

First Presbyterian Church of Woodstock September 2024 Newsletter

A letter from Rev. Eric Corbin

As we step into September, I am filled with anticipation for the season ahead. After the different rhythms of summer, it's always energizing to see the church come back to life with activities that nourish our spirits, our minds, and our relationships.

First, I am excited to invite you all to Rally Day on Sunday, September 8. This marks the return of Sunday School for Pre K-5th grade and a time for many to reconnect with the church. Our teachers have been preparing prayerfully, and I am grateful for their work in helping our kids to walk with Jesus. Our Youth Group also kicks off the season on September 8th with a fun gathering at the Wormleys' house.

On Wednesday, September 11, we resume our weekly NOW Dinners. These gatherings are so much more than meals—they are moments of fellowship that strengthen our bonds as a church family. Whether you come for the delicious food, the great conversation, or simply the sense of belonging, I hope you'll make these dinners a regular part of your week. Let's break bread together, share in each other's lives, and reflect on the ways God is working among us.

In addition, I am eager to start a new book discussion for the next few weeks following NOW Dinners. We'll be exploring *Mostly What God Does* by Savannah Guthrie. This book invites us to see the extraordinary in the ordinary, to recognize God's hand in the small moments that make up our daily lives. I believe it will be a meaningful and thought-provoking read for all of us. If you've been looking for a way to engage more deeply with your faith or just want to share in some good conversation, I encourage you to join us. If you haven't already, let me know if you plan to participate.

As we move into this busy and blessed season, let us remember that everything we do centers on our common purpose of growing in Christ's love and sharing that love with the world. I look forward to seeing how God will work through each of us in the coming months!

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.

COMMUNION SERVICE

The first Sunday of each Month

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Jeri Loiselle

REPORTERS

Eric Corbin, Angie Boe,
Mark Bundick, Dawn Cook,
Kay Darby, Sue Krause,
Pat Morozink, Nancy Bingham.

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 8:30 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.

WACM

Thank you to all who participated in the Moose Lodge's Hamburger Night in August. The proceeds help fund WACM's Direct Assistance Program and go directly back into the community to help people with emergency financial needs.

As the seasons start to change and closet cleaning gets underway, please consider donating any extra winter gear (coats, hats, scarves, hats, gloves/mittens, boots) for adults and children to WACM's *Share the Warmth* Drive that will take place in early November. We'll start collecting items at church in October. Specific dates will be included in October's newsletter. Thank you.

ALL ARE INVITED

Come to a Conservation Celebration

learning pathways

Creation Care

9.21.2024

Saturday | 1-4 pm

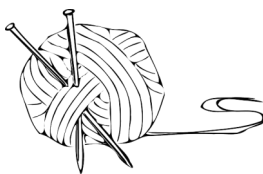
Pleasant Valley Conservation Area
13115 Pleasant Valley Rd, Woodstock, IL

transformation through service




NO NAME KNITTERS

The knitters/crocheters will now be meeting on the third Wednesday of the month at 10 a.m. We will not have night meetings in the future. If you can't make our meeting, but would like to make items from your home, please call Kay Darby 815-572-1729 for information.



The public is invited to a Conservation Celebration of Creation Care on Saturday, September 21 from 1:00- 4:00 p.m. at the Pleasant Valley Conservation Area, 13115 Pleasant Valley Road in Woodstock.

Participants will work together to plant trees and pollinator plants. Interactive tables, spiritual reflection, music, art and storytelling will be included in the afternoon's activities. Families are encouraged to attend. Be sure to wear sturdy shoes and weather-appropriate clothing. Bring work gloves if you have them. Sponsors of this event include Smart Farm, FaithBridge, the McHenry County Conservation District, and Rotary.

TOGETHER TO LAUGH AND LEARN

N.O.W. NEWS

The N.O.W. Team has started planning for our Fall 2024 season!

We celebrated our three summer dinners, which featured Burgers, Tacos and Pork Chop Sandwiches. Thanks to all who came, ate and enjoyed our summer season!

Let's take a look at our fall dinner and brunch schedule.

September 11, NOW Team hosts, Corn and Brats.

September 18, NOW Team hosts, Rotisserie Chicken, Biscuits, Green Beans, and Salad.

September 25, Scout Troop 159 hosts, Baked potato bar.

October 2, NOW Team hosts, Pork Tenderloin, Au Gratin Potatoes, Green Veggie, and Salad.



Be sure to join us on September 25 for the Boy Scout Troop 159 fundraiser. Also note that by alternating casseroles and our traditional eggs and sausage brunch gives us a chance to try some new recipes and get the tasty variety going.

We'll be looking to ask FPCWers for desserts 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 minutes at a dinner or two, it would be a help.

We hope you can join us on Wednesdays and Sundays this fall for food, fellowship and fun!

The N.O.W. Team

Cheryl Wormley (indepublisher@comcast.net)

John Moorhouse (johnmoorhouse54@gmail.com)

Katie Spaldon (kspaldon@gmail.com)

Lee Nejdil (nejdlwoodstock@hotmail.com)

Linda Hansen (lkhanzen53@gmail.com)

Matt Thuma (mrthuma@yahoo.com)

Mark Bundick (mbundick@comcast.net)

The Pantry is looking for help serving the people in our community who depend on us.

Can you commit to ONE day a month?

Call Carolyn and leave a message at 815-338-0897 if you have questions about volunteering, or visit the [Food Pantry Website](#).

THE FOOD PANTRY

Little Red Wagon items for September;
Chicken Noodle Soup, Cream of Mushroom Soup,
Tomato Soup, Cream of Chicken Soup, Vegetable Soup,
Ramen Noodles



We appreciate donated food that is not past the expiration date. When donating items, food must be in separate bag from soap and detergent.

PEACE AND GLOBAL WITNESS SPECIAL OFFERING

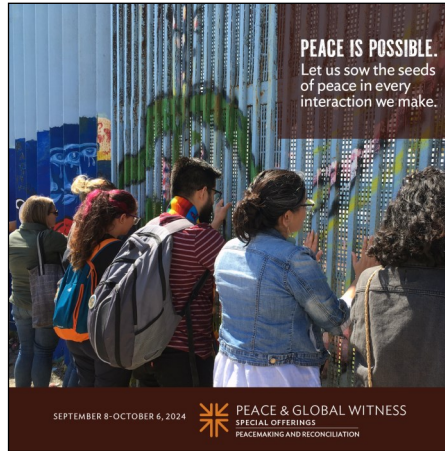
A gift to the **Peace & Global Witness Offering** enables the church to promote the Peace of Christ by addressing systems of conflict and injustice across the world. Individual congregations are encouraged to utilize up to 25% of this Offering for peacemaking efforts that align with their passion.

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.

The Compassion, Peace, and Justice committee voted to donate 25% of the offering to the **YWCA for Northwestern Illinois** in honor of their representative who volunteers to provide Spanish language translation at our monthly Diaper Distribution.

Collection dates for this offering will be from 9/8/2024-10/6/2024.

Thank you in advance for your special gifts.



This Special Offering of the PC(USA) is the third of four special offerings this year. Starting in 2026, this offering will be subsumed in the other offerings, reducing the number of Special Offerings to three. We have set a target of \$1500 for the collection this year.

AUGUST SESSION NOTES

Deacons Report: Barb Parrish is the deacon for the Dahm Family and will be very busy over the next few months.

Committee Reports:

Compassion, Peace and Justice: Starting in 2026, the Pentecost Offering will be discontinued. The Peace & Global Witness Offering will transform into the World Communion Offering in 2026. Mission committees will be required to apply for a grant to use a portion of the collection beginning in 2026.

Education and Spiritual Growth: Rally Day and Sunday School will begin September 8th. Since there is plenty of curriculum left from last year, Sunday School will continue with the existing curriculum.

Ministry Support - Finance: Finance will be working to have 2025 budget materials to committees in October with a goal to approve the 2025 budget at the December meeting.

Worship, Music and Arts: New communion trays and a lid have been purchased to replace damaged trays. A new chair was purchased for the sound booth. Planning has begun for hosting the November 19 Blackhawk Presbytery meeting.

**Compassion,
Peace & Justice**

(Awareness, Service)
Sue Krause

shkrause1@yahoo.com

Chris Mathews

cwmathews8@gmail.com

Congregational Life

(Hospitality, NOW Team)

Fred Strauss

showski1@aol.com

815-728-1430

**Education & Spiritual
Growth**

(Adult, Youth, Child,
Intergenerational)

Dawn Cook

cookdawn82@gmail.com

Addison Sobczak

Ministry Support

(Finance, Staff Support)

Mark Bundick

mbundick@comcast.net

815-337-9068

(Building & Grounds, and
Stewardship)

Chris Dahm

cdahm@dahmco.com

815-378-0273

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

CARING TOGETHER

September Birthdays

Tom Schaeffer	9/01
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

In Our Prayers

Bob & Gail Diss, Kay & Jack Darby, Caryl Lemanski, Shari & Hank Olesen, Gayle Abrams, Tom Thennes, Tom Schwarz, Kareem, Tim Arnold, Mamie Drennen, Travis Walters, Larry Collins, Mary Kittle, Braelyn Kittle, Aaron, baby Maggie, the family & friends of Katie Stebbins, the family & friends of Bryan Dahm, the family & friends of Anton ("Tony Sr.") Spaldon, and the family & friends of Maria Carlson.

SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE

September 8

Rally Day

- PENCILS
- BLACK PENS
- HIGHLIGHTERS
- PAPER
- BINDERS
- NOTEBOOKS
- TISSUES
- HAND SANITIZER



DEACON UPDATE FOR SEPTEMBER 2024 NEWSLETTER

We are happy to be continuing to offer coffee hour after church hosted by members of the Deacons and other members of the congregation. Thank you to Pam and John Moorhouse for helping us on Aug. 25th. We would love to have you sign up for a Sunday.

Barb Parrish is putting together a list of what is needed for a funeral and what we offer at the church, as well as a list of fees.

Please think about taking a name off of the "Reaching Out Tree" in the church entryway. Send a card, call or visit in person.

Please let us know if there is anything we can help you with. Concerns, health issues and celebrations are helpful to know about as we continue to care for you.

Angie Boe (815) 353-7993

Mary 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

Time to Get Crafty!!

Believe it or not, the next Advent/Christmas season will be upon us before we know it. Our congregation will again be holding a fund-raising craft fair on Cantata Sunday in December. Have you started making a craft or two? Can you? All kinds of crafts are accepted for sale: wooden, cloth, ceramic, paper, etc. Please consider joining this effort. Proceeds will go to the youth fund for some of their fun/outreach ventures. Thank you!!

AUGUST FINANCE NOTES

Our July financial report shows the following:

Thru July 2024	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Variance
Pledges	\$ 133,639	\$ 128,604	\$ 5,035
All Other Income	\$ 19,196	\$ 18,010	\$ 1,186
Total Income	\$ 152,835	\$ 146,614	\$ 6,221
Expenses			
Staff	\$ 123,581	\$ 125,215	\$ 1,634
All Other Expenses	\$ 54,900	\$ 61,308	\$ 6,408
Total Expense	\$ 178,481	\$ 186,523	\$ 8,042
Net Income	\$ (25,646)	\$ (39,909)	\$ 14,263
McCullough Funding	\$ -	\$ 10,000	\$ (10,000)
Net Income	\$ (25,646)	\$ (29,909)	\$ 4,263

Income and expenses continue running favorable variances thus far.

However, after the end of July, this trend reversed, and as planned, we have drawn down undesignated McCullough Endowment distribution funds to support our cash flow needs. We'll continue monitoring our financials as we head into the new church year.

Right now, we don't expect any significant change in our budgeted expense or income.

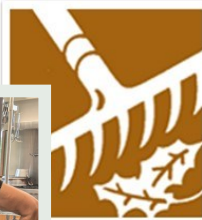
At the end of September, Finance will start work on the 2025 budget process. Our goal will be to have a final budget approved by Session at the December meeting and to load that budget into QuickBooks. If we're able to do this, it will greatly simplify our year end process.

Thank you for your generous support of our ministry in Woodstock and the world!

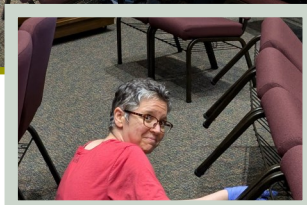
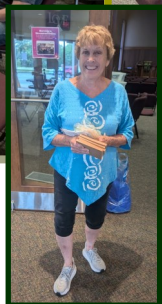
Mark Bundick, Finance Team Chair

mbundick@comcast.net

**Many thanks to everyone who pitched in at our August workday!
Your hard work made a huge difference!**



WORKDAY AT THE CHURCH



September Worship Schedule

Date	Text	Liturgist	A/V	Greeters and Ushers	Acolyte
9/1/2024	<u>Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23</u>	Cheryl Wormley	Dave Johanson	Rick & Pat Morozink	None
9/8/2024	<u>Mark 7:31-37</u>	John Moorhouse	Christopher & Kristi Corbin	Carol Brefeld & Fred Strauss	Colin Kaye
9/15/2024	<u>Mark 8:27-38</u>	Addison Sobczak	Dave Johanson	Tom Schaeffer & Chris Mathews	Noa Moorhouse
9/22/2024	<u>Mark 9:30-37</u>	Tom Schaeffer	Brayden S. / Elin K. / Erik J.	Pam Moorhouse and Sue Krause	Emily Lawler
9/29/2024	<u>Mark 9:38-50</u>	Sue Krause	Dave Johanson	Cheryl Wormley and Beth Elbersen	Braden Ferrera

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Rally Day to kick off the new Sunday School year is Sunday, September 8th! We will meet immediately following Pastor Eric's "Time with Children" during the 9:30 a.m. worship service. After Rally Day, Sunday School will continue to meet following the schedule below during the 9:30 a.m. service. We will once again be using the PC(USA) curriculum, *Growing in Grace and Gratitude*.



September 8 - Rally Day!

September 22

October 6

October 27

November 10 - Abbreviated Lesson + Christmas Program/Cantata Rehearsal

November 24 - Abbreviated Lesson + Christmas Program/Cantata Rehearsal

Please join us after Sunday School to decorate the Great Hall for Christmas!

December 1 - Christmas Program/Cantata Rehearsal

December 7 - Christmas Program/Cantata Saturday Dress Rehearsal (time TBD)

December 15 - Musical Cantata and Children's Christmas Program

YOUTH GROUP

Once again the Wormleys have graciously invited the youth group to their Lake Geneva home for swimming, stand up paddle boards, the lily pad and a BBQ! We will gather at 3:30 for the water activities and eat at 5:30 p.m.

Lake Geneva Swim and BBQ

Sunday, September 8th, 3:30-6:30

Anyone that would like to either host a youth event this fall, please contact [Jackie Lawler](#).

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

SEPTEMBER 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:30a Worship	2 Office Closed	3	4 8:30a Lectionary Study 4p Diaper Distribution 7p Choir Rehearsal	5	6	7 7a Men's Bible Study 2:30p World Peace Day gathering at the Square
8 Choir Sings Rally Day 9:30a Worship 9:45a Sunday School: PreK-5th 3:30p Youth meet at Wormleys	9 <i>Labor Day</i>	10 9a Visitation for Katie Stebbins (<i>Iustem FH-McHenry</i>) 11:30a Memorial Service for Katie Stebbins 7p Deacons	11 8:30a Lectionary Study 5:15p NOW Dinner -- Corn & Brats 6p Book Discussion -- <i>Mostly What God Does</i> 7p Choir Rehearsal	12 1p Finance Team	13	14 7a Men's Bible Study
15 Choir Sings 9:30a Worship 11a Session	16	17 10a TLC Ladies	18 8:30a Lectionary Study 10a No-Name Knitters 5:15p NOW Dinner 6p Book Discussion -- <i>Mostly What God Does</i>	19 6p Compassion, Peace and Justice	20	21 7a Men's Bible Study
22 9:30a Worship 9:45a Sunday School: PreK-5th 10:30a Brunch 11a Education and Spiritual Growth	23	24	25 8:30a Lectionary Study 5:15p NOW Dinner 6p Book Discussion -- <i>Mostly What God Does</i> 7p Choir Rehearsal	26 1p Hospitality Team 6:30p Worship Arts Mtg	27	28 7a Men's Bible Study
29 Choir Sings 9:30a Worship	30					

SEPTEMBER 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

Visit us on Facebook

www.fpcwoodstock.org

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Woodstock, IL 60098

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