat drive will be distributing winter gear on November 10 from 3-7 pm and November 11 from 9 am-noon at First United Methodist Church, 201 W. South Street. Please bring any items (coats, hats, scarves, gloves/mittens, boots, blankets) to the church by November 8th so they can be sorted and prepared for selection by men, women, and children in need. The Share the Warmth donation box can be found by the coat racks. Enjoy the warm feeling of giving that comes from helping others stay warm this winter.



N.O.W. TEAM NEWS

The N.O.W. Team is preparing to wind down our Fall 2023 season. Thanks to all who have come out for the food and fellowship, whether to the Wednesday dinners or to Sunday brunches.

N.O.W. dinners will be held on November 1, 8 and 15. November 1 will feature our baked potato bar, with all the usual fixings. November 8 will be a Youth Group fundraiser with spaghetti and meatballs, garlic bread and salads. Come on out and support our youth! Our final dinner will feature a Thanksgiving repast with turkey, mashed potatoes and gravy. If you can help with providing a side dish, please let [Cheryl Wormley](#) or [Lee Nejd](#) know.

Finally, as the N.O.W. team prepared its 2024 budget, it looks like food prices have finally caught up with us. Dinner prices will be going up in January 2024 to \$4. We still think the food is a great bargain at that price and you can’t beat the fellowship that occurs during and after the meal. Mark your calendars and come join us!



Thank You, LORD!

CARING TOGETHER

November Birthdays

Courtney Mass	11/01
Rick Rewiako	11/02
Ray Thuma	11/03
Ben Walters	11/03
Lee NejdI	11/04
Jalina Petrik	11/06
John Rigby	11/06
Mike Downes	11/08
Phil Lauf	11/08
Bethany Combs	11/09
Emily Stack	11/09
Christopher Corbin	11/11
Lora Totton Schwarz	11/12
Chris NejdI	11/17
Jenny O'Hara	11/17
Tom Schwarz	11/18
Steve Bingham	11/22
Brenda Bradley	11/23
Annie Nelson	11/23

November Anniversaries

Barbara & Tim Arnold	11/01
Cary & Dawn Cook	11/05
Ken & Julie Farver	11/09

Thoughts and Prayers

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

EDUCATION AND SPIRITUAL GROWTH

Sunday School

November will be an exciting month for Sunday School! This month we will begin practicing for the Christmas Cantata. We also invite our Sunday School children and families to stay after church on Sunday, November 26th for the all church Christmas decorating and pizza!

- 11/12/23-God's Peaceable Kingdom/Cantata Rehearsal
- 11/26/23-Shepherds Glorify God/Cantata Rehearsal
- 12/3/23-Cantata Rehearsal
- 12/10/23-Christmas Cantata

Youth Group

We had a great time at All Seasons in October and look forward to the upcoming events! All funds raised from the Spaghetti Dinner and Bake Sale will



benefit the Youth Group and allow them to have 2-3 special activities during the year as well as saving for their future Go & Serve trip.

11/8/2023 - NOW Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser - Please signup to help!
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080E4DAFA629A1F58-45651431-spaghetti>

12/9/2023 at 1:30pm - Christmas Cookie Baking - Cookies will be sold the following day after the Cantata. Boxes of cookies will be available to purchase for donation to a shut-in or purchase for your own enjoyment!



12/10/2023 - Bake Sale after Christmas Cantata

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

NO NAME KNITTERS

We donated about 15 winter items to District 200 schools in October. We will continue to make hats, headbands, and scarves during the cold season. Prayer shawls and lapghans are always being worked on as well. Please come join us, or stop in for a visit! Anyone is welcome! We meet the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays at 6:30, or the 3rd Wednesday at 10:00 a.m.

For information on our group, call [Kay Darby](#) at 815-572-1729.

COMPASSION, PEACE, AND JUSTICE

ANNUAL GIVING TREE

Our congregation will again sponsor a Giving Tree this holiday season. Look for the small tree across from the church office as you enter the building.

We will be supporting two local families who may have financial difficulties celebrating with gifts at this time. Tags on the tree will name suggested gifts to give to family members. Please sign the adjacent chart with the tag number and your name/phone number.

Bring the wrapped gift(s) with the tag attached by Sunday, December 17th. The tree is expected to be in place before Thanksgiving. Thank you for sharing your Christmas joy with these struggling families.



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. Last year's earnings were used to help the youth attend the Go and Serve trip this summer.

[Click here for some crafting ideas](#)

BATTERY RECYCLING

At the latest county recycling event, we emptied the battery recycling box and dropped off the batteries for recycling. The congregation collected 38 pounds of alkaline batteries and kept them out of landfills. Thank you to everyone that participated in this recycling project. The box remains in the entryway, please continue dropping off your batteries.



MEET BSA TROOP 159

Did you know we are now the chartering organization for a local Scouts BSA Troop? Troop 159 has been an active Troop since 1911, they have been at First Presbyterian since January 2023. The Troop meets on Thursday nights from 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m., there are 10 active scouts. The Troop is very active with monthly campouts, hiking, volunteering, earning merit badges, and advancing through their scout ranks.

Since moving to First Presbyterian, the Troop has had one scout earn his Eagle Rank and currently has another scout working on his Eagle project.



The scouts are eager and excited to become part of our community. If you would like more information, you can contact our Scout Master, Matt Petrik at scoutmaster@troop159woodstock.org or our Committee Chair,

Ray Thuma at committeechair@troop159woodstock.org

OCTOBER MINISTRY NOTES

This month’s financial report shows we’re tracking closely to our budget.

Thru September 2023	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Variance
Pledges	\$ 150,458	\$ 155,411	\$ (4,953)
All Other Income	\$ 8,842	\$ 16,498	\$ (7,656)
Total Income	\$ 159,299	\$ 171,908	\$ (12,609)
Expenses			
Staff	\$ 160,027	\$ 160,206	\$ 178
All Other Expenses	\$ 70,116	\$ 91,068	\$ 20,953
Total Expense	\$ 230,143	\$ 251,274	\$ 21,131
Net Income	\$ (70,843)	\$ (79,366)	\$ 8,522
McCullough Funding	\$ 80,000	\$ 80,000	\$ -
Net Income	\$ 9,157	\$ 634	\$ 8,522

Session members have received their 2024 budget packages and are actively working to complete and return their first draft by November 1. As of now, things are on track to present a complete first draft budget to session at the November 19 meeting.

Finance prepared and mailed the annual fall stewardship letter. Stewardship Sunday will be November 12. Please prayerfully consider your financial contribution to support our ministries.

The stewardship letter also contains a “Time and Talent” survey as we attempt to match your interests and skills to the needs of the FPCW life. Many of the listed items are not difficult, time consuming or require long-term commitments. Please consider your gifts and return the survey along with your pledge card.



We are in need of addresses for college students. We would love to send them a gift.

The Reaching Out tree is in the entryway, please take a name and send them a card, or give them a call.

The Deacons would like to thank all the families who have helped with coffee fellowship.

We would love to hear any of your joys or concerns, please let us know.

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

OCTOBER SESSION NOTES:



Deacon's Report: The new inquirers class was held October 1 and was a great success with three new members being added to our congregation.

Memorial Committee: The memorial plaque and new stand for the church bell have been completed and installed.

Nominating Committee: The committee is still searching for elders, deacons and at-large nominating committee members.

Committee Reports:

Compassion, Peace and Justice: The annual holiday craft fair planning has started with an article in the October newsletter.

Congregational Life: The committee has actively recruited new team members and is looking to change its monthly meeting schedule to accommodate everyone.

Education and Spiritual Growth: Youth group activities planned include an outing to All Seasons Corn Maze on October 15th, fundraising at the NOW Spaghetti Dinner on November 8th and Baking and Bake Sale on December 9th and 10th.

Ministry Support – Building and Grounds: The team is looking to schedule a cleaning day prior to colder weather.

Ministry Support – Finance: 2024 budget worksheets are being sent to committee chairs. Pastor Eric proposed adding a “Time and Talents Survey” to the annual stewardship mailing. Session members will provide feedback on a draft document in time for the October 18 mailing date.

Next Regular Meeting: Sunday, November 19, 2023 at 11:00 a.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

TOGETHER IN WORSHIP

NOVEMBER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Date	Liturgist	A/V	Ushers	Acolyte	Greeters
11/5/23	Jim Wormley	Dave Johanson	Rick and Pat Morozink	Braeden Sobczak	Julie and Ken Farver
11/12/23	Angie Boe	Rob McMahon	Kyle and Braeden Sobczak	Gracy Petrik	Cheryl Wormley
11/19/23	Tiffany Sobczak	Dave Johanson	Chris Nejd and Sue Krause	Christopher Corbin	Linda Hansen
11/26/23	Renee Simes	Rob McMahon	Julie and Ken Farver	Braden Ferrera	Sue Krause

OCTOBER HIGHLIGHTS



World Communion Sunday



All Seasons Youth Event



Craft time with Angie Boe



Pastor Appreciation Sunday



NOVEMBER 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 9a Lectionary Study 4p Diaper Bank distribution 5:15p NOW Dinner 7p Choir rehearsal	2 7p Boy Scout Troop 159 7p Nominating Committee	3	4 7a Men's Bible Study
5 Choir Sings 9:30a Worship	6	7	8 9a Lectionary Study 5:15p Youth Fundraiser NOW Dinner 6p Bells rehearsal 6:30p No-Name Knitters 7p Choir cantata rehearsal	9 1p Finance Team 7p Boy Scout Troop 159	10	11 7a Men's Bible Study <i>Veterans Day</i>
12 <i>Daylight Saving Time Ends</i> Choir Sings 9:30a Worship 9:45a Sunday School: PreK-5th 10:30a Brunch 11a Confirmation Class 11a Education and Spiritual Growth	13	14 10a TLC Ladies 6p Book discussion 7p Deacons	15 9a Lectionary Study 10a No-Name Knitters 5:15p NOW Dinner 6p Bells rehearsal 7p Choir cantata rehearsal	16 6p Compassion, Peace and Justice 7p Boy Scout Troop 159	17	18 7a Men's Bible Study
19 9:30a Worship 10:30a Choir cantata rehearsal after worship 11a Session	20	21 6:30p Worship Arts Mtg	22 9a Lectionary Study 6:30p No-Name Knitters	23	24	25 7a Men's Bible Study
26 9:30a Worship 9:45a Sunday School: PreK-5th 10:30a Advent/Christmas Decorating Day 11a Confirmation Class 11a Hospitality Team	27	28 6p Book discussion	29 9a Lectionary Study 6p Bells rehearsal 7p Choir cantata rehearsal	<i>Thanksgiving Day</i> 30 7p Boy Scout Troop 159		

NOVEMBER 2023



**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OF WOODSTOCK**

CELEBRATING AND SHARING GOD'S LOVE

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

Visit us on Facebook

www.fpcwoodstock.org

Website:

office@fpcwoodstock.org

E-mail:

Phone: (815) 338-2627

Woodstock, IL 60098

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