
The Presbyterian Post



Journeying through the Easter Season

During our Lenten Journey, one of our gatherings had us Dwelling in the Word with Acts 16. Several of our insights were about seeing things differently than we have in the past. Shortly after that, the Missional Leadership Cohort I'm participating in had us dwelling in the same text. We noticed that we, as leaders, need to allow ourselves to be vulnerable, by both letting go of our desire to be in control and resisting some of the "unhealthy" expectations placed on us to provide answers.

Then, one of the books I was reading last week, *Leading Faithful Innovation: Following God into a Hopeful Future*, used this text as a key point. They point out the connection to the sending out of the 72 in Luke 10, in which hospitality was received as a result of first offering peace. The authors write, "The companions in Acts 16 saw their experiences as God's direction to search for hospitality somewhere else. They continued to look for places where the peace they offered would be received and welcomed. *They did not give up and go home.* They persevered... They learned from their experiences and discerned together where they thought God might be leading them next. The Acts 16 narrative teaches us important lessons about how we follow God's leading into an unknown future." This text is prescribed to us as part of the Revised Common Lectionary for the last Sunday of May.



As we journey through the Easter Season, may our time of sharing the Peace of Christ with one another become more than a time to say "hello" to one another. May we earnestly seek to offer and receive peace between one another. In between worship services, may we be prayerfully aware of those places and situations in which we receive hospitality in various forms, pausing to consider what God might be up to in the midst of those relationships.

2025 Summer Mission Trip

There is great interest in a short-term mission trip this Summer for youth and adults. A short-term mission trip can be an engaging and meaningful experience, with mutual benefit to the people who go and to the people receiving the group. Participation in a mission trip offers you and your church group a chance to share your time and talents with mission partners from other cultures and realities. Through the trip, you learn from each other and worship and serve God together.

[Please complete this form on your interest and availability.](#)

Winnebago Presbytery Meeting - Sunday, June 12



First Presbytery Church Fond du Lac is honored to host the June 12, 2025 Presbytery Meeting. What is a Presbytery? Have you heard the word "Presbytery" used and wondered what it means? This is your chances to see the Winnebago Presbytery in action. It is open to all. We will be looking for volunteers to help host the event. If that sounds like an opportunity you would like to take advantage of contact the church office.



Inventory and Organization of Banners



Lifest is an annual Christian music festival held at the Sunnyview Expo Center in Oshkosh, Wisconsin. It is one of the largest Christian music festivals in the United States. A group from First Presbyterian Church is interested in attending Lifest this year, which is scheduled for July 10-13, 2025. We would like to take advantage of a group rate and are looking for individuals who would like to join us. [Click here to learn more about Lifest.](#) Interested or have questions, please contact Pastor Craig or Jennifer at the church office.

thank you!

Our fundraiser for in-ear monitors (IEM) has ended. We thank all who contributed by buying a lanyard and/or giving direct donations. Because of your generosity we were able to purchase 4 wireless models that were not part of our 2025 budget. Purchasing these monitors will allow us flexibility as well as better sound balance for musicians and the congregation.

-The Worship Team

AV Task Force

We are making progress on improving the sound quality of our Sunday morning worship services. Your Session approved hiring an audio engineer to spend a day with us adjusting as many of the settings as possible, and that drastically improved the sound. Thanks to your generosity, we have also purchased in ear monitors to reduce the potential for feedback.

As noted last month, your Session has approved the formation of a task force to assess the current audio-visual (AV) systems and develop at least two proposals for future directions for the church. This task force will be taking into account not only the sound and projection images for worship, but the lighting and interactions of AV that may be needed throughout the building and online. This will not be a quick fix, but we want you to know that we are actively working on it. The members of this AV task force are Sara Stowell, Ruth Holstein, and Gwen Kober. Please keep them in your prayers as they gather insights from all areas of our congregation and assess our overall needs.

We appreciate everyone's patience, prayers, and support as we navigate this process. Please take note of what concerns you have, as well as what you appreciate, regarding the audio and visual aspects of our worship services. There will be opportunities for you to share your thoughts with the AV task force in the near future.



We want to take a few minutes to express our deepest gratitude to some very special people in our church family—our amazing volunteers.

Week after week, you give your time, your hands, and your hearts in ways that often go unseen but are always felt. Whether it's setting up, cleaning up, or providing treats for fellowship time, organizing Women in Faith or Men's Breakfast events, assisting with funeral and wedding luncheons, reviewing church membership rolls to keep us connected and cared for, sharing grief books from Stephen Ministry to comfort those walking through sorrow, or preparing welcome bags that extend warmth to newcomers—you are the living expression of God's love in action.

You don't do it for applause or recognition. You do it because you care. Because you know that the smallest acts of kindness can be the biggest blessings. You remind us that the church isn't just a building—it's a family. And families are held together by people like you, who show up with joy, with compassion, and with grace.

When someone walks in for the first time and finds a welcome bag waiting for them, they feel seen. When a grieving heart receives a book that speaks to their pain, they feel understood. When we gather for coffee and conversation during fellowship time, we feel community. And it's all because of you.

On behalf of our entire church, we thank all who have volunteered to help the Loving Team in any way. Thank you for your time, your care, your faithfulness. You are truly a gift to this congregation. May God bless you richly, as you have been a blessing to us.

Thank you, The Loving Team - Nancy, Deb, Melissa, Jolene, Wendy, and Sheryl

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

MAY ADULT GROWING CONNECTIONS

SUNDAYS 10:15-11:15AM

May 4 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.

May 11 Influential Women in Our Lives

Share about an influential women in your life. All of us have a special woman: mother, grandmother, favorite aunt, coworker, neighbor or friend in our lives who has truly made a difference to us or inspired us in some way. We would like to hear your 'story' and honor these women. Bring a picture, if you like, or just come to share your story as a tribute to each of them. Please join us, during fellowship time.

May 18 School Memories

Join us for a time to share our school memories. Bring class pictures, yearbook, or memorabilia to share as we complete a School Memory Scavenger Hunt. There will be prizes.

May 25 To Be Determined



Spring Clean Up Tree Stump Removal.

Sunday School 10:15-11:15 am



Our theme for the year is "F.R.O.G: Fully Rely on God," guiding our activities. The Sunday School program for PreK-12th grade uses the Feasting on the Word curriculum, which aligns with the lectionary, allowing all classes to explore the same scripture passages read during the church service.

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)



May 4 Special Host Sunday 10:15am



The Deacons will be hosting Fellowship Time after the Sunday morning service.

Donations collected during this event will benefit the Deacon Compassion Fund. This fund is designed to help meet urgent emergency needs for individuals or families who have an established relationship with First Presbyterian Church.

Assistance from the fund has been used to help pay for rent or utility bills to prevent eviction.

Additionally, it has been utilized for medical needs that require support in the form of food or gas cards. Please note that the assistance provided is limited.



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.

May 8 - 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 May 8

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.

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.

Women in Faith Wednesday, May 14

5:30-7:30 pm

If you are interested in meeting new people and having an enjoyable time, check out the Women in Faith gathering on Wednesday, May 14th from 5:30-7:30 pm.



We will share a potluck Salad Bar as the main dish. Following the meal, we will enjoy fun fellowship time with a pressed flower craft activity, so feel free to bring along some small flowers to use.

The meal sign up is on the Welcome Center in the Narthex or [click here for a Food Sign-Up Sheet](#).

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



Confirmation Sunday

Join us on May 4th as the Confirmation Class leads in the 9 am worship service. Following worship, please join us to celebrate these young people and their Faith Partners on their journey as Disciples of Christ. A very special day in the life of our youth.

PYA = Presbyterian Youth Association

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

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

Sunday, May 4th

Confirmation Sunday-Come support the Confirmands as they take the next step in their faith journey as they become members of the church and affirm their faith.

Sunday, May 11

Mother's Day-celebrate with your family.

Sunday, May 18th

11:30am Lunch, Games and Summer Planning

1pm Volunteer at the Woodlands Building 77 Wisconsin American Drive from 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.

Wednesday, May 28th

4:00pm-6:00pm Loaves and Fishes-at Church of Peace (158 S. Military) If you are available to help prepare, serve, or clean up after the meal during anytime between 4-6pm contact Jennifer.



Thank You for Your Support of the Easter Breakfast
\$288.65 was collected for Youth Missions

Loaves & Fishes

Ending Hunger Empowering Lives

May 28 –Loaves and Fishes 4:00-6:00 pm

Loaves and Fishes Join us in making a difference in the lives of those in need by volunteering for the Loaves and Fishes meal on Wednesday, May 28. We will be serving meals from 4-6 pm at the Church of Peace, located at 158 S Military Road.

We need volunteers to help us prepare, serve, and clean up after the meal. If you have the time and energy to spare, please consider reaching out to the office to sign up or [click here](#).

We are also accepting dessert donations for the meal. Every contribution counts, so if you're able to provide desserts, please bring them to the First Presbyterian church before 3 pm on May 28th.

Thank you in advance to everyone who can help us serve the community in need. Together, we can make a meaningful difference and impact the lives of those in our community. Please consider participating! The need is great! We invite you to join us in making a difference with our future Loaves and Fishes serving dates:

Wednesday, May 28th

Monday, July 28th

Wednesday, September 10th

Wednesday, December 17th



First Presbyterian Church Blood Drive

The next Blood Drive is scheduled for May 7, 2025 from 1:00pm-5:30pm. [Click here to sign up for a donation time](#). Please sign up early

and eat a healthy diet with plenty of protein to assure you can donate! We had 19 people sign up for the February Blood drive. Unfortunately, 3 people were deferred, so getting plenty of iron in your diet is important to ensure you can donate. Two people donated two units of double red cells, 15 units of blood supporting 51 local patients. On behalf of those patients and their families, thank you!! Remember, you can donate one unit of blood every 56 days. One hour of your time every 56 days could save a life. Is that too much to ask?

Mark your calendar for future First Presbyterian Church Blood Drive Dates:

Tuesday, July 8

Tuesday, September 9

Tuesday, November 4

Tuesday, December 30

**Wednesday
May 7**
1:00 – 5:30 PM



Holy Family Warming Shelter

Volunteer

APPRECIATION NIGHT

Join Us

Wed. May 14th 5:00pm
Holy Family Hall

Dinner to be Served
Please RSVP by 5/12/25

RSVP
valeriec@hffd.org
920.921.0580 x 302



Holy Family
271 Fourth Street Way
FDL



NO KID SLEEPS ON THE FLOOR IN OUR TOWN!

During the April 27th Growing Connections time, the volunteers from FPC that participate in Sleep in Heavenly Peace presented about building and delivering beds to 2-17 year old children. 1877 hours have been volunteered. 1073 beds delivered. 21 beds are currently needed. Thank you for sharing. It was expressed that twin-sized bed-in-the-bag sets are needed especially with boy-themed designs. On June 1, the Worship Team will be serving fellowship time with the monetary donations directed towards purchasing bedding. In conjunction with this fundraiser, the Serving Team would like for the month of May to conduct a bedding drive of twin-sized bed-in-the-bag sets to conclude on June 1st. The following weekend, June 6-8th, a bed build will be taking place at Walleye Weekend so that small groups can stop in to participate. Please consider being part of this opportunity to help out kids without a bed.



**Synod of
Lakes & Prairies**

What is Synod School?

Synod School is a learning and personal enrichment experience for people of all ages. Synod School seeks to create an environment of hospitality, healing, and hope. The week is designed for laity and clergy as well as individuals and families with classes and activities for adults, youth, and children. 2025 is the 71st year of Synod School in Iowa. People will come from all over the country with their friends and families to share in this week of worship, study, play, and life together. It is an opportunity to learn something new, to continue conversations begun by keynote speakers with others over meals or a board game, to share talents of creativity and music, to worship without being in charge, to be energized for service, and to enjoy not having to cook for a week.

2025 Synod School Theme: Re-Forming “Normal”: Expanding Hope

[View the 2025 Synod School Catalog Here.](#) A paper catalog is available on the table outside the church office door.

Summer Noon Organ Recital Series 2025



The following area organists will be presenting recitals this summer. Free-will offerings will be taken.

Proceeds will go to a scholarship fund to support the training of young organists and the promotion of future series of summer organ recitals.

Organist	Date	Place
Father Tom Lijewski Wendy Pelletier	Thursday, June 19, 12:15pm	Shepherd of the Hills Catholic Church W1562 County Road B, Eden, WI 53019
Mark Bollom	Thursday, June 26, 12:15pm	St. Mary's Catholic Church 699 Milwaukee Ave., Lomira, WI
Ann Lemmenes	Thursday, July 10, 12:15pm	Cathedral Church of St. Paul the Apostle 51 W. Division, FdL
Libby Reinbold	Thursday, July 17, 12:15pm	Salem Methodist Church 120 Sheboygan St., FdL
Kris Bartelt	Thursday, July 24, 12:15pm	First Presbyterian Church, 1225 Fourth St Rd., FdL
Kenneth Hill	Thursday, July 31, 12:15pm	Hope Lutheran Church 260 Vincent St., FdL
Arpad Muranyi	Thursday, Aug. 07, 12:15pm	St. Patrick's Concert Hall 39 E. Follett Street, FdL
Henry Hayes (scholarship recipient)	Thursday, Aug. 14, 12:15pm	First Presbyterian Church, 1225 Fourth St Rd., FdL

For more information, please visit our website fdlareaorganists.com, follow us on Facebook, or contact:

Kris Bartelt	kbartelt@fdlpresbyterian.org	920-238-5330
Pam Lane	pslane20@gmail.com	920-979-9361
Ken Hill	kenhill0333@gmail.com	920-539-3977

Fond du Lac Area Organists Association

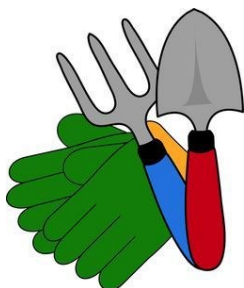
VOLUNTEERS WANTED-Garden Buddies

Monday/Wednesday/Friday

9:30 am to 11:30 am

Woodlands Senior Park

Starting in June.



Be a companion that assists senior citizens to participate in gardening in an adapted, handicap-accessible, raised-bed garden. Walk with them, and talk with them. Encourage enjoyment of outdoors, fresh air, and sunshine.

Contact Charlie Pratt, Activities Manager

Woodlands Senior Park

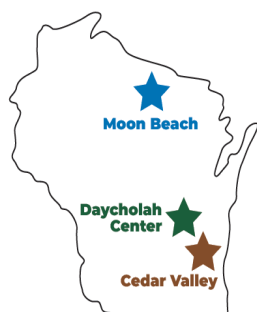
cpratt@woodlandssp.com

Sunday, May 18



Congregational Meeting is scheduled for **Sunday, May 18 at 10 am** for the election of Elders and Deacons.

Family and Youth Camp Opportunities



Daycholah Center (Green Lake) and Moon Beach (St. Germain) are two great camps that offer a wide range of activities for people of all ages. Campers can enjoy swimming, canoeing, crafting, making new friends, and much more. If you want to learn more or register for the camp, you can check out the United Church Camps, Inc. website www.ucci.org.

If you wish to apply for financial aid, please fill out the Presbytery Campership Application (available in the church office or on Presbytery website <https://irp.cdn-website.com/e28033c9/files/uploaded/Camp-Scholarship-Application.pdf>) leaving the “amount your church can pay” line blank and give to the church as soon as possible. The Presbytery may provide approximately one quarter of the cost and our church’s contribution will be determined based on the number of applicants.

Scholarships are also available from First Presbyterian Church. has established a process for applying for a scholarship (campership) for Church Camps. Campership Applications are on the table outside the office or here [Campership Form](#). All campership applications must be submitted for consideration to the Scholarship Committee. Please return all forms to the church office.



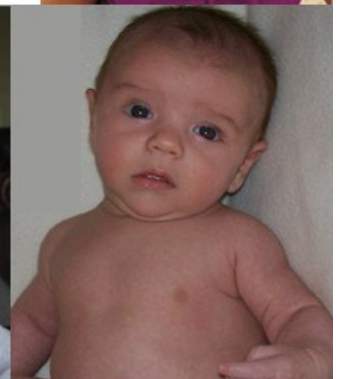
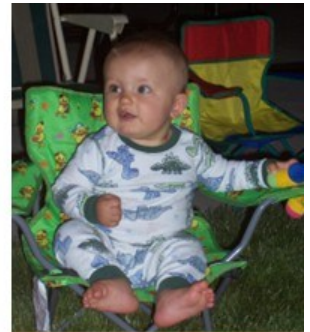
Baccalaureate Service
Wednesday, June 4 7:00 pm

Fond du Lac Area Ministerial Association (FAMA) is hosting the 2025 Baccalaureate Service at 7:00pm on Wednesday June 4 at FPC. Fondy High Seniors have been the main group participating in this event for many years. With more of the churches who participate in FAMA having members who attend several of the outlining school districts and homeschools, we are intentionally inviting anyone who is graduating from High School this year to join us and be honored and find spiritual meaning as they transition into the next phase of their lives. Anyone is welcome to attend this service to show your prayerful support for the graduating class of 2025.



Calling All Graduates!!!

On Sunday, May 18th, we will be recognizing our graduates. Come and add your blessing and congratulations as we celebrate this important event in their lives. Please let us know if you are graduating so that you may be included in this special service.



CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Dr. Craig Alwin
pastor@fdlpresbyterian.org

Kris Bartelt
Music and Worship Coordinator
kbartelt@fdlpresbyterian.org

Mary Robotka
Financial Assistant
mrobotka@fdlpresbyterian.org

Jennifer Zander
Faith Formation Coordinator
Volunteer Coordinator
jzander@fdlpresbyterian.org

ELDERS ON SESSION

Dave Erickson
Clerk of Session

Mary Bacon
Deacons, Personnel,
Presbytery Commissioner

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

May

Deacons of the Month:

Amber Summeril
Wendy Peachey

Elder of the Month:

Deb Cooley

VOLUNTEER STAFF

Joanne Marchionda
Handbell Choir Director

John Neville
Treasurer

Judy Dassow
Assistant Treasurer

Dave Weber
Custodian Assistant

DEACONS

Judy Dassow*

Gail Kamphuis

Orv Kamphuis

Mary Ellen McMeen

Kim Miller*

Kay Mullins

Phyllis Munson

Wendy Peachey

Carol Smith

Lew Smith

Amber Summeril

* denotes Deacon Moderators

GETTING CONNECTED:

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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)