

First Presbyterian Church of Woodstock

July 2025 Newsletter

A letter from Rev. Eric Corbin

Freedom in Christ

This week brings the annual fireworks display in Emricson Park. Events like this draw communities together. When the first rocket blooms overhead, the whole crowd—people of diverse ages and backgrounds—tilts its gaze skyward. For an instant we stand shoulder-to-shoulder, mouths open in wonder, dazzled by light that outshines our differences. This celebration of freedom can remind us of Paul's words: "Christ has set us free to live a free life...use your freedom to serve one another in love; that's how freedom grows." (Galatians 5:1, 13, *The Message*).

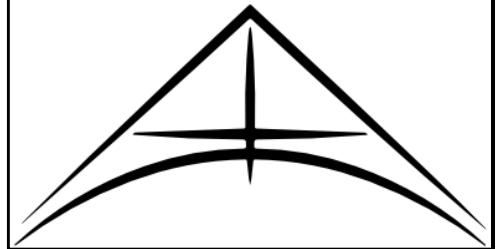
True freedom is never license to live only for ourselves. It is the Spirit-given capacity to love boldly, to bear another's burden, to work for the good of all. As July unfolds, here are some simple, practical ways to put that freedom to work:

- *Fill the Red Wagon.* All month we're collecting shampoo, bath soap, toothpaste, toilet paper, and laundry soap for families who face hard choices at the checkout line.
- *Spruce up the patio on July 9.* Come a bit early—or stay after—the N.O.W. dinner to weed, sweep, and make our outdoor space more welcoming for summer fellowship.
- *Start your day with the weekday devotional.* A thought from Sunday's sermon, a scripture passage, and a couple of reflection questions. It's a gentle way to connect Sunday with the rest of the week—to linger with the themes of worship and listen for how God might be speaking in daily life. To receive it, just let me know and I'll add you to the list.
- *Host Sunday-morning fellowship.* A plate of cookies and veggies, plus a smile, creates holy space for newcomers and longtime friends alike. The sign-up sheet is in the entryway.
- *Dream with the Future of the Church Task Force.* If you have ideas about the fresh adventures that God has in store for First Pres, talk with [Chris Mathews](#) to join the conversation.

Friends, Christ has set us free—free to laugh, serve, risk, rest, and rejoice. Let's use that freedom so generously that Woodstock can't help but glimpse God's love lighting up night and day!

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

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Jeri Loiselle

REPORTERS

Eric Corbin, Chris Mathews
Bob Clark, Ray Thuma,
Nancy Bingham, Tiffany Sobczak,
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](#) or
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

For a mother facing a major car repair and with 3 children who enjoy a variety of activities, paying for that repair was a financial burden. She turned to WACM's Direct Assistance Program (DAP) and another faith-based group for financial assistance. She completed all the necessary steps of getting an estimate and approval for assistance before the work was scheduled. Now with a working vehicle, she is able to get to work and also transport her children to their summer activities. This is one way DAP helps Woodstock residents with emergency financial needs. WACM's Direct Assistance Program receives its support from First Presbyterian Church and other local congregations. Thank you for the financial donations to WACM/ DAP on behalf of all the recipients of financial help through DAP.

JULY RED WAGON

DONATIONS

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



NO NAME KNITTERS

The knitters/crocheters continue to work this summer. Even on trips, vacations, in cars and boats! Our next meeting time will be July 2nd, at 10:00 a.m. at the church. Come visit us anytime!

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

TOGETHER TO LAUGH AND LEARN

MEALS ON WHEELS

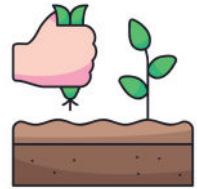
Thanks so much to our dedicated volunteers who devote their time to serving seniors through the Meals on Wheels program.



BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Patio Clean up

July 9, before and/or after the N.O.W. Dinner



The Buildings and Grounds Team would like to invite you to come before or stay after the July 9 N.O.W. Dinner to help beautify our lovely patio and play area. If you have any questions, please contact [Pam Moorhouse](#).

SESSION NOTES

- Over \$1900 was donated for the Pentecost Offering. \$777 will remain in the Woodstock Community and go to support the Child Advocacy Center in their important work.
- \$500 was donated to Coins for Kenya. The collection jar remains in the lobby ready to receive your spare change.
- The Adult Sunday School being held this summer is going well. Please consider joining at 8:30 am on Sundays throughout the summer.
- Save August 10 for the church picnic which will be held immediately following the service.
- John Moorehouse has agreed to serve as our Treasurer on an interim basis.

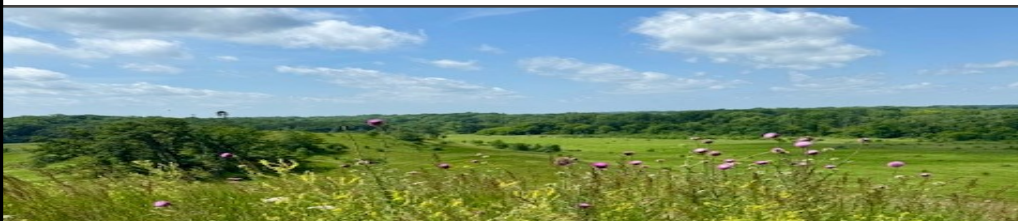
EARTH CARE CONGREGATION

The Compassion Peace and Justice committee hosted our church's first Earth Care Nature Walk and Picnic on Saturday, June 21 at Glacial Park, in Ringwood. Candee McMahon, and Steve & Nancy Bingham enjoyed a beautiful two-mile interpretive hike on a hot, sunny day.

The majority of the trail was shaded, and there was a delightful breeze, so we were able to enjoy the gorgeous vistas.

Afterwards, we toured the park's visitor center and had time for fellowship while cooling off!

CPJ hopes to host additional Earth Care walks, so watch the newsletter for future opportunities!



CARING TOGETHER

July Birthdays

Olivia Keefe	7/3
Rick Morozink	7/4
Velma Downes	7/5
Joyce Maynard	7/5
Gracyn Petrik	7/6
Carol Brefeld	7/11
Collette Spaldon	7/11
Cheryl Wormley	7/13
Jim Wormley	7/18
Sally Nelson	7/20
Kyle Oliver	7/27
Sara Roewer	7/28
Ana Corbin	7/29
Ken Maynard	7/29
Marla Rigby	7/30

July Anniversaries

Brooke & Pam Mathison	7/1
Scott & Katherine Greenlee	7/12

In our Prayers

Pete Thennes,
Katie Spaldon,
Pam Mathison
Liz Bundick,
Fred Strauss,
Travis Walters, Michael,
Paul Thuma,
John Hudson,
Melinda Gallant,
Savanah Karm,
Sue Kenady,
Loretta Nejd, Kareem,
Tim Arnold,
Gayle Abrams, Aaron,
Mary Kittle,
Cassidy Tullos.

PRIDEFEST

Thanks to everyone who participated in Woodstock Pride on June 15. This was the first year that FPCW participated in the parade in addition to hosting a booth. We were number 25 in a parade line of 60 floats and marching units and we had the privilege of falling in behind a huge pink inflated unicorn! It was a blessing to be in the presence of so much joy and celebration. We were one of several churches there to give the message that God's love is for everyone. Such an important truth to spread!



FINANCE REPORT

Net year-to-date operating revenue is favorable ~ \$5,000 and favorable to budget by ~ \$19,000. Contributions to the Operating Budget are favorable year-to-date by ~\$11,000 - Thank You for your continued generosity.

Congratulations to John Moorhouse who was elected Treasurer by Session at our June meeting. Welcome John to the Finance Team - we look forward to your participation and contributions. Many thanks to Mark Bundick who served as interim Treasurer for the last year plus - we appreciate your service and will miss having you on our team.

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

Bob Clark - on behalf of the Finance Team

N.O.W. TEAM NEWS

Our Summer 2025 N.O.W. dinner season is underway. Thanks to everyone who came out to our June 11 kickoff, which featured burgers, hot dogs, baked beans, chips and yummy desserts. The weather was good, too!

The remaining summer dates and menus are as follows:

Dinner Dates	Menu
Wednesday, July 9	Sloppy Joes, hot dogs, Cole slaw, chips
Wednesday, August 13	Grilled pork chop sandwiches

Join us for food and fellowship, and then leave, well fed, to take in the city band concert.

All dinners will start at our usual 5:15 p.m. time, and remain priced at \$4, the best food and fellowship bargain in town!

If you have ideas or suggestions for future dinner or brunch dishes or themes for our events, please let any N.O.W. team member know.

The N.O.W. Team

Cheryl Wormley (indepublisher@comcast.net)

Lee Nedjl (nejdlwoodstock@hotmail.com)

Matt Thuma (mrthuma@yahoo.com)

Linda Hansen (lkhanzen53@gmail.com)

John Moorhouse (johnmoorhouse54@gmail.com)

Katie Spaldon(kspaldon@gmail.com)

Jane Jensen (jensenjane74@gmail.com)

Mark Bundick (mbundick@comcast.net)

TOGETHER IN WORSHIP

July Worship Schedule

Date	Text	Liturgist	A/V	Greeters and Ushers
July 6	Luke 10:1-11, 16-20	Erin Kaye	John Moorhouse	Rick & Pat Morozink
July 13	Luke 10:25-37	Reneé Simes	Kristi & Christopher Corbin	Fred Strauss and Carol Brefeld
July 20	Luke 10:38-42	Jim Wormley	Brayden S., Elin K.	Tom Schaeffer & Chris Mathews
July 27	Luke 11:1-13	Sue Krause	Dave Johanson	Cheryl Wormley and Beth Elbersen

**SIGN UP TO HOST SUNDAY MORNING FELLOWSHIP!
HOSTING IS FUN! THE SIGN UP SHEET IS IN THE ENTRYWAY.**

Everyone is invited to our

CHURCH Potluck

Bring a dish to pass and your best picnic vibes—let's enjoy the sunshine together!

**AFTER WORSHIP
AUGUST 10 | 2025**

There'll be music, laughter, and plenty of snacks. Friends and family welcome!

Signup to bring a dish to pass online at:

<https://fpcwoodstock.org/potluck>

A signup sheet is also available in the church foyer

**Compassion,
Peace & Justice**
(Awareness, Service)
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)
Ray Thuma
rpthuma@sbcglobal.net
Addison Sobczak

Ministry Support
(Finance, Staff Support)
Bob Clark
robtmclark@aol.com

(Building & Grounds,
Staff Support)
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
Chris Mathews
clerk@fpcwoodstock.org

JULY 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
	Meals on Wheels		8:30a Lectionary Study 10a No-Name Knitters 4p Diaper Distribution	Office Closed 7p Scouting America Troop 159 meeting		7a Men's Bible Study
6 8:30a "The Present Word" Sunday School 9:30a Worship	7 6p Boy Scout Troop 159	8 10a TLC Ladies 5:30p Education and Spiritual Growth	9 8:30a Lectionary Study 4p Patio Clean up 5:15p NOW Dinner	10 2:30p Finance Team 7p Scouting America Troop 159 meeting	11	12
13 8:30a "The Present Word" Sunday School 9:30a Worship	14	15 3:30p Deacons	16 8:30a Lectionary Study	17 3p Hospitality Team 6p Compassion, Peace and Justice 7p Scouting America Troop 159 meeting	18	19
20 8:30a "The Present Word" Sunday School 9:30a Worship 11a Session	21	22	23 8:30a Lectionary Study	24 7p Scouting America Troop 159 meeting	25	26 7a Men's Bible Study
27 8:30a "The Present Word" Sunday School 9:30a Worship	28	29	30 8:30a Lectionary Study	31 7p Scouting America Troop 159 meeting		

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

JULY 2025

WEATHER FORECAST

GOD REIGNS
and the
SON SHINES
EXPECT
SHOWERS
OF
BLESSINGS!



✓ Every day
GOD is good!

The LORD is my Shepherd, Ministries

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF WOODSTOCK

CELEBRATING AND SHARING GOD'S LOVE

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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