

# Information @ Church

December Deacon of the Month  
Deb Spoerke

December Elder of the Month  
Larry Johnson



## Advent

December 3	1st Sunday of Advent	Lighting the Candle of Hope
December 10	2nd Sunday of Advent	Lighting the Candle of Peace
December 17	3rd Sunday of Advent	Lighting the Candle of Joy
December 24	4th Sunday of Advent (9:00am)	Lighting the Candle of Love
December 24	Christmas Eve (6:00pm)	Lighting the Christ Candle

## **PYA = Presbyterian Youth Association**

Basic info: PYA is for students in the 5<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade

Purpose: To get to know Jesus Christ and have lots of fun!

<b>December 3</b>	<b>1 2:30-3:00pm</b>	<b>Pizza and Set up from 12:30-1:00 pm</b> <b>Happy Birthday Jesus Party 1:00-3:00 pm</b> Come and celebrate the birth of Jesus with the children from the church and the community. Help with games, crafts, and an assortment of other activities for the kids.
<b>December 3</b>	<b>4:00pm</b>	<b>Angel Tree Shopping at Target</b> (after Happy Birthday Jesus Party or in the evening)
<b>December 17</b>		<b>High School Youth Advent Lighting during Worship</b>
<b>December 23</b>	<b>9:00-11:00am</b>	<b>Baking Cookies (for the 6 pm Christmas Eve Worship Service)</b> Meet in the Kitchen.
<b>December 24</b>	<b>6:00 pm</b>	<b>Serving Christmas Cookies/Milk during worship.</b>
<b>February 18</b>	<b>TBD</b>	<b>Tubing at Sunburst</b>



Thank you to everyone who donated food items to the Fondy Food Pantry. Thanks to you 469 items were delivered to the pantry – that's 525 pounds of food and household supplies! There was also one cash donation of \$20.

As you may remember, we had a (little) competition going in our church. The breakdown is as follows:

Blue Team	106 Items
Pink Team	129 Items
Yellow Team	106 Items
Purple Team	128 Items

Congratulations to the Pink Team! However, the biggest winner is the Fondy Food Pantry. Thanks again, First Presbyterian Church for all you do to help our community.



## Christ the King Banner and Lectern Parament

We take this Sunday to reflect on Christ's kingly reign over our lives and the entire universe. "For God so loved the world, that he gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have everlasting life". (John 3:16).

Special thanks to the members of the Creative Expressions of Faith team: Jodi Anderson, Laurie Christie, Nancy Hilbert and Wendy Wilcox. They created the beautiful banner and lectern parament for Christ the King Sunday.

The words used come from you! Do you remember the question? On October 22<sup>nd</sup> we asked the congregation "What name do you call God?" The wording on the banner is the compilation of the names received from you. The larger the name the more responses of the same word.

The colors purple and gold are used to represent royalty, the white represents purity, and the crown of thorns reminds us that Christ was not an earthly king but the King of all Kings!

After today the banner will be on display, for closer viewing, until the end of the year. Thank you for your participation in creating this beautiful piece of art for our congregation.





The Angel Tree List is available! Stop by the Welcome Center and choose a child or two to support this Christmas.

The list is also available on our website under "Get Involved" or you can go directly to the list [here](#).

If you need assistance or have any questions, please contact the church office.

**December 2 -**  
**St. Nicholas Faire**  
 A Traditional English Market  
 Crafts, Cookies, Candy, Ornaments,  
 Silent Auction

**Where**  
 The Cathedral Church of St. Paul's  
 (51 W. Division St.)

**When**  
 Saturday December 2  
 9:00am-3:00pm

**December 2 -**  
**A South Shore Christmas**

**Where**  
 Fond du Lac High School PAC  
**When** December 2  
**Time** 7:30pm  
**Tickets** \$18.00  
 (\$23.00 at the door)  
 You can purchase tickets [here](#).

**December 3**

Pastor Rebecca Proefrock is leading worship this week as we begin the season of Advent.

We will also celebrate communion. The Lord's Supper is a sacrament of continuous growth, sustenance and new life.

Please join us!

**December 6 / December 13**



**Church of Our Saviour**  
 363 S Main St, Fond du Lac, WI

### Concert and Lunch 1

- **When** Wednesday  
December 6
- **Time** 12:00pm
- **Featuring** Brass Menagerie

### Concert and Lunch 2

- **When** Wednesday  
December 13
- **Time** 12:00pm
- **Featuring** FDL High School  
Cardinal Singers





## December 13 - Women in Faith

Join us for fun and fellowship on Wednesday, December 13, from 5:30-7:30pm. We will share a light meal together followed by a fun time of fellowship and crafting.

We are having a Baked Potato Bar, this evening. You can bring a dish to pass, if you like, otherwise, just bring yourself, and maybe a friend, and enjoy a lovely evening.

Women in Faith meets one evening a month from 5:30-7:30pm. It is open to women of all ages, and everyone is welcome. See you there!



## December 14 - Ruby's Pantry



- Food distribution will take place at **GRACE CHRISTIAN CHURCH**. Please enter on the **EAST** side. Park on the South side of the building.
- Online registration is available [here](#). Please arrive at your appointed time.
- All guests must enter the building to register and receive their pick-up number.
- Further instructions will be available, once guests have registered.
- Two food shares are allowed, per vehicle.
- Trunk must be empty
- Food will be loaded into trunks by our volunteers
- Do not bring boxes, bags, etc. for food

<b>Where</b>	Grace Christian 1596 4th St, Fond Du Lac, WI
<b>When</b>	December 14
<b>Open</b>	4:30-6:00pm
<b>Donation</b>	<b>\$25.00 Cash Only</b>

If you are interested in volunteering at Ruby's Pantry please complete the application at: [www.rubyspantry.org](http://www.rubyspantry.org).

## December 15 - Cribbage

Join us for Cribbage on December 15. We meet in Fellowship Hall at 7:00pm. Bring something to drink, snacks are provided.

If you don't know how to play, One of our experts will teach you!

Fun, friendship and fellowship - now that's a winning hand!

## December 18 - Session

Session meets December . Please pray for the Elders as they make decisions that will help to lead our congregation forward.

## December 17 - Fifty Year Members



We will celebrate 50 Year Members on December 17.

Congratulations to Gail and Orville Kamphuis and Sue and Bill Kuespert.

A reception to follow in Fellowship Hall. Join us to celebrate these long-time members.

## The Alternative Gift Fair\*

The Alternative Gift Fair is going strong! This year we are supporting:

- St. Katharine Drexel Center
- Presbyterian Disaster Assistance
- Serving and Learning Together (S.A.L.T.)\*\*

There is a table in the Narthex where you can sign-up, and get your questions answered (before and after worship). Additional information is available at the links below. Please sign up by December 17.

It's a gift of joy for you, the recipients, and the charity. Think about 'doing' Christmas like this! Your gifts mean so much!

\*The Gift List is [here](#).

\*\*You can read more about S.A.L.T. [here](#) and [here](#).



Image: <https://standrewslebanon.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/Alternative-Gifts.png>

## HOPE ON THE BLOCK

Hope on the Block is a non-profit organization that provides community pantries to ensure the homeless community has essential items and resources they need. Hope on the Block is 100% volunteer run and relies on donations from the community.

The first pantry was opened, August 2022, in Fond du Lac and is located at the Fond du Lac Public Library (32 Sheboygan St.). In May 2023, 2 more pantries were opened. One is in North Fond du Lac at Spillman Public Library (719 Wisconsin Ave.) The third location is in Ripon located at Traded Treasures (102 W. Jackson St.).

If you would like to donate to Hope on the Block, there is an aqua box in the Narthex for your items. There are also lists of items needed, located at the Welcome Center.



### Items needed for HOPE ON THE BLOCK

The items in **BOLD**  
are the most needed.

#### **Non-Perishable food**

#### **Water**

#### **Winter Weather Gear**

\***Hand warmers**

\***Hats and gloves**

#### **Toilet Paper**

Toothbrushes

Toothpaste

Tissue packages

Shampoo/conditioner

Deodorant

#### Feminine care products

Body wash/soap

Deodorant

#### **Feminine care products**

Hand lotion

Hand sanitizer

Band-aids

Combs/brushes/Hair ties

Chapstick

Sun Screen



## 9:00am Service

**Celebrating the 4th  
Sunday of Advent**

## 6:00pm Service

**Traditional  
Christmas Eve Service**

December 25 - 26



Merry Christmas! Enjoy your day with family and friends. And remember the joy of the first Christmas Day!

The church office will be closed.



## Special Meeting - December 10

A special meeting of the First Presbyterian Church has been duly called by the Session, to be held on Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup> following worship.

It is for the purpose of hearing and acting upon the final report of the Pastor Nominating Committee to elect a pastor if the way be clear.

## Growing Connections

**December 3** The Nativity

**December 10** Sermon Discussion

**December 17** Symbols & Meaning of Advent

**December 24** Christmas Traditions

**December 31** Star Words

## Inclement Weather

Please check one of the following resources for weather-related cancellations of Worship Services or church activities.

### Church Website

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

### Internet

[www.kfiz.com](http://www.kfiz.com) (KFIZ Radio)

### Radio

97.7 WFDL

### TV

Channel 5 WFDL



## Ongoing Opportunities

### Every Saturday - Table Tennis

Don't forget! We have Table Tennis every Saturday from 9:00am-Noon. All skill levels are welcome.

Join us to get a little exercise and have a lot of fun.

### Every Wednesday - Men's Breakfast

Every Wednesday, men of the church meet for breakfast at Pump 'n Pantry (329 W. Pioneer Rd., FDL).

It's a relaxed atmosphere with coffee in hand and friends around the table. Why not join the group?

### Every Wednesday - Bell Choir Rehearsal

Every Wednesday, the Bell Choir rehearses at 4:30pm.

It's not too late to join them. If you have any questions please contact Joanne M.



PLEASE JOIN US

# Growing Connections

Educational Ministries of First Presbyterian Church

**Sunday Mornings 10:20am**

## December 3 The Nativity

Join the discussion as we unwrap the Christmas story.

## December 10 Sermon Discussion

Sermon Discussion is an opportunity for discussion of the scripture passages. Facilitators help to create an atmosphere where participants can explore their thoughts and feelings about the issues and topics presented by the scriptures of the day. Anyone who wants to enjoy an open and caring environment for exploring their faith is welcome.

## December 17 Symbols & Meaning of Advent

Tour of the Sanctuary and Narthex. Every year for Advent we hang 4 red banners with the word HOPE, PEACE, JOY, and LOVE. Why? Who made them? What is the history behind them? The trees are decorated with little lights and ornaments called Chrismons. Chrismons are Christmas decorations with Christian symbols on them. Why Evergreens? The nativity set is put up every year in the narthex, let's take time to really look at it this year. What's a Yule Log? Come join us on Dec 17th to hear and share the stories.

## December 24 Christmas Traditions

Traditions reinforce our most fundamental values. Traditions don't have to be grand. It's the meaning behind them and the togetherness that makes them special. Come to Fellowship Time following 9 am worship to share a tradition that is special to you.

## December 31 Star Words or Gifts

The use of star words is a prayer practice connected to Epiphany and the new year. Participants randomly choose a word from a list of intentional or guided words written upon stars. Throughout the coming year, participants are invited to reflect on that word; and pray about what significance this word might have in their life, and how God might be speaking to them through that simple word. Individuals are often encouraged to place their star word somewhere they will see it regularly throughout the year as a reminder to reflect on how God has moved through, around, or in connection to that word.





Our church parking lot is a bit of a mess. It has been patched and repaired many times, over the years. It has now come to the point that, financially, it would be more prudent to resurface the entire parking lot. This is a lot of work and also costs a lot of money!

The Operations Team requested bids from several companies. The best bid has been accepted and approved by Session. We are set to begin the repaving process, as long as suitable funding can be arranged, in April of 2024, at the cost of \$100,500.

To make this project a reality, we are beginning a fund-raising campaign called “Pave the Way”\*. We are asking our congregation to help financially support this undertaking:

- 50% of the cost is being requested from our members
- 50% being is being covered by funds from Endowment.

Prayerfully consider donating to the campaign. A new parking lot will help our church look as good on the outside as it does on the inside. A progress chart will be displayed in the Narthex to monitor our progress.

You can place your donation in the offering plate or drop it off in the office. Please mark your gifts with “Pave the Way” so we can keep track of these funds. You can also donate online [here](#).

We will periodically update the congregation on the amount of money collected and will have an update at our Congregational Meeting in January 2024.

May God’s blessings be with everyone helping us achieve our smooth ride to and from church each week.

*\* Session approved a motion by the Building and Grounds committee, along with the Endowment Board, to conduct a fundraiser for the purpose of raising funds for blacktop replacement at church.*