

First Presbyterian Church of Woodstock March 2024 Newsletter

Ash Wednesday → Lent → Holy Week → Easter

We began our Lenten journey this year on Valentine's Day, (or vaLENTine's day, as some have written it!), and we now continue our journey toward the cross, and beyond – to the glory of Easter morning.

The season of Lent, despite its somber connotations, is ultimately a season of hope. As we participate in acts of service, engage in prayer and reflection, and allow ourselves to be renewed by the Holy Spirit, we pave the way for the joy of Easter.

Easter Sunday is a celebration of life, victory, and redemption. It is a day we remember Jesus' resurrection from the dead, conquering sin and death, and offering us the promise of eternal life. This promise fills us with immense hope, reminding us that even in the face of darkness and despair, God's light ultimately prevails.

Throughout Lent, let us hold onto this hope. Let us use this time to strengthen our faith, deepen our connection with God, and prepare our hearts to receive the joy and blessings of Easter.

Before we get to the excitement of Easter, though, we go through the tremendous ups and downs of Holy Week. We start Holy Week with Palm Sunday (sometimes called the Triumphal Entry) when we celebrate how Jesus came into the holy city of Jerusalem. The week turns dark, however, and we walk the slow road with Jesus towards his death on a cross. We'll 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 meaningful ones, and I hope to see you here for them, as we ponder the depth of Jesus' sacrifice.

This month brings many activities in the life of the church, which you can read about in the pages of this newsletter. As we prepare for the newness of Spring, why not try something new this month? Take a look at the various ministries of the church, and then *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



Inside this issue

From Pastor Eric	Page 1
Together to Laugh and Learn	Pages 2-3
Caring Together	Pages 4-6
Leading Together	Page 7
Together in Worship	Page 8
March Calendar	Page 9

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, Sue Krause, 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

Lectionary Bible Study

[Velma Downes](#)

815-245-4043

Adult Spiritual Growth Groups

[Dawn Cook](#)

Hospitality Team

[Erin Kaye](#)

312-371-7573

Music Ministry

[Christy Johanson](#)

815-382-5234

No-Name Knitters

[Kay Darby](#)

815-572-1729

T.L.C.

(Tender Loving Care)

[Mary Hill](#)

815-338-6051

Meals-On-Wheels

[Jeri Loiselle](#)

815-338-2627

WACM Local Mission Team

[Pat Morozink](#)

815-338-7769

Food Pantry

Joyce Maynard, 815-338-7265

Fishing Mission

[Bob Clark](#)

847-274-8247

N.O.W. Team

[Lee Nejd](#) 815-546-1731

[Katie Spaldon](#) 815-276-3410

[John Moorhouse](#) 815-236-7408

[Linda Hansen](#) 815-451-8735

[Mark Bundick](#) 224-242-2451

[Cheryl Wormley](#) 815-519-7402

[Matt Thuma](#) 815-370-4094

LECTIONARY 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](#) to be added to the mailing list or for more information.

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](#),

815-236-7408.



WOODSTOCK FOOD PANTRY

Food donations are welcomed whenever the Woodstock Food Pantry is open. We appreciate donated food that is not past the expiration date.

Click [here](#) for the list of suggested items.

Cash donations are always welcome and appreciated. Cash donations enable the Woodstock Food Pantry to purchase food for significantly reduced costs through the Northern Illinois Food Bank and other suppliers.

Cash can be donated using one of three methods:

1. Stop by the Woodstock Food Pantry at 1033 Lake Ave, Woodstock, IL
2. Mail checks to: Woodstock Food Pantry, 1033 Lake Ave, Woodstock, IL 60098
3. Online: <https://www.woodstockfoodpantry.org/donate-now.html>

Thank You,
Red Wagon Food Drive



MEALS ON WHEELS

Delivering for Meals on Wheels is a rewarding way to volunteer your time and make meaningful connections.

If you are interested in delivering , please email [Jeri Loiselle](#).

N.O.W. DINNER AND BRUNCH NEWS

Our 2024 spring season has been rolling right along.

But with Easter soon upon us, we're racing to the close of the spring season.

March 6 will feature the return of the "All American Diner." We'll have special treats of floats and sundaes!

March 13 will bring corned beef and cabbage and a turkey.

For March 20, the Men's Bible Study will be our hosts; they'll be serving fried chicken with all the fixin's.

Brunches will continue to coincide with Sunday School on March 10, April 14 and April 28.

We won't be having brunch on Palm Sunday, March 24.

Don't forget to let us know if you can provide desserts for Wednesday dinners.

Thanks to everyone who came out on February 21 to support the Boy Scout Fundraiser!

Please let any team member know if you have suggestions for future menus or want to learn more about the N.O.W. Team ministry!

Cheryl Wormley (indepublisher@comcast.net)

John Moorhouse (johnmoorhouse54@gmail.com)

Katie Spaldon (kspaldon@gmail.com)

Linda Hansen (lkhanzen53@gmail.com)

Lee Nejd (nejdlwoodstock@hotmail.com)

Matt Thuma (mrthuma@yahoo.com)

Mark Bundick (mbundick@comcast.net)



WACM

Assistance to buy steel-toe boots was requested recently through WACM's Direct Assistance Program (DAP). A young woman was enthused to start a new job at a warehouse near Huntley, but she needed special footwear for her job, and she couldn't afford it. Fortunately, having requested and received a DAP voucher for Farm + Fleet footwear, she was able to get the work boots she needed to start her new job.

A big thank you expressed her gratitude for this assistance. This is an example of how the Direct Assistance Program helps residents in D-200 with financial needs. With the support of its member congregations and donations from others, assistance is provided to those with basic needs. Thank you to members of First Presbyterian Church for being a supportive member of WACM.



CARING TOGETHER

March Birthdays

Lydia Dunker 03/04
Lynn Idle 03/04
Larry Stanger 03/06
Lucas Moorhouse 03/07
Barbara Bundick 03/08
Gwen Wormley 03/09
John Hudson 03/10
Jay Justice 03/11
Hank Oleson Jr. 03/11
Mary Carol Dunker 03/14
Nicole Rigby 03/15
Tom Thennes 03/16
Chris Gienko 03/17
Eric Corbin 03/21
Gail Diss 03/21
Ken Farver 03/24
Carol Halma 03/24
Justin Thuma 03/25

March Anniversaries

Ray & Angela Thuma 03/02
Chris & Ellen Dahm 03/22
John & Marla Rigby 03/29

Thoughts and Prayers

Jon Sanfillipo, Travis Walters,
Angela Thuma, Tim Nylander,
Loretta Nejd, Shari Olesen,
Tom Schwarz, Larry Collins,
Phil Dahm, Ruth Hunt,
Braelen Kittle, Mary Kittle,
Tom Thennes, Gayle Abrams,
Tim Arnold,
Aaron Sommerville,
Pam Moorhouse,
Shirley Kinell



Thursday, April 25, 2024 8:00 am - 6:00 pm

Friday, April 26, 2024 8:00 am - 4:00 pm

Friday items are half price starting at Noon.

Saturday, April 27, 2024 8:00 am- Noon

Saturday \$5 all you can fit in a BAG!

FPCW has a reputation for having AMAZING rummage sales. You can help us continue our winning streak!

We are accepting donations of clothing, shoes, purses, jewelry, toys, books, CDs, DVDs, magazines, linens, dishes, kitchen items, tools, fishing and camping gear, baskets, pictures, small appliances, sporting equipment, pet supplies, craft supplies, puzzles, games, luggage, gardening supplies, small furniture and ????

What else ya got?!

Tips to help you get started...

Please, PLEASE, 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.

THE DIAPER DISTRIBUTION PROJECT NEEDS YOU!

Go to fpcwoodstock.org/diapervolunteers
or scan this code to sign up to volunteer.

Questions? Please contact Nancy @ 815-823-5107 or
nancycbingham@gmail.com



COMPASSION, PEACE, AND JUSTICE

Chris Mathews did a great job on Sunday talking about this special offering and about how the funds are used.

Thank you, Chris.



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

in a world of disaster, hunger, and oppression

Millions of people lack access to sustainable food sources, clean water, sanitation, education, and opportunity.

The three programs supported by One Great Hour of Sharing - Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People - all work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. From initial disaster response to ongoing community development, their work fits together to provide people with safety, sustenance, and hope.

“Presbyterians should give to One Great Hour of Sharing because it is a way that Presbyterians can be connected to the ministries and communities that engage in the work of healing and wholeness through disaster, hunger and development. Giving to the Offering creates an opportunity for Presbyterians to be intentional about embodying justice and hope by involving them in the changing of lives and communities in deeply profound and healing ways.”

—Rev. Dr. Alonzo Johnson, coordinator of the [Presbyterian Committee on the Self-Development of People](#).

Our congregation has established a goal of collecting \$1500 for this Special Offering. Donations may be made through the church website “Give” feature or by cash or check. If cash, please place in an envelope marked OGHS.

If check, please designate OGHS on memo line.

Children and others are encouraged to take a FISH BANK home to collect spare change during the month and to bring them back full at Easter. If you write your name on the bank, those donations can also be credited to your account.

Donations may be made throughout the month of March.



CARING TOGETHER

EDUCATION AND SPIRITUAL GROWTH

Sunday School

Sunday School dates are as follows for the remainder of the school year:

March 10 & 24*

*March 24th is Palm Sunday, but also falls over Spring Break. We are looking for volunteers to help lead the children in a palm procession this day.

April 14 & 28 - Rehearse for Music Sunday

May 12

Mother's Day, Music Sunday and the last day of Sunday School.



Confirmation

Mark your calendars for confirmation Sunday, May 5th!

Youth Group-Please mark your calendars for the upcoming events!

Sunday, March 3rd - Adrenaline Monkey Following church, the youth group will gather in the Great Hall for a pizza lunch and then plan to be at Adrenaline Monkey by noon. We will be there for about an hour and a half and head home with an ETA to be in Woodstock about 2 p.m. As a thanks to the youth group for all their hard fundraising this past year we would like to use a small portion of the money raised to pay for this event for our youth. Friends are welcome to come at a discounted cost of \$10/person. Please wear or bring your active clothes to church and you will get special socks when we get there.



Sunday, April 21st - 10:30 a.m.—12 p.m.

In celebration of Earth Day, the youth group will be cleaning up the highway and have a pizza lunch to follow.

Anyone that would like to either host one of the events listed or another event, please contact Jackie Lawler.

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



FEBRUARY SESSION NOTES

Pastor Eric welcomed new session member Chris Dahm to our shared ministry.

Clerk’s Report: The annual statistical report filing by the clerk was approved. Mark Bundick was elected Clerk of Session for 2024. Mark Bundick was elected Acting Treasurer.

Deacon’s Report: Care packages for college aged members will be prepared and mailed. Angie Boe will be the Deacon’s representative for the special committee on the structural deficit.

Nominating Committee: The Committee is waiting for a response on the remaining open ruling elder position.

Committee Reports:

Compassion, Peace and Justice: The diaper distribution program grew to 245 families and 12,942 diapers distributed in 2023. The committee has created spreadsheets to help organize and track volunteers as well as update the supplies inventory. The Christmas Craft Sale raised over \$800. The Rummage Sale will be held April 25-27.

Congregational Life: Plans for advertising our services, particularly around Lent and Easter have been finalized.

Education and Spiritual Growth: The Youth Group will work the highway clean up after worship on April 21. A Lenten book discussion is underway.

Worship, Music and Arts: Advent services were well received. The choir will sing on Good Friday and Easter. The committee is reaching out to do more “Minutes for Mission and Ministry”. Discussion is underway about how to better utilize the Food Pantry red wagon as part of the offering.

Other Business: Session elected Tiffany Sobczak as Corporation President and Mark Bundick as Corporation Secretary.

Committee Chair Assignments:

Session members accepted the following committee assignments:

CPJ: Open, pending a response to fill the open ruling elder position.

Congregational Life: Fred Strauss

Education: Dawn Cook, Addison Sobczak

Ministry Support-Building and Grounds: Chris Dahm

Ministry Support-Finance: Mark Bundick

Ministry Support-Staff Management: Mark Bundick and Chris Dahm

Worship: Tiffany Sobczak

Next Regular Meeting: Sunday, March 17, 2023 at 11:00 a.m.

**Compassion,
Peace & Justice**

(Awareness, Service)
Sue Krause

shkrausel@yahoo.com

Congregational Life

(Hospitality, NOW Team)
Fred Strauss

showskil@aol.com

815-728-1430

**Education & Spiritual
Growth**

(Adult, Youth, Child,
Intergenerational)

Dawn Cook

cookdawn82@gmail.com

Addison Sobczak

Ministry Support

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

Chris Dahm

cdahm@dahmco.com

815-378-0273

Mark Bundick

mbundick@comcast.net

815-337-9068

Worship, Music and Arts

(Worship Arts, Worship
Leadership, Audio-Visual)

Tiffany Sobczak

815-790-9360

tsobczak82@gmail.com

Clerk of Session

Mark Bundick

mbundick@comcast.net

815-337-9068

TOGETHER IN WORSHIP

Date	Text	Liturgist	A/V	Greeters and Ushers	Acolyte
3/3/2024	John 2:13-22	Dawn Cook	Rob McMahon	Tiffany and Brayden Sobczak	Erik Johanson
3/10/2024	John 3:14-21	Sue Krause	Dave Johanson	Mary Hill and Sue Krause	Gracy Petrik
3/17/2024	John 12:20-33	Julie Farver	Rob McMahon	Rick and Pat Morozink	Colin Kaye
Palm Sunday, 3/24/2024	Mark 11:1-11	Sue Krause	Dave Johanson	Tom Schaeffer and Chris Mathews	Christopher Corbin
Maundy Thursday, 3/28/2024	Communion and self-guided prayer and reflection stations				
Good Friday, 3/29/2024	<i>various</i>	Confirmands	Dave Johanson		
Easter, 3/31/2024	John 20:1-18	Cheryl Wormley	Rob McMahon	Julie and Ken Farver	Noa Moorhouse

DEACONS

Please help us in welcoming

Mary Carol Dunker to the Deacons.

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

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

Angie Boe 815-353-7993

May Carol Dunker 815-245-4829

Kristen Matter 847-609-8340

Barb Parrish 815-353-2749

Sherry Thuma 815-847-8339

Cheryl Wormley 815-519-7402



Lenten Services

February 14, 6:00 pm

Ash Wednesday service with imposition of ashes

February 18, 25, March 3, 10, 17, 9:30 am

March 24, 9:30 am

Palm Sunday service with palm processional

March 28, 7:00 pm

Maundy Thursday service with communion and self-guided prayer & reflection activities

March 29, 8:00 pm

Good Friday service with choir

March 31, 9:30 am

Easter Sunday service with choir

Sunday services will be live-streamed at fpewoodstock.org/worship

Easter Lilies are available at fpewoodstock.org/lilies

2018 N II Route 47
Woodstock, Illinois
815-338-2627

March 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 7a Men's Bible Study
3 9:30a Worship 10:30a Youth group event	4	5	6 9a Lectionary Study 4p Diaper Distribution 5:15p NOW Dinner 6p "Pause" book discussion 7p Choir Rehearsal	7 6:30p Worship Arts Mtg	8	9 7a Men's Bible Study
10 9:30a Worship 9:45a Sunday School 10:30a Brunch 11a Confirmation Class <i>Daylight Saving Time Begins</i>	11	12 10a TLC Ladies	13 9a Lectionary Study 5:15p NOW Dinner 6p "Pause" book discussion 6:30p No-Name Knitters	14 11a Hospitality Team 1p Finance Team 5:30p Education and Spiritual Growth	15	16 7a Men's Bible Study
17 9:30a Worship 11a Session <i>St. Patrick's Day</i>	18 7p Deacons	19	20 9a Lectionary Study 10a No-Name Knitters 5:15p NOW Dinner 6p "Pause" book discussion	21 6p Compassion, Peace and Justice	22	23 7a Men's Bible Study
24 9:30a Worship 11a Confirmation Class <i>Palm Sunday</i>	25	26	27 9a Lectionary Study 6p "Pause" book discussion 6:30p No-Name Knitters 7p Choir Rehearsal	28 7p Maundy Thursday service <i>Maundy Thursday</i>	29 8p Good Friday service <i>Good Friday</i>	30 7a Men's Bible Study
31 Easter Sunday service 9:30a Worship <i>Easter</i>						

March 2024



**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

2018 IL-HWY 47

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH