

October 17, Volume 23, Issue 17

# First Presbyterian Church

# FOCUS

Christians Serving, Learning and Loving

## In This Issue

Reflections	Page 2-3
Coming Up in Worship	Page 4
Movie Night	Page 5
Information @ Church	Page 6-8
In October	Page 9
Praises and Prayers	Page 9
Electronic Ways to Keep in Touch	Page 9
Contact Us	Page 10
Social Media, YouTube, Website	Page 10

3rd Sunday  
October

# Christians Serving, Learning and Loving

## Reflections



## Pastor Transition Team

*Exodus 18:14-15 When Moses' father-in-law saw all that Moses was doing for the people, he asked, "What are you really accomplishing here? Why are you trying to do all this alone while everyone stands around you from morning till evening?"*

In other words, Jethro advised Moses to delegate.

Moses, Jethro warned, must delegate authority to trusted judges who will seek the leader's counsel, only in the most difficult cases. Moses' father-in-law, a priest in his own community, knew that this would be too great a task for one person. It was Jethro's recommendation that Moses select others to help govern the people. This would help prepare the people to run as an organized community when finally, they would enter the promised land.

Who would have thought that delegating and cooperating would be two of God's most precious gifts?

The Pastor Transition Team has been working behind the scenes to make sure the roles and responsibilities that occur during a transition process are not left undone. Please be patient with us as we are still learning, discovering, and finding solutions to issues as they present themselves.

We would like to express our sincerest gratitude to our staff members who have taken on extra work during this transition period. We are very lucky, as a congregation, to have such wonderful people in these roles. They have graciously and generously agreed to the added responsibilities. We would also like to thank the many volunteers who also are rolling up their sleeves to help keep things running smoothly. Like Moses, we can't do this alone.

The Pulpit Supply Committee was formed to delegate the responsibility of finding visiting pastors to preach on Sunday mornings for our in-person worship service and for the Zoom communion service that takes place on the first Sunday of each month. Members of this committee include:

Nancy Hilbert - Elder  
Lew Smith - Deacon  
Kris Bartelt - Worship Coordinator

They have been very busy! The calendar is just about filled, with pastors, through the end of the year .

# Christians Serving, Learning and Loving



Pastor Transition Team (Continued)

A Transition/Interim Pastor leads a congregation during the transition time after an installed pastor has departed. This pastor helps the congregation prepare to welcome the leadership of a new installed pastor. A committee has been formed to assist in the process of selecting this person for our congregation. Members of this committee include:

Don Vahlsing - Elder  
Jim Dassow - Elder  
Jolene Schry - Deacon,  
Dave Erickson - Member at Large  
Kristina Arellano - Member at Large

We will discuss the Transition/Interim Pastor procedures and where the committee is, in the process, in the next newsletter.

Let us pray:

Loving God, be with us and guide us during this time of change. Thank you for your gifts of delegation and cooperation. Fill our leaders with your wisdom. Bless all who have taken on extra responsibility and fill them with a sense of Your love and presence. Help us to remember that even though change can be scary, when we work together and trust in You, everything will be alright. We pray in your Son's name, Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Pastor Transition Team (PTT)  
Jodi Anderson, Mary Bacon, Deb Cooley, Les Mier

OCTOBER  
is Fair Trade Month

# Christians Serving, Learning and Loving

## Coming Up in Worship

10.17.2021 Rev. Mary Balson  
Pastor Balson is a native of Fond du Lac, a retired physical education teacher and coach of girls' athletics, a member of Covenant United Methodist Church and a Licensed Local Pastor. She has been in ministry since 2009. She served four years in an appointment to the River Valley United Methodist churches of Pepin, Alma and Arkansaw. She was then asked to train as an intentional interim pastor and has since served 6 additional churches.

10.24.2021 Rev. Dan Schultz

10.31.2021 Rev. May Council-Austin

11.7.2021 Rev. Richard Moore  
Communion Sunday

11.14.2021 Rev. Mary Balson

11.21.2021 Rev. Paul Zoschke  
Christ the King Sunday

11.28.2021 Rev. Mary Balson  
1st Sunday of Advent

12.05.2021 Rev. Richard Moore  
2nd Sunday of Advent  
Communion Sunday

12.12.2021 TBA  
3rd Sunday of Advent

12.19.2021 Rev. Paul Zoschke

12.24.2021 TBA  
Christmas Eve

12.26.2021 TBA  
1st Sunday of Christmas

If you have any questions, please contact Kris Bartelt @ [musicministryfpc.com](mailto:musicministryfpc.com)



Virtual livestream worship, at 10:00am, can be found here: <http://firstpreswausau.org/>

## October Worship



Our Sunday morning schedule will be as follows:

9:00am In-Person Worship  
First Presbyterian  
Church - Fond du Lac

YouTube Worship is available [here](#). It is "live" at 10:00am on Sunday morning or shows previously recorded worship services, at same link.

This is what in-person worship looks like, right now, at First Presbyterian Church, Fond du Lac:

- Masks are required to protect those who are unvaccinated.
- Social Distancing is maintained
- Nursery care is not available

# Let's all go to the movies!

**OCTOBER 16**

**6:45 - 8:45pm**

**Movie starts at 7:00pm!**

"Soul" is about a jazz pianist who has a near-death experience. He gets stuck in the afterlife where he contemplates his choices and regrets the existence that he took for granted.



**Family and Friends Welcome!**

**Bring a lawn chair and blankets.**

**Snacks will be available. We're having popcorn!**

# Christians Serving, Learning and Loving

October 20 - Virtual Bingo



**Day** Wednesday  
**Date** October 20  
**Time** 6:30pm

Please click [here](#) to register. A ZOOM link will be emailed to you, **after you register**.

Won't you join us?

**Through October 30 -  
FDL Fair Trade Shopping**



**TOGETHER, OUR  
PURCHASES HAVE  
THE POWER TO  
CHANGE THE WORLD.**

More information about the fair trade movement can be found [here](#).

Information on our local store, Just Fare, can be found [here](#).

Address N7645 N. Peebles Lane  
Suite 2  
Fond du Lac, WI 54937

Phone 920.322.3334

October 24 - PYA Virtual  
Halloween Game Time



Join us Wednesday, October 27 at 7:00-8:00p on Zoom. A Zoom link will be emailed to PYA.

If you would like, come in costume for our virtual Halloween Game Night.

Contact Jennifer if you have any questions or need the Zoom link.



Monday - Wednesday 9:00am - 5:00pm  
Thursday 9:00am - Noon  
Sunday 8:30am - 10:00am

Fort McCoy Resettlement



As you may know, Fort McCoy, Wisconsin is hosting almost 13,000 Afghan refugees.

There is an [Amazon wish list](#) for things that the evacuees need. It is set up like a gift registry so it is very easy to navigate.

Please consider making a purchase or two. These people do not have proper clothing for our cold Wisconsin winters.

Thank you for your generosity.

# Christians Serving, Learning and Loving

## Serving Team Report

### About the Serving Team

We want to be the hands and feet of Christ in our community, our country, and the world. A big part of our work is enabling members of our church and community to serve others. We do this by promoting participation in, and financial support for, projects that do “good works”. In some cases, we organize such projects.

We take inspiration from the words of Jesus:

Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms. 1 Peter 4:10

**We want to celebrate ways in which our church reaches out and serves others in Christ’s name.**

### In September

We promoted the **Peacemaking Offering** that was conducted on October 3. So far \$100.00 has been collected. These donations will be used as follows: one quarter for local missions, one quarter for presbytery missions and one half for the Presbyterian Church USA.

It is not too late to make donations to this worthy cause.

### Current Opportunities to Serve

**Clothing for Afghan Refugees** - As you may know, Fort McCoy (here in Wisconsin) is hosting almost 13,000 Afghan refugees. There is an [Amazon wish list](#) for things they need, Please consider making a donation. These people do not have proper clothing for cold weather.

### Future Opportunities to Serve

**Alternative Gift Fair** – The Alternative Gift Fair offers us the opportunity to reach out to our community, and the world, to share God’s love. Your gifts will demonstrate the true meaning of Christmas and you won’t have to worry about the correct size or color! Furthermore, wrapping is not required. You simply make a monetary donation to the charity of your choice, in the name of a relative or friend. You will receive a card to present to each friend or family member describing the gift that was given in their honor.

When your shopping is complete, you will know that, in this world of hurt and hunger, you have made a difference and have truly exemplified the true spirit of Christmas and Christ's message for the world.

**The chosen charitable organizations will be indicated in the November newsletter.**

**Loaves and Fishes** - on Monday, December 13 our church will prepare a meal for families in need in our community. The success of this mission relies solely on volunteers. If you would like to help, please contact Lisa Warntjes or Jennifer Zander (at the church office). We would love your help!

**Christmas Joy Offering** – This offering will be taken at Christmas time with the intent of supporting Presbyterian Mission efforts.



Prayer

*Jesus, thank you for calling and enabling me to serve You.  
Help me to see this as a privilege and to serve You willingly. Amen.*

# Christians Serving, Learning and Loving



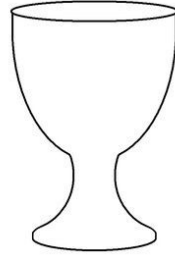
Ushers and greeters are always needed. These roles serve a spiritual purpose and are a vital part of our ministry.

Please click [here](#) to sign up to be an usher or a greeter. You can also sign up in the church office.

If you have any questions please contact:

Kris Bartelt, Worship Coordinator  
[musicministryfpc@gmail.com](mailto:musicministryfpc@gmail.com)

Thank you for your consideration.



**COMMUNION  
SERVERS**

Communion Servers are needed. This is a once-a-month commitment. At this time, we have one opportunity available in December.

You can check the communion schedule [here](#).

If you have any questions please contact:

Kris Bartelt, Worship Coordinator  
[musicministryfpc@gmail.com](mailto:musicministryfpc@gmail.com)



**LITURGISTS**

Liturgist opportunities are always available! You can review the liturgist schedule [here](#).

Please contact Kris Bartelt, if you are able to help. You can email her here:

Kris Bartelt, Worship Coordinator  
[musicministryfpc@gmail.com](mailto:musicministryfpc@gmail.com)

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**So don't hide your light!  
Let it shine brightly before others . . .**

Matthew 5:16



# Christians Serving, Learning and Loving

## In October

### Deacon

Wendy Johnson  
roy4368@att.net

### Elder

Brian Conran  
odosou@mac.com

## First Presbyterian Focus

Please send submissions for the  
Newsletter to:

[fdloffice@fdlpresbyterian.org](mailto:fdloffice@fdlpresbyterian.org).

## Prayers\* and Praises

Homeless and disbursed people, particularly  
those who are positive for the Covid-19 virus and  
struggling to find shelter

Pam C.  
Bonnie H.  
Oliver H.

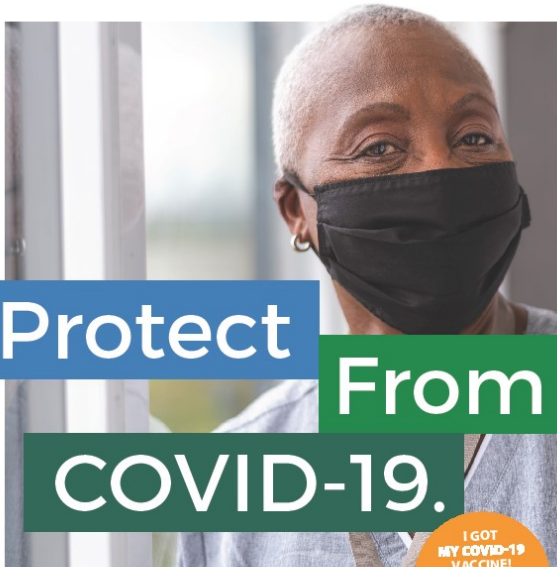
Pat D.  
Gib D.  
Arnold L.  
Ruth S.  
Lincoln D.  
Jesse F.  
Silas W.  
Jane D.  
Jack H.  
Joyce J.  
Jerry and Mary H.  
Chastity G. and Joan S.  
Granddaughter of Andy & Debby L.

## Prayer Partners

Send prayer requests to  
[fdloffice@fdlpresbyterian.org](mailto:fdloffice@fdlpresbyterian.org)

Rejoice: The gift of growing  
together in the body of Christ.

\*Names will remain on the prayer list for  
2 weeks. Please contact the office if a name  
should be on the list for a longer length of time.



Getting a COVID-19 vaccine adds  
one more layer of protection.



A safe and effective vaccine to protect  
against COVID-19 is now available.  
Learn more: [cdc.gov/coronavirus/vaccines](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/vaccines)

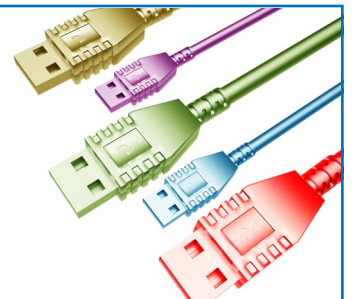
## Electronic Ways to Keep in Touch

Website [www.fdlpresbyterian.org](http://www.fdlpresbyterian.org)

Facebook First Presbyterian Church, Fond du Lac

YouTube First Presbyterian Church Fond du Lac

Zoom There is more information on our website: [www.fdlpresbyterian.org](http://www.fdlpresbyterian.org)



# Christians Serving, Learning and Loving

## Church Staff

Jennifer Zander  
Director of Christian Education  
jzander@fdlpresbyterian.org

Kris Bartelt  
Worship Coordinator  
kbartelt@fdlpresbyterian.org

Mary Robotka  
Financial Assistant  
mrobotka@fdlpresbyterian.org

Deb Zorn  
Communications Coordinator  
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## Volunteer Staff

John Neville  
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jneville@charter.net

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Dave Weber  
Custodian Assistant

## Elders on Session

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Amber Summeril  
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## Social Media and Website



First Presbyterian Church, Fond du Lac

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

first presbyterian church fond du lac

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