
The Presbyterian Post

January 2025

Warming Shelter Meal

We will prepare a meal for the warming shelter on Thursday, January 2. The warming shelter is located at 73 E. 1st Street, Fond du Lac.

We will serve 30 people for dinner and morning snack. Food, in disposable containers, needs to be at the shelter between 5:00 pm and 5:15 pm. The shelter has their own serving utensils. A sign-up sheet is located at the Welcome Center, in the Narthex.

If you would like to help serve the food and clean up, you can sign up to do so on the sheet.

The need is great!

Thank you for supporting this mission.

The Serving Team



Join us for our Annual Congregational Meeting and
Potluck Brunch on

January 26 10:15 am

Come celebrate achievements in 2024 and
be a part of our plans for 2025.

GRIEF SHARE

You don't have to grieve alone.

We understand that the journey of grief is deeply personal and can often feel overwhelming. The GriefShare Grief Support Group offers a compassionate 13-week program designed to support you as you navigate the pain of losing a loved one. Each week, you will have the opportunity to watch heartfelt videos featuring experienced grief experts and listen to the real-life stories of others who have faced similar losses. After each video, group discussions provide a safe space to share your thoughts and feelings. Many participants have shared how comforting and helpful these discussions have been in their healing process.

It's common to feel alone in your grief, especially when friends and family have resumed their daily lives. Often, people—including Christians—may find themselves pushing their feelings down instead of allowing them to surface and guide them toward healing. Please know that it's okay to seek help, and there is no need to worry about what others may think. Confidentiality is a cornerstone of the program, ensuring a supportive environment for everyone.

Whether your loss is recent or has been part of your life for some time, we embrace you with understanding and compassion as you mourn the death of a spouse, child, parent, sibling, or cherished friend. Regardless of the circumstances surrounding your loved one's passing, this program connects you with others who truly understand your pain. You will learn to recognize the signs of being stuck in grief and discover that you don't have to be held captive by your emotions.

Through this journey, you will gain insights into managing the changes in your life and finding hope again for the future.

GriefShare Support
Thursdays from 6:00-8:00 pm
January 9-April 3, 2025
at the First Presbyterian Church



To register, please visit griefshare.org/findagroup and search for our church's group, or call the church office. If you have any questions, we are here to listen and support you.

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

JANUARY ADULT GROWING CONNECTIONS SUNDAYS 10:15-11:15AM

January 5 Sermon Discussions

On the first Sunday of the month as usually is the custom, you are invited to meet with other worshipers to discuss and reflect on the scriptures and message of the worship service. Pedro Arellano will be the discussion leader.

January 12 Fondy Food Pantry

In the coming months members of the church will share during Growing Connections ways that they serve as volunteers in the community. Orv and Gail Kamphuis, Mike Petersen, and Cindy Paulsen volunteer at the Fondy Food Pantry. Come to this panel discussion to learn a bit about the history of this organization, how they became involved and what they do while volunteering. This is a way you might enjoy serving.

January 19, 2025 Ghost Ranch

Ghost Ranch, a Presbyterian Conference and Retreat Center, is located in the mountains of northern New Mexico. It is one of the most beautiful places on earth. Phil Shepherd has spent six summers at the ranch leading Georgia O'Keeffe landscape tours and group kayak paddles on the Abiquiu reservoir. Join Phil as he presents the history of the ranch and the current opportunities to experience this life-transforming place. See you then!



Grade School Class lighting the Advent Candles in worship.

Sunday School 10:15-11:15am



Our theme for the year is "F.R.O.G: Fully Rely on God," and it guides our activities throughout the year. Sunday School – PreK-12th grade classes use the curriculum *Feasting on the Word*. The curriculum aligns with the lectionary, allowing the classes to explore the same scripture passages that are read during the church service on that day.

Nursery (Infant through age 3)

Middle School (6th to 8th Grades)

Primary (Preschool to 2nd Grade)

High School (9th to 12th Grades)

Grade School (3rd to 5th Grades)

January 20 - Session

Session meets January 20. Please pray for the Elders as they make decisions that will help to lead our congregation forward.

Lanyard Sale

There are extra lanyards so if you would like to purchase one for \$5, please contact anyone on the Worship Team or the church office.

Monies go toward in-ear monitors. Thank you for your support.

January 17 7:00-9:00pm Cribbage



Join us for an exciting game of Cribbage on January 17 at 7:00 pm in Fellowship Hall.

It will be an evening filled with fun, friendship, and fellowship. Please bring your favorite drink and get ready to enjoy complimentary snacks.

Never played before?

No problem!

Our seasoned players will be on hand to guide you through the game. Don't miss this perfect chance to learn a new pastime while mingling with new friends.

Gathering Room Banner

Where is the Gathering Room? The Gathering Room is the large room located in the education section of the building. A big thank you to Jodi A. and Jolene S. for creating a beautiful new banner to help identify the Gathering Room!



The New Freedom Group

For over 10 years, the AA group has been meeting at the First Presbyterian Church. In-person meetings take place every Tuesday evening at 6 PM.



The fourth Tuesday of each month is designated as an Open Meeting, and there is an Open Speaker Meeting every quarter in March, June, September, and December.

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to Les M. or contact the church office.

Prayer Requests

If you or someone you know would like to be added to our prayer list, please [click here](#) to complete an online form. Or contact the church office.

Prayer request cards are available in the Prayer Box located in the Narthex, in the church pews, or online ([click here](#)). You can place your prayer request in the offering plate or the lock box at the church office door. For electronic prayer requests, please complete the form and click submit.



PYA = Presbyterian Youth Association (Youth Group)

Basic info: PYA is for students in the 5th-12th grade.

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

Sunday, January 12 11:30 am – 1:00 pm Lunch and Planning for Souper Bowl of Caring
Spaghetti is on the menu for lunch, bring a dish to pass. [Click here](#) for lunch sign up.

Sunday, January 19 11:30 am -12:45 pm Lunch and Activities

1 pm Volunteer at the Woodlands

Woodlands Building 77 Wisconsin American Drive at 1-2 pm. Parents can pick up at the same location 77 Wisconsin American Drive at 2:05 pm. **Please let me know if you are planning to attend or if you have any questions.** Please bring the PYA permission slip for the Woodlands.

Sunday, January 26 Souper Bowl of Caring Skit for Annual Meeting



Get ready to support your favorite football team while you help to tackle hunger in our community. You can cast your vote (can or food item) for your favorite team or conference throughout the NFL playoff season and the Super Bowl.

Thank You!



Thank you for sharing God's love with our community through your support of the Angel Tree.

Women in Faith

Wednesday, January 8

5:30-7:30pm

If you are interested in meeting new people and having an enjoyable time, check out the Women in Faith gathering on Wednesday, January 8th from 5:30-7:30 pm.

We will share a light potluck meal with Spaghetti as the main dish. The meal sign up is on the Welcome Center in the Narthex or click here for [a Food Sign-Up Sheet](#).

Following the meal, we will enjoy fun fellowship time with a Snowman craft activity. Bring old Christmas cards to recycle for a future craft activity.

Everyone is welcome, feel free to bring a friend. Contact Jennifer or Jolene with any questions.

Every Wednesday - 8:00 am Men's Breakfast

Every Wednesday, men of the church meet for breakfast at Pump 'n Pantry at 8:00 am. (329 W. Pioneer Road, FDL).



Enjoy a relaxed atmosphere with a freshly brewed cup of coffee in hand and good friends gathered around the table. It's the perfect way to kick off your Wednesday.

January 9 - 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.
- Bathroom facilities are not available to the public

Where	Grace Christian 1596 4th St, Fond du Lac, WI
When	January 9
Open	4:30-6:00pm to Volunteer
Donation	\$25.00 Cash Only

Questions contact Grace Christian Church at: 920.923.5292 or rachelrudzik@gccfdl.org

If you are interested in volunteering at Ruby's Pantry please complete the application at: www.rubyspantry.org.

Inclement Weather

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

Church Website

www.fdlpresbyterian.org

Internet

www.kfiz.com (KFIZ Radio)

Radio

Sunny 97.7

TV

Channel 2 WBAY

Channel 5 WFRV



Caution: In today's digital world, scam emails and phishing attempts are common and can seriously threaten your online security. It's essential to remain vigilant when you receive emails from unfamiliar sources to protect your personal information and privacy.



What is Per Capita?

In the Presbyterian Church USA system of governance, each member of the congregation is assessed a *per capita* amount to support the work of the church through its three governing levels: Winnebago Presbytery, Synod of Lakes & Prairies, and the General Assembly.

The *per capita* covers the cost of operating these three separate entities, various committees, and commissions, along with funding the annual General Assembly Meeting.

Our Session has supported this assessment as an appropriate way to assist in helping to meet the needs of our denomination.

The per capita for 2025 is \$40.00 per church member. First Presbyterian Church has paid this amount regardless of whether you contribute \$40.00. Please note that per capita is separate from your usual donation or tithe.

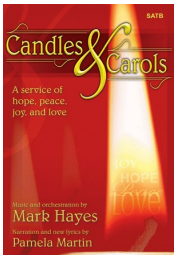
You can pay your per capita amount in the following manner:

Check (Write Per Capita on the memo line.)

Electronically (Click [here](#) to go to Online Giving.)

Thank you for prayerfully considering the opportunity to help First Presbyterian Church and the Presbyterian Church USA system. We appreciate your generosity.

Candles & Carols



Thank you to everyone participating in the Candles & Carols Cantata.

Your voices and talents are a beautiful gift that spreads the Christmas spirit and inspires us all.

The Candles and Carols Cantata, directed by Devin Scherck with Kristina Arellano, accompanist, took place on Sunday, Dec 22 at 3pm. You can view a recording of the cantata [here](#).



Thank You!

It is heartwarming to see people come together to help others in our community. Thanks to your generous donations, we served 171 meals at Loaves and Fishes on Wednesday, December 18. Hats, gloves, scarves, and socks were greatly received on that cold evening. Thank you to all who shared the love of Christ by providing clothing, and desserts, preparing, serving, and cleaning up after the meal.

For the past two decades, the Loaves & Fishes program has been providing a warm, nutritional meal and genuine hospitality for the needy of Fond du Lac. Twice a week, a group of volunteers has gathered to serve from 150 to 250 meals to anyone who comes to the door. Hundreds of volunteers have taken turns pitching in to prepare these meals, serve the guests and clean up afterwards. Each meal is prepared and served by a different group of volunteers of 20 to 40 people, all formed through area churches and other organizations.

We invite you to join us in making a difference with our future Loaves and Fishes serving dates:

Wednesday, February 26th

Wednesday, April 2nd

Wednesday, May 28th

Monday, July 28th

Wednesday, September 10th

Wednesday, December 17th

Whether you can help prepare, serve, or clean up after the meal, your contribution will be greatly appreciated. Together, we can make a positive impact and bring hope to those who need it most. Thank you for your continued support and generosity.



Hope on the Block

Thank you for your continued support of the Hope on the Block. Please bring items to the box in the Narthex.



Non-perishable Food

Toilet Paper

Toothbrushes/Toothpaste

Shampoo/Conditioner

Body Wash/Soap

Sunscreen

Deodorant

Feminine Care

Tissue

First Aid / Band Aids

Chapstick

Combs/Brushes/Hair Ties

Mitten Tree!

We are collecting hats, scarves, socks, underwear and mittens for all ages. Please help those in need stay warm this winter.



Thank you for your generous donations!

thank you!

First Presbyterian Church Blood Drive

Thank you for making a difference in our community by donating at the First Presbyterian Church Blood Drive. Many people don't donate during the holiday season, but it is a very high-demand time of year for blood products. Imagine your loved one needing a blood transfusion due to illness or injury and there not being any blood available.



We had 8 units donated, supporting 24 local patients. On behalf of those patients and their families, thank you.

GETTING CONNECTED:

Office Phone

920.922.0425

Office Email

fdloffice@fdlpresbyterian.org



Website

www.fdlpresbyterian.org



Breeze Subdomain:

FDLFirstPresb



Facebook

[First Presbyterian Church, Fond du Lac](https://www.facebook.com/FirstPresbyterianChurchFondDuLac)



YouTube

[First Presbyterian Church, Fond du Lac](https://www.youtube.com/FirstPresbyterianChurchFondDuLac)

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Dr. Craig Alwin

pastor@fdlpresbyterian.org

Jennifer Zander

Faith Formation Coordinator

Volunteer Coordinator

jzander@fdlpresbyterian.org

Kris Bartelt

Music and Worship Coordinator

kbartelt@fdlpresbyterian.org

Mary Robotka

Financial Assistant

mrobotka@fdlpresbyterian.org

VOLUNTEER STAFF

John Neville

Treasurer

Judy Dassow

Assistant Treasurer

Dave Weber

Custodian Assistant

DEACONS

Judy Dassow*

Gail Kamphuis

Orv Kamphuis

Stuart Kastein

Mary Ellen McMeen

Kim Miller

Kay Mullins

Phyllis Munson

Wendy Peachey

Carol Smith

Lew Smith

Amber Summeril*

* denotes Deacon Moderators

ELDERS ON SESSION

Dave Erickson

Clerk of Session

Mary Bacon

Deacons, Personnel,

Presbytery Delegate

Susan Baker

Worship

Laurie Christie

Serving, Nominating

Debbie Cooley

Loving

Todd Hayes

Learning, Nursery

Larry Johnson

Buildings & Grounds

Joanne Marchionda

Worship Team, Nursery

Terry Rehn

Buildings & Grounds

Mike Warntjes

Endowment, Finance,

Personnel

January

Deacon of the Month:

Orv Kamphuis

Elder of the Month:

Mary Bacon