

First Presbyterian Church of Woodstock

October 2024 Newsletter

A letter from Rev. Eric Corbin

I love Fall weather! In fact, Autumn is one of my *four* favorite seasons. ☺ Seriously, though I do enjoy experiencing the different seasons in this wonderful world God made for us, Fall weather is probably my favorite. A few years ago while enjoying the beginning of the season, I commented about my love of Fall weather. A friend responded with surprise, “When everything turns brown and dies??” *Nope, that’s not what I’m talking about!* I’m talking about the beautiful kaleidoscope of colors – golden yellows, fiery oranges, and crimson reds – which burst forth into a vibrant masterpiece. I’m talking about the crispness of the air and the gentle rustling of leaves underfoot. I’m talking about evening walks with stunning sunsets, while the creation prepares to rest, but first puts on a display of breathtaking, quiet beauty.

Autumn is also a season when we can reflect on our *own* transformation. As the trees shed their leaves, we are invited to consider which old beliefs, harmful habits, or limiting perspectives may be hindering our spiritual growth, and shed them, as well. As we observe the trees preparing for winter, we’re reminded that transformation is often about preparation – making space for the new growth to come. We are *always* transforming. While my friend teasingly focused on the aspect of death, autumn also symbolizes renewal and hope. The falling of the leaves and the dormancy of nature pave the way for new growth in the spring. This cycle of death and rebirth inherent in God’s creation reminds us that through Christ, we are continually being made new. Paul writes “if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; look, new things have come into being!” (2 Cor 5:17, NRSV). In this season, may we embrace renewal and hope!

World Communion Sunday is the first Sunday of October each year. On this day, we are particularly called to celebrate our oneness in Christ with all of our siblings around the world. It is also a time to share what we have with those in need, through the annual *Peace & Global Witness Offering*. This vital Special Offering enables the church to promote the Peace of Christ by addressing systems of conflict and injustice across the world. If you have not yet given to the *Peace & Global Witness Offering*, please prayerfully consider doing so now.

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 follow 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. or online
at fpcwoodstock.org/worship

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Jeri Loiselle

REPORTERS

Eric Corbin, Angie Boe,
Mark Bundick, Jackie Boe,
Sue Krause, Ray Thuma,
Kay Darby, Joyce Maynard,
Pat Morozink, Nancy Bingham.

TOGETHER TO LAUGH AND LEARN

<p>Men's Group/Bible Study John Moorhouse 815-236-7408</p> <p>Lectionary Bible Study Velma Downes 815-245-4043</p> <p>Adult Spiritual Growth Groups Dawn Cook</p> <p>Hospitality Team Erin Kaye 312-371-7573</p> <p>Music Ministry Christy Johanson 815-382-5234</p> <p>No-Name Knitters Kay Darby 815-572-1729</p> <p>T.L.C. (Tender Loving Care) Mary Hill 815-338-6051</p> <p>Meals-On-Wheels Jeri Loiselle 815-338-2627</p> <p>WACM Local Mission Team Pat Morozink 815-338-7769</p> <p>Food Pantry Joyce Maynard 815-338-7265</p> <p>Fishing Mission Bob Clark 847-274-8247</p> <p>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</p>	<p>MEN'S BIBLE STUDY 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>LECTIONARY STUDY Wednesday, at 8:30 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>
	<div data-bbox="480 594 1521 955"> <p>SHARE THE WARMTH Collecting Winter Wear! Coats, Hats, Gloves, Scarfs, Snow Pants, Boots Collecting through 11/12 Distribution Nov. 15 & 16</p>  </div> <div data-bbox="480 955 1521 1470"> <p>A collection of winter gear- <i>coats, hats, scarves, gloves/mittens, heavy socks, boots and blankets</i>- for men, women, and children will start on October 27 and continue through November 13. Clean, gently used items can be brought to First Presbyterian Church and put in the container in the entryway during those dates. The donated items will then be made available to the Woodstock community at no charge at WACM's Share the Warmth Coat Drive. It will be held at First United Methodist Church, 201 W. South Street on Friday, November 15 from 2-7 pm and Saturday, November 16 from 9 am until noon.</p> <p>First Presbyterian congregants have generously provided donations in previous years. Your support is greatly appreciated. If you know someone in need, please share this information with them and encourage them to attend. Thank you.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="480 1470 1521 1999"> <p>Time to Get Crafty!!</p> <p>Our congregation will again hold a fund-raising craft fair on Cantata Sunday in December.</p> <p>Have you started making a craft or two? Can you?</p> <p>All kinds of crafts are accepted for sale: wooden, cloth, ceramic, paper, etc.</p> <p>Please consider joining this effort. Proceeds will go to the youth fund for some of their fun/outreach ventures. Thank you!!</p>  </div>	

THE FOOD PANTRY

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

Can you commit to ONE day a month?

Below are the shifts that need coverage.

- Every Tuesday and Thursday- 8:45 a.m.-11:00 a.m. to pick up food at Aldi or the Food Coop.
- Every Tuesday and Saturday- pickup at the Farmers Market and deliver to the Food Pantry.
- Saturday and Sunday- Aldi produce pickups anytime. (Pickup truck or van suggested).
- Second Thursday each month to unload the Northern Illinois Food Bank delivery from 7:30 a.m.-10:00 a.m.
- Second Tuesday each month- 9:00 a.m. pickup at the Crystal Lake Pantry (pickup truck or van suggested).
- Front desk workers are needed Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 8:45 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. and 12:00 p.m.- 3:00 p.m.

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

Little red wagon items for July



Shampoo, Bath Soap, Deodorant, Toothpaste, Toilet Paper, Laundry Soap

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

KNIT WITH US!

NO NAME KNITTERS

WISHING YOU ALL A LOVELY AUTUMN!

THIS IS THE SEASON OF "MAKING" FOR OUR GROUP! PRAYING THE LOVE OF KNITTING AND CROCHETING WILL GIVE US PEACE THIS TIME OF YEAR, AS WE SHARE IN THE JOY OF CREATIVITY, MAKING TREASURED PIECES FOR OUR CONGREGATION AND COMMUNITY. WE WOULD LOVE FOR YOU TO JOIN US! WE MEET THE THIRD WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 10:00 A.M. IF YOU CAN'T MAKE THE MEETINGS, WE WOULD GLADLY ACCEPT THE ITEMS MADE AT HOME. CALL KAY DARBY AT 815-572-1729 FOR FURTHER DETAILS.

EVERY 3RD WEDNESDAY
OF THE MONTH
START 10.00 AM



REMINDER

October 21-25

This is our week to
deliver Meals on
Wheels!

MEALS on WHEELS
NORTHEASTERN ILLINOIS

HIGHWAY CLEANUP

Our next highway cleanup is October 26 at 9:00 am. Please consider joining us as we beautify the little corner of God's creation entrusted to First Presbyterian.

We pick up litter along Route 47 between Ware Road and Charles Road.

The cleanup takes less than two hours and goes faster with more volunteers. If your small group is looking for an easy way to add a mission component to your ministry, consider adopting a cleanup day. Children 11 years and older are welcome, so, why not bring the kids and make it a family affair? For more information, contact Ray Thuma RPThuma@sbcglobal.net



CARING TOGETHER

October Birthdays

Jen Oliver	10/3
Kristi Corbin	10/6
Jeri Loiselle	10/7
Danielle Rewiako	10/15
Dan Chwalisz	10/21
Lenali Petrik	10/22
Ryan Traimany	10/22
Jane Jensen	10/24
Sherry Thuma	10/29
Tammy Robinett	10/31

October Anniversaries

Tom Schaeffer &
Chris Mathews 10/12

Mary Grace & Alex
Ferguson 10/14

In Our Prayers

Bob & Gail Diss, Caryl Lemanski, Gayle Abrams, Tom Thennes, Tom & Lora Schwarz, Kareem, Tim Arnold, Mamie Drennen, Travis Walters, Larry Collins, Mary Kittle, Braelyn Kittle, Aaron, baby Maggie, Savannah Karm, Jonathan Bundick, the family & friends of Katie Stebbins, the family & friends of Bryan Dahm.



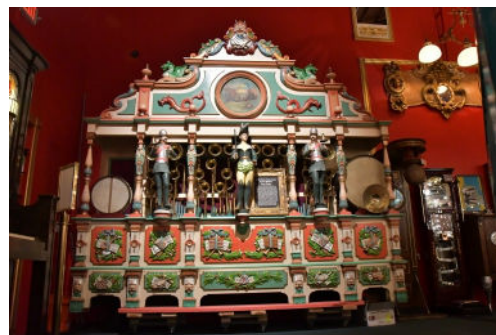
YOUTH GROUP

On October 13th, the youth group will be heading to the Volo Auto Museum to jump aboard the Haunted Halloween Trolley. It is a 1-hour tour where we will listen to stories of paranormal activity at the Museum.

Immediately following church, we will gather and head out for lunch at a fast-food restaurant (to be voted on) near the Museum before the tour! After the tour we will return to church. The normal cost of the tour is \$16.95/person but due to all the youths' hard work over the past year, the cost will be FREE to our group members! We invite our youth to please bring a friend or two along for a discounted cost of \$10/person. The only thing we do ask is for everyone to please bring spending money for lunch.

Please RSVP by Sunday, October 6th, so the timed tour tickets can be purchased.

Save the Date: Wednesday, November 6th, the Youth Group will be hosting the NOW dinner!



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](#).

SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHEDULE

October 6 - Lesson: The Shepherd Boy and the Giant (1 Samuel)

October 27 - Lesson: Abigail Makes Peace (1 Samuel)

November 10 - Lesson: Elisha Helps a Family (II Kings) + Christmas Program/Cantata Rehearsal

November 24 - Abbreviated Advent 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 8 - Christmas Program/Cantata

December 14 - Saturday Dress Rehearsal (time TBD)

December 15 - Musical Cantata and Children's Christmas Program

DEACON UPDATE:

We are happy to continue offering coffee hour after church hosted by members of the Deacons and other members of the congregation. Thanks to the NOW Team for Brunches on 9/22, 10/6 and 10/27!

Also, thank you to Chris Mathews and Tom Schaffer for helping us on Nov.3rd. We would love to have anyone 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. Also, 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

N.O.W. NEWS

Our Fall 2024 season has kicked off successfully! Thanks to everyone who has come out to enjoy both dinner and brunch. One particular note: the Boy Scout Troop 159 fundraiser raised over \$350 for the troop. Thanks for supporting our Scouts!

Here's the October schedule. Please note there is no N.O.W. dinner on Wednesday October 9, due to D200 parent-teacher conferences.

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 Nedjl (nejdlwoodstock@hotmail.com)

Linda Hansen (lkhanen53@gmail.com)

Matt Thuma (mrthuma@yahoo.com)

Mark Bundick (mbundick@comcast.net)

Brunch Dates	Menu
October 6	Eggs, sausage, bagels, muffins, fruit
October 27	Breakfast casseroles and fruit
Dinner Dates	Menu
October 16	Beef stroganoff over noodles and salad
October 23	Chili Cookoff! Bring your favorite pot and put it to the "taste".
October 30	TBD, but there will be "Candy Corny Jokes" from Pastor Eric.

DIAPERS FOR FAMILIES IN NEED

Pickup 1st Wednesday of Each Month 4:00-5:30 p.m. at
First Presbyterian Church

Must have

a referral from *Woodstock Food Pantry*
or a *SNAP, WIC or LINK* card

plus I.D. & proof of McHenry County residence.

CARING TOGETHER

SEPTEMBER SESSION NOTES:

Pastor's Report: Eric reviewed his work as chair of the Blackhawk Presbytery Nominating Committee and as a member of the Blackhawk Presbytery Council.

Deacon's Report: The deacons remain busy with flock care, coffee fellowship and prayer list updates.

Memorial Committee: The committee reviewed a request from Finance on refrigerator and freezer replacement and approved funding the project using undesignated memorial funds.

Nominating Committee: The committee will be meeting Thursday to begin work to nominate elders, deacons and Memorial Committee members.

Congregational Life: NOW dinners have begun.

Education and Spiritual Growth: Sunday School had a successful Rally Day kickoff on September 8.

Ministry Support – Finance: Finance will be reaching out to McHenry County College for a faculty member to help resolve reporting problems with QuickBooks online. Session approved using \$15,000 from undesignated memorial funds to replace two refrigerators and a freezer.

Next Regular Meeting: Sunday, October 20, 2024 at 11:00 a.m.

Learning Opportunities – Scholarships Available

The Visioning and Assembly Planning Committee of Blackhawk Presbytery is always looking for opportunities to equip our leaders and help our congregations thrive. In that light we encourage you to take advantage of a couple special learning opportunities this Fall.

The **Stewardship Kaleidoscope** conference from September 23-25th is an excellent resource for those seeking to work on ministry sustainability over time. There is a virtual option for \$125.00, great value for those looking into their own continuing education as pastors or wanting to be better equipped as ruling elders on Session or committee leaders. [More information here.](#)

The **Lombard Mennonite Peace Center** is offering a one day virtual training on **Healthy Congregations** on November 7, 2024, 9 am-4 pm, for \$99. The workshop is designed to equip leaders to respond to the presence or potential threat of anxiety in a congregational system in ways that prevent destructive conflict and help the church stay focused on its unique mission and purpose. [More information here.](#)

If you are a ruling elder, take note: **Blackhawk Presbytery is offering scholarships** to cover the virtual attendance conference fee of two ruling elders (from different congregations) for each event. This includes ruling elders serving as Commissioned Pastors if their contract does not include sufficient Continuing Education benefits. Email Loreen at office@blackhawkpresbytery.org to request the assistance and register. First come, first served!

SEPTEMBER FINANCE NOTES

Our August financial report shows the following:

Thru August 2024	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Variance
Pledges	\$ 148,901	\$ 138,821	\$ 10,080
All Other Income	\$ 24,570	\$ 18,037	\$ 6,533
Total Income	\$ 173,471	\$ 156,858	\$ 16,613
Expenses			
Staff	\$ 145,543	\$ 142,294	\$ (3,249)
All Other Expenses	\$ 54,515	\$ 86,471	\$ 31,956
Total Expense	\$ 200,058	\$ 228,765	\$ 28,708
Net Income	\$ (26,587)	\$ (71,907)	\$ 45,321
McCullough Funding	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,000	\$ -
Net Income	\$ 3,413	\$ (41,907)	\$ 45,321

Finance now begins the 3-month process of preparing the 2025 budget. We begin by providing each committee a worksheet with their January thru September expenses, plus their October thru December budget amounts. We ask committees to review the October thru December budgets and make any adjustments. Then they fill out worksheets with their initial 2025 budget requests.

Finance will review the 2025 budgets, discuss any questions with committee chairs, then provide the draft budget to session for their review, adjustment and approval. Yes, it's a lot of work, but it's necessary if we're to make good plans for our church. Please pray for us as we begin this process.

As always, thank you for your generous support of FPC's ministries!

Mark Bundick, Finance Team Chair
mbundick@comcast.net

Compassion, Peace & Justice

(Awareness, Service)

Sue Krause

shkrausel@yahoo.com

Chris Mathews

cwmathews8@gmail.com

Congregational Life

(Hospitality, NOW Team)

Fred Strauss

showski@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

OCTOBER
 is domestic violence
 awareness month



October Worship Schedule

Date	Text	Liturgist	A/V	Greeters and Ushers
10/6/2024	Mark 10:13-16	Erin Kaye	John Moorhouse	Rick & Pat Morozink
10/13/2024	Mark 10:17-24	Cheryl Wormley	Elin and John Moorhouse	Tiffany & Brayden Sobczak
10/20/2024	Mark 10:35-45	Velma Downes	Dave Johanson	Mary Hill and Sue Krause
10/27/2024	Mark 10:46-52	Jim Wormley	Brayden/Elin/Erik	Tom Schaeffer & Chris Mathews

CHOIR SCHEDULE

Choir Rehearsal on Wednesday, October 2 at 7:00 p.m.

Choir Sings on Sunday October 6.

Choir Rehearsal on Wednesday, October 16 at 7:00 p.m.

Choir Sings on Sunday October 20.

Choir Rehearsal on Wednesday, October 23 at 7:00 p.m.

Choir Sings on Sunday October 27.



S'MORES Night

30
OCT

06
PM



Get ready for an unforgettable Bonfire Night!
Gather your friends and family for a cozy evening filled
with warmth, fun, and the magic of a crackling fire.

MIDDLE SCHOOL-HIGH SCHOOL

YOUTH RETREAT AT STRONGHOLD

NOVEMBER 1-3

THEME

WE'VE GOT THE JOY, JOY, JOY

An unplugged weekend of fun while finding the joy in simply connecting with God, Others and Self.

INFO

Happens at beautiful Stronghold Camp & Retreat Center
All high schoolers and middle schoolers welcome!
Come with a group or on your own! Make new friends!

FUN

MISSION

JOY IN SERVING: POWER HOUR OF SERVICE

Every participant will throw themselves into working with a team to make improvements at the camp.

DETAILS

Friday, Nov. 1- from 8 pm to Sunday, Nov. 3 at 11 pm
Lodging is in the Castle (and other locations as needed)
Cost for the weekend: \$130 (youth or adult leader)

YOU!

MORE: BLACKHAWKPRESBYTERY.ORG/2024/09/26/YOUTH/

OCTOBER 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 8:30a Lectionary Study 4p Diaper Distribution 5:15p NOW Dinner 7p Choir Rehearsal	3	4	5 7a Men's Bible Study
Choir Sings 9:30a Worship 9:45a Sunday School: PreK-5th 10:30a Brunch	6	7 10a TLC Ladies	10	11	12 7a Men's Bible Study
9:30a Worship 10:30a Youth Group outing	13 <i>Columbus Day Indigenous Peoples' Day</i>	14	16 8:30a Lectionary Study 10a No-Name Knitters 5:15p NOW Dinner 6p Book Discussion -- <i>Mostly What God Does</i> 7p Choir Rehearsal	17 1p Finance Team 6p Compassion, Peace and Justice 7p Nominating Team	19 7a Men's Bible Study
Choir Sings 9:30a Worship 11a Session	20	21 4:30p Education and Spiritual Growth	23 8:30a Lectionary Study 5:15p NOW Dinner 6p Book Discussion -- <i>Mostly What God Does</i> 7p Choir Rehearsal	24 1p Hospitality Team	25 7a Men's Bible Study 9a Highway Clean-up
Choir Sings 9:30a Worship 9:45a Sunday School: PreK-5th 10:30a Brunch 11:30a Deacons	27	28	30 8:30a Lectionary Study 5:15p NOW Dinner 6p S'mores at the firepit	31 <i>Halloween</i>	

OCTOBER 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



Amen

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OF WOODSTOCK**

CELEBRATING AND SHARING GOD'S LOVE

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