

**FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**

Presbyterian Church
(U.S.A.)

406 Grant Street
Wausau, WI 54403-4788

715-842-2116
www.firstpreswausau.org
facebook.com/firstpreswausau

Staff

Senior Pastor/Head of Staff
Rachel A. Wann
pastor@firstpreswausau.org

Pastoral Associate
Joy M. Nelson-Jeffers
JoyMNJ@outlook.com

Music Director
Susan J. Schaefer
susan@firstpreswausau.org

**Sunday School/
Youth Coordinator**
Lisa Riehle
lriehle.christian.education
@gmail.com

Business Manager
Kathy DeYarman
financemgr
@firstpreswausau.org

Maintenance Custodian
Neal Gavinski

OFFICE HOURS

MONDAY—THURSDAY
9:00A.M.-3:00 P.M.

WORSHIP

SUNDAY 10:00 A.M.

The Beam

First Presbyterian Church, Wausau, is a family of believers, called by God, taught by Christ and guided by the Holy Spirit. We are committed to continuing Christ's ministry within our congregation, community and world.

Thoughts from Rev. Rachel

Living Thankfully

The arrival of November signals more than the end of Daylight Savings Time, the end of leaves on the deciduous trees, and the arrival of cold air, snow, and high heating bills. November also signals the start of the holiday season. Each year the Thanksgiving Holiday reminds us to pause and give thanks for those situations and personal relationships in our lives for which we are grateful. No matter how big or small, we each have reasons to be thankful.

Certainly there also situations and relationships that cause us grief and/or heartache. Illness, loneliness, emotional or physical pain, loss of independence, death of a loved one, personal or family crisis threaten to cast a dark pall over those good things. I don't mean to minimize any of these very real concerns that each of us face at points throughout our lives.

Yet despite the hardships we face, I wonder if we can still find the goodness. I think much could be said in favor of putting our focus on the good things, the positive, the little ways that God's blessings blaze through to touch us. Our faith reminds us that even in the dark times, we are not abandoned by God. So too, when we respond in thankfulness, we give less energy to the negativities of life and they have less power over us.

So this November let us each practice living thankfully. Celebrating the simple ways God continues to bless us, even in the midst of that which causes despair. And may that thankfulness not only impact our own lives, but also spill over onto the lives of those around us.

This and That...

Please join us for the **Advent Celebration** to be held Sunday, November 29th following the service. More details to come. We are asking for old Christmas Cards to be used for crafts that day. Please drop them off in the box in the Coatroom.

*Will you
be a doorkeeper?
Will you step up
and help?*

Ring-a-ding-a-ling

Our church's tradition of ringing bells for the **Salvation Army's Kettle Campaign** will continue this December. There are four locations, a variety of days and time slots to choose from. This is the Salvation Army's primary fund raising effort throughout the year and you can make a big difference in its out come. Please consider one of the one hour time slots listed below.

Trig's Saturday, Dec. 5th Noon - 1 pm; 1- 2 pm; 2 - 3 pm

County Market Monday, Dec. 7th 2 - 3 pm; 3 - 4 pm; 4 - 5 pm

Yunker's (parking garage entrance) Friday, Dec. 11th 4 - 5 pm; 5 - 6 pm; 6 - 7 pm; 7 - 8 pm

Angel Tree (inside mall) Thursday, Dec. 17th 10 am - 11; 11 am - noon; noon - 1 pm; 1 - 2 pm; 2 - 3 pm

To reserve a time slot either e-mail Jann Slayton at jwslayton1@gmail.com, call 715-297-9528 or look for sign-up sheet on the mission table in mid-November. Please include an e-mail address or a cell number that receives texts.



Can you help? Of course you can! But will you? Will you be a doorkeeper a few times a year? We know you can unlock doors, turn on lights and complete some simple tasks in the building but will you? Will you step up and help with this important task? We know you can contact the office and offer to help but will you? Will you stand up to help? Will you?

News of our Members

Please remember **Burton (Bud) Flagel** whose wife **Georgianna**, died Monday October 5, 2015. Please keep Bud and his family in your prayers.

Please remember the family of **Marie Pledger** in your prayers as Marie died Wednesday, October 7, 2015.

Congratulations to Tim and Alissa Burnett, big sister Emma and big brother Sawyer on the safe arrival of their son and brother **Flynn Brady Burnett** who was born October 7, 2015.

Last month we reported, in error, that Katie Berg was moving to Montana. We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused. It is **Kay Griffin** that has moved to Montana at the address we published. Our apologies to both of these ladies.

*If you have news items regarding your family and would like to share them, please let Kathy know by the Beam deadline. The office number is 715-842-2116 or email her at the address found on page one.
Thank you.*

From the Mission Team

The Friends Thanksgiving

Dinner is just around the corner--for the 46th year, the youth fellowship group and other volunteers will prepare and serve traditional Thanksgiving fare to many who might otherwise be alone or hungry on Thanksgiving. Deliveries begin at 11:00 a.m. Thanksgiving morning, with the sit-down meal at 1:00 p.m. Starting Monday, November 9, 2015, individuals can call 715-302-2832 between 3 p.m. and 6 p.m. to place a delivery reservation or volunteer. Prior to that, contact Tim Burnett 715-370-3226 or FriendsDinnerWausau@gmail.com regarding volunteering or any other questions.

The Mission Team "**Where Do You Fit In?**" Piece of the Mission Puzzle T-shirts are here! \$15 for adult sizes, \$10 for children's.

Small Group Activities

The Men's Study Group meets every Thursday morning at 8:30 am in room 201. All men are welcome.

Hops and The Heavens meets at Vino Latte in Wausau every first and third Monday at 5:30 pm.

Women's Study If you would like to be a part of this book study, "Stuck," please respond to Lindy Phelps at lindyphelps@gmail.com or 715-370-5881.

Thank you for your support of our **Food Pantry**. Your financial gifts are greatly appreciated. **Produce Sunday** for the Food Pantry will be **Nov. 15!** Bring your items to church: carrots, celery, broccoli, lettuce, squash, cauliflower, and other items easy to distribute.

FPC will provide a **meal** at the **Warming Center** twice a month, the first and third Friday of each month. Sign up at church.

FPC will provide lunch for a **Habitat for Humanity** work crew on **Saturday, Nov. 14**. If you can help with this or any other Mission work, **Mission Opportunities** are always available. To find your "**Piece of the Mission Puzzle**", contact Chuck Schlitz, Mission Team Moderator at cbschlitz@charter.net or 715-573-8565.

Creative Sewing Creative Sewing decided to continue making pillow case dresses. We would appreciate any **donations of good, useable pillow cases**. They may be brought to the church office. Contact Karen Martinson with questions.

MISSIONS

...Mission opportunities are always available. To find your "Piece of the Mission Puzzle", contact Chuck Schlitz, Mission Team Moderator.

SMALL GROUPS

Activities for the month of November

First Presbyterian November, 2015 Activities Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat.
1 Daylight Savings Time Ends *Sunday Schedule - All Saints Day Communion, No Sunday School Join us in the "Pumpkin Patch" in the Parlor following Worship	2 5:30 pm Hops and the Heavens 6:30 pm Women's Book Study	3 Noon "Soup's On" 1:00 pm Food Pantry 1:00 pm Staff Meeting 5:30 pm Worship Team 6:30 pm Pro Musica	4 ** Wednesday Schedule	5 8:30 am Men's Study Group 5:00 pm Mission Team 6:30 pm Deacons	6 Building closed all day 1:00 pm Pro Musica Rehearsal Fall Youth Camp at Pilgrim	7 Fall Youth Camp at Pilgrim
8 9:15 am Families at First Service *Sunday Schedule Harvest Table 11:10 am Adult Ed in Rm. 201	9	10 1:00 pm Staff Meeting	11 **Wednesday Schedule	12 8:30 am Men's Study Group 6:30 pm Discipleship Team	13 Building Closed All Day 1:00 pm Pro Musica Rehearsal	14 Presbytery Meeting in Appleton
15 *Sunday Schedule Commitment Sunday—All Pledge Cards Due 11:10 am Adult Ed in Rm. 201	16 BEAM Deadline 5:30 pm Hops and the Heavens 6:30 pm Women's Book Study	17 Noon "Soup's On" 1:00 pm Food Pantry 1:00 pm Staff Meeting 4:00 pm Support Team 6:30 pm Pro Musica	18 **Wednesday Schedule	19 8:30 am Men's Study Group 6:00 pm TIP (Fellowship Hall)	20 Building Closed All Day 1:00 pm Pro Musica Rehearsal	21
22 *Sunday Schedule St. Andrews Day Worship Celebration 11:10 am Adult Ed in Rm. 201	23	24 8:30 am BEAM Assembly 1:00 pm Staff Meeting 6:30 pm In-Focus 7:00 pm Session	25 8:00 pm Youth Lock-In No Wednesday Rehearsals	26 Thanksgiving Day Office Closed 1:00 pm Friends Thanksgiving Dinner	27 Building Closed All Day	28
29 * Sunday Schedule "Everybody" Choir Advent Celebration after Worship	30					31

*Sunday Schedule

10:00 am Worship & Sunday School
11:15 am Fellowship time in the Parlor
11:15 am Worship Troupe

4:00 pm Community Supper

** Wednesday Schedule

4:30 pm New Creation singers
6:00 pm Chancel Choir
7:30 pm Hand-bells Rehearsal

Office Hours:

Monday through Thursday, 9:00 am—3:00 pm
Closed on Friday

Support Team

The 2016 Stewardship Campaign has begun! You should have received your mailing, and we hope you've read the enclosed information and are prayerfully considering what you will give to support the mission of First Presbyterian Church.

Please return your pledge card as soon as you are able either by mail, dropping it off in the office or sealing it in an envelope and placing it in the offering plate. **Commitment Sunday** is November 15, and it will help our budgeting process to have all pledge cards returned on time.

Be sure to visit the "Pumpkin Patch" in the parlor after worship on Sunday, **November 1st**. There will be something pumpkin for everyone!

Update on Office Computers and Switch

We mentioned in the September Beam that we have been looking at updating the computers in the office as some still have the XP Operating System which is no longer supported by Microsoft. Our computers are slow and not an efficient use of our time (as well as frustrating).

The decision has been made to contract with **Cornerstone IT** for a three year lease on the equipment we currently need replaced. This will cover all maintenance, updates and security. The lease will enable us to return this equipment to Cornerstone in three years and if we choose to do so, sign another three year lease with them and all leased equipment will be replaced with new again. This process should be completed in the next few weeks.

November Birthdays

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1-Bethany Austin | 16-Nancy McLay, Abrielle Krumrie |
| 2-Ruth Dettinger, Jann Slayton | 17-Ken Mason |
| 3-Gail Smith, Shiloh Burgess, Lisa Riehle | 18-Ingrid Ingvalson |
| 5-Jeannie Bell | 19- Ashley Krasowski, Alec Sauer |
| 6-Ben Austin | 20-Bill Hall |
| 7-Ben Powell, Jacob Mohr, Nolan Mudler | 21-Jenny Reimer |
| 8-Marsha Alexander | 22-Sue Austin, Brook Shira |
| 9-Tom Green, Kay Lovell | 23-Paul Hsu, Polly Petroff |
| 11-Charles Olsen, Elinor Roseland | 24- Bob Gifford, Marcus Duberstein, Kaitlyn Kosterman |
| 12-Brandy Kosterman, Grace Mohr | 25-Pat Morse |
| 13-Polly Day, Scott Arambel, Carman Lombard | 28-John Allen, Lee Olbranta, Arianna Gierman |
| 15-Barbara Powell | 29-Carol Zastrow, Patrick Hertz |

SUPPORT TEAM

Month-to-Date

Income: \$ 11,638

Expenses: \$ 21,825

Year-To-Date

Income: \$309,888

Expenses: \$311,355

Per Capita (\$31.50)

Y-T-D \$5,287

If you haven't paid your per capita for 2015, please do so today. Thank you.

*Let happiness reach
your eyes,
enthusiasm reach
your smile,
and resilience reach the
temples of your face
every time
you look at someone.
May you pass on
your love and joy
to everyone around you.
Wishing you the best
birthday ever!*

From the Worship Team

November Worship at First Presbyterian will be exciting!

Many special themes and experiences for each Sunday.

November 1 – Our Remembrance Sunday, honoring those who have passed to eternal life in the past year.

November 8 – Handbells and Stewardship; Celebration of the Harvest.


November 15 – Commitment Sunday—the culmination of our Stewardship Drive.


November 22 – St. Andrew's Day celebrating our Scottish Heritage. Find your family tartan, or anything plaid to wear on that day! Jeff Todd will play the bagpipes. We will feature worship elements from the Scottish Psalter of old and the new worship materials coming to us from the Iona Community.


November 29 – First Sunday of Advent, with an all-church Advent Celebration following worship. Plan to stay for food and crafts and fun!

Also coming soon – **Tuesday, December 1: Decorating Party!** Join the Worship Team at 5:30 pm to help put up Christmas decorations all over the first floor of our church. Bring a snack to share. Drinks will be provided.

*** An apology from your organist: "On Sunday, Oct. 4, World Communion Sunday, I neglected to remind the congregation and the choir about this mystical sign, the *Repeat*

Sign:  In music, this means to repeat the section you just sang. In other words: Go back to the beginning and sing the section again. If there are different verses, sing the second set of words when you repeat.

OR: you may see two signs:  This means you repeat the section between the repeat

signs!  These markings are on the *music* line, not the text line, which makes it harder to find if you're not a music-reader. NEXT TIME I will remind you about this little musical trick before we start the service".

From the Deacons

Yes, Christmas is coming! Once again, the **Christmas Angel Project** has begun. If you know of a family who could use some support this Christmas, please let Rachel, Joy or a deacon know by November 8. Then we hope you will come to the parlor to select some gift choices on Nov. 15, 22 & 29, so you have time to shop. Wrap and return them by Dec. 6th. This is a big project and a very important one and we thank you for getting involved.

Looking Ahead...

December 6: 2:00 pm Communion service and fellowship time

Deacons are once again looking for small Christmas cookies by **December 8, 2015**. These are to be packaged and delivered to some of our members.

Minute for Mission presented on Sunday, October 25, 2015, by Will Hsu, with assistance from his wife Jenny and twin daughters Scarlett and Jocelyn (dressed as little pumpkins). Printed with permission.

Good morning. If you've recently opened your mailbox or mail you probably found a letter from me, Jenny and my pumpkin patch kids up here. As we officially kick-off our annual stewardship campaign, I have to give much of the credit to the very dedicated individuals whom I have had the honor of working with this past year to get us here, including all of you who have been diligently tilling the soil, weeding the fields and cultivating the gardens so that the church is where it is today. Now that we've reached the season where our leaders and volunteers have done all that they can to bring us to the cusp of harvest, we ask you, the members of our congregation, to help us bring in the crops that will feed all of us and more for the next year.

Ever since people have formed tribes, churches and communities to improve the social good of our societies, we have celebrated communal harvests. I cannot think of a major culture, ethnicity or race that does not have some sort of harvest celebration. For us as Taiwanese, it is the mid-Autumn Festival or 中秋節. For many of us as Americans, it is Thanksgiving. When I think about Thanksgiving, I think back to one of my earliest lessons about giving back and serving others through this church, which is the Friends' Dinner. And when I think back to the Friends' Dinner, I think about days and calories wasted drinking Mountain Dew with Mike North and midnight runs to Perkins where I witnessed Tim Sperduto eating an entire Pumpkin Pie.

So if you remember one thing about today's minute for mission, it's Pumpkin Pie. It's about each of us taking the time to reflect on the past year and decide what piece of pie we are going to set aside or save for ourselves later and what piece of pie we are going to consume now or share with others. This is what stewardship and giving is all about. I am asking each of us to go home, open up the refrigerator or pantry door, the checkbook or banking smart phone app and ask ourselves one of these questions:

- How bountiful is my harvest?
- How much do I need for myself and what can I offer to share with others?
- Why do I choose to give and in what form shall I give for the next year?

All gifts of time, money, service and talent are blessed by God; but perhaps the reason that an event such as the Friends' Dinner is so important to me and many of us here at First Presbyterian is because it exposes us to the grace of giving and has made giving part of our Christian identity. We have many of these types of events every day, every week and every year within this church and within the greater Wausau community. These events don't happen without the sacrifice of time, money, service and talent from every corner of the congregation. I know that I look at my own position in life and my ability to give differently now after having the experience of volunteering, serving, worshipping and giving back through the church. And I am hopeful that my twin pumpkins here will have the same opportunity to grow up, learn to love and serve God for many years to come thanks to your gifts over the years and our gifts this upcoming year. So I ask all of you to remember pumpkin pie and think about how big of a slice you can choose to share with us this year. I, my family and the church are thankful for each of your gifts.

Discipleship Team—Christian Education

With the new directory, we have found out that many phone numbers have changed, addresses [both snail mail and email] are different, and some of you have found other churches. The Membership working group wants to make the church online directory current and also find out what interests our members have. We have enclosed a copy of the **questionnaire** that was available at the Ministry Fair in September. We hope that all members will complete the enclosed form and return it to the church office at your earliest convenience. Thank you.

The **Discipleship Team** is looking for folks who would like to help out for short term projects, i.e., helping set up for a meal, helping clean up, contacting folks by phone, helping with a fellowship

Christian Education News

FAF Returns Sunday, November 8th! Join us on Sunday, November 8 at 9:15 a.m. in the chapel for our third kid-friendly worship service. For a half hour each month families with children are encouraged to joyfully worship God together through the sharing of Biblical stories, songs, communion and age-appropriate liturgy. Kids of all ages are welcome.

All Members and Friends are invited to a church wide **Advent celebration on Sunday, November 29th.** Join us for food, music, crafts and fellowship.

activity along with several other opportunities. If there is a way you can help, please contact Judy North, 715-845-3613 or dvjdnrth@mac.com.

Sunday Adult Education: For the first four Sundays in November [1, 8, 15 and 22] there will be a study of the **Book of Ruth** led by Pastor Rachel and Connie Peckham. The group will meet in Room 201 at 11:15 AM and conclude at noon. Childcare will be available in the nursery if requested. Please notify the church office at 715-842-2116 so we know how many children to expect.

Beginning on November 29th, there will be an **Advent Study** led by Marilyn Paulson and Pastor Rachel. It will meet the 4 Sundays of Advent in Room 210 following worship.

Activities available for toddlers, youth, and adults alike. This will be a time to renew your Advent traditions or to learn a new one. Sunday School classes will not meet this Sunday.

Save The Date! December 13 is our Children/Youth Christmas Program, "Preparing for Jesus". Watch for rehearsal dates and times.

December 13- Dew Inspiration Group, White Elephant exchange after worship.

Discipleship Team

The Discipleship Team is looking for folks who would like to help out for short term projects...

Christian Education

FAF Returns Sunday, November 8th!

...worship God together through the sharing of Biblical stories, songs, communion and age-appropriate liturgy.

HELP! We need some bodies! **HELP!** Not just any body! **HELP!** You know we need someone . . . for **HOSPITALITY TEAMS!** In 2016 we are attempting to have six teams of 4-5 members. Each team will be "on duty" 9 times during the year. We are also "beefing up" the substitute list - when a team member cannot be present we ask them to secure a sub.

So what does the hospitality team do? These are the friendly greeters who give you a bulletin and answer questions each Sunday; they also take the offering and serve juice, coffee and simple treats in the parlor after worship. This is great opportunity to meet people!

Another opportunity next year will be for anyone in the congregation to provide a simple treat after worship on the first Sunday of the month. There will be a sign up sheet outside the parlor . . . hospitality teams will not provide the first Sunday of the month treats. . . but YOU can! Call (715-212-1937), email (jslayton@charter.net) or talk with Jann Slayton to volunteer to be on a HOSPITALITY TEAM, be a substitute, or offer to provide a first Sunday treat! Thank you!!

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Non Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Wausau, WI
Permit No. 492

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
406 GRANT ST
WAUSAU WI 54403

The Beam