

First Presbyterian Church of Woodstock

A fellowship of people in all stages of life who gather together, praising and worshipping God with gratitude for our many blessings, accepting and caring for all God's children, and serving the community and the world with love and joy.

This Month From Pastor Eric

In the August newsletter, I wrote that I was sitting in our old house in Champaign as the movers emptied it out. Tonight, as I write this, I have just returned a U-Haul after spending the day moving the rest of our belongings from our temporary lodging at the Wormleys' house to our new house. In between those two moving days were other moving days, as movers unloaded our belongings into storage units in Woodstock, I made a day trip to Champaign in a U-Haul to get items left in our previous neighbors' garage, movers brought our belongings from storage to our new house, and we all made various trips back and forth from the Wormleys' house to our new house. We are thrilled to now have all of our family and all of our belongings in one place again. We're tired of all the moving and glad that's over!

It feels good to be in the house that we are making into our home. We are very happy to be in Woodstock and in ministry with you all at First Presbyterian Church, and ready to get these boxes unpacked and settle in!

The months of November and December are ones that often seem to fly by, as they are filled with many activities. Let's do our best to slow down and be fully present in the life of the Church and with each other. Soon enough it will be Christmas, but let's not start counting the days just yet. While my Facebook feed today (November 1st) has many mentions of Christmas, I'm first looking forward to celebrating All Saints' Day with you this Sunday (November 7th), pledge Sunday (November 14th), and Thanksgiving Sunday (November 21st), all before we get to the First Sunday of Advent (November 28th). Between those Sundays, I look forward to gathering with you for NOW Dinners, committee meetings, confirmation class, and however else we may meet. Speaking of meeting, grab a time to get together with me at <http://fpcwoodstock.org/meetwitheric>. I'd love to have some time to get to know you all better. Reach out to me by email: eric.corbin@fpcwoodstock.org or text/call: 815-575-9454.

In the meantime, think on these words from 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18: "Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."

Grace and peace,

Pastor Eric

November 2021



Inside this issue

From Pastor Eric	Page 1
Together to Laugh and Learn	Page 2
Caring Together	Page 3-5
Leading Together	Page 6
Giving Together	Page 7
Together in Worship	Page 8
November Calendar	Page 9

Sunday Worship Services

In the Great Hall @ 9:30 a.m.



Come and
WORSHIP

Newsletter Editor

Mark Bundick

Reporters:

Angie Boe, Eric Corbin, Bob Clark,
Erin Kay, Sue Krause, Jackie Lawler,
Morozink, Chris Nedjl, Lynne Sobczak,
Ray Thuma

TOGETHER TO LAUGH AND LEARN

Men's Group/Bible Study

Dave Davis, 815-236-2815

ddavis@ameritech.net

Wednesday Early Bible Study

Velma Downes, 815-245-4043

vmdownes@gmail.com

Adult Spiritual Growth Groups

Chris NejdI, 815-337-1070

canejdl@hotmail.com

Hospitality Team

Cheryl Wormley, 815-519-7402

indepublisher@comcast.net

Music Ministry

Christy Johanson

815-382-5234

mom@babyjohanson.com

No-Name Knitters

Kay Darby, 815-338-5002

kedarby@icloud.com

T.L.C. (Tender Loving Care)

Mary Hill, 815-338-6051

mary.hill2759@gmail.com

Meals-On-Wheels

Marla Norgard, 815-482-4855

marlanorgard01@gmail.com

WACM Local Mission Team

Pat Morozink, 815-338-7769

pmorozink@yahoo.com

Food Pantry

Joyce Maynard, 815-338-7265

Fishing Mission

Bob Clark, 847-274-8247

robtmclark@aol.com

N.O.W. Team

(Nurture on Wednesdays)

Lee NejdI — 815-546-1731

Katie Spaldon — 815-276-3410

Sue Epperson—224-293-2295

Mark Bundick—815-337-9068

Cheryl Wormley—815-519-7402



Sunday School Announcement

Due to the Thanksgiving holiday, Sunday School will not be held on Sunday, November 28. Children in worship will utilize the "Prayground" in the back of the Great Hall on that day. Sunday School will be held on Sunday, November 14.

- Jackie Lawler and Erin Kaye

Confirmation Class News



We have seven youth participating in our confirmation program. The program meets on the first and third Wednesday of each month after NOW.

We are still in need of a few mentors. If you are interested in helping guide our youth through this program, contact Ray Thuma at 815-338-9780 or rpthuma@sbcglobal.net.

Save These Dates: November 21 and November 28.

There will be an Intergenerational decorating of the sanctuary with pizza provided after worship on Sunday, November 21. Don't miss out on this fun event!

Also on November 21, we'll be distributing Advent bags with material from Worship, B&G, Education and Hospitality. Deacons will deliver bags to shut-in's and nursing home residents, and their bags will have special material from No Name Knitters!

On November 28, worship around Chrismon ornaments. The Chrismon tree is adorned with Chrismons, "ancient symbols for Christ like the dove descending down, fish, Celtic cross, Jerusalem cross, shepherd's crook, chalice, shell, and others.

Lectionary Bible Study—Wednesdays at 7:30 a.m.

Join us for lively discussion, thoughtful readings and good fellowship on Zoom. Contact Velma Downes to be added to the mailing list or for more information at 815-245-4043 or vmdownes@gmail.com.

Thanks for Your Donations to the Peace & Global Witness Offering

Thanks to your generous support, we collected \$1,480 for the Peace & Global Witness offering, exceeding our goal of \$1,365 for this special offering.



A "Girls 4 Ghana" Update

Julie Farver recently received this lovely email from our partners in Ghana.

Dear friends and hoping to be long term partners, First Presbyterian Church in Woodstock,

Greeting from Ghana and all the beautiful girls you have helped.

G4G Ghana mission 2021 was successful and thank you for making it all possible. We could not have done it without your support. Both physical, monetary, and prayers. This year's trip was extremely difficult, but with God all things are possible.

Thank you for making this year's mission in Ghana possible.



My prayer is that First Presbyterian Church will continue to work with G4G together to do the little that we can do help these young beautiful girls have a better chance in life.

Please feel free the show these few pictures to your members. We have more but could not add all here, and do have consents from parents to share them with our supporters.

We hope to continue sewing at the church soon when feasible.

Thank you,

Dina Amoo

Red Wagon Items Requested for November Shampoo, Bath Soap, Deodorant, Toothpaste, Toilet Paper, Laundry Soap

You can leave your donations in the red wagon located at the rear of the Great Hall.

Anyone living in School District 200 may receive food two times each month. If you know someone who needs help with food, please encourage them to visit the Food Pantry, 1033 Lake Avenue (behind the Dorr Township building), Monday, Wednesday or Friday, 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM.

CARING TOGETHER



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Courtney Mass-11/1
Ray Thuma-11/3
Benjamin Walters-11/3
Lee Nejd-11/4
Sarah Carr-11/5
Jalina Petrik-11/6
John Rigby-11/6
Michael Downes-11/8
Phil Lauf-11/8
Katie Willcockson-11/8
Bethany Combs-11/9
Emily Stack-11/9
Lora Totton Schwarz-11/12
Laura Harter-11/16
Chris Nejd-11/17
Tom Schwarz-11/18
Steve Bingham-11/22
Payton Rockwood-11/22
Brenda Bradley-11/23
Annie Nelson-11/23
Fred Strauss-11/24
Evey Davis-11/26



Happy Anniversary!

NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Barbara Arnold-11/1
Cary & Dawn Cook-11/5
Ken & Julie Farver-11/9



Annual Giving Tree Project

Local veterans and their families will benefit from our Giving Tree project this season. Tags with specific gift items will be placed on the small Christmas tree in the church entrance hall by Sunday, November 28th. The deadline for bringing these wrapped gifts is

Sunday, December 19th. Be sure to sign the registration sheet (with tag numbers) when you take tags. Those not wishing to enter the church building, please contact Lynne Sobczak, 815-648-2321 or sobczak4u@yahoo.com for assistance.

Christmas Craft Fair

Our second annual holiday craft fair is coming this month. You will be able to purchase items before and after the NOW dinner on Wednesday, November 17th (5 p.m. to 7 p.m.) as well as before and after the worship service on Sunday, November 21st (9 a.m. to 11 a.m.). Be ready to buy some wonderful hand-made gifts for the holidays. Cash and checks will be accepted. All profits will benefit the youth programs of our congregation.



We could still use more donated craft items. For extra ideas about craft items to consider making, see Lynne Sobczak. Craft items should be placed on the tables in the hallway across from the custodial room by Sunday, Nov. 14th. If you need assistance getting your items there by then, contact Lynne Sobczak, 815-648-2321 or sobczak4u@yahoo.com for help.

Christmas Joy Offering

The Christmas Joy Offering reflects that God is with us, through the generous gifts that support church leaders among us, retired, present and future, who have pointed us to God. Even as we support our current and former church leaders through the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions, God is calling new leaders for our Church and world, through the ministry of Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color — offering students the means for a brighter future and enhanced opportunities to use their talents and skills to serve God, the Church and the world for years to come.



Our Thoughts and Prayers are with...

Pat Davenport, Nick Botian, Tom Schwarz, Jim Higgins, Tim Arnold, Ron Parrish, Paul Thuma, Becky Medins, Russ Warye, Loretta Nejd, Sue Krause, George Kruse, Sandy Landry, and Kristen Matter.

November Update from the Deacons



We are getting closer to producing an updated church directory! It has been fine-tuned with the help of Pastor Eric and Dave Davis. Copies will be made soon and distributed. Barb Parrish, Mary Hill and John Rigby will be helping with the binding.

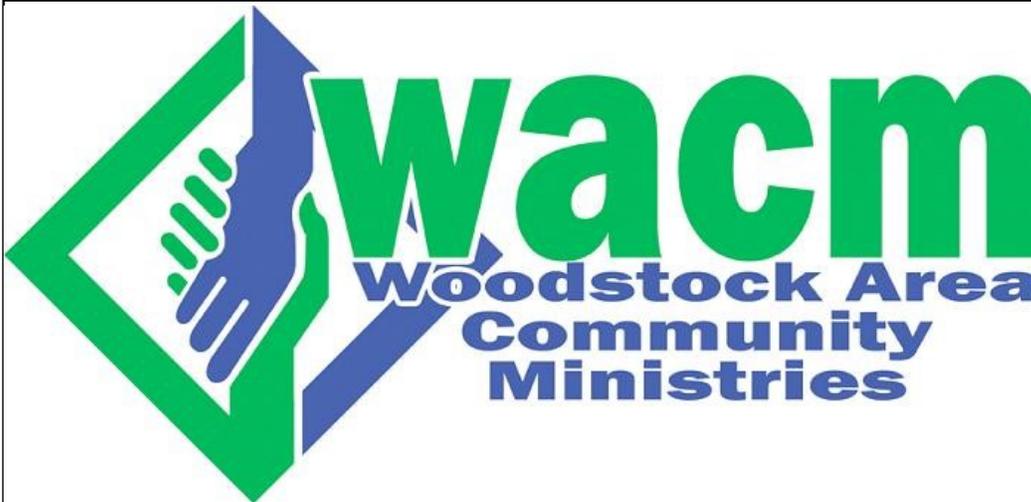
Again, this year, Deacons will deliver Advent Bags to flock members that are unable to pick them up at the church.

Please contact your Deacon as they want to help their flocks with any issues, news to share or needs. We are there for you!

Angie Boe 815-338-7782
 Sue Epperson 224-293-2295
 Joyce Maynard 815-338-7265

Pam Moorhouse 815-814-5585
 John Moorhouse 815-236-7408
 Barb Parrish 815-338-8112

Matt Petrik 815-209-2835
 John Rigby 815-236-1780



November WACM Notes

The Share the Warmth Coat Give Away will operate the same way as last year. Individual residents or Woodstock families can call the Direct Assistance Program phone at (815) 529-4370 and request cold weather gear. A voucher

will be issued through WACM's Direct Assistance Program and mailed to the home. The voucher is then redeemed at the Clothing Closet for coats, hats, scarves, gloves, etc. Members of the congregation who have extra winter coats and other cold weather gear are encouraged to donate items directly to the Clothing Closet.

HELP WANTED- Someone with a willingness to give time and bookkeeping skills to volunteer as treasurer for the Woodstock Area Community Ministries (WACM) starting at the end of this year. A knowledge of Quickbooks and tax forms for 501c3 organizations are important for this position. If interested, please contact Pat Morozink at pmorozink@yahoo.com. Thank you.

Come Join the N.O.W. Team on Wednesday!

Skip cooking dinner on Wednesdays by coming to the N.O.W. dinner! Serving starts at 5:15 PM, and the suggested donation is just \$3 per person or \$1 for kids under 11. We'll have indoor seating and outdoor seating as long as weather permits. Our November menus are November 3: Quiche and salad; November 10: Chicken Divan and sides; November 17: Thanksgiving Feast. Come join us for a hearty dinner and mid-week fellowship!



October Session Notes

Pastor's Report: Eric reported on worship preparation, pastoral care visits and at least 14 different meetings attended.

Deacons' Report: The pictorial member directory is in final editing, with work being done to update and properly correct our PowerChurch data.

Ministry Support Team: Paperwork and background checks are being done for accompanist Roger Dickman. Repairs to the Route 47 driveway drain are FPC's responsibility; bids for the work are being sought.

Worship, Music, and Arts: An intergenerational event is planned for November 21 to decorate the Great Hall for Advent. A second tree will be set up for Christmas ornaments as part of November 28 worship. Licenses for two different music services have been obtained to cover both traditional hymns and praise music.

Compassion, Peace and Justice: A motion from committee to approve donating 25% of the Global Peace and Witness offering to Standing Up Against Racism, a new Woodstock grass roots organization, was approved.

Education and Spiritual Growth: The committee is searching for one more mentor for the confirmands class.

Congregational Life: The committee reported updates on the Advent bag project and N.O.W. dinners.

Next Regular Meeting: Sunday, November 21, 2021 in person., time TBD

Nominating Committee: Help Wanted!

Deacons are looking for a few good men (three!) to join the Board for a three year term of service as a FPC Deacon. Deacons serve the congregation to care for and connect our members to each other. Common duties include keeping in touch with an assigned group of members as a main point of contact for them, helping with funerals and other celebrations of life as may be called upon, organizing some congregation-wide events in collaboration with other Boards and committees, and in general, being the hands and feet of Jesus to our congregation and their families. The possibilities are endless and unlimited and new ideas about how to increase the vitality of our church are welcome!

We are not being sexist – we really do try to keep Session and Deacons balance as close to 50/50 M/F as possible and it just so happens that we currently need more men to step up to serve in this capacity! If you can volunteer to serve as a Deacon, please contact a member of the Nominating Committee as soon as possible as we would like to present a slate of officers to the congregation for election in November.

Nominating committee members include Sue Krause, Dave Davis, Jim Wormley. Pam Moorhouse and Alan Dunker. THANK YOU!!!!

Session / Committee Chairs

Compassion, Peace & Justice

Sue Krause
815-451-538 or
shkrause1@yahoo.com
(Awareness, Service)

Congregational Life

Mark Bundick
815-337-9068 or
mbundick@comcast.net
(Hospitality, Fellowship & NOW)

Education & Spiritual Growth

Ray Thuma & Jackie Lawler
815-338-9780 or
rpthuma@sbcglobal.net
(Adult, Youth, Child, Intergenerational)

Ministry Support

Bob Clark & Dawn Cook
847-274-8247 or robtmclark@aol.com
815-276-3983 or dcook@wvusd200.org
(Finance, Staff Support, Building and Grounds & Stewardship)

Worship, Music and Arts

Chris Nejdil & Erin Kaye
815-337-1070 or
cnejdl@hotmail.com
(Worship Arts, Worship Leadership, Audio-Visual)

Memorial Committee

John Moorhouse & Angie Boe
815-236-7407 or
johnmoorhouse54@gmail.com

Clerk of Session

Mark Bundick
815-337-9068 or
mbundick@comcast.net

REPORT FROM THE MINISTRY SUPPORT COMMITTEE

September 2021 Operating Budget				
<u>Income</u>	<u>YTD Actual</u>	<u>YTD Budget</u>	<u>Variance vs Budget</u>	<u>Annual 2021 Budget</u>
Contributions Income	\$152,720	\$151,941	\$779	\$192,622
All Other Income	\$8,360	\$9,835	(\$1,475)	\$27,572
Total Income	\$161,079	\$161,776	(\$696)	\$220,194
<u>Expenses</u>				
Staff	\$107,762	\$106,554	\$1,208	\$142,626
All Other Expenses	\$61,199	\$80,001	(\$18,801)	\$103,087
Total Expense	\$168,961	\$186,555	(\$17,594)	\$245,713
Net Ordinary Income	(\$7,882)	(\$24,779)	\$16,897	(\$25,519)

Year-To-Date Operating Budget Performance Through Quarter Three – September saw an increase in Expenses vs. Income of ~\$8,000; however, vs. Year-To-Date Budget we are significantly favorable by ~ \$17,000 and expect to complete 2022 favorable to the forecast of negative \$25,519. Your generous contributions continue to be slightly favorable to Budget – THANKS & GOD BLESS YOU! All Other Expenses continue to be favorable across many categories.

Contributing to the favorable vs. Budget of All Other Expenses are: Congressional Life ~\$2,000; Education & Spiritual Growth ~\$3,500, Building & Grounds Operations ~ \$9,000; and Music, Worship & Arts ~\$3,400. Balance Sheet & Cash Flow show no issues

McCullough Endowment Investment Performance Commentary: We continue to be blessed with solid performance for FPC’s investment account which is managed by the Presbyterian Foundation. The portfolio ended the 3rd quarter at \$1,049,420 vs. previous quarter end value of \$1,061,958 and withdrawals of \$10,934. While S&P 500 hit new all-time highs in the third quarter, during the final few weeks of September the stock market dropped. The Balanced Growth Fund was down -0.18% vs. the Morningstar Moderate Balanced Category -0.71%. All in Annual Expense Ratios are 0.87%..

Feel free to reach out to us with any questions or comments.: Bob Clark:robtmclark@aol.com or 815-527-5109. or

The Rhythm of Giving



For Christians, the primary rhythm of keeping time is that of the week. Sunday – the Lord’s Day – is the day of new creation on which Christians gather to hear the good news of the gospel and to celebrate the sacraments.

Another rhythm for Christians is daily prayer.

Still another rhythm for us is giving of our time, talents, and treasures – our offerings. The generosity team has mailed you a letter about pledging. Please keep the beat by prayerfully determining your pledge for 2022 and bringing it for dedication at Sunday worship November 14.

P.S. Pledges also can be made at fpcwoodstock.org or by mail.

News from the Worship Arts Committee



Welcome to our new Accompanist – Roger Dickman

We are excited to introduce our new Accompanist. Roger Dickman lives in the Barrington area. He has over 20 years' experience in both educational and religious music settings including weddings, funerals, and musicals covering a wide range of styles and genres. Roger has most recently been performing at other churches in the Chicago suburbs. He has a BS Degree in Music from Andrews University, Berrien Springs, MI.

Ministry Support and Christy Johanson were really impressed with Dickman's skills when viewing his YouTube videos and during the interview process. We look forward to having Roger as our permanent Accompanist and are confident you will enjoy having him join our Worship Team.

On another note, many thanks to Danik Kooistra as he ably filled in as the Interim Accompanist these past few weeks. His piano music was impressive and enjoyed by all.

Chris Nejd, Worship Committee



FPC Worship on YouTube and Facebook



Remember that our services are regularly live streamed on Facebook and archived on YouTube. If you can't get to church on Sunday morning, check out the live stream at our Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/fpcwoodstock/>. You can also watch all our worship services on FPC's YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCxGlfuDXFmONo2cpjMjkoYg>.

Livestreaming our Services

The Worship Arts Team is looking for interested individuals to join to help with live streaming the worship services. They'll show you all the things needed to successfully broadcast our worship. If you can help out, contact Ray Thuma at rpthuma@sbcglobal.net or Christy Johanson, mom@babyjohanson.com.



Poinsettias for Advent

Donations are now being taken for poinsettias to decorate the Great Hall for Advent. Donate a poinsettia to remember a loved one or celebrate a special occasion. Checks for \$10 per plant can be made out to First Presbyterian and be sure to put "Poinsettia" in the memo line.

Worship Leadership

The Hospitality Team and Deacons will be greeting again this month. Please contact Cheryl Wormley (815-519-7402; indepublisher@comcast.net) or John Moorhouse (815-236-7408; johnmoorhouse54@gmail.com) if you would like to assist with this important ministry.

November 2021

First Presbyterian Church				November 2021			
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
	1	2 6:30 pm Worship Arts Mtg	3 7:30 am Lectionary Study 5:15 pm NOW Dinner 6 pm Confirmation Class	4	5	6	
7 All Saints' Sunday 9:30 am Worship 6:30 pm Education and Spiritual Growth	8	9 10 am TLC Ladies 7 pm Deacons	10 7:30 am Lectionary Study 5:15 pm NOW Dinner 6:30 pm No-Name Knitters	11 7 pm Finance Comm	12	13	
14 Pledge Sunday 9:30 am Worship	15	16	17 7:30 am Lectionary Study 5:15 pm NOW Dinner 6 pm Confirmation Class	18 6 pm Compassion, Peace and Justice	19	20	
21 2nd Annual All- Church Craft Fair 9:30 am Worship 10:30 am Decorating for Christmas 12 pm Session	22 Newsletter Articles Due	23	24 7:30 am Lectionary Study 6:30 pm No-Name Knitters	25 6 pm Worship Arts Mtg	26	27	
28 9:30 am Worship	29	30					

MINISTERS

All members and friends of the congregation

STAFF

Rev. Eric Corbin
Pastor

Dave Davis
Financial Secretary

Roger Dickman
Accompanist

Christy Johanson
Social Media
Worship Arts Coordinator

OFFICERS

Mark Bundick
Clerk of Session

Cary Cook
Treasurer

November 2021



**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OF WOODSTOCK**

CELEBRATING AND SHARING GOD'S LOVE

Phone: (815) 338-2627
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