Holy Week

Welcome Spring! Welcome new life! Easter Flowers

The trees and flowers have begun to bud.

WAUSAU WI 54403

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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

406 GRANT ST

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<u>Staff</u>

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OFFICE HOURS

MONDAY—THURSDAY 9:00 A.M.-3:00 P.M.

WORSHIP

SUNDAY 10:00 A.M.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

406 Grant Street Wausau, WI 54403-4788

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Senior Pastor/Head of Staff

Joy M. Nelson-Jeffers JoyMNJ@outlook.com



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

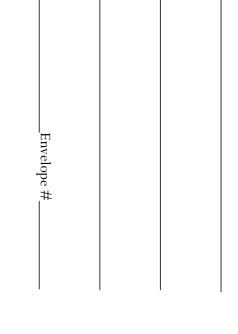
My first experience of a Tenebrae Service of worship was at Second Presbyterian in Indianapolis around the year 2000. This "service of shadows" was held on Maundy Thursday of Holy Week. I had never before attended a worship service quite like it, and I remember feeling swept up into the drama and intensity of it. The impact was profound, and I experienced the events of the Passion Story of Jesus Christ unlike ever before.

What made this service so unique, I wondered? The combination of the dramatic reading of scripture, the visual impact of a darkening sanctuary as candles and lights were extinguished, the back and forth movement between the spoken word and song, the texture and taste of bread and cup, and, of course, the subject matter itself - the betrayal, arrest, trial, torture, and crucifixion of Jesus all provided a multi-sensory experience that brought me into the events of the story rather than simply witnessing it from the safety of the periphery.

Even after the conclusion of the service, the powerful emotion that had been stirred within me lingered. I felt a deep experience of the tragedy of Holy Week, which made the joy and celebration of Easter Sunday that much more powerful.

As Holy Week approaches, I strongly encourage you to participate in one or more of the offerings available - the ecumenical Stations of the Cross on Monday, the dinner and communion service on Maundy Thursday, and the Good Friday Worship service. While each worship experience will be different, any of them will assist in drawing you closer to our Lord in those final dark hours leading up to his death before the brilliant dawn of resurrection.

- Sunday, April 9: Palm Processional; All Sunday School kids and New Creation Singers
- Monday, April 10: Stations of the Cross, Downtown Church Journey. Start at St. Stephen's church at 6:00pm and travel to the downtown churches for the Holy week journey.
- Maundy Thursday, April 13: Soup supper at 5:30pm in Fellowship Hall, followed by Worship with Communion.
- Good Friday, April 14: Worship at 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary
- Easter Sunday April 16: 6:00 Sunrise Service at Bluegill Bay Park
- Easter Breakfast: 8:30 am Continental breakfast in Fellowship Hall
- **Easter Sunday Service: 10:00 am** in the Sanctuary: Hymns, Brass Ensemble, Handbells, Flowers
- **After worship:** Easter egg hunt for children!



Your plant(s) will be used to help beautify the sanctuary and your name

will be listed in the Easter Sunday bulletin

April 3, 2017 indicating who you wish to honor or remember

If you wish to do so, please fill out this form and return it to the church

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Permit No. 492

After worship on Easter Sunday, please take your plant(s) home with you

or bring them to a loved one to enjoy.

Please make checks payable to First Presbyterian Church.

Amount of donation

U.S. POSTAGE Non Profit Org.

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This and That...

The GENTLY USED SALE, Saturday, May 20th ...Have you started a box with household items and books in good condition for our sale on Green Saturday? Questions? Email jannslayton1102@gmail.com

<u>Creative Sewing</u> will meet Wednesday, April 19, at 1:00 in room B2. Bring any completed projects. Also, Sue Westergaard will be there to explain the knitting project. Bring any new ideas for sewing projects for the coming season. Karen Martinson, 715-675-3510

<u>Study Groups</u> meet every Thursday morning at 8:30 am in room 201. All men are welcome. The women meet at 9:45 am following the men's study in room 201.

The <u>Hops and the Heavens</u> book study group continues to meet the first and third Mondays at Sconni's from 5:30-7:30 on Schofield Ave, Schofield. They are reading the book <u>Trouble I've Seen</u>, Changing the Way the church views racism by Drew Hart. By the end of April they will be reading <u>Between the World and Me</u>—a NY best seller. Book selections are made from suggestions from the group. Many topics have been touched upon. Back in February 2014 the Darkwood Brew series "On Earth As It is in Heaven" was followed. Check this out online. <u>The Acts of Jesus</u> and other books from the Jesus Seminar were explored. Contact Pastor Rachel to be put on the e-mail list to receive current book choice and meeting info.





Our All Church Birthday Party! Meal provided by the Chancel and Bell Choir members. Thank you all for helping and for attending. It was great.

If you have news items regarding your family please let Kathy know by the Beam deadline. The office number is 715-842-2116 or use her email address on the front page.

News of Our Members

Our thoughts and prayers are with the family of Ellie Lannigan who died February 20, 2017.

Phyllis Henry died unexpectedly on Saturday, March 4, 2017. Please keep her family in your prayers during this difficult time.

We were saddened at the death of Charles "Charlie" Schlitz, Sr. Who died on Sunday, March 5, 2017. Please keep Virginia and their family in your thoughts and prayers.

Pro Bono Attorney of the Year: Douglas Klingberg, Wisconsin Judicare Inc., Wausau The Pro Bono Attorney of the Year is awarded to Douglas Klingberg, for his outstanding volunteer contributions in expanding access to justice for low-income residents in northern Wisconsin. As a volunteer with Wisconsin Judicare over the last five years, Klingberg has opened more than 550 cases and helped more than 1,200 people across the northern 33 counties of Wisconsin. The award, presented by the <u>Legal Assistance Committee</u>, recognizes outstanding pro bono service.

The Beam

Discipleship Team—Christian Education



Please join us in the Fellowship Hall **Easter Morning** for a light breakfast of egg-stremely good pastries, fruit and other surprises. We

will "buffet" from 8:30-9:45 AM and enjoy donuts, coffeecake, pastries and fruit after the service in the Parlor while the children hunt for eggs. Please e-mail Pudge Kimbel at pknak@charter.net if you'd like to contribute something special.

The Discipleship Team would like to form a group of folks who have similar interests....a list of folks who are interested in going to concerts, plays, or whatever else may be available. We have heard from some who would be interested in eating out, looking for kindred souls to go to Concerts on the Squares, or whatever is happening. If this appeals to you, please contact Judy North.

Sign Up for June 16, Friday, Woodchuck Game beginning May 14th until June 5th. The game starts at 7:05 PM with fireworks post-game. The seats are undercover, have backs and are reserved. Cost for adults is \$10.50 per ticket, Youth 2-18 years \$7.00 and children under 2 are



free. Maximum cost per family is \$20.00. Please plan on paying when you sign up. Checks may be written to First Presbyterian Church. [If tickets remain after June 5th, we will keep sign up open.] Ticket price

includes hot dog, soda and a Wausau Woodchucks baseball cap!

FAF You may have noticed that on communion Sundays, there are less children present in worship. On those Sundays, we hold a FAF or Families at First service starting at 9:15 in the chapel. FAF is a family-friendly, child-focused service lead by Pastor Rachel. The service covers all of the components of a regular service, but is condensed and focused on making it so our youngest congregants understand. The service is a half hour long and we encourage children to be wiggly and comfortable. We have had a lot of positive feedback from families who appreciate the focus on the children and that we are doing these services on communion Sundays when the regular service tends to run a little longer than normal.

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An additional benefit to having FAF on communion Sundays is that it allows our Sunday School teachers to take part in the regular Sunday Service and take communion without interruption as we do not have Sunday School on these "family Sundays".

ANYONE can come to our FAF service, small children are not required to attend. If you would like to check out a service, we have two more this school year. Our last two FAF services are on April 2 and May 7. If you do choose to attend, please be ready to sing and wiggle.

Youth Camp, Family Camp, Grandparent and Me camp, Mom and Me camp, Sailing Camp, Pilgrim Con, MADD (Music,Art, Dance and Drama) Camp, lots of camps, all available at UCCI Camps!

For more information check out UCCI.org. We have scholarships available through FPC (due 4/20), Winnebago Presbytery (online forms due April 15,2017) and through UCCI. IF you have more questions, please contact Judy North.

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From the Worship Team

The Worship Team has added some visual representations of this season of Lent. The cross of Christ is already on the chancel, draped in Purple, the liturgical color for penitence and reflection. Surrounding the cross are other symbols of starkness: bare sticks, empty vessels, a ring of thorns. These symbols remind us that we are people who make mistakes, who take for granted the presence and teachings of Christ, and who are in constant need of God's grace. This season helps us to prepare for the fulfillment of Christ's promise in the glory of Easter! (See the Holy Week Schedule on the front page.)

Sunday, April 2:

9:15 am: Families at First (FAF) service in the Chapel with Communion 10:00 am: Worship with Communion (Message: The Raising of Lazarus) 2:00 pm. Sunday afternoon worship with Communion

There are two more Friday *Lenten Organ Meditations* on Fridays in Lent from 12:15-12:45 pm at Zion Lutheran Church, 706 Grant St. Come meditate and listen to Kartika Putri on March 31 and Irene Beethe on April 7.

Later this month: Chamber Music Series 2016-17 concludes Friday, April 21, 7:00 pm: Fifth Annual Crème de la Crème concert, featuring outstanding high school musicians from our area high schools. You'll be amazed at their talent!

New Music Group Forming! Susan will be starting a new music group for interested singers on April 26 at 10:00 am. This is a daytime group for retirees who like to sing together, maybe in parts, maybe in unison....and for those who like to have coffee afterward. Contact Susan if you're interested in some musical fun: susan@firstpreswausau.org or leave a message 715-842-2116, ext. 306.

Deacons

Children, 5th grade and under, come to the *Deacon's Easter Egg Hunt* on Easter Sunday morning immediately following worship.

Please gather in the Chapel for instructions.

There will be lots of eggs filled with surprises for you to find!

our afternoon Lenten Communion Service. There will be a time of fellowship and refreshments following the service. The Deacons are ready and willing to provide you with transportation to and from this service so please call Nick Smith or Pastor Joy if you would like a ride.

Sunday, April 2 at 2:00 pm, is the date and time of

Do you need help with minor household problems? Perhaps we can help! Please call the church office and they will get the message to the Deacons and we will see if we can help.

The Beam

Mission

Garden & Green Saturday

I'm sitting in Naples Florida hearing reports from my northern spies that "our winter hasn't been too bad". I know my blood has thinned because even 50 degrees is not at all appealing. I know spring will eventually come and I'll be returning home, which is a very good thing. With spring comes planting of our church garden. We had success with Jeff Todd's "hay bale garden" last year so we will be expanding that portion this year. If you are interested in helping with the garden, preparing beds, donating plants, planting, weeding and thinning, watering or harvesting please contact Jim Slayton (jwslayton1@gmail.com or 715-297-9528). We can never have enough helping hands and boy does it feel good to get your hands dirty sometimes. Our church garden provides a very visible presence of our feeding ministries to the community as well as lots of fresh produces for our

Our church will also be participating in "Green Saturday" again this year. The date is May 20th. This is the 7th annual sale which, our dear and missed friend Allen Roberts, helped to start. This is a community wide event providing places throughout Wausau for people to donate plants (mostly perennials), used garden tools, and any garden related items to be sold as a fundraiser for the hosting organizations. All our proceeds raised will go toward our garden and food ministries.

food pantry.

If you would like to help set-up, handle sales or donate plants or garden items please contact Jim Slayton (jwslayton1@gmail.com or 715-297-9528).

April, 2017

We will also be selling **Hsu's Leaf Compost** and **Potting Soil** again this year.
Thank you Hsu's Growing Supply for your generosity. Sales will take place the two Sundays prior to Green Saturday, which are May 7th and 14th. You can pick-up your items the day of the sale, May 20.

A gift to **One Great Hour of Sharing** enables the church to share God's love with our neighbors-in-need around the world by providing relief to those affected by natural disasters, providing food to the hungry, and helping to empower the poor and oppressed. Our **OGHS offering** will be collected on **Palm Sunday 4/9.**

FPC-Wausau has agreed to partner with our brothers and sisters at **Covenant Community Presbyterian** Church on a special outreach project to address human trafficking in our area. On June 24, Covenant will co-host with FPC-Wausau a special expert-led training for recruited volunteers. Following morning training and lunch, the assembled group will divide up and visit targeted hotels, motels, convenience stores, gas stations and possibly fast food locations in our area. Groups will be sharing with establishment managers (contacted ahead of time) critically important resources, including: Missing Children's flyers, laminated red flag posters, hotline cards and bars of soap (for the motels) imprinted with the national hotline # on them. Volunteers also will do awareness-raising and answer questions. At the end of the day, there will be a short debriefing. Barb Jones will be coordinating our volunteers.



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The age old debate about what came first, the chicken or the cow, will continue with our Annual Egg and Cheese collection for our Food Pantry on Sunday April 2.



	First	First Presbyteria	ın Church	erian Church April, 2017		
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	y Sat.
	Each Monday Penguin Project Rehearses from 5:30-8:00 pm.	Each Tuesday, Penguin Project Rehearses from 5:30-8:00 pm.		Each Thursday Penguin Project rehearses from 5:30-8:00 pm.		1 10:00 am Session Records Review
2 Communion Sunday 9:15 am Families at First * Sunday Schedule 11:10 am Adult Education 2:00 pm Afternoon Communion Service	3 5:30 pm Hops & the Heavens at Sconni's 4:00 pm Personnel Committee	4 10:00 am Staff Meeting 1:00 pm Food Pantry 5:30 pm Worship Team	5 4:30 New Creation Singers 6:00 Chancel Choir 7:30 Handbells	6 8:30 am Men's Group 9:45 am Women's Group 5:00 pm Mission Team	7 Building Closed	∞
9 Palm Sunday * Sunday Schedule	10 6:00 pm Stations of the Cross begins at St. Stephen	11 10:00 am Staff Meeting	4:30 New Creation Singers 6:00 Chancel Choir 7:30 pm Handbells	13 Maundy Thursday 8:30 am Men's Group 9:45 Women's Group 5:30 pm Soup Supper with Communion Service to follow	14 Good Friday Building Closed Service 7:00 pm	15 9:30 am Choir and Brass Rehearsal
16 Easter Sunday 6 am Sunrise Service-Blue Gill Bay Park 8:30-9:45 am Breakfast 10:00 am Worship Service Kids Easter Egg Hunt following Worship	17 Building Closed—Easter Holiday 5:30 pm Hops and the Heavens at Sconni's	18 10:00 am Staff Meeting 1:00 pm Food Pantry 3:00 pm BEAM Deadline 5:30 pm Deacons	4:30 New Creation Singers 6:00 Chancel Choir 7:30 pm Handbells	20 8:30 am Men's Group 9:45 Women's Group 5:30 pm Discipleship Team	21 7:00 pm Crème de la Crème Concert Building Closed	22
23 * Sunday Schedule 31 * Sunday Schedule 3:00 pm Lyric Choir Concert	24	25 10:00 am Staff Meeting 6:15 pm Session 6:30 pm In-Focus	26 Assembly 10:00 am BEAM Assembly 10:00 am Morning Choir 4:30 pm New Creation Singers Treasure Hunt 6:00 pm Chancel Choir 7:30 pm Handbells	27 6:00 pm Lyric Choir Dress Rehearsal	28 Building Closed Private Party in Parlor	29 7:30 pm Lyric Choir Spring Concert
* Sunday Schedule				ijO	Office Hours:	

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Support Team



Save the date! Mark Tuesday, May 9th on your calendars for our springtime yard clean-up. We'll start by 10:00 am and we could be finished by noon, if we have enough people pitch in and help. There will be coffee and soda, as well as some homemade goodies. So polish your rakes and get out your favorite yard gloves and plan to join us. If it rains, we'll try again on May 13. Hope we see you there!



Per Capita

A big **THANK YOU** to all who have paid their Per Capita for 2017. To-date we have received \$ of the \$ we had to pay this year. If you are a member of First Presbyterian Church and you haven't paid the required \$35 for your Per Capita yet this year, please do so today. Thank you so much.

Financial Notes

Monday through Thursday, 9:00 am-

10:00 am Worship and Children's Sunday Church School

11:15 am Fellowship Time in the Parlor

4:00 pm Community Supper in the Fellowship Hall

Y-T-D Revenue: \$115,756.35

Y-T-D Expenses: \$96,554.14

Y-T-D Food Pantry Contributions: \$5,755.32

Y-T-D Deacon Contributions: \$724.71



April Birthdays

02-Jack Reimer, Odin Ingvalson, Macie Schmitt

04-Adam Krasowski

06-Lois Van Kerkhoven, Diane Poirier, Becky Van Heuklon

08-April Krumrie

09-Richard Albright

10-Calib Steinbach

11-Christopher Fox

16-Darlene Loy, Judy Ritchie

17-Andrea Ingvalson, King Forbes, Noah Stengl Helen Isakson

18-Joy Nelson Jeffers

19-Jen Faust, Brian Neitzel

20-Peggy Builer, Jean Corbin, Mark Staples

21-Nick Johnkoski

23-Rita Norton

24-Roger Geurink, Don Tucker

25-Pastor Rachel, Kelly Zeinert

26-Geri Treu, Benelli Schira

27-Keith Smith, Mike DeSciscio

28-William Zastrow, Miles Zeinert

30-Joan Kuehl

