

First Presbyterian Church of Woodstock

May 2024 Newsletter

A letter from Rev. Eric Corbin

May in the Church

During the month of May, each Sunday has a different special emphasis. All are important days to come together to celebrate and worship God together.

May 5th will be Confirmation Sunday, where we will witness our Confirmands' commitment to serving God, and we will commit to continue nurturing them in the faith. We get to be part of a momentous step in the faith journeys of these seven youth, who will affirm the vows made on their behalf at their baptisms. The Confirmands have been gathering faithfully since September to learn more about the triune God, the Church worldwide, the PC(USA), and this congregation. I'm grateful for this time we've shared together, and look forward to how they'll continue their journey of faith.

On May 12th, we'll celebrate the gift of music in worship with a special Music Appreciation Sunday. I'm looking forward to our chancel choir leading us in worship that day, as well as hearing our children's choir and our Ukulele group! That day is also the day commemorated as Mother's Day. We are grateful for all of the women of the church, who have faithfully guided and nurtured us. As a hymn says, "For all the faithful women who served in days of old, to you shall thanks be given; to all, their story told. They served with strength and gladness in tasks your wisdom gave. To you their lives bore witness, proclaimed your power to save." We give thanks to God for the women who have served throughout the history of the church, through today!

May 19th brings Pentecost Sunday, which is 50 days after Easter Sunday. It commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles and other followers of Jesus, as described in the Acts of the Apostles.

Finally, May 26th is Trinity Sunday, a day which is dedicated to reflecting on the mystery of God's triune nature. On this day, we throw away standard math, and affirm that $1+1+1 = 1$. God is 3 in 1. Though existing as three persons, God is ultimately one being, indivisible and eternal.

I hope to see you in the worship, meetings, fellowship, and service of the church.

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](https://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

[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

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.



COMPASSION, PEACE, AND JUSTICE

I would like to say a heartfelt thanks to everyone. We had a record-breaking sale this year, all because of the great volunteers that donated, sorted, set up, cashiered, put up and

took down signs, brought snacks, hauled items away and those who prayed for our success.

We should have a time lapse camera beginning at our Saturday noon closing time to show the transformation of the Great Hall. This year's record time was noon to 2:10 p.m. I announced Sunday at the worship service that we broke a record with proceeds of just under \$4000. After recounting and adding in later donations, we did reach \$4000!! That is something to be proud of!

I've had many ask, what happens to the left overs?

Well...

Friday night, we keep some items from going to the \$5 bag day on Saturday. This year, jewelry will be donated to the Sparrows Nest, yarn is going to Grace Lutheran Church, fishing lures to District 200 Fishing Club, and two sets of dishes will be sold on line. The coats are kept for the WACM coat drive. Boy Scout Troop 159 came to tear down and received the rest of the clothing, linens, and books for a future scout fundraiser. The rest filled a trailer and was donated to Savers, benefitting Epilepsy Foundation.

Once again, thanks to everyone, including Linda Hansen, for all the help, time, and energy to make a record-breaking sale!

Our proceeds will be given to the Woodstock Food Pantry and WACM.

Joyce Maynard, on behalf of the Compassion, Peace, and Justice Committee



**All of them were
filled with
the Holy Spirit!**

Acts 2.4



DIAPER INSECURITY

Families are considered to have diaper insecurity (diaper need) when they cannot afford a supply of diapers adequate for changing at healthy intervals.

According to a 2023 study by the National Diaper Bank Network:

- Diaper need has increased sharply.
- Diaper need forces families to cut back on other essentials.
- Diaper need is associated with stress and worry.
- Diaper need impacts daily life.
- Diaper need intersects with food insecurity.
- Diaper need results in parents missing work and wages because disposable diapers are required at most daycare facilities.

Fortunately, community-based diaper banks and distributions throughout the U.S. work to address diaper need. The diaper distribution at First Presbyterian serves approximately 40 individuals per month and trending upwards, with the goal of making a difference, and relieving some stress for the families we assist. If you are interested in this local outreach project, please consider helping when your schedule allows.

The volunteer sign-up link is fpcwoodstock.org/diapervolunteers. Thank you!

Nancy @ 815-823-5107 or nancycingham@gmail.com

MUSIC MINISTRY

Do you enjoy being able to hear the preaching, announcements and music during our worship services?



Volunteers are responsible for that! FPC is looking for help with A/V during worship services. Please contact Christy Johanson if you are interested. christy@fpcwoodstock.org

Responsibilities:

- Work on a rotating schedule with other A/V volunteers
- Arrive at church early to set up sound system and slides
- Monitor sound levels during service
- Advance slides throughout the service
- Turn off system after service is over

Qualifications:

- Age teen or older
- Basic tech knowledge of using a computer, tablet, and Google files
- No previous sound experience needed
- Equipment training will be provided

NO-NAME KNITTERS

The knitters and crocheters are always busy making prayer shawls, baby items, and hats! We try to be aware of any special needs there might be in the community that we could help with.

Please come join us, if you would like to share in our mission. Our group meets the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. in the Fireside Room, and the 3rd Wednesday at 10:00 a.m.

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



CARING TOGETHER

May Birthdays

Kayden Petrik 5/01
Paul Thuma 5/01
Benjamin Thuma 5/03
Renee Simes 5/05
Jackie Lawler 5/10
Barbara Arnold 5/16
Dawn Cook 5/19
Lydia Johanson 5/20
Addison Sobczak 5/20
Dave Johanson 5/24
Katie Spaldon 5/25
Susan Krause 5/26
Jack Darby 5/27

May Anniversaries

Matt & Sherry Thuma 5/04
Hank Jr. & Linda Olesen 5/10
Mark & Barbara Bundick 5/11
Matt & Jalina Petrik 5/29

Thoughts and Prayers

Katie Stebbins,
Aubrey Attochi,
Caryl Lemanski,
Shari Olesen,
Pam Moorhouse,
Gayle Abrams,
Tom Thennes,
Tom Schwarz, Tim Arnold,
Barry Summers,
Mamie Drennen,
Angela Thuma,
Travis Walters,
Larry Collins,
Mary Kittle, Braelyn Kittle,
Aaron, Tim Arnold,
the family and friends of
Ruth Hunt.

EDUCATION AND SPIRITUAL GROWTH

Sunday School

Last class of the year, Sunday, May 12th!

Be there at 9:10 am

Children will perform 2 songs for the congregation

Fun Mother's Day craft to follow



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 3-5th grade. There is a need for adult and youth volunteers to help the week of VBS, as well as decoration and craft prep leading up to it. Crafting events are Wednesday May 8th 1-3 PM, and Wednesday, May 15th 2-3 PM. To sign up to help the week of VBS, please use the following link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30EOB48ACA922AOF58-48846917-ubsuolunteer>

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. Dinner and activities are included. A \$20 donation per family is suggested to support the program.

Confirmation

Please join us for confirmation Sunday, May 5th!

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



Residents in Woodstock's D-200 boundaries may request emergency financial assistance for basic needs through WACM's Direct Assistance Program (DAP). The most common requests to DAP are for help with past due rent or utility bills; gasoline vouchers are also commonly requested.

A big thank you goes out to Joyce Maynard and Linda Hansen, co-chairs of the church rummage sale, and all the other helpers for their hard work on this project. Profits from the rummage sale are being shared with DAP and the Food Pantry. DAP assistance will go back into the community to help those in need. The support and generosity of this contribution to DAP shows First Presbyterian's commitment to local mission work. This work could not be done without your help. Thank you!

PENTECOST SPECIAL OFFERING

April 1 - May 19, 2024

The Pentecost Offering unites us in a church-wide effort to support young people and inspire them to share their faith, ideas, and unique gifts with the church and the world.

Investing in our greatest resource

Help youth begin life with a solid foundation of faith.

Psalm 71 testifies that a foundation of faith established during childhood helps ensure lifelong faith and service. The patterns and lessons established during these formative years continue to bear fruit throughout a person's life. By giving to the Pentecost Offering, you are nurturing the faith of those who are the church to come – children, youth, and young adults.

Your impact

Nurturing the faith of those who are the church to come

A gift to the Pentecost Offering helps the church encourage, develop, and support its young people, and also address the needs of at-risk children. 40% of the Pentecost offering is retained by our congregation to make an impact in the lives of young people within our own community. The remaining 60% is used to support children-at-risk, youth, and young adults through ministries of the Presbyterian Mission Agency.

MAY RED WAGON

Macaroni & Cheese, Spaghetti Sauce, Spaghetti, Ravioli, Spaghetti Os

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

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

Thank You,
Red Wagon Food Drive



MEALS ON WHEELS

Thank you to all of the volunteers who are making this project a success! We are currently looking for a backup driver. Let us know if you can help!



CARING TOGETHER

APRIL FINANCE NOTES

Our March financial report shows the following:

Thru March 2024	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Variance
Pledges	\$ 81,341	\$ 78,961	\$ 2,380
All Other Income	\$ 7,130	\$ 6,100	\$ 1,030
Total Income	\$ 88,471	\$ 85,061	\$ 3,410
Expenses			
Staff	\$ 49,668	\$ 53,893	\$ 4,225
All Other Expenses	\$ 18,015	\$ 17,019	\$ (996)
Total Expense	\$ 67,684	\$ 70,912	\$ 3,228
Net Income	\$ 20,788	\$ 14,149	\$ 6,639

Both our income and expense are tracking closely to budget.

We have two administrative projects underway right now. First, we are working with Boy Scout Troop 159 to integrate their checking account into our balance sheet. Since the troop is operating under our Illinois state non-profit status, we must report on their financial activity.

Secondly, support for our QuickBooks desktop version will be discontinued May 31. While the program will continue to run, if we need assistance from Intuit, they will no longer be supporting this version of QuickBooks. In May, we plan to transition QuickBooks online. We will be assisted by a company specializing in QuickBooks for non-profits, quickbooksmadeeasy.com. This will be a bit of an undertaking for the Finance team, but once complete, it will make it easier for us to access financial data when we need it.

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

Mark Bundick, Finance Team Chair
mbundick@comcast.net



APRIL SESSION NOTES

Committee Reports:

Compassion, Peace and Justice: Rummage sale preparations are well underway. The Pentecost Offering will be promoted in the midweek update and newsletter.

Congregational Life: The committee is getting small gifts for Mother's and Father's Day to be distributed after worship.

Education and Spiritual Growth: VBS will be held jointly with the First United Methodist Church June 24-28. Confirmation Sunday will be May 5.

Ministry Support - Building and Grounds: The committee is working thru a list of minor building repairs and upgrades. Updating all building lighting to LEDs is nearly complete. The committee is working to prepare a list of capital expenditures needed to fully service our building, including new refrigerator, freezer and HVAC units.

Ministry Support - Finance: Income and expenses continue to track to budget. A Boy Scout Troop 159 bank statement was received and will be incorporated into our balance sheet. Discussion continues with our insurance agent on insuring the troop's trailer and its contents. Our QuickBooks desktop software will be migrated to QuickBooks Online in early May.

Worship, Music and Arts: Holy Week and Easter services were well received by the congregation.



CALLING ALL GRADUATES

8th grade, High School and College Graduates

Let [Jeri Loiselle](#) know your graduate's name and what school they are graduating from so that we can recognize their accomplishments.

**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

First Presbyterian Church of Woodstock Worship Schedule

Date	Text	Liturgist	A/V	Greeters and Ushers	Acolyte
5/05/2024	John 15:9-17	Jim Wormley	Dave Johanson	Confirmands	Confirmand
5/12/2024	Luke 24:44-53	Angie Boe	Rob McMahon	Tiffany and Brayden Sobczak	Colin Kaye
5/19/2024	John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15	Renee Simes	Dave Johanson	Julie and Ken Farver	Noa Moorhouse
5/26/2024	John 3:1-17	Dawn Cook	Rob McMahon	Mary Hill and Sue Krause	Volunteer

DEACONS

Following to Lead / Leading to Serve

Deacons shepherd their flocks

- The signup sheet for hosting coffee fellowship is ready for May and June. It's on the second high-top table in the entry area. Hosts provide a snack (coffee cake, small bagels or muffins, etc.), fruit (berries, grapes, or fruit apple slices, etc.) and juice (1/2 gallon). Please sign up to help with this time of fellowship after worship!

Meal Train

- The Deacons have set up a Meal Train for Jessica & Chris Gienko, Sherry & Matt Thuma's daughter and son-in-law. Their baby is due next week. The Meal Train starts May 8, if you would like to help, you can sign up by clicking the link below. <https://mealtrain.com/k3dOdz>
- Want to know who else is in your deacon's flock? Check the first bulletin board in the hall that leads to the bathrooms.

The Deacon thought for May: *Deacons are called by God to share the love of Jesus to people who are shut in, sick, distressed and/or in need of prayers, a visit, a phone call, email, text, food, a listening ear, or all of the above.*

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

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

The building and grounds team is working hard to keep our facilities in good order. We are working on a tight budget and many of our projects are time consuming. Thanks to a grant, we replaced all of our fluorescent lights to new LED panels. We still have some adjustments to do but the new fixtures have motion sensors so turning on and off these lights will no longer be necessary. They were also able to upgrade our parking lot lights to more efficient LED heads. These too have motion detection. The parking lot still has the two additional zones that need to be turned on as needed. Our total cost for this project was just \$100! A team of John Moorhouse, Lee Nejdil and Matt Thuma took out the diseased evergreen tree next to the playground. This took some effort, but we did not have to pay to have it removed.



There are a variety of other projects on our list. We are trying to prioritize them. Some will have to wait for funding, others are waiting until we have the manpower to do them. If there is a

project you would like to work on, please let [us](#) know.

MAY 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
			1 9a Lectionary Study 4p Diaper Distribution	2	3 7a Men's Bible Study 12:30p Ruth Hunt visitation 2p Ruth Hunt memorial service	4
5 Confirmation Sunday 9:30a Worship	6	7	8 9a Lectionary Study 6p Ukulele Rehearsal 6:30p No-Name Knitters 7p Choir Rehearsal	9 1p Finance Team 5:30p Education and Spiritual Growth	10	11 7a Men's Bible Study
12 Music Appreciation Sunday 9:30a Worship 9:45a Sunday School: PreK-5th <i>Mother's Day</i>	13	14 10a TLC Ladies 7p Deacons	15 9a Lectionary Study 10a No-Name Knitters	16 6p Compassion, Peace and Justice	17	18 7a Men's Bible Study
19 9:30a Worship 11a Session <i>Mother's Day</i>	20	21	22 9a Lectionary Study 6:30p No-Name Knitters	23 1p Hospitality Team 6:30p Worship Arts Mtg	24	25 7a Men's Bible Study
26 9:30a Worship	27 <i>Memorial Day</i>	28	29 9a Lectionary Study	30	31	

MAY 2024



**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OF WOODSTOCK**

CELEBRATING AND SHARING GOD'S LOVE

Woodstock, IL 60098

2018 IL-HWY 47

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MINISTERS

All members and friends
of the congregation

STAFF

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Pastor

Jeri Loiselle
Office Administrator
Social Media
Financial Secretary

Christy Johanson
Worship Arts
Coordinator