

# First Presbyterian Church of Woodstock

## October 2025 Newsletter

### A letter from Pastor Eric

October brings the beauty of changing seasons. The trees turn brilliant shades of red and gold, the air grows cooler, and we are reminded that life itself is full of seasons—times of growth, times of letting go, and times of preparing for what comes next. Through every change, God's faithfulness endures.

On the first Sunday of October each year, we join with Christians around the globe in celebrating World Communion Sunday. What a gift it is to remember that our congregation is part of the vast, diverse body of Christ. As bread is broken and the cup is shared in countless places and traditions all around the world, we glimpse the unity of God's kingdom—a love stronger than borders and deeper than differences.

This fall, we have been gathering for our *Living Faithfully, Leaving Faithfully* series on end-of-life planning. We began by reflecting on how to plan for memorial services, then moved into medical choices and advance directives, and most recently discussed financial and legal matters. Handouts from these sessions are available if you missed them. Our final gathering on October 8 will focus on caring for loved ones with compassion, including grief support groups and walking with one another through loss. These conversations are tender but also deeply hopeful, reminding us that *in life and in death we belong to God*.

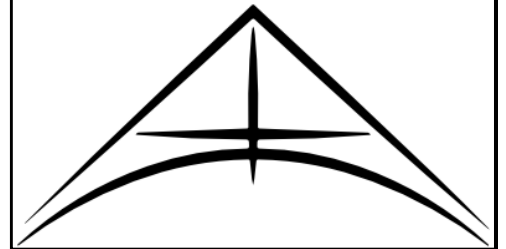
October also brings a change in our church office. You'll see elsewhere in this newsletter (pg. 6) a note about Jeri Loiselle's transition. I hope you'll join me in giving thanks for her faithful service and in surrounding her with prayer as she steps into this next season.

As you look through this newsletter, I invite you to take note of opportunities to connect—whether through fellowship meals and studies, music and knitting, youth and children's ministries, or acts of service such as volunteering, caring for neighbors, or offering hospitality. Each of these is a way of living our faith together in this season.

I am grateful for the many ways you embody Christ's love in worship, fellowship, and service. If you'd like to connect personally, I generally keep office hours on **Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10:00–2:00, and Wednesdays and Fridays, 2:00–5:00**. These hours are tentative—I'm sometimes called away for visits or meetings—but I'm always glad to set another time. You can schedule at [fpcwoodstock.org/meetwitheric](https://fpcwoodstock.org/meetwitheric), or simply call, text, or email me.

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, Pam Moorhouse,  
Bob Clark, Nancy Bingham,  
Kay Darby, Christy Johanson,  
Pat Morozink, Mark Bundick.

# 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.

## HOSPITALITY TEAM



We're going to try moving the "Share the Good News" board to an easel where it can be better seen. We encourage all to take a look at the good things happening in our congregation and share their own "Good News."

### Coffee Fellowship:

Between twice-a-month Sunday brunches and Faith Corbin's once-a-month delicious contributions, we have a few Sundays where we'll need members of the congregation to host our weekly coffee fellowships. I know some are intimidated by the thought of hosting but I would be happy to work alongside you and offer guidance. Remember, this doesn't have to be a "meal" - we're focusing on the fellowship! Please see [Pam Moorhouse](#) for more information.



## WOODSTOCK FOOD PANTRY

Red Wagon: Please remember to keep in mind those who face food insecurity and continue to support the Woodstock Food Pantry with donations for the Red Wagon. Our client numbers continue to grow and any and all donations are greatly appreciated.

Please learn more about WFP and its mission by visiting our website at [www.woodstockfoodpantry.org](http://www.woodstockfoodpantry.org) and access our informational video at <https://youtu.be/ReNWpj6GCzA>.



## OCTOBER RED WAGON

### DONATIONS

Cereal, Pancake Mix, Oatmeal, Syrup.

To contribute money, click [here](#) and type in, "Food Pantry" in the notes.



# TOGETHER TO LAUGH AND LEARN

## MUSIC MINISTRY

Rehearsals for the choir cantata begin on October 8! Join us for the season on Wednesday nights from 7:00-8:30 p.m.

Oct. 8

Oct. 15

Nov. 5

Nov. 12

Nov. 19

Dec. 3

Dec. 10

Saturday, Dec. 13 -  
Final rehearsal

Sunday, Dec. 14 - Cantata

Questions? Contact [christy@fpcwoodstock.org](mailto:christy@fpcwoodstock.org)



## NO NAME KNITTERS

Fall is here already! Hope you are enjoying the changing landscape! We love the fiery reds and brilliant golds that adorn the trees around us! The cozy feeling of fall is a perfect time to knit or crochet! We have much to prepare before winter hits! We would welcome anyone who would love to help us with our projects!

Please come and visit or call Kay Darby, 815-572-1729, for information. We meet the first Wednesday of each month at 10:00 a.m., and the third Wednesday of each month at 6:00 p.m.

**SHARE THE WARMTH WITH  
THE NO NAME KNITTERS**



## WACM

### Coat Drive

October 19-November 12

Collection of clean, gently used winter gear (coats, hats, gloves/mittens, scarves, boots, snow pants, long underwear, blankets, etc.) for men, women, and children will start later this month to be included in WACM's Share the Warmth coat drive. Starting October 19, you can bring your items to donate to church and place them in the large box in the entryway. Collection of winter gear at church will continue through November 12. Community members in need are invited to select winter gear at First United Methodist Church Friday, November 14 from 2-7 pm and Saturday, November 15 from 9am until noon. If you know someone in need of winter gear, please share this information with them. Thank you for your support of this community project sponsored by WACM.

## YOUTH EVENTS

- **October 5<sup>th</sup>** - All Seasons Orchard from 1-3pm: Our previous fundraising efforts will be covering most of the cost, but we request each child bring \$5 for entry and any extra spending money.
- **November 5<sup>th</sup>** - NOW Dinner Fundraiser (used to subsidize a fall and spring activity and pay for our youth to attend Camp Timber-lee's WinterXtreme event)

## WinterXtreme

After the blast we had last year, we will be attending the WinterXtreme at Camp Timberlee again this January! The dates for our middle school children to attend will be January 9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup>. The 4th and 5th grade weekend is February 15th and 16th and any high school youth that have interest would be attending the weekend of January 23<sup>rd</sup>-25<sup>th</sup>. This is an event that is covered 100% by our fundraising efforts. If your child was not part of this amazing weekend last year, please reach out to Jackie Lawler with any questions you have. We got our feet wet last year and we are ready to jump right in this time!

# CARING TOGETHER

## October Birthdays

Jen Oliver	10/03
Kristi Corbin	10/06
Jeri Loiselle	10/07
Danielle Rewiako	10/15
Noah Frick	10/18
Dan Chwalisz	10/21
Lenali Petrik	10/22
Tommy Roewer	10/22
Ryan Traimany	10/22
Jane Jensen	10/24
Sherry Thuma	10/29
Tammy Robinett	10/31

## October Anniversaries

Chris Mathews & Tom Schaeffer	10/12
Mary Grace & Alex Ferguson	10/14

## In Our Prayers

Caryl & Dan Lemanski,  
Jane Jensen, Pat  
Christian, Brenda  
Bradley, Sally Nelson's  
sister-in-law, Val Ayers,  
Zurich family, Krone  
family, Nate and his  
family, William Heim,  
Pam Mathison, Fred  
Strauss, Michael, Katie  
Spaldon, Paul Thuma,  
John Hudson, Savannah  
Karm, Sue Kenady, Tim  
Arnold, Gayle Abrams,  
Aaron, Mary Kittle,  
Cassidy Tullos, Travis  
Walters, Braelyn Kittle,  
those impacted by new  
federal policies.

## N.O.W. TEAM NEWS

Our fall 2025 season is well underway! We've been blessed with excellent turnout, especially for brunch, but there's always room for more. We hope you'll come and join us on Wednesday night and for future brunches (held each Sunday when Sunday School is in session).

We have two notable dinner events coming in October. The Men's Bible Study will be our hosts on October 15 and they'll be featuring fried chicken, always a favorite. A week later, October 22, will bring us the Chili Cookoff. Get your favorite chili recipe ready and see if you can claim this year's trophy.

### Here's a summary of the dates and menus for October:

Wednesday, October 1, N.O.W. Team Dinner-Meatball sandwiches

Wednesday, October 8, N.O.W. Team Dinner-Chicken Alfredo

Sunday, October 12, N.O.W. Team Brunch-Eggs, Sausage, Fruit

Wednesday, October 15, Men's Bible Study Dinner-Fried Chicken

Wednesday, October 22, N.O.W. Team Dinner-Chili Cookoff

Sunday, October 26, N.O.W. Team-Brunch Casseroles

Wednesday, October 29, N.O.W. Team Dinner-Lasagna

All dinners will start at our usual 5:15 pm time. Prices will remain at \$4, making your Wednesday nights 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](#)

[Lee Nejd](#)

[Matt Thuma](#)

[Linda Hansen](#)

[John Moorhouse](#)

[Katie Spaldon](#)

[Jane Jensen](#)

[Mark Bundick](#)



## DEACONS

Come, join us for the next two Funeral/Memorial workshops. The workshops are held on Wednesday nights at 6:00 p.m. in the Sunday School classroom. These workshops are full of information and helpful guides on how to prepare and take ownership of our future. It is useful for all ages!

**10/1: Financial and Legal Planning** – estate planning, preparing wills, resources for those we love.

**10/8: Caring for Loved Ones & Grief Support** – walking together through loss with compassion and hope.

If there is anything the Deacons can do for you, please contact us. We're here to pray for you, celebrate with you or help with any needs.





## COMPASSION, PEACE AND JUSTICE PEACE AND GLOBAL WITNESS SPECIAL OFFERING September 7-October 5, 2025

### Support peacemaking, reconciliation and global witness.

A gift to the Peace & Global Witness Offering enables the church to promote the Peace of Christ by addressing systems of conflict and injustice in the world. Individual congregations are encouraged to use up to 25% of this offering for LOCAL peacemaking efforts which align with their goals and interests. This year the local recipient will be [Turning Point, Inc.](#), a nonprofit confronting domestic violence in McHenry County.

An additional 25% is used for ministries of peace and reconciliation by the Mid-councils, while the remaining 50% supports the work for peace and reconciliation being done by Presbyterians across the globe.

Our congregation has reached its goal of \$1,500 for each of the two previous special offerings this year. Please prayerfully consider donating to the Peace & Global Witness Offering. Thank you!

## MONTHLY DIAPER DISTRIBUTION AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

As you may know, our church partners with the Woodstock Food Pantry and Keeping Families Covered in McHenry, to coordinate a monthly diaper distribution for eligible children and adults who live in McHenry County. We have a good supply of children's diapers, but are running low on adult incontinence briefs, particularly size medium and extra-large. The partnership agreement with our supplier in 2025 includes children's and toddler diapers, but not adult products. If interested, you can support this local outreach project by donating adult pull-on briefs in size medium or extra-large (we have found that our adult clients prefer the pull-on briefs, rather than products with tab closures).

There will be a designated collection box for adult briefs in the church entryway, near the coat racks. Your support is appreciated, whether you are donating diapers, helping at the distribution, or praying for our clients and volunteers. Thank you!

Questions? Contact [Nancy Bingham](#)



# TOGETHER IN WORSHIP

## October Worship Schedule

Date	Text	Liturgist	A/V	Greeters and Ushers	Acolyte	Fellowship
10/5	<a href="#">Luke 17:5-10</a>	Cheryl Wormley	John Moorhouse	Mary Hill and Sue Krause	none	Angie Boe
10/12	<a href="#">Luke 17:11-19</a>	Sue Krause	Kristi & Christopher Corbin	Pam & John Moorhouse	Dylan Lawler	Brunch
10/19	<a href="#">Luke 18:1-8</a>	Tiffany Sobczak	Dave Johanson	Rick & Pat Morozink	Emersyn Cook	Faith Corbin
10/26	<a href="#">Luke 18:9-14</a>	Jim Wormley	Brayden S., Elin K.	Tom Schaeffer & Chris Mathews	Levi Traimany	Brunch

### Finance Report for October 2025 Newsletter

Revenue was unfavorable to the Budget in August by ~ \$1,000, and favorable YTD by ~ \$47,000.

Contributions were unfavorable to the Budget in August by ~ \$1,000, and favorable to the Budget YTD by ~\$22,000. Thank you for your continued generosity.

Expenses were unfavorable to the Budget in August by ~ \$2,000, and unfavorable to the Budget YTD by ~ \$15,000. Contributing to the unfavorable expenses YTD was due to the unbudgeted HVAC replacement earlier in 2025 of ~ \$17,000. Net Revenue was unfavorable to the Budget in August by ~ \$2,000 and favorable to the Budget YTD by ~ \$33,000.

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

Bob Clark - on behalf of the Finance Team



### Farewell to Jeri Loiselle

In early October, we will be saying farewell to Jeri Loiselle in her role as *Office Administrator and Financial Secretary*, which she has held for the past three-and-a-half years. She has accepted a position elsewhere that represents an exciting next chapter for her family. Jeri has shared how much she has valued her work with the people of this congregation, and we are deeply grateful for the many ways she has supported our ministry together—both seen and unseen. Let's surround her with gratitude and prayer!

—Pastor Eric

**Compassion,  
Peace & Justice**  
(Awareness, Service)

Chris Mathews

[cwmathews8@gmail.com](mailto:cwmathews8@gmail.com)

**Congregational Life**  
(Hospitality, NOW Team)

Fred Strauss

[showskit@aol.com](mailto:showskit@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

[robtmclark@aol.com](mailto:robtmclark@aol.com)

(Building & Grounds,  
Staff Support)

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)

# OCTOBER 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 8:30a Lectionary Study 10a No-Name Knitters 4p Diaper Distribution 5:15p NOW Dinner 6p "Living Faithfully, Leaving Faithfully" series 7p Choir Rehearsal	2 7p Scouting America Troop 159 meeting	3	4 7a Men's Bible Study
5 <i>World Communion Sunday</i> Choir Sings 8:30a "The Present Word" Sunday School 9:30a Worship 1p Youth-All Seasons Orchard	6	7	8 8:30a Lectionary Study 5:15p NOW Dinner 6p "Living Faithfully, Leaving Faithfully" series 7p Choir Rehearsal	9 2:30p Finance Team 7p Scouting America Troop 159 meeting	10	11 7a Men's Bible Study
12 Choir Sings 8:30a "The Present Word" Sunday School 9:30a Worship 9:45a Sunday School: PreK-5th 10:30a NOW Brunch 11a Confirmation Class	13 <i>Indigenous Peoples' Day</i>	14 10a TLC Ladies 4p Deacons 5p Girl Scout Troop 2051 meeting 5:30p Education and Spiritual Growth	15 8:30a Lectionary Study 5:15p NOW Dinner 6p Book study 6p No-Name Knitters 7p Choir Rehearsal	16 3p Hospitality Team 7p Scouting America Troop 159 meeting	17	18 7a Men's Bible Study
19 Choir Sings 8:30a "The Present Word" Sunday School 9:30a Worship 11a Session	20	21 6p Compassion, Peace and Justice	22 8:30a Lectionary Study 5:15p NOW Dinner 6p Book study	23 6:30p Worship Arts Mtg 7p Scouting America Troop 159 meeting	24	25 7a Men's Bible Study 9a Highway Cleanup
26 8:30a "The Present Word" Sunday School 9:30a Worship 9:45a Sunday School: PreK-5th 10:30a NOW Brunch 11a Confirmation Class	27	28 5p Girl Scout Troop 2051 meeting	29 8:30a Lectionary Study 5:15p NOW Dinner 6p Book study	30 7p Scouting America Troop 159 meeting	31 <i>Halloween</i>	

**OCTOBER 2025**

**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

FALL FOR JESUS  
HE NEVER



LEAVES

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
OF WOODSTOCK**

*CELEBRATING AND SHARING GOD'S LOVE*

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

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