



**FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**

Presbyterian Church
(U.S.A.)

406 Grant Street
Wausau, WI 54403-4788

715-842-2116
www.firstpreswausau.org
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Staff

Senior Pastor/Head of Staff
Rachel A. Wann
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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 Pastor Rachel

Lately I have been thinking about worship. What is it? Why do we do it? Before reading any further, take a moment to consider how you would answer these two questions.

No really. Go ahead and answer them. I'll wait.....

These may seem to be rather basic questions. Perhaps even a bit silly. I can hear some of you shaking your heads and thinking, "Really, Pastor! It's what we do on Sunday morning, and we do it because we've always done it, and it's what we are supposed to do." Others of you might answer something like this, "The faithful people of God gather together as a community on a regular basis to worship (show reverence to) God." You're the ones who paid attention in confirmation class or have actually read the Book of Order.

But I want to break down those questions even further. What is worship? What does it mean to worship someone or something? Some synonyms of the verb form include idolize, glorify, exalt, venerate, honor, revere. To worship someone is to hold that person in high regard, to believe that that someone is "worthy" of being worshipped.

For example, if we look at what it means "to worship someone" outside the context of Christian worship, it may be that we hold a specific person in high regard – such as a figure in history, a sports legend, a scientist or writer or musician. A person has accomplished such a high level of achievement that we revere that person more than others. The person holds a special place in our esteem. We praise that person. We value who they are and what they do. We want to learn more about them. We collect things that symbolize their greatness. We want to convince others of their worth. We strive to follow in their footsteps as they inspire us to achieve certain goals.

You have no doubt heard the phrases "hero worship" or "he/she worships the ground they walk on." Worship impacts our thoughts, our feelings, our motivations, our actions.

On Sunday mornings, we gather together as a faithful community to worship God. Given this expanded understanding of what it means to worship someone, how might our lives be different if we were to worship God for more than just an hour on a Sunday morning?

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This and That...

The 222nd General Assembly of the PCUSA was held in Portland, OR in June. Marilyn Paulson had the humble honor to have been elected to serve as the Ruling Elder Commissioner from Winnebago Presbytery. The GA theme, "Hope is in Our Calling", was clearly felt throughout the 9 days of meetings and worship. 594 commissioners and 183 young adult and other delegates had voice and vote on a myriad of issues that will move the 1.5 million member PCUSA forward in our communities, states, country and the world for the next two years and beyond. We made history with elections of new leadership, and inclusion of the Belhar Confession in the Book of Confessions. Policies were set as were avenues of justice and reconciliation with our marginalized sisters and brothers worldwide. GA tackled resolutions on a way forward in light of realities facing the Church, and it began to vision who Presbyterians are and who they will become moving further into the 21st century. Several of the recommendations will involve FPC's own discipleship/education, worship, mission, and support/personnel teams, and some will involve those of us in the pews. Studies, resources, and conversations are forthcoming so each member can speak to and understand the new direction and purpose of this amazing denomination. A brief outline of some of the key GA happenings can be found at www.pcusa.org/resource/assembly-brief-222nd-general-assembly-2016/.



Stay tuned!



Thanks to the congregation for their help moving chairs from the chapel to the sanctuary after worship on Sunday, the 17th. Many hands make light work and your many hands really made a difference!

Thank you to all who have prepared, set-up, served and cleaned up for the many services of late. Your time and talents are greatly appreciated.

News of our Members

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 use her email address on the front page .

Our thoughts and prayers are with Ruth Dettinger and her family as Glenn died on June 29. The Memorial Service was held at the church on Friday, July 16, 2016. Please keep Ruth and the family in your prayers.

Our prayers and sympathies go out to Jan Felker and her family, as Bob died July 11, 2016. His Memorial Service was held at the church on Monday, July 18, 2016. Jan will be moving to the Minneapolis area in the near future to be near family. Contact the church office for her new address. Please keep Jan and her family in your prayers through this time of loss and transition.

Elaine Hertz died on July 20, 2016. Our sympathy and prayers go out to the family. A memorial service was held at the church, July 28. Please keep her family in your prayers as well.

Our sympathies and prayers are with Dee Davis and her family as her mother died July 4, 2016. She lived in the Two Rivers area.

Discipleship Team—Christian Education

It is with regret that the Discipleship accepted the resignation of Lisa Riehle, our former Sunday School and Youth-to-Eighth Grade Coordinator. This was effective June 30, 2016.

We wish to say thank you to Lisa for her work here with the youth and the Discipleship Team since August of 2012.

We have hired a new Sunday School and Nursery Coordinator. Andrea Ingvalson has accepted this part-time position. And will begin her work soon. Welcome Andrea!



We hope that you will prayerfully consider volunteering to teach in the Church School program.

Join Them at the Fair!

Every year for the past 97 years, First English Lutheran Church has hosted a Food Stand at the Wisconsin Valley Fair. As Fair time rolls around again this year, they would like to invite their brothers and sisters from area congregations to visit the First English Fair Stand for all of their Fair Food needs. They are located outside the North entrance of the Exhibition Building. Every day they offer breakfast, fast food and full lunches & dinners. New this year - Chocolate Covered Bacon! They are "The Home of the \$1.00 Hotdog!"

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 will not meet over the summer months.

Discipleship Team

You can help!

Volunteers needed for the nursery.

Teachers are needed for our Sunday School Program.

Will you help?

SMALL GROUPS

Activities for the month of



From the Worship Team

Two weeks before the Beam comes out, we are busy writing articles to keep you informed about church life. Today it is mid-July and your Music Director is still in vacation mode. She is successfully ignoring all the mailings with new music for Christmas. Don't want to think about Christmas when it's hot and humid! Nor do we want to think about back-to-school and fall plans, but yet they are on the horizon.

Many of our committees or work teams do not meet in July, just to offer us a rest. We hope our worshippers have enjoyed the change to the Chapel, where we feel closer and more casual while still worshipping according to the Book of Order. We are thankful for the musicians who have stepped up to enhance our hour together with their own special talents.

Susan will be attending the St. Olaf College Conference on Worship, Theology and the Arts in July, a time for renewal during worship, discussion with experts and leaders, and participation in musical groups. She'll also check out the music vendors and find some new things for us to use in the coming year.

As mentioned last month, worship may look a little different in the fall, too. We will have the children with us a little longer in worship, so that they can hear the Scripture readings, the anthem, and the sermon. The children's area of the Sanctuary will be expanded, in order to provide a welcome and flexible space with resources needed for their own particular attention spans. You may see more involvement by our elementary and youth students when they transfer what they learned during FAF (Families at First) services last year to the Sanctuary. We will be engaging Presbyterians of any age in the act of our worship together.

Summer and the lead-in to fall is also a time when changes are happening. We say good-bye to old friends: through the deaths of some of our dear members, or those moving away like Laura Mackey and the Burnett family. Summer is also a time when incoming people are looking for a church home. If you see someone new, show them our great First Presbyterian hospitality! We're known for being friendly. Who knows? The person you greet may be our next dear friend or member!

The Deacons

August 2016 starts the **Deacon School Bus Ministry**. We will be collecting in the yellow school bus supplies for elementary students - items such as pencils, notebooks or note paper of any kind, crayons, magic markers and any imagined school supply for elementary school kids. Our school of support is Franklin Elementary School on the corner of Bridge Street and Fifth Street.

Many thanks for your support! The Deacons will be delivering the donated supplies about one and a half weeks after school starts. Let's load up the school bus for our neighborhood kids!!

A new program has been started for our seniors. The Faith in Action of Marathon County has launched a "**Senior Home Safety Program**" to help seniors over 60 years live safely in their homes. Seniors can get grab-bars or hand-railings in their homes. Hopefully, these bars and railings will reduce falls that result in injuries. These items will be installed at no charge for the homeowner. To get more information on this special offer, please call 715 -848-8783, the Faith in Action of Marathon County office number or call Kingsley Forbes, Deacon

**From the Mission Team****Congestive Heart Failure**

Congestive Heart Failure (CHF) is a condition where your heart does not pump as well as it should. This causes blood and fluid to back up into the lungs and throughout the body. People with CHF can develop fatigue, decreased appetite, shortness of breath, abdominal bloating, and swelling in the legs and feet. There are many causes of CHF, including heart attack, heart valve disease, infection of the heart, lung disease, and high blood pressure. CHF is a chronic condition, meaning there is no cure, but symptoms can be controlled with medications and lifestyle changes. People with CHF need to limit the amount of fluid they drink and the amount of salt (sodium) they eat. Exercise, managing stress, and avoiding smoking and alcohol are also important. Weighing yourself daily is important. You should let your doctor know if you gain 3 pounds in 1 day or 5 pounds in a week. Following your doctor's orders and letting them know when you're having symptoms is the best way to manage your CHF. Please call your doctor with any concerns.

Jeff Todd heads to Colombia!

The time for Jeff Todd to head to Colombia is here. Keep Jeff in your prayers as he accompanies pastors in the Uraba Presbytery in a ministry of

Homelessness

Homelessness has not taken a back seat yet with summer. The Catholic Charities Warming Shelter will reopen November 1st, but Marilyn Paulson will be seeking willing volunteers beginning later this month to serve on a team twice a month. In addition, for the coming season, we'd like to include providing a meal on the same nights as our team works, and would ask those who prepare the meals to add a couple hours to serve the meals as well. On July 31st the semi-annual Point-in-time count will be held to help determine the needs for shelter. Good news from Catholic Charities is that several guests from last season have been housed. But there is much more to be done.

A note of thanks from Jeff Todd:

"I have been deeply moved by the congregation's outpouring of support for my Colombia Mission trip. I am so gratified by your well-wishes, prayers and contributions to the Missionary Zeal Fund. I will truly be representing our entire church family in my accompaniment of our brothers and sisters in Urabá. God bless all of you."

Jeffrey Todd

presence and support. See his thank you above for making this trip possible as part of the PCUSA Colombia Accompaniment Program.

MISSION

Check out the article from our new Health Team on CHF.



Muchas Gracias!

First Presbyterian Church August, 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat.
0	1 **	2 ** 10:00 am Staff Meeting Noon "Soup's On" 1:00 pm Food Pantry 5:30 pm Worship Team	3 **	4 ** 8:30 am Men's Group 5:00 pm Mission Team	5 Building Closed	6
7 *Sunday Schedule	8 **	9 ** 10:00 am Staff Meeting	10 **	11 ** 8:30 am Men's Group 6:00 pm Discipleship Team	12 Building Closed	13
14 *Sunday Schedule 12:30-3:00 pm The Penguin Project meets in the Fellowship Hall	15 **	16 ** 10:00 am Staff Meeting Noon "Soup's On" 1:00 pm Food Pantry 4:00 pm Support Team	17 **	18 ** 8:30 am Men's Group	19 Building Closed	20
21 *Sunday Schedule	22 ** Noon—BEAM Deadline	23 ** 10:00 am Staff Meeting 6:30 pm In-Focus m 7:00 pm Session	24 **	25 ** 8:30 am Men's Group	26 Building Closed 4:00 pm Wedding Rehearsal	27 1:30 pm Belton/ Lundberg Wedding
28 *Sunday Schedule	29 **	30 ** 10:00 am Staff Meeting	31 ** 10:00 am BEAM Assembly and Mailing			
*Sunday Schedule 10:00 am Worship 11:15 am Fellowship time in the Parlor 4:00 pm Community Supper				Office Hours: Monday through Thursday, 9:00 am—3:00 pm Closed on Friday		

The Beam

August, 2016

Page 5

Support Team

Summer seems to be in such a hurry! Goodness! This is the August Beam! And we all know what comes after August and it's not just September! Kids go back to school, the Packers play, (YEA!) the weather begins to change, the programs gear up for the fall and the teams have the joy of preparing their 2017 Budget. And joyful they should be! Our financials are in good shape. But that doesn't just happen. It takes careful planning on the part of the teams and your Session but most of all, it takes love for your church and your generosity in giving of your time as well as your treasures.

As you enjoy the final 6+ weeks of summer, look around you and soak in all the blessings God has given us. He created this awesome world with all its beauty just for us to enjoy. Remember those days on the lake, the incredible sunsets, the time away enjoying other parts of our great country, time with family and friends, cold watermelon, fresh strawberries and raspberries, garden fresh veggies, burgers and brats on the grill, the list goes on and on...we have been given much!

As you meditate on all your blessings, you have the opportunity to be actively involved with supporting your church and it's programs through the church's giving campaign. Start planning now on how you can be a blessing this fall.

All Teams: The Support Team needs your proposed 2017 budget by **September 15**. Please get it in to Kathy by the 15th so packets can be prepared for the 9/20 Support Team meeting. Thank you.

August Birthdays

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| 03-Les Brenton | 18-Bitsy Hoffmann |
| 03-Julie sorenson | 18-Luke Zinkowich |
| 03-Jennifer Schmitt | 19-Shirley Strasser |
| 03-Laura MacKey | 21-Diane Ehrhardt |
| 04-Gloria Beighley | 21-Katherine Crabtree |
| 05-Stephen Rhyner | 22-Cheryl Davis |
| 05-J. Spencer Evans | 23-Ken Day |
| 07-Shannon Arambel | 25-Lavon Gifford |
| 08-Sarah Culver | 28-Robert Kluever |
| 08-Kevin Ingvalson | 29-Chloe Schmidt |
| 09-Angela Kettner | 29-Aaron Hsu |
| 10-Jon Fox | 30-Christine Coscio |
| 13-Katie Sauer | 30-Parker Schmitt |
| 15-Betty Osswald | 31-Susanne Kettner |
| 16-Bob Morange | |

Support Team

Revenue Y-T-D:
\$253,495

Expenses Y-T-D:
\$223,456



Happy Birthday