

June 21 Volume 22, Issue 11

First Presbyterian Church

FOCUS

Christians Serving, Learning and Loving

In This Issue

Reflections	Page 2
Congregational Meeting Agenda	Page 3
Coming Up in Worship	Page 4-5
Information @ Church	Page 6
PYA	Page 6
Every Week	Page 7
General Assembly	Page 8-9
Summer Organ Recitals	Page 10-11
In June	Page 12
Praises and Prayers	Page 12
Electronic Ways to Keep in Touch	Page 12
Contact Us	Page 13
Social Media, YouTube, Website	Page 13

3rd Sunday
June

Christians Serving, Learning and Loving

Reflections

“The People Who Live by the Spirit”

¹³ For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become slaves to one another. ¹⁴For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ ¹⁵If, however, you bite and devour one another, take care that you are not consumed by one another.

Galatians 5:13-15

There is noise and chaos in the streets – protests and riots; countless accounts of inappropriate force, heartless violence, and meaningless noise. There are so many people who are acting out their fear, hurt, and bitterness without direction or purpose. When we don’t teach people how to find a voice that echoes a vision of God’s love and justice, how are they supposed to find it? If the people who have been dwelling in God’s presence, seeking to know God’s grace, do not share what the Holy Spirit has given to us, then how can we expect anything meaningful or useful to come out of all of this? If we claim to believe that we are God’s chosen people, called to serve the Lord Jesus Christ, we are not going to fulfill God’s call by sitting on the sidelines criticizing and complaining.

There is clearly a lack of direction and clarity in the noise in the streets. However, there is also a great deal of legitimate hurt, pain, and fear mixed in, as well. There are those who are focused on themselves and have no respect for other people’s property. On the other hand, there are also mothers who have lost their innocent children. There are dads who are frightened every time their sons leave the house, fearing that they won’t be alive at the end of the day. There are a lot of people who know that they will be treated differently because of the color of their skin. There are a lot of people whose hearts have ached because they see that their friends or neighbors are treated unfairly.

So, is our faith strong enough for us to see the pain, while seeking God’s voice in the midst of the midst of foolishness and noise? Or, are we going to demand that people have their act together before we are prepared to help them? Jesus died for people who had not earned the sacrifice He made for them. Are we willing to practice the same grace? Or do we want grace for us and judgment for others? I think, if we aren’t prepared to be a part of Jesus’ grace, He’s still going to care for those who are hurting. We, however, won’t be considered as a part of the toolbox for dealing with the issues.

This time is messy. It is so much easier to simply discount the noise and turmoil, to deny that there could be any validity to this chaos, than to pause and ask what truth may be under all of this. It is much easier to feel it is false and meaningless behavior of people who are “not right in the head,” than to allow the grace of Jesus to look for the broken hearts, the who are wronged on both sides of the equation. This is not a time when one side is right and the other side is wrong – there’s plenty that’s wrong on both sides. Jesus’ love, however, is for all. Healing is needed for our nation. Healing will not come from one side “winning.”

This is going to be complicated. People are needed who can speak and act from a greater level of maturity, a deeper sense of God’s grace, and a wisdom that only comes from the knowledge of God. We need to find a way of bringing meaningful language to the noise, and wisdom to the hurt, through the power of the Holy Spirit. Each of us has a place where we are called to become the voice of hope and instruction. Instead of complaining about the chaos or adding to the noise, let’s pray for God to show us how we might be used to shape what will be the foundations of peace and God’s justice.

Peace,
Pastor Jack

Christians Serving, Learning and Loving

2020 Annual Congregational Meeting

9:00am June 28, 2020 Via Zoom

Opening Prayer

Motion to Meet via Zoom and to allow meetings for 2020-2021 to take place via Zoom.

Reports

Minutes of 2019 Congregational Meeting

Pastor and Staff Reports

Reports from Session Teams

Financial Report

Scholarships - Recognition of Recipients

Recognition of Graduates

Vote on Pastor's Terms of Call (no change from 2019):

Salary \$53,512

Housing Allowance \$29,201

Total Effective Salary \$83,413

Board of Pensions (37%) \$30,862.81

Continuing Education \$1,500.

Professional Expenses \$1,000

Car Allowance at IRS rate

6 weeks of vacation

2 weeks of study leave

10 days sick day (Cumulative to 90)

Election of Officers

Elder Nominees

(Class of 2023) Mary Bacon, Jim Dassow, Don Vahlsing

(Class of 2022) Debbie Cooley

Deacon Nominees

(Class of 2023) Sharon Driessen, Jolene Schry

Carol Smith, Lew Smith

Nominating Committee

Pedro Arellano

Linda Dorn

Carol Wetzel

Kim Braatz

Other Business

Adjourn with Prayer

Christians Serving, Learning and Loving

Coming up In Worship

06/21/2020 Father's Day

Sermon: "United with Christ"

Theme: Our bond to one another is in our faithfulness to Jesus which calls us to perseverance through conflict without attack or destruction.

Purpose: We will recognize that our conflict and stress is a part of being faithful to God and to one another.

Scriptures: Romans 6:1-11 If we have died with Christ we will also live with Christ, and sin will be put to death within us.

Matthew 10:24-39 Jesus' teaching is a source of division and causes some to reject those who have embraced the savior's teaching

Questions:

What is the conflict that comes into relationships when growing in Christ brings maturity? How do healthy and wise Christians handle that type of conflict? What is our call in-terms of keeping the peace versus being true to our calling in Christ Jesus? How do we know the difference between being stubborn and selfish versus being true to our calling? How is conflict frequently a part of growth or change? What role do stress, conflict, and trials play on our ability as individuals and as a community to change and to grow?

06/24/2020 Midweek

Sermon: "Be Wise and Innocent"

Theme: God commissions us to serve in the midst of crisis and challenges, because that is the place where the love of Christ and God's healing power are most needed.

Purpose: We will adjust our attitude towards troubles and conflicts so that we may effectively serve Christ in the midst of crisis.

Scriptures: Psalm 86:11-17 A prayer for God's protection and support in the midst of attack.

Matthew 10:5-23 Jesus commissions and instructs the disciples to share the gospel in the regions around Capernaum.

Questions:

What did Jesus mean when he sent the disciples as "Sheep among wolves?" How do we go about learning to be wise as serpents and innocent as doves? Which part do we tend to have the hardest time keeping - the wisdom or the innocence? How are we challenged by the world and the people around us? What role does that challenge play in our learning and growing in Christ? What do we need to do in order to develop the strength and confidence to serve Christ without becoming reactive or hostile?

Continued on Page 5

Christians Serving, Learning and Loving

Coming up In Worship

06/28/2020

Sermon: "Being Christ's People"

Theme: We are called to walk as Jesus' presence in places where "sin" dominates so that we can be a source of hope and healing reaching out as Jesus' call to wholeness.

Purpose: We will build on our identity of being living signs of Jesus' healing love.

Scriptures: Romans 6:12-23 Slaves to sin or instruments of righteousness depending on who we allow control.
Matthew 10:40-42 God's reward is to those who will receive the message and practice kindness.

Questions:

What do we mean when we are talking about "sin?" What is a healthy way in which we can perceive our failings and weaknesses? What does it mean that we are under grace? How does being under grace free us from focusing on our faults and failures? Does it mean we do not have responsibility for the harm we cause? What does it mean for us to give "a cup of water" in Jesus' name? What difference does it make that we have kindness and compassion for others? How is our relationship with God and our trait of kindness related?

07/01/2020 Midweek

Sermon: "Remember the Rock from which You Were Hewn"

Theme: Our source of strength and our mission flows out of our knowledge of Jesus as our Lord and Savior, which gives us the ability to show God's love and power.

Purpose: Our clarity of message will flow out of our continued connection to Jesus which will come from our practices that root us in faith.

Scriptures: Isaiah 51:1-13 Look at the rock from which you were cut, God will restore you to your former strength
Matthew 11:20:24 Judgment upon those who reject the message of God's salvation.

Questions:

What does it mean for us to "Pursue righteousness?" How do we go about living in ways that are true to God's grace? How do we live in such ways that it demonstrates to the world what is wrong and what needs to be changed without being judgmental? How do we live as testimony to God's law without being conceited or hypocritical? What role does judgment play in the world? What would happen if there was nothing to point out the sin and injustice of the world today? How do we live in ways that will support growth in wisdom and righteousness?

07/05/2020 Communion

Sermon: "Faithfulness and Intelligence"

Theme: Our relationship with God and strength for serving does not lie in what others think of us, but in our knowledge of Jesus.

Purpose: We will learn to better draw our identity and strength from knowing Christ through healthy spiritual practices.

Scriptures: Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30 Salvation is through believing in Christ, and through the gift of salvation through grace.
Romans 7:15-25 I do not do what I want, a struggle between will and the spirit of God.

Questions:

What causes us to see ourselves as Christ sees us rather than being focused on the opinions of others? What is the outcome of living our lives worried about what other people "like" about us? How do we maintain healthy balance between caring for the people around us and not being enmeshed in their feelings? What is the difference between sympathy and empathy, and does it really help to have our feelings determined by what other people feel?

Christians Serving, Learning and Loving

Information @ Church

June 24 -Women in Faith



6:30pm-7:30pm

Virtually Celebrating? This has been a challenging year so far. We are wishing to come together and celebrate weddings, birthdays, holidays, etc. However, we need to take care of ourselves and each other and continue to social distance.

We will discuss ways to come “together” and celebrate while keeping our distance.

Let me know if you have any suggestions for future meetings.

Join Zoom Meeting

Topic: Women in Faith
Time: Jun 24, 2020 06:30 PM Central Time (US and Canada)
Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82290202046?pwd=YzhFSzlhYWtqNkxkYmVVGZmlsSXFHdz09>
Meeting ID: 822 9020 2046
Password: 070973
One tap mobile
+13126266799,,82290202046#,,1#070973# US (Chicago)
Dial by your location
+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
Meeting ID: 822 9020 2046
Password: 070973

June 28 -
Honoring Graduates



Calling All Graduates!!!!

Have you graduated from high school or college this winter or spring?

We will honor our graduates at the June 28, Congregational Zoom Meeting.

Contact Jennifer at:
jzander@fdlpresbyterian.org
with a picture and additional information.



Thank You - to the Blood Drive Participants

Thank you to all who participated in the blood drive conducted by Versiti. Because of your donations, up to 39 individuals will benefit.

Blood collected by Versiti supplies hospitals such as SSM Agnesian Healthcare, St. Joseph's Hospital in West Bend, Children's Hospital of Wisconsin and approximately 50 other Wisconsin hospitals!

July 1 - PYA Game Night

PYA - Presbyterian Youth Association
Basic Information - PYA is for students in the 5th-12th grade
Purpose - To get to know Jesus Christ and have lots of fun!



Wednesday July 1
7:00-8:00pm

PYA Virtual Game Night on ZOOM

We will check in and play some games.

Jennifer will email the Zoom link to PYA families.

Contact Jennifer if you have any questions.

WASH YOUR HANDS



Christians Serving, Learning and Loving

Every Week

Midweek Podcast



Pastor Jack continues to reach out to us via Wednesday Podcasts. You can find the link to our podcast on our website:

www.fdlpresbyterian.org
under Church News.

Previously aired podcasts can be found under Pastor Jack's Blog and Podcasts.



Please be sure to update your Zoom Software (computers, tablets, phones). You need to have Zoom 5.0 in order to join us for virtual worship.



Virtual Coffee Hour

A Zoom link will be emailed to you. It's a great time of conversation and fellowship. Won't you join us?



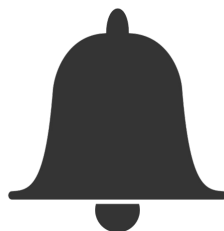
We worship "together" as we practice Social Distancing. Every Sunday, our service is on our YouTube channel. It is also provided in Podcast form.

We have a variety of liturgists, hymns, and special music. And, of course, a special message from Pastor Jack.

The links to our worship service and podcast are posted early Saturday evening on our website:
www.fdlpresbyterian.org

Our YouTube channel can be found by clicking on this [link](#).

We hope you'll be able to watch or listen to our services.



Our families are involved in variety of ways. They are mailed activity packets, emailed Discovery Time information/activities, etc. The children really enjoy Church School Check In, via Zoom.

These opportunities are have been very well received by everyone!

If you would like to be included in our Family Ministry please email Jennifer, Director of Christian Education:

jzander@fdlpresbyterian.org



A Zoom link will be emailed to you.

Christians Serving, Learning and Loving



from **Lament to Hope** *Lamentations 5:20-21*

224th General Assembly

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) meets biennially in even-numbered years. It consists of commissioners elected by each of its 173 presbyteries.

The assembly acts on hundreds of items of business, which it receives through the reports and recommendations of various assembly entities, and through overtures from synods and presbyteries.

This year's GA will be held entirely online. The GA business meeting will take place June 19, June 26, and June 27.

Other virtual events that the public are encouraged to attend include the *Poor People's Assembly and Moral March*, *Hands and Feet: Youth Rising Coalition*, and two Bible Study sessions. Click here for a full [docket](#). Please note: all times listed on the GA website are Eastern time zone.

Our Commissioners to General Assembly

The elected commissioners from Winnebago Presbytery are the Rev. Matt Sauer of First Presbyterian Church Manitowoc and Ruling Elder Dan Crump from First Presbyterian Church Marshfield. Sarah Seager from First Presbyterian Church Neenah is attending as our Youth Adult Advisory Delegate. All the commissioners will be participating in the General Assembly virtually, and we thank them for representing Winnebago Presbytery!

General Assemble Pre-bulletin

Read the [Pre-GA Bulletin](#) to find out what's coming up at this year's General Assembly.

General Assembly Information and Livestream

Keep up to date on all the latest news prior to General Assembly on their website <https://ga-pcusa.org/>.

Follow General Assembly as it happens via their livestream on the website at <https://ga-pcusa.org/> or the [GA Facebook](#) page. (continued on page 8)

Christians Serving, Learning and Loving

General Assemble Online Events

Poor People's Assembly and Moral March

June 20, 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. and on June 21, 5 p.m. Central time zone

On June 20, 2020, the digital stage is being built for the plight, fight and insight of poor, dispossessed, and impacted people. The two-hour program will include the stories, solutions, and songs of movement leaders and artists. Participants will receive information on how to go back to our communities to take action together and continue building power for November's election and beyond.

A global pandemic is exposing, even more, the already existing crisis of systemic racism, poverty, ecological devastation, the war economy and militarism, and the distorted moral narrative of religious nationalism. On June 20/21, the 140 million poor and low-wealth people across this nation will be heard! Click [here](#) for more on the campaign, resources, and registration.

Hands and Feet: Youth Rising Coalition

June 23, 2 p.m. Central time zone

Young people in Baltimore are looking for opportunities. They have the ideas, talent and the dreams for their future, but oftentimes they are overlooked and their talents go undeveloped. Racism and classism are rampant. With no hope and no support, they look for other means to help support themselves or their families.

Youth Rising Coalition members and supporters will join the 224th General Assembly (2020) for an online event. All are invited to participate as we gather here in Baltimore and across the country . . .

To hear the voices and stories of Baltimore area youth who have compelling ideas about creating a more just and opportune environment for young people.

Join with community and faith leaders who stand alongside these young people and the organizations that empower them, to amplify their voices, making their hopes our opportunity for action.

All are invited participate in this online event on June 23 at 2 p.m. central time. Click [here](#) for more information on the Youth Rising Coalition and the online event.

The GA224 Worship Offering will go towards the Youth Rising Coalition to help Baltimore youth rise above job scarcity in Baltimore. Contribute to the offering [here](#).

Christians Serving, Learning and Loving

Summer Noon Organ Recital Series 2020

Thursdays 12:15-12:45pm



A free-will offering will be taken to support the continuation of the summer organ recitals. The offering also helps to develop programming, events and scholarships to encourage young people to become part of a new generation of organists.

Special Note:

Due to conditions related to COVID-19, this schedule is subject to change. Safety measures such as wearing of masks, social distancing, etc. will be announced at each site per its COVID-19 protocol.

Fond du Lac Area Organists Association

For more information, please contact:

Ken Hill	khill@lifeathope.org	920.539.3977
Kris Bartelt	kbartelt@fdlpresbyterian.org	920.238.5330
Pam Lane	planes@charter.net	920.979.9361

The complete schedule is on page 11.



Christians Serving, Learning and Loving



Thursdays 12:15-12:45pm

Summer Noon Organ Recital Series 2020

Date	Musician	Church
July 16	John Penkoske	St. Paul's Cathedral (Episcopal) 51 W. Division St., FDL 920. 921.3363 www.fdlcathedral.org/
July 23	Brent Nolte	The Former St. Patrick's Church 39 E. Follett St., FDL 920. 246.6471
July 30	Kris Bartelt	Hope Lutheran Church 260 Vincent St., FDL 920.922.5130 www.lifeathope.org
August 6	Rev. Thomas Lijewski - Organ Lindsey Dahlberg - Piano	Shepherd of the Hills Catholic Church W1562 County Road B Eden, WI 53019 920.477.3551 www.sothparish.org
August 13	David Hein	The Former St. Patrick's Church 39 E. Follett St., FDL 920.246.6471
August 20	Arpad Muranyi	The Former St. Patrick's Church 39 E. Follett St., FDL 920.246.6471
August 27	Brent Erstad	Church of Our Saviour 363 S. Main St., FDL 920.922.0020 www.oursavioursfdl.org
September 3	Kenneth Hill	Hope Lutheran Church 260 Vincent St., FDL 920.922.5130 www.lifeathope.org

Christians Serving, Learning and Loving

In June

Deacon

Chris Langille
carsoph02@yahoo.com

Elder

Laurie Leestma-Christie
lleestmarnccm@gamil.com

First Presbyterian Focus

Please send submissions for the Newsletter to:

fdloffice@fdlpresbyterian.org.

Family Resources

- Talking to Your Children about Coronavirus - View [here](#).
- What to Say To Your Child About the Coronavirus - and How To Cope As a Parent - View [here](#)
- Caring for Children - View [here](#)
- How to Talk to Your Kids About Coronavirus - View [here](#)
- Managing Fear and Anxiety During a Health Pandemic - View [here](#)

Prayers and Praises

Continued Prayers for:

Liam A.
Silas W.
Chastity G.
Jesse F.
Pat D.
Mike F.
Dan M.
Lincoln D.
Paige C.
Rhonda B.
Ruth S.
Jim and Peg D.
John and Carol M.
Kristina A.
Leisa W. - PCUSA
Arnold L.

Prayer Partners

Send prayer requests to
fdloffice@fdlpresbyterian.org

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

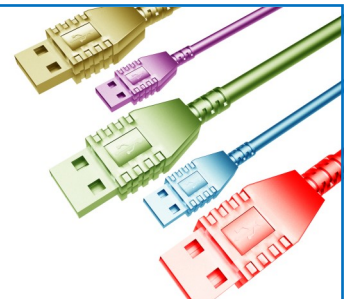
Electronic Ways to Keep in Touch

Website 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



Christians Serving, Learning and Loving

Church Staff

Rev. Jack Harrison
Pastor
revjharrison@fdlpresbyterian.org

Jennifer Zander
Director of Christian Education
jzander@fdlpresbyterian.org

Kris Bartelt
Worship Coordinator
kbartelt@fdlpresbyterian.org

Mary Robotka
Financial Assistant
mrobotka@fdlpresbyterian.org

Dave Weber
Custodian Assistant

Deb Zorn
Communications Coordinator
dzorn@fdlpresbyterian.org

Volunteer Staff

John Neville
Treasurer
jneville@charter.net

Judy Dassow
Assistant Treasurer
jnjassow@gmail.com

Elders on Session

Dave Erickson
Clerk of Session
djericks975@att.net

Noah Baker
baker318@live.com

Nancy Hilbert
nhilbert1946@gmail.com

Laurie Leestma-Christie
lleestmarnccm@gmail.com

Wendy Wilcox
wwilcox@excel.net

Deacons

Dede Beachy
ddbeachy1985@gmail.com

Carol Dykstra
pdykstra7664@charter.net

Larry Johnson
slj330@gmail.com

Roy and Wendy Johnson
roy4368@att.net

Christine Langille
carsoph02@yahoo.com

Debby Lorenz
daalorenz@gmail.com

Les Meier
lmsrtrains@gmail.com

Jolene Schry
rjschry@charter.net

Dick Sleder
rssleder65@att.net

Amber Summeril
ericksonambere@yahoo.com



Social Media and Website



First Presbyterian Church, Fond du Lac

www.fdlpresbyterian.org

first presbyterian church fond du lac