

First Presbyterian Church of Woodstock

April 2024 Newsletter

A letter from Rev. Eric Corbin

The Season of Easter

As the days lengthen and the earth awakens from its winter slumber, we enter the joyous Season of Easter. It's a time of profound reflection and celebration, a season that stretches from Easter Sunday itself all the way to Pentecost Sunday, fifty days later.

The Season of Easter isn't just a single day marked by family, flowers, and food. It's sustained time dedicated to contemplating the transformative power of Jesus' resurrection. His death on the cross, a sacrifice borne out of immense love, conquered sin and death. His rising from the tomb signified a new covenant – a promise of eternal life for those who believe.

But Easter's message extends far beyond personal salvation. It's a beacon of hope, a testament to the transformative power of love in a world often shrouded in darkness. Jesus' resurrection symbolizes the potential for renewal, not just in our own hearts but in the world around us.

The joy of Easter isn't meant to be kept bottled up. Share it with those around you! Invite friends and family who may have drifted away from the church to a worship service. Perform random acts of kindness in your community. Join in what N.T. Wright calls the "outrageous party" of the Season of Easter.

As we celebrate the Season of Easter, let us embrace the spirit of renewal, compassion, and hope that Christ's resurrection represents. May this season be a time of personal transformation and a catalyst for positive change in the world around us.

This month brings many activities in the life of the church, which you can read about in the pages of this newsletter. 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



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SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE

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

[Fred Strauss](#)

815-735-9507

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

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.

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.

RUMMAGE SALE

DROP-OFF



FRIDAY, APRIL 19 from 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.-SATURDAY, APRIL 20-SUNDAY, APRIL 21-BEFORE AND AFTER CHURCH.

Please put clean items in Rooms 1-3.

Call Joyce Maynard if you have questions about drop offs-815-338-7265

Please join us by:

Donating or signing up to set-up anytime on
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.- 3:00 p.m.

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?

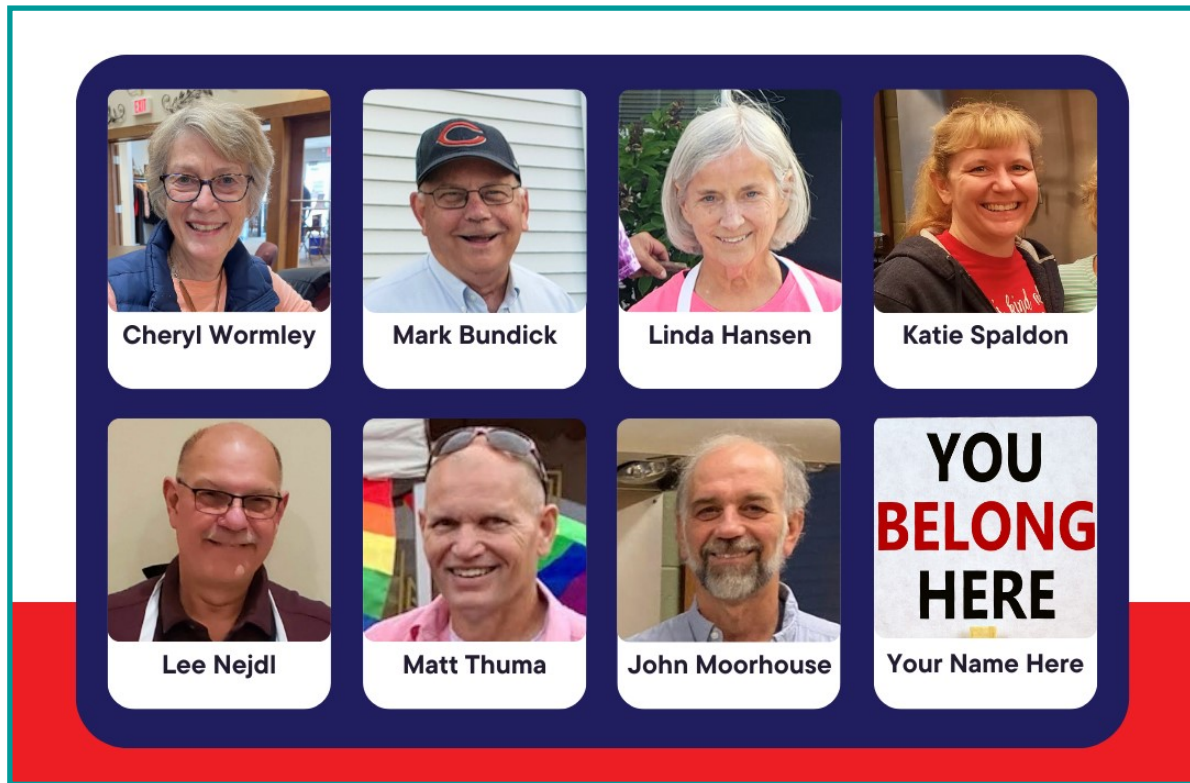
Why was I saving it?

Is it my style anymore?

Fill at least one bag per person in your house.

There can't be a sale without you!

Remember – all proceeds go to WACM and the Food Pantry!



N.O.W. DINNER AND BRUNCH NEWS

Our 2024 spring dinner season has ended. Ten dinners were held. Thanks to our dinner sponsors: FPCW Youth Group, Saturday Men's Bible Study, and Boy Scout Troop 159. Kudos also to our fabulous dessert providers, particularly Vicki Thuma and Faith Corbin, for their yummy treats. And tremendous thanks to all the diners who came out to enjoy both the food and the great fellowship!

The N.O.W. team is meeting to plan for summer cookouts. Keep an eye open for announcements about those dates in future newsletters and Mid-Week Updates. You'll get to enjoy some goodies from the grill, some outdoor dining and great summer weather.

Finally, our spring cooking is not completely done yet. Brunches are on the schedule for April 14 and 28, immediately after worship. Be sure to hang around after service to enjoy the food and fun.

Please let us know how we can make our N.O.W. dinners and brunches better!

Cheryl Wormley (indepublisher@comcast.net)

Mark Bundick (mbundick@comcast.net)

John Moorhouse (johnmoorhouse54@gmail.com)

Katie Spaldon (kspaldon@gmail.com)

Linda Hansen (lkhanen53@gmail.com)

Lee Nejd (nejdlwoodstock@hotmail.com)

Matt Thuma (mrthuma@yahoo.com)

CARING TOGETHER

April Birthdays

Pam Moorhouse 4/10
 Erin Kaye 4/13
 Chris Mathews 4/13
 Joyce Chwalisz 4/15
 Trish Sowa 4/16
 Tony Spaldon 4/16
 Alexandria Rewiako 4/17
 James Reilly 4/18
 Jerin Ferrera 4/20
 Jessica Gienko 4/24
 Sue Sauer 4/24
 Brooke Matthison 4/30

April Anniversaries

Bryan & Cindy Dahm 4/10
 Sharon & Larry Stanger 4/22
 Kyle & Jen Oliver 4/30

Thoughts and Prayers

Shirley Kinell, Tim Nylander,
 Angela Thuma,
 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,
 Ruth Hunt.

EDUCATION AND SPIRITUAL GROWTH

Sunday School

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

April 14 & 28 - Mrs. Johanson will be popping into class these days to teach us a song that will be performed for Music Sunday on May 12th!



May 12 - Mother's Day, Music Sunday performance and the last day of Sunday School.

VBS

VBS is back this summer! Please save the dates of June 24-28, 2024 from 9am-12pm. It will be held once again at the **First United Methodist Church of Woodstock** and is available for children ages 3 through 5th grade. There will also be a need for adult and youth volunteers to help the week of VBS as well as decoration and craft prep leading up to it. More details to come.

Parents' Night Out

The First United Methodist Church of Woodstock will be bringing back their popular Parents' Night Out events! Save the dates of May 11th, June 15th, July 13th & August 31st. Each of these are Saturday evenings from 5-9pm.

Confirmation

Mark your calendars for confirmation Sunday, May 5th!

Youth Group

Please mark your calendars for the upcoming event!
 Sunday, April 21st - 10:30 am - In commemoration of Earth Day, the youth group will be participating in Highway Cleanup 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](#).

BULLSEYE
We hit the target of \$1500!



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

A \$25 gasoline voucher helps people get to medical and therapy appointments. That's the case with several individuals who requested DAP assistance in March. Whether driving to physical therapy appointments to recover after a fall or making extra trips for doctors' visits, WACM's Direct Assistance Program (DAP) can help with transportation costs.

Individuals must show a valid driver's license and proof of current car insurance as a Woodstock resident to qualify.

Donations to WACM support DAP, and those donations are used to assist D-200 residents with emergency financial needs. Thank you to First Presbyterian congregants for your support of WACM.



APRIL RED WAGON

Peanut Butter, Jelly (plastic jars, please), Jello (mix), Pudding (mix).

We appreciate donated food that is not past the expiration date.

When donating items: food must be in a separate bag from soap and detergent.

MEALS ON WHEELS

All of the volunteer positions have been filled for FPC's Meals on Wheels obligation. Thanks to our volunteers, many community members will receive hot meals.

If you are interested in volunteering as a backup, please email Jeri Loiseau.



Giving

MARCH FINANCE NOTES

Our February financial report shows the following:

Thru February 2024	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Variance
Pledges	\$ 61,995	\$ 61,319	\$ 676
All Other Income	\$ 4,224	\$ 5,645	\$ (1,421)
Total Income	\$ 66,218	\$ 66,964	\$ (746)
Expenses			
Staff	\$ 32,369	\$ 35,309	\$ 2,940
All Other Expenses	\$ 12,209	\$ 12,963	\$ 754
Total Expense	\$ 44,578	\$ 48,272	\$ 3,694
Net Income	\$ 21,641	\$ 18,692	\$ 2,949

The numbers have come out pretty close to expectations. Please remember that the surplus shown will shrink as we progress through the year, and that we are counting on undesignated McCullough funds to cover our projected deficit.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions about anything financial. And thank you for your generous support of our ministry in Woodstock and the world!

Mark Bundick, Finance Team Chair

mbundick@comcast.net



MARCH SESSION NOTES

Pastor's Report: Pastor Eric met with Pastor Jim Aniol of Woodstock Free Methodist Church to discuss formation of an ecumenical group of ministers in Woodstock.

Deacon's Report: Deacons have redistributed their flocks and will be posting new flock lists shortly.

Nominating Committee: A motion was approved to call a congregational meeting on March 31, 2024 (Easter Sunday) for the sole purpose of voting on a nominee to fill a ruling elder position.

Committee Reports:

Compassion, Peace and Justice: Rummage sale drop offs begin Sunday, April 21 and the sale will be April 25, 26 and 27. FPC's Earth Care Congregation renewal was submitted and approved.

Congregational Life: The book study "Pause" has been well attended and with positive responses.

Education and Spiritual Growth: The Youth Group outing to Adrenaline Monkey included 12 FPC youth and 2 visitors.

Ministry Support - Building and Grounds: Matt Thuma has been working steadily on lots of little upgrades and repairs. The committee will meet to start compiling a list of long term building and grounds needs.

Ministry Support - Staff Management: Harrison Cole, our new accompanist, has been well received, particularly by the choir.

Other Business:

Boy Scout Troop 159 - Finance is working to arrange a meeting to set up and get regular financial reports from the troop.

Next Regular Meeting: Sunday, April 21, 2024 at 11:00 a.m.



Compassion, Peace & Justice

(Awareness, Service)

Sue Krause

shkrause1@yahoo.com

Congregational Life

(Hospitality, NOW Team)

Fred Strauss

showskit@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

HOW CAN WE HELP?

DEACONS

~ We have posted our flock lists with photos of your Deacon in the gathering area for the congregation to view. Contact info is included for members to get in touch with your Deacon.

Thank you Jeri, for taking care of this for us!

~ Thank you to Pam and John Moorhouse for helping with coffee fellowship on March 24th-Palm Sunday and Deacons Cheryl Wormley, Barb Parrish and Mary Carol Dunker for taking other Sundays in April!

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

NO NAME KNITTERS

A little history lesson -

Our group was organized in 2010, after hearing about a project that made prayer shawls for their church members. The shawls, and patterns to make them, were all knitted. So, when we began, all the shawls were knitted.

Over the years, we have expanded the items made, and many of our members crochet. We invite anyone to join us, whether you knit or crochet. Come visit, to see what we do! We always need more hands!

We meet the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays, at 6:30 p.m., and the 3rd Wednesday at 10:00 a.m. We meet in the Fireside Room.

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

First Presbyterian Church of Woodstock Worship Schedule

Date	Text	Liturgist	A/V	Greeters and Ushers	Acolyte
4/7/2024	Psalm 133, John 20:19-31	Tiffany Sobczak	Dave Johanson	Cheryl Wormley, Linda Hansen-G, and Chris Nejd-U	Emily Lawler
4/14/2024	Luke 24:36b-48	Evan Kaye	Rob McMahon	Tiffany and Brayden Sobczak	Braden Ferrera
4/21/2024	John 10:11-18	Velma Downes	Dave Johanson	Mary Hill and Sue Krause	Brayden Sobczak
4/28/2024	John 15:1-8	Ken Farver	Rob McMahon	Rick and Pat Morozink	Erik Johanson
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APRIL 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3 4p Diaper Distribution	4 1p Building & Grounds Meeting	5	6 7a Men's Bible Study
7 9:30a Worship	8 10a TLC Ladies 7p Deacons	9	10 9a Lectionary Study 6p Uke Rehearsal 6:30p No-Name Knitters	11 1p Finance Team 5:30p Education and Spiritual Growth	12	13 7a Men's Bible Study
14 9:30a Worship 9:45a Sunday School: PreK-5th 10:30a Brunch 11a Confirmation Class	15	16	17 9a Lectionary Study 10a No-Name Knitters 6p Uke Rehearsal 7p Choir Rehearsal	18 11a Hospitality Team 6p Compassion, Peace and Justice	19 9a Rummage Sale Drop off	20 Rummage Sale Drop off 7a Men's Bible Study
21 Rummage Sale Drop off 9:30a Worship 10:30a Youth Group - Adopt a Highway and Pizza 11a Session	22 <i>Earth Day</i>	23	24 9a Lectionary Study 6p Uke Rehearsal 6:30p No-Name Knitters	25 Rummage Sale 6:30p Worship Arts Mtg	26	27 7a Men's Bible Study
28 9:30a Worship 9:45a Sunday School: PreK-5th 10:30a Brunch 11a Confirmation Class	29	30				

APRIL 2024

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

Harrison Cole
Accompanist



**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OF WOODSTOCK**

CELEBRATING AND SHARING GOD'S LOVE

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Woodstock, IL 60098

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