

September 19, Volume 23, Issue 15

First Presbyterian Church

FOCUS

Christians Serving, Learning and Loving

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3rd Sunday
September

Christians Serving, Learning and Loving

Reflections

The Peace of Christ Be with You

¹⁴Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. ¹⁵And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. ¹⁶Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. ¹⁷And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Colossians 3:14-17

Deb and I are excited about beginning the next chapter of our lives. We have been diligently working on our plans. Moving arrangements are beginning to come together, although countless details still need to be completed. We are overwhelmed by the blessings that God is sharing with us, as we look forward to spending time with our children and grandchildren.

For the church, this is an opportunity for new vision and being able to consider where God is calling First Presbyterian Church, in the future. It is exciting to see opportunities for the church in being present with the needs of people in this community. Again, it is important that space be given for new leadership to be developed. We will be separating ourselves from the church ministry, though we look forward to maintaining friendships and we will, of course, be keeping you in our hearts.

Make sure to keep the leaders of the church in prayer, particularly the Session, as they guide the congregation through the challenges of these transitions. There have been a lot of changes in the process of searching for a pastor. Often people are caught off guard by the length of the process and the complexity of finding the right leadership. This is one time when being deliberate and thoughtful will create abundant rewards. This process is a lot of work. Those who are taking on this mission should be thoughtfully supported by the whole congregation.

God's blessings be with all of you. "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly," and take good care of one another.

Pastor Jack

Christians Serving, Learning and Loving

Coming Up in Worship

09/19/2021

Sermon: The Faith We Live

Theme: God desires that we live in healthy relationship and joy with one another.

Purpose: To examine ourselves and seek to know God in ways that will enable us to be healthy.

Scriptures: James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a Who is wise and understanding? Show by your good life.
Mark 9:30-37 Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and a servant of all.

Questions:

How should we view conflict so as to live well and experience the fullness of joy that God desires for us? What happens when we continually view conflict as being other people's fault rather than seek the change or growth that is within conflicts? How do we shape our perceptions either as process of growth or battles to be won? How do we come to live and grow through the changes taking place in our lives?

09/26/2021

Sermon: All of God's People

Theme: We are called to share the love of God without anxiousness or need for divisions.

Purpose: We will appreciate our unity in Christ.

Scriptures: James 5:13-20 Instructions for prayer and caring for the sick.
Mark 9:38-50 Whoever is not against us is for us.

Questions:

What is God's desire for our relationship and community with one another? How do we live that community in healthy ways? What happens when we allow our selfish and hostile impulses to poison community? What can we do to help one another remain in healthy community? In what way is the "body of Christ" different from any other community?

10/03/2021 The Rev. Richard Moore will lead us in worship.



Christians Serving, Learning and Loving



Pastor Transition Team

The Pastor Transition Team has been gathering information on the roles and responsibilities that need to be addressed with Pastor Jack's retirement approaching. Two committees have been formed to assist us:

- Pulpit Supply Committee
- Transitional Pastor Nominating Committee

Beginning Sunday, October 3, the Pulpit Supply Committee will invite guest pastors to lead our in-person worship services, until we find a transitional pastor. Once the Transitional Pastor Nominating Committee has found a transitional pastor, he/she will serve as our pastor until we hire a permanent pastor.

To help us during this time of transition and to keep continuity with our current format, beginning Sunday, October 3, the First Presbyterian Church of Wausau is welcoming us to share in their worship services. They offer a virtual livestream service at 10:00am each Sunday, and they offer YouTube services for those of you who prefer to watch services, at your leisure. A link to their church website is included here and will be placed on our church's website:

<http://firstpreswausau.org/>

To summarize, beginning Sunday, October 3, and until we have a transitional pastor, below are your options for worship:

- In-person worship service at 9:00am in our sanctuary with a guest pastor
- Virtual livestream service at 10:00am with First Presbyterian Church of Wausau
- Virtual communion service with First Presbyterian Church of Wausau on October 3
- YouTube worship, that you can watch at your convenience, using the link on First Presbyterian Church of Wausau's website

We will continue to post information in the newsletter and on our website.

Thank you and God bless,

Pastor Transition Team
Jodi Anderson
Mary Bacon
Deb Cooley
Les Mier



ALTERNATIVE GIFT FAIR

GIFTS THAT GIVE HOPE

The First Presbyterian Church Alternative Gift Fair is a fun way to bypass the annual stress of holiday shopping, and "stuff" accumulation. Your friends or family members, who may already have almost everything they need, can be honored through a charitable gift, in their name.

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.

The Alternative Gift Fair will begin in late November and run throughout the Advent Season. If you would like to be a part of the planning team for the Alternative Gift Fair please [complete this form](#) and a Zoom link will be emailed to you for a planning meeting on Thursday, October 7 at 6:30pm.

Christmas celebrates Jesus' birth. Jesus said, "Inasmuch as you have done it to the least of these my brothers and sisters, you have done it to me." We give to Jesus when we give to the weak, hungry, sick and homeless. 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.



OPEN HOUSE

Join us in celebrating

Pastor Jack's

ministry at First Presbyterian Church

Sunday

September 26

Time

2:00 - 4:00pm

Where

First Presbyterian

1225 Fourth St.

Fond du Lac, WI

Festivities will be held outside.

*Celebrating the
Confirmation Class of 2021*

OUTDOOR WORSHIP

DATE

September 26

TIME

9:00am

Please bring your own chair.
Dress for fall temperatures.



Confirmation 2020 & 2021
First Presbyterian Church

Confirmation Celebration

**Join us as we recognize our Confirmation
Classes in Worship**

Confirmation Class of 2020
Sunday, September 19
9AM Worship

Confirmation Class of 2021
Sunday, September 26
9AM Worship



Christians Serving, Learning and Loving



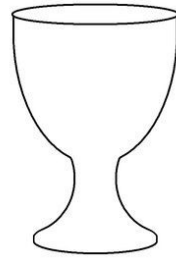
Ushers and greeters are always needed. These roles serve a spiritual purpose and are a vital part of our ministry.

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

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



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:

musicministryfpc@gmail.com

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

Matthew 5:16

Christians Serving, Learning and Loving

September 22 - PYA Virtual Game Time



Join us Wednesday, September 22nd on Zoom. We'll start at 7:30pm. We'll check in and play games.

A Zoom link will be emailed to PYA. Contact Jennifer if you have any questions or if you need the Zoom link.

Thank Your - from Loaves and Fishes



Thanks to your generous donations, we served 107 meals at Loaves and Fishes on Wednesday, August 25. Thank you to all who shared the love of Christ by providing desserts, preparing, serving, and cleaning up after the meal.

We will be serving Loaves and Fishes again on Monday, December 13 from 4:00-7:00pm. If you are available to help prepare, serve, or clean up after the meal, please contact the church office.

Dessert donations are always needed.

October 3 - Peace Offering



The Peace & Global Witness Offering encourages the church to cast off anxiety and fear, discord and division, and embrace our God's mission of reconciliation to those around the corner and the world.

The Peace and Global Witness Offering theme this year is PEACE at all times in all ways (2 Thessalonians 3:16).

A gift to the Peace & Global Witness Offering enables the church to promote the Peace of Christ by addressing systems of conflict and injustice across the world.

This special denominational offering will be received on October 3, World Communion Sunday.

*Now may the Lord
of peace himself
give you peace at all
times in all ways.
The Lord be with
all of you.*

2 Thessalonians 3:16

October 13 - Women in Faith



***A friend is someone who reaches
for your hand but touches your
heart.***

Join us for fun and fellowship on Wednesday, October 13 at 6:30pm. Weather permitting, we will meet in the pavilion. (In case of bad weather, we would meet in Fellowship Hall.)

We will check in with each other share a fun fall craft. Bring your own drink and we will have a dessert to share.

We hope you can join us. Let me know if you have any suggestions for future meetings. Please contact Jennifer if you have any questions.

Thank You -
from Marie Laiten & Family

Thank you for all the kind birthday wishes and well-wishes. I appreciate your generosity and thoughtfulness.

It was a special day, made even better by hearing from so many of you.

Marie and Family

Christians Serving, Learning and Loving

Confirmation 2020



Congratulations to the Confirmation Class of 2020! Thank you for your patience while we tried to overcome the Pandemic. We are so proud of you!

Confirmand	Faith Partner
Erica Albrecht	Mary Bacon
Sophie Polacek	Emily Hayes
Logan Sabel	Pedro Arellano
Emerson Vahlsing	Sherry Mier

October Worship



Our Sunday morning schedule will be as follows:

- 9:00am In-Person Worship
- 10:00am Communion Service -
First Presbyterian
Church of Wausau

<http://firstpreswausau.org/>

YouTube Worship is available at:

<http://firstpreswausau.org/>

This is what in-person worship looks like, right now:

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

Help Protect Yourself and Others from COVID-19

Practice Social Distancing
Stay 6 feet (2 arm lengths) from other people.

And Wear a Mask
Be sure it covers your nose and mouth to help protect others. You could be infected and not have symptoms.

[cdc.gov/coronavirus](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus)

Christians Serving, Learning and Loving

World Communion Sunday



Our gifts to the Peace & Global Witness Offering will help more people experience the freedom and dignity that Christ wants for everyone, everywhere—regardless of boundaries or the walls that separate us.



PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS
SPECIAL OFFERINGS
PEACEMAKING AND RECONCILIATION

OCTOBER 3, 2021

You can watch a brief video [here](#).

Here's how you can give to Peace and Global Witness:

- Through our church offering (write Peace on the memo line)
- Through e-giving - <http://www.fdlpresbyterian.org/giving/>
- Text PCUSAPEACE to 41444
- Pcusa.org/peace-global

Please give generously.

When you are generous to the poor,
you are enriched with blessings in return.

Proverbs 22:9

Christians Serving, Learning and Loving

Serving Team Update

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. We do this by promoting participation and financial support for projects that do “good works”. In some cases, we organize such projects.

We take inspiration from the words of Jesus:

1 Peter 4:10

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

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.

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

IN AUGUST

BACK TO SCHOOL

Back-to-School - We collected school supplies to help children in our local area who needed assistance with school supplies for the upcoming year. This is the thank you published on the **Back-to-School** page:

THANK YOU!! We did it!

Over 1,270 local children started the school year ready to learn with school supplies. Many thanks to the individuals, agencies, religious organizations, and businesses who came forward to help make this community project such a success. So much gratitude to the 145 volunteers who served 764 hours to make this possible.

Your efforts made a difference in the lives of local children!

Loaves and Fishes - Prepared a meal for the hungry in our community. 107 meals were served.

Habitat for Humanity - The “Rock the Block” August event helped revitalize an area in our community by doing exterior home repairs, yard and street clean up, landscaping, painting and more.

Christians Serving, Learning and Loving

Serving Team (Continued)

UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES

Peacemaking Offering – Sunday, October 3

Your gifts join Presbyterians worldwide to help people experience the freedom and dignity that Christ wants for everyone. One quarter of the donations are used for a local mission.

Coats for Kids – Until October 15 - This charity provides new or slightly used winter coats for kids within the Fond du Lac community. We provide a drop off box in the Narthex for your donation.

Alternative Gift Fair – Planning for this event will start at the Serving Team meeting on October 7, at 6:30pm. Members of First Presbyterian are invited to join in the first part of this meeting which will be devoted to selecting the charities that we will support during this year's fair. [Click here](#) to express interest in the Alternative Gift Fair, a link to the Zoom planning meeting will be emailed to you.

Loaves and Fishes – on Monday, December 13 our church will prepare a meal for families in need. 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!

Just Fare Market - Shop at Just Fare Market to support farmers and craftspeople in developing countries who are socially and economically marginalized. These producers lack economic opportunity and often face steep hurdles in finding markets and customers for their goods. Just Fare Market is located at N7645 N. Peebles Lane, Suite 2 in Fond du Lac or shop online:

<https://www.justfare.org/>

Angel Tree – Provides Christmas gifts to children and families who participate in the Head Start Program. Watch for more information in the future.



Christians Serving, Learning and Loving

In September

Deacon

Roy Johnson
roy4368@att.net

Elder

Nancy Hilbert
nhilbert1946@gmail.com

First Presbyterian Focus

Please send submissions for the Newsletter to:

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.
Gib D.
Arnold L.
Ruth S.
Lincoln D.
Jesse F.
Silas W.
Wendy W.
Jane D.
Jack H.
Jerry and Mary H.
Chastity G. and Joan S.
Jen B., daughter of Deb B.

Prayer Partners

Send prayer requests to
fdloffice@fdlpresbyterian.org

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

The infographic is divided into several sections. At the top, a dark teal banner contains the text: "The Delta variant is more contagious than previous strains—it may cause more than 2x as many infections". Below this, a teal bar labels two columns: "ORIGINAL COVID-19 STRAIN" and "DELTA VARIANT". The "ORIGINAL" column shows a single person icon with two arrows pointing to two smaller person icons. The "DELTA VARIANT" column shows a single person icon with five arrows pointing to five smaller person icons, illustrating higher contagiousness. A dark teal bar at the bottom of the infographic contains the text: "Vaccines protect you from hospitalization, severe infections, and death". At the bottom left is the CDC logo, and at the bottom right is the URL "cdc.gov/coronavirus". A small reference code "CS 322041-AA 06/02/2021" is visible at the very bottom.

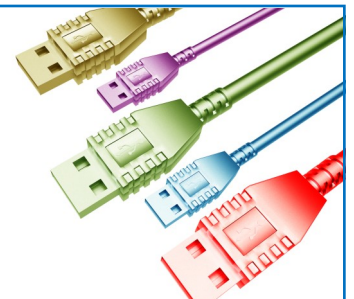
Electronic Ways to Keep in Touch

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

Deb Zorn
Communications Coordinator
dzorn@fdlpresbyterian.org

Volunteer Staff

John Neville
Treasurer
jneville@charter.net

Judy Dassow
Assistant Treasurer
jnjdassow@gmail.com

Dave Weber
Custodian Assistant

Elders on Session

Dave Erickson
Clerk of Session
djericks975@att.net

Mary Bacon
bitsinbacon5@hotmail.com

Brian Conran
odosou@mac.com

Debbie Cooley
tdcooley@charter.net

Jim Dassow
jnjdassow@gmail.com

Nancy Hilbert
nhilbert1946@gmail.com

Laurie Leestma-Christie
lleestmarnccm@gmail.com

Don Vahlsing
dwwahlsing@gmail.com

Deacons

Judy Dassow
jnjdassow@gmail.com

Roy and Wendy Johnson
roy4368@att.net

Debby Lorenz
daalorenz@gmail.com

Les Mier
lmsrtrains@gmail.com

Linda Neville
jneville@charter.net

Jolene Schry
rjschry@charter.net

Dick Sleder
rssleder65@att.net

Carol Smith
smith9007@yahoo.com

Lew Smith
lewsmith2568@yahoo.com

Deb Spoerke
debra.spoerke@yahoo.com

Amber Summeril
ericksonambere@yahoo.com

Social Media and Website



First Presbyterian Church, Fond du Lac

www.fdlpresbyterian.org

first presbyterian church fond du lac

1225 Fourth Street Fond du Lac, Wisconsin 54935 Voice 920.922.0425 Email fdloffice@fdlpresbyterian.org