

# First Presbyterian Church of Woodstock

## April 2025 Newsletter

### A letter from Rev. Eric Corbin

#### The Hope of Resurrection

As April begins, we find ourselves drawing near to Holy Week. Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday are just ahead. Each year, we walk this familiar road with Jesus—from the joyful hosannas to the solemn shadows of the cross—trusting that resurrection lies beyond. But we don't rush to Easter morning. We walk the path with care, letting each step prepare our hearts for the promise of new life.

This Easter, we carry both grief and hope. In recent days, our congregation has said goodbye to two beloved saints of the church: Tom Schwarz and Bob Boyne. These men were deeply rooted in faith and service. They offered their wisdom, kindness, and steady presence to this community in ways that shaped us all. We mourn their loss, and we give thanks for their lives, trusting that they are now held in God's eternal embrace.

Martin Luther once wrote, *"Our Lord has written the promise of resurrection, not in books alone, but in every leaf in springtime."* What a beautiful reminder that signs of new life are all around us—in the budding trees, in the warming days, and in the small acts of kindness that continue to bloom in our community.

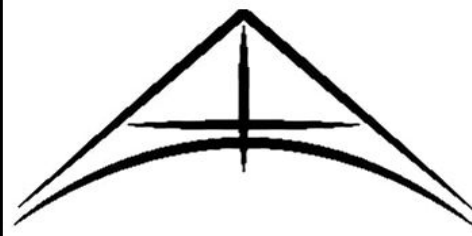
One of the ways we live out resurrection hope is through acts of generosity and service—and our annual rummage sale is a beautiful example. From April 10-12, we'll welcome neighbors into our space, offering good items at low cost and using the proceeds to support local organizations that care for those in need. If you're able to donate, sort, price, or help during the sale, your time and effort will be a blessing. It's more than a fundraiser—it's a ministry of hospitality, stewardship, and love.

I hope you'll join us in worship throughout this sacred season. Let us gather, not just to remember the story, but to live it: to embody hope, to practice compassion, and to witness to the truth that life and love always have the final word.

As always, feel free to reach out anytime—by email, phone, or by scheduling a time to talk at [fpcwoodstock.org/meetwitheric](https://fpcwoodstock.org/meetwitheric).

Grace and peace,  
Pastor Eric

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH OF WOODSTOCK



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#### SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE

In the Great Hall @ 9:30 a.m. or online  
at [fpcwoodstock.org/worship](https://fpcwoodstock.org/worship)

#### NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Jeri Loiselle

#### REPORTERS

Eric Corbin, Mary Carol Dunker,  
Bob Clark, Sue Krause, Kay Darby,  
Joyce Maynard,  
Pat Morozink.

# TOGETHER TO LAUGH AND LEARN

**Men's Bible Study**  
[John Moorhouse](#)  
815-236-7408

**Lectionary Bible Study**  
[Velma Downes](#)  
815-245-4043

**Adult Spiritual Growth Groups**  
[Ray Thuma](#)

**Hospitality Team**  
[Fred Strauss](#)

**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

**Diaper Distribution**  
[Nancy Bingham](#)  
815-823-5107

**Fishing Mission**  
[Bob Clark](#)  
847-274-8247

## MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Saturday, at 7:00 a.m.

Everyone is invited to join us for a time of learning and fellowship. Together, we trust in God's guidance and grace, experiencing the love of our Creator through a right relationship with 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.

## LITTLE RED WAGON DEDICATION

CPJ and Hospitality collaborated to re-emphasize the purpose of our "Little Red Wagon" program to support the Woodstock Food Pantry. On a designated Sunday once each month, the wagon will be brought up to the front with the offering for the day so that the donations can be dedicated before delivery to the Pantry. We hope this will encourage and increase donations from the congregation by keeping the need in front of everyone on a regular basis.

Joyce Maynard will continue to provide a list of items to donate each month, but know that any unexpired, non-perishable items are always welcome even if they are not specifically on the list. Canned goods are great. Please avoid glass jars for safety reasons.

Thanks for your support of this essential care for our community!

## APRIL RED WAGON DONATIONS

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



Leave your donations in the red wagon located at the rear of the Great Hall.

Monetary Donations are always welcome!

## FOOD PANTRY IS LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS

Volunteer anytime during these hours:

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday: 8:45 a.m.-12:00 p.m. or 12:00 p.m.-3:15 p.m.

Call Merry at 815-338-6448, and leave a message if you have questions about volunteering.

**N.O.W. DINNER AND BRUNCH NEWS**

April brings showers, but it will also bring the end of our spring season N.O.W. dinners. Here are our remaining dinner menus.

Dinner Dates	Host	Menu
April 2	Scout Troop 159	Mostaccioli
April 16	NOW Team	“Chef’s Choice” and FPCW Dessert Bake Off

That’s right, we’ll be having a *Dessert Bake Off* on April 16. Anyone can enter, but please, only one entry per person. N.O.W. Dinner attendees will vote on the winner, who gets a trophy!

Also note there is no dinner on April 9, due to our annual Rummage Sale setup.

We have two Sunday brunches left in the season. If you haven’t yet been to brunch at FPCW, be sure to check one (or both!) of these out. The food’s been great and the fellowship after worship is even better! Join us right after worship.

Brunch Dates	Host	Menu
April 13	NOW Team	Breakfast casseroles and fresh donuts
April 27	NOW Team	Eggs, sausage, bagels, muffins, fruit

The team will meet after brunch on April 27 with an eye to reviewing our spring season, finalizing dates for our summer barbeque dinner schedule and some long-range planning for the fall. If you have ideas or suggestions for dinner or brunch dishes or themes for our events, please let any N.O.W. team member know.

Thanks to all who have eaten with the N.O.W. Team this spring season. We’re glad you were able to join us!

**Nurture on Wednesday**

Contact a member of the N.O.W. Team to see how you can help.

**Mark Bundick**  
[mbundick@comcast.net](mailto:mbundick@comcast.net)  
 224-242-2451

**Linda Hansen**  
[lkhansen53@gmail.com](mailto:lkhansen53@gmail.com)  
 815-451-8735

**Jane Jensen**  
[jensenjane74@gmail.com](mailto:jensenjane74@gmail.com)  
 847-293-4358

**John Moorhouse**  
[johnmoorhouse54@gmail.com](mailto:johnmoorhouse54@gmail.com)  
 815-236-7408

**Lee Nejd**  
[nejdlwoodstock@hotmail.com](mailto:nejdlwoodstock@hotmail.com)  
 815-546-1731

**Katie Spaldon**  
[kspaldon@gmail.com](mailto:kspaldon@gmail.com)  
 815-276-3410

**Matt Thuma**  
[mrthuma@yahoo.com](mailto:mrthuma@yahoo.com)  
 815-370-4094

**Cheryl Wormley**  
[indepublisher@comcast.net](mailto:indepublisher@comcast.net)  
 815-519-7402

No Name *knitters*

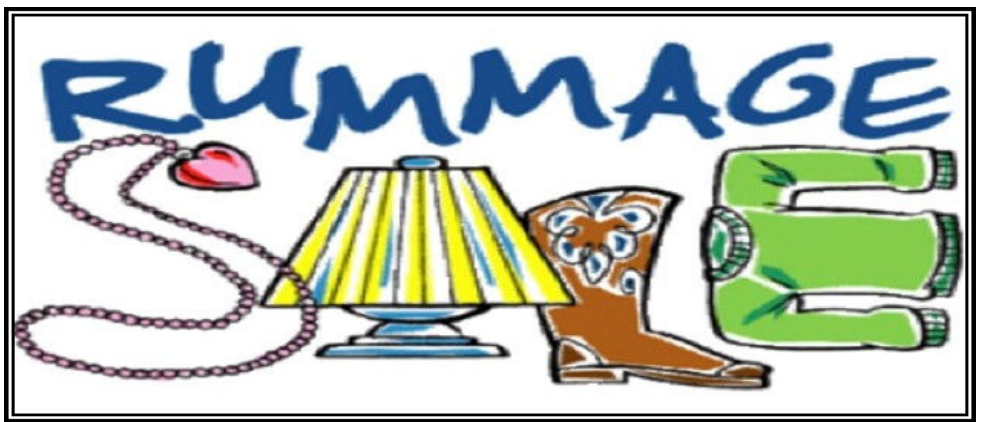


“Prayer shawls are a wearable hug, crafted with love and intent.” We hope that everyone who receives any of our handmade items will be touched in some way. Our meetings are fun, relaxed, and supportive! Please come visit and see for yourself! We meet the first Wednesday of the month, at 10 a.m., and the third Wednesday, at 6 p.m. Call Kay Darby at 815-572-1729 for more information.

# CARING TOGETHER

## April Birthdays

James Reilly	4/08
Pam Moorhouse	4/10
Erin Kaye	4/13
Chris Mathews	4/13
Joyce Chwalisz	4/15
Caroline Frick	4/15
Wes Justice	4/15
Trish Sowa	4/16
Tony Spaldon	4/16
Alex Rewiako	4/17
Jason Nicolai	4/18
Brooklyn Walters	4/18
Jerin Ferrera	4/20
Jessica Gienko	4/24
Sue Sauer	4/24
Tom Houchins	4/29
Hudson Frick	4/30
Brooke Mathison	4/30



## DROP OFF BEGINS APRIL 4

We have a reputation of having AMAZING rummage sales. You can help us continue our winning streak! We welcome 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, and small furniture.

**Please, PLEASE, PLEASE make sure all items are CLEAN, in working order and have no pieces missing. Please attach a suggested price when you donate large items, furniture/electronics, or collectibles.**

We invite you to fill at least one bag per person at your house.

## April Anniversaries

Mark & Sheri Thuma	4/25
Kyle & Jen Oliver	4/30

## RUMMAGE SALE DATES

**Thursday, APRIL 10 FROM 8AM-6PM**

**FRIDAY, APRIL 11 FROM 8AM-4PM**

**Friday all items 1/2 off beginning at noon**

**SATURDAY, APRIL 12 FROM 8AM - NOON**

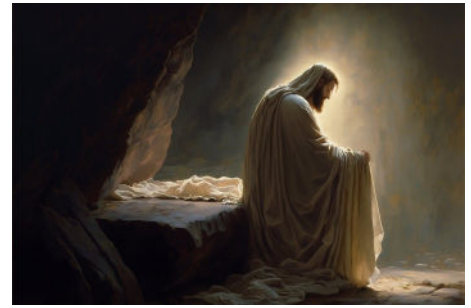
**Saturday all you can fit in a bag for \$5**

***Volunteer signups are up at the church. Please consider giving an hour or two to help out this important Mission fundraiser. ALL proceeds are donated to area organizations helping those in need in our community.***



**In our prayers:**

Dan Lemanski, Kris, Pete Thennes, Vickie Thuma, John Hudson, Paul Thuma, Marla Rigby, Melinda Gallant, Sue Kenady, Loretta Nejd, Kareem, Tim Arnold, Gayle Abrams, Aaron, Tom Schwarz, Mary Kittle, Cassidy Tullos, Travis Walters, Larry Collins, Braelyn Kittle, those impacted by new federal policies. The friends and family of Bob Boyne. The Friends and Family of Tom Schwarz.



Paul Jeffrey



**ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING**

SPECIAL OFFERINGS

HUNGER • DISASTER • DEVELOPMENT

**One Great Hour of Sharing**

Once again our congregation is called upon to participate in the One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS).

OGHS is a special offering that supports efforts to help those living on the margins of society.

In this country and around the world, 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.

One Great Hour of Sharing has been a catalyst for love for over 75 years. Your gifts help those who are fighting for basic needs and seeking to change the structures that perpetuate poverty, oppression and injustice. Your gifts bring a beacon of love and hope in our world and put the power of healing into the hands of those who need it most.

So far, we have collected over \$1300 and are within a few hundred dollars of our goal. With your help, we hope to exceed that goal. Please feel free to contribute by check or [online](#) until Palm Sunday, April 13th, and don't forget to put your spare change in a fish bank.



The Deacons will be preparing spring "Care Packages" for our college students to get them through the end of the year. You can show your care as the students go through their finals and end their year. We are soliciting gift cards and notes of encouragement.

If you would like to contribute to this project you may leave gift cards and notes in a box designated "COLLEGE CARE PACKAGE HELP" in the church foyer from March 26th-April 13th . Gift cards for food places or places like Walmart and Target would be appreciated in \$5-\$10 increments! Thank you to everyone for showing our college students we care about them as they continue their education!



Your Deacons

**Mary Carol Dunker**  
(815) 245-4829

**Kristen Matter**  
(847) 609-8340

**Barb Parrish**  
(815) 353-2749

**Carol Brefeld**  
(815) 653-3005

**Ana Corbin**  
*(Youth Deacon)*  
(815) 575-9472

**Tom Schaeffer**  
(717) 994-3819

**Cheryl Wormley**  
(815) 519-7402

If you hear, see or know ..., tell us!

If you hear, see or know of someone who is ...

- sick
- hurting
- scheduled for or recovering from surgery
- facing challenges
- sad
- lonely ...

Please call, so we can offer our love, support, and prayers. We also like celebrating, so tell us about joys and accomplishments, too.

**Worship, Music and Arts Meeting April 1, 2025**

As we journey through this sacred season, the Worship Committee has been prayerfully preparing meaningful services for Holy Week and beyond. Here's a quick update on what's ahead:

**Palm Sunday – April 13**

We will once again use *Eco Palms*, continuing our commitment to environmentally and socially responsible sourcing. The children will lead us in a parade on this Sunday, and we will have two baptisms that day, as well!

**Maundy Thursday – April 17** – This year, FPCW will not be holding a Maundy Thursday service. However, all are invited to attend worship at our sister church, Ridgefield-Crystal Lake Presbyterian Church, whose service begins at 7:00 p.m.

**Good Friday – April 18 at 8:00 p.m.**

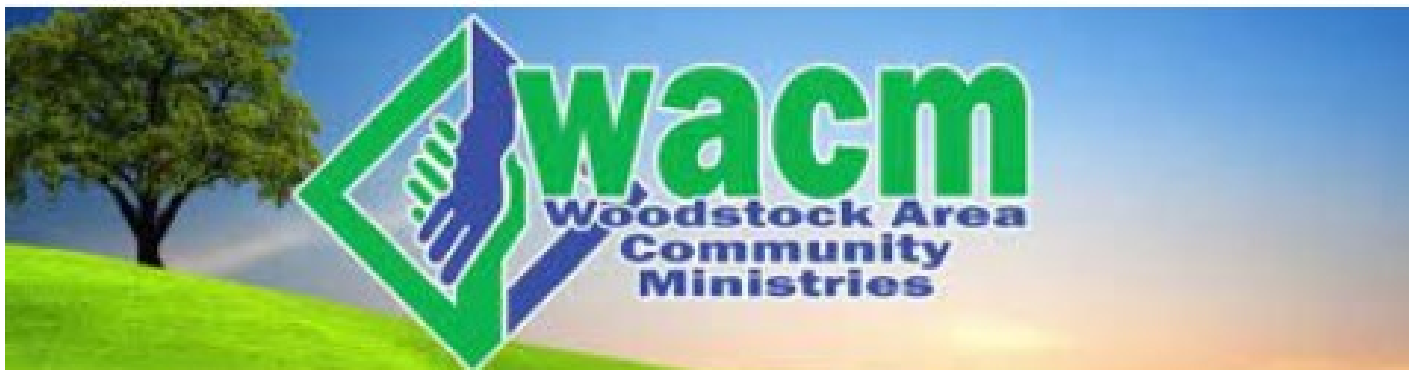
This solemn service will feature a reflective tone, as we remember the sacrifice of Jesus for us all.

**Easter Sunday – April 20**

This year, in addition to lilies, we will have daffodils and tulips decorating our worship space on this Resurrection Sunday.

**Looking Ahead**

- *Music Appreciation Sunday (May 18)* – We look forward to this special service of music!
- *Pentecost (June 8)* – Everyone is invited to wear red in celebration of the Spirit's fire!



WACM, a faith-based nonprofit, relies on volunteers and has several openings available.

The Direct Assistance Program (DAP) is looking for help with door duty and greeting applicants when they come to Grace Lutheran Church to request financial assistance from WACM, the Woodstock Area Community Ministries. In-person sessions of DAP are held on the first and third Thursday each month from noon-3pm at Grace Lutheran Church, 1300 W. Kishwaukee Valley Road, Woodstock, IL. No sessions are scheduled on holidays.

Volunteers can help once or twice a month, depending on their availability. Working directly with applicants to determine what assistance best fits their needs is another volunteer opportunity. Financial assistance in the form of vouchers is given after verification of a need is confirmed. Guidelines are followed concerning these requests for financial help. Volunteers meet with applicants monthly on the first and third Thursday from noon-3 pm at Grace Lutheran Church, Woodstock. Training is provided. Scheduling of volunteers is flexible each month, based on the individual's availability.

A board of directors makes decisions about WACM's policies. Each member church is entitled to have two representatives on the board, and First Presbyterian currently has an opening for a second representative. Meetings are held on the second Thursday most months of the year at 5:30 at First United Methodist Church of Woodstock.

If you are interested in any of these WACM volunteer opportunities, please contact [Pat Morozink](mailto:Pat.Morozink@wacm.org).at (815) 353-0878

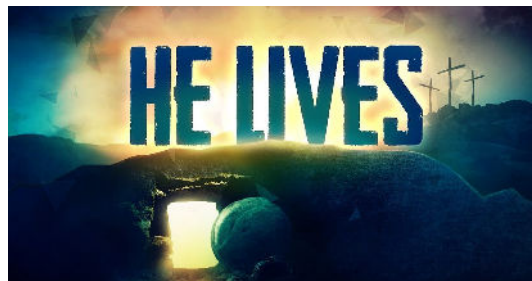
## Finance Report for April 2025 Newsletter

As typical, due to early pledge donations from members, our February YTD Net Revenue was positive - ~\$11,000 which was ~ \$1,000 favorable to the February YTD Budget.

We need a new Treasurer for the church. If anyone has any questions or suggestions, feel free to contact me so that I can pass the information on to the Nominating Committee.

May God bless you for your support toward the financial well-being of our church.

Bob Clark - Finance Team Lead



# April Worship Schedule

Date	Scripture	Liturgist	A/V	Ushers/Greeters	Acolyte
4/6/25	<a href="#">John 12:1-8</a>	Tom Schaeffer	John Moorhouse	Cheryl Wormley and Beth Elbersen	Emily Lawler
4/13/25 Palm Sunday	<a href="#">Luke 19:28-40</a>	Cheryl Wormley	Kristi & Christopher Corbin	Mary Hill and Sue Krause	Gianna Ferrera
4/18/25 Good Friday	<a href="#">John 18:1-19:42</a>	Sue Krause		Fred Strauss and Carol Brefeld	
4/20/25 Easter Sunday	<a href="#">Luke 24:1-12</a>	Angie Boe	Dave Johanson	Rick & Pat Morozink and Pam Moorhouse	Noa Moorhouse
4/27/25	<a href="#">John 20:19-31</a>	Velma Downes	Brayden S., Elin K., and Erik J.	Tom Schaeffer & Chris Mathews	Braden Ferrera

**Compassion,  
Peace & Justice**  
(Awareness, Service)  
Chris Mathews  
[cwmathews8@gmail.com](mailto:cwmathews8@gmail.com)

**Congregational Life**  
(Hospitality, NOW Team)  
Fred Strauss  
[showskil@aol.com](mailto:showskil@aol.com)  
815-728-1430

**Education & Spiritual  
Growth**  
(Adult, Youth, Child,  
Intergenerational)  
Ray Thuma  
[rpthuma@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rpthuma@sbcglobal.net)  
Addison Sobczak

**Ministry Support**  
(Finance, Staff Support)  
Bob Clark  
[mbundick@comcast.net](mailto:mbundick@comcast.net)  
(Building & Grounds)  
Chris Dahm  
[cdahm@dahmco.com](mailto:cdahm@dahmco.com)  
815-378-0273

**Worship, Music and Arts**  
(Worship Arts, Worship  
Leadership, Audio-Visual)  
Tiffany Sobczak  
815-790-9360  
[tsobczak82@gmail.com](mailto:tsobczak82@gmail.com)

**Clerk of Session**  
Chris Mathews  
[clerk@fpcwoodstock.org](mailto:clerk@fpcwoodstock.org)

## Lenten and Easter Services

**March 5, 6:00 pm**

Ash Wednesday service  
with imposition of ashes

**March 9, 16, 23, 30, April 6, 9:30 am**

Lenten Worship Services

**April 13, 9:30 am**

Palm Sunday service with palm processional

**April 18, 8:00 pm**

Good Friday service with choir

**April 20, 9:30 am**

Easter Sunday service with choir

*Sunday services will be live-streamed at  
[fpcwoodstock.org/worship](http://fpcwoodstock.org/worship)*

**Easter Lilies are available at  
[fpcwoodstock.org/lilies](http://fpcwoodstock.org/lilies)**



# APRIL 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
		1 6:30p Worship Arts Mtg	2 8:30a Lectionary Study 10a No-Name Knitters 4p Diaper Distribution 5:15p NOW Dinner 6:10p Lent Discussion 7p Choir Rehearsal	3 10a Bob Boyne funeral service	4 7a Men's Bible Study	5 7a Men's Bible Study
6 9:30a Worship	7 10a TLC Ladies 3:30p Deacons	8 8:30a Lectionary Study 5:15p <i>NO NOW Dinner!</i> 6:10p Lent Discussion	9 Rummage Sale 1p Finance Team	10 7a Men's Bible Study	11	12
13 9:30a Worship 9:45a Sunday School: PreK-5th 10:30a NOW Brunch 11a Session <i>Palm Sunday</i>	14 1p Visitation for Tom Schwarz 3p Memorial Service for Tom Schwarz 6p Compassion, Peace and Justice	15 8:30a Lectionary Study 5:15p NOW Dinner with Dessert bakeoff 6p No-Name Knitters 6:10p Lent Discussion 7p Choir Rehearsal	16	17 8p Good Friday service with choir <i>Good Friday</i>	18 7a Men's Bible Study	19 7a Men's Bible Study
20 9:30a Easter Worship <i>Easter</i>	21	22 8:30a Lectionary Study	23 6:30p Worship Arts Mtg	24 <i>Good Friday</i>	25 7a Men's Bible Study	26 7a Men's Bible Study
27 9:30a Worship 9:45a Sunday School: PreK-5th 10:30a NOW Brunch 11:30a NOW Team meeting 11:30a Youth Highway Cleanup <i>Easter</i>	28	29 <i>Earth Day</i>	30 8:30a Lectionary Study 7p Choir Rehearsal			

**APRIL 2025**



**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

*Harrison Cole*  
Accompanist

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

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Website:

[www.fpcwoodstock.org](http://www.fpcwoodstock.org)

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