

**FIRST  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH**  
Presbyterian Church  
(U.S.A.)

406 Grant Street  
Wausau, WI 54403-4788

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www.firstpreswausau.org  
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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**

*In lieu of my normal post, this month I want to highlight some special events coming up in the next few weeks.*

**New Baptismal Font** – The family of former pastor Dr. Stephen Hamilton Wright has commissioned the creation of a new font for our sanctuary. Using funds donated in Stephen's memory, the glass bowl was fashioned by an artist in Texas, and the pedestal was crafted by First Presbyterian member George Houghton. Designed to blend the historic feel of our church with a touch of modernity, this baptismal font will be a beautiful and meaningful addition to our worship space. The new font will be dedicated on **Pentecost Sunday, May 15** during our 10:00 am worship.

**Book Study Starting** – Continuing our current worship theme of the Season of Creation, on **May 4 at 4:30 pm** we will begin reading a short book entitled *Green Church* by Rebekah Simon-Peter. The author is a Methodist Pastor with a degree in environmental studies. This book will challenge us as a church and as individuals to discern ways in which our actions can have a more positive impact on the earth. The book study will occur each Wednesday in May in the church parlor with an option of going out to dinner together following the study. Contact the church office if you plan to attend. Books are available for \$5.

**Downtown Open House** – On Saturday, **May 14 from 10 until 5**, our church will be part of the River District's Downtown Open House. On this date, several of the older historic downtown businesses and churches will be open for the public to tour. The tour will focus on architecture, the sanctuary and stained glass windows, the organ, and our historic mission in the community. We need volunteers for this event. Please let us know of your availability to assist with this event. No experience required, just a willingness to help.

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**The Beam**  
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
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WAUSAU WI 54403

***This and That...***

Our church will be participating in the city wide **Green Saturday** again this year on **Saturday, May 21st** from 9:00am until 1:00pm. Please notice the posters at church and throughout town for participating churches and organizations. We will again be selling **Hsu's leaf compost and potting soil** or you can pre-order the two prior Sundays, May 8th and May 15th, in the parlor after worship service. If you would like to donate any perennials, used garden tools, hanging baskets and annuals please contact Jim Slayton at 715-297-9528 or [jwslyton1@gmail.com](mailto:jwslyton1@gmail.com). Donations can be dropped off at church on Friday, May 20th from 8:00am until noon. There will be empty pots for perennials available in the back entrance in late April until the day of the sale. This is a wonderful fundraiser for our mission team and food ministries.

Dear Friends,

As many of you know, I was privileged to be a part of the Colombia Accompaniment Program class at Stoney Point Retreat in New York earlier this year. Stoney Point and the Presbyterian Peace Fellowship (PPF) which sponsors the Accompaniment Program, are ministries of the PC(USA). Following the discernment process I have concluded I am being called to continue the journey. I have accepted an assignment to Colombia as an accompanier for the month of August as part of a two person team. Our role is to walk beside our Presbyterian brothers and sisters as they do important work for peace, justice and the reconciliation of their country.

I have been recognized by the PC(USA) as a credentialed mission worker. I am accountable for raising all the funds necessary for the trip, including airfare, room and board, transportation incountry and incidentals. The PPF estimates I will need to raise approximately \$2,500 to cover expenses. The Session of FPC and the Winnebago Presbytery have endorsed my mission work and FPC has set up a fund for this purpose. I deeply appreciate their support. Now I look to my friends and colleagues to consider a donation, large or small, to help support this mission trip. Checks can be made to FPC with Missionary Zeal on the memo line. If you are unable to give, I ask for your prayers for peace and justice for Colombia. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact me. Dios te bendiga. Jeffrey Todd

***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 the email address on the front page .*

Happy Birthday to **Jean Corbin** who celebrated her 90th birthday this month. Her family honored her with a cake in the Parlor after worship on Sunday, April 24.

A very special **thank you** to all those who have agreed to serve as elder or deacon for the 2017-2019 term. Elders: **Julie Sorenson** to fill a one-year term; **Mary Anderson** to fill a two-year term; **Cheryl Davis, Marilyn Indermuehle, Kristin Janis and Laura Mackey**, three-year terms. Deacons: **Katherine Crabtree, Mary Ellen Martin, Nick Smith and Ann Wicklund** for three-year terms. Nominating Committee: **Mary Aughenbaugh, Andy Bethel, Jen Faust and Sandy DeSciscio**. These people were approved at the April 24 Congregational Meeting.

Former Pastor **Ray Kiely's wife Martha**, died this past March. Former **Pastor Tom York's mother** passed away earlier this month. Please keep both of these families in your thoughts and prayers.

***Discipleship Team—Christian Education***

**Camp Scholarships are available** for Pilgrim Center and Moon Beach. All types of camps are offered-Family Camp, Camp Awesome (for children & their families on the Autism spectrum), Grandparent and Me, Mom and Me, Sail and Me, Pilgrim Con/Story (Superheroes), MADD (Music, Art, Dance and Drama) Culinary Arts, Create, Innovate and Build (Lego Camp) and Mission Camp. Each camp includes a Biblically based study. Our church offers one scholarship per camper per summer season. Additional scholarships are available through Winnebago Presbytery. Please contact Judy North for more scholarship information. Further details can be found at [www.ucci.org](http://www.ucci.org). Youth camps are located in cabins with a central heated bath house. Adult and

***Christian Education News***

**Sunday School Calendar At Glance...** Sunday school will be held May 1, May 8 and May 15. Be on the look out for summer opportunities for your children as they may be announced in our July/August Beam newsletter.

Our end of the year **Sunday School celebration** will be during our normal Sunday school time on May 15th! We will have a great time as we celebrate God's love and care for us during this past Sunday School year.

Our **Nursery** will continue and be offered this summer. We will have our nursery care provider, Sara Berg on hand most Sundays in June, July and August. If you are a regular nursery care worker and would be willing to

Me camps are located in Oak Mound Lodge with AC and baths attached to room. Dietary and allergy needs are accommodated. "The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." John 3:8

**The Discipleship Team is pleased to offer a Higher Education Scholarship opportunity** to First Presbyterian Church members who are engaged in a post-high program of higher education. Please fill out an application which is available in the church office. Applications must be returned to the church office no later than May 15. All scholarships will be awarded no later than July 15, 2016, based on income of the fund and number of applicants.

lend a hand a Sunday or two over the summer please contact Lisa Riehle at [liehle.christian.education@gmail.com](mailto:liehle.christian.education@gmail.com).

**A Big Thank You!** Our Sunday school program was and is made possible by many of our members here at our church. Thank you to all who had input into the program or volunteered your time in the Discipleship Team, Sunday school or nursery. All you have helped to enrich our children's lives with God's presence through His words. We look forward to your continued service in our Sunday school program in the fall.

Our last **FAF (Families at First)** for the school year will be held Sunday, May 1st at 9:15 am in the chapel. FAF is a family friendly worship service involving children in song, liturgy, communion and fellowship! We will have the summer off and will resume September, 2016.

**Discipleship Team**

**DEW Inspirations Youth Group** will meet one last time for this school year on Sunday, May 1st, after worship from 11:30 am to ? pm. At that time youth will share a meal, plan for the 2016/2017 year, and work on their mission project, assembling the items donated by the church for Hygiene kits for Church World Services. A big Thank YOU to all who contributed items needed for the hygiene kits.

## From the Worship Team

Our worship life at First Presbyterian is rich and full, and continues each week regardless of weather, illnesses or opening day of fishing season. Here are a few things to be ready for in May:

**FAF – Families at First** – will meet on **Sunday, May 1 at 9:15 in the Chapel**. This service is geared to families and has brought our younger members together, but the sense of community is open to anyone!

**Season of Creation:** We are in the midst of our worship series, the Season of Creation. On May 1, we will explore God’s love and care for us through Storms, and on May 8, we will celebrate God’s work in the Cosmos. The Handbell Choir will be playing their favorite piece, “Canticle” and we may even hear from our new brass group, the Brassbyterians.

The **Wausau Lyric Choir** will present its spring concert “*Blessed Are the Peacemakers*” in our Sanctuary on **Saturday, April 30** at 7:30 pm and again on **Sunday, May 1** at 3:00 pm. You’ll want to hear this program of peaceful, affirming and comforting music for voices. Admission is free, but donations are greatly appreciated. Presbyterians Ginny Sauer, Jason Zell and Susan Schaefer sing in this choir, which is directed by Carla Dul.

**Wausau Pro Musica** presents its spring concert “*Spring Joy*” on Friday evening, May 6 at 7:30 pm. The Wausau Area Youth Symphony will accompany them on choral favorite *Gloria*, by Vivaldi. This will be the last concert with conductor Shelly Bitner, so plan to attend. Tickets are \$12, or \$10 for students and seniors; available at the door.

Between our own concerts and these visiting groups, we are offering four concerts over three weekends! Just put in a permanent order at your favorite fish-fry place, and eat early so you can enjoy all of these special opportunities!

**Thank you to all our FPC musicians!** As the school year and church’s program year comes to an end, we want to thank all of our musicians for leading us for the past nine months. Our choirs spend many hours to bring good music to each worship service. A special thank you to our youth in Worship Troupe and New Creation Singers, who often appeared with only half of their group in attendance as sickness and absences often diminish our forces. When you see any of our choir members, be sure to thank them in person.

**Children’s Music Open House, Sunday May 15.** Immediately following worship on Sunday, May 15, families with children age 4 through 8<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to the **Third Floor Choir Room** for an Open House. We will explore the activities and instruments used with New Creation Singers and Worship Troupe. We hope this will familiarize children with their role as worship leaders when we start up our music in the fall. Please join us!

## The Deacons



### Save the Date!

Spring is here and it will soon be time to picnic with our church family. Please put June 12 on your calendar. Join us for worship at 10:00 am followed by picnic lunch, fun and fellowship at Riverside Park, 100 Sherman Street, Wausau. We will cross our fingers for nice weather.

The Board of Deacons will provide the lunch and paper products. This is our thank you to you for all of your support to our missions.



## From the Mission Team

The **Pentecost Offering** helps the church encourage, develop, and support its young people, and also address the needs of at-risk children. **40%** of the Pentecost offering will be retained by **FPC** to make an impact in the lives of young people within our own community. Locally the 40% will be given to the **new justice initiative at the Wausau Conservatory** that uses music to help at-risk kids get back on track. The remaining 60% is used to support ministries of the Presbyterian Mission Agency: Young Adult Volunteers, ministries for Youth, Children-at-Risk. Our Pentecost offering will be taken on May 15.

The Mission Team hopes that we are able to **help you** find an opportunity to use your gifts in ways you may not have realized were available for you.

**Mission Opportunities** are always available. To find your “**Piece of the Mission Puzzle**”, contact Chuck Schlitz, Mission Team [cschlitz@charter.net](mailto:cschlitz@charter.net) or 715-573-8565.

**Catholic Charities Warming Shelter** closes April 30. It reopens November 1. As of March 31, the shelter provided 2,596 hours of shelter

## Small Group Activities

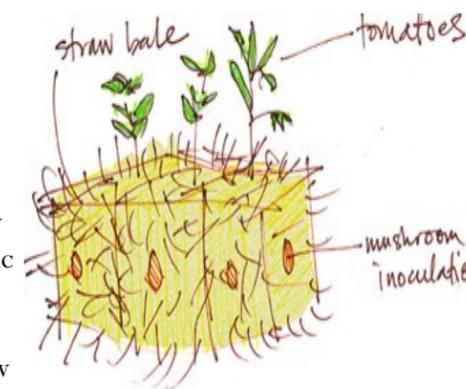
**The Men’s Study Group** meets every Thursday morning at 8:30 am in room 201. All men are welcome.

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

to 131 homeless people (23 women, 108 men). 7 clients were assisted in getting housing. What happens to these neighbors of ours between April and November? They will be back on the streets, living out of vehicles, under bridges, and in other nooks and crannies throughout the city. Some may succeed in finding jobs or housing, but a great many will be back in November. There is much more to be done. Remember them.

**Thank you** to all who have provided a meal, volunteered, or donated items for the **Wausau Community Warming Center**.

**Garden Time...time** for getting our raised beds on the south side of the building prepped and ready. This year you will also note a new growing medium—**Straw bales**. We’ve got ten of them ready to go out once the weather warms up a bit. It will take about two weeks to get them properly “cooking” or decomposing with organic fertilizer, and ready to accept seedlings. No soil or weeding needed, just regular watering and you can grow about anything. Straw bale gardening has been around for years, but it has grown in popularity lately. If you’d like to help out with the garden, contact Jim Slayton at 715-297-9528 or



**MISSIONS**  
*40% of the Pentecost offering will be retained by FPC to make an impact in the lives of young people within our own community.*

## SMALL GROUPS

*Activities for the month of May*

**Creative Sewing** The Creative Sewing group met for the last time this school year. We made 51 pillow case dresses and 19 pairs of polar fleece mittens. The mittens are for the Head Start program and the dresses are probably going to Nicaragua. See you in September.

# First Presbyterian Church May, 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat.	
1 9:15 am Families at First (FAF) *Sunday Schedule 11:30 am DEW Youth Group 3:00 pm Lyric Choir Concert	2 5:30 pm Hops and the Heavens	3 Noon Soup's On 1:00 pm Food Pantry 1:00 pm Staff Meeting 5:30 pm Worship Team	4 4:30pm Book Study 6:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7:00 pm Handbells	5 8:30 am Men's Study Group 4:30 pm Mission Team Pro Musica Dress Rehearsal	6 Building Closed All Day 7:30 pm Pro Musica Concert	7 Open House, Main Street USA 9:00 am Officer Training	
8 Mother's Day *Sunday Schedule Brassbyterians	9	10 1:00 pm Staff Meeting	11 4:30pm Book Study 6:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7:00 pm Handbells	12 8:30 am Men's Study Group 6:00 pm Discipleship Team	13 Building Closed All Day	14 10:00 am Open House, Main Street USA 9:00 am Officer Training	
15 Pentecost Worship; Communion; Dedication of Font Final Sunday School Classes 11:15 am Children's Choir Open House	16 Noon-May BEAM Deadline 5:30 pm Hops and the Heavens	17 Noon Soup's On 1:00 pm Food Pantry 1:00 pm Staff Meeting 4:00 pm Support Team	18 4:30 pm Book Study 6:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal	19 8:30 am Men's Study Group 5:00 pm Deacons Dinner	20 Building Closed All Day 8:00 am-Noon Drop off plants for plant sale	21 9:00 am Green Saturday Plant Sale	
22 *Sunday Schedule/No Sunday School Classes Ordination and Installation of New Officers	23 4:00 pm Personnel Comm.	24 1:00 pm Staff Meeting 6:30 pm In-Focus 7:00 pm Session	25 10:00 am BEAM Assembly 4:30 pm Book Study	26 8:30 am Men's Study Group	27	28	
29 *Sunday Schedule/No Sunday School Classes	30 Memorial Day Building Closed All Day	31					
<b>*Sunday Schedule</b> 10:00 am Worship & Sunday School 4:00 pm Community Supper 11:15 am Fellowship time in the Parlor 11:15 am Worship Troupe							<b>Office Hours:</b> Monday through Thursday, 9:00 am—3:00 pm Closed on Friday

## The Beam

May, 2016

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### Support Team

We are excited to have a new group using our lower level fellowship hall starting in July and going through September. The group is called the Penguin Project and it is part of the Central Wisconsin Children's Theatre. The cast members of the Penguin Project are all special needs children/young people. They will be practicing for their performance at the Grant Theatre in October called "Suessology" which uses a number of the Dr. Suess songs.

We are happy to be considered a sponsor of this group now and look forward to the exposure FPC will get from the cast, parents and others involved in the practice as well as being noted when they have their performance at the Grand.

The Property Committee continues to make repairs in and around the building. They will be shifting their focus to the grounds soon and hope to have many from the congregation help with raking and cleaning up the yard. There is always much to be done and your help is appreciated. If you see some trash just waiting to be picked up whether inside or outside, please lend a hand. If we all tidy up after ourselves, it makes everyone's job a bit easier. Thank you.

Additional painting, door locks re-done, doors refurbished and sidewalk repairs are some of the upcoming projects you'll see done. It will be a busy summer!

### May Birthdays

- |                                    |                                   |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 2-Phyllis Henry                    | 21-Robb Stengl                    |
| 3-Ellie Lanigan, David             | 22-Mason Vliestra                 |
| Aughenbaugh, Annette Jelen,        | 23-George Houghton III,           |
| Dannielle Freitag, Emma            | Marilyn Paulson                   |
| Lombard                            | 25-Brenda Davis, Sandy DeSciscio, |
| 4-Bill Zastrow, Katie Spanagler    | Danielle Gierman                  |
| 6-Rachel Klemp-North               | 26-Jeff Todd                      |
| 7-Hali Schmidt, Jackson Culver     | 28-Jeanne Smith, Virginia         |
| 9-Renata Sittler, Melissa McCarthy | Heinemann, Jane Kluever           |
| 12- Greta Spangler                 | 29-Brian Buege                    |
| 13-Tammy Johnkoski, Holly Bueno    | 30-Lorrie Hansen                  |
| 14-John Johnkoski                  |                                   |
| 15-Patricia Olsen, Sherry Schmidt  |                                   |
| Dylan Tackes Wright                |                                   |
| 16-Bob Felker, Mary Sperduto       |                                   |
| 18-Suzanne Hinterberg,             |                                   |
| 19-Terry Schultz, Eric Simonson    |                                   |

### Support Team

Revenue Y-T-D

\$150,760

Expenses Y-T-D

\$129,069

Per Capita: \$ 4,406

Thanks to all who have paid their Per Capita for 2016. This year's apportionment is \$31.60 and is due now.

Thank you.

