

August 1, Volume 23, Issue 13

# First Presbyterian Church

# FOCUS

Christians Serving, Learning and Loving

## In This Issue

Reflections	Page 2
Coming Up in Worship	Page 3-4
Organ Recitals	Page 5
Organ Recital Biographies	Page 6
Information @ Church	Page 6-9
Useful Information	Page 10
In August	Page 11
Praises and Prayers	Page 11
Electronic Ways to Keep in Touch	Page 11
August Calendar	Page 12
Contact Us	Page 13
Social Media, YouTube, Website	Page 13

1st Sunday  
August

# Christians Serving, Learning and Loving

## Reflections

### “Healthy Parting”

<sup>22</sup> The Lord spoke to Moses, saying: <sup>23</sup>Speak to Aaron and his sons, saying, Thus you shall bless the Israelites: You shall say to them,

<sup>24</sup> The Lord bless you and keep you;

<sup>25</sup> the Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you;

<sup>26</sup> the Lord lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace.

<sup>27</sup> So they shall put my name on the Israelites, and I will bless them.

Numbers 6:22-27

I want to share some thoughts about the coming weeks and the end of my ministry at First Presbyterian Church. Deb and I have felt, for a very long time, that we want to be closer to our children. Our lives have felt to be very out-of-balance as a result. The long separation from our children, because of the pandemic, intensified those feelings. My style and manner of doing ministry is to be fully and deeply engaged. I tend to be deeply attached to the work and am not good at reducing those connections incrementally. A change is really needed for us to move forward.

This is a good time for the church to be thinking about its future, as well. The church has emerged from the pandemic financially strong and in good spiritual health. Right now, it has more options than resources. The church needs to rediscover the call of where Christ is seeking energy and where its resources need to be dedicated. That needs to be done as a sense of call for the congregation that will take place under a leadership that is better equipped to facilitate that process.

My plans are to focus on my family. My wife and I are looking forward to traveling, spending time with our children and grandchild, and living a more balanced life. As for myself and the congregation, we will need to shift our relationship from me being pastor, to me being part of the church's past. We will talk more about "separation ethic" in the future. Briefly, it means I will not be available, after September, to do any pastoral care or service. In fact, the "gap" that takes place is an important and healthy part of the process of the church's growth and moving forward. It is important that my pastoral role not have any interference in the transition of the church. Instead, care needs and concerns should be directed to the elders of the church, and the new leadership of the congregation.

Parts of this process are awkward because it has been a close and very meaningful relationship. My wife and I have invested deeply in this congregation and are in the process of dealing with those feelings. Many of you are adjusting to the changes in your feelings and attachments connected with us, as well. Let's not fear the process because, in the end, it leads to a healthy place where we can deeply appreciate what God has done in and through us, working together.

Peace,  
Pastor Jack

# Christians Serving, Learning and Loving

## Coming Up in Worship

**08/01/2021** Communion In Person YouTube will be a repeat from last year.  
Sermon: Faith or Bread  
Theme: We receive the scriptures as a message of God's presence and love that enables us to trust God in the things we do not know.  
Purpose: We will examine how we respond to unknown and uncertain times.  
Scriptures: Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15 The Hebrews in the wilderness complain against Moses and are fed by God with Manna.  
John 6:24-35 Jesus chastises the crowds for their want of bread rather than the food that endures for eternal life.

### Questions:

How do we handle when we are uncertain about the future and unclear about how problems will be resolved? Do we trust God to provide for our needs or do we feel like it is up to us to solve our own problems? Do we see challenges and trials as a failure or something to resent or are we able to see through faith opportunities for God to be glorified? Do we live by our bread alone or do we seek the food that is the source of eternal life?

**08/08/2021** Congregational Meeting to Dissolve pastoral relationship  
Sermon: "What Does Jesus mean by, 'I am...'"  
Theme: Jesus speaks to us of drawing our strength and our source of meaning from him alone, rather than demanding conformity or other obligations.  
Purpose: To understand the purpose of Jesus' statements about himself.  
Scriptures: 1 Kings 19:4-8 Elijah depressed after his conflict with the Prophets of Baal and the king and queen.  
John 6:35, 41-51 Jesus says, "I am the Bread of Life."

### Questions:

What does Jesus mean when he says "I am the bread of life?" In what ways is Jesus meaning to be exclusive of others paths of faith? In what ways is Jesus instructing us to depend upon him? How should we interact with other faiths? When Elijah battled the prophets of Baal was this a theological difference or something else? What difference does it make when some believe differently from ourselves?

**08/15/2021**  
Sermon: "Bread"  
Theme: The message of the bread is our sustenance, our wholeness, and our unity.  
Purpose: To understand that we are united and nurtured by God's call to unity.  
Scriptures: Ephesians 5:15-20 Do not be foolish, live as those who are wise.  
John 6:51-58 Jesus said, "I am the living Bread."

### Questions:

How is bread used as a metaphor in the bible? In what ways do we connect with that metaphor? Are there false assumptions we make or misunderstandings we have about bread? What is the difference between "unleavened bread" and leavened bread? What does Jesus mean when he says that he is the "living bread that came down from heaven?" In what way does the history of Manna in the Old Testament influence our understanding of the bible?

# Christians Serving, Learning and Loving

## Coming Up in Worship (continued)

### 08/22/2021

Sermon: "Literally or figuratively?"

Theme: We develop a relationship with our heritage that is instructive but not necessarily directing us to do the same things.

Purpose: To examine how we reform our past into our future.

Scriptures: Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18 Joshua calls the people to pledge their faithfulness to God alone.  
John 6:56-69 Jesus calls the people to eat his flesh and drink his blood.

Questions:

How do we know when we should take scripture literally and when it is a metaphor? In what ways do some passages have deeper truths when not taken literally? What tends to make us more biased against some interpretations or less willing to accept a message from scripture? How do our preconceptions shape our ability to hear the Word of God in its full meaning? What do we need to consider as examine passages that are disturbing or difficult for us?

### 08/29/2021

Sermon: "Ordinances and Statutes"

Theme: We are called to learn and observe the law of God so that we may practice what is at the heart of the relationship God desires we develop.

Purpose: To understand how to observe the law of God wisely.

Scriptures: Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9 Moses calls the people to observe the statutes and ordinances from God.  
Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23 The disciples are confronted by Pharisees regarding their practices.

Questions:

What do we mean when we speak of the "law of God?" In what ways are we obligated to observe the laws of the Old Testament? In what ways are we not bound by the old laws? How do we know the difference between what was in the past to educate and shape God's people and what we need to observe today? How should we respond to those who continue to call for obedience to Levitical laws? How does God want us to live today in righteousness?

### 09/05/2021 Labor Day Weekend, Communion

Sermon: Culture and Prejudice

Theme: We recognize that the prejudice and attitudes demonstrated in the bible are not directive to how we should behave today.

Purpose: We will learn to separate what gives us direction from what was common in the culture of the past.

Scriptures: James 2:1-10, 14-17 Faith without works is dead. Why do we dishonor the poor and cater to the wealthy?  
Mark 7:24-37 Jesus and the Syrophenician Woman, and the man who is deaf.

Questions:

Why did Jesus act in a way that seems so rude to us? Since Jesus was rude to the woman, does that mean we are not expected to be kind to all people? What was the cultural issue that led to this type of an interchange as happened between Jesus and this woman? Was James' instruction to the people in the church that necessary? Were people seriously showing partiality based upon clothing and appearances? How do we do those same things today? What can we do to be aware of our prejudices that interfere with our mission to share God's love?

# Christians Serving, Learning and Loving



## 2021 FDL Area Organist's Summer Recital Schedule

FDL Area Organists Association will respect each venue's COVID-19 protocols .

<i>Organist</i>	<i>Thursdays</i> 12:15-1:45pm	<i>Place</i>
Arpad Muranyi	August 5, 2021	St. Patrick's Concert Hall 39 E. Follett Street, FDL
Jake Kim (Scholarship Recipient) Georgene Antos Kris Bartelt	August 12, 2021	First Presbyterian Church 1225 4 <sup>th</sup> Street, FDL
Father Tom Lijewski Wendy Pelletier	August 19, 2021	Shepherd of the Hills W1562 County Road B Eden, WI 53019
Ken Hill	August 26, 2021	St. Patrick's Concert Hall 39 E. Follett Street, FDL

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

### Fond du Lac Area Organists Association

For more information, please contact:

Ken Hill	<a href="mailto:khill@lifeathope.org">khill@lifeathope.org</a>	920-539-3977
Kris Bartelt	<a href="mailto:kbartelt@fdlpresbyterian.org">kbartelt@fdlpresbyterian.org</a>	920-238-5330
Pam Lane	<a href="mailto:2planes@charter.net">2planes@charter.net</a>	920-979-9361

# Christians Serving, Learning and Loving

## Biographies of Recital Recipients

**Jake Kim** – Scholarship Recipient  
2016, 2017 & 2018 & 2019

**Jake** will be an 8th grader at  
Theisen Middle School.

In his free time, Jake likes building  
computers and keyboards from  
bare components. He also likes  
fishing and woodworking.

He has studied piano for 8 years.  
Jake also studies the violin and  
has taken lessons for 5 years with  
Nori Kalman.

In addition to piano and violin,  
Jake has studied organ for the  
past 5 years. He has been part of  
our summer recital series and a  
scholarship recipient, since 2016.

### **Wendy Pelletier**

**Wendy Pelletier** was born in  
Fond du Lac. She began playing the  
piano at age 5. She began learning  
organ while attending Saint Mary's  
Grade School. At 12, she played  
professionally for a wedding.

She graduated from Goodrich High  
School, continuing her education  
at UW-Platteville, studying Music  
Education.

Wendy's first performance for the  
FDL Organ Recital Series was in  
2019.

### **Georgene Antos**

**Georgene Antos** is a professional  
teacher of piano and organ. She is  
also Jake's instructor.

Currently, she is a substitute  
organist at Annunciation Catholic  
Church in Fox Lake.

Georgene has been a regular  
participant in the summer recital  
series.

### **Kris Bartelt**

**Kris Bartelt** is currently serving  
as the Worship Coordinator of  
First Presbyterian Church.

She received her B.A. degree  
from Mount Mary University, in  
Milwaukee WI, with an emphasis  
in church music.

Kris has also been a regular  
participant in the Fond du Lac  
Area Organists Association  
summer recitals.

### **Father Tom Lijewski**

**Fr. Tom Lijewski** is currently the  
chapter chaplain of FDL Area  
Organists . He was ordained in  
1970 and is now retired from  
parish ministry. He most recently  
served parishes in Port Washing-  
ton and Saukville.

He started piano lessons at age  
eight and organ lessons at age  
twelve. He completed his music  
studies at Alverno College with Sr.  
Mary Hueller in 1983. Since then  
he was chair of the Catholic Sym-  
phony board of directors and is  
now Co-Chair of the Wisconsin  
Chapter of the Organ Historical  
Society with Dr. David Bohn.

He played the final recital for  
the OHS in 1990 at St. Matthew's  
Episcopal Church in Kenosha on  
their Skinner organ.



# Christians Serving, Learning and Loving

August 8 -  
Congregational Meeting

## Congregational Meeting

Upon Pastor Jack Harrison's request, the Session of First Presbyterian Church calls for a congregational meeting to take place on Sunday, August 8, 2021, at 9:45am.

The meeting will follow the in-person worship service for the purpose of dissolving the pastoral relationship between Pastor Jack and First Presbyterian Church.

Pastor Jack has announced his plans to retire. He and Deb will be moving to Illinois to be closer to their children and grandchild.

Thank You -  
From Jane Divine

Just a note to thank you for all the cards and condolences.

Your kindness and consideration was very much appreciated.

Jane Divine

August 11 - Women in Faith



Join us on Wednesday, August 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:30PM. Weather permitting, we will meet in the Pavilion (otherwise, we will meet in Fellowship Hall.)

We will check in with each other and talk about the importance of self-care. We will share our own self-care ideas, as well.

Bring your own drink and we will provide dessert. We hope you can join us!

August 18 - Virtual Bingo



**Day** Wednesday  
**Date** August 18  
**Time** 6:30pm

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

Won't you join us?

August 12 - Ruby's Pantry



**DRIVE-THRU DISTRIBUTION**

- 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. Please arrive at your appointed time.
- All guests must enter the building to register and receive their pick-up number, to place on their dashboard.
- Guests will be instructed to drive to the North end of the building to receive their food.
- Two food shares are allowed, per vehicle.
- Trunk must be empty
- Food will be loaded into trunks by our volunteers

<b>Where</b>	Grace Christian
<b>When</b>	August 12
<b>Open</b>	4:30-6:00pm
<b>Donation</b>	\$20.00 Cash Only

If you have any questions contact Grace Christian Church at: 920.923.5292 or [rachelrudzik@gccfdl.org](mailto:rachelrudzik@gccfdl.org)

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

# Christians Serving, Learning and Loving

## August 21 - Back to School



Now in its 26th year, Back to School Fond du Lac provides support to families who need assistance getting their children ready for school. Distribution Day is scheduled for Saturday, August 21, 2021.

As in the past, the distributions will be held at the Boys & Girls Club of FDL. We hope that the Back to School experience will provide an uplifting, encouraging and compassionate experience for all the families and children who participate.

A list of needs can be found in our newsletter and a collection box is available in the church narthex.

**Donations will be accepted at church until August 15.** Monetary donations can be placed in the offering plate or through the church website :

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

More information can be found on the Back to School FDL website:

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

Volunteer opportunities are explained here:

[volunteer registration form.](#)

Because of your time, talent and financial support, the Back to School program works for the students in our community.

## August 22 - Outdoor Concert

Date Sunday, August 22

Place Buttermilk Creek

Time 2:00pm



A freewill offering will be taken.

## August 27-28 - Rock the Block



Imagine coming together with community members to make a difference in our own neighborhood!

Habitat for Humanity of Fond du Lac County is organizing a Rock the Block event on August 27-28. The Rock the Block program brings residents and community partners together to collaborate efforts in targeted neighborhoods. This year's event will focus on the neighborhoods of Hamilton Street and Forest Avenue.

Volunteers and staff will work together to help revitalize the community by doing exterior home repairs, yard and street clean up, landscaping, painting and more. Along with Habitat's community partners, Habitat can now help assist low-income residents with home repairs, help maintain home ownership rates, improve the housing stock, and increase neighborhood pride. The Habitat community also assists with projects that will help to improve and beautify the neighborhood, at large.

## Rock the Block / Habitat for Humanity

- To register for Rock the Block [habitatfdl.org/events/](http://habitatfdl.org/events/)
- For more information about Habitat for Humanity [habitafdl.org](http://habitafdl.org)
- To donate to Habitat for Humanity [habitatfdl.org/support-us/](http://habitatfdl.org/support-us/)
- If you are interested in similar mission activities with our church family [click here](#)





# BACK to School

A community-wide collaboration

FDL


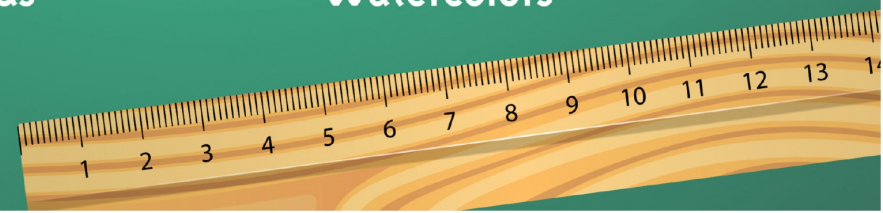
Back to School FDL equips over 900 students with the school supplies they need to start off the school year right!



## Supplies Needed



Last day to drop off supplies  
at church August 15

- 
- 
- |                          |                          |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1" Binders               | Looseleaf Paper          |
| Calculators- TI 30X IIS  | No 2 Pencils             |
| Colored Pencils          | Pencil Boxes/Pouches     |
| Crayola Washable Markers | 3x3 Post-It Notes        |
| Erasers                  | Pocket Folders           |
| Dry Erase Markers        | Red Pens                 |
| Glue/Glue Sticks         | Scissors-Pointed 5" & 7" |
| Graph Paper              | Sketch Books             |
| Highlighters             | Spiral Notebooks         |
| 3x5 Index Cards          | Watercolors              |

You can view the volunteer information here: [Volunteer Form](#)

# Christians Serving, Learning and Loving

## Summer Worship

Our Sunday morning schedule will be as follows:

- First Sunday of each Month

9:00am In-Person Worship  
Communion Outdoors  
10:30am Virtual/Zoom Service  
with Communion

- Remaining Sundays of the Month

9:00am In-Person Worship  
10:30am Virtual Coffee Hour  
Talk Back

This is what worship looks like, right now:

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



August 15 - Last day to drop off school supplies at church!

## Liturgists Needed

Here's What You Need to Know



### EMAIL ADDRESS

To receive liturgy copy  
To email recording back to  
Worship Coordinator-  
kbartelt@fdlpresbyterian.org

### VOICE RECORDING APP

On smart phone or tablet  
(Apps are free from Google  
Play or iTunes.)

### DEADLINES

Sunday Liturgy due Tuesday  
End of Day

### ZOOM Communion Worship

(First Sunday of the Month)  
The individual who records the  
liturgy for YouTube, is asked to  
read the liturgy "live" during  
ZOOM worship.

If you have any questions, please  
email:

kbartelt@fdlpresbyterian.org.

Pronunciations:

<https://biblespeak.org/>



## Virtual Coffee Hour

A Zoom link will be emailed  
to you. It's a great time of  
conversation and fellowship.

## TALKback



A Zoom link will be emailed  
to you.



Online giving is easy, convenient  
and secure. You can use a credit  
card, a debit card, electronic check  
or electronic funds transfer,  
through your bank. You can  
change or cancel your amount at  
any time.

Click [here](#) to get your questions  
answered and to set up your  
account. We think you'll be  
pleasantly surprised at how  
convenient it is!

# Christians Serving, Learning and Loving

## In July

### Deacon

Jolene Schry  
[rjschry@charter.net](mailto:rjschry@charter.net)

### Elder

Mary Bacon  
[bitsinbacon5@gmail.com](mailto:bitsinbacon5@gmail.com)

## First Presbyterian Focus

Please send submissions for the Newsletter to:

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

## Prayers and Praises

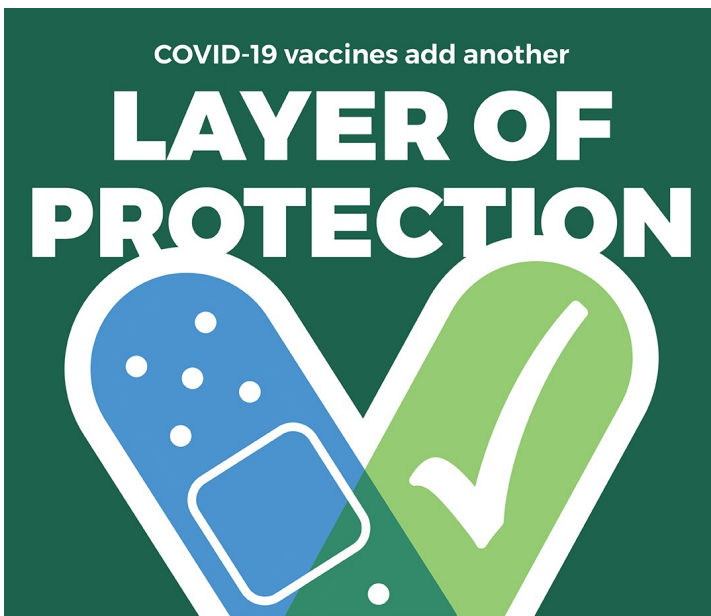
Homeless and disbursed people, particularly those who are positive for the Covid-19 virus and struggling to find shelter

Pat D.  
Dan M.  
Peg D.  
Gib D.  
Arnold L.  
Ruth S.  
Joyce J.  
Lincoln D.  
Jesse F.  
Silas W.  
Kay M.  
Wendy W.  
Joyce J.  
Leisa W.  
Jane D.  
Jerry and Mary H.  
Bonnie and Jack H.  
Chastity G. and Joan S.  
Jen Brennan, daughter of Deb Brown

### Prayer Partners

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

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



Learn how you can get a COVID-19 vaccine to keep you and your family safe.

[www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)

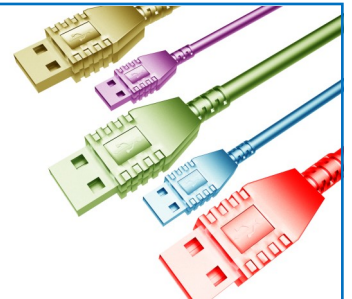
## Electronic Ways to Keep in Touch

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

## August Calendar 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> Virtual Worship 9a-10a In-Person Worship 10:30a-11:15a Zoom Worship 11:15a-12p Coffee Hour on Zoom 6:30p-8p Boy Scout Troop 702 Mtg	<b>2</b> 10a-11:30a Staff Meeting 6:30p-7:30p Deacons Meeting	<b>3</b> 7p-8p Bible Study via Zoom	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> Virtual Worship 9a-10a In-Person Worship 10:30a-11:30a Coffee Hour on Zoom 6:30p-8p Boy Scout Troop 702 Mtg	<b>9</b> 10a-11:30a Staff Meeting	<b>10</b> 6:30p-7:30p Learning Team-Zoom 7p-8p Bible Study via Zoom	<b>11</b> 6:30p-7:30p Women in Faith In-Person	<b>12</b> 6:30p-7:30p Serving Team via Zoom	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> Virtual Worship 9a-10a In-Person Worship 10:30a-11:30a Coffee Hour on Zoom 6:30p-8p Boy Scout Troop 702 Mtg	<b>16</b> 10a-11:30a Staff Meeting 6:30p-7:30p Virtual Session Meeting	<b>17</b> 7p-8p Bible Study via Zoom	<b>18</b> 6:30p-7:30p Bingo Via Zoom	<b>19</b> 6p-7p Loving Team Virtual Meeting	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> Virtual Worship 9a-10a In-Person Worship 10:30a-11:30a Coffee Hour on Zoom 6:30p-8p Boy Scout Troop 702 Mtg	<b>23</b> 10a-11:30a Staff Meeting	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> 4p-7p Loaves and Fishes Meal	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 1:30p-5p Westcott/ Zander Wedding
<b>29</b> Virtual Worship 9a-10a In-Person Worship 10:30a-11:30a Coffee Hour on Zoom 1:30p-4p Westcott/ Zander Wedding 6:30p-8p Boy Scout Troop 702 Mtg	<b>30</b> 10a-11:30a Staff Meeting	<b>31</b>	<b>Notes:</b>			

# 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

Deb Zorn  
Communications Coordinator  
dzorn@fdlpresbyterian.org

## Volunteer Staff

John Neville  
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jneville@charter.net

Judy Dassow  
Assistant Treasurer  
jnjdassow@gmail.com

Dave Weber  
Custodian Assistant

## Elders on Session

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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